

# STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship  
-A Welcoming Congregation-  
April 2024



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## GAME NIGHT FOR ALL AGES



**Saturday April 6**

**6:00 TO 8:00 PM**

**ADMISSION BY DONATION**

**FUNDS GO TO THE  
SKUUF YOUTH GROUP  
JOIN US FOR**

**GROUP ACTIVITIES, BOARD GAMES, CHARADES  
AND MORE!**

**SNACKS WILL BE AVAILABLE!**

**101 Fairgrounds Rd, Plymouth NH 03264**



[For all the details...  
Click Here](#)

# Spring Fling

**STAR  
KING  
UU  
FELLOW  
SHIP**

## FUNDRAISER

**SAT, APRIL 13**

**FEATURING MUSIC BY**



**the  
DREAMERS**

**DOORS 5:30**

## Sunday Services

### **April 7 Lunar eclipse, Solar eclipse, Apocalypse! Rev. Sunshine and the Moonbeams**

For this, our traditional April Fools' service, we will shine hilarity and good humor on all who attend. Join us as we make this a pre-eclipse event you'll not want to miss.... unless of course, it's cloudy.

### **April 14 Living Well in Place Rev. Linda Barnes**

Imagine so belonging to a place that you feel your bones were made of the very rock beneath your feet. Imagine reminding yourself that the air you breathe comes from those trees that surround you, the greenery putting into the atmosphere exactly what you need to survive. Imagine now reciprocity, how it is that you contribute to the wellbeing of a place. Join us on Sunday as we reflect on belonging and living well in place.

### **April 21 What the World Needs Now, Is Love, Sweet Love Margaret Rieser, Ministerial Intern**

On this Earth Day we will explore the mutual relationship we have with this planet; the ways we love it and the ways it loves us back.

### **April 28 All My Relations Rev. Linda Barnes**

*Interbeing*...Buddhist Thich Nhat Hanh uses this word to describe our deep interconnectedness to one another past, present, and future. In it, we learn that we are more than this moment, we came to be through our ancestors and hold the dreams of those yet to come. For this service, we'll explore interbeing and our connectedness to all our relations.

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Friday of the month at 6:00 PM

For an end-of-week slow down,  
come for 30 minutes of contemplation  
followed with pizza and fellowship.

### **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 the bottom of this page [Sunday Services | Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | Plymouth, NH](#) ([starrkingfellowship.org](http://starrkingfellowship.org)) on our website

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

## Minister's Newsletter

*Compassion is the keen awareness  
of the interdependence of all things.*

~ Thomas Merton

We are scarcely aware of how deeply connected we are to the world we inhabit. Materially through the food we eat, often mindlessly, and the air we breathe. Then there's the people we live with, those we interact with daily and those whose lives intermittently intersect with our own. We become so accustomed to their presence that we naturally take them for granted and are taken for granted ourselves. But we shouldn't and we needn't. There's a reward for awareness of these connections - a sense of belonging and a deeper appreciation for our interconnectedness. We become better aware that we are one among many who have feelings as deep as our own, fears and worries as troublesome as our own. Lives being lived alongside ours. We can bring this awareness about by setting aside just a moment each day to acknowledge all those ways other lives touch our own. When we do this, we can grow our compassion. "Compassion" says theologian Thomas Merton, "is the keen awareness of the interdependence of all things." This speaks to our Soul Matters theme for the month of April, *The Gift of Interdependence*. Join me in taking a moment, maybe each morning or every evening to appreciate and grow compassion for all those with whom we share this planet. In doing this, we both make our lives richer and our world a kinder place. It starts right there in your own heart.

We might also become aware of all the ways we are interconnected in our own Fellowship community. Here at the Fellowship those that make the coffee or serve as worship associates during the services touch all those that engage on Sunday morning. Those who sing, those who connect with one another are making the world a more compassionate and loving place. It takes just a little noticing to bring about appreciation. Those who work the video camera and Zoom connection bring ten or more people to our fellowship each week remotely. Those who reach out to check in. There is so much more. Think of the ways, big and little, that you too are interconnected, at the very least reading the Newsletter today or simply attending on Sunday. Your engagement makes a difference to all those around you. You too are connected.

In love and faith,  
Rev. Linda

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**Date with Death Club**  
Developed by Karen G. Johnston, MSW, MDiv  
Presented by Rev. Linda Barnes

The Date with Death Club (DwDC) curriculum explores mortality in community. This month's session is on

**April 21      Grief: Loving & Losing, Learning & Living**

Classes meet from 1:00 until 3:00 PM on Sunday afternoons. Join us for one session or all, and please feel free to invite friends and family! Hope to see you there 'cause we all got a date with death.

