

# STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship  
-A Welcoming Congregation-  
February 2021



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## Black Lives Matter Workshop February 14

**BLM Brings Reggie Harris Back for March 7 Service**  
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## Stewardship Committee

Our Stewardship campaign for FY 2021-22 is in full swing this month starting with our Stewardship service on January 31. The following Sunday we will have our traditional Spiritual Journeys service. The first week in February you will receive your Stewardship Packet by email. Keep an eye out for an email titled "Virtual Stewardship Begins!" The packet includes a letter from Reverend Linda, financial information, and pledging information. Our gatherings will be virtual this year on zoom:

- Sunday, February 7, 3:30 to 4:30 PM
- Monday, February 8, 7:00 to 8:00 PM
- Wednesday, February 17, 7:00 to 8:00 PM
- Thursday, February 18, 3:30 to 4:30 PM

There will be a link to sign up in your packet, or you may sign up here:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B48ADAC2DA5F49-stewardship2>

We hope you will choose to attend for the camaraderie and information, but if you are zoomed out, we understand. In that case, we will be happy to accept your pledge this year, and look forward to in-person gatherings with food and drink during next year's campaign!

## Race in Time By Tatum Barnes

[Click here to read Tatum's presentation from our January 24 Sunday service](#)

## Sunday Services - February 2021

Live STREAM via ZOOM <https://zoom.us/j/567620881>

### February 7 Spiritual Journeys

Rev. Linda Barnes

When we hear each other's stories, it can illuminate our own stories. Come hear the spiritual journeys of other Starr King UU Fellowship members who will offer a glimpse of their own spiritual experiences and learnings.

### February 14 Belonging

Rev. Linda Barnes

It is a deep and natural human desire to belong – to belong to another, to each other, to a worthy cause, to a community. Join us on this Valentine's day to explore the spiritual basis of belonging.

### February 21 Our Beloved Community

Rev. Linda Barnes

To bring about beloved community we must recognize the inherent worth of all. Join us as we explore the practice of building and belonging to a beloved community in our own neighborhood.

### February 28 Where Community Starts: Right here, Within

Rev. Michelle Pederson

Community is built from individuals and therefore is as healthy as those who compose the group. How we treat ourselves spills over into how we treat others. Does how you treat yourself illustrate the beloved community? Do we treat ourselves with equity, justice and love?

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## COVID-19 Prevention for our Fellowship Building: Winter 2021

**Vaccine enrollment in NH is now open for Group 1B, people age 65 and over.**

Go to [vaccines.nh.gov](https://vaccines.nh.gov) to register. You will then get an email from CDC VAMS (vaccine management) to schedule an appointment. One of the vaccination sites is the Plymouth Armory. Be prepared for a wait and vaccination in your car. Other sites are scattered around the state, so you can choose one near you.

You are very strongly encouraged to get vaccinated when your turn comes up. Even after getting both doses, we will all need masks and precautions for some time to come as population immunity builds, but in the meantime, the chances of infection should be greatly reduced for those vaccinated.

**In the meantime, the New Hampshire positivity rate is much higher now, so your risk of encountering someone contagious is greater, and the new more infectious variant of the virus is also a concern.** We have to be more careful than ever. Please continue to be vigilant, both within our Fellowship space and beyond. Wear a mask, wash or sanitize your hands, minimize time indoors with people not part of your household (including stores and even our Fellowship building) and remember that 6 feet is further away than you think. Good changes are coming, and we just need to be vigilant until it is safe to be together again in person.

The current Guidelines for use of Fellowship Building and Fellowship Gatherings away from Building during the COVID-19 Pandemic are posted on the Fellowship website.

The posted guidelines cover use of the Starr King Fellowship building and grounds, as well as gatherings of Starr King entities (e.g. choir, committees, small group ministries) off the property. They address activities of 1) staff, 2) committees and small group ministries, 3) choir, 4) religious education, 5) rituals (e.g. memorial services), and 6) use by outside groups.

We would like to **highlight** the need for everyone entering the sanctuary to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer just before entering, to keep a minimum 12-foot distance from anyone singing, to wipe down the handheld microphone before passing it to someone else, and to be aware of the need to keep frequently touched areas such as the podium and door handles sanitized.

Certain areas of the Fellowship building are restricted to use by the Children's Learning Center and Fellowship staff. **ANY BUILDING USE MUST BE SCHEDULED THROUGH THE ADMINISTRATOR**, Lisa Olech.

