

October 2024

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"



*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.

October Services*

Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am.

October 6: "Friendship"

*Worship Leader: Lila M. Farrar
Music: BUUC Small Choir*

October 13: "Random"

*Worship Leader: Rev. Michael F. Hall
Music: Jamie Bishop, concertina; Nubia Peña and Dave Yutzler*

October 20: "Native Ways and Spirituality"

*Worship Leader: Tom Silver Fox Morse
Music: BUUC Choir*

October 27: "Reflections and Dreams"

*Worship Leader: Jim Christensen, Amenyo Foundation
Music: Lucy Colwell, French horn*

***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. If you'd like to volunteer to be one of our ZOOM Geeks, email Barb Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com.

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.



RE Calendar

- ❖ October 6: Regular Sunday
- ❖ October 13: RE Family Walk
- ❖ October 20: Regular Sunday
- ❖ October 27: Regular Sunday;
RE celebrates Halloween

Adult RE Class: New UU

The dates for this class are forthcoming, so please check your email and the announcements at church.

If you have started coming to the church in the last few years, would like a refresher in basic Unitarian Universalism, and/or enjoy the fellowship of an adult RE class, please contact Cara Wales at c.l.c.wales@gmail.com to participate in the New UU Class.

Candy Collection

The Women's Alliance will be collecting candy all month for the Halloween Trick or Treating on the Common *Thursday, October 31*.

Stay tuned for more details.



Committee for Ecology & Social Action

World Central Kitchen

CESA will continue collecting donations for World Central Kitchen. The donation can will be on the table in the parlor.

Rainbow Child Development Fund

CESA connected with the Rainbow Child Development Center in Worcester. It is a 501(c) nonprofit organization that provides year round education, after school programs, and family care for low income children in the Worcester area. A pressing need for them was to provide backpacks and water bottles to the 35 preschool children who would be transitioning to kindergarten in the fall. Over the course of the spring the BUUC community donated \$522 toward this effort. We were able to purchase 22 backpacks and 25 water bottles which were delivered to their facility in June. The staff and children at Rainbow were so appreciative of our effort. A folder containing information on Rainbow will be on the table below the CESA bulletin board in the parlor.



Vote Forward

A friendly reminder from CESA to join us in our Vote Forward letter-writing campaign to urge voters in key states and districts to get to the polls and vote! Letters must be sent by October 29th. We are keeping track of how many letters our community sends so please let Laurel know how many you've written (laurelsquilts@msn.com). Instructional handouts are on the CESA table in the parlor. You can also go to votefwd.org for details. As always, if in doubt ask a CESA member. Our names are listed on the board.

If you don't want to write letters but would still like to help, please consider donating stamps (or money to buy them) for others to use. There is a box for them on the CESA bulletin board.

Thanks from Kids in the Congo

The Kids in the Congo thanks the BUUC for its support providing a can and bottle collection at the church last year. Overall, KIC sent \$8,825 to the Congolese. These funds support 25 children through their school year and provide land purchase seed money for an agricultural project spearheaded by a college graduate whom KIC put through high school, named Kambali. They also raised enough funds to replace two KIC collection bins, purchase their first laptop, and begin updating the website. President Lynne Brouillette will visit the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) this fall. Please continue to support KIC via one of the drop-off locations to be listed on the CESA board.

Flowers! 🌻

Flowers for the altar. 🌸

Make church beautiful. 🌈

Sign up in the parlor. 📝✍️

We have vases if you need one. 🏆

You don't even have to remember---you will be sent a reminder. 📌 (If it turns out you can't do it, we've got you covered*) 🌿

Please take your flowers home with you after the service, or gift them to someone. 🌸

Nursing homes always welcome them. 🌺

Thank you for considering this. ❤️

(*The members of the Flower Committee provide flowers for any week that someone else hasn't signed up.)

Questions? ❓

Please ask. 💬

—Lila Farrar, Flower Committee Chair

The Ordination of Alyssa Lee to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry

Sunday, October 6th at 4:00pm EDT

Our former minister Alyssa Lee invites us all to join her as she celebrates her official ordination as a UU Minister! The ceremony will take place at her childhood church in Oklahoma City, but anyone may watch it live at



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTVBcXOWMBC>

Announcements

Stone Soup

Wednesday, October 2nd at 12:00pm.

Come catch up with friends and have lunch together. Attendees are invited to bring their lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Lunch Following In-Person Service - On

Sunday, October 6th at the Regular In-person worship at BUUC, we will have lunch in lieu of coffee hour. Soup and bread will be provided. Other potluck contributions welcome but not required. All are welcome and encouraged to stay. See Lila with questions.

Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via ZOOM on *Tuesday, October 8th at 7:00pm* to discuss *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. Please feel free to attend. Upcoming books can be found on our website at www.buuc.org/events. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com.

CESA

The next meeting of the Committee for Ecology and Social Action will be *Wednesday, October 23rd, at 7:00pm* on ZOOM. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Penny Blum at quabbinquilter@gmail.com

Choir Practice

6:55-8:30pm each Thursday.

Contact Music Director Lila M. Farrar at 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 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 the office at buuc01506@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

Director of Religious Exploration
Cara Wales
Music Director
Lila M. Farrar
Office Assistant
Emily Foster

Executive Committee

President
Robyn Vincent
Treasurer
Roxann Smith
Clerk
Members-at-Large
Fritzi Foster, Christine Holbrook, Sharon Smith, Cruger Johnson Phillips
Collector
Dave Yutzler

Committees and Groups

Worship Committee
Barb Hale (chair), Roxann Smith, John Kennison, David Yutzler, Linda Friedmann, Lila Farrar
Flower Committee
Lila Farrar (chair), Judy Trifone, Donna Sullivan
Membership Committee
Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea, Penny Blum, Alix McNitt, Robyn Vincent, Karen Goudey, Laurel Hemmer
Nominating Committee
Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea, Karen Keough-Huff
Women's Alliance
Donna Sullivan (chair), Donna Boyea, Barb Hale, Joanne Hamerly, Laurel Hemmer, Laurie Magnuson, Sharon Smith, , Judy Trifone, Diane Mossa
Committee for Ecology and Social Action (CESA)
Penny Blum (chair), Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea, Laurel Hemmer, Sarah Swift, Barb Hale, Lila Farrar, Emily Foster, Alix McNitt, Kathleen Walker
Trustees
Doug Smith, Kirk Upton, Linda Friedmann

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**

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We're on the web

www.buuc.org

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@buucrocks



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