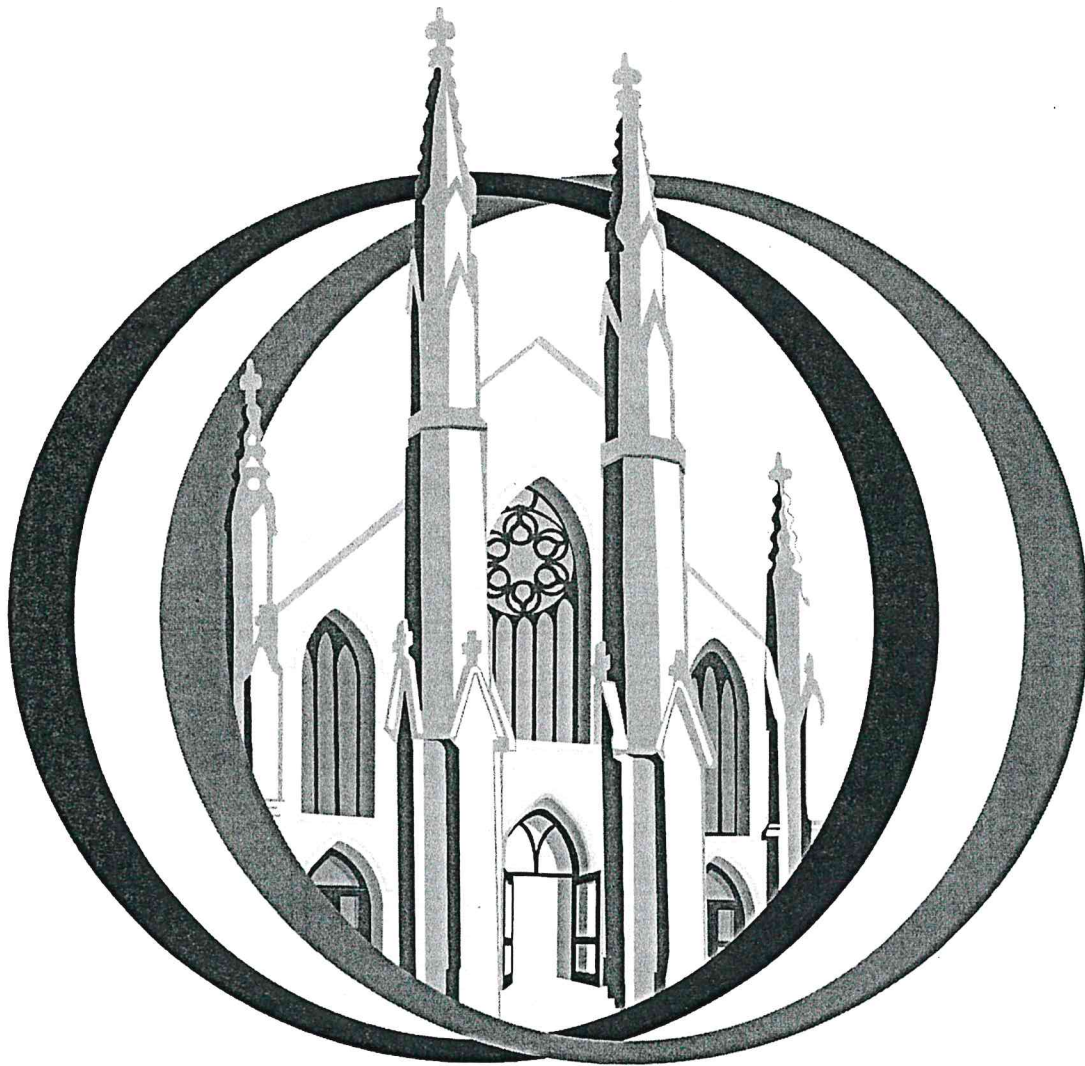




FIRST UNITARIAN  
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY  
BRⓈKLYN  
A UNITARIAN  UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

## 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.

## 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, starting with a treble clef and 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, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). 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\_\_\_\_\_".

