



October 2023



# 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"

## October Services\*

Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am.

### October 1: "We Are the Seedsavers"

Worship Leader: Yaakov "Trek" Reef  
Music: Emily Foster, piano; Rick Condee, flute

### October 8: "There's No Place like Home"

Worship Leader: Alyssa Lee  
Music: BUUC Choir

### October 15: "We've Always Been in the Fight"

Worship Leader: Alyssa Lee  
Music: Rick Condee and Lila Farrar,  
Telemann flute duets

### October 22: "The Day of the Dead"

Worship Leader: Roxann Smith  
Music: BUUC Choir

### October 29: "What Do Our Stained Glass

Windows Symbolize?"

Worship Leader: MaryAnn Adams  
Music: Rob Adams, singer with guitar

#### \*A Note About Worship

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

*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.

## Zoom Volunteers Needed!

As part of our effort to be accessible for all members and friends of the BUUC, we are hoping to continue to provide Zoom services on all the Sundays. For this, we need volunteers who are willing to work the camera at church. Dave Yutzler can give you a quick lesson. If you are willing to give it a try, please contact Barb Hale at [b.lambert.hale@gmail.com](mailto:b.lambert.hale@gmail.com).



## Music Notes



The BUUC Choir will be participating in a Choir Festival in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Newton MA (1326 Washington St) *Sunday, October 22 at 3:00 in the afternoon*. All are welcome.

Sometimes we make the text of choir or solo pieces available. When that happens, you will find them with the OOS on the back table. Any "inserts" such as this or hymns that are handed out separately, please always return to the back table after the service for reuse.

Thank you.

Lila Farrar,  
Music Director



## Notes from the Director of Religious Exploration



### Vision Statement for the Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church's Religious Exploration Program

The purpose of the Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church's Religious Exploration Program is to discover our values and beliefs, and to cultivate our identities as Unitarian Universalists.

To do this:

- We nurture respect for others as we thoroughly explore and engage with ideas from world religions and Unitarian Universalism.
- We are supported through Intergenerational events and activities to create relationships across generations and directly with our minister.
- We impact the community and the world by living our values at home, at church, and in the world at large with the support of our BUUC community.
- We engage with the spiritual to become wholly integrated – head, heart, and hands.

Cara Wales,  
Director of Religious Exploration





## CESA News



### Bulletin Board

CESA (Committee for Ecology and Social Action) will have a bulletin board on the wall by the stairs in the parlor. We will be posting upcoming events and collections. Please take a moment to check it out during coffee hour and reach out to any of our members if you are interested in participating in any of our activities. If you have any questions, please contact Penny Blum at [quabbinquilter@gmail.com](mailto:quabbinquilter@gmail.com)

### Migrant Families in Sturbridge

The committee is working with area agencies to support the migrants and families recently re-located to Sturbridge by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Watch for in-church and email announcements about this evolving situation and how CESA suggests we may help.

### Kids in the Congo

We will begin collecting bottles and cans for the Kids in the Congo organization on *the third Sunday of each month*. The first collection day will be this month, *Sunday, October 15th*.

### Collection for World Central Kitchen

You've probably noticed that The Committee on Ecology and Social Action (CESA) is holding an ongoing campaign to raise funds for World Central Kitchen (WCK). The yellow and blue collection can is back on the coffee hour table. WCK provides emergency, on-site, around-the-globe, food relief in the form of cooked meals. Last church year our focus was Ukraine. BUUC donations in change and bills added up to a generous \$463 from March through June.

We have not forgotten Ukraine, but this year donations in any amount will go directly to WCK to use at their discretion. Recently they have been in Hawaii following the horrific fires, and mobilized in western Florida even before the hurricane struck. As before, the collection can will be on the coffee hour table each Sunday. For more information about World Central Kitchen, go to <https://wck.org>.

In gratitude,

CESA



### From the Flower Committee

The Flower Sign-Up Sheet is on the table in the parlor. If you sign up to bring flowers you will get a reminder. (Include contact information on the sign-up sheet if you are not listed correctly in the church directory). The church can provide vases, or you can use your own. If you bring flowers, please either take them home with you after the service, give them to someone else to enjoy, or enlist a Flower Committee member to assist you. Nursing homes always joyfully accept them.

