

# STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship  
-A Welcoming Congregation-  
September 2021



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Welcome to our new  
Administrative Assistant,  
Melissa Howard

[Click here to find out what she  
has been doing this summer](#)



**Scaled Down Yard Sale**  
**Scheduled for Saturday, September 11**  
**Books, Jewelry, Puzzles and Board Games**

[Click here for all the details](#)

[Click here to see what our](#)

[Building and Grounds Team has Accomplished this Summer!](#)

## Furnishings Task Force

The "Furnishings Task Force" was formed after receipt of a \$25,000 gift from an anonymous donor. The donors' directive was that the gift be spent to refurbish four areas of the Fellowship and initial project plans have been developed for each area.

For all the information on this exciting project, [click here](#).

## SPECIAL FUNDRAISER -- SPLIT WOOD for Sale!!!

In June, we had 13 members & 4 youth split more than 3 cords of wood to sell as a fundraiser for the Fellowship. All this wood is from the trees that were removed to make room for the solar panels. Two cords of wood are left to be sold.

**Price: \$200/cord or \$100 per half cord**  
(must be able to pick up)



If you are interested, please contact  
Jennifer Gentry at  
[junebug2104@gmail.com](mailto:junebug2104@gmail.com)

## Minister's Newsletter

*We have more possibilities available in each moment than we realize.*

~ Thich Nhat Hanh

I am certain that the earth spins on its axis, turning day into night and night into day. I am certain that the earth revolves around the sun turning summer into fall. But beyond that, certainty is not ours right now. Instead, possibilities are. Indeed, the illusion of certainty may really be what's changed in the last 18 months. The veneer of certainty has peeled off, leaving us without the cover and comfort of believing we know what is next. We simply do not. Even so, possibilities abound and we have some agency in titling what's next in a direction of greater good. Our Soul Matters theme for September is *Embracing Possibilities* - perfect.

We are opening for in-house services on September 12 with our Water Communion service. The Pandemic Response Team has studied and discussed how best to proceed. When we open, we will be offering hybrid services. This means we will gather in-person and online, which ever feels best for you. I trust you to make the best decision for yourself and I trust that we will honor that others will do the same. In the meantime, we'll be doing all we can to keep each other and our children safe.

Your Board of Trustees has been amazing. They and the Building and Grounds committee have done the hard work of planning with and ushering all those electricians, plumbers, floor sanders, painters, carpenters and more who put up our solar panels, our electric boilers, refinished our wood floors, inspected, and more. Members of our Fellowship have made this happen all while striving to keep each other safe and our Fellowship fresh with possibility. I am honestly astonished! If you've not been in the Fellowship for a while, I am excited for you to see the improvements. Still, the building will not be complete until it is peopled again.

My invitation to you, in this time of uncertainty, is to continue in community with each other knowing that things will likely change. Perhaps for the better, perhaps not. We will evaluate our gathering strategies one month at a time, making the best decisions we can with most solid information available to us. We can do no more than that. There is a human need to gather, to mourn and celebrate together, in person. It is a need that we have no way of measuring except by how we feel. There is an a very real longing to be together and we can do that. Dear ones, we do better together, and the possibilities are greater, when we are together online or in person.

In faith and love,  
Rev. Linda

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### Scaled Down Yard Sale

**Scheduled for Saturday, September 11**

**Books, Jewelry, Puzzles and Board Games**

We will be holding a much smaller yard sale this year during the town wide yard sale. It will be held in the upper parking lot and include only the items listed above. This is a good opportunity to clear out some of the books and games and puzzles that helped to get you through the pandemic! Please bring in your items and leave them on the designated tables in the downstairs foyer starting in August. The building will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

#### RENT A TABLE

Do you have more stuff that you want to get rid of? Donate \$10 to the Fellowship and we'll provide you with a table. You provide the items and someone to sell them. We also ask that you dispose of your unsold items.

If you have any questions, contact Mary Hazelton at 603-630-9449.

