

FIRST UNITARIAN  
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY  
BR<sup>Ⓞ</sup>KLYN  
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

## WHOEVER YOU ARE

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.

## CHILDREN'S RECESSONAL

Musical notation for 'CHILDREN'S RECESSONAL' in 4/4 time, featuring two staves of music with lyrics and chord symbols above the notes.

Chord symbols: F, F/A, B $\flat$ , F, F, F/A, Gm $^7$ , C

Lyrics: We bless you on your jour-ney through from shel-tering arms to the wide sky blue. In your joy - ful jumps and your sad times too, you bless us by be - ing you.

Chord symbols: Dm, C/E, F, Gm $^7$ , Am $^7$ , B $\flat$ , F/A, B $\flat$ /C, F

## SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY

Musical notation for 'SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY' in 6/8 time, featuring two staves of music with lyrics and a double bar line at the end.

Lyrics: 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## LIGHTING THE CHALICE

Read Responsively:

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.*

April 26, 2026

## Community Here and There

Welcome to First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn, where we are exploring the themes of *community* and *change* 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.*

**♪ We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table (#407)**

**♪ Whoever You Are (inside cover)**

**Chalice Lighting (inside cover)**

**♪ Song of Hope (inside cover)**

**Greeting**

---

### Deepening **Wisdom Story** *The Hole in the Bottom of the Sea*

**Children's Blessing & Recessional**

**Silent Meditation & Pastoral Prayer**

**Candle Lighting**

**♪ Army Dreamers** by Kate Bush

**Homily I**

**Homily II**

**Homily III**

**♪ Voice Still and Small (#391)**

---

### Connecting **Offering**

**♪ Wagon Wheel** by Old Crow Medicine Show

**Announcements**

**♪ American Pie** by Don McLean

**Benediction**

# We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. We're gon - na sit at the wel - come ta -  
 2. All kinds of peo - ple a - round that ta -  
 3. No fan - cy style at the wel - come ta -

ble. We're gon - na sit at the wel - come  
 ble. All kinds of peo - ple a - round that  
 ble. No fan - cy style at the wel - come

ta - ble one of these days, hal - le - lu - jah! We're gon - na  
 ta - ble one of these days, hal - le - lu - jah! All kinds of  
 ta - ble one of these days, hal - le - lu - jah! No fan - cy

Words & music: Traditional,  
 ⊕ arr. by Mary Allen Walden, 1946- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

WELCOME TABLE  
 Irregular

sit at the wel - come ta - ble, gon - na  
 peo - ple a - round that ta - ble, gon - na  
 style at the wel - come ta - ble, gon - na

sit at the wel - come ta - ble one of these days.  
 sit at the wel - come ta - ble one of these days.  
 sit at the wel - come ta - ble one of these days.

# Voice Still and Small

391

$\text{♩} = 46$

Voice still and small, deep in-side all, I hear you call,

sing-ing. In storm and rain, sor-row and pain,

still we'll re-main sing-ing. Calm-ing my fears,

quench-ing my tears, through all the years, sing-ing.

**Homilies** Jackon Maida, Prudence Parkinson, and Mason Gunn

**Our Worship Leader today** is Mason Gunn

**Music Director** Adam Podd

**Wisdom Story** Sean Hastings

**Announcements** Tyrone Davis, Jr., Membership Coordinator

**Greeting** Lily Bongiorno

**Benediction** Olvie Benesh

**Our Lay Pastoral Minister** is Beth Zehe

**Our Livestream Producer** is Jay Lawrence

**Our Online Host** is Yvonne Garrett

**Our Welcome Table Hosts** are Carol Ghigliotty & Jake Powell, Board Trustee

---

---

**NOTES:**

**MUSIC NOTES:**

Today's music selections were made by our high school Youth Group, and feature First U's very own: **Sean Hastings, Yuri Weber, Allie Lewis, Mads Middleton, Julie Tramontana, Abigail Weiss, Finlay Kausch**, and possibly others!

---

---

**Today in Religious Education:**

**Nursery, Toddler, Pre-K / 11 AM-12:30 PM. Drop off anytime in the 50 Monroe Classroom. Pick up after the service.**

*The children will go to the chapel during the children's recessional, after the wisdom story.*

**Grades K-1: Love Surrounds Us, Eastman Room**

**Grades 2-3: Moral Tales, Green Room**

**Grades 4-9: Attend Youth Service**

**Grades 10-12: HS Youth Group, 12:30-1:30, Third Floor Teen Room**

**Registration is Open and Ongoing!** Use the QR code to register your child/children today. Children must be registered in order to participate in our programs



*\*Building Bridges and Coming of Age subject to last minute changes*

---

---

**Please be respectful of the scent free area below the west balcony.** Choose another area of the Sanctuary if you use perfumes, scented soaps, essential oils or scented laundry supplies.

