

STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship
-A Welcoming Congregation-
October 2022



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Soul Matters

Reminder that room is still available to sign up for Soul Matters Groups. They will meet once per month for two hours. Current groups and availability are listed below.

Facilitator	Date/Time	Location
Sally Gove	2nd Mondays, 6:00 – 8:00	On-Line Full
Rev. Linda	4th Wednesdays, 6:30 -8:30	On-Line Open (3)
Margaret Rieser	4th Tuesdays, 6:00 – 8:00	Fellowship Open

If you'd like to sign up, please send Taphi an email at admin@starrkingfellowship.org letting her know which group. If you'd like to serve the Fellowship by serving as a Facilitator, let Rev. Linda know and we'll start a group at a time that works well for you. Resources for facilitation are available.

FALL YARD CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday – November 5th, between 9:00 and 11:30 am

5 Reasons to come:

- You love raking leaves!
- You love being outside!
- You love breathing the crisp fall air!
- You love catching up with people!
- You love helping! :)

See you there!
The BGG team



Minister's Newsletter

October 2022

*Bravery is not the absence of fear.
Bravery is feeling the fear, the doubt, the uncertainty
and deciding something else is more important. ~ Mark Mason*

I remember, clearly, the first class I taught. There they were, forty or so young adults, these were my students. I was the new teacher. They stared at me, I mean really, they sat there and just looked at me. As I spoke the first couple of lines of my introduction, my voice faltered. It actually cracked! Author Mark Mason frames an experience like this, in this way, "Bravery is not the absence of fear. Bravery is feeling the fear, the doubt, the uncertainty and deciding something else is more important." There it is, *something else is more important*. I had decided that what I had to teach was more important than my fear. Years later, I would speak those lines of introduction with a voice of clear confidence. By then I had other fears to overcome, I always will. When we pay attention to our fears, they tell us what we care about and where we might grow.

Sometimes we are required to have courage by things outside our control. They may not come from our decision to be brave at all. My daughter threw herself out of an airplane to celebrate her high school graduation. Granted she was attached to both a regular parachute and a backup, and a very fine instructor who was experienced, competent, and kind. As I watched from the ground I thought, *no, my dear daughter, it does not take courage for you to jump, so much that it takes courage for me to watch!* Courage is sometimes letting those we love be who they are, even when it's hard to watch.

Courage is our Soul Matters theme this month. When I think about my daughter's joy and excitement and my own concern for her wellbeing, I can understand that the degree of courage required to do something is dependent upon the risk and the perspective. When things happen to us, when we face an illness, unexpected loss, or perpetual anxiety, courage requires our unwilling engagement. And, if life begins at the edge of our comfort zones, it is fitting for us to take a peek at those edges and be there at those edges for each other. This is what a caring community does.

Meeting one another at those edges, is to share the journey and to help show each other the way. We do that on Sunday mornings when we greet visitors. Remember visiting for the first time? That takes courage for many of us. I think we are in the process of rediscovering who we are and how we wish to be together. We may have forgotten or now take for granted the ways we keep our Fellowship community welcoming. We do that by serving the greater good. Be a greeter. Offer to teach religious education – even, and especially, if you've never done it before. There are many ways to participate in our caring community. I encourage you to sign up for a Soul Matters Sharing Circle. They take us to those growing edges together. My invitation for you is to engage in a way that feels like it is new and different and at the edge of your comfort zone. We'll meet you there at the edge, we're all in this together. I am so pleased to be your minister; I too will be out there on the edge. We will have courage together.

In Faith and Love,
Rev. Linda

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NEW COVID POLICY

Starr King Fellowship no longer requires vaccinations and masks for those entering the building.

We always welcome those who choose to wear masks and will continue to supply masks at entrances to the building.

If you test positive, please stay home until you test negative or for 10 days.

As always, if you do not feel well or remain uncomfortable in group settings, join us on Zoom.

Sunday Services –

October 2 The Courage to Side, Again, with Love Sarah Dan Jones

We of the LGBTQ community and our allies, truly all of us, can only live our best lives when we are free to be our authentic selves. The freedom of one's gender identity and to love and marry whom we love, is at risk. Join us on this Sunday as we recommit to understanding, remembering, and siding together in love.

October 9 The Cure: Courage and Resistance Rev. Linda Barnes

Maria Papova composer of the blog The Marginalian, tells us that courage and resistance are the antidote to cynicism. In this service we explore how, in these weeks before the election, we might lean into courage and resistance together to create a world where hope and the human heart are held whole.

