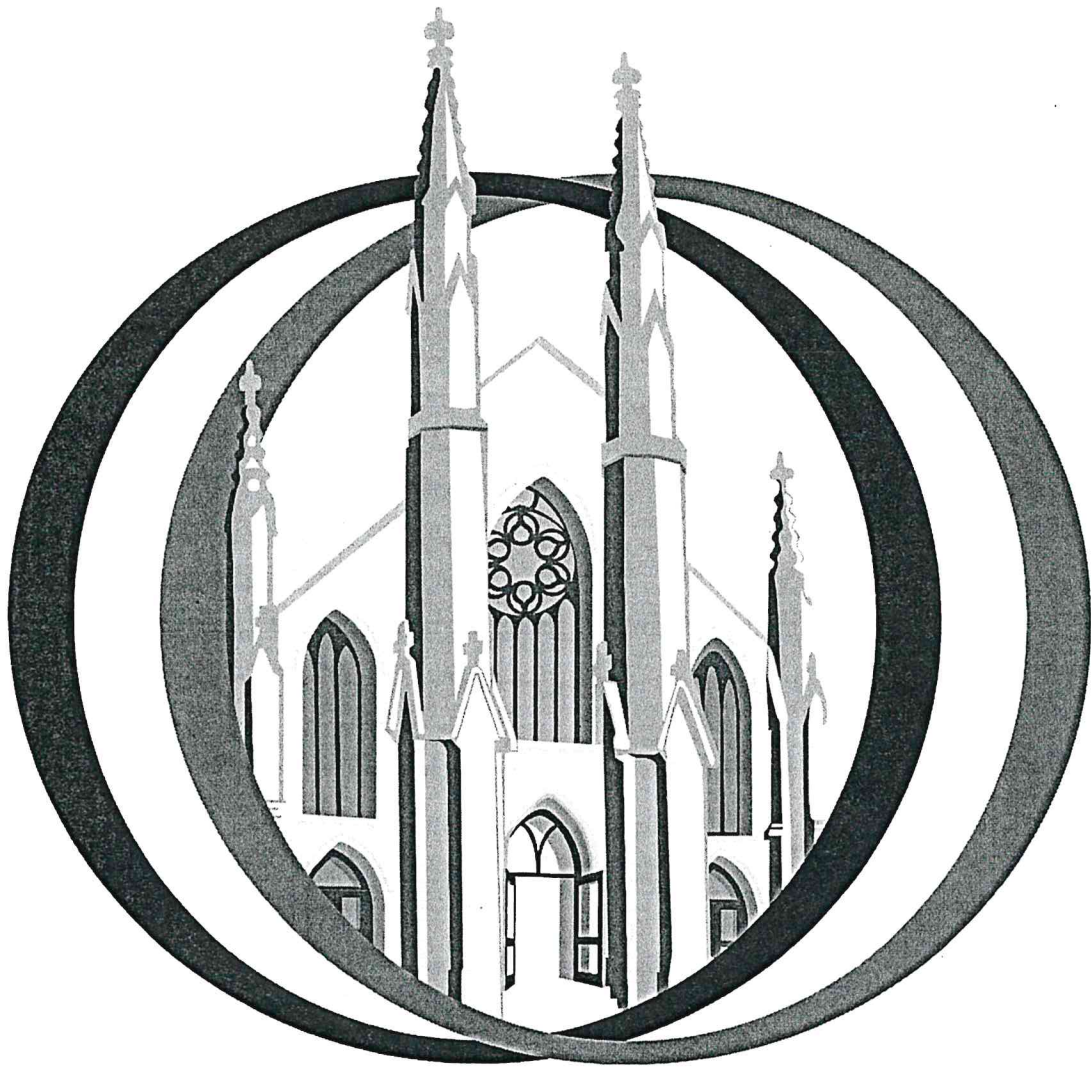




FIRST UNITARIAN
CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY
BR[Ⓢ]KLYN
A UNITARIAN  UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

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 "CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL" in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: "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." Chords are indicated above the staff: F, F/A, Bb, F, F, F/A, Gm7, C, Dm, C/E, F, Gm7, Am7, Bb, F/A, Bb/C, F.

SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY

Musical notation for "SONG OF HOPE FOR JAZZ SUNDAY" in 8/8 time. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). The lyrics are: "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".

October 18, 2026

Finding What You're Looking For

Welcome to First Unitarian Congregational Society in Brooklyn, where we are exploring the themes of *identity* and *self-discovery* 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.

♪ **In This House** by Mamuse

*In this house, we lead with love
In this house, we lift each other up
In this house, we learn to fly with the dove
Oh this is the house we've been dreaming of
Oh this is the house we've been dreaming of*

♪ **Whoever You Are** (inside cover)

Chalice Lighting (inside cover)

♪ **Song of Hope** (inside cover)

Greeting

Deepening **Wisdom Story** | *The Princess and the Pony* by Kate Beaton

Children's Blessing & Recessional

Silent Meditation & Prayer

Candle Lighting

♪ *The Butterfly* by Neil Bartram (from the musical *The Story of My Life*)

Sermon

Reflection

♪ **We Would Be One** (#318)

Connecting **Offering**

♪ *The Road Home* words by Michael Dennis Browne, tune "Prospect" from Southern Harmony 1835, adapted/arr. Stephen Paulus

Announcements

♪ **In This House** by Mamuse

Chalice Extinguishing (inside cover)

Benediction

We Would Be One

$\text{♩} = 69$

1. We would be one as now we join in sing-ing
 2. We would be one in build-ing for to - mor-row

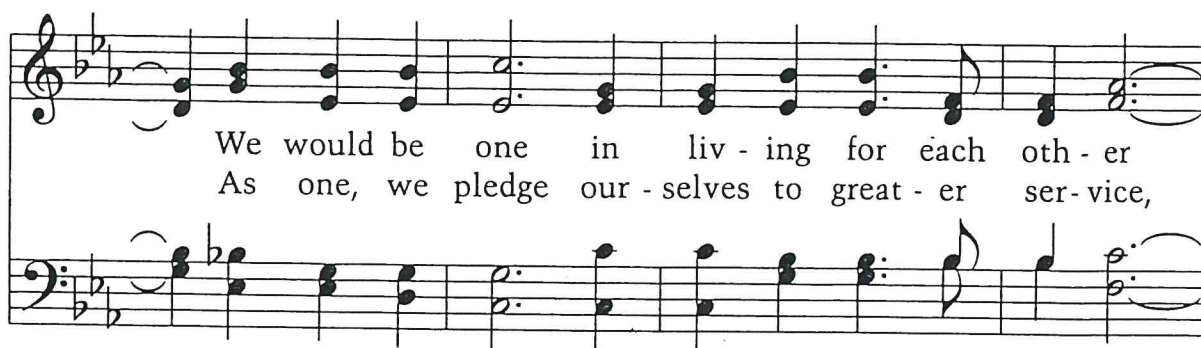
our hymn of love, to pledge our - selves a - new
 a no - bler world than we have known to - day.

to that high cause of great - er un - der - stand - ing
 We would be one in search-ing for that mean-ing

of who we are, and what in us is true.
 which binds our hearts and points us on our way.

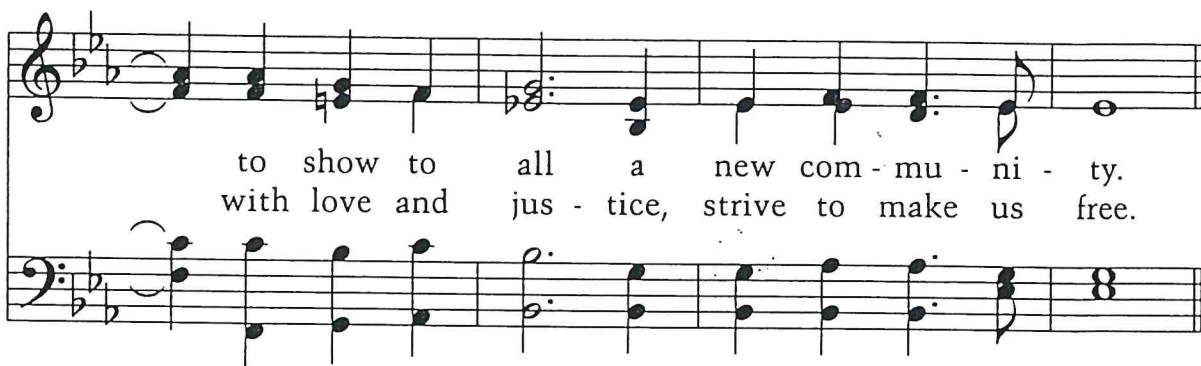
† Words: Samuel Anthony Wright, 1919—
 Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957, arr. from *The Hymnal*, 1933,
 © 1933, renewed 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

