

STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship
-A Welcoming Congregation-



April 2026

In this issue:

- * [Sunday Services](#)
- * [Minister's Newsletter](#)
- * [President's Letter](#)
- * [Soundbites](#)
- * [Community Outreach](#)
- * [Endowment](#)
- * [DRE News](#)
- * [Climate Action](#)
- * [Welcoming Congregation](#)
- * [NHActionNH, UUSC](#)
- * [Activities](#)
- * [Book Group](#)
- * [More about Starr King UU Fellowship](#)



Stewardship Committee

We did it! Thanks to our members and friends who submitted pledges during our pledge drive for FY 2027, we met and even exceeded our goal.

We celebrated the end of the drive on March 8 with our drawing of two \$100 gift cards to the Common Man. Edie Patridge and Sarah and Larry Wylie were the lucky recipients.

This year we received 67 pledges, four of them new, and raised \$213,376, which exceeded our goal by \$8,376! You will find more detailed information on the drive in Starr King's Annual Report published in May. We are grateful to you all for generously contributing your time and treasure to support our mission to cultivate more love in the world and nurture more love for the world.



**"Save the Date:
Starr King Auction will be on
Friday April 24th at 5:30pm
more details [HERE!](#)"**



Roaring 20's Auction & Party !!!

Worship Services

April 2026

April 5 We Rise Again

Rev. Linda Barnes

On this Easter Sunday we'll consider the impossible - rising again in love. This lesson from early Christianity holds meaning we might find in the story of Easter. Join us as we will explore the courage and commitment it takes to truly love our neighbors.

April 12 Fools Service

A Cast of Fools (and a little Rev. Linda)

And now for something completely Foolish. Join the Unitarian Universalist Overalls Fool Service. A celebration of the seriously Foolish. Wear overalls or coveralls if you have them. Otherwise, whatever suits your Foolishness.

April 19 Earth Day: Caring for Paradise

Rev. Linda Barnes

The natural world is not separate from the divine, it is a manifestation of the divine. Many faith traditions, including our own, compel us to care for our planet. In honor of Earth Day we'll celebrate our deep connection to the natural world, our home, and how it is we care for it.

April 26 And Yet There is Hope

Suzan Gannett

Throughout our history, we have faced chaotic times. In those times people have come together, no longer quiet about what was happening, and through hope and vigilant resistance, brought about change.

[Back to Home Page](#)

Are you new to UU?
New to Starr King?
Just want to learn more?

“GETTING TO KNOW UU”

CLASSES ON SUNDAYS FROM 11:00-12:30

MARCH 1, MARCH 22 & APRIL 12

Join us to learn more about Unitarian
Universalism and this Fellowship
Everyone is welcome - existing &
prospective members, friends, visitors and
“just curious”

Sign up today!

See Janet Englund,
Deedie Kriebel or
Rosemary D'Arcy for
more information



Minister's Newsletter

April 2026

The future is fluid. Each act, each decision, and each development creates new possibilities and eliminates others. The future is ours to direct.
~ Jacque Fresco

Physicist and mathematician Isaac Newton's First Law of Motion states that "If a body is at rest or moving at a constant speed in a straight line, it will remain at rest or keep moving in a straight line at constant speed..." Now, I don't know about you, but I tend to apply this to all things happening in the world. (I didn't say it was logical, just my inclination.) This means that if something is heading for disaster, I take that to its natural conclusion - the disaster will happen. But that's not actually how it goes, right? I think my perspective is not uncommon. I know we use it to brace ourselves for what's next, but looking at this month's Soul Matters theme, Embracing Possibility, I'm finding my perspective happily challenged. This brings me to Newton's Second Law, basically it's that a force applied to a body can change the momentum and/or its direction. In my metaphor here, I'm thinking that the actions we do can bring about change. That our actions are the 'force,' the thing that can bring about a change.