October 16 Mysticism, Transcendence, and Wonder Rev. Linda Barnes

The direct experience of transcendence and wonder is a source we Unitarian Universalists draw upon to feed our spirits. This experience is akin to mysticism. Join us on this Sunday to explore the humility and depth that are ours when we surrender to the deepest realities beyond our understanding, when we recognize ourselves as mystics.

October 23 The Storm is Passing Over Margaret Rieser

How do we weather life's storms? People in areas that have frequent hurricanes have go-bags stashed by their doors. What do we want to pack in our go-bags? Where do we find what it takes to get through difficult times?

October 30 Memory Lingers, Love endures: A Service of Remembrance Rev. Linda Barnes

We all belong to a larger family of people and beloved animals who have passed from our lives. This is our annual service of remembrance, please bring a photo or memento to place on our altar of remembrance to those with whom we've had to say goodbye.

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Nursery Care

If you have a child three years or younger, you are welcome to use the nursery to care for your child. Please know that children of any age are always welcome to remain in our services.

Coffee/Tea | Volunteers Sign-up

Please consider helping with the Sunday coffee/tea prep and set-up after Sunday services. There are easy directions in the kitchen. Others that can help show you the process, too. There will be a sign-up sheet in Macey Hall. Also, if you want to consider helping with treats that will also be available to volunteer for on the same sign-up sheet. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to Bob Chandler. (Mobile 978-460-7478, email: bobchandler@verizon.net)



Volunteers are needed to clean up after coffee hour. Duties include emptying coffee pots, putting items away, washing dishes, and sweeping. Children are welcome to volunteer with parents.



Sign up sheets are in Macey Hall. We are requesting 2 volunteers per week. Reach out to Stephanie Halter, 603.996.1547 or stephanie.halter@gmail.com, if you have questions.



Do You Wish You Could See a Service You Missed?

Did you know that most Sunday Services are recorded and posted to Vimeo - a cloud-based video platform similar to YouTube?

You can view any past service by navigating to our home page www.starrkingfellowship.org and scrolling down to the section called "Sundays at Starr King."

You can see the most recent Sunday or any past services.

President's Letter

It's beginning to feel like we are settling into a new and different routine, similar but not quite the same as pre-COVID. We celebrate a full and highly qualified staff, being together Sunday mornings with our online members and friends, coffee and snacks in Macey Hall following worship, children and adults together again. Post-COVID everyone, everywhere, is learning how to be together again, and this takes commitment and engagement from ALL of us.

Being together Sunday mornings, before most of us arrive, volunteers are unlocking the building, setting up the camera and computers for the online presence, engaging with choir practice and the worship associate checklist. Worship leaders (Linda, Sarah Dan, Grace, Margaret) and the worship associate meet briefly, greeters, hosts preparing coffee and refreshments, getting spaces ready for religious education, including the play space and nursery... During the worship, Linda, Sarah Dan, Grace, the tech crew, worship associate are still "working." After the worship, cleaning spaces, refilling coffee, creamers, and more flows into the cleaning of the kitchen and fellowship hall, making sure lights are turned off, windows closed, doors locked are just the immediate needs. This is just Sunday. During the week, committees and task forces work on many projects, small groups gather, staff comes together, phone calls to answer and make, regularly scheduled meetings and more! We are hub of a community of activities.

With everything happening and changing so much from pre-COVID, your contributions are more appreciated than ever. There are many opportunities to help, from the many small tasks to serving as leaders of committees, please say "yes," "let me help," "I can do..." Board members and committee chairs are planning some areas for tasks, watch for sign-up requests, asks, etc. Together we continue the work of our mission: cultivate more love in the world and nurture more love for the world.

Jane Clay, President

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Board's Bulletin

- Rebuilding fellowship infrastructure post covid
- Volunteer recruitment
- Website redesign underway
- Care for our building & grounds
- Capital campaign to buy our solar panels

Reach out to any board member if you have questions or just to discuss matters.



Office Hours

Fellowship Office is open Tuesday through Friday
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
536-8908

Soundbites

Courage and Calling

I was born and raised in the First Presbyterian Church in Brunswick, Georgia. It is an old church with wooden pews, lofty ceilings, a pipe organ and a grand piano. I sang in the adult choir at an early age as there was no children's choir, and I wanted to make music. When I was in the fifth grade, I started taking piano lessons and playing the flute in band. I was immersed in music making, and the church was a place where I could channel that passion and share it with others. Not as a performance, but as an offering to those gathered in a Holy time.

