



A Welcoming Congregation
and a Green Sanctuary

9 Upper River St.
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www.buuc.org

We are a fellowship of seekers
after truth, bound by no dog-
ma, restricted by no creed.

Our Affirmation

HERE: We unite in an atmos-
phere of care and support
to foster spiritual health and
growth.

HERE: We focus on sharing
our ideas and histories, with
warmth, hope, loving friend-
ship and an open mind.

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

JUNE

Worship Schedule

Sunday morning services are
held at 10:30 am., unless
noted.

June 4: "Roots and Wings"
– Rev. Craig Nowak;
Music – Choir

June 11: "Be quick to lis-
ten" – Professor James F.
Holden; Music – Megan
Frisella, violin

June 18: "Whose We Are"
– Rev. Craig Nowak; Music
– Intergenerational Choir

June 25: Summer Services
begin at 9:30am

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church

BUUC NEWS



Volume 22, Issue 3

June 2017

From the Minister



Dear Friends,

Last month at a meeting of my chap-
ter of the Unitarian Universalist
Minister's Association, a colleague
described walking into the sanctuary
of the church where he serves and
being filled with a sense of awe and
gratitude for the ministry to which
he has been called. His words reso-
nated deeply with me. Each week
when I arrive at the church for my
office hours, I climb the winding
stairs to the parlor to get my mail
and then go to check the worship
attendance numbers and Guestbook
entries in the vestibule. Of course,
to get from the parlor to the vesti-
bule (without going outside) I have
to pass through the sanctuary. Rare-

ly however do I simply pass
through. Often I pause to take in
the light coming through the col-
ored glass of the large window on
the back wall. Other times I might
look for a moment as some of the
smaller windows. And perhaps
most often, I pause for moment
and look at the rows of pews.

There's no one sitting there in that
moment, but I don't see empty
pews. In my mind I see your fac-
es...your smiles, tears, even the
occasional frown and I'm reminded
of all that you have going on in
your lives... joys, challenges, wor-
ries. I picture the children forming
a line from the sanctuary floor up
the chancel to the chalice and I'm
moved by the eagerness and rever-
ence with which they embrace this
ritual. And above all the creaks and
rattling, amplified by the absence of
human activity, I hear words spoken
and sung and music and I feel a
little less isolated in this complex,
often absurd world in which we
live. It only takes that brief pause
for me to experience and be re-
minded of these things which, in
turn, reminds me of why these
empty pews fill each week with our
members, friends and visitors.

Reverend Craig M. Nowak

As I've noted before, though we
may not get everything right and
are sure to stumble from time to
time along our way, we, as a gath-
ered faith community, affirm and
fulfill a vital role in each other's
lives and the wider world. Indeed,
we play a counter-cultural role,
offering not only an alternative to
the objectifying ideologies and ways
of the world, but a space and com-
munity for respite and recharge
that our hearts are ever prepared
for life in but not of the world.

It is my great joy to minister to and
with you. And so, I offer my deep-
est gratitude for my call, our
shared ministry and each and eve-
ryone one of you. Thank you again
for another beautiful year of minis-
try together and for all that you
have given to and for one another
to help make BUUC the "little
stone church that rocks."

Happy Summer!

In peace and love,
†Rev. Craig



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to support and
promote the principles of Uni-
tarian Universalism. By nurtur-
ing spirituality, intellectual
growth, diversity of belief, and
our ties to one another, we
seek to inspire lives of passion,
compassion, and community.
We do this for ourselves and
for the larger world.

HUUMP Day Reflections

HUUMP Day Reflections, a weekly
invitation to pause and practice your
faith launched in February 2016. The
reflections are sent out from BUUC
each Wednesday via email and Twitter
and are also posted to the BUUC
Facebook page.



SUMMER SALAD!

Stone Soup will be ending for the
year in June.

However the Membership Commit-
tee will keep it going this year as
"Summer Salad." We will meet the
2nd Wednesday in July (July 12) due
to the July 4th holiday and then go
back to the first Wednesday of the
month meeting on August 2 and
September 6.