October 25, 2026

## Integrating a Religious Naturalist Orientation within Unitarian Perspectives

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

♪ **For the Beauty of the Earth** (#21)

♪ **Whoever You Are** (inside cover)

**Chalice Lighting** (inside cover)

♪ **Song of Hope** (inside cover)

**Greeting**

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**Deepening** **Wisdom Story** | *Little Turtle and the Changing Sea* by Becky Davies,  
illustrated by Jennie Poh

**Children's Blessing & Recessional**

**Silent Meditation & Prayer**

**Candle Lighting**

**Responsive Reading** | #540 – The Peace of Autumn

♪ *Mother Nature's Prayer* music, Albert Malotte words, Ursula Goodenough  
**Sermon**

♪ **All Creatures of the Earth and Sky** (#203)

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### Connecting **Offering**

♪ *Holy Now* by Peter Mayer

**Announcements**

♪ **Blue Boat Home** (#1064)

**Chalice Extinguishing** (inside cover)

**Benediction**

---

*All are invited for fellowship in the undercroft, following the service.*

# 21 For the Beauty of the Earth

$\text{♩} = 112$

1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the splen - dor  
 2. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and  
 3. For the won - der of each hour of the day and  
 4. For the joy of hu - man care, sis - ter, broth - er,

of the skies, for the love which from our birth  
 mind's de - light, for the mys - tic har - mo - ny  
 of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower,  
 par - ent, child, for the kin - ship we all share,

o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 sun and moon and stars of light:  
 for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 Source of all, to

thee we raise this, our hymn of grate - ful praise.

## THE PEACE OF AUTUMN

Today the peace of autumn pervades the world.

*In the radiant noon, silent and motionless, the wide stillness rests like a tired bird*

Spreading over the deserted fields to all horizons its wings of golden green.

*Today the thin thread of the river flows without song, leaving no mark on its sandy banks.*