In thinking more deeply about this, I'm struck by this truth: no innovation, no solution, no resolution contrived by humankind has ever happened without it first being imagined as possible - not automobiles, not flight, not fine chocolate, not the right to vote! We must imagine that something is possible before we can make it a reality. I know the world feels uneasy right now. I feel it too, but let's not for a minute believe that this story is over. How the world is now is just that, how the world is now. The future will be determined by what we choose to do now; what we choose to make possible. Small acts, small explorations, and small conversations all contribute to what will be next. We are a community that contributes to good possibility all the time with our outreach, in our educational offerings, in the way we engage with each other.

So, I'm going to consider that this month, just how it is we change the trajectory of things as they are. I'm going to do my little part to bring about a world that is kinder, more open to diversity and equity, one that is more aware of the finite nature of our planet and our lives. In what direction might you nudge the possible towards? Maybe, just maybe, the future is ours to direct. Physics tells me so.

In faith and love,
Rev. Linda

The Rev. 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

[Back to Home Page](#)

Vespers



Vespers will be held on Friday, April 3 at 6 pm. Please join us for this gentle contemplative service and, if you're able, a potluck meal afterwards.

A Letter from the President

The robins are back and they tell me the season is indeed changing. We can all move forward into a lighter, brighter month. In April many members at Starr King UU Fellowship will be busy preparing for our Annual Meeting scheduled for May 17.

Thanks to the diligent work of our treasurer, Jennifer Gentry, and the Finance Committee there will be a proposed budget to vote on. I cannot overstate how many hours our volunteer treasurer puts into this budget. It is on top of her work as a CPA in tax season with businesses and clients in Illinois. Thank you, Jennifer.

There will also be some open positions on the Governing Board to approve. The Nominating Committee will bring you a new trustee and a new president-elect to vote on. These are people who have been carefully considered and chosen to carry us forward.

Reports from Committee Chairs, our minister, our governing board and staff will be assembled by our hard-working Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Sprague. These will be distributed for all to review. Annual reports are a chance for us to summarize not only what we accomplished but what we have learned. As president I will address how the process of our new model of leadership, that I call the "Presidential Triad" has worked. In this model, established in 2023, we voted at annual meeting to have a change to Article 10 of the By-laws. The change states that we elect a President-elect for one year who goes on to be the President in the second year and then Past President in the third year. Each plays an important role and as a group of three leaders, creates a strong supportive unit for sound decision making.

I encourage everyone to reflect on how the past year at Starr King UU Fellowship was for you. If you are a new comer, we extend a warm welcome. If you are a child, we offer you love and safety. We have many members and friends that are part of the zoom community. How has that been for you? It is wonderful to have the technology to bring us together when circumstances keep us apart.

What I have witnessed is that the Fellowship functions at its best when we operate from a place of good will, trust and mutual respect. We are a group of individuals practicing cooperation, compassion and best intentions. The best part is that we can still do it with humor and love. Our world may seem broken but we stand in solidarity because people need people.

In Fellowship,
Connie Maatta, she/her
Octobersolidago@roadrunner.com

[Back to Home Page](#)

What's on the Starr King Website

During every Sunday Service announcement we hear the statement "for more information go to our website."

Here are a few things you can find there:

- * For a list of board members, committees and chairs, and recent board minutes, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/committees>.
- * To learn about interest groups such as breakfast club, Sunday hikes and book group, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/interest-groups>.
- * To learn about Adult Spirituality offerings such as Soul Matters, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/adult-spiritual-exploration>.
- * For a two minute summary of what we believe, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/about>.
- * **There's so much more. Please surf around!**

Soundbites

Embracing Possibilities

I think about this in terms of music making at Starr King. What if I mix up the voices in the choir? How about I place the choir surrounding the congregation instead of singing up front? Wonder what will happen if I "mash" up two songs at the same time? The possibilities are endless.

All of this takes a bit of creativity, some imagination and a bit of hope that it will work out. That means taking a risk and trusting the process - and the participation of the singers. Of course, it also involves a great deal of grace.