Like always all are welcome to join
in Summer Salad. We will meet at

the BUUC at 12:00 pm. The only
difference is the events will be
potluck. Feel free to bring some-
thing for yourself or something to
share. See you for lunch!

SUMMER SERVICES

June 25th-August 27th,
9:30am. No Children's Religious
Education. No Service September
3rd (Labor Day Weekend).

Regular Services and Children's
Religious Education will resume
September 10th, 10:30am !

REV. CRAIG'S SUM- MER SCHEDULE

June 19th- July 4th
Rev. Craig will be away. Coverage
for pastoral emergencies will be

provided by:

June 19-25
Rev. Heather Rion-Starr
541-390-6052 (text/call)
revheatherriionstarr@gmail.com
revheather@ushartford.com

June 26-July 4
Rev. Aaron Payson
508-963-5959 (text/call)
arpayson@charter.net

July 5th - July 31st
Rev. Craig will be on study leave
but available for pastoral
emergencies.

Regular office hours will resume
the first week of August.

Rev. Craig's Contact Info

Phone and Email
860-916-9261
revcraignowak@comcast.net

Office Hours

Wednesdays 9:15-10 am and 1-3 pm
Other times by appointment

BUUC Cares: If you or someone you know at BUUC might need pastoral support, please contact Rev. Craig

Back issues of the BUUC newsletter are on our website at www.buuc.org/newsletters.html



Who's Who at BUUC

Staff

Minister

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

Religious Education Director

Laurel Burdon

Music Director

Lila M. Farrar

Office Assistant

Angie Ellison

Executive Committee

Ex-Officio member

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

President

Amy Frisella

Treasurer

Doug Smith

Clerk

Colleen Groner

Members-at-Large

Robyn Vincent, Donna Boyea, Kevin Snyder

Committees and Groups

Committee on Ministry

Mary Ann Adams, Mary

Frisella, Roxann Smith,

Donna Sullivan

Ecology and Social Action

(CESA)

Mary Ann Adams, Chair

Flower Committee

Lila Farrar, Chair

Membership Committee

Debbie Ennis, Chair

Nominating Committee

Barbara Hale, Laurie Mag-

nuson, Donna Sullivan

Trustees

Carla Schirm, Doug Smith,

Roxann Smith

Women's Alliance

Laurie Magnuson, President

Worship Committee

Wendy Newhall, Chair

Ultimate Team

Ruth King, Diane Mossa,

Judy Trifone



From the President



This year the BUUC Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, June 12th at 7pm. Several important things happen at Annual Meeting. This is our opportunity to listen to reports from our Minister, Director of Religious Education and Music Director in

which they recap their activities and important events of the year. Committee chairs also present reports which is a great time to learn about the roles of different committees and direction of the church. My favorite part of Annual Meeting is electing new board members. We do this through our Nominating Committee which recommends each new board member to the congregation who then must be approved by vote of our members. This year (using that same process) we will also elect a new trustee and collector – needless to say two very important positions for church financial man-

Amy Frisella

agement. One highlight at every Annual Meeting is recognizing and thanking some of our many volunteers who offer countless hours of work for our community. Lastly, but certainly not least, we approve next year's budget and discuss the financial health of our religious organization. As a self-governing and self-sustaining community, our Annual Meeting is an important event for recording and communicating our growth from the year past, selecting our church leaders for the year to come, and mapping our collective future.

See you at Annual Meeting,
‡Amy

Music Notes

Lila M. Farrar, Music Director



It has been a good year for music at BUUC. The choir, which sings for half of the services, generally two a month, is the backbone of the program. It is exciting that the choir has grown this year.. Folks who were in for part of the year include Amy Kiernan, Mary Ann Adams, Serena Smith, Brian Kiernan and Laura Ramsey whom we hope will all return at some point in the future, and new members Sofia Agyare and Dave Yutzler. The other members include some who joined at the end of last year, Sarah Agyare, Nadine Chidester and Rick Condee, as well as folks who have been singing a long time and whose collective memory and continued musical growth account for why the choir continues to get better and better: Laurel Burdon, Wendy Newhall, Nubia Pena, Donna Sullivan, Roxann Smith, Jessica Adams, Sarah Swift, Rob Adams, Jared Adams, Kim Burdon, Sean Mulligan and Bob Swift.