FINLANDIA
 11.10.11.10.11.10.



We would be one in liv - ing for each oth - er
As one, we pledge our - selves to great - er ser - vice,

The first system of the musical score is written on two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are centered between the two staves.



to show to all a new com - mu - ni - ty.
with love and jus - tice, strive to make us free.

The second system of the musical score continues on two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are centered between the two staves. The system concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign (two vertical lines) on the right side of the lower staff.

Sermon Rev. Micah C. Ma, Interim Minister
Wisdom Story Sarah Morgan, Chair of the Search Committee
Chalice Lighting Jenifer Leigh
Reflection Vonda Brunsting
Music Adam Podd, Director of Music
Announcements Tyrone Davis, Jr., Membership Coordinator

Worship Associate Bob Bero
Lay Pastoral Minister Daniel Walters
Livestream Producer Lukas Bauer
Online Host Linda Donaldson Guidi
Connections Table Host(s) Allen Kone and Amanda Nietzel, Board Trustee

Mystical Reading by Henri Nouwen, Dutch Catholic priest and theologian

Music Notes:

Dennis Wees, soloist (*The Butterfly*)

The Road Home (words by Michael Dennis Browne)

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own,
That I left, that I lost, so long ago?
All these years I have wandered, oh, when will I know
There's a way, there's a road that will lead me home?

After wind, after rain, when the dark is done.
As I wake from a dream in the gold of day,
Through the air there's a calling from far away,
There's a voice I can hear that will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, come away, is the call,
With the love in your heart as the only song;
There is no such beauty as where you belong:
Rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

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, 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!

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Today at First Unitarian:

❖ **Search Committee Town Hall, Please Join Us!**

The Ministerial Search team will share the search survey findings at a Town Hall meeting today from 12:30-2:00 in the Sanctuary. You can also attend using the Zoom link for Sunday's service.

❖ **Shawls and Crafts Ministry**

We will meet during Fellowship Hour in the undercroft to craft together. Yarn, needles and guidance are all available. We look forward to spending time with our fellow crafters. And feel free to bring your crafting to the Ministerial Search presentation or the Gardening Committee gathering. The Shawls and Crafts Ministry also meets online on the first Thursday of each month on Google Meet: meet.google.com/rzi-tppr-arh

❖ **Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is cancelled this month.**

❖ **Garden Committee Ingathering, following worship, McKinney Chapel**

Our church garden needs plant lovers, gardeners and wanna-be gardeners! The agenda will be to create a work calendar for the coming year, prioritize spending needs given our budget, and think about how we want to divvy up work and responsibilities over the coming year as we bring our garden back to life. Questions? Contact Catalina Bertani at tanrara@gmail.com

Looking Forward:

❖ **Saturday, October 24th, 5:00 pm, First U's First-Ever Halloween Party & Auction**



We are transforming the McKinney Chapel for a night of costumes, community, and friendly competition. Your ticket is an all-access pass to the event, covering **dinner, drinks, raffle entries, and a full-on dance party**. Whether you plan to sweep the costume contest, get your fortune read or win big in the auction, there is something for every budget. Score gift cards to your favorite local spots, bid on weekend getaways and exclusive community dinners, or win the ultimate First U prize: choosing the topic for a special Sermon by Rev. Micah! Space is strictly limited. Scan the QR code, click on "Auction Payments" and send \$30 to grab your tickets ahead of time and guarantee your spot on the dance floor! Want to donate an item, share an idea, or ask a question? Reach out to spencer@firstubrooklyn.org.