***All are welcome at fellowship in the undercroft, following the service.***

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Today at First Unitarian:

- ❖ **Notes of Gratitude: Writing Thank you Cards for National Letter-Writing Month Today, 12:45-2:30, Frances White Room**

Give a gift that lasts forever - a hand-written thank you card. Join the Connections Committee in expressing appreciation to the people who have made a difference to you: teachers/mentors, friends, family, coaches, service providers. We provide lovely cards and stamps, stickers, pens, and other goodies; you bring the name(s) and address(es) of folks you'd like to thank. Can't wait to see you!

- ❖ **Budget Forums: Sunday, April 26th, 12:45 PM in the Sanctuary ~ Wednesday, April 29, 7:00 PM on Zoom** All are invited to attend one of these forums to learn about the proposed operating and capital budgets for next year. Bring your interest and your questions. The final budget will be voted on at the May 17 annual meeting.

- ❖ **Religious Naturalism, Sunday, April 26th 1:00-3:00 PM, Library**

Religious Naturalism is a view that all that exists and all that occurs is due to natural processes. It includes respect for science as the best way of understanding (based on evidence) what, objectively, is real; and it respects art and age-old wisdom as giving insights into human nature and how things seem and feel. We'll meet in the Library.

- ❖ **Religious Education Pierrepont Park Playdate, Sunday, April 26th, 1:00 - 3:00 PM** Grab your coffee and meet at the 50 Monroe Entrance at 12:45. We'll walk together to the Pierrepont Playground.

- ❖ **Unitarian Universalists across NYC are marching together in Pride this year, and we**



need your help to make it happen! **Join us for a general planning meeting on Sunday, April 26 at 7pm on Zoom. Everyone is welcome to join.** If you can help out in any way – helping make signs ahead of time, gathering supplies, coordinating on the day of, donating money, spreading the word – please click the link below to RSVP and fill out the initial volunteer form. Once you RSVP, you will receive a Zoom link to the meeting. Stay tuned for more information.

## Looking Forward:

- ❖ **Men's Group, Monday, April 27th from 6:30-8:30**

The men's group will meet informally in The Library. Newcomers are welcome

- ❖ **FUUB's Spiritual Affinity Group for People of Color, Wednesday, April 29th**

Are you looking to meet, gather, ponder, and fellowship with other congregants of color? Join us for our next virtual meeting on Wednesday, April 29th, at 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM. Meetings take place on the last Wednesday of every month. Meetings are for anyone who identifies as a person of color. If you'd like to attend or have any questions, please reach out to Tyrone for the virtual meeting link: [tyrone@firstbrooklyn.org](mailto:tyrone@firstbrooklyn.org)

- ❖ **Postcard Writing, Sunday, May 3, 12:45, McKinney Chapel**

Let's make a difference in the 2026 midterms! Join our group postcard writing session to lay the groundwork by educating voters about the Trump administration's harmful policies. We'll reach 200 swing state voters with messages proven to help increase turnout and blue votes come November.

❖ **Qingming at Green-Wood Cemetery rescheduled for Sunday, May 3rd, 1:00 PM**

Grab a picnic lunch to go (and some food offerings, if desired) and meet on the Sanctuary steps at 1:00 PM. Wear walking shoes. We will burn offerings (including from last fall's ancestors service) and picnic among the gravestones at First U's cemetery plot. Contact Rev. Micah if you have any questions, [micah@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:micah@firstubrooklyn.org). **Poetry of Devotion and Doubt will join Rev. Micah and other congregants at Greenwood Cemetery for the Qing Ming ceremony and tour of UU gravesites at 1 pm.** All are free to join us afterwards for our poetry discussion. Wm. Epes will guide us through three poems ideal for the group's theme and the setting:

Whitman: Harjo: Oliver:



Walt Whitman's "The Death and Burial of McDonald"

Jo Harjo's "Walk"

Mary Oliver's "The First Time Percy Came Back"

❖ **Immigrant Solidarity Vigils - First U folks are invited to join two weekly immigrant solidarity vigils:** Tuesdays, 6-7 PM, 29th St & 3rd Ave / Saturdays, Noon-1 PM, 44th St & 5th Ave.

This Vigil for Justice and Peace is organized by Sunset Park Neighbors. For more information contact Lee Pardee, [leepardee54@gmail.com](mailto:leepardee54@gmail.com).

---

---

**Yvonne Garrett, our intern minister, is being ordained at First U Brooklyn on June 6!**

Help show Yvonne our love and support this event by making a secure, tax-deductible donation on Zeffy. Visit this link <https://tinyurl.com/YvonneGOrdination> or use this QR code. Thank you, from Yvonne's Internship Committee: Beth Evans, chair, Allison McCleur, Lexi Perlmutter, Cindy Reynolds, Jay Sheth.