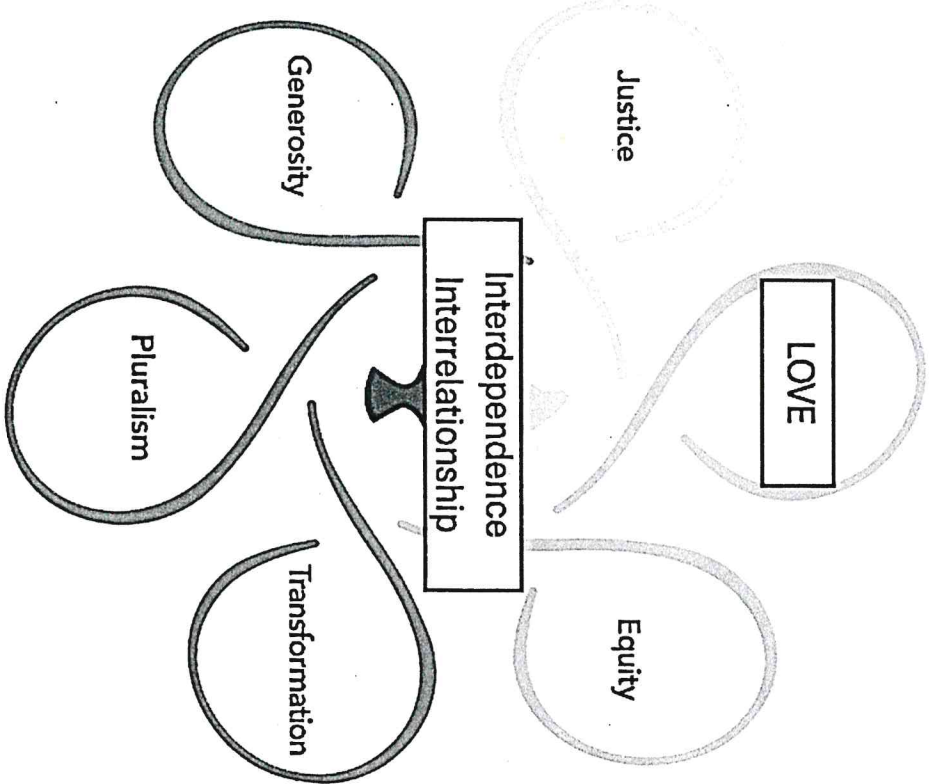
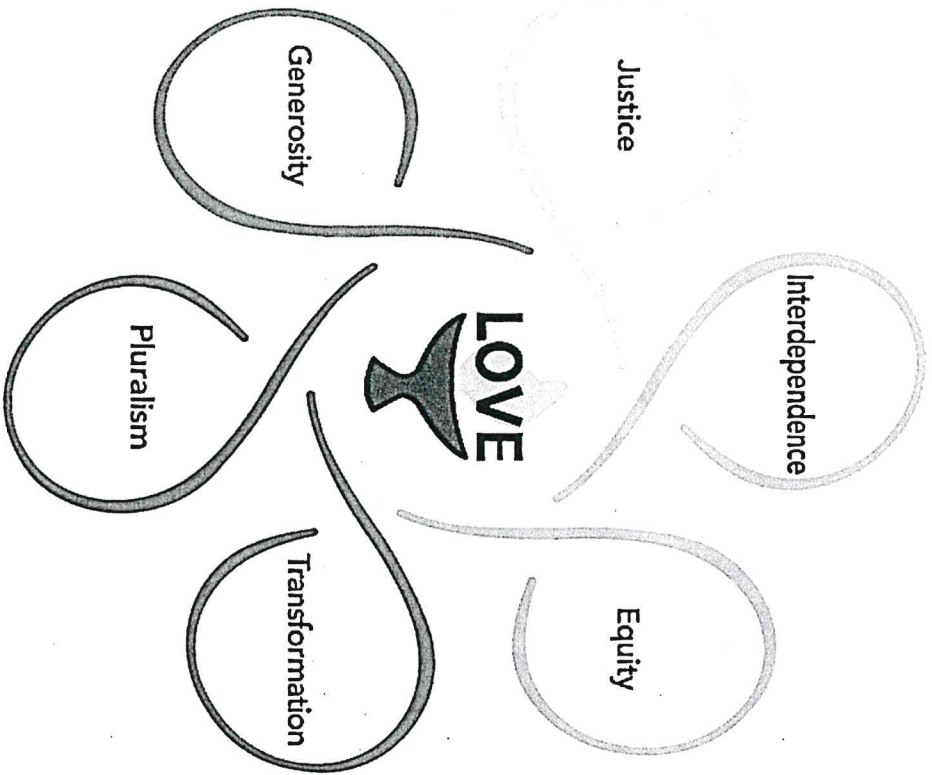
The many distant villages bask in the sun with eyes closed in idle and languid slumber.

*In the stillness I hear in every blade of grass,*

In every speck of dust, in every part of my own body, in the visible and invisible worlds,

*In the planets, the sun, and the stars, the joyous dance of the atoms through endless time.*

RABINDRANATH TAGORE



# All Creatures of the Earth and Sky

$\text{♩} = 84$

1. All crea- tures of the earth and sky, come,  
 2. Swift rush - ing wind so wild and strong, white  
 3. Cool flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make

kin - dred, lift your voic - es high, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -  
 clouds that sail in heav'n a - long, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -  
 mu - sic for all life to hear, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -

lu - ia! Bright burn - ing sun with gold - en beam, soft  
 lu - ia! Fair ris - ing morn in praise re - joice, high  
 lu - ia! Dance, flame of fire, so strong and bright, and

Words: Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226, alt.

Music: From *Ausserlesene Catholische Kirchengesang*, 1623, adapt. and  
 harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, music used by perm. of

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 8.8.4.4.8.8.

shin - ing moon with sil - ver gleam: Al - le -  
 stars of eve - ning find a voice: Al - le -  
 bless us with your warmth and light: Al - le -

lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -  
 lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -  
 lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -

lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

4. Embracing earth, you, day by day,  
 bring forth your blessings on our way,  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!  
 All herbs and fruits that richly grow,  
 let them the glory also show:  
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
 Alleluia!

5. All you of understanding heart,  
 forgiving others, take your part,  
 Alleluia, Alleluia!  
 Let all things now the Holy bless,  
 and worship God in humbleness:  
 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,  
 Alleluia!