One of my favorite songs to sing and feature in worship is John Lennon's "Imagine." It speaks to the possibility of transforming the world by imagining a positive change that offers equity for all and a healing of our planet. Another favorite is "Everything Possible" by UU minister Fred Small. In a time where the very existence of LGBTQ+ communities is being challenged, this song encourages us to "be anybody you want to be, you can love whoever you will."

So, I encourage us all to keep singing.

"You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one.

I hope some day you'll join us, and the world will live as one."

See y'all in church,
Sarah Dan

SCHEDULE:

Sunday, April 5th - Sarah Dan and choir
Sunday, April 12th - Mary Hazelton, musician
Sunday, April 19th - Sarah Dan and choir
Sunday, April 26th - Sarah Dan

CHOIR: Meets every Thursday 5-6pm in the sanctuary ("off" Thursday TBD)



Office Admin Schedule September through June

Tuesday and Wednesday: 12:30PM - 5:30PM

Thursday 9:00AM -1:00 PM

As always, you can email admin@starrkingfellowship.org or leave a voicemail and Jennifer will get back to you when she is in the office.

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, \$20.00 per pound.

Please Contact Bob and Jane Clay, claysusanj@gmail.com or 603-996-1207, to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.



Outreach Offering for April Got Lunch

This offering is one for a program near to our hearts. Got Lunch is a program that began with members of this congregation and still has many Starr King members deeply involved and it is still based in our building.

This program aims to feed children who depend on school lunches and other assistance during the school year through the long summer break. This group works with many community groups to raise money, to invite donations of food (such as Hannaford and Longview Farm and the NH Food Bank) and they recruit volunteers to pick up, sort, pack and deliver bags of food to the homes of those they serve. They've been at it for years and recently the need has grown and grown as other programs have given up. This year in particular, the need has become more urgent with the cancellation of government assistance.

Susan Jacobs will join us to update us on the program and its needs for this year. Plan to be here on April 19 to hear more about their work and their needs and plan to support them generously. If you might want to volunteer, plan to speak to Susan about this.

GOT LUNCH! *Plymouth*

[Back to Home Page](#)

Endowment: April 2026

Sometimes it's good to have a reminder that the Endowment Committee distributes funds (based on a formula to protect the principal) from the Starr King Endowment for the purpose of supporting education, local social services, or special Fellowship needs, but not for operating funds. You are welcome to put in requests that fit the Endowment mission!

So far this year, the Endowment Committee has approved:

- \$200 each month for the special monthly outreach donations to add to money donated by Fellowship members (Plymouth Head Start, Plymouth Community Closet, Common-Man4Ukraine, Minister's Discretionary Fund, Planned Parenthood, UU Action Bail Fund, and PAREI)
- \$1500 for the Holiday Drawing (Artistic Roots, CASA, and Voices against Violence each received \$500)
- \$700 for the final installment cost for the Fellowship video
- \$300 to DRUUM to support UUs who are POC
- \$425 to help with training costs for volunteers for the Owl program. Your Endowment provided \$250 to the Pauli Murray Center, Transforming Heart Collective for an anti-trans video series for adult RE. The Committee also provided \$500 to fund the Rev. Linda Barnes' Generosity initiative.

The money distributed is in your name. As a Fellowship, we help support a wide variety of worthy charities and initiatives. This is worth crowing about! So, spread the news!

Guest Wi-Fi

Need connectivity? The login and password for our guest Wi-Fi account is posted in the sanctuary on the back sound cabinet, in the upstairs and downstairs foyer, and in the small downstairs meeting room. Thanks to Phil Haskell for setting it up and to Jennifer Sprague for creating and printing signage.

From your DRE - Religious Exploration

This past month in Religious Exploration we've focused on exploring the theme of *Paying Attention* through a range of activities and creative projects. On Sunday mornings, the children created 'Compliment Suns' to brighten one another's days and played compliment dodge ball.



