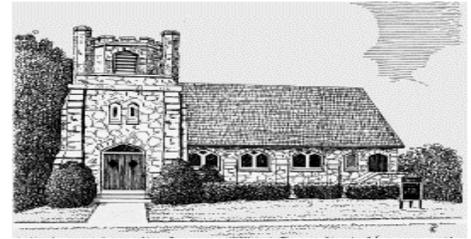


January 2022

The Happenings

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church
9 Upper River Street, P.O. Box 386, Brookfield, MA 01506
buuc01506@gmail.com, www.buuc.org, 508-867-5145



"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"



THIS MONTH IN UU HISTORY

1782 (1/2) Emperor Joseph of Austria issued an Edict of Toleration granting Unitarians the right to worship according to their consciences.

1860 (1/26) Eliza Lee Cabot Follen died at age 72. Follen and her Unitarian husband co-founded the Free Christian Church in East Lexington, MA, now known as Follen Church.

1929 (1/28) Robert Nelson West was born in Lynchburg, VA. West served as the second president of the UUA (1969-1977) and helped save the young institution from bankruptcy during a time of financial crisis.

*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

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

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

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

January Services*

Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am.

January 2: "In the Spirit of Friends, a.k.a. Quakers" *Worship Leader: Cruger Johnson Phillips*

January 9: "Solitude: The Pleasure of Our Own Company" *Lay Speaker: Linda Friedmann
Music: BUUC choir*

January 16: "Alone Together" *Worship Leader: Rev. Craig M. Nowak
Music: Gary Blanchard*

January 23: "What We Bring Back From Solitude" *Lay Speaker: Jared Adams
Music: BUUC choir*

January 30: "Running on Empty" *Worship Leader: Rev. Craig M. Nowak
Music: Linda Friedmann, harp*



***A Note About Worship**

Currently we are holding hybrid services (in-person and streaming). For those who wish to stream the service (attend online) a link will be provided weekly via email.

Music Notes



If you have been attending BUUC services at least more or less regularly for the past 10 years and are someone who reads the composers' names in your OOS, then the name Christoph Graupner (1683-1760) will be somewhat familiar. He was a contemporary of Handel, Bach and Telemann, with interesting connections to each, but pretty much unknown until very recently. In fact, I am pretty sure I had never heard of him when I discovered his music at a Boston Early Music Festival, and went looking to see if he wrote any keyboard music I might use at BUUC. The answer was "yes", but the music stores at the festival had only one thing: this "Monatliche Clavirfrüchte 1722" or "Monthly Keyboard Fruits for the year 1722". It is a set of 12 Partitas or Suites; typical of the period, each consists of a prelude, followed by from six to ten separate pieces, mostly dance movements with the occasional "air" (tune/melody).

Graupner had written at least eight partitas a few years before. But since the date 1722 is prominently part of the title, I am imagining that, for some reason, he set himself the challenge of writing one a month for a whole year.

This is an ambitious goal. Giving up on New Year's Resolution, has become almost as much a part of the tradition as making them. I have heard of authors who have a discipline of writing a certain number of words a day, but I don't know any of them personally. And I can tell many stories about failing to achieve a goal of practicing or exercising regularly. But here I have to give a shout out to Cruger Johnson Phillips, who not long after retiring and deciding to reclaim her artist-self, set herself a goal of making one thousand paintings in a year, basically painting every day for a year. At that time she was not someone with nothing to do; she and her husband had just moved to a new house, she had grandchildren including a newborn for whom she was helping with childcare, but she did it! (Ask her about it, sometime.) She has since completed thousands more, but she told me that besides the satisfaction of completing her goal, she learned a lot about herself as an artist.

I do not know whether Christoph Graupner learned anything from his 1722 project, but I think it is something worth celebrating, in this, the 300th anniversary year of his project. So I plan to play something from "Monatliche Clavirfrüchte 1722" each month, in this year of 2022. It seems like the least I can do.

And I will be sharing some of what I learn about him in each month's newsletter. (Did he write anything else? Why did his music disappear? Why hadn't you ever heard of him? Stay tuned.) There will be a test at the end of the year!

Just kidding.

