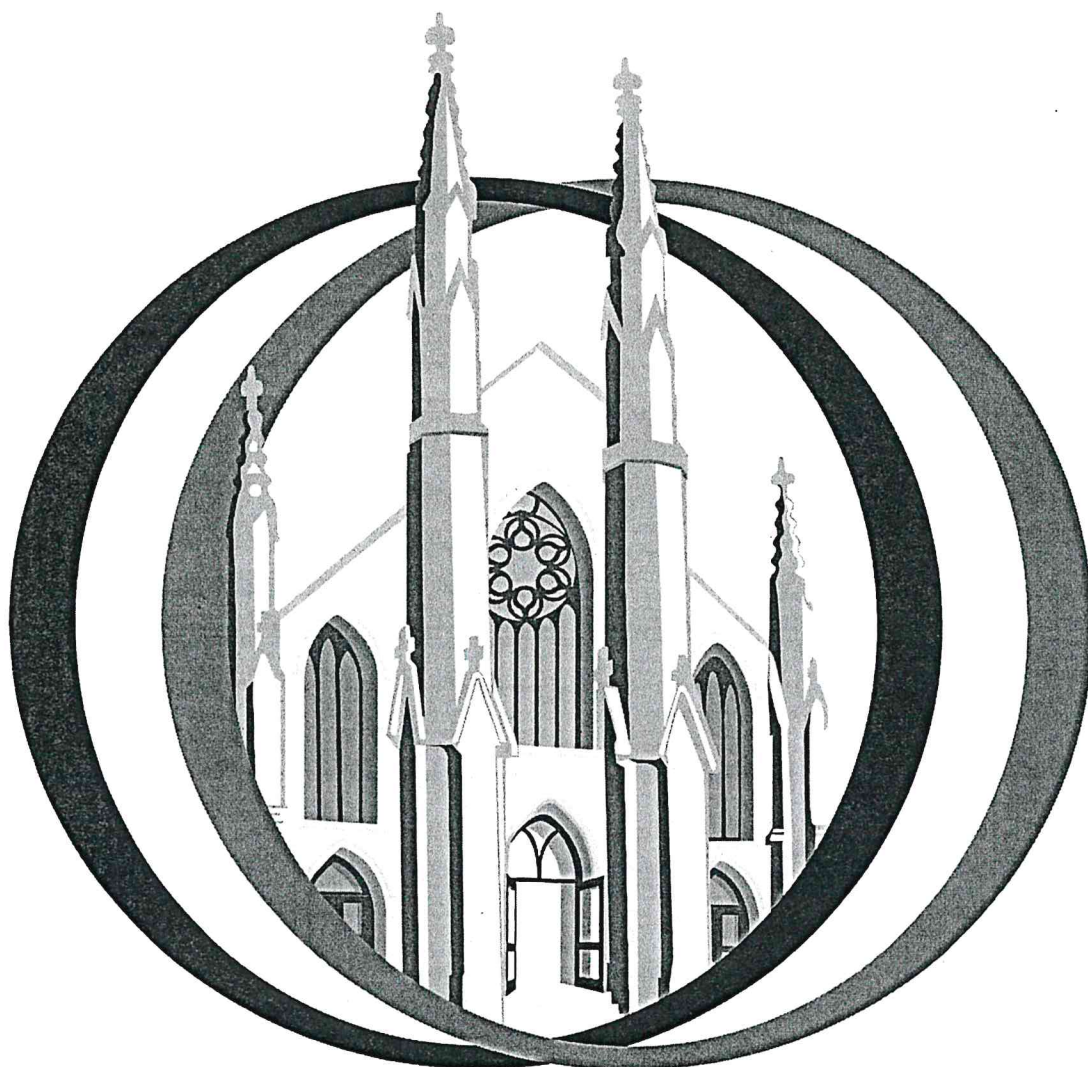




FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BR[Ⓢ]OKLYN
A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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.

CHALICE EXTINGUISHING

We extinguish this flame but not the light of
truth, the warmth of community, or the fire
of commitment. These we carry in our
hearts until we are together again.