They practiced noticing the sensations in their bodies, what it's like to listen to their hearts, and reflected on what their inner wisdom looks like. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to be downstairs during RE. It has been such a joy to expand the Religious Exploration team and see more intergenerational connections form.

The Youth Group hosted a wonderful Coffee House Open Mic last week. There was music, art, and a wide range of creative expression from the Fellowship. This was the last Youth Group sponsored event before their trip next month. The group is preparing to travel to Monteverde, Costa Rica, where they will meet up with Grace and spend several days learning and exploring the cloud forest and Costa Rican daily life. This trip is an incredible opportunity for these youth to step out of their comfort zones, experience a new culture and ecosystem, and grow their confidence as they take on new things. They will get the chance to practice Spanish, eat new foods, learn about the tropical biodiversity, and give back to the community through a variety of service activities. After they return, the Youth will share their experiences with the Fellowship during a special service in May. Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed to make this trip possible!

On Sunday, May 3rd, the RE Committee will be hosting an ice cream social after worship at the Fellowship to celebrate the church year and say goodbye to Madeline before she returns home for the summer. Madeline has become an essential part of RE each week and we are eager to celebrate her contributions and the many fun memories she has created with the kids this year. As always, if you are interested in getting more involved with RE, feel free to reach out via email (dre@starringfellowship.org) or speak to any member of the RE Committee.

[Back to Home Page](#)

Rev. Linda to speak at Time Capsule Event May 16

The 1976 time capsule, buried in front of the Plymouth Town Hall, will be dug up on Saturday, May 16th, at 4 p.m. A new capsule will then be buried, intended for discovery in 2076, fifty years from now. Rev. Linda has been invited to speak about her vision for humankind's future and offer counsel for their health and happiness. Her words will then be preserved in the new time capsule along with well wishes from other local and state citizens. You can offer your own words of wisdom, a letter, or an item from our time by filling out this form and dropping your submission at the Plymouth Town Hall. [188fc2_e7b428c7a7a941f79c3662821d8164b7.pdf](#)



Climate Action Committee

The following information is taken from documents found at the website for the NH Electric Co-op, where the latest information available for 2024 may be found, under the title "Environmental Disclosure Statement."

Our Climate Action Committee has a collection of these Disclosure Statements going back to 2016. Below is a brief summary from a few of these statements, showing very little increase in renewable sources of energy.

The Co-op's Annual Meeting is June 16. Information from NHEC about the event and voting instructions for new directors will soon be arriving at member homes.

It has been several years since candidates to the NHEC board were solicited to answer specific questions in writing about their views and planned actions relative to increasing the Co-op's solar and wind sources of energy. For various reasons that input from the candidates has not taken place in any form in recent years, nor have the candidates generally addressed that subject in the NHEC Voting Guide.

NHEC Sources of Power

	2016	2022	2024
Hydro	1.4%	4.1%	2.2%
Nuclear	10.2%	4.0%	0.2%
Solar	0.3%	2.6%	3.6%
Wind	5.0%	7.8%	7.5%
Emission Free	<u>16.9%</u>	<u>18.5%</u>	<u>13.5%</u>
Biomass	0.8%	0.6%	1.9%
Coal	3.1%	0.4%	0.3%
Imported Power	22.1%	15.5%	12.2%
Landfill Gas/Other	2.5%	0.0%	1.4%
Municipal Trash	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
Natural Gas	43.5%	56.6%	62.4%
Oil	<u>11.0%</u>	<u>8.3%</u>	<u>8.0%</u>
Emission Sources	<u>83.1%</u>	<u>81.5%</u>	<u>86.5%</u>

Questions for NHEC:

1. Is there a current goal for attaining a higher level for emission-free sources?
2. What is preventing a higher use of solar and wind?
3. Is the high use of natural gas as a source preventing a shift to solar and wind?
4. What are the challenges involved in obtaining more emission-free sources?
5. What are the sources within the category "Imported Power"?