When I was in High School, I presented a flute/piano piece that I was preparing for College auditions. I don't remember the piece now, though I am sure it was classical and challenging. My accompanist was the wife of the minister, and mother to my best friend. Their house was full of music, and I spent many an hour there exploring different ways to make different music.

All I "can" remember is starting the piece and ending it. I was totally transported to another realm of reality and literally let myself go to the offering of music given to those present – and to God. It took a great deal of courage to set down that path, and I believe it is where I received a calling as a church musician. I have no idea if it was perfect, but it was perfection.

That act of courage is one I want to share with the youth of our Starr King Fellowship. Whether it be a chalice lighting or a special piece of music, I want us a community to welcome and encourage all people to explore their calling through music. The choir does this every week. Our lay musicians do this when they sing in front of the congregation. The congregation does this with every hymn that is sung. It is a safe space, and one that honors the courage that it takes to be vulnerable in the offering.

Psalm 100 states "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord." To me, the Lord is LOVE, and encouraging all to make that musical racket towards Love with courage and commitment is a calling we can all get behind.

See Y'all in church,

Sarah Dan

CALENDAR: SUNDAYS

October 2 – Sarah Dan and choir
October 9 – Will Gunn, musician
October 16 – Sarah Dan, musician
October 23 – Sarah Dan and choir
October 30 – Sarah Dan and choir



THURSDAYS: Choir will NOT meet on October 6 or 13.

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Raising income for SKUUF that costs you no additional money!

The purchase of a Hannaford card to use for grocery shopping costs you no additional money but helps SKUUF raise funds. SKUUF receives 5% of our total order in bonus cards and when we sell these we have a clear profit. In addition, purchase of Hannaford gift cards is always in good taste and you can use the SKUUF Hannaford program to purchase gift cards to give as thoughtful gifts. Denominations \$25, \$100, \$500. See Taphi Janell during regular office hours or Betty Ann Trought /Linda Haskins after services. Cash or Checks, sorry no credit cards as fees remove our profit. Remember all checks are made out to SKUUF with Hannaford in memo line .

Religious Education

So far, RE has been off to a great start! On our first Sunday together we spent time talking about September's theme of Belonging. Each of us decorated a puzzle piece with things that represent ourselves, such as our favorite sports, foods, colors, and values. All the pieces can now be seen together downstairs, beautifully representing how each of us has a place in the puzzle that is SKUUF. This past Sunday, we talked about how we each have unique gifts that we give to our communities, and how RE can



be a space for us to explore those gifts deeper and gain confidence in using our gifts to create a better world. We also discussed how we want to feel in the RE space, and created a covenant together to ensure that everyone has the space to share their honest experience and be supported. By the end of our time together, the covenant had already been referred back to and helped us make sure everyone in the class was heard and valued.

We are still looking for volunteers to help facilitate RE on Sundays! Religious education is only possible with your help, and the impact just a few hours of your time can have on these kids is profound. All preparations and planning are done ahead of time by me, and volunteers do not need to have prior teaching experience! Anyone who has an interest in getting to know the children of our congregation is encouraged to give it a try. If you have ever considered it, take this month's theme of Courage as your sign to sign up! These are wonderful kids who are hungry for love and learning, and your presence alone is a huge gift.

If you're interested in volunteering, please send me an email at dre@starringfellowship.org

Grace Kennedy

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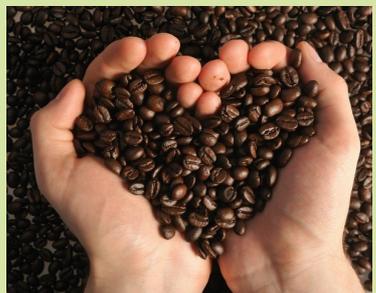
Looking for Youth Group Leaders

We are in need of Youth Group leaders! Our goal is to give our teens the space for Youth Group to begin again, but in order for that to happen, we need your help! After 2.5+ years of intense isolation in a constantly changing world, our youth are in desperate need of connection. We also hope to be able to offer a youth trip to Costa Rica in the spring. This will only be possible with support from the whole congregation, but we believe it could be a great way to bring our young folks back together. If you have any interest in being a Youth Group leader, please send an email to dre@starringfellowship.org to talk more about it!

Howling Monkey Nicaraguan Coffee Still Available

Shade-grown, organic Howling Monkey Nicaraguan coffee can still be purchased to support both the Starr King Youth group and Compas de Nicaragua.

It is available either whole bean or ground, \$14 per pound. Please Contact Bob and Jane Clay, 603-996-1207 or jhclay@roadrunner.com, to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.