Rev. Linda

## President's Letter—April 2024

Signs of Spring are returning after being “buried” a week ago. The immediate Plymouth area seemed calm, but the mess of snow, ice, rain, sleet and extensive power outages gave good reason to cancel worship. Thank you for understanding—our mission reminds us, we cultivate and nurture more love... by staying home and safe.

Volunteers do so much of the work in our Fellowship by serving on committees, task forces, small groups, RE teachers, Smooth Sunday teams, the Board and more. The Board currently functions with 5 trustees, and a president, secretary, and treasurer. The Vice-president position has been vacant this year. After much consideration and discussion with the Nominating Committee, the board is proposing a change to Article 10 of the Bylaws for the terms and names of positions. There will be an informational presentation and discussion following the worship service on Sunday April 21 and another session via Zoom on Monday April 29 in the evening. I sincerely hope you will be able to attend one of the scheduled informational meetings. With our annual meeting scheduled for May 19, we want everyone to be informed to make the best decisions for our Fellowship. Mark your calendars with these important dates.

Jane Clay

## Board's Bulletin

- Auction April 13
- Annual Meeting May 19
- Leadership Structure: President Elect, President, and Past President
- Volunteers needed for RE and Membership

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

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## Painting in Hallway outside RE Classrooms

The Board, in consultation with the Religious Education program volunteers, has authorized the Building and Grounds committee to repaint the hallway outside of the three RE classrooms. This fresh clean space will provide display space for children's artwork and projects. As always, if you have questions or concerns please speak to any board member.



## Soundbites

Interdependence.

I have been mulling over our theme for April and it takes me down several different paths of thoughts. The one I land on most is a definition of "community".

There is an African folk lore that suggests that an individual is born with a song that is uniquely theirs. It is sung when one is born, when one celebrates milestones, when one needs to be held accountable and when one dies. This song, while it is connected to just one being, belongs to the community as a mean of celebration, authenticity and interdependence. It is not meant to be sung as a solo, but rather as a reminder that we are nothing without support from the wider choir of which we are all a part.

What would your song be? How does it serve not only yourself but the larger community? When have you sung your song to bring you back into right relationship with the greater good? How often have you needed to hear this song sung by others to remind you of where your place is in the whole?

Maybe our song changes as we continue to grow and encounter different people, places and experiences. Yet, somewhere there is a common tune that binds us to all that is holy and which keeps us grounded. I encourage you all to explore what that might sound like to you, both individually and as part of the community in which you live and breathe.

See yall in church,

Sarah Dan



### SCHEDULE:

April 7 - Sarah Dan, musician

April 14 - Mary Hazelton, Mary Macintosh and  
Ray DeRaymond, musicians

April 21 - Sarah Dan and choir

April 28 - Sarah Dan and choir

Choir meets every Thursday in the Sanctuary at 6pm for rehearsal.

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### SKUUF LENDING LIBRARY

Next time you're in the downstairs lobby, take a look at our lending library. It has recently been refreshed and has many new titles. Some of the new selections focus on LGBTQ+ topics as part of the Welcoming Congregation renewal. Other subjects deal with grief and loss. Both children's and adult books are included.

To check out a book, write your name on the library card in the front of the book and place the card in the card file box. Please return the book in a reasonable amount of time, one month suggested.



## From your DRE

### Religious Education and Youth Groups

This past month in Religious Education we have been exploring the theme of Transformation. On Sunday mornings, the children and the RE teachers have been finding ways to better understand the value of transformation and how it fits into our UU faith. As a group, they searched for signs of spring, made transformative art pieces, played games that helped us to practice being flexible, and also learned about the celebrations of Ramadan and Holi. The children have also been learning more about the transformation the UU faith is currently undergoing in updating the seven principles to seven shared values in Article 2.



The RE Committee is always searching for more RE teachers - if you are interested in learning more about what it is like, or how to get involved with RE in some other way, please reach out to [dre@starrkingfellowship.org](mailto:dre@starrkingfellowship.org)! Or, you can also talk to Nancy Dowey, who can be found most Sundays with a sign-up sheet before/after the service at the Fellowship.