...maybe...

Lila M Farrar,
Music Director



Generosity Abounds!

Thank you to Penny Blum who, mindful of needs beyond our walls and that we, "seek motivation to reach out to the larger world", has expressed interest in connecting with others in the congregation to engage in social justice work. If you are interested, please connect with Penny directly at quabbinquilter@gmail.com, or contact Rev. Craig at revcraignowak@comcast.net

Thank you!

Notes from the Director of Religious Exploration



The Religious Explorers have decided to host an initiative to support Angels Answer, Inc. this month. This nonprofit offers several initiatives which include sending local children in need home with bags of food, providing a mobile food pantry in Warren, supporting low-income elderly pet owners in Ware with supplies, and helping veterans. Please keep an eye out for announcements with their exact needs and how we can help. RE will provide a basket to collect items, and we will deliver them to Angels Answer at the end of the month.

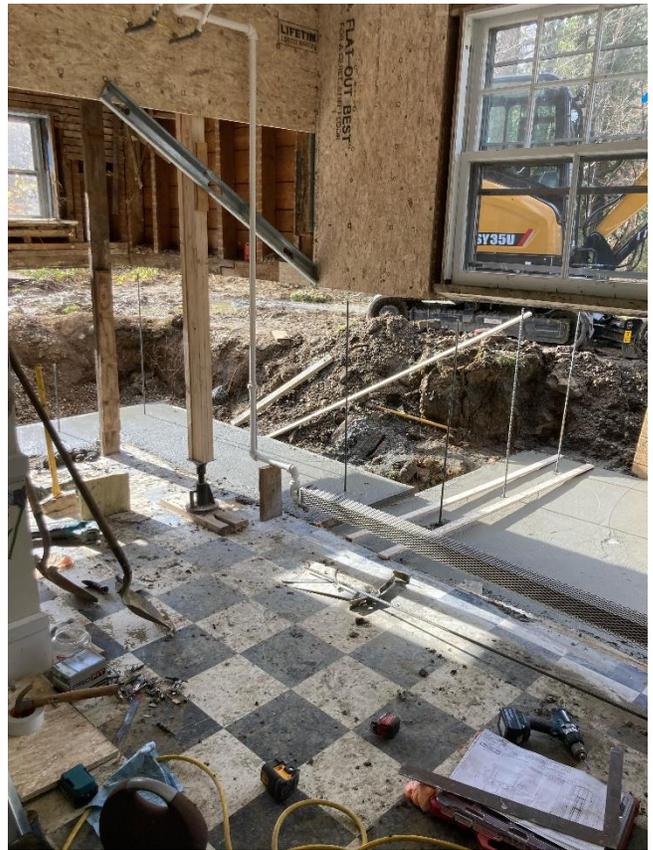
Our youth have, at present, chosen not to meet. However, I did want to create a space primarily for youth to explore our church's themes if they are interested in diving deeper. While these spaces are mostly intended for youth, they are available to all. What is found here will vary month to month. There might be podcasts, music playlists, videos, readings, activities, and more. The December resources for "Family" can be found at <https://padlet.com/buucree/December>. January resources for "Solitude" will be available at <https://padlet.com/buucree/January>.

Cara Wales,

Director of Religious Exploration

Capital Campaign Update

If you are attending services via ZOOM, you may not know that the accessibility project is well underway. The bathroom demolition is complete and renovation and rebuild has begun. The wheelchair lift shaft is currently under construction. The project is progressing nicely and you can find more pictures of the project on the church website. More updates to come...



WhaleCoast Alaska 2022



Have you ever wanted to visit Alaska? If so, WhaleCoast Alaska 2022 is for you! Four Alaska UU congregations invite you to experience our unique environmental and spiritual tour program next summer. See Alaska through the eyes of local UUs, with friendly homestays and awe-inspiring tour activities. See wildlife, including moose, bears, caribou, whales, bald eagles, sea lions, etc. Visit Denali National Park. Experience Native Alaskan culture. WhaleCoast Alaska is an inspirational way to visit our beautiful state. Complete info at: www.WhaleCoastAK.org. Proof of Covid-19 vaccinations required. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience you won't want to miss!