If you have questions ask one of us: Lila Farrar, Donna Sullivan, or Judy Trifone. Flowers on the altar are a much appreciated component of worship. Thank you for considering.

## Announcements



### Stone Soup\*

Stone Soup is back at the church!

*Wednesday, October 4th at 12pm.* Come catch up with friends and have lunch together.

\*At this time attendees are invited to bring their lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.

### Poetry Night

Is there a poem you have always loved? Maybe you had a favorite poem as a child or perhaps you shared a poem at your wedding or other major life event? Let's hear about it! Join BUUC Minister Alyssa Lee to share a poem you love or even one that you wrote. Or, come to listen! We'll be meeting on Zoom on *Monday, October 9th at 7 p.m.* Zoom link is to follow.

### Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via ZOOM on *Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00pm* to discuss *A Complicated Kindness* by Miriam Toews. Please feel free to attend. A complete list of this year's books can be found on our website at [www.buuc.org/events](http://www.buuc.org/events). If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hale at [b.lambert.hale@gmail.com](mailto:b.lambert.hale@gmail.com).

### CESA

The next meeting of the Committee for Ecology and Social Action will be *Wednesday, October 18th at 7:00pm* on ZOOM. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Penny Blum at [quabbinquilter@gmail.com](mailto:quabbinquilter@gmail.com)

### Choir Festival

The BUUC Choir will be participating in a Choir Festival in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Newton MA (1326 Washington St) *Sunday, October 22 at 3:00 in the afternoon.* All are welcome.

### Journaling Group

The BUUC Journaling group is open to anyone interested in keeping a journal. We gather monthly on Zoom to journal quietly with some suggested prompts. While we usually chat a little, we do not discuss our writings. Please feel free to join us! Our next meeting is *Monday, October 25th at 7:00pm.* If you have any questions, email Cara Wales at [c.l.c.wales@gmail.com](mailto:c.l.c.wales@gmail.com).

### Choir Practice

*7:00-8:30pm each Thursday.*

Contact Music Director Lila M. Farrar at [lilamfarrar@gmail.com](mailto:lilamfarrar@gmail.com) or 508-864-5978.

### Executive Committee

*First Monday of the month at 6:30pm.*



## 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.



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## 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 our minister Alyssa Lee at [buuc.alyssa@gmail.com](mailto:buuc.alyssa@gmail.com).

## 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

Alyssa Lee

#### Director of Religious Exploration

Cara Wales

#### Music Director

Lila M. Farrar

#### Office Assistant

Emily Foster

### Executive Committee

#### Ex-Officio member

Alyssa Lee

#### President

Robyn Vincent

#### Treasurer

Colleen Groner

#### Clerk

Amy Frisella

#### Members-at-Large

Fritzi Foster, Jared Adams,  
Christine Holbrook

#### Collector

Dave Yutzler

### Committees and Groups

#### Committee on Ministry

Mary Frisella, Roxann Smith,  
Donna Sullivan

#### Worship Committee

Barb Hale (chair), Roxann Smith,  
John Kennison, David Yutzler

#### Flower Committee

Lila Farrar (chair), Judy Trifone, Donna  
Sullivan

#### Membership Committee

Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea,  
Penny Blum, Alix McNitt,  
Robyn Vincent

#### Nominating Committee

Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea,  
Karen Keough-Huff

#### Women's Alliance

Laurie Magnuson, President

#### Committee for Ecology and Social Action (CESA)

Penny Blum (chair), Joanne Hamerly,  
Donna Boyea, Laurel Hemmer,  
Sarah Swift, Barb Hale, Lila Farrar,  
Emily Foster, Elizabeth Lang-Holmes

#### Trustees

Doug Smith, Roxann Smith,  
Kirk Upton

## 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**

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

Phone: 508-867-5145  
Email: buuc01506@gmail.com

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We're on the web

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

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@buucrocks



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