Both our Middle and High School Youth Groups have been very active this month. They will be hosting another Game Night For All Ages on Saturday, April 6th. We are excited to have a few new members attending and the groups have been working together to make some bigger plans for next year. The first Sunday in April will be an intergenerational service and the youth will play a big part in this worship service (this will also be the annual celebration of April Fool's Day). Looking ahead, on April 28th, the RE Committee will be hosting a Bog Walk at Quincy Bog, starting at 11:30 am. Keep your eyes out for a poster with more information soon!

We are so grateful for the joyful and excited energy our youth bring to the Fellowship, and for all the dedicated volunteers that help make our youth programs possible!

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## Spring Auction April 13

Join us for bidding, food, and fun at the annual auction fundraiser! (Bring your friends!) **Doors open at 5:30 pm** for the Silent Auction. Start enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres, beverages, wine and beer (cash by donation), while bidding high & often. We will be entertained by [The Dreamers](#), Paul Hubert and Kathi Sheer, who hail from Ashland, starting at 6:30. See you there!

**The online catalog for our annual spring fundraiser auction is LIVE!**

**Go to:** <https://auctria.events/skuuf2024auction>

If you haven't already done so, check out the more than 200 items available!! There are hikes, gift certificates, jewelry, artwork, dinners and all kinds of experiences and fun & fine things – truly something for everyone! Take a look and start bidding now!

You can also visit the Starr King [auction page](#) on our website for the link to the catalog. Don't forget to send the link to your family & friends – you don't have to be a Starr King member to bid!

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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, \$15 per pound. Please Contact Bob and Jane Clay, 603-996-1207 or [claysusanj@gmail.com](mailto:claysusanj@gmail.com), to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.



## Climate Action Committee

### Our Fellowship's Investment in ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance)

In the news lately are the reports of directors of State pension funds and funds of other groups taking action to remove their assets from investment in portfolios managed by firms that consider ESG in their choice of stock holdings. The main reason for this current flurry of disinvestment activity relates to fossil fuels, particularly in states where oil-producing companies have a strong presence.

Less than 4% of the U.S. stock market, measured by the S&P 500 Index, is invested in the energy sector, down from about 15% in the 1970's. However, about 10% of that Index's earnings are currently being generated by energy stocks, and that 10% primarily being earned by the stocks of oil and natural gas companies. U.S. electric generation by energy source is currently about 60% fossil fuels and 21% renewables. Our nation's largest banks continue to help finance the production of fossil fuels. Frustration over the attachment to fossil fuels is great on the part of climate activists, justifiably anxious about the current need for a much greater and quicker transfer out of fossil fuels and into renewables.

*What does all this mean with respect to our Fellowship's investments?* Well, for starters, our Fellowship monies in reserve are held locally in Bank of New Hampshire. No climate-related issues for us there.

About 90% of our Endowment's assets are invested in the Unitarian Universalist Common Endowment Fund (CEF), and the other 10% in the NH Community Loan Fund. The CEF is a \$250 million fund available for investment by UU congregations and other UU affiliated groups. The CEF has a long history of investing in ESG, extending back to the time it was (and still is, by the UUA), referred to as "socially responsible investing." The Investment Committee at CEF continues to do all it can to integrate Unitarian Universalist values into its investment decisions in order to support those values to the fullest extent possible. And to do so in a responsible and timely manner when called upon by UUA membership. For example, an action of significant importance for climate justice took place within the past year:

The CEF holds no stocks in fossil fuel-producing companies. Yet prior to General Assembly last June, the CEF *did* hold shares in some of those companies, essentially for the purpose of being eligible to take action at the annual shareholder meetings of those companies to assist in the movement away from fossil fuels. However, the dollar amount of CEF money invested in fossil fuels for this purpose was too great to ignore. Young Adults attending General Assembly last June urged the UUA to sell those holdings, and that action was taken by the CEF Investment Committee.

The CEF is a global, well-diversified investment fund with a moderate amount of risk, able to achieve its long-term investment goal (and our Fellowship's goal as well), to: maintain the dollar value of contributions originally made to the Fund, after taking into account inflation, withdrawals and expenses.

There is a good, solid argument to be made that over the next decade and beyond, investment in the stocks of companies formed and being formed to create and produce clean, renewable energy will grow significantly in value and earnings, and with greater speed as we move in that direction.

It is comforting to know that our UU values are being put to work in CEF in a manner we expect will help to grow the well-being of our Fellowship's Endowment, planet earth, and the people who most need climate justice.

