

# First Parish Unitarian Universalist Of Medfield

26 North Street, Medfield, MA

(508) 359-4594

[www.firstparishmedfield.org](http://www.firstparishmedfield.org)



## November 2023 Newsletter

### Ministerial Musings

#### Dave Egan, Minister



A few weeks ago, on October 7th, several brave souls from the FPUU Men's Group drove up to The Forks, Maine for the weekend. This is a town where 33 people live... at least the last time they checked. It sits at the intersection of the Kennebec and the Dead Rivers. The later is why we drove for four and a half hours.

The Dead River got it's ominous name from all of the dead soldiers, who had been commanded by Benedict Arnold during the Revolutionary War, who did not survive the long frigid winters, filled with disease and starvation.

Eventually, as our rafting guide told us, folks started seeing corpses floating downstream. Thus, The Dead River.

This is where The Men's Group chose to raft.

In the gift shop of the rafting company, I purchased a tee shirt that read:

"ROW, ROW, ROW  
YOUR BOAT GENTLY DOWN  
A RAGING BONE CRUSHING  
LIFE THREATENING  
CLASS V STREAM,  
MERRILY MERRILY MERRILY MERRILY  
LIFE IS BUT A DREAM"

After a wonderful time out on the majestic river, we laughed and bonded as we enjoyed a big BBQ meal. When we were driving home, I checked my phone and saw the breaking news of the horrific attack by Hamas on Israeli civilians. Soon after, Israel declared war on Hamas. I felt that familiar fear I had felt after 9/11. I heard commentators filled with anger, seeking revenge, justifying further atrocities in the name of safety and security. The deafening beat of war drums seemed to be drowning out all else.

Moments earlier we were laughing about our time on the river and remembering our guide telling us about those poor frozen souls who died so long ago on The Dead River. Now all I could think about were the countless people who were taken hostage, scared and separated from their families, the thousands who were killed and being killed right now, and the coming war in the Palestinian territory of Gaza.

As I looked down at the words printed on my new tee shirt, somehow they didn't seem so funny anymore: "raging, bone crushing, life threatening". These words now took on a whole new meaning. I couldn't get out of my mind the image of those dead soldiers floating down the Dead River so long ago, and wondering how many dead bodies were on the streets of Israel and Palestine right now, in what many refer to as the Holy Lands.

These are painful times we are living through, friends. We all have very big feelings surrounding this conflict in Israel and Palestine. As you likely saw in your email, you all are invited to join our Right Relations Team, Pastoral Care Team, and the Executive Board this Sunday, Oct 29th at 11:15am in the U House, for an open-hearted listening circle.

For in times like these, we need each other more than ever.

In faith,  
Rev. Dave



## Small Suppers

We will be holding small suppers on November 4, 11, and 18.

We will be emailing out to participants before Saturday, October 28.

If you would like to attend and have not emailed Don Rolph, please do so immediately.

If you signed up, you should have received an email by Sat Oct 28. If you believe you signed up, but did not receive an email, please contact Don Rolph.

Don Rolph email: [don.rolph@gmail.com](mailto:don.rolph@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Services

**November 5**

**The Gardener's Guide to Racial Justice**

**Rev. Mary Margaret Earl**

Today we welcome the Reverend Mary Margaret Earl to FPUU. She is