---

---

**Spring Auction**

**Every year the congregation looks forward to our Spring Auction, but we have not yet had someone volunteer to organize it.**

The board is hoping to find one or two people to be able to lead on this. It's a great opportunity to get creative, and potentially even re-imagine how our auction works!

Any interested members, please email [board@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:board@firstubrooklyn.org)

---

---

**Join the Summer Worship Coordination Committee**

Spring has just begun, but that hasn't stopped some of us from thinking about the summer. Our senior minister takes a well-deserved break from leading our services for part of June, July and August. In their place members of the congregation step up to the pulpit and become our lay worship leaders for Sunday services. The Leadership Development Committee looks forward to hearing from you.

Part of what makes these services successful are the support people who come together to *\*assist with arrangement of the service and editing of the homily; \*provide a back-up person for the service leader; \*arrange for the music for the service; \*assure that ushers are there to welcome congregants and friends; and \*communicate to the congregation what to expect at each upcoming service.*

If you are interested in helping to ensure that summer services are a smoothly run and welcoming experience, please contact Judith Sedaitis - [judithsdt@gmail.com](mailto:judithsdt@gmail.com).

---

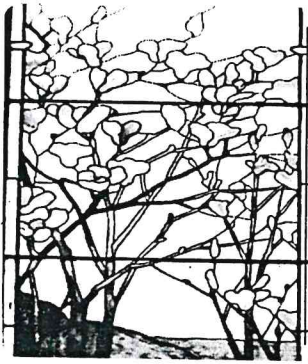
---

**Share the Plate April: NYC Books Through Bars**

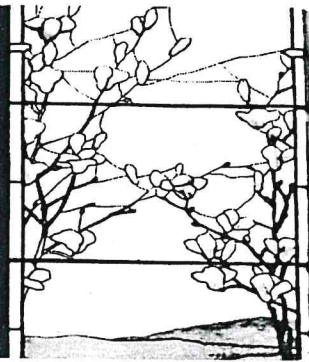


NYC Books Through Bars is a volunteer-run group that sends free, donated books to incarcerated people across the nation.

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



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.



### **Unitarian Universalist Values and Covenant**

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our Association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

**Love is the power that holds us together** and is at the center of our **shared values**. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

**Our congregation** is located on a hill near a place where two waterways join and empty into the Atlantic Ocean.

**We honor with gratitude the land 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.

**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. Liquids in closed containers are 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 BROOKLYN

CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

CONGREGATION ORGANIZED IN 1833

BUILDING DEDICATED IN 1844

## CLERGY & STAFF

**Rev. Micah C. Ma**, micah@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Interim Senior Minister*

**Adam Podd**, adam@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Director of Music*

**Wendy Russell**, wendy@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Congregational Administrator & RE Assistant*

**Renee Strickland**, renee@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Director of Facilities*

**John McKeown**, john@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Building Engineer*

**Bobby Blackman**, bobby@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Sexton*

**Tyrone Davis, Jr.**, tyrone@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Membership Coordinator*

**Becky Huffman**, becky@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Interim RE Coordinator & RE Council Chair*

**Sean Sellers**, sean@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Youth Coordinator*

**Yvonne Garrett**, yvonne@firstubrooklyn.org  
*Intern Minister*

## OFFICERS

Anne Calder & Mark Weiss  
*Co-Presidents, Board of Trustees*

### Trustees:

Vicki Antonini, Michele Ascione,  
Barbara Bornmann, Luke Messina,  
Amanda Nietzel, Jake Powell

Sarah Morgan | *Clerk of the Society*

Lee Pardee | *Treasurer*

James Goward | *Moderator*

### Deacons:

Robert Bero, Thomas Check, Liz Davis,  
Beth Evans, Patrick Gunn, Laurel Lesio-  
Eisenstadt, Edwin Lord, Lee Pardee,  
Nancy Wolf

**Senior Deacon:** Constance Newsom

**Music Director Emeritus:** William Peek

**Bert Eisenstadt** *Children's Music Director*

**Phylisa St. Fleur** *Nursery Caregiver*

**Ruby Stackhouse** *Nursery Caregiver*

### OFFICE

48 Monroe Place  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Tel (718) 624-5466

Info@firstubrooklyn.org

### Office Hours:

Sunday 9:00-2:00 / Monday by appt  
Tues - Wed - Thurs | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Office Closed Friday & Saturday**

**EMAIL:** info@firstubrooklyn.org

**WEB:** www.fuub.org

**INSTAGRAM:** FirstUBrooklyn

**YOU TUBE:** FirstUnitarianBrooklyn

### **FACEBOOK:**

First Unitarian Universalist Society in Brooklyn

**GIVE BY TEXT** (855) 799-2543