**Sunday Services** - Live STREEM via ZOOM <https://zoom.us/j/567620881>

## Sunday Services - September 2021

### September 12 Water Communion: The Cure for Anything is Water Rev. Linda Barnes

"The cure for anything is salt water" says author Isak Dinesen, "sweat, tears, and the sea." We'll focus this opening Sunday on the *sweat*, the work we might do together; on *tears* the sweet and sorrowful tears of lament for what has been and may still be; and finally, imagining *the sea* so that we might float for a time gently in the beauty and peace of the earth. This year is so different and perhaps so are we. For this first regular service, we invite you to join us in-person or remotely. Both ways of participating are equally meaningful. Please bring a small sample of water, from the lake, the faucet, even from the ever-present rain, to add to our common gathering.

### September 19 Building Hope in an age of Cynicism Rev. Linda Barnes

Real hope is not optimism, it is deeper than that. Join us on this Sunday as we explore a means by which to live our lives in hope so that we might grow into the people who serve one another, and the world, in ways that bring us into our own worth and potential.

### September 26 A Life Sustaining Society Rev. Linda Barnes

Things are falling apart and it's an incredible time to be alive. Both these things are true. The climate crisis, the pandemic, the truth about white supremacy, and more, can seem like impossible hurdles to overcome. On this Sunday, we'll explore a wisdom that invites us to hold these truths and the possibility that something different, better and more sustainable, is emerging.

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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.

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

*This list has been edited from <https://www.torontonicity.com>  
Search "zoom etiquette" for more information.*

## President's letter

As we move forward into the coming year, I find myself looking back on this past year. It certainly wasn't anything we ever could have imagined, yet through it all our Fellowship not only survived but thrived!

We held every Sunday service from our sanctuary due to our amazing, dedicated staff and a group of volunteers who kept everything running. The solar panels and new boilers are installed despite some bumps in the road! The Board met every month, staying in touch with all that was happening and that needed to be done. Thank you to the dedicated group of volunteers who gave of their time and energy to make sure we kept Starr King the special place that it is.

We were so hopeful that by now things would be back to almost normal but as we all know that is not the case. The Children's Learning Center (CLC) has been renting space downstairs for the last two years. They expected to be in their new "home" this fall, but they have run into difficulties converting the space due to Covid. Because of the delay, they have asked to extend their lease until the end of the year.

The Delta Variant has thrown a bit of a curve ball into our plans as well. We still hope to begin the fall in person, but we will be distanced and masked since our children can not yet be vaccinated. The Pandemic Response Team has met regularly and will continue keeping us up to date on necessary precautions. Happily, the children will be able to meet with Tatum, our DRE.

We will still offer live streaming of our services over Zoom even though we will be meeting once again in the Fellowship building, so attend whichever way makes you most comfortable. Unfortunately, coffee hour will have to wait for a bit.

We have so much to be grateful for even though things aren't quite the way we want. Thank you for staying with us and helping to make Starr King the wonderful Fellowship that it is.

See you on September 12<sup>th</sup> for our water communion service, either in person or on Zoom.

Mary

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## OUTREACH COLLECTION: SEPTEMBER 2021

On Saturday, August 14 a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti, killing at least 2,000 and destroying over 50,000 homes. This devastation is the most recent among many: Haiti, the poorest of the Latin American countries, is still recovering from a hurricane and serious flooding in 2016, and a massive earthquake that left 200,000 dead in 2010. To add to the current challenge less than 1% of the population has been vaccinated, and the nation's top leadership has been in turmoil following the assassination of the President in early July.

At this time massive assistance is needed. Basic needs for survival are paramount: food, water, and shelter are all in critically short supply and the lack of basic infrastructure creates a challenge for getting food and medical care to all.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is working with locally led, grassroots Haitian organizations that know and understand the need, and the best way to distribute aid. These organizations work directly with the victims and understand the perils of a country in collapse.

The funds we raise through our September outreach collection will be sent to the UUSC's emergency response fund, and will provide critical resources to Haitian grassroots organizations.

Donations may be sent several ways: by check to the Starr King UU Fellowship mailbox – Box 337, Plymouth 03264; by using the donate button on Starr King's homepage, or by placing your donation in the collection plate at a service--- in person!!

Questions? Please contact Kathy Hillier @ 603-536-1572.