-Elizabeth Selle Jones

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.*

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

Musical notation for the Children's Recessional. The first line of music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: F, F/A, Bb, F, F, F/A, Gm7, and C. The lyrics are: "We bless you on your jour-ney through from shel-tering arms to the wide sky blue. In your". The second line of music continues the melody, with chords: Dm, C/E, F, Gm7, Am7, Bb, F/A, Bb/C, and F. The lyrics are: "joy - ful jumps and your sad times too, you bless us by be - ing you."

SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY

Musical notation for the Song of Hope for Jazz Sunday. The first line of music is in 6/8 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are: "From all that dwell be-low the skies_____ Let songs of hope and faith a - rise_____". The second line of music continues the melody, with the lyrics: "Let peace, good-will on Earth be sung_____ Through ev - 'ry land by ev - 'ry tongue_____".

September 27, 2026

BURN THIS BOOK!

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

♪ **Whoever You Are** (inside cover)

Chalice Lighting (inside cover)

♪ **Song of Hope** (inside cover)

Greeting

Deepening **Wisdom Story** | *Librarians, Protectors of Freedom*

Children's Blessing & Recessional

Silent Meditation & Prayer

Candle Lighting

Reading

♪ *A Song to Sing* by Coco Love Alcorn

Sermon

♪ **The Fire of Commitment** (#1028)

Connecting **Offering**

♪ *Let Me Believe* by Rebekka Goldsmith

Announcements

♪ **We Are Building a New Way** (#1017).

Chalice Extinguishing (inside cover)

Benediction

Building a New Way

Rock feel, swing eighths ♩ = 116

Cm7

1. We are build - ing
(2. We are work) - ing

G7

— a new way. — We are build -
— to be free. — We are work -

G7sus

ing — a new way. —
ing — to be free —

Building a New Way - 2

Cm7

We are build - ing a new way, — feel - ing strong -
We are work - ing to be free — hate and greed

Fm7

Cm7

er ev' - ry day, — We are build - ing —
— and jeal - ous-y. — We are work - ing —

G7

Cm7

1, 2, 3
G7(#9)

4
Cm9

— a new way. —
— to be free. —

3. We can feed our every need (3X)
Start with love, that is the seed.
We can feed our every need.

4. Peace and freedom is our cry (3X)
Without these this world will die.
Peace and freedom is our cry.

1028

The Fire of Commitment

With joy and energy ♩ = 150

The musical score is written for piano and voice. The piano part consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The tempo is marked as 150 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems, each with a piano accompaniment and three vocal lines (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass). The lyrics are written below the vocal staves.

System 1:

Chords: Eb, Bb/D, Cm7, Eb/Bb, Ab, Bb

Vocal Lines:

1. From the light of days re - mem - bered burns a
 (2. From the) stor - ies of our liv - ing rings a
 (3. From the) dreams of youth - ful vis - ion comes a

System 2:

Chords: Eb, Ab/Bb, Eb, Bb/D, Cm7, Bb

Vocal Lines:

1. From the light of days re - mem - bered burns a
 (2. From the) stor - ies of our liv - ing rings a
 (3. From the) dreams of youth - ful vis - ion comes a

System 3:

Chords: Ab, Eb/G, Fm7, Bb, Eb, Bb/D

Vocal Lines:

bea - con bright and clear Guid - ing hands and hearts and
 song both brave and free Call - ing pil - grims still to
 new, pro - phet - ic voice Which de - mands a deep - er

Note: The use of percussion is highly recommended.

⊕ Words: Mary Katherine Morn, 1961 - and Jason Shelton, 1972 -

⊕ Music: Jason Shelton, 1972 - , © 2001 Jason Shelton

FIRE OF COMMITMENT 8 7 8 7 with refrain

The Fire of Commitment - 2

Cm7 Eb/Bb Db Ab Bbsus Bb Ab Bb

spir - its In - to faith set free from fear.
wit - ness to the life of lib - er - ty When the
jus - tice built by our cour - a - geous choice

Cm Bb Ab Eb/G Fm7 Eb/G

fire of com - mit - ment sets our mind and soul a -

Ab Bbsus Bb Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

blaze When our hun - ger and our pas - sion meet to

Db Ab Bbsus Bb Bb7 Cm Bb

call us on our way When we live with deep as -

$A^{\flat}$ $E^{\flat}/G$ $Fm7$ $E^{\flat}/G$ $A^{\flat}$ $B^{\flat}_{sus}$ $B^{\flat}$

sur - ance of the flame that burns with - in Then our

Cm $E^{\flat}/G$ $A^{\flat}$ $E^{\flat}/G$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}$ $B^{\flat}_{sus}$

pro - mise finds ful - fill - ment and our fu - ture can be -

$E^{\flat}$ $B^{\flat}/D$ $Cm7$ $E^{\flat}/B^{\flat}$ $A^{\flat}$ $B^{\flat}$

gin.