October Outreach



The New Hampshire Food Bank is the recipient of the October collection from SKUUF. You can donate during the October 16 collection or use the online donate button and identify any amount you want to give to the NH Food Bank.

In addition to providing healthy food to the needy, NH Food Bank fights the cause of hunger by empowering people to learn new skills, enabling them to become more self-sufficient and improve their quality of life. In 2021 they distributed 17 million pounds of food and provided 14 million meals statewide. In Grafton County, \$5,372,000 is needed to eliminate food insecurity.

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Donating from the Starr King website.

The Donate button on the website is found at the top right of the Starr King UU Fellowship homepage. It is very simple to use, and only requires you to register the first time you use it.



The donation form allows you to select the amount you wish to deposit to our virtual collection and you can choose to donate to the Sunday offering or to any of our other Special Collection outreach or regular Starr King funds. You can also designate if you would like your gift to be a recurring donation, or not.

The funds you designate can be drawn from your bank account or paid by credit card. Either way, please consider helping to cover the cost of processing electronic donations by clicking on the "Cover Fees" box when submitting your donation.

Online Member/Friend Directory

Need to reach your Starr King Friends? All members and active friends have access to our online directory. The link is on the Member menu item of the starrkingfellowship.org web page or you can simply go to the url skuuf.simplechurchcrm.com. Your username is your first name and last name separated with a period such as mickey.mouse. If you have never logged in before, simply click on Forgot Password and one will be emailed to you. If you like using your mobile device, you can download the app for Simple Church. To setup, type in the domain name "skuuf".

Here's what you can do there:

- Change your contact information
- Find contact information of SKUUF members
- See what groups you belong to (e.g. Soul Matters, Smooth Sundays)

Questions? Contact kmkelsey@gmail.com.

ACTION NH

WE ARE:

ALL CONNECTED

STRONGER TOGETHER

LOVE'S HANDS IN THE WORLD

CALLED TO CREATE JUSTICE

RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE
ANOTHER AND THE EARTH

 UUA.ORG/IMAGES

Friends,

Join fellow Unitarian Universalist from around the state as we gather for our [annual meeting](#).

October 15th 8:30 to 3:00

Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

274 Pleasant St, Concord, NH

The day will include:

Hearing from Congregations about their activities around being a Green Sanctuary congregation, the NH Bail Bond program and being a Sanctuary Congregation.

Workshops with our coalition partners including, NH Voting laws, abortion rights post ROE, and Climate on the ballot.

The meeting will include the election of UU Action NH officers and an opportunity to meet the new Executive Director Mo Baxley.

Pot luck lunch and fellowship. [FMI or to Register](#)

- All of us at Unitarian Universalist Action New Hampshire

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MORE FUN FACTS

- **ENDOWMENT MONEY GIVE AWAY**

FREE MONEY!!!

WAYS TO SPEND MONEY! *

**Okay, you have to apply for it first,
but it is there for the taking if you qualify!!!*

You can apply for money to:

- ⇒ Sponsor children to attend UU camps
- ⇒ Support the Mary Hazelton music fund for new music or instruments
- ⇒ Sponsor attendance at UU or community-outreach related conferences such as GA, BLM, Climate and RE
- ⇒ Sponsor education programs for lay leaders and/or youth
- ⇒ Support the purchase of materials and books for congregant use

Next month, "How to Apply" for funding from the Endowment Committee... this is exciting stuff!

Jennifer Gentry, Chair

Climate Justice and Revisions to Our 7 Principles

Background

A process is underway to review our Unitarian Universalist Association's 7 Principles and Statement of Purpose, last revised in 1987. A UUA commission began the official process in 2020, examining purposes, values, covenant, inspirations. With freedom of belief to remain at the core, along with the importance of community and nature, significant revisions are likely, and to take effect within the next two or three years.

Discussions about revising our 7 principles have taken place at many levels within the UUA over recent years. These discussions have included the need to address racism, a more-inclusive democratic process, non-human life and care for the Earth itself.

The current plan calls for proposals to be presented for a preliminary vote at the June 2023 General Assembly. If affirmed by the delegates, the proposed revisions are expected to move ahead to a final vote at the June 2024 General Assembly (2/3 vote required).

Workshop attended in September 2022 titled "Meeting the 7th and 8th Principles"

This virtual meeting which I attended consisted of presentations by the leaders of all the UUA groups working with individuals within our congregations across our country, each explaining their group's mission and how they are addressing their concerns for **climate justice**. The "8th Principle" refers to the proposed addition of addressing racism. I appreciated learning how the current work of each of these UUA groups act separately and together, to address climate change in terms of its effect on those who are suffering the most and often left out of consideration in solutions to improve the health of our planet.