Ad Hoc Committee members: Reverend Linda Barnes, Mary Crowell, Joe Keaghan, Susan Scrimshaw and Susan Skinner.

## Minister's Newsletter

February, 2021

*If we have no peace,  
it is because we've forgotten that we belong to each other.*  
~ Mother Theresa

Our Soul Matters theme for February is *Beloved Community*. To be part of *Beloved Community* means that we remember that we belong to each other, all of us. It is a sweet dream to imagine a world where we put down our privilege, our assumptions, our efforts to be first, or better, or right and start again exploring inherent worth and true human dignity. The last few years have shown me that there is much work still to be done. I continue to learn. I love that I'm learning with you. In this way, we are a beloved community. We are remembering a little bit better, all that time, that we belong to each other.

Surely, our Fellowship community is one that belongs together. I know we have a longing to be together again and now, finally, I see glimmers of this possibility. Please, if you are eligible, sign up for the Covid Vaccine. When more of us attain a vaccinated status, we move closer to the time when we can safely gather. The Covid Response Team will help us determine how best to navigate these next few months safely. Stay tuned for that.

In the meantime, I remain so very impressed with all the ways we still hold our identity as a Fellowship. Please know that there are ways you can continue to reach out and engage with each other in activities and meetings. When you participate in any of these groups, you make the world brighter for each other. We all need that. Our Fellowship continues to hold Wise Women (in Training), Men's Group, and Soul Matters Small Group Ministry meetings. We continue to work towards justice with our Black Lives Matter Task Force and the Climate Action Group meets regularly. I know it's harder to know about these activities and meetings when we don't meet in person, but I encourage you check the website and seek these opportunities out. These groups would welcome you.

So, dear ones, this month I challenge you to stretch yourself to get engaged in a way that maybe you haven't before or haven't for a while. No doubt, as we move through this long winter, we will need to find the means to remain connected. If you'd like to start a new group, focus on a topic of discussion, or a practice of group meditation or reflection, I encourage you to do that too. Just let me know and I'll help make that happen.

Thank you for all the ways you support me and each other. Always, always I'm honored to be part of this beloved community. Take good care and be well. See you on Sunday.

In Faith and Love,  
Rev. Linda

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### 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](http://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. The recent Spiritual Journey service was especially soulful and well worth a view.

## President's letter

It is hard to believe that we are heading into February, although I must say I am enjoying having the afternoon light last longer. More time for walking and being outside! Although I think many of you may disagree, now we just need a bit more snow to make the outside a little more enjoyable.

Every year through the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) we have to complete a survey on the previous year. Everything from attendance to financial numbers to members and staff, a snapshot of how who we are and how we are doing. This year the attendance numbers were based on those who participated weekly virtually. We started with Sunday services but then when we added in all of our various groups such as Soul Matters, Men's Group, Wise Women, Book Club, as well as Committee meetings and the weekly morning meditations by our fabulous staff we estimate that number to be between 126 – 150 each week! We are doing okay!

We have continued to be an extremely generous fellowship as our monthly donations to various local groups continues to astound. In the month of December alone we donated almost \$5,000 to the Plymouth Area Community Closet and NH Food Bank. It is easy to donate to any of our special collections as well as our regular "Sunday Plate" by using the donate button on the website. Thank you for all that has been given so far this year.

February is the start of our Stewardship campaign for the coming year. Our incredible Stewardship committee has many ways in which you can connect to hear more about it. Be sure to read their article in this newsletter. Let's continue to support our wonderful staff and volunteers for all they have been doing to keep us going for the past 11 months. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. Look for the article from the Pandemic response team as we start looking ahead to when we can finally be together again. What a party it will be!

Mary Crowell

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### Board's Bulletin

- Stewardship campaign begins
- New bookkeeper
- Seeking bids for new boiler
- Not applying for new PPP loan
- Solar project legal delays
- Annual UUA certification process

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

## Attend the 2021

### Unitarian Universalist Virtual General Assembly

The themes are "Justice, Healing and Courage" and the dates are June 23-27. Last year eleven of us "attended" the first virtual GA. Two sang in the GA Choir and one volunteered as a chat-room monitor. A very different experience than attending in person, but a lot less expensive so accessible to more people and easier on the earth ~

Registration is \$200 per person (and our Endowment Committee is happy to support this!) General Assembly registrants receive access to the 2021 Online Participation Portal, including live, simulative and on-demand video content, the virtual exhibit hall, chat features, support, and a (new!) GA mobile app.