Announcements

Food for Faith: Adult Religious Exploration

"Picture This: Bible Study Through Art"

Evening Group*: Tuesday, 1/4 at 6:30pm on Zoom

Afternoon Group*: Wednesday, 1/5 at 1:15pm on Zoom

*A minimum of 3 participants is required

Zoom Stone Soup

With our traditional Stone Soup still off the table for a while consider dropping in for Zoom Stone Soup, Wednesday, January 5th at 12pm. Gather your lunch, log on and spend some time catching up with friends. We'd love to see you. The Zoom link to attend will be emailed January 5th.

Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, January 11th, at 7:00pm to discuss *Officer Clemmons* by Francois Clemmons. Please feel free to attend. A complete list of the books we will be discussing this year appear online on our website at buuc.org/events. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com.

Virtual Social Hour

Third Wednesday of every month on Zoom. Contact Barb Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com

BUUC Journaling Group

The next meeting of the BUUC Journaling Group will be Monday, January 31st at 7:00pm. Contact Cara Wales at c.l.c.wales@gmail.com for more information.

Choir Practice

7:00-8:30pm each Thursday.

Contact Music Director Lila M. Farrar at lilamfarrar@gmail.com or 508-864-5978.

Flower Committee

The Flower Committee invites flower donors beginning January 9th. If you want to contribute flowers to Sunday morning worship, please contact Lila Farrar at lilamfarrar@gmail.com or call 508-864-5978, or catch her after a Sunday morning service, to sign up. Thank you.

Executive Committee

First Monday of the month at 6:30pm.

Membership Committee

The Committee is looking for new members. Our main objective is to support the member experience. We do this through planning social events, coordinating meals/visits, and reaching out to visitors, in addition to other tasks and events. We meet approx. 5 to 6 times per year. (New committee members comfortable with using Zoom would be an added plus.) If you are interested in being a part of this fun and valued committee, please contact one of our committee members: Debbie Ennis at 978-257-8073 or Debbie@DebbieEnnis.com, Joanne Hamerly at jmh2ndchapter@gmail.com, Fritz Foster at fritzifoster@yahoo.com, Penny Blum at quabbinquilter@gmail.com, or Donna Boyea at donboyea@yahoo.com.

Call for Ushers

Your usher team needs help. Normally, our team is about 14 – 16 strong. Due mostly to Covid, we now have 8 members. If you think you might be able to help out, call or email Fritz for more details. Even if you don't want to join for a long period of time but can help for this church year, you would be most welcome. Contact 508-341-0562 or fritzifoster@yahoo.com

Women's Alliance

To be resumed when able. Contact Laurie Magnuson (508-867-3763).

Sanctuary LGBTQ Coffee House

To be resumed when able.

Community Supper

To be resumed when able.

Rev. Craig's Office Hours

Rev. Craig will be available for scheduled office and pastoral visits at the church after worship on the Sundays he's preaching; or via Zoom, Facetime, or telephone.

Please email or call for an appointment.

860-916-9261; revcraignowak@comcast.net

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 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 Rev. Craig at revcraignowak@comcast.net

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**

Who's Who at BUUC

Staff

Minister

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

Director of Religious Exploration

Cara Wales

Music Director

Lila M. Farrar

Office Assistant

Emily Foster

Executive Committee

Ex-Officio member

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

President

Barbara Hale

Treasurer

Doug Smith

Clerk

Gary Blanchard

Members-at-Large

Helena Paez, Sarah Swift, Christine

Keough-Huff, Fritzi Foster

Collector

Dave Yutzler

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, Joanne Hamerly,

Donna Boyea

Trustees

Tim Boon, Roxann Smith, Kirk Upton

Women's Alliance

Laurie Magnuson, President

Worship Committee

Roxann Smith, John Kennison, Fritzi

Foster, Jo Ann Pierce, David Yutzler

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 <http://www.buuc.org/community-resources.html>.



Brookfield Unitarian
Universalist Church

**BROOKFIELD
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

P. O. Box 386
9 Upper River Street
Brookfield, MA 01506

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We're on the web

www.buuc.org

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

@BrookfieldUU