We were very excited to continue the Inter-Generational (IG) Choir with children and some adults joining the larger choir on several occasions: Avery Adams, Jack Adams, Zoey Adams, Bridget Azarowski and Tom Adams. A special shout-out to Nubia Pena who in addition to having to learn all the new music any new choir member must do, has had the additional challenge of English as a new language, putting in the considerable taxing effort an unfamiliar language requires, as well as practicing at home with her two daughters and supporting all those extra after church rehearsals with the IG Choir.

On the Sundays that the choir isn't singing, we are also blessed with so many members and friends who provide music: Hailey Frisella, Megan Frisella, Jared and Jessica Adams, Rich Condee, Geo McCann, Lucy Colwell, Bridget Azarowski, Amy Kiernan, Linda Friedmann, Mackenzie Morrell, Bob Swift, Laura Ramsey, Gary Blanchard, Rob Adams, Roxann Smith and Brian LeDuke.

Thanks to all who make the music at BUUC!
‡Lila

Celebrate Our 300th Anniversary!

Save the Dates- In celebration of the 300th Anniversary of the Quaboag Churches (including BUUC), the following events are scheduled and open to all:

Sunday, June 4th 10:30 am: "Roots and Wings" Worship and Fellowship at Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church

Saturday, August 19th 10:30 am: Presentation and Luncheon on the Common in West Brookfield hosted by West Brookfield Congregational Church

Sunday, September 17th 10:00 am: Worship and Fellowship at Brookfield Congregational Church

Saturday, October 14th 10:00 am: Combined Church Service and Refreshments at Foster Homesite, Foster Hill Road, West Brookfield

RE Notes



We're Not Done Yet!!

Our final RE event for this church year will be our annual Un-Birthday Party. It's not our birthday this time but the RE-ers voted to support Camp Putnam with this fun event. In case you've missed the camp's wish list, here it is!!

- * Pool items – pool noodles, kick boards, life jackets, towels, goggles
- * Beach shovels and buckets
- * Arts & Crafts supplies - colored pencils, water based paints and brushes, construction paper, scissors, markers, crayons, etc...
- * Sports equipment - kick balls, bas-

Laurel Burdon, Religious Education Director

ketballs, soccer balls, wiffle balls and bats, frisbees, etc... * Garden hoses, nozzles, sprinklers * Toothbrushes and toothpaste * Kid sized socks and underwear (new, please). If you are able, please donate items from the list, wrap them (in anything) and bring them into church on or before June 11 (see the container in the foyer). Our RE-ers and Camp Putnam campers will appreciate your gift!!

For this, our final newsletter of the church year, I'd like to express my gratitude to Mike Groner and Laurie Magnuson for their energy, knowledge, flexibility and their extreme commitment to BUUC Religious Education and to our children. Thank you also to Betsy Azarowski for her attention and creativity and brainstorming fun. I asked and

I received a terrific helper in Marcus Monserrate, who is ready and willing to help before and after RE sessions! Please remember to thank these amazing and committed volunteers for yet another year of service to BUUC RE!

And speaking of thank yous; thanks to Rev. Craig and Lila and Angie for their heart, their support and for their many laughs that make this work possible!

AND a major, huge thank you all our parents, our incredible, awesome RE-ers, and the supportive congregants that make the BUUC the amazing place that it is!

Happy Summer!
†Laurel

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

Generosity Abounds

Thank you to Laurie Magnuson, Mike Groner, Betsy Azarowski, Doug Smith, Laurel Hemmer, Mary Ann Adams, and Marcus Monserrate who worked throughout the church year with Laurel Burdon and in service to the children in our RE program.