The questions raised above relate only to what is observable in the Disclosure Statements. In our May article we plan to provide more information to you, and we will be reviewing the above questions for any improvement that may become relevant. *We welcome your input!*

Don Crowell and Nancy Chaddock for the Climate Action Committee

Did you know?

With our on-line directory, Simple Church, you can connect with your Starr King family anytime, anywhere, by phone, email or text ?

Go to our website, click on Member Resources, then scroll down to Simple Church

OR...go to:

skuuf.simplechurchcrm.com

OR...download the Simple Church app

Logging in for the first time?

Domain = skuuf

Username = first name.last name

Click on "Forgot password" if you have never set up a password or if you've forgotten yours

Need help? Ask Janet Englund or Kathy Kelsey

[Back to Home Page](#)

Welcoming Congregation

Thank you to all who attended the first of three presentations on Responding to the Anti-Trans Movement. There were 10 attendees at the first in person presentation and even with technical difficulties, thank you Bob for making it work, it was a meaningful hour. Not to be outdone the first online program also ran into technical difficulties but over 2 nights, 5 people participated.

The second presentation titled ***What You Need to Know About the Anti-Trans Movement*** will once again be offered both in person on a Sunday from 11-12 and online.

Online will be this Wednesday, April 1st from 6:30-7:30. The link may be found in the calendar on the website. It will also be emailed to the Sunday Zoom group as well as those who attended the first session in February.

Due to weather the in-person session needed to be postponed. Please keep connected through the View for the day when it will be offered. We apologize for the delay.

As a reminder, we use pronoun stickers on our nametags to promote our Fellowship as a safe and inclusive place for people of any gender. Sharing our pronouns, even if it feels obvious to us, normalizes the process, has little risks, and makes our community a more welcoming environment for everyone. Stickers are available on the welcoming table in our foyer. Help yourself!



WELCOME



Protecting Democracy in New Hampshire

Olivia Zink of Open Democracy: *Your Voice, Your Vote*

Edward Taylor of ACLU NH: *ACLU Update*

Jeanne Dietsch of Granite State Matters: *The Free State Project*

Saturday, April 25 · 10:00 to 2:30 (lunch included)

Place: UU of Concord Church, 274 Pleasant St, Concord, NH



Unitarian Universalist Action New Hampshire

2026 UU Action NH Annual Meeting

It is time for the Annual Meeting! Our theme is **Protecting Democracy in New Hampshire**. We hope you will join us on April 25 to listen to our fabulous speakers as they talk about NH issues and answer your questions.

The New Hampshire Community Bail Fund will have a table at the meeting so you can learn more about their work.

[RSVP](#)

[Back to Home Page](#)

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):

The UUSC launches the Resistance Network.

We are living in a time of escalating injustice, but also powerful resistance. Those in power seek to divide us, weaken our movements, and strip away fundamental rights—but we know that justice is only possible when we build solidarity together. Our faith in human dignity, our belief in collective liberation, and our commitment to justice call us to act.

Yesterday, the UUSC launched the Resistance Network—a mobilization hub designed to take immediate action when civil liberties, democracy, and human rights are at risk. The threats we face are vast, but history shows us that resistance works when we act together. The Resistance Network is an opportunity to live our values as Unitarian Universalists and take collective action.



We kindle the flame of love, spreading its light into the world through our values

Starr King On-Line Book Group

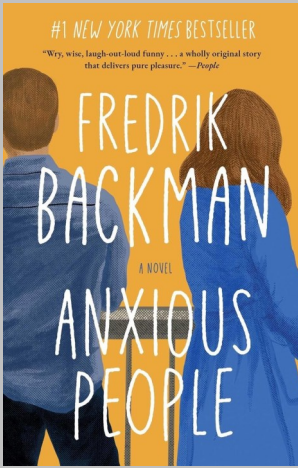
Tuesday, April 14, 3:30 to 5:00

The discussion will be led
by Mary Hazelton

A complete list of book selections for the
2025-2026 year can be found at
www.starrkingfellowship.org/interest-groups.

