



FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BR  **KLYN**
A UNITARIAN  UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

WORDS OF WELCOME

Whoever you are
Whomever you love
Wherever you are on your life journey
You are welcome here.



SONG OF HOPE*

From all that dwell below the skies
Let songs of hope and faith arise.
Let peace, good will on earth be sung
Through every land by every tongue.

LIGHTING THE CHALICE*

Blessed is the fire of our faith,
and the chalice of our community;

*Blessed is the living tradition that is carried
forward in our work and in our love*

Blessed is the transient flame we kindle here;

*Blessed is the illuminated moment
of our gathering.*

Blessed is the light of the eternal;

*Blessed is the sacred call of life to which
we give ourselves in answer.*

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

F F/A B^b F F F/A Gm⁷ C

We bless you on your jour-ney through from shel-tering arms to the wide sky blue. In your

Dm C/E F Gm⁷ Am⁷ B^b F/A B^b/C F

joy - ful jumps and your sad times too, you bless us by be - ing you.

SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY*

From all that dwell be-low the skies_____ Let songs of hope and faith a - rise_____

Let peace, good-will on Earth be sung_____ Through ev -'ry land by ev -'ry tongue_____

May 5, 2024

Principles and Values: Exploring the UUA Article 2

Welcome to First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn, where we are exploring the themes of *principles* and *values* through words, music, silence, prayer, and community.

Gathering **♪ Gathering Music**

During this gathering time, let's sing together, creating warm, sacred space. We stand, sit, and dance as we feel moved, and we may light candles to bring our private prayers into the sanctuary.

♪ Faith of the Larger Liberty (#287)

♪ Whoever You Are (inside cover)

Chalice Lighting (inside cover)

♪ Song of Hope (inside cover)

Greeting

Deepening **New Member Ceremony**

Farewell Blessing for Nancy Welles

Children's Blessing & Recessional

♪ *We Shall Be Known* by Mamuse / arr. Jen Hayman

Sermon

Prayer

♪ One More Step (#168)

Connecting **Offering**

**♪ *Beloved, Let Us Love One Another Text* from 1 John 4:7-8 /
Music by Arthur Foote**

Silent Meditation & Pastoral Prayer

Candle Lighting

Announcements

♪ Hush (#1040)

Benediction

287 Faith of the Larger Liberty

$\text{♩} = 76$

1. Faith of the larg - er lib - er - ty, source
 2. He - roes of faith - in ev - ery age, far -
 3. Faith for the peo - ple ev - ery - where, what -

of the light ex - pand - ing, law of the church that
 see - ing, self - de - ny - ing, wrought an in - creas - ing
 ev - er their op - pres - sion, of all who make the

is to be, old bond - age not - with -
 her - i - tage, mon - arch and creed de -
 world more fair, liv - ing their faith's con -

stand - ing: faith of the free! By
 fy - ing. Faith of the free! In
 fes - sion: faith of the free! What -

thee we live — by all thou giv - est
thy dear name the cost - ly her - i -
- e'er our plight, thy law, thy lib - er -

and shalt give our loy - al - ty com - mand - ing.
tage we claim: their liv - ing and their dy - ing.
ty, thy light shall be our blest pos - ses - sion.

New Member Ceremony

New members come forward as their names are called.

Congregational response to each:

“We welcome you and we bless you.”

President:

To our new members this morning: we welcome you each to our fellowship. We ask you now, by joining this Society, do you commit yourself to stand in right relationship with our community and to accept the responsibilities of membership? Are you ready to lend your time, financial support, and creative energy in support of the goals and shared work of this congregation?

New Members:

I am. I pledge to work with this community toward the healing and transformation of our world, offering the gift of myself – my insights, my compassion, my dreams, and my vital energy.

President:

And now, will the current members please rise in body or in spirit and join together in our words of welcome.

Congregation:

We welcome you to the First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn:

To its idealism and its freedom,

To the depth of its inheritance and the breadth of its community,

To the faith and hope and love which bring us together.

We pledge our affection, interest, and support in your spiritual growth and life journey.

Children, Youth and RE Community:

We welcome you with open minds. We welcome you with helping hands. We welcome you with loving hearts. Together we care for the earth and work for peace and justice.

