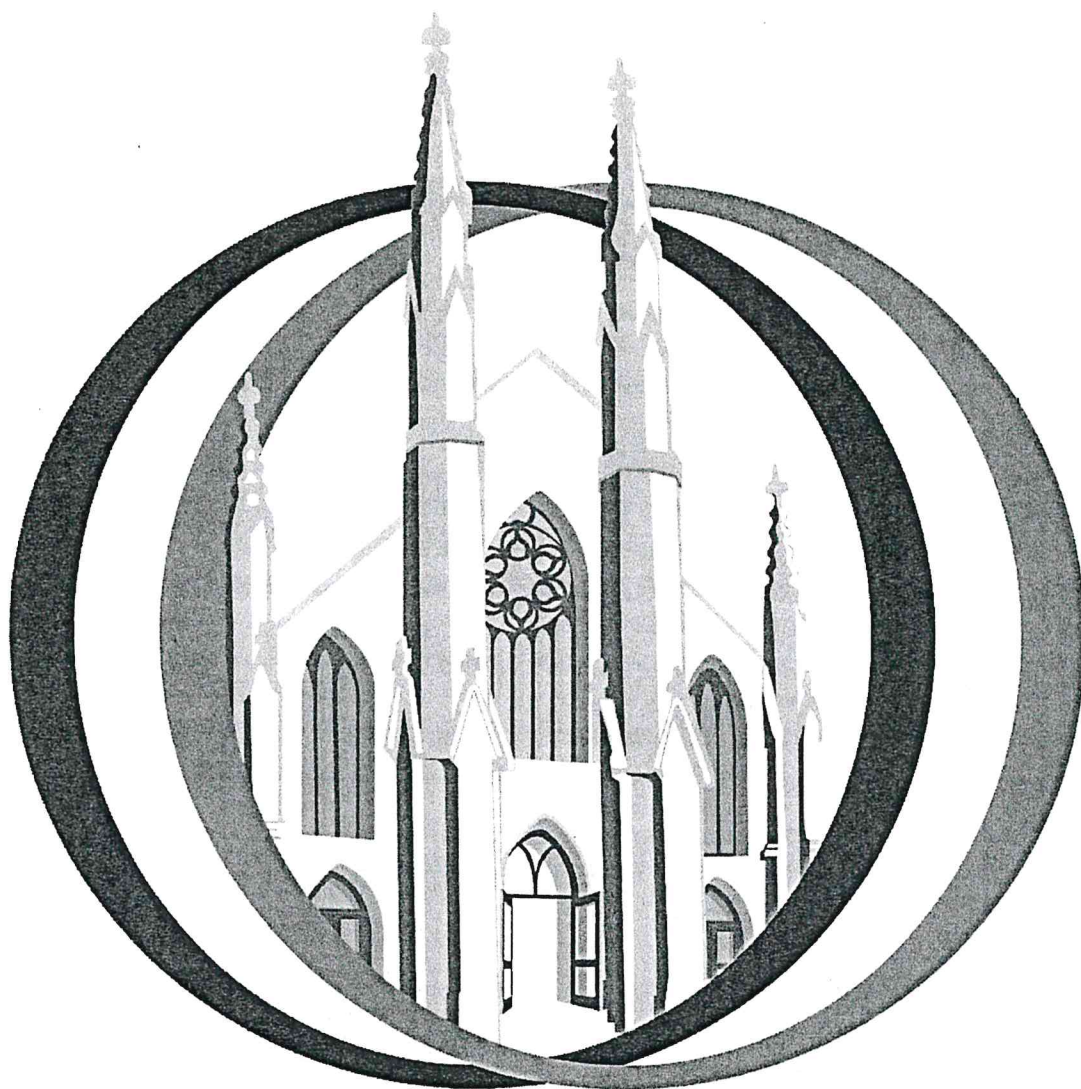




FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BR[©]KLYN
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

ORDER OF SERVICE

August 30, 2026 | 11 am

When Hitting Rock Bottom is What it Takes to Find the Purest Joy

The Sounding Bowl Calls Us Into Silence

Prelude | *Turn! Turn! Turn!* By Pete Seeger

Mystical Reading | words of Brené Brown, *Atlas of the Heart*

Hymn* | Comfort Me (#1002)

Call to Worship*

*Whoever you are, Whomever you love,
Wherever you are on your life journey,
You are Welcome Here.*

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.

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.

Welcome

Hymn* | My Life Flows On In Endless Song (#108)

Sermon

Offertory | *You Learn* by Alanis Morissette

Prayer & Meditation

Candle Lighting

Closing Words

Hymn* | If I Had a Hammer by Pete Seeger

**You are invited to stand as able*

Elena Karpoff: Worship Leader

Sean Hastings: Worship Associate

Allie Lewis: Summer Music Director

~ Please join us for refreshments in the Frances White Room ~

Turn! Turn! Turn!

by Pete Seeger

Refrain:

**To everything - turn, turn, turn
There is a season - turn, turn, turn
And a time to every purpose under heaven**

A time to be born, a time to die
A time to plant, a time to reap
A time to kill, a time to heal
A time to laugh, a time to weep

A time to build up, a time to break down
A time to dance, a time to mourn
A time to cast away stones
A time to gather stones together

A time of love, a time of hate
A time of war, a time of peace
A time you may embrace
A time to refrain from embracing

A time to gain, a time to lose
A time to rend, a time to sew
A time for love, a time for hate
A time for peace, I swear it's not too late

With a slow gospel feel ♩ = 60

B $\flat$ B $\flat$ /D E $\flat$ B $\flat$

1. Com - fort me, — com - fort me, —
2. Sing with me, — sing — with me, —

B $\flat$ F F7

com - fort me, — oh — my — soul.
sing — with me, — oh — my — soul.