## Melissa Howard and What It Takes to Run a Church

Welcome to Melissa Howard who has good naturedly engaged in some 40+ hours of training to learn all the applications needed to keep SKUUF operating smoothly.

1. Simple Church for the
  - a. member database
  - b. group emails
  - c. maintaining member groups such as Soul Matters, Board, and Committees
  - d. forms entry such as pledge submissions and endowment requests including automated email notifications of the submission to appropriate committee members.
  - e. scheduling and calendar
2. Zoom for virtual meetings
3. MailChimp for the Weekly View and mail lists
4. WIX for our web site
5. Vimeo for uploading service videos to the cloud
6. MS Office 365 SharePoint for our cloud document repository
7. Windows 10 and MS Office 365 for backups
8. Administrative support for the treasurer and outsourced bookkeeper.
9. Application Integrations
  - a. Keeping emails and addresses in sync between Simple Church, MailChimp and Finance
  - b. Simple Church membership integrated with MailChimp
  - c. Simple Church calendar integrated with our WIX Web Page
  - d. WIX website integrated with MailChimp
  - e. Automated email notifications when a member joins or resigns
10. And then there's still submitting service information to the Newspaper, Order of Service to create, answer phone questions, collecting, opening, and disbursing the mail, and assisting Rev. Linda with a myriad of tasks.

Phew!! Who knew our little church requires so many skills. Thanks to Melissa for her quick skill mastery and good nature to keep us going strong.

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### 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.

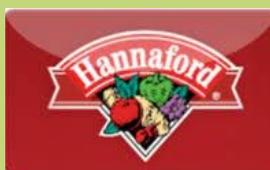
Fellowship Office is open Tuesday through Thursday  
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
536-8908

### JUST A REMINDER~

**Hannaford Cards are always available to  
purchase during office hours.**

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**

**8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**



## Braggin' on the Building & Grounds (B&G) team!

A BIG round of applause goes to all that has been accomplished in the last couple of months!



**THE BOILER PROJECT:** Babe (Ray) DeRaymond, Project Manager (They do look small, don't they?)

**REPAIR BACK CORNER OF FELLOWSHIP:** Babe (Ray) DeRaymond & Brian Haskins (The ugly pink insulation is gone!)



**PAINTING GURU:** Richard Odman (He is amazing how good & quick he is!)

**BACK ENTRYWAY**



**ADMIN OFFICE**



**MEETING ROOM (LOWER LEVEL )**

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## Soundbites

Welcome to another year at Starr King UU Fellowship.

When we last met, it was a wonderful outdoor service where we were able to be together in safe space and worship. There was so much that went into that service and I am always grateful to our volunteers who make things happen for us all.

Now we will gather again, this time indoors in the sanctuary, on September 12, 2021. I appreciate the Pandemic Team that has taken a look at current situations and science to guide our path in coming together safely. Toward that end, we will meet masked and not singing as a community. While I understand that directive, it does make me sad and disappointed. And, I realize that having us together in worship is important in the form it needs to take. Be prepared to offer some accompaniment with rhythm and humming!

The choir will also meet weekly, in person as long as we can. As we did in the past year, we will be recording some music for worship, and supporting one another in our small group. The schedule for choir will be at the Fellowship on Thursdays at 6pm – 7pm, masked and distanced.

As I do every year, I revisit my own personal Mission, which is “to spread the good news of Unitarian Universalism through congregational singing, shared ministry and active participation in the Association”. At least moving forward for now, I will be concentrating on the middle tenet of shared ministry. Maybe it is time to rewrite that Mission to reflect where we currently rest.

So, here goes: “My Mission is to spread hope and possibility that Unitarian Universalism offers. I will do this through community worship, shared ministry and embracing learnings offered by the Association”. That seems to fit better what I am able to do with purpose and intention.

See ya’ll in church!

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).

## Black Lives Matter Committee

Yes, we are now a Committee!

The Black Lives Matter Task Force is now **the Black Lives Matter Committee**. At an in-person retreat at SKUUF on August 22nd, the Task Force members agreed to continue their work as a Committee. **Cindy Spring** has agreed to chair the new Committee during the coming transition year.

