



February 2022

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"



THIS MONTH IN UU HISTORY

1691 (2/16) Sir Isaac Newton wrote to John Locke requesting publication of Newton's *Historical Account of Two Notable Corruptions of Scripture*, which argued against a biblical basis for the Trinity, be delayed until after Newton's death.

1772 (2/6) By a vote of 217 to 71, the British Parliament rejected a minister's petition to allow Dissent from the Church of England's liturgy.

1819 (2/9) Lydia Estes Pinkham was born in MA. Born a Quaker, Pinkham changed religious affiliation to Universalism. Pinkham joined the Female Anti-Slavery Society and worked as an unpaid visiting nurse. Her creation of a medicinal compound and her writings, including on the female reproductive system, led to the creation of the Federal Food and Drug Administration.

*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 6: "What We Bring Back from Solitude"

*Lay Speaker: Jared Adams
Music: BUUC choir*

February 13: Afghan Refugee Assistance

*Lay Speaker: Aimee Mitchell, Ascentria Care Alliance
Music: BUUC choir*

February 20: "Maintaining Our Spiritual Health"

*Lay Speaker: Gary Blanchard
Music: BUUC choir*

February 27: "Lazy Busy"

*Worship Leader: Rev. Craig M. Nowak
Music: Rick Condee, flute*

*A Note About Worship

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

Music Notes



We continue our celebration of Christoph Graupner (1683-1760)'s "Monatliche Clavirfrüchte 1722" with selections from the Suite for February scheduled for February 6 (I say "scheduled for" because best laid plans have already been altered!).

As noted in the January Happenings, Graupner had connections with some of the more famous names in that part of the world. Here is one story:

Graupner attended school in Leipzig, worked for a few years for the Hamburg opera, and in 1705 took a job at the court of Hesse-Darmstadt. In the 1710's the financial situation in Darmstadt was such that many musicians' salaries were in arrears, including Graupner's. After numerous attempts to get paid, and having a family to support, in 1723 he applied for the open position of Kantor in Leipzig, where he would be in charge of the music for the churches in that city. Georg Philipp Telemann who was more famous, and their first choice, turned down the position, after securing a salary increase at his present job. Graupner was then offered the job, but his employer, the Landgrave Ernst Ludwig of Hesse-Darmstadt, didn't want to release him. Instead, Graupner was paid what he was owed, and given a salary increase and job security, thus he remained in Darmstadt for the rest of his life. When he learned of whom Leipzig ended up hiring, he wrote a letter to the city council assuring them that their third choice was a good musician and would "honestly and properly perform the functions entrusted to him". He was right. That person was Johann Sebastian Bach.

Lila M Farrar,
Music Director



Notes from the Director of Religious Exploration



The Religious Exploration program has some different resources and activities to explore the BUUC's themes as a family or individually. What is found on these sites will vary from month to month. There might be podcasts, music playlists, videos, readings, activities, and more. The January resources for "Solitude" can be found at <https://padlet.com/buucree/January>.

February resources for "Health" can be found at <https://padlet.com/buucree/February>.

Cara Wales,
Director of Religious Exploration

Invitation to Contribute Beauty

If you would like to provide flowers for the altar for a Sunday morning service, please contact Flower Committee Chair, Lila Farrar (508-864-5978 or lilamfarrar@gmail.com or in person after church).

The flowers are a valued part of worship and you can take them home with you after the service to cheer your household, or can give them to someone else, or Lila can find someone who would enjoy them.



Generosity Abounds!

A big thank you everyone who helped with and participated in our first hybrid Christmas Eve service. Your flexibility and readiness to step in reflect the true spirit of community. Thank you!

Rev. Craig's Office Hours

Rev. Craig will be available for scheduled office and pastoral visits via Zoom, Facetime or telephone. Please email or call for an appointment.

860-916-9261

revcraignowak@comcast.net



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

Food for Faith: Adult Religious Exploration "Picture This: Bible Study Through Art"

Evening Group*: Tuesday, 2/1 at 6:30pm on Zoom

Afternoon Group*: Wednesday, 2/2 at 1:15pm on Zoom

*A minimum of 3 participants is required

Zoom Stone Soup

With our traditional Stone Soup off the table, so to speak for a while, consider dropping in for Zoom Stone Soup, Wednesday, February 2nd at 12pm. Gather your lunch, log on and spend some time catching up with friends. We'd love to see you.

The Zoom link to attend will be emailed February 2nd.

Virtual Social Hour

Third Wednesday of every month on Zoom. Contact Barb Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com

Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, February 8th, at 7:00pm to discuss *The Essex Serpent* by Sarah Perry. Please feel free to attend. A complete list of the books we will be discussing this year appear online on our website at buuc.org/events. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com.

BUUC Journaling Group

The next meeting of the BUUC Journaling Group will be Monday, February 28th, at 7:00pm.

Contact Cara Wales at c.l.c.wales@gmail.com for more information.

Choir Practice

7:00-8:30pm 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.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is looking for new members. Our main objective is to support the member experience. We do this through planning social events, coordinating meals/visits, and reaching out to visitors, in addition to other tasks and events. We meet approx. 5 to 6 times per year. (New committee members comfortable with using Zoom would be an added plus.) If you are interested in being a part of this fun and valued committee, please contact one of our committee members: Debbie Ennis at 978-257-8073 or Debbie@DebbieEnnis.com, Joanne Hamerly at jmh2ndchapter@gmail.com, Fritz Foster at fritzifoster@yahoo.com, Penny Blum at quabbinquilter@gmail.com, or Donna Boyea at donboyea@yahoo.com.

Women's Alliance

To be resumed when able. Contact Laurie Magnuson (508-867-3763).

Quiet Gathering in the Spirit of the Quakers

To be resumed when able. Contact Cruger Johnson Phillips, cruger.johnson@gmail.com.

Sanctuary LGBTQ Coffee House

To be resumed when able.

Community Supper

To be resumed when able.

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 at revcraignowak@comcast.net

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

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

Director of Religious Exploration

Cara Wales

Music Director

Lila M. Farrar

Office Assistant

Emily Foster

Executive Committee

Ex-Officio member

Rev. Craig M. Nowak

President

Barbara Hale

Treasurer

Doug Smith

Clerk

Gary Blanchard

Members-at-Large

Helena Paez, Sarah Swift, Christine

Keough-Huff, Fritz Foster

Collector

Dave Yutzler

Committees and Groups

Committee on Ministry

Mary Frisella, Roxann Smith, Donna Sullivan

Capital Campaign Committee

Amy Frisella, Kim Burdon, Tim Boon

Flower Committee

Lila Farrar, Chair

Membership Committee

Debbie Ennis, Chair

Nominating Committee

Robyn Vincent, Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea

Trustees

Tim Boon, Roxann Smith, Kirk Upton

Women's Alliance

Laurie Magnuson, President

Worship Committee

Roxann Smith, John Kennison, Fritz Foster, Jo Ann Pierce, David Yutzler

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>.



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