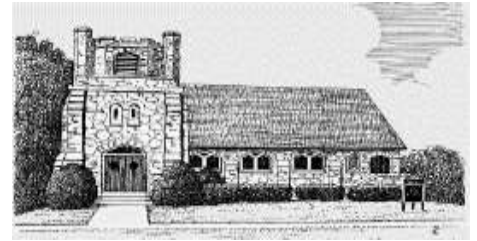


January 2024

The Happenings

Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church
9 Upper River Street, P.O. Box 386, Brookfield, MA 01506
buuc01506@gmail.com, www.buuc.org, 508-867-5145



"The Little Stone Church That Rocks"



*A Welcoming Congregation
and a Green Sanctuary*

*We are a fellowship of seekers
after truth, bound by no dogma,
restricted by no creed.*

Our Affirmation

TOGETHER: We unite in an atmosphere of care and support to foster spiritual health and growth.

TOGETHER: We focus on sharing our ideas and histories, with warmth, hope, loving friendship and an open mind.

TOGETHER: We nurture stability for our daily lives and seek motivation to reach out to the larger community.

January Services*

Sunday morning services are held at 10:30 am.

January 7: "One Year Down, Another One on the Horizon"

Worship Leader: Alyssa Lee, minister

Music: Russell Killough-Miller, solo cello (Bach Cello Suite No. 2)

January 14: "Called to Care; Called to Act"

Worship Leader: Jim Christensen (The Ameyo Foundation)

Music: BUUC Choir

January 21: "Can Love Truly Liberate Us?"

Worship Leader: Rita Schiano

Music: Linda Friedmann, hammered dulcimer

January 28: "Love in Action"

Worship Leader: Alyssa Lee, minister

Music: BUUC Choir

***A Note About Worship**

Currently we are holding hybrid services (in-person and streaming) as often as tech volunteers are available. For those who wish to stream the service (attend online) a link will be provided via email. If you'd like to volunteer to be one of our ZOOM Geeks, email Barb Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com.

Music Notes



Remember to check the flyers and other announcements on the Parlor Organ for local arts and music events. And if you know of a play, concert, art exhibit or other arts event, please post it there. Keep your eye open for the exhibits at the little art galleries on Main Street in West Brookfield and in Ware. An exhibit on the color blue opens at Artworks Gallery in Ware on Jan 20. We hope to have some concerts here at BUUC in the new year, so keep your eye on that little organ in the corner.

Lila M. Farrar,
Music Director



Notes from the Director of Religious Exploration



Every December, the BUUC Religious Explorers choose a church-wide effort to reach out to the larger community. This year, we decided to provide gifts for the migrant families in Sturbridge and Auburn. The generosity of the Little Stone Church That Rocks truly rocks...we filled three-plus large cartons in two weeks. We appreciate your help!

Cara Wales,
DRE

CESA News

The Committee for Ecology and Social Action (CESA) continues to meet on the third Wednesday of the month via ZOOM. We are collecting deposit bottles and cans on the third Sunday of the month for Kids in the Congo. Our Welcome Blanket project is starting up. We are making blankets, shawls, scarves, etc. for immigrants. Please check out our bulletin board on the wall by the stairs in the parlor. Ongoing and new initiatives will be posted on the board. If you are interested in participating in any of our activities, please contact Penny Blum at quabbinquilter@gmail.com. We thank you so much for your support.



A decorative border of purple snowflakes of various sizes and patterns surrounds the text boxes.

BUUC Game Night is BACK!

Friday January 19 at 7:00 pm

Come one, come all! Bring a game or just bring yourself and be ready to have some fun. See or reach out to Laurel Hemmer with any questions (774-239-8969).

Calendar Raffle

We are currently collecting gift cards for this year's calendar raffle! Last year's raffle was a big success and we are hoping that this year's will be even better. The drawings will take place daily in March, 2024. The deadline for collecting gift cards is January 30th.

If you have a gift card you would like to donate, please email Amy Frisella at amyfrisella@hotmail.com with your gift card details (amount and where they can be redeemed). In March, when someone wins that gift card, Amy will be in touch to coordinate getting it to the lucky winner.

How it will work: Once all of the gift cards have been collected, every card will be assigned to a day in March. The calendars (\$20 apiece) will have the daily prize listed on the corresponding date. Everyone who purchases a calendar will be entered into a daily raffle. The winner of the daily raffle will receive the gift card(s) listed for that day of the month. Winners are then re-entered into the pool, so all participants have the opportunity to win more than once!

Announcements

Stone Soup

Wednesday, January 3rd at 12pm at the church. Come catch up with friends and have lunch together. Attendees are invited to bring their lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided.

Book Club

The BUUC Book Discussion Group will be meeting via ZOOM on Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00pm to discuss *Land of the Lost Borders* by Kate Harris. Please feel free to attend. A complete list of this year's books can be found on our website at www.buuc.org/events. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Hale at b.lambert.hale@gmail.com.

Poetry Night

Join Alyssa Lee for another Poetry Night on ZOOM! Wednesday, January 10th at 7:00 pm.

