

January 2025

# 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"

## January Gratitude

This month we are grateful for  
the eagerness of our children  
and youth to help with  
Intergenerational Services.



*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 5:** "Planting in Winter"

*Worship Leader: Linda Friedmann*

*Music: Rick Condee and Lila Farrar, flute duets; Dave Yutzler, singer*

**January 12:** "Stories We Tell Ourselves"

*Worship Leader: Roxann Smith*

*Music: BUUC Choir*

**January 19:** "Reading Rainbow"

*Worship Leaders: BUUC Book Group*

*Music: Dave Yutzler, piano*

**January 26:** "Living Among the Ruins"

*Worship Leader: Rev. John Pastor*

*Music: BUUC Intergenerational Choir*

### 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](mailto:b.lambert.hale@gmail.com).

## Music Notes



### Come sing with the IG Choir

Jan 26 will include our InterGenerational Choir. This is the occasional choir that includes singers of all ages to participate in choir without the weekly commitment of the regular BUUC choir. Jan 26 we will sing "Give Us Hope" and though it may not be a song about hoping you will sing, I do! A number of people of all ages have sung this many times and I certainly hope all of you all will sing again. If you used to be in choir, it is a chance to keep your feet a little wet. If you haven't sung in choir before it is a chance to get your feet wet. Please talk to Lila Farrar, Music Director to say yes, or to ask any questions you might have, in person at church, or email, phone or text.

(There will be another IG choir opportunity April 27.)

Lila Farrar,  
Music Director

## Religious Exploration Calendar



- January 5: Regular Sunday
- January 7: New UU Class (Adult RE), 6:30p
- January 12: RE Family Walk, 10:30a
- January 19: Regular Sunday
- January 21: New UU Class (Adult RE), 6:30p
- January 26: Regular Sunday; Intergenerational Choir

Cara Wales, Director of Religious Exploration

## Coat Collection for ACE

Thanks to all who donated coats for our friends at African Community Education (ACE) this December! We collected 27 adult coats and 18 children's coats in all.



## Flower Reminder

A reminder to all that there is a sign up sheet in the parlor for flower donors. In signing up, please list how you want your name to be listed in the OOS, and if it is in memory or in honor of someone. Include contact information if you are not in the current BUUC directory. You will be sent a reminder the week prior. Bring your own vase or borrow one from the church — we have all sizes. Please no strong scents. And please take them home after the service or give them to someone. Local nursing homes are always happy to receive them. Any member of the Flower Committee is happy to help or answer any questions.

Flower Committee,

Lila M Farrar (she/her) chair

[lilamfarrar@gmail.com](mailto:lilamfarrar@gmail.com)

508-864-5978

Donna Sullivan

Judy Trifone



## Pastoral Care

If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Rev. John Pastor at 978-724-0225.

The Lay Pastoral Care Team has been training to provide extra support for the BUUC community. Members Gary Blanchard, Laurel Hemmer, Cruger Johnson Phillips, and Cara Wales can meet with you in person, over the phone, or via Zoom. Please contact Cara Wales ([c.l.c.wales@gmail.com](mailto:c.l.c.wales@gmail.com); 774-230-1398) to request lay pastoral care, and one of us will get back to you.

## Announcements

### Stone Soup

*Wednesday, January 1st 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.

**The New UU Class** is an adult religious exploration class. It is great for people who are new to Unitarian Universalism, would like a refresher, or simply enjoy classes and the fellowship they engender. Sessions begin *Tuesday, January 7th at 6:30pm* on Zoom and will continue on *the first and third Tuesday of the month through March*. Contact Cara Wales at [c.l.c.wales@gmail.com](mailto:c.l.c.wales@gmail.com) or 774-230-1398.

**Games at the BUUC** - The next Game Night is *Friday, January 10th at 6:30pm*. Drinks and goodies are welcome, and feel free to bring games of your own!

### Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via ZOOM on *Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00pm* to discuss *1984* by George Orwell. 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, January 15th, at 6:30pm* 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 Practice

*6:55-8:30pm 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.

## 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 president Robyn Vincent at 774-230-6623 or [robynbuuc@yahoo.com](mailto:robynbuuc@yahoo.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  
Colleen Groner  
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](http://www.buuc.org)

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Brookfield Unitarian  
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