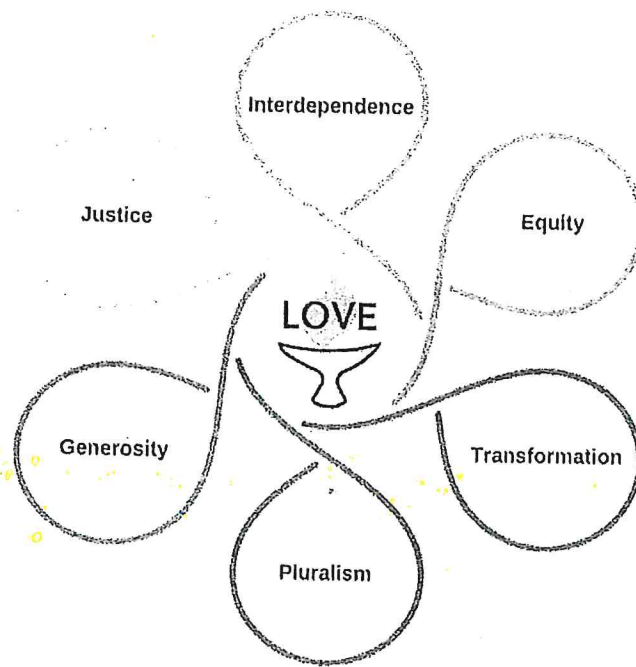
New Members come into the midst of the community and receive their gifts.

Song: From you I receive, to you I give,

Together we share, and from this we live.

President:

This is a happy occasion for us all. It is with joy and gratitude that I recognize you as members of the First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn!



Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence. We covenant to cherish Earth and all beings by creating and nurturing relationships of care and respect. With humility and reverence, we acknowledge our place in the great web of life, and we work to repair harm and damaged relationships.

Pluralism. We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

Justice. We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive. We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions.

Transformation. We adapt to the changing world. We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

Generosity. We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

Equity. We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness. We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

If you were serving on the Article 2 Study Commission, how would you describe the shared principles, purposes, or values of Unitarian Universalism?

We gather to find community (for ourselves).

We gather to share love (for each other).

We gather to build harmony (for our world).

One More Step

$\text{♩} = 48$ *Smoothly, Unison*

1. One more step, we will take one
 2. One more word, we will say one
 3. One more prayer, we will say one
 4. One more song, we will sing one

more step, 'til there is peace for us and
 more word, 'til ev - ery word is heard by
 more prayer, 'til ev - ery prayer is shared by
 more song, 'til ev - ery song is sung by

ev - ery - one, we'll take one more step.
 ev - ery - one, we'll say one more word.
 ev - ery - one, we'll say one more prayer.
 ev - ery - one, we'll sing one more song.

Words & music: Joyce Poley, 1941- , © 1986 Joyce Poley,
 harmony by Grace Lewis-McLaren, 1939- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist
 Association

ONE MORE STEP
 Irregular

Hush - 2

Ab Absus Ab Absus Ab Absus

Hush,
Sounds like hush,
Sounds like free - dom, - some - bo - dy's cal - lin' my -
jus - tice, -

Ab C9 Fm Fm7(b5) Bb9 Bbm7/Eb

name. Oh my Lord, - oh my - Lord, - what shall I - do?

Ab Absus Ab Eb7(#9) Abm9⁶ Last time

- What shall I - do? -

4. Soon one mornin', death come creepin' in my room . . .

Sermon: Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons (she/her)

Assistant Minister: Rev. Meagan Henry (she/her)

Announcements Garnett Losak, Director of Congregational Life (she/her)

Music Director Adam Podd (he/him)

Board Co-President Robin Bossert (he/him)

Our Lay Worship Leader is David Jobin(he/him)

Our Lay Chapel Minister is Michael DeSantis (they/them)

Our Livestream Producer is Justin Parkinson(he/him)

Our Connections Table Host is Garnett Losak(she/her)

Notes

Mystical Reading: from Rev. Dr. Sheri Prud'homme's "Theological Reflection on the Proposed Revision to Article II"

Music Notes

Arthur Foote became the music director of First Church (UU) in Boston in 1878. He remained there for thirty-two years, where he directed the choir, played the organ, and wrote many pieces for the choir, including "Beloved, Let Us Love One Another."

Share the Plate: *The Holdeen India Program* is a grant-making fund of the Unitarian Universalist Association supporting community-based service organizations across India. The program empowers marginalized communities with the skills to secure a better future.

Donations to First Unitarian can be made at www.fuub.org (Choose the Support First Unitarian button) or Give By Text 347-735-5264.