### New Members Invited

We invite new members to join the Black Lives Matter Committee and to help us as we rededicate ourselves to the **mission of racial justice and equity** in our Fellowship, our communities, and our society. Contact Cindy Spring if you are interested in joining the Committee!

Summer Service, Sunday, August 29th, 9:30 am

The Black Lives Matter Committee will lead the final **Summer Service** this Sunday, August 29, 2021, at 9:30 am by Zoom. Join us to learn more about our ongoing education and community engagement efforts.

BLM Workshop, Sunday, September 19th, 2:00 pm

The BLM Committee will continue the successful monthly workshops that we have held this year over Zoom. On Sunday, September 19th, at 2:00 pm, join us for a virtual workshop, "**Racism, Not Race**," led by Committee member **Dr. Suzanne Gaulocher**.

Racial disparities in health—such as we have seen in the COVID pandemic—are not caused by biology, but are the result of systems that disproportionately impact communities of color. In a recent *Scientific American* article, Claudia Wallis states, "*Race* doesn't put you at higher risk. *Racism* puts you at higher risk." Structural racism places people of color at greater risk of harm throughout their lives, through lack of access to adequate nutrition and health care, sub-standard construction in housing and schools, environmental toxins at home and at work, and frontline exposure to disease and other health risks. The loss of human potential harms our entire society, and awakening to this realization can help our country heal.

Go to [starrkingfellowship.org](http://starrkingfellowship.org) for the Zoom link.

The Black Lives Matter Committee:

Cindy Spring	Nancy Chaddock
Suzanne Gaulocher	Eric Stern
Paul Phillips	Stew Weldon

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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.

## Notes from the BLM Workshop - June 13, 2021

Our zoom workshops always begin with a **“land acknowledgement”**: *This meeting takes place on N'Dakinna, which is the unceded traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Pennacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land, waterway, living beings and the Aln8bak, the people who have stewarded NDakinna throughout the generations.*

Our guest speaker was **Michael Kim Cuddihy**, an Asian-American man who grew up in Coös County, New Hampshire, and now lives in the Plymouth Area. He began by telling us about the anti-Asian racism he had experienced as a child. Michael is South Korean and was adopted at an early age by an Irish-American family. He remembered being taunted by white children in school when he was 7. When he complained, he was told that it was just “kids being kids”. Michael said that he didn’t “fit in” with either white people or Korean people and always felt “different” growing up.

As an adult he is trying to understand why people feel the need to taunt others and **how we can teach anti-racism to our children**. Michael says that anti-Asian racism is under-reported because Asians are known as a “model minority” - they don’t complain, they just keep to themselves. Some feel that Asian folks are luckier, but the reality is that they have been silenced. White people are happy to amplify Asian culture, but not Asian-American voices.

**The racism in our area is real.** Last summer Michael was threatened at gun point in front of his children on the Plymouth Common. His children have also experienced anti-Asian comments in school.

During our discussion, we talked about “generational guilt” - who are we protecting by not teaching children about racism? Michael suggests that we **start in small ways** - make a choice to speak up. Support businesses owned by Black, indigenous and other people of color. We need to meet racism “head on” - allow children who have experienced racism to talk about it and **validate their feelings!** Children have less bias, can lead us forward if we are willing to ask the questions and talk about the issues. “Why did you use that slur? How do you think that person felt?” Be willing to look at the background - where did that language and that feeling come from? “Unpack it”. We need to create safe space for children - to start the conversation early.

We talked about the possibility of holding **“Family And Community Together Suppers” (FACTS)**, where community members eat together and then reflect on questions about racism. Often this will lead to the telling of personal stories, sometimes at the table, but also afterwards in one-on-one conversations in the parking lot.

Thank you to all who attended. This was the Black Lives Matter task force’s last public workshop until fall. If you missed it, you can watch the recording on our website: <https://www.starkingfellowship.org/social-justice>.