*Happy Earth Day!*

Nancy Chaddock, for the Climate Action Committee





## Third Thursday Climate Workshops—April 2024

How your home, church, and community buildings can be more energy efficient and sustainable. **Fourth in a monthly climate series.**

**Thursday, April 18, 6:30 pm What's New in Solar, plus Tax Credits and Rebates**

**Presented by Ted Vasant, Starr King UU Fellowship**

**Ted Vasant**, Founder and President of New England Commercial Solar Services (NECSS) has 18 years of solar energy expertise in systems for businesses, schools, towns and non-profits across New England.



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**Register** separately for each free zoom on our webpage at

**UUActionNH.org**

**Please donate**

If you like these presentations, Your financial support will help us to do more. Visit our website for legislative actions and more.

## Save The Date!

### 2024 UU Action NH Annual Meeting

**“We Are Climate Voters!”**

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

**9:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Concord UU Church**

**274 Pleasant Street, Concord NH**

**Register and donate at [www.uuactionnh.org](http://www.uuactionnh.org)**

**Thank you!**

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## Unitarian Universalist General Assembly

It is time again to consider signing up for our General Assembly. This time GA is only “virtual”; no planes to catch, no uncomfortable hotel beds, no crowds. Instead you can fix yourself a cup of tea and settle in for three days of workshops, worship services and business meetings.

*General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith and lean fully into our mission and principles. Please join us online **Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23, 2024** for this 4-day immersive experience where we participate in inspirational worship services and informative workshops, and explore our virtual exhibit hall.*

Nancy Chaddock and I have been attending this way for the last few years and have found it very inspiring. Best of all, our Endowment Committee is willing to cover the registration fee.

Please contact us if you have questions or concerns.

Cindy Spring



## Outreach Offering April 2024

### New Hampshire Queer Farmer Network

In a political climate of increasing queer marginalization, the NH Queer Farmer Network embraces queer joy, possibility, and thriving in direct relationship with land and place. The NH Queer Farmer Network is growing and sustaining a community of queer-identified farmers by cultivating spaces wherein queer farmers can share resources, connect as a community, and provide a farming-centered, queer-inclusive space in the state. From dance parties to solstice rituals, from farm tours to workshops, our events center queer belonging and connection while also addressing concrete realities from compost to workplace communication. We want to encourage the wholeness, authenticity, and safety of the people who grow food and tend land in our state, of all genders and sexualities. We believe centering the perspectives of LGBTQ+ farmers not only works to counteract the marginalization and discrimination that queer folks have experienced in agriculture. It shines a light through a prism that illuminates entrenched challenges in a system that, frankly, doesn't work well for anyone, while also revealing new possibilities to address them.

In addition to our events, we maintain an active social media presence on Instagram (@nhqueerfarmers), which we use to promote our programming and to share reflections on queerness and land, and have a listserv of 90 members. The coordinator, UU minister Rev. Ariel Aaronson-Eves, builds an agricultural chaplaincy through 1:1 conversations and farmer visits that create a foundation of relationships of support and care.

The NH Queer Farmer Network is fiscally sponsored by the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Hampshire, allowing the network to receive the grants and donations that make our ongoing work possible. Thank you so much for your support.

Rev. Ariel Aaronson-Eves



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*Thanks to your Generosity  
to Our  
Outreach Collections:*

*the February 2024  
Outreach Collection for  
Pemi Youth Center totaled*

*\$917.00*

### Office Hours

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

(Days and hours are subject to change  
and any changes are posted in the weekly View)



**Saturday May 11th - 9am to 11:30am**

Are you READY!?! Hope to see you there!!

**Goals:**

- Pick up sticks from parking lots, yard & gardens
- Remove leaves off parking lots, yard & gardens
- Move parking logs back to mark the edges of the parking lots
- Move woodchips under solar array &/or into playground area
- Cut down some small dead trees.

**What to Bring:**

- Gloves
- Rakes or leaf blowers
- Tarps for moving leaves & sticks
- Chain saws
- Wheel barrels & shovels

If you are able to help, please let me know you will be there.

Jennifer Gentry (B&G Chair) [june-bug2104@gmail.com](mailto:june-bug2104@gmail.com)

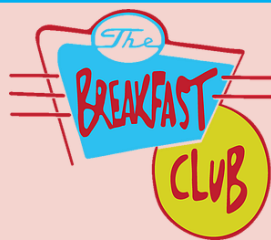
**Fellowship Office Hours:**

- Mondays: Closed
- Tuesdays: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Wednesdays: 9:00 am to 1:00 noon
- Thursdays: 9:00 am to 1:00 noon
- Fridays: 9:00 am to 1:00 noon

(Days and hours are subject to change, however, any changes are posted in the weekly View)



## Please Note - Breakfast Club now meets on the Second Friday!



### Breakfast Club - Friday, April 12, 2024

Please notice that we have changed Breakfast Club to the **SECOND** Friday (instead of the first Friday) of the month.