1, 2 $E^{\flat}$ $A^{\flat}/B^{\flat}$ 3 $E^{\flat}(add9)$

2. From the
3. From the

Sermon Elizabeth Ann Terry, Director of Religious Education
Wisdom Story Elizabeth Ann Terry, Director of Religious Education
Music Sophia Miller and Emily Gaggiano
Announcements Tyrone Davis, Jr, Membership Coordinator

Worship Associate Octavia Findley
Lay Pastoral Minister Daniel Walters
Livestream Producer Lukas Bauer
Online Host Charlotte Hoogenboom
Connections Table Hosts Charles Lynch and Robert Brackbill, Board Member

Mystical Reading by Toni Morrison, 20th century author and poet

Music Notes:

A Song to Sing features Ramona & Jean Shepherd

Today's music is led by **Sophia Miller** and **Emily Gaggiano**, as well as the First Unitarian Brooklyn Choir. Adam will be back next week!

Today in Religious Education:

Activity Packs are available for little ones

Nursery, Toddler, Pre-K / 11AM-12:30PM

Drop off to the 50 Monroe Classroom. Pick up after the service.

Grades K-6, Regular RE Classes

*During the children's recessional, the children will go to the Chapel to meet with their teacher, who will bring them to the classrooms. **Pick up will be in the Chapel** - the teachers will bring the children back to the Chapel when classes have finished.*

Grades 7-8, OWL, 11 AM – 12:30 PM, Frances White Room

Grades 9-12, HS Youth Group, 12:30-1:30, Third Floor Teen Room

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Your child/children must be registered in order to participate in our programs. Use the QR code above to register your child today!



Join us for fellowship in the undercroft, following the service.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Today at First Unitarian:

❖ **THE ATLANTIC ANTIC! FUUB PARTICIPATION CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER**

❖ **Today, 12:45-2:00, The Poetry of Devotion and Doubt**

Journey with poets as they express the struggles of the soul in search of and sometimes rejecting faith. Join in discussions about the poetry and with fellow congregants and friends. All are welcome. If you have any questions contact Beth beth.evans.is@gmail.com or Daniel dpwalters@gmail.com or message them in Realm. Meet in the Frances White Room.

❖ **Today, 1:00 The Religious Naturalism Study Group, Library.**

All congregants and friends of the congregation are invited to attend. A draft agenda will be distributed for comments through the RN Google Group. Please contact the Study Group Communications Coordinator at maggienorris112@gmail.com to be added to the Google Group. Meet in the Library.

❖ **Today, The First U Social Justice Committee Open House, Undercroft**

We welcome anyone with a desire to work towards social change to join us as we outline our coming events and brainstorm new ideas! All are welcome.

❖ **Today, Come on Down! Congregation Ministerial Search Survey**



Today is the last chance to fill out the **Congregation Ministerial Search Survey** in person! Computers are set up downstairs, and search committee members will be available to answer any questions. The survey is open until October 3 and can be accessed directly at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FUUB> or by clicking the QR code.

Looking Forward:

❖ **Monday, September 28th 6:30-8:30 The Men's Group will meet in the Library** for informal conversation. Newcomers are welcome.

❖ **Thursday, October 1st, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm, BIPOC Affinity Group Meeting**

Are you looking to meet, gather, ponder, and fellowship with other congregants of color? Join us for our first meeting of the program year on Thursday, October 1st, from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM! Meetings take place on the first Thursday 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@firsttubrooklyn.org.

❖ **Sunday, October 4th, Queer Community 12:45-2:15. Frances White Room**

❖ **Sunday, October 4th, Newcomers Orientation 12:45-2:15. In the Library**

All are welcome to join Tyrone Davis, Jr., Membership Coordinator, for October's Newcomer's Orientation. In it, we discuss some basics of Unitarian Universalist history and values, as well as First Unitarian's own history, which dates back to the 1800s. We will meet in the library.