Today in Religious Education:

- **Nursery, Toddler, Pre-K / 11 AM - 12:30 PM**, drop off anytime and pick up after the service. - 50 Monroe Place Classroom.
- **Grades K-6, Children's Chapel /** after New Member Ceremony - 12:30 Chapel
- **Grade 7, Building Bridges / TBD**
- **Grades 8-9, Coming of Age / 11AM - 12:30 PM**, Library
- **Grades 10-12, HS Youth Group / 12:30-1:30 - 3rd Fl Teen Room**

❖ **Support Our Youth Group - GoFundMe!**

This summer, your Youth Group will once again be journeying to War, West Virginia, for our seventh annual service trip there! We are excited for the many adventures to come, the interpersonal connections we hope to strengthen, and the work we will provide for the community.

In order to provide everyone with an equal opportunity to give back through service, we have spent many hours fundraising and planning. That's why your help could make a huge difference for us, ***your donations to our GoFundMe could mean the difference for our youth***, ensuring that no one will have to pay out of pocket and that we all will have the opportunity to come on this meaningful and exciting trip!



Community Events

Today at First Unitarian:

All are welcome to join us for coffee, tea and fellowship following the service. If you are a relative newcomer, please visit a member of our Connections Committee at the Connections table.

❖ Today, 12:30-1:30PM - Religious Education Teacher Appreciation Potluck Picnic

Join us to celebrate and thank our amazing RE teaching teams! If the weather is nice, we will meet in Cadman Plaza after the service. If it is raining, too windy, or cold, we will have our celebration in the Chapel.

❖ Today, 12:45-2PM - Article II Forum

Representatives to the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) General Assembly (GA) will vote on whether to replace the current Seven Principles in the UUA by-laws with a set of rephrased Values. This is an important vote. Our GA delegates want to hear your thoughts. Please join them at a learning and listening session. All are welcome. We will meet in the Library.

❖ Listening Sessions with the Board, Sunday afternoons, 12:45PM

Our congregation is facing a big change during a time of stress in our community and our world. The board of trustees wants to hear from you. What is working for you? What can we do better? How goes it with your spirit? Everyone is invited to attend one session from now until the end of the program year. This week we will meet on the Patio or the Sanctuary in case of rain.

Looking Forward:

❖ Presentation and Discussion: Freeing Palestine and Resisting Antisemitism, Wednesday, May 8th, 8:00PM

Join Rev. Meagan, Vicki Antonini, and other First U Brooklyn members for a presentation and discussion led by Esther Farmer, a Jewish Palestinian member of Jewish Voice for Peace, and the author of *A Land With A People*. Ms. Farmer will lead a discussion about the mutual necessity of freeing Palestine and resisting antisemitism. We will learn how these two objectives are bound up with one another. No one is free until we're all free. Meet at the First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn (124 Henry Street) in the Elliott Room. questions, reach out to Meagan or Vicki.

❖ Volunteer Work Day, Saturday, May 11th, 10:00AM

Get to know our buildings and your fellow congregants better during this volunteer work day hosted by the Facilities Committee! A variety of tasks are available for all abilities and interests. Be sure to wear clothes that can get a little dirty. This spring we will focus on getting the chapel ready for summer services.

❖ **Annual Meeting of the Congregation, Sunday, May 19th, 12:45PM in the Sanctuary**

Documents including the meeting agenda, meeting rules, proposed budget, officer bios, and other necessary documents will be available at www.fuub.org as they are finalized. Current available documents: bios of board, officers, and leadership development committee nominees, 2023 annual meeting minutes, draft agenda, meeting rules, and draft of proposed by-law changes.

Members of the congregation will have signed the membership book at least 60 days before the annual meeting, completed a fiscal year 24-25 pledge form, and made at least a partial payment on their current year pledge. If you have any questions about your eligibility to vote, please contact Garnett Losak (garnett@firstubrooklyn.org)

❖ **Brooklyn Pride Parade, Saturday, June 8th, Park Slope, Evening (Meeting time and place TBA)**

Let's have a big First Unitarian contingent at this year's parade. We will carry our Side of Love and Congregation banners, and "march" together in fellowship and solidarity. All are welcome!

❖ **Fiscal Year 24-25 Stewardship Campaign Update**

We are thrilled to announce that we have raised \$240,000 from 136 households toward our campaign goal of \$300,000. Thank you to everyone who has completed their pledge. Use the QR Code to be taken directly to the on-line pledge form or contact Garnett Losak (garnett@firstubrooklyn.org) to request a paper pledge form or to meet with a member of the stewardship team.



