

February 2025

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"

February Gratitude

We are so grateful for Doug Smith, who went to the church at 1:00am last month when he received an alert notification that the church had no heat. Finding the oil tank was empty and the church at 34 degrees, he then went out to get some diesel fuel to add to the tank and got the furnace going (not as easy as it sounds), saving the church from frozen pipes!

*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.

February Services

Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am.

February 2: "Belonging"

Worship Leader: Alix McNitt

Music: Flute trio—Rick Condee, Linda Friedmann, Lila Farrar

February 9: "Katamari Damacy"

Worship Leader: Tanya Neslusan

Music: BUUC Choir

February 16: "The Practice of Inclusion: What Are We Becoming?"

Worship Leader: Rev. Dianne Daniels

Music: Russell Killough-Miller, Bach Cello Suite No. III

February 23: "What About Us?"

Worship Leader: Karen Keough-Huff

Music: BUUC 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.

Music Notes



Looking ahead, musically, to March— 🍀 March 16 will be our Celtic Music Sunday 🎵 when all the music is from the Celtic tradition. 🎵 If you have played in the past, 🎸 we hope you will again. 🎸 If you play a little guitar or have a recorder 🎹 and can play A and/or G, you can join in the fun! 🎻

Any questions see Lila M Farrar, Music Director 508-864-5978

For fans of Tom Chapin's "This Pretty Planet," which the IG Choir sings for Earth Day, it is sung at the end of a documentary on Christopher Reeve, Feb 2 at 9 PM on CNN.



Committee for Ecology & Social Action



Emily Foster, Lila Farrar, Laurel Hemmer, Penny Blum, Barb Hale (Not pictured: Ellie Spangler)

CESA continues to collect funds for World Central Kitchen. WCK is currently on the ground in California feeding fire fighters and displaced residents. The collection can is on the table in the parlor.

CESA's Warm Welcome Committee will be making another delivery to ACE (African Community Education) of handmade items of comfort. Please bring your completed items to the church by February 9th. There are welcome letter templates on the table below the CESA bulletin board. Please fill one out with your words of welcome and clip it to your item. Many thanks.

Notes from the Director of Religious Exploration



Religious Exploration Calendar

February 2: Regular Sunday
February 4: The New UU Adult RE, 6:30p on Zoom
February 9: RE Family Walk
February 16: Regular Sunday
February 18: The New UU Adult RE, 6:30p on Zoom
February 23: Regular Sunday

Thank You for Helping the Community

Every year, the Religious Exploration program's youth and children choose a way to reach out to the larger community in December. This year, they collected new hats, gloves, and scarves for those locally in need this winter. Thank you so much to all who contributed!

In RE, we started to learn how to knit, hoping to add a scarf to the donations. Many thanks to our regular volunteers and the extra helpers who assisted us! Perseverance in learning a new skill is a valuable lesson, and we will continue to work on this goal.

Cara Wales,
DRE



Greetings from the BUUC Collector!

In an effort to reduce paperwork, we've decided to send giving summaries only to those members who request them.

If you would like a letter summarizing your giving for 2024, please contact me at the email below.

buuc.collector@gmail.com

Please include your email in the request or your mailing address if you would like the letter mailed to you.

Thanks for your support of the BUUC.

Best regards,
Dave Yutzler
BUUC Collector



Flower reminder



We welcome flower donations for the altar for Sunday Services. The sign-up sheet is in the parlor.

Church can provide a vase or you can bring your own.

Please take flowers after the service—if your cat eats them you can gift them to someone at church or take to a local nursing home where they are always welcome.

Ask questions of
The Flower Committee:

Lila Farrar
(508-864-5978 or lilamfarrar@gmail.com),
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; 774-230-1398) to request lay pastoral care, and one of us will get back to you.

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.

Announcements

The New UU Class is an adult RE class for people who are new to UUism, would like a refresher, or simply enjoy classes and the fellowship they engender. Sessions are held at 6:30pm on Zoom on the first and third Tuesday of the month through March.

Contact Cara Wales at c.l.c.wales@gmail.com or 774-230-1398

Stone Soup

Wednesday, February 5th 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.

Games at the BUUC

The next Game Day is Friday, Sunday, February 9th after service. Bring a brown bag lunch, and feel free to bring games of your own!

Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via ZOOM on Tuesday, February 11th at 7:00pm to discuss *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich. Please feel free to attend. A complete list of this year's 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, February 19th at 6:30pm 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.

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.

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**

P. O. Box 386
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We're on the web

www.buuc.org

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