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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.*



## Guidelines for worship services and meetings for children and youth during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Fall 2021

Your Starr King Ad Hoc Committee on Safety during the Pandemic met recently to update guidelines to protect our Fellowship community. We expressed our strong optimism for a future where guidelines are no longer needed. We are not there yet, but, **with the vaccines and masking, we are pleased that we can once again gather in person beginning with our Water Communion Sunday on September 12.**

Our knowledge about the COVID-19 pandemic changes constantly, as do conditions such as variants of the virus and community infection rates. The guidelines below are based on the currently available scientific information and updated UUA guidelines. They take risk into account, while maximizing our opportunities to gather in person and to both include and protect our children and youth.

### Guidelines:

**Please join us in person if you are vaccinated and willing to wear a well-fitting mask.** This is to protect all of us, but most particularly, to protect our children under 12 who do not yet have access to the vaccine by reducing risk for them and for their parents.

If you are not vaccinated or vaccinated and not comfortable wearing a mask, or just not comfortable with in-person gatherings at this time, please join us remotely. We will continue using Zoom so those who cannot join us in person can participate in our services.

Physical distancing will be in place. Of course, couples and families can sit together.

Our children under 12 will meet downstairs, wearing masks and observing distancing guidelines, in a room with an air purifier, once it is too cold to gather outdoors.

Our youth group members who are vaccinated will meet in the Sanctuary, distanced and masked.

**The second Sunday of every month will be Family Sunday.** For that service, we will welcome our children and youth to join us in the sanctuary. The children, youth and parents will need to wear masks along with the rest of us.

All adults who work with children and youth must be vaccinated and wear masks.

No coffee hour (sigh) until further notice. While the weather permits, we can socialize outdoors after the service. The UUA recommends masks even outdoors, and we agree.

Expect that anyone speaking from the pulpit or the piano will remove their mask while speaking.

The UUA recommends no singing. We are working with Sarah Dan on ways the choir can participate safely at times.

Please refer to our website at [starrkingfellowship.org](http://starrkingfellowship.org) for building use guidelines for committees and groups.

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

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



## Furnishings Task Force Update

The "Furnishings Task Force" was formed after receipt of a \$25,000 gift from an anonymous donor and includes Darlene Nadeau, Sandy Mucci, Kathy Kelsey, Judi Hall and myself. The donors' directive was that the gift be spent to refurbish four areas of the Fellowship and we've developed initial project plans for each area:

**Upstairs foyer:** Our focus is to acquire new furniture and add some finishing touches to the renovation project undertaken a few years ago.

- *What you'll see in September:* a newly painted entry to the sanctuary and a custom wall unit for Orders of Service and other sanctuary-related items. A new floorplan to improve flow and accessibility.
- *What's to come:* new seating and dedicated gallery space.

**Small meeting room:** With Rev Linda's input, this room is being repurposed to serve as a comfortable space for small groups, such as Soul Matters, to meet, as well as for Rev Linda to use to meet with congregants.

- *What you'll see in September:* old furniture & whiteboard removed and newly painted walls.
- *What's to come:* new furniture, lighting and rugs.

**Downstairs conference room:** Work on this room has to wait until CLC's lease ends later this fall but the focus will be a set up for meetings requiring a conference table.

- *What's to come:* repainted walls, refinished conference table, whiteboard and a new printer.

**Downstairs foyer:** This area is our biggest project and will have to wait, in part, until CLC exits, as it will include repurposing the space at the foot of the stairs.

- *What you'll see in September:* old furniture removed, newly painted wall in entryway.
- *What's to come:* new furniture, new lighting, newly painted walls, new signage, a designated child-friendly area as well as a re-designed library & materials area for adults. The task force is looking forward to input from Tatum and others to make the best use of this space as well as to make it more welcoming.

**And, the administrator's office:** With the help of B&G (Jennifer & Richard) and prior to our new office administrator, Melissa's arrival, the office was cleaned out, old & excess furniture removed, new curtains installed and the walls repainted. And next week, the old rickety desk will be replaced with a like-new PSU surplus desk Stephanie Halter found for us.