It is especially important during this time of change that we support our congregation to the best of our ability. If you need to speak to someone about what comes next at First Unitarian, please contact any member of the staff (see contact info below), a member of the stewardship team, or the caring ministry. Your concerns are important to us, please do not hesitate to reach out.

First U Ongoing Events in the McKinney Chapel:

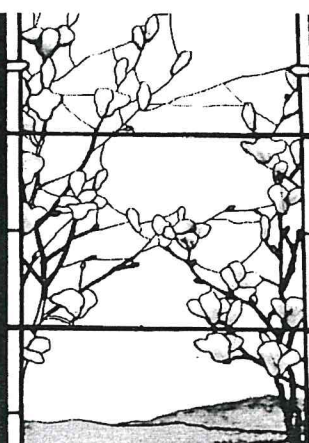
Community Yoga, Every Tuesday Evening, 6-7 PM.

Third Thursday Vespers, 6:30PM - May 16th, This will be the last date of this program year.

First Fridays at First U, 6:30-9:00 - June 7th, This will be the last date of the program year.



The First Unitarian Congregational Society
in Brooklyn is a joyful, loving, religious
community that inspires and empowers
people to Grow spiritually, Care for one
another, and Work for social justice and
stewardship of the earth.



Our congregation was founded in 1833 and this sanctuary was built in 1844.

It is located on a hill near a place where two waterways join and empty into the Atlantic Ocean. We celebrate a liberal tradition that promotes peace and social justice, and nurtures the lifelong journey of mind and spirit.

We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Lenape people who cared for it through many generations. We acknowledge the contributions and experiences of Native peoples, and in tribute to them, pay homage, and strive to learn how to be in better relationship with the earth we all inhabit.

Masks are now optional in all areas of the church building. To protect ourselves and each other, we strongly encourage everyone to have the latest COVID booster available and a flu vaccine. If you are not feeling well, please enjoy our service on-line.

In order to reduce our use of paper, this order of service cover is re-used.

If there's information you need, feel free to take it with you, otherwise, please leave it in your pew.

To protect our historic building, please refrain from bringing food into the Sanctuary. Water in closed containers is welcome.

At First U, it's very important to us that we care for one another.

After the service a member of our Caring Ministry will be in the Chapel of All Faiths. If you are going through a hard time or if you are concerned about someone else, we invite you to come and connect with them. We very much want to hear from you.



Donations to First Unitarian are received with gratitude.
Scan the QR code to the left to be taken directly to our online portal. Checks or cash may be dropped in the offering plate. Thank you for your generosity.

FIRST UNITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY



CONGREGATION ORGANIZED IN 1833

BUILDING DEDICATED IN 1844

CLERGY & STAFF

Rev. Ana Levy-Lyons, ana@firstubrooklyn.org
Senior Minister

Rev. Meagan Henry, meagan@firstubrooklyn.org
Assistant Minister, Education, Family & Pastoral Care

Adam Podd, adam@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Music

Garnett Losak, garnett@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Congregational Life

Wendy Russell, wendy@firstubrooklyn.org
Office & Program Manager/Bookkeeper

Renee Strickland, renee@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Building Operations & Events

Chris Johnson, chris@firstubrooklyn.org
Interim Director of Facilities

Bobby Blackman, bobby@firstubrooklyn.org
Custodian

Rachel Schmitt, rachel@firstubrooklyn.org
Intern Minister

Phylisa St. Fleur
Nursery Caregiver

Ruby Stackhouse
Nursery Caregiver

OFFICERS

Robin Bossert & Lisa Pacenza
Co-Presidents, Board of Trustees

Trustees:

Michele Ascione, Barbara Bornmann, Beth Evans, Mary Huhn, Jake Powell, Judith Sedaitis, Jayesh Sheth

Maggie Norris | *Clerk*

Lee Pardee | *Treasurer*

Patrick Gunn | *Moderator*

Deacons:

Martin Bernstein, Robert Bero, Thomas Check, Liz Davis, Laurel Lesio-Eisenstadt, Edwin Lord, Lee Pardee, Bruce Wilde, Nancy Wolf

Senior Deacon: Constance Newsom

Music Director Emeritus: William Peek

Bert Eisenstadt

Children's Music Director

Becky Huffman

RE Council Chair

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Sunday 12:30-3:30 / Monday by appt
Tues – Wed - Thurs | 9:30 am–4:00 pm
Office Closed Friday & Saturday

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First Unitarian Universalist Society in Brooklyn

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