CESA

The next meeting of the Committee for Ecology and Social Action will be Wednesday, January 17th, at 7:00pm on ZOOM. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Penny Blum at quabbinquilter@gmail.com

Journaling Group

The BUUC Journaling group is open to anyone interested in keeping a journal. We gather monthly on Zoom to journal quietly with some suggested prompts. While we usually chat a little, we do not discuss our writings. Please feel free to join us! Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 31st at 7:00pm. If you have any questions, email Cara Wales at c.l.c.wales@gmail.com.

Choir Practice

7:00-8:30pm each Thursday.

Contact Music Director Lila M. Farrar at lilamfarrar@gmail.com or 508-864-5978.

Executive Committee

First Monday of the month at 6:30pm.



Minister's Office Hours

In lieu of regular office hours at the church, Alyssa has set up a Calendly link. Simply visit <https://calendly.com/buuc-alyssa> and you should be able to set up a phone or Zoom call. If you have any issues, give Alyssa a call at (978) 310-1303. You can also call or email buuc.alyssa@gmail.com to set up a meeting. She would love to chat with you.

We Rise:

Social Justice Resources Page

For those who feel called by our faith to take the side of human worth and dignity through social action, go to www.buuc.org and click the tab "We Rise: Social Justice Resources" on the menu at the left side of the page.

Interested in Membership at BUUC?

Unitarian Universalism is a covenantal faith making membership in our community both simple and challenging. It is simple in that to become a member all that is generally required is signing the membership book. It is challenging because that is not all that is asked of our members. In addition to honoring our congregational covenant, as a member you would be asked to:

- Worship in community regularly
- Work faithfully on your own spiritual development
- Be involved in a ministry of service to others
- Share your financial resources as stewards of the present and future of this religious community
- Continue to learn and connect to the wider movement of Unitarian Universalism
- Assume responsibility for offering the genuine hospitality of this community to all who come here.

Visitors and friends curious to know more or who are considering becoming a member of BUUC are invited to contact our minister Alyssa Lee at buuc.alyssa@gmail.com.

Our Covenant

As we share our lives in this place of blessed community, we promise to unite in an atmosphere of care and support, provide a spiritual home for ourselves and our children, and work together in our search for truth and caring ways to be in community with each other, both within and beyond these walls.

We seek to embody a welcoming community of

CARING, SUPPORT, AND SERVICE

We therefore promise to:

- Treat each other with respect, trust, and compassion
- Actively listen to all points of view on important issues
- Create an open environment for nonjudgmental participation
- Honor dissenting views, agreeing to disagree
- Make decisions with as much participation as possible
- Accept that we will make mistakes, forgive each other, and move on
- Express gratitude for the efforts of others
- Work together to live by our Covenant; and
- Try to the best of our ability to live by our Unitarian Universalist Principles and Purposes, affirming our tradition of service and justice for all.

**Adopted by the members of
BUUC May 20, 2012**

Who's Who at BUUC

Staff

Minister

Alyssa Lee

Director of Religious Exploration

Cara Wales

Music Director

Lila M. Farrar

Office Assistant

Emily Foster

Executive Committee

Ex-Officio member

Alyssa Lee

President

Robyn Vincent

Treasurer

Colleen Groner

Clerk

Amy Frisella

Members-at-Large

Fritzi Foster, Jared Adams,

Christine Holbrook

Collector

Dave Yutzler

Committees and Groups

Committee on Ministry

Mary Frisella, Roxann Smith,

Donna Sullivan

Worship Committee

Barb Hale (chair), Roxann Smith,

John Kennison, David Yutzler

Flower Committee

Lila Farrar (chair), Judy Trifone,

Donna Sullivan

Membership Committee

Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea,

Penny Blum, Alix McNitt,

Robyn Vincent, Karen Goudey

Nominating Committee

Joanne Hamerly, Donna Boyea,

Karen Keough-Huff

Women's Alliance

Donna Boyea, Barb Hale,

Joanne Hamerly, Laurel Hemmer,

Laurie Magnuson, Sharon Smith,

Donna Sullivan, Judy Trifone,

Diane Mossa

Committee for Ecology and Social Action (CESA)

Penny Blum (chair), Joanne Hamerly,

Donna Boyea, Laurel Hemmer,

Sarah Swift, Barb Hale, Lila Farrar,

Emily Foster

Trustees

Doug Smith, Roxann Smith,

Kirk Upton

Community Resources

At the heart of Unitarian Universalism is a deep recognition and respect for the interconnectedness of life. As a faith community, Brookfield Unitarian Universalist Church seeks to foster spiritual health and growth, but we also recognize that it is equally important to encourage and empower one another to lives of physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being. To that end, we have launched our Community Resources page. To access the page visit <http://www.buuc.org/community-resources.html>.

**BROOKFIELD
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**

P. O. Box 386
9 Upper River Street
Brookfield, MA 01506

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Email: buuc01506@gmail.com

We're on the web
www.buuc.org
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
@buucrocks



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Universalist Church