Also, we have made arrangements with PSU to once again have breakfast at the Prospect Dining Hall at 8 High Street in Plymouth at 8:00 AM. We will be able to use our Breakfast Club cards (valued at \$5 each punch) and add \$4, as the price of breakfast is \$9 for a full breakfast buffet! Those without punch cards pay \$9. Contact Deedie for a printable Breakfast Club Parking Pass. We will be able to leave our cars in Parking Lot 304 at PSU, while we eat breakfast and participate in the activity.

This month, we will be going to the PSU Planetarium for a one-hour star show by Professor Brad Moser from 9:30-10:30 AM!

Please contact Deedie Kriebel at [deedikriebel@gmail.com](mailto:deedikriebel@gmail.com) if you plan to join us.

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### Second Sunday Hike - April 14, 2024

Join us as forest technician Amey Bailey guides us through the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest, owned and operated by the US Forest Service in Woodstock/Ellsworth. Learn how nearby small watersheds have served as an outdoor laboratory continuously measuring water and nutrient transport through forested ecosystems since 1955, and how things have changed over time.

The hike is 2-3 miles with some hills and steep inclines through the south facing experimental watersheds. An exciting, moderate hike for outdoors students of all ages.

Contact Deedie at [deedikriebel@gmail.com](mailto:deedikriebel@gmail.com) if you would like to join us and for updates.





# BOOK GROUP NEWS

## April Book Group

Please join the Book Group on April 9, 3:30 when SueEllen Tuttle will lead a discussion of **Yellowface** by R. F. Kuang.



From Amazon: **INSTANT NEW YORK**  
**TIMES BESTSELLER • A REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK**

“Hard to put down, harder to forget.” — Stephen King, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

White lies. Dark humor. Deadly consequences... Bestselling sensation Juniper Song is not who she says she is, she didn't write the book she claims she wrote, and she is most certainly *not* Asian American—in this chilling and hilariously cutting novel from R.F. Kuang, the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Babel*.

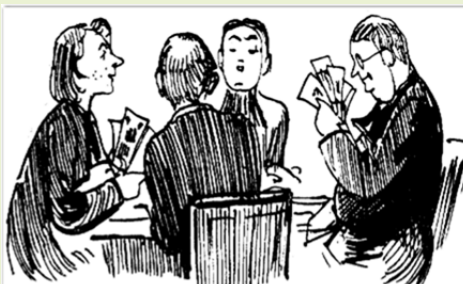
Please email Taphi [admin@starrkingfellowship.org](mailto:admin@starrkingfellowship.org) if you would like to be added to the email list to get the zoom link. Visit our website for the full list of this year's book selections.  
<https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/interest-groups>

## Join Us for Thursday Bridge

### At the Meetinghouse

**1:30 to 3:00 PM**

**Any questions, contact  
Anna Wilken  
[awilken@roadrunner.com](mailto:awilken@roadrunner.com)**



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## Meditation Group, Mondays at 6 p.m.

Our meditation group meets every Monday from 6 to 7 pm in the upstairs foyer. We are a small informal group that shares an abiding interest in meditation. Usually, we have between 5 and 10 participants. We are not affiliated with any sect or religion, however we often follow meditations in the Buddhist tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, Jack Kornfield, Pema Chodron and the like. We generally get together at 6 for brief hellos and pertinent comments. Then a facilitator for the week will offer a short reading or discussion on a meditation topic, followed by a guided meditation, related to the topic. The meditation can be anywhere between 20 and 40 minutes. Afterward we have a short debriefing and discussion of the experience. We adjourn at 7. There is no designated leader of the group and there is no effort to persuade anyone to any point of view.

We welcome newcomers to our group. This group is free and requires no dues or contributions. No previous meditation experience necessary.

## Great way to support SKUUF

The purchase of a Hannaford card to use for grocery shopping costs you no additional money but helps SKUUF raise funds. 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. Cash or Checks, sorry no credit cards as fees remove our profit. Remember all checks are made out to SKUUF with Hannaford on memo line.



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#### **Staff**

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

#### **Governing Board**

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

#### **Trustees:**

Robert Chandler  
Suellen Skinner  
Doug Grant  
Connie Maatta  
Louise Randall

## **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.

## **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.

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