*Fluid, legato* ♩ = 140

First system of music. Treble and bass staves. Chords E and A/E are indicated above the treble staff. The word *simile* appears at the end of the system.

Second system of music. Treble and bass staves. Chords E and A/E are indicated above the treble staff.

Third system of music. Treble and bass staves. Chords E and A/E are indicated above the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff:

1. Though be - low me, I feel no mo - tion  
 2. Sun my sail — and moon my rud - der  
 3. I give thanks to the waves up - hold - ing me,

⊕ Words: Peter Mayer, 1963 - , © 2002 Peter Mayer

Music: Roland Hugh Prichard, 1811 - 1887, adapted by Peter Mayer, 1963 - ,

© 2002 Peter Mayer,

⊕ keyboard arr. Jason Shelton, 1972 -

HYFRODOL, 8.7.8.7.D

Blue Boat Home - 2

E A/E

stan- ding on these moun- tains and plains.  
as I ply the star - ry sea,  
hail the great winds urg - ing me on,

E A/E

Far a - way from the rol - ling o - cean  
lean - ing o - ver the edge in won - der,  
greet the in - fi - nite sea be - fore me,

E A/E E

still my dry land heart can say:  
cast - ing ques - tions in - to the deep.  
sing the sky my sai - lor's song:

Blue Boat Home - 3

G#m C#m7 F#m7 B7sus4 B7/A

I've been sail - ing all my life — now,  
Drift - ing here with my ship's com - pan - ions,  
I was born — up - on the fath - oms,

G#m AM7 F#m7 Bsus4 B

nev - er har - bor or port have I known. The  
all we kin - dred pil - grim souls,  
nev - er har - bor or port have I known. The

E A/E E Bsus4 B/A

wide un - i - verse — is the o - cean I tra - vel —  
mak - ing our way — by the lights of the hea - vens —  
wide u - ni - verse — is the o - cean I tra - vel, —

# Blue Boat Home - 4

E/G# A(add9) B sus4 B(add11) 1, 2  
E

and the earth. is my blue boat home.  
in our beau - ti - ful blue boat home.  
and the earth. is my blue boat

A/E 3  
E

home.

A/E E A/E E

rit.

## Save the Date: Congregational Meeting Date: Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>

Please join us for our upcoming Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>**. We have an important and encouraging agenda ahead, including updates and reports on key areas of our congregational life.

**Agenda Highlights:** - Opening Words - Search Updates - Façade Updates - Financial Report - New Website Launch & Realm - Leadership Development Committee - General Assembly Report Back

We look forward to gathering together to share updates and ask questions. Please mark your calendars!

*Childcare will be provided during the meeting.*

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Today at First Unitarian:

❖ **Community Recycling Event 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Pierrepont St**

❖ **DRAG OUT THE VOTE!, 12:45-2:30, McKinney Chapel**

The Social Justice Committee invites everyone to **Drag Out the Vote**; a family friendly fundraiser to benefit the work of the SJC and to promote early voting. Please join us! Suggested donation \$15.

❖ **The Religious Naturalism Study Group Special Event, 12:45-2:15 Library**

After the service, Professor Goodenough will participate in an interview with a member of the Religious Naturalism Study Group about her book, "The Sacred Depths of Nature," now in its second edition. Meet in the Library.

All members of the congregation are invited to meet Professor Goodenough and attend the interview. Sandwiches and beverages will be provided by the RN Group.

### Other Group Meetings Today:

❖ **Soul Matters w/Linda Guidi & Luke Chu, 12:30-2:30 Classroom 1, 50 Monroe Entrance**

❖ **Poetry of Doubt & Devotion, 12:45 – 2:00 pm Eastman Room**

### Looking Forward:

❖ **Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm, The Salon at First U (Open Mic).**

Vocalists/Musicians (self-accompanied), Poets, Actors, Storytellers, Comedians...we want to hear you! Come share your talent in our cozy & supportive space. Our theme is the *Spirit of Halloween* - whatever that means to you. You can present on theme or not – no pressure. Snacks will be served! **Frances White Room.** Questions? Contact [wendy@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:wendy@firstubrooklyn.org).