Thank you to all who attended our Earth Day service and helped clean up the church yard, cook (and eat breakfast) and prepare and co-lead worship with Rev. Craig.

The BUUC Book Club

June: My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman
September: Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance
October: A Tale for the Time Being by Ruth Ozeki
November is a twofor: The Good Good Pig and/or The Soul of an Octopus by Sy Montgomery.
Read either or both. Get Reading!

Women's Alliance

We are going out to dinner in place of the June meeting. Black & White restaurant in Spencer on June 16 at 6:30 pm. Please let an Alliance member know if you would like to attend.

Flowers

Thank you to all who brought flowers for the altar for Sunday Services this year: Rudy and Sarah Heller of TipTop Country Store, Cara Wales and Brigid Choiniere, Barb Hale, Betsy and Bridget Azaarowski, Stan Lib, Donna Boyea, the Executive Committee, Roxann Smith, the Hemmer/Upton Family, Marie Andrea, Julie and Tim Boon, the Membership Committee, Diane Mossa, and the members of the Flower Committee; Donna Sullivan, Judy Trifone, Mary Ann Adams, and Lila Farrar. The sign-up sheet is posted for the 2017-2018 church is now posted in the parlor. You can sign up now! Reminders will be sent so you don't have to worry about forgetting. It is fun to share in adding beauty to worship.

THERE ARE ALLERGIES AMONG US:

Please limit your use of scents and chemicals, and leave as much latex as possible at home.



Stone Soup Luncheon

Wednesday June 7, 2017
12:00 pm
at the church



Community Resources Page

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 www.buuc.org and click on the "Community Resources" tab on the side menu.

Membership info

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.

Scrapbook

We purchased a scrapbook to document BUUC events. If you attend an event and take a photo please forward it to Debbie via email, Debbie@DebbieEnnis.com. Please write a brief line or two about the event, i.e. date, purpose, place, responsible committee. We also welcome newspaper articles about our church or our members, when the BUUC is mentioned. We would love to have this to look back on in future years.

Thank you,
Your Membership Committee



Annual Meeting

June 12, 2017, 7:00 pm
All are welcome!

Regular Meetings & Events

Book Club

Second Tuesday of the Month- 7pm
JOIN US for an all inclusive (men and women of BUUC and beyond welcome), exhilarating (maybe a little strong but we're really excited) BUUC BOOK CLUB. We hope to create a group that will generate meaningful conversations about a variety of books, authors and topics. Contact Amy Frisella at amyfrisella@hotmail.com or Barb Hale b.lambert.hale@gmail.com for more info.

Choir Practice

Every Thursday at 7 pm

Committee for Ecology and Social Action (CESA)

Once a Month, Date and Time TBD
For information, contact Mary Ann Adams at maryannbuuc@gmail.com

Food For Faith: Adult RE

Will resume in the Fall

SMOC Dinner-

Last Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm
Come join us as we provide a monthly meal for residents of the SMOC sober house in Gilbertville. Contact Wendy Newhall, circle_dancers@yahoo.com or Christine Holbrook, holbrookchristine1@gmail.com for details.

Stone Soup Luncheons

Oct - June, first Wednesday of the month, 12pm
All are invited for Stone Soup, where your presence is the secret (and most important) ingredient. We provide the soup and coffee/tea; you bring something to share (bread, juice, appetizer/dessert).

Women's Alliance

Second Wednesday of the month, 7pm.
Contact Laurie Magnuson (508-867-3763)

"The Little Stone Church that Rocks"

**BROOKFIELD
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH**

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We're on the web
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and Twitter
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June Calendar

*Unless stated, see pages 3- 4 for more detail
All events take place at BUUC, unless specified otherwise*

June 7	12:00 pm	Stone Soup Luncheon
June 12	7:00 pm	Annual Meeting
June 13	7:00 pm	Book Club
June 16	6:30 pm	Women's Alliance Dinner Meeting
June 30	7:00 pm	SMOC dinner: Gilbertville, MA



"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"