B $\flat$ B $\flat$ 7₃ E $\flat$ B $\flat$

Com - fort me, — com - fort me, —
Sing — with me, — sing — with me, —



Comfort Me - 2

All verses E $\flat$ B $\flat$	Final verse E $\flat$ B $\flat$
B$\flat$ F	

3. Speak for me...

4. Dance with me...

5. Comfort me...

Where Do We Come From? 1003

$\text{♩} = 86$

1

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. My life flows on in end - less song a -
 2. What though the tem - pest 'round me roars, I
 3. When ty - rants trem - ble as they hear the

bove earth's la - men - ta - tion. I hear the real though
 know the truth, it liv - eth. What though the dark - ness
 bells of free - dom ring - ing, when friends re - joice both

far - off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion. Through
 'round me close, songs in the night it giv - eth. No
 far and near, how can I keep from sing - ing! To

all the tu - mult and the strife I hear the mu - sic
 storm can shake my in - most calm while to that rock I'm
 pris - on cell and dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are

ring - ing. It sounds an ech - o
 cling - ing. Since love pre - vails in
 wing - ing; when friends by shame are

in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing!
 heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing!
 un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing!

If I Had a Hammer

by Peter Seeger

If I had a hammer, I'd hammer in the morning
I'd hammer in the evening, all over this land
I'd hammer out danger, I'd hammer out a warning
I'd hammer out love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land

If I had a bell, I'd ring it in the morning
I'd ring it in the evening, all over this land
I'd ring out danger, I'd ring out a warning
I'd ring in love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land

If I had a song, I'd sing it in the morning
I'd sing it in the evening, all over this land
I'd sing out danger, I'd sing out a warning
I'd sing in love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land

Well I got a hammer and I got a bell
And I got a song to sing all over this land
It's the hammer of justice, it's the bell of freedom
It's a song about love between my brothers and my sisters all over this land

❖ **Sunday, September 6th, Last chance to sing with the Summer Choir!**

Join the Summer Choir at 10am in the Chapel. Questions? Reach out to Allie Lewis at allie26lewis@gmail.com.

❖ **Thursday, September 10th, 7:00 PM on Zoom**

We are reading The Sliver Book by Olivia Laing. All are welcome. Please contact Langdon Holloway for zoom link. l.a.holloway35@gmail.com

Upcoming Summer Services:

Sept 06 - The Greatest Lessons in Life Sean Hastings

Sunday, Sept 13th, 2026

Water Communion, Ingathering, & Faith in Action Expo

We'll be back in the Sanctuary with Rev. Micah C. Ma. 11:00 a.m.

Bring a small amount of water from your summer adventures!

We will make our holy water together.

Following the service - until 2:00 p.m.

Begin the new worship year by gathering and exploring the many ways to connect, serve, learn, and belong at First U! Following worship, join us for an open-house-style Ingathering Reception and Faith in Action Expo. We'll be in the Undercroft, McKinney Chapel, and Frances White Room

Visit tables hosted by First U's committees, groups, and ministries; enjoy small treats as you go; meet your fellow congregants and discover opportunities to get involved in the life of our congregational community. Whether you are looking for a new way to participate or simply curious about all that happens at First U, come explore and find your place!

Questions? Please contact Tyrone Davis, Jr. at tyrone@firstubrooklyn.org.

Our Summer Share the Plate recipient is *The Wildlife Conservation Society*



The Wildlife Conservation Society conducts research and deploys efforts globally to save wildlife from extinction. They also operate four zoos and the NY Aquarium here in NYC, where they educate the public to care about wildlife and provide excellent care to many species in their collections. Learn more here <https://www.wcs.org/>.

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.

FIRST UNITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY



CONGREGATION ORGANIZED IN 1833

BUILDING DEDICATED IN 1844

CLERGY & STAFF

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

Adam Podd, adam@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Music

Elizabeth Ann Terry, elizabethann@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Religious Education (beginning Aug 1)

Wendy Russell, wendy@firstubrooklyn.org
Congregational Administrator

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

Sean Sellers, sean@firstubrooklyn.org
Youth Coordinator

OFFICERS

Michael Dore, Cyndi Kerr
Co-Presidents, Board of Trustees

Trustees:

**Vicki Antonini, Robert Brackbill, Anne Calder,
Linda Donaldson Guidi, Luke Messina,
Amanda Nietzel, Mark Weiss**

Todd Ogin | *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*

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Summer Office Hours

Monday by appointment
Tues - Thurs | 10:00 am-3:00 pm

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