❖ **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00-10:45, Morning Meditation. Third Floor Teen Room**

Offering a quiet space for silent reflection. All are welcome. No previous meditation experience necessary. Contact Peggy Schubert via Realm or at [peggyschubert@gmail.com](mailto:peggyschubert@gmail.com) for more information.

❖ **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 12:45-2:00 pm, Newcomers Orientation.**

All are welcome to join Tyrone Davis, Jr., Membership Coordinator, for this introduction to Unitarian Universalist history and theology. We will meet in the library.

**Sermon** Dr. Ursula Goodenough, President of the Religious Naturalist Association

**Wisdom Story** Elizabeth Ann Terry, Director of Religious Education

**Music** Adam Podd, Director of Music

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

**Worship Associate** Ginny Fahs

**Lay Pastoral Minister** E.T. Boyle

**Livestream Producer** Lukas Bauer

**Online Host** Charlotte Hoogenboom

**Connections Table Host(s)** Michael Dore, Board Co-President & Luke Messina, Board Trustee

**Mystical Reading** by Hildegard of Bingen, 12th century Benedictine nun

**Ursula Goodenough** is Professor of Biology Emerita at Washington University who retired to Martha's Vineyard in 2017. She taught cell biology and evolution and engaged in research that focused on the sexual cycle of the green soil alga *Chlamydomonas*, on ciliary motility, and on algal biofuel precursors. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Microbiology Society, a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and served as president of the American Society for Cell Biology. She and many others are developing what is called a religious naturalist orientation ([religious-naturalist-association.org](http://religious-naturalist-association.org)) and a new edition of her book, *The Sacred Depths of Nature: How Life Emerged and Evolved* (Oxford University Press) ([sacreddepthsofnature.com](http://sacreddepthsofnature.com)), describes her understandings of this orientation. She has five children and ten grandchildren.

#### **Music Notes:**

**Wendy Russell**, soloist (*Holy Now*)

Albert Malotte's musical setting of The Lord's Prayer has been sung by countless singers, including everyone from Mahalia Jackson to Andrea Bocelli, to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. This morning's rendition of Malotte's composition has new words from our guest speaker Dr. Ursula Goodenough, retitled *Mother Nature's Prayer*, and sung by our own **Brandon Hornsby-Selvin**. The new prayer is printed below.

***Mother Nature's Prayer*** (by Dr. Ursula Goodenough)

Our Mother, who art within us, hallowed be thy name.

Thy ways evolve, Thy will calls forth this earth that is now our heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and fill us with tenderness as we repair our trespasses.

And lead us forth into communion, and deliver us from dominion,

For thine is our wellspring, and our grounding and our glory forever, amen.

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### **Today in Religious Education:**

*Activity Packs are available for little ones*

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

**Grades K-6, RE Classes** *During the children's recessional, the children will go downstairs to meet their teachers.*

**OWL, Grades 7-8, 11 AM – 12:30 PM**, Third Floor Teen Room

**HS Youth Group, Grades 9-12, 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!



❖ **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 12:45-2:15 pm, Queer Community.**

If you identify as queer, please join us. Newcomers are always welcome. We will meet in the Frances White Room. For more information, to join, or to share an event, please email [queercommunity-admin@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:queercommunity-admin@firstubrooklyn.org)

❖ **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 12:45 pm Documentary Film "Why Are You You".**

All are welcome to join the Women's Leadership Alliance on Sunday, November 1 at 12:45 pm in the Sanctuary for a showing of the documentary film "Why Are You You." The film explores the history of a UU program from the 1980's that empowered adolescents to make positive change in the world. This event is part of the WLA year-long program series on Women Through the Lifespan. There will be a short discussion after the film featuring a WLA member who participated in the YRUU program.

❖ **Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2:00pm The Great Kitchen Clean-Up!**

The Kitchen is getting THREE new appliances: an induction range, a double oven, and a refrigerator. Now it's time for us to channel our inner Marie Kondo and join the Facilities Committee in cleaning up our new and improved kitchen, just in time for Thanksgiving, UniFair - and beyond. Gloves, spray cleaners, cloths, paper towels, and brooms will be provided. Sign up using the QR Code.