Submitted by: Janet Englund

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## Got Lunch Plymouth Completes it's Ninth Successful Summer

Feeding Plymouth's children over the long summer vacation has become our commitment, and we are now joined by partners across the community. Pandemic caution led us to minimize volunteer exposure, and a small team worked out of the fellowship hall each Monday to pack family and individual bags for a week's work of lunch supplies for our families. Five driving teams delivered the food, and dropped the food at the family's front doors. Bags included the usual lunch supplies, farm stand coupons, and means to purchase dairy products and fruits for the week.

Familiar faces included: Food coordinator Louise Randal, who notes that the food bank in Manchester was a great help in stretching our resources. Nancy Chaddock worked on the driving routes again this year, as well as serving as our financial manager. Paul Tierny served again as early bird summer volunteer, picking up the Hannaford order and more. Joe Kelaghan and Margaret Salt were available for packing, driving and coordination help as needed.

Since Got Lunch Plymouth originated at Starr King, we maintain a home base and storage in this building, and like to keep everyone informed! Thanks to all for your wonderful support!

Margaret Salt

## Wait, There's Something New? Well, Yes and No.

### Soul Matters for 2021 – 22

We have been using the Soul Matters themed ministry for five years. I still love it and want to continue to use it. And, it's time to try something fresh. Aply, the theme for this month is *Embracing Possibility*.

Here's what won't change. We will continue to use the monthly themes to frame and inform our worship services and our religious education curriculum. The packets are a rich source of insight into the monthly topics. There's something there for everyone - including videos, music, quotes, and podcasts all of which encourage us to think and feel more deeply about how we want to live our lives.

Here's what's new. Each month we'll select a single spiritual practice that we, as a community, might engage in together. This will offer us a common ground from which to have conversations, to learn more about ourselves, and each other. If you want to explore the topic more fully in community, we will provide that possibility too. If you've been part of the small group ministry of Soul Matters in the past, you know that the greatest rewards come from the conversations with others around the topics.

For those who would like to meet in community to discuss the spiritual practice and the packet, we will be meeting on the third Wednesday evening of each month. We will gather from 6:30 until 8:30 pm in the sanctuary at our Fellowship. For now, this will be our small group ministry. I will be there to facilitate the group conversation. As with anything new, we get to decide and change things as needed and as we like. In other words, we get to change our minds if we want. Because there is already an event on the third Wednesday of September, we will hold this first meeting on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I hope you'll join me in engaging the spiritual exercise for this month. If you're interested in a Zoom format for remote gathering please let me know at [minister@starrkingfellowship.org](mailto:minister@starrkingfellowship.org) and we'll make that possible too.

So, here's your spiritual practice for the month of September, should you choose to accept it, here is your assignment:

#### **The Word(s) that Unlocked Your Potential & Possibility**

Spend the month identifying the word or sentence that made possibility emerge for you.

Maybe it was something a teacher said to you. Or a hard truth told to you with tough love by a friend. Maybe it was something you read in a book or heard in a movie. For some it will be the thing your parent said to you over and over. For a few it will be something that came to you in a dream, or out of a fortune cookie. Often it will be something that woke you up or gave you courage to defy some societal or familial expectation that was keeping you small. For many of us, it was something someone said that began with, "I see in you..."

Don't keep this exercise in your own head. Ask others what word or sentence changed their life, opened them to new possibilities. Hearing their special words will undoubtedly shake loose your own.

~ Rev. Linda

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## Message from the Director of Religious Education

Dear Starr King Fellowship,

Serving as your Director of Religious Education last year was a great joy, and I'm beyond excited to reprise my role. It's fantastic to be able to build upon what I've learned, and...

What's that? This year is going to be completely different from last year? With its own unique challenges and opportunities? Okay...well...onwards with optimism!

In truth, some things will remain the same. I'll still be telling stories during Sunday worship. Religious Education classes will still be bringing quality moral and spiritual education to the youngest members of our fellowship. And the Youth Group will still be congregating to simultaneously wrestle with Life's questions and devour snacks. Here's what's new:

You are cordially invited to join us for worship on Sundays, in-person!! RE Volunteers will be providing supervision for unvaccinated children either outside, or masked and distanced in the foyer downstairs. All SKUUF staff, and all RE volunteers are vaccinated. **The second Sunday of every month will be Family Sunday.** For that service, we will welcome our children and youth to join us in the sanctuary. The children, youth and parents will need to wear masks along with the rest of us. The Kid's Corner will be available and stocked with freshly disinfected toys and super-fun manipulatives. All Covid protocols are in place with the health and safety of our children in mind.