❖ **Sunday, October 25th, 12:45-2:30, DRAG OUT THE VOTE!, McKinney Chapel**

Family friendly!, Bites & Bubbly! Hosted by drag artist Lauren Ordair and featuring Gigi Deetz and Androgyny. Suggested Donation \$15

❖ **Sunday, October 25, 12:45-2:15 The Religious Naturalism Study Group, Library**

is pleased to announce that Professor Ursula Goodenough, President of the Religious Naturalism Association (RNA) and well-known in UU environmental activist circles, will visit First U on Sunday, October 25, 2026. She will deliver a guest sermon discussing the strong connection between the Unitarian Universalist faith and the religious naturalist orientation. 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

❖ **Sunday, October 25th 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Community Recycling Event**

Electronics & Textiles. Pierrepont St between Clinton St & Monroe Pl.

Accepted Electronics: Computers, Keyboards, Laptops, Printers, Mobile Phones, MP3 Players, TVs, Video Game consoles, VCRs & DVD players. // **Accepted Textiles:** Clothing, Shoes, Towels, Hats, Bags, Gloves, Linens & Bedding, Curtains, Clean, Dry & Unsoiled Fabric. // **Not Accepted:** Air Conditioners, Appliances, Batteries, Light Bulbs, CD-ROMs & Floppy Discs, DVDs, VHS & Audio Cassettes

❖ **Thursday, October 29th, 6:30-8:30 pm, The Salon at First U, Frances White Room**

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.

❖ **Sunday, November 1st, 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 for more information.

❖ **Sunday, November 15th, 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.



Share Your Voice: Ministerial Search Small Group Discussions



Small group discussions about our ministerial search will take place before and after services between October 25th and November 8th. The search committee wants to hear from everyone, and these conversations are also a chance to listen to one another. Groups are limited to 12 people so everyone has time to share. Please join us by signing up for a session using the QR code.

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.



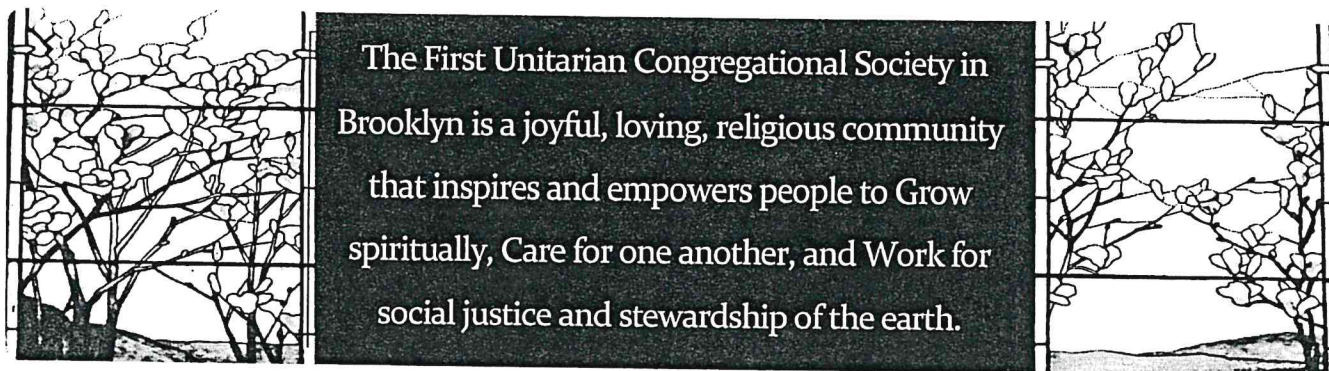
Share the Plate: The MAP - Massachusetts Medical Abortion Project



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.

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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

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Amanda Nietzel, Mark Weiss

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Moderator: James Goward

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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

OFFICE

48 Monroe Place
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

EMAIL: info@firstubrooklyn.org

WEB: www.firstubrooklyn.org

INSTAGRAM: FirstUBrooklyn

YOUTUBE: FirstUnitarianBrooklyn

FACEBOOK:

First Unitarian Congregational Society in
Brooklyn

GIVE BY TEXT (855) 799-2543