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## **Share Your Voice: Ministerial Search Small Group Discussions**

The Ministerial Search Committee is holding Affinity Group meetings on Zoom this week with:



The Caring Ministry Focus Group on *Wednesday, Oct 28th at 3pm*. Members should contact Michelle Kuchuk for the Zoom link.

The Young Adult Ministry on *Thursday October 29th 6:30*. Members should contact Charlotte Hoogenboom for the Zoom link.

**Open Small Group Sessions** will be held in person on *Sunday Nov. 1, 10:00-10:50am (before service)* and *12:45-1:35pm (after service)* live at First UU Brooklyn. Sign up with the QR code

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## **The newly formed Disability, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee wants to hear from you!**

Please take a minute to complete this short survey to let us know how we can make First U more accessible and inclusive for you. A representative will also be in the undercroft through the month of October. Stop by our table after service! If you would like to join our committee we meet monthly on alternating Tuesday and Wednesday evenings once a month online. Find us on Realm for details.

Go to <https://forms.gle/GuD5MpTXGaTPXNbeA> or use the QR code.



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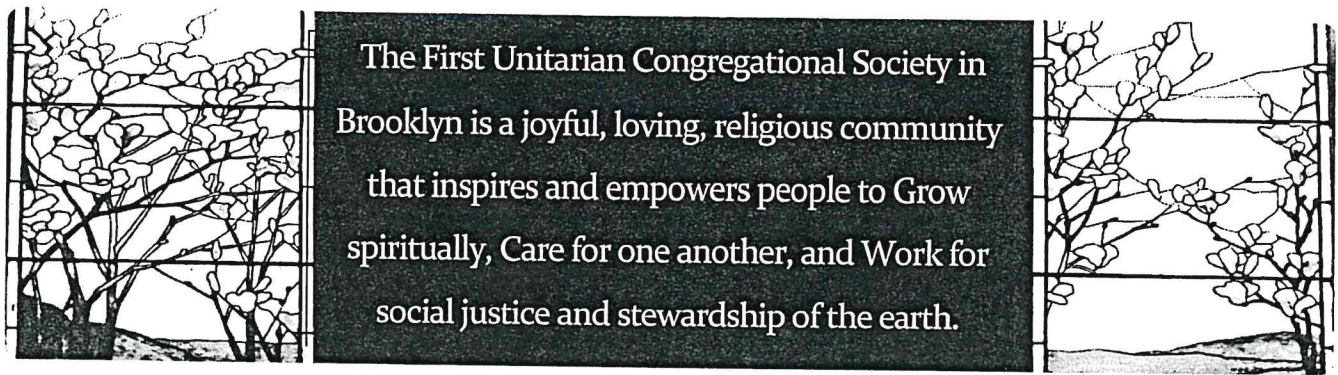
## **Share the Plate: The MAP - Massachusetts Medical Abortion Project**



The MAP is a non-profit, asynchronous telemedicine Shield Law practice in Massachusetts that provides medication abortion care to patients from all 50 states and US territories and those with military and state department addresses.

**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.

**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. Micah C. Ma**, [micah@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:micah@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Interim Minister*

**Adam Podd**, [adam@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:adam@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Director of Music*

**Elizabeth Ann Terry**, [elizabethann@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:elizabethann@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Director of Religious Education*

**Renee Strickland**, [renee@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:renee@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Director of Facilities*

**John McKeown**, [john@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:john@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Building Engineer*

**Wendy Russell**, [wendy@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:wendy@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Congregational Administrator*

**Bobby Blackman**, [bobby@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:bobby@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Sexton*

**Tyrone Davis, Jr.**, [tyrone@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:tyrone@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*Membership Coordinator*

**Sean Sellers**, [sean@firstubrooklyn.org](mailto:sean@firstubrooklyn.org)  
*HS Youth Coordinator*

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

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Nancy Wolf

**Senior Deacon:** Constance Newsom

**Music Director Emeritus:** William Peek

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

## OFFICE

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Brooklyn, NY 11201

Tel (718) 624-5466

### 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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WEB: [www.firstubrooklyn.org](http://www.firstubrooklyn.org)

INSTAGRAM: FirstUBrooklyn

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GIVE BY TEXT (855) 799-2543