To learn more about Religious Education and Youth Group, please join me and Rev. Linda for a Families Night, September 15th, at 6:00 pm. We'll go over our intentions for a Religious Education curriculum, discuss our COVID-19 protocols, and hear from you. A Zoom option will be made available for those who can not attend in-person.

If you're still reading this lengthy treatise:

1. I thank you profusely

2. You may have noticed that I mentioned RE Volunteers. Well here's the thing...

**We need RE Volunteers throughout the year!** If you're fully vaccinated, motivated by providing a meaningful service for your community, and interested in experiencing the good medicine of working with youth, then I have a job for you! I will provide detailed instructions for programming and lesson plans for you to implement - it couldn't be easier or more fun! **Rev. Linda and I need at least 2 volunteers for the evening of September 15th.**

If you are interested in helping out, please contact me by September 6th.

Feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns

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

It's going to be a great year folks.

Ever Forward,  
Tatum Barnes

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## Reminder from the Treasurer -

When you write a check to pay your pledge, please indicate on the memo line whether the payment is for FY 21 (the year which ran through June 30, 2021), or for FY 22 (our current pledge year which started July 1, 2021).

## Wise Women

After 10+ years, the final meeting of the Wise Women in Training group will be held over zoom on Wednesday, September 22nd from 10:30 to 11:30. If you have ever been a member of this group, please come to share memories and for a final “check-in” with each other. Cindy Spring will be facilitating. Please contact her with questions ([cspring2@mac.com](mailto:cspring2@mac.com)). Here is the link:

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

## Men's Group

The SKUUF Men's Group will gather on the first and third Mondays of September, September 6 (Labor Day) and September 20 from 10:00 AM to noon either in person or via ZOOM (to be determined).

## Book Group News

The SKUUF book group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. If you'd like to be on the email list for the zoom link and book group announcements, please email either [ad-min@starrkingfellowship.org](mailto:ad-min@starrkingfellowship.org) or [kmkelsey@gmail.com](mailto:kmkelsey@gmail.com) or call the office at (603) 536-8908. The group has chosen the following to discuss.

September 14 - ***Death Comes to the Archbishop*** by Willa Cather.

October 12 - ***Salsa, Soul, and Spirit: Leadership for a Multicultural Age*** by Juana Bordas

November 9 - ***Murder in Old Bombay*** by Nev March

December 14 - ***The Accidental President, Harry Truman and the four months that changed the world*** by A. J. Baize

January 11 - ***Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens

February 8 - ***Lab Girl*** by Hope Jahren

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**Don't miss Fellowship member Rebecca Noel's online presentation:**

### **New Hampshire Abolitionist Nathaniel Peabody Rogers**

**Friday, September 3rd at 5 pm**

New Hampshire native Nathaniel Peabody Rogers was a successful attorney and father of eight when he walked away from his Plymouth, NH law practice in the 1830s to begin a dangerous and nearly unpaid gig editing a Concord-based anti-slavery newspaper, the *Herald of Freedom*.

Plymouth State University historian **Rebecca R. Noel** tells the story of this feisty abolitionist, one of the so-called “New Hampshire radicals.” Rogers sheltered fugitives in Plymouth and Concord, co-founded the integrated Noyes Academy in Canaan, networked with major abolitionists including Frederick Douglass and William Lloyd Garrison, and wrote passionate, searing essays against slavery and racism. Join us for this fascinating (and always free!) *Humanities to Go Online* program via Zoom.

In order to register for this free program, click here [New Hampshire Humanities : New Hampshire Abolitionist Nathaniel Peabody Rogers \(nhhumanities.org\)](#). You will then be sent the zoom link.

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#### **Staff**

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

#### **Governing Board**

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

#### Trustees:

Cindy Spring  
Sandy Mucci  
Stewart Weldon  
Richard Odman  
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## **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.