Interested? Want more information? Contact Betty Trought or Cindy Spring

## OUTREACH –

### Voices against Violence

Throughout this difficult year, Voices Against Violence has continued without pause its commitment to assist women, men and children who have experienced or witnessed domestic and sexual violence, stalking, and vocal abuse. Based in Plymouth, their services include a 24-hour confidential crisis phone line, court advocacy for those involved in a related court case, police and hospital accompaniment, support groups, and confidential shelter. In addition to direct services, they work with other organizations and schools, providing role modeling and techniques for establishing healthy boundaries in all relationships.

Voices Against Violence serves 18 towns surrounding Plymouth, and assists 700-800 individuals yearly, including family members and friends of those receiving direct services. It had its origin in 1981, when a small group of women recognized the need, and began using their homes to shelter women who were victims of domestic violence. Several women in our Fellowship were soon involved, and ten years later the first paid staff were hired and a house purchased to provide safe shelter. Today their work is accomplished by paid staff and trained volunteers. Interested in becoming a volunteer? Please call 536-5999 for more information.

This year, with major fundraising events cancelled and additional expenses due to COVID-19 concerns, the need is greater than ever. Our financial support will be greatly appreciated.

Donations may be made by using the donate button on the Starr King UU Fellowship home page, or by mailing a check to Starr King UU Fellowship, PO Box 337, Plymouth 03264.

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### Sunday collections from the Starr King website.

The [Donate Here](#) button on the website is found at the top right of the [Starr King UU Fellowship page](#). It is very simple to use, and only requires you to register the first time you use the online donate form. After your registration is submitted, you will receive a welcome email from Simple Church Giving, which also includes a link to our donation page. You are also able to donate directly from the Simple Church app that many of you have on your smart phones.

The donation page form allows you to select the amount you wish to deposit into our virtual collection bowl, and to designate if you would like it to be a recurring donation, or not.

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



### HANNAFORD CARDS ARE BACK!!

Here's all you need to do to get yours...

- ◆ Email Lisa at [admin@starrkingfellowship.org](mailto:admin@starrkingfellowship.org) with your card request before noon on Thursdays.
- ◆ Every Friday, from 9:00 AM to Noon, you may stop by the Fellowship to drop off your check and pick up your cards! Everything will be done safely and "distantly."

*(If you can't stop by the Fellowship,  
please contact Lisa for possible alternatives.)*

## Message from the Director of Religious Education

Dear Starr King Fellowship,

My fellow Unitarian Universalists - I write to you today that the state of our Religious Education is strong. While our youth group was forced to meet digitally when Plymouth Regional High school went remote, we fully anticipate that we will meet in-person on **February 14th and 28th**. RE will meet online on the 7th, 14th, and 28th. Email reminders about weekly RE offerings will go out on Friday evenings - look out for details about an outdoor gathering on the 21st!

With gratitude,

Tatum Barnes

[dre20@starrkingfellowship.org](mailto:dre20@starrkingfellowship.org)

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## From your Community Minister

Hello, Starr King Members and Friends,

Sometimes I find it hard to believe, but in May I will be 70 years old. I have decided to finally complete my retirement from professional ministry. At the conclusion of this church year, I will end my time as your Community Minister. Thank you for letting me affiliate with Starr King for the past two years. I honor all of you who worked on the get out the vote effort for the Presidential and State elections this past year. I was also glad to pass on information of other social justice issues. Your work on climate justice has been amazing. This may seem like a good-bye note, but I didn't want to wait until the end of the year to let you know my thinking on this. I am a member of the congregation in Franklin and now serve on their board so I will still be part of the NH UU circle. I am your Community Minister through June and will continue to bring to your attention legislative actions through this newsletter and occasionally the weekly *View*.



There are many bills to support or disagree with this legislative session. UUActionNH is asking people to contact their senators to support SB 73, Green Housing. Please contact your state Senator.

This bill supports the study of:

- renovating affordable housing units
- installing rooftop solar panels
- environmental remediation projects, such as building micro-grids and replacing lead pipes

All these projects provide much needed job creation to recover from the pandemic induced recession in New Hampshire. You can read the text of the bill [here](#).

I understand there will be another attempt to pass a "Right to Work" bill. I refer to this as a "Right to Work for Less" bill. It weakens unions by allowing people who work for a unionized employer to get all the benefits of unionization without paying for them. I don't yet know the number of the bill but will keep you posted.

I again encourage you to sign up for the AFSC (American Friends Service Committee - Quaker) State House Watch [Subscribe here](#) and/or UUANH's email list <https://www.uuactionnh.org/> either of which get you more up-to-date actions to take for social justice.