❖ **Sunday, October 4th, 12:30-2:00 PM - Soul Matters. Eastman Room 2nd Floor**

Looking for deeper connection with others, with your own life, and with what matters most? Join us for Soul Matters, a monthly small group experience built on deep, intentional listening. Each month, you'll receive a reflection guide with thoughtful questions, readings, and exercises to explore at your own pace before we gather to share, honor each other's stories, and grow together. Come try an introductory "taste" session to experience our format of active listening and reflection. Whether you want quiet space for yourself or closer ties within our community, there is a seat at the table for you.

Just join us- no registration necessary. First Meeting in October.

Ready to Sign up for a Soul Matters Group? <https://forms.gle/GYyFUQyLH2BFvW5A9>

❖ **Saturday, October 24th: Bids, bites, and boos! The Spring Auction you love is now a Halloween fall fest.** Costumes, dinner, and drinks are on the menu. Mark your calendars! More details creeping up soon... Email Spencer@firstubrooklyn.org with items/experiences/dinners to donate, questions, or interest in getting involved!

❖ **Sunday, October 25th 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Community Recycling Event**
Electronics & Textiles. Pierrepont St between Clinton St & Monroe Pl.

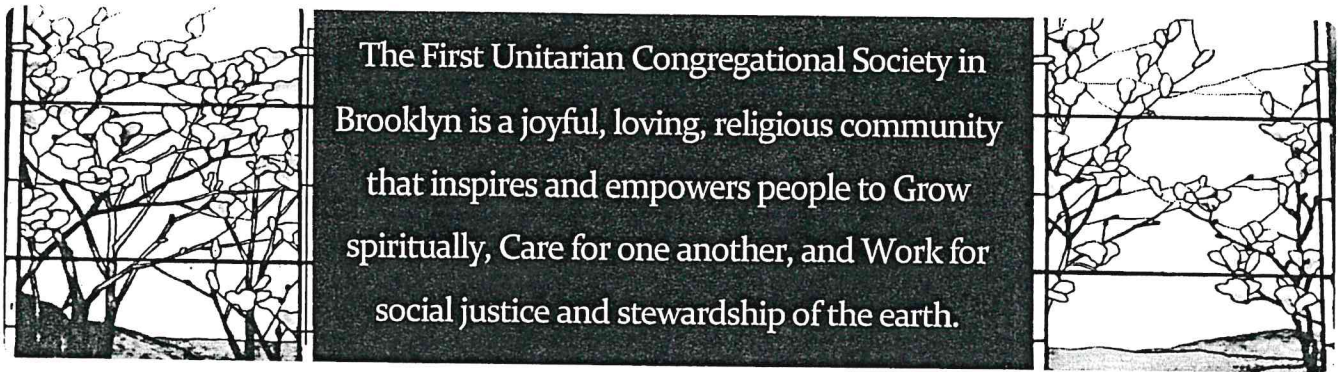
Share the Plate: The Minister's Discretionary Fund



The Minister's Discretionary Fund provides small gifts to members & friends of First Unitarian in times of need.

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.



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.

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, we invite you to come and connect with them. We very much want to hear from you.

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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. 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

Renee Strickland, renee@firstubrooklyn.org
Director of Facilities

John McKeown, john@firstubrooklyn.org
Building Engineer

Wendy Russell, wendy@firstubrooklyn.org
Congregational Administrator

Bobby Blackman, bobby@firstubrooklyn.org
Sexton

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

Sean Sellers, sean@firstubrooklyn.org
HS Youth Coordinator

Phylisa St. Fleur **Ruby Stackhouse**
Nursery Caregiver *Nursery Caregiver*

OFFICERS

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

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

Clerk of the Society: Todd Ogin

Treasurer: Lee Pardee

Moderator: James Goward

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

Children's Music Director: Bert Eisenstadt

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Office Hours:

Sunday 9:00-2:00 Mon by appt
Tues-Wed-Thurs | 9:30 am-4:00 pm

Office Closed Friday & Saturday

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YOUTUBE: FirstUnitarianBrooklyn

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First Unitarian Congregational Society in
Brooklyn

GIVE BY TEXT (855) 799-2543