

# The Happenings

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church  
9 Upper River Street, P.O. Box 386, Brookfield, MA 01506  
[buuc01506@gmail.com](mailto:buuc01506@gmail.com), [www.buuc.org](http://www.buuc.org), 508-867-5145



"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"

A Welcoming Congregation  
and a Green Sanctuary

We are a fellowship of seekers  
after truth, bound by no dogma,  
restricted by no creed.

## Our Affirmation

HERE: We unite in an atmosphere of  
care and support to foster spiritual  
health and growth.

HERE: We focus on sharing our ideas  
and histories, with warmth, hope,  
loving friendship and an open mind.

HERE: We nurture stability for our  
daily lives and seek motivation to  
reach out to the larger community.



## This Month in UU History

1615 (1/14) John Biddle was known as the "father of English Unitarianism." He was jailed for rejecting the Trinity and adopting Unitarian beliefs.

1835 (1/5) Olympia Brown was the first woman ordained to the ministry by a full denominational authority on June 25, 1863.

1875 (1/14) Albert Schweitzer was a Nobel laureate known for his work in Africa. He trained as a theologian and held degrees in music and medicine.

## Worship Schedule

*Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am, unless noted.*

**January 5:** "This House of Hope" –Rev. John Pastor; Music –Inter-generational choir

**January 12:** "What's In Your Hope Chest?" –Linda Friedmann; Music – Rick Condee, flute

**January 19:** "I Still Have a Dream" –Gary Blanchard; Music –Choir

**January 26:** "A Hospice Story" –Cruger Johnson Phillips; Music –Jared Adams, singer songwriter

## Save the Date!

The "You Call THAT Talent?" Spectacular is coming to the BUUC on Saturday night March 14th. There is sure to be some fantastic talent . . . and there will be other acts as well! Mark your calendars, start practicing your talent, and stay tuned for more details. It's a night not to be missed,

## Upcoming Events

Unless indicated, all events are at BUUC.

**January 4, 5pm: Game Night**

**January 5, 12pm: Aging as a Spiritual Practice**

**January 8, 12pm: Stone Soup Luncheon**

**January 8, 7pm: Women's Alliance Meeting**

**January 14, 7pm: Book Club**

**January 17, 7pm: Sanctuary LGBTQ Coffee House**

## Membership Committee Survey - Coming Soon

The Membership Committee spends time coming up with various activities throughout the year for our BUUC community. In addition, there are other activities such as Stone Soup or those provided by Women's Alliance, etc. We want to make sure we are providing activities of interest to you as well as learning more about what the people in our community look forward to. In the New Year we will be asking everyone to complete a short survey. Be on the lookout for more information in January!

## Sabbatical Notes

As we wish Rev. Craig well on his spiritual quest, let us remember that this sabbatical is an opportunity for all of us. We have a chance to explore our shared ministry together. The shared ministry of this congregation will continue as robustly as ever— creating meaningful worship services, caring for each other in need and in celebration, challenging each other to think and act in ever more expansive, loving ways.

Take this time to seek your own renewal.

The Sabbatical Team



## There Are Allergies Among Us

Please limit your use of scents and chemicals, and leave as much latex as possible at home.

# Sanctuary.. A Welcoming Coffee House.

### Monthly Coffee House

Third Friday of the Month  
7-9 p.m.

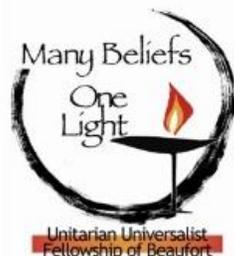
Brookfield Unitarian  
Universalist Church

IG-BUUC\_Sanctuary

**A Monthly Coffee House for LGBTQ Youth and Their Allies to gather, share, eat and socialize in a safe and welcoming setting where all are accepted and welcomed.**

**For Information Please Call 774-254-0843**

**November 15th, 2019-Snack Shack...Bring your Favorite Snack to Share and Meet other Youth.**



## In Our Community

### Aging As A Spiritual Practice

The first meeting of the Aging as a Spiritual Practice class for 2020 will be on January 5th from noon to one, downstairs in the church. Additional dates for the class will be decided at the first meeting. All are welcome.

### Book Club

Second Tuesday of the month, 7pm JOIN US for an all-inclusive (men and women of BUUC and beyond welcome), exhilarating (maybe a little strong but we're really excited) BUUC BOOK CLUB. We hope to create a group that will generate meaningful conversations about a variety of books, authors, and topics. Contact Barb Hale at [b.lambert.hale@gmail.com](mailto:b.lambert.hale@gmail.com) for more info. **January book:** The Library Book by Susan Orlean

### Choir Practice

Every Thursday, 7pm

### Executive Committee

First Monday of the month at 6:30pm.

### Quiet Gathering in the Spirit of the Quakers

First Wednesday of the month at 7pm. For details, contact Cruger Johnson Phillips, [cruger.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:cruger.johnson@gmail.com)

### Sanctuary LGBTQ Coffee House

Third Friday of the month, 7-9pm. A monthly coffee house for LGBTQ youth and their allies to gather, share, eat, and socialize in a safe and welcoming setting where all are accepted and welcomed. Bring your favorite snack to share and meet other youth. For more info, call 774-254-0843.