Namaste,  
Emily

## Soundbites

### The Beloved Community

This is our theme for February at Starr King UU Fellowship, and to me, it ties in well with the kickoff of the Stewardship Campaign for the coming year. If it is our mission to spread more love in the world, then the natural outcome would be then the formation of a beloved community. This lofty goal takes more than just financial capital; it takes commitment to truly welcome all into the fold. That is the challenge we face.

Even through the pandemic times, when physical human contact is nearly impossible, Starr King has carried through on meeting this challenge. Our virtual outreach has opened up our community to so many folks who might not otherwise ever know of us and our mission. Because of the dedication of our volunteer tech team, our Sunday morning services are more seamless and streamlined. Our weekly Facebook meditations reach many people who most likely will never visit our sanctuary in person. Our RE and Social Action offerings keep us connected in our life long learning span. We keep on Moving forward.

I think that it is nearly impossible to totally build the Beloved Community. It is one of those goals that must be tended to and nurtured to bring it to fruition. It can be frustrating to face set backs among those for whom equality and shared love is a waste of time. There is much greed and selfishness in white supremacy, and to constantly combat that with love is difficult, and time worthy.

So, I think on the text of one of our treasured songs, ***There is a Love***. The text by Rev. Rebecca Parker calls us thus: "There is a Love holding us; There is a Love holding all that I love; There is a Love holding all; We rest in this love." To meet the challenge of building Beloved Community, we must know that there is indeed a Love that holds us and offers respite in times of difficulty. This Love - This Grace - is the foundation of all of our work and efforts. Let's keep going that way together.

In Faith,  
Sarah Dan



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## 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](http://starrkingfellowship.org) web page or you can simply go to the url [skuuf.simplechurchcrm.com](http://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](mailto:kmkelsey@gmail.com).

## Office Hours

The Reverend Dr. Linda Barnes is in her office  
Tuesday and Wednesday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM,  
Thursday 10:00 AM. to 3:00 PM or by appointment, 536-8908.

Fellowship Office is open Tuesday through Friday  
8:00 AM to 1:30 PM  
536-8908

## From Your Climate Action Team—

### FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT IS A GROWING SUCCESS

As of April, 2020 a total of over 1,000 institutions and almost 60,000 individuals representing \$14 trillion in assets worldwide had either begun or were committed to a divestment of fossil fuels. In 1980 the fossil fuel industry in the U.S. represented 29% of the S&P 500 stock index. Just 2 years ago that 29% had declined to 5%; today it is just 2%.

The executives of the giant oil industry companies are apparently getting the message that oil drilling will not prove to be as profitable as it once was, as they have very recently shown little interest in spending money to obtain the new rights they've been given to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. At least for now, it is still a worry for environmentalists.

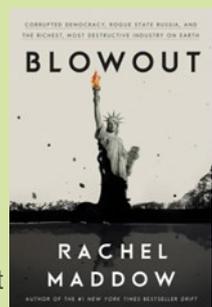
The percentage of our Fellowship's Endowment Fund's assets invested in oil, coal, and gas companies is even more negligible than for the current stock market because most of the Endowment assets are now invested in the UUA Common Endowment Fund (CEF). Actions taken over many years by delegates at UUA General Assemblies and by the overseers of CEF have largely succeeded in their work to divest from these extractive companies.

As we think about the value provided by our Endowment for programs that extend beyond the operating budget, it is heartening to also appreciate that the assets of our Endowment are being invested in companies that align with our Unitarian Universalist values on climate and many other important issues we care about.

There is much to be hopeful for with respect to the declining financial situation for the oil industry. It has not been difficult for stock investors to find alternatives to investments in oil; it must follow that renewable energy companies will have a much brighter financial future.

As will countless numbers of Americans. Divestment from fossil fuel companies is critical for human health and well-being. The negative impact that continues to be borne disproportionately by those who have benefitted the least from fossil fuel extraction and use is immoral. Stated another way, the transfer to renewable sources of energy will benefit those who have suffered the most from the reliance on fossil fuels.

One of the books in the Fellowship's Climate Library we highly recommend for a good read on the subject of the oil industry is Rachel Maddow's "Blowout." This book is a fact-revealing and entertaining account of some of the individual characters and countries who have benefited from oil extraction. Included are serious revelations about the interplay between the executives of Exxon-Mobil and Russia. The most entertaining parts of the book are about lesser-known deal-making characters who have operated in the oil industry.