If you would like to be on the Book Group's
email zoom list, send a request to

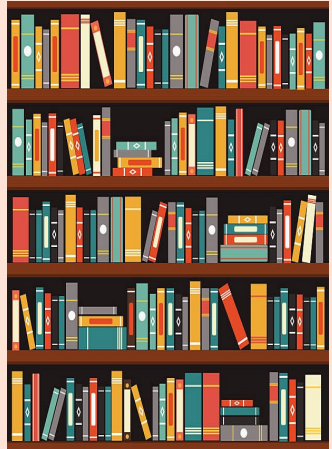
admin@starrkingfellowship.org



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.



[Back to Home Page](#)

SPRING - YARD CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, May 9th | 9 am to 11:30 am

Are you READY!?! The more members & visitors that help, the more we will get done! Remember, we are "the ones" who make the Fellowship look great, so we hope to see you there!!

Here are some tasks we would like to work on:

1. Remove/smooth out any sand bumps in both parking lots & garden
2. Move the wood logs back out to mark the edges of the parking lots
3. Pick up sticks from parking lots, yard & gardens
4. Remove leaves off parking lots, yard & gardens

What to Bring:

Gloves
Rakes or leaf blowers
Tarps for moving leaves & sticks

Any questions, please contact me, or just let me know you will be there.

If we have a rainout, we will go with May 16th.

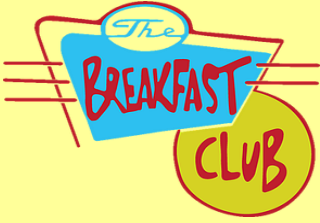
Bob Chandler (B&G Chair) bobchandler@verizon.net



Activities

Breakfast Club - Friday, April 10, 2026

We will meet for breakfast at 8:30 AM at the PSU Prospect Dining Hall on 8 High Street in Plymouth. You can use your Breakfast Club cards or pay for the breakfast for under \$10. Parking is in Lot #204 across the street from the dining hall. After breakfast, we will travel to Meredith to walk the Laverack Nature Trail. Hawkins Brook and its surrounding wetlands are showcased on this walkway. It's 1.1 miles long and mostly flat. It takes .5-1 hour to complete, depending on how many stops we make to view the wildlife! Contact Deedie at deediekriebel@gmail.com for more information and a parking pass. We can carpool to Meredith.



[Back to Home Page](#)

Second Sunday Hike - April 12, 2026

Reed Harrigan will lead us on a hike to Schiller Trail and Perkins-Porter Loop in Sugar Hill. It is a 1.6 mile hike considered moderate with an elevation gain of 472 feet. It should take us 1-1.5 hours to complete. This sounds good for the whole family! Surely we will find a place to have refreshments after the hike. We will leave at 11:30 AM after the service from the lower parking lot at Starr King. If you plan to join us, contact Deedie at deediekriebel@gmail.com for more information and updates.



Foyer Art

This quarter we are happy to exhibit the art of Beverly Walker, kindly offered by her daughter Cindy. Beverly was a long-time member of Starr King who passed away last September. The mandalas are but a few from a treasure trove of hundreds.



Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
101 Fairgrounds Road
PO Box 337
Plymouth, New Hampshire 03264

admin@starrkingfellowship.org
(603) 536-8908
www.starrkingfellowship.org

Staff

The Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes, Minister
Sarah Dan Jones, Music Director
Grace Kennedy, Director of Religious Education
Jennifer Sprague, Office Administrator

Governing Board

President: Connie Maatta
President Elect: Suellen Skinner
Treasurer: Jennifer Gentry
Secretary: Suzan Gannett

Trustees:
Mimi Chandler
Louise Randal
Jim Hostetler

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 Getting to Know UU class 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 Member Engagement 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 and contributes to the Fellowship but 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.