### Stone Soup Luncheons

Oct - June, first Wednesday of the month, 12pm. All are invited for Stone Soup, where your presence is the secret (and most important) ingredient. We provide the soup and coffee/tea; you bring something to share (bread, juice, appetizer or dessert).

### Women's Alliance

Second Wednesday of the month, 7pm. Contact Laurie Magnuson (508-867-3763).

## We Rise: Social Justice Resources Page

For those who feel called by our faith to take the side of human worth and dignity through social action. Go to [www.buuc.org](http://www.buuc.org) and click the tab "We Rise: Social Justice Resources" on the menu at the left side of the page.

## Interested In Membership At BUUC?

Unitarian Universalism is a covenantal faith making membership in our community both simple and challenging. It is simple in that to become a member all that is generally required is signing the membership book. It is challenging because that is not all that is asked of our members. In addition to honoring our congregational covenant, as a member you would be asked to :

- Worship in community regularly
- Work faithfully on your own spiritual development
- Be involved in a ministry of service to others
- Share your financial resources as stewards of the present and future of this religious community
- Continue to learn and connect to the wider movement of Unitarian Universalism
- Assume responsibility for offering the genuine hospitality of this community to all who come here

Visitors and friends curious to know more or who are considering becoming a member of BUUC are invited to contact BUUC President Barbara Hale  
b.lambert.hale@gmail.com while Rev. Craig is on Sabbatical..



## Being a Green Sanctuary

includes recycling. This is something that we all share. There is no one who comes around to clean up after us; that is to say there is no "they" only "we". If we don't want to take the Order of Service home with us, we can put it in the blue recycling container at the back of the sanctuary. There is a larger blue tub for recycling paper downstairs. Any paper that had food in or on it must go in the trash. Thanks for keeping BUUC green!

## Our Covenant

As we share our lives in this place of blessed community, we promise to unite in an atmosphere of care and support, provide a spiritual home for ourselves and our children, and work together in our search for truth and caring ways to be in community with each other, both within and beyond these walls.

We seek to embody a welcoming community of

### CARING, SUPPORT, AND SERVICE

We therefore promise to

- \* Treat each other with respect, trust, and compassion;
- \* Actively listen to all points of view on important issues;
- \* Create an open environment for nonjudgmental participation;
- \* Honor dissenting views, agreeing to disagree;
- \* Make decisions with as much participation as possible;
- \* Accept that we will make mistakes, forgive each other, and move on;
- \* Express gratitude for the efforts of others;
- \* Work together to live by our Covenant; and
- \* Try to the best of our ability to live by our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes, affirming our tradition of service and justice for all.

Adopted by the members of BUUC  
May 20, 2012

## Community Resources

At the heart of Unitarian Universalism is a deep recognition and respect for the interconnectedness of life. As a faith community, Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church seeks to foster spiritual health and growth, but we also recognize that it is equally important to encourage and empower one another to lives of physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being. To that end, we have launched our Community Resources page. To access the page visit [www.buuc.org](http://www.buuc.org) and click on the "Community Resources" tab on the side menu.

## Who's Who at BUUC

### Staff

#### Minister

Rev. Craig M. Nowak  
Religious Education Director  
Laurel Burdon  
Music Director  
Lila M. Farrar  
Office Assistant  
Angie Ellison

### Executive Committee

#### Ex-Officio member

Rev. Craig M. Nowak  
President  
Barbara Hale  
Treasurer  
Doug Smith  
Clerk  
Colleen Groner  
Members-at-Large  
Robyn Vincent, Laurie Magnuson, Donna Boyea, Gary Blanchard  
Collector  
Christine Holbrook

### Committees and Groups

#### Committee on Ministry

Mary Frisella, Roxann Smith, Donna Sullivan

#### Capital Campaign Committee

Amy Frisella, Kim Burdon, Tim Boon

#### Flower Committee

Lila Farrar, Chair

#### Membership Committee

Debbie Ennis, Chair

#### Nominating Committee

Amy Frisella, Laurie Magnuson, Laurel Hemmer

#### Trustees

Tim Boon, Roxann Smith, Kirk Upton

#### Women's Alliance

Laurie Magnuson, President

#### Worship Committee

Roxann Smith, Chair

#### Sabbatical Committee

Donna Sullivan, Chair  
Fritzi Foster, Dave Yutzler



### Rev. Craig's Office Hours

**Contact Info** There are no minister's office hours during Rev. Craig's sabbatical 12/25/19-5/31/20. For routine pastoral needs, please refer to the Sabbatical Handbook available at the church or online at <http://www.buuc.org/sabbatical-handbook.html>. For pastoral emergencies call or text Rev. John Pastor at (508) 277-6113.

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We're on the web

[www.buuc.org](http://www.buuc.org)

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@BrookfieldUU