My brief summaries of these UUA groups follow:

BIPOC (black, indigenous, people of color)
focused on climate justice. Planning congregational actions, leading up to Earth Day 2023.

UU Ministry for the Earth
Wholistic, spiritual and educational approach; all life including the health of the earth itself. We are now failing our relationship with the earth. Seeks the flourishing of all life, with significant focus on the BIPOC community and youth.

UUA Side with Love
5 areas of focus currently: antiracism, reproductive rights, LGBTQ, climate justice, democracy and election defense. Emphasis on congregations reaching out locally beyond their silos.

UU's for Social Justice (UUSJ, a group established many years ago)
Direct engagement with legislators at Federal level. The new climate law ignores the true cost of climate action needed for the poor.

Green Sanctuary Status for Congregations
Aims: Zero fossil fuel use, reduction in carbon, transformative engagement; energy justice

Nancy Chaddock for the Climate Action Team

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Behind the Scenes

So much goes on behind the scenes to keep our Fellowship going that, perhaps, goes unnoticed. This month we are highlighting a particular Building and Grounds project: Babe DeRaymond and Brian Haskins have shingled the roof of our sign on Fairgrounds Road. It looks great - check it out next time you are at the Fellowship. Thank you!



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Book Group News

Join us every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. for a lively book discussion. Email kmkel-sey@gmail.com if you'd like to be added to the email list to receive the monthly zoom link.



The books for the coming year are:

October 10 - ***Talking to Strangers*** by Malcolm Gladwell

Something is very wrong, Gladwell argues, with the tools and strategies we use to make sense of people we don't know. And because we don't know how to talk to strangers, we are inviting conflict and misunderstanding in ways that have a profound effect on our lives and our world. In his first book since his #1 bestseller David and Goliath, Malcolm Gladwell has written a gripping guidebook for troubled times.

November 14 - ***Bewilderment*** by Richard Powers

December 12 - ***Born a Crime*** by Trevor Noah

January 9 - ***The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*** by Kim Richardson

February 13 - ***Wastelands: The True Story of Farm Country on Trial*** by Corban Addison

March 13 - ***The Verifiers*** by Jane Pek

April 10 - ***My Beloved World*** by Sonia Sotomayer

May 8 - ***Parable of the Sower*** by Octavia Butler

June 12 - ***The Fixed Stars*** by Molly Wizenberg

July 10 - ***Tattooist of Auschwitz*** by Heather Morris

August 14 - ***The Bible*** by Karen Armstrong

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Staff

The Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes, Minister
Sarah Dan Jones, Director of Music Ministry
Office Administrator, Taphi Janelle
Interim DRE, Grace Kennedy
Ministerial Intern, Margaret Rieser

Starr King Fellowship Governing Board

Jane Clay, President
Doug Grant, Vice-president
Janet Englund, Treasurer
Stephanie Halter, Secretary

Trustees:

Bob Chandle
John Marunowski
Sandy Mucci
Richard Odman
Diana Pamplin

Mission and Vision statement

Mission:

At Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, we cultivate more love in the world and nurture more love for the world.

Vision:

Our Fellowship welcomes and cares for people of all ages and varied identities. We experience joy as we build community and use our relationships with each other to create a more loving world.

Our Fellowship embraces what is meaningful and beautiful. We offer diverse experiences in worship, music, and the arts through our services, events, and the use of our building.

We live and model our values, collectively creating social and environmental justice with direct action and financial support.

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About Membership in Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

What it Means to be a Member

Membership is open to all individuals sixteen years and older regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender or sexual orientation who are in harmony with the visions, goals and principles of Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

You are invited to become a member by participating in a Path to Membership orientation or by meeting with the Minister to review the benefits and responsibilities of membership. All new members sign the official Membership Record book witnessed by the Minister or a Membership Committee Chair.

Members are entitled to the services of the Minister and the use of the sanctuary for Rites of Passage (weddings, dedications, memorial services, etc.) at no cost. Members are eligible to serve in elected officer positions and serve as committee chairs. Members have the privilege of full voting rights.

Membership is maintained by active participation in the Fellowship, by supporting the annual Stewardship Drive and/or contributing service toward the Fellowship.

What it Means to be a Friend

A Friend of Starr King UU Fellowship is an individual in harmony with the visions, goals and principles of our Fellowship who chooses not to sign the Membership Record Book. A Friend may participate in any and all Fellowship activities but does not receive Rites of Passage services without a fee, is not eligible to vote or serve as an elected officer or committee chair.