Your Climate Action Team members are Nancy Chaddock, Kathy Hillier, Margaret Salt, Suellen Skinner, Stew Weldon

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## Report from the “Widening the Circle” Study Group

Six of us met over Zoom to talk about “Hospitality and Inclusion” in UU Congregations. We are a friendly group, so we started with a long check-in - always good to catch up with each other!

We began the discussion by asking who we were widening the circle for: Conservative Republicans? People who are strictly Jewish, strictly Christian, strictly Atheist? Why would they want to join us?

We talked about sharing values with many of the world's religions, but “the way we worship is different.” We all agreed that we appreciate Rev. Linda's services. “She is inspirational, helps people know how to live better lives.”

So instead of changing our services to fit the needs of those who aren't with us, we talked about finding ways to let more people know about us and what we offer. (We aren't really trying to appeal to those who are already comfortable in a religious community. We want to connect with the folks who are searching ~ )

Suggestions included -

- making better use of Face Book
- redesigning our web site to make it “user-friendly”
- when we are back together, inviting speakers on topics of social justice
- having pot lucks before or after evening programs
- (now) including a message each week about the activities we offer
- ending each service (just before separating into break out rooms) with “If you enjoyed this service, please visit our web site to learn more about us”
- when we are back together, having trained greeters

We will be meeting again (over zoom) on **February 23rd at 7:00 PM**. The next topic is “Living Our Values in the World.” Please contact me if you would like to join us so I can send you the material to read ahead.

Cindy Spring

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## Zoom Etiquette

Starr King Fellowship, like so many other organizations, perhaps even your extended family, have adapted to meetings and gatherings held virtually now more than ever. Zoom and other formats have etiquette suggestions that make the experience better for all.

- Location: background should be clean and tidy. You may use a virtual background as well.
- Lighting: any lighting should be in front of you. Close blinds if window is in background.
- Position: camera device should be at eye level and capture from the chest up.
- Noise: mute yourself, unmute to speak. Background noise from any source is amplified.
- Video: turn on as purpose of this format is to connect with others and visual is preferred.
- Appearance: dress appropriately. If you or your device move, it can be embarrassing for all.
- Screenshots: ask permission of participants first and inform all where it will be posted.
- Speaker or gallery view: speaker view is good to focus, gallery view to see others' reactions.

This list has been edited from <https://www.torontonicity.com>

Search “zoom etiquette” for more information.

Smiling, kindness and involvement continues in our fellowship, thanks to a virtual format (and Rev. Linda and many others!) and we are doing as best as we can. With the pandemic and chaos in the world, thank you Zoom.

Jane Clay and the Board

## Racism: A Public Health Crisis

Please join **Starr King's Black Lives Matter Task Force** on **Sunday, February 14 at 2:00 PM** for the fourth workshop in our series on racial equity and justice. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Erick Lansigan.



Dr. Lansigan is the Principal for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Department of Medicine at Dartmouth-Hitchcock. He specializes in Hematology and Oncology and is interested in inequities in health care and medical education.

You can find the link at the Starr King Website ([starrkingfellowship.org](http://starrkingfellowship.org)) under "Zoom Calendar".

Questions? Contact Cindy Spring at [cspring2@mac.com](mailto:cspring2@mac.com).

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## **BLM is Bringing Reggie Back!**

Two years ago the Black Lives Matter Task Force sponsored a concert by Reggie Harris, songwriter and storyteller, and his friend Greg Greenway. They sang with us on Saturday night and led the Service Sunday morning.



Reggie will be leading our Sunday Service on March 7th over zoom (from his home in upstate New York!) He has promised lots of singing, lots of stories, and a chance at the end for comments and questions. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Cindy Spring - for the Black Lives Matter Task Force

## Race in Time

By Tatum Barnes

\*Thank you to those who reached out to me and encouraged me to put this poem in print\*

In the beginning, when humans first arrived, all things were one.  
The Earth was all there was - much in the same way that an infant only knows their Mother.  
But time passed, our brains grew, and soon learned to perceive the boundary between  
ourselves and the environment.

Us and It.

And as we began to grow as individuals, so did our fear.

The more we lived, the more we feared the black grave dirt that would inevitably envelop  
us. We feared the coming of the black night, and the dangers it brought.

For in the darkness, we couldn't see where we were going.

We fell, skinned our knees, and watched with horror as black scabs formed on our bodies.

Surely this couldn't be good.

That's not me...

Could it be?

Time went on, and our brains continued to grow.

We learned to survive the night, to heal our bodies.

We observed how plants loved to grow in the blackest of Earth.

"Hmmm...we could use this" - we thought.

We tilled, we broke the Earth, we put it to work.

We grew stronger from the spoils, and our brains continued to grow.

It learned how to make categories! Seed and root, plant and fruit, this and that.

But the intellect rising in our minds soon cast a shadow

and in the security of villages we encountered another darkness,

The despair, the doubt, the dread. The demons in our heads.

Surely this couldn't be good.

That's not me...

Could it be?

The village expanded

Some went north and some went south

Melanin multiplied or disappeared.

People in different places did things differently

Us and Them. We forgot how things were in the beginning.

Brother against brother

Nation against Nation

They talk different, cook different, smell different...

Surely this couldn't be good.

That's not me...

Could it be?

Dark Ages, Black Plague, Black Magic

White crusaders against brown Muslims

Africa invades Spain and Italy, and folk don't forget.

Europe discovers the world!

And the Dark continent to its south.

The Blackest of Jungles

The Blackest of People

They talk different, cook different, smell different...

"Hmmm...we could use this" - we thought.

We broke these people, we put them to work.

Made them slaves and worked them to death.

For tobacco. For sugar. For cigars. For rum.

Surely this is great

That's not me...

Couldn't be!

Their skin mirrored the darkness we had locked away in our minds

The despair, the doubt, the dread.

And we shot these Black people with arrows of projection.

Devils. Monstrous. Inhuman.

It made it all too easy.

To build the world on the back of black bodies.

So we built the world on the back of black bodies.

We forgot how things were in the beginning.

Our brain made categories out of people.

Made up the idea of race. White race. Black race.

Made up that one was better than the other.

Made up that it was okay to enact horrific violence on one,

Not remembering that we were doing it to ourselves.

Completely imaginary.

Fueled by archaic fear, psychological angst, and simple greed

It became interwoven into government, economy, culture, everything.

So at this point.

We can't just un-imagine it.

And so, Time went on. Our brains continued to grow.

The people began to remember that

In the beginning, when humans first arrived, all things were one.

That the Earth was their mother. That death was a part of living.

That all the people were their family, not matter their language or cuisine,

That the demons in their heads were just parts of us asking to be transformed by Love

They embraced the Earth, and found where it was broken by years of abuse

over-tilled and reduced to dust,

They poured love and support and resources and time and understanding and restitution,

Until it was again beautiful, fertile, black, soil.

And out of that Black soil

A new future took root.

## Book Group Selections

The SKUUF Book Group meets via Zoom the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. Please join the discussion for these selections.

February 9 - Fiction - *The Weight of Ink* by Rachel Kadish

March 9 - Non-fiction - *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson

The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82964373699?pwd=eENPS2s5SnIBVTIMUzFhd3JRb1NPZz09>

## Wise Women

Wise Women to meet February 10 at 10:00 AM on Zoom. This month our guest will be Dr Linda Barnes, Minister of Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Linda will be leading our discussion on a topic we haven't discussed in several years. Reflections on aging and being a crone.

From Linda: "I've been thinking what getting older means in my own heart and mind. I find myself wanting more positive models and language than our culture typically has to offer. Can we frame it in a more positive light using the life stages of womanhood: maiden, mother, and crone? So, let's talk about "Croning," embracing the unexpected gifts of being women of wisdom."

Looking forward to seeing many Wise Women

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81208321511?pwd=bE8wQTdtR2NKS2VKbGtocUdmc29kUT09>

Remember Wise Women is a group for Senior women preferably over 65. We welcome those who are members of Starr King and many who just need women to talk with in our extended community. If you want to be on the Wise Women mailing list please send you email information to [ba-trought@gmail.com](mailto:ba-trought@gmail.com).

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## Monday Morning Men

The Monday Morning Men's Meetings in February will be on February 1 and 15, from 10:00 AM to noon via ZOOM.

## 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, [jhclay@roadrunner.com](mailto:jhclay@roadrunner.com) or 603-996-1207, to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.



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#### **Staff**

The Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes, Minister  
Sarah Dan Jones, Director of Music Ministry  
Tatum Barnes, Director of Religious Education  
Lisa Olech, Office Administrator  
admin@starrkingfellowship.org

#### **Governing Board**

Pres.: Mary Crowell  
Vice Pres.: Jane Clay  
Treasurer: Janet Englund  
Secretary: Stephanie Halter

#### Trustees:

Sandy Mucci  
Stewart Weldon  
Mike Randall  
Diana Pamplin  
Cindy Spring

## **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.