

FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BROKLYN
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

Transforming Lives

Julie Lam

(Member since April 22, 2018)



While we had attended a UU church when I was young, my family stopped going when we moved to a much smaller town. I was still interested in God and decided to check out the Christian Church on my own mainly because they had young people. We “young Christians” hung out at the skating rink sneaking cigarettes on Friday nights and then heard the message of “fire and brimstone” and “the constant gnashing of teeth!” on Sunday mornings. Guilted me into being good did not work for long. If that was GOD - you can have it!

I started my own spiritual practice. It was something like: Pray, Be the good you want to see in the world and when a mistake is made, own it, fix it - if possible and move on. I no longer spend energy on sitting around feeling ashamed for not being perfect or scared that I’m going to hell.

Through the years, I’ve probably checked out 20 churches, including All Souls on the Upper East side, but none felt like a fit.

Last November, I knew that I could not spend another Sunday morning watching the weeks’ bleak review of the news. I was freaked out with our political situation and even though I was still practicing prayer, and being the good I wanted to see, I was missing something, I was missing a community.

I happened upon this congregation. As soon as I sat down, I heard Rev. Ana say “Whoever you are, Whomever you love, Wherever you are on your life journey, Whatever the color of your skin, or your country of origin, Whatever your gender or the source of your faith, You are Welcome Here.”

I felt a huge relief. I had been looking a *long* time and those welcoming words were and are my favorite way to begin my Sunday mornings - much better than the news! In this past year, I joined the choir, attended some classes and even signed the membership book. The best part of all of it is that I found a community of like-minded folks, some who pray, all who try to be the good that they want to see in the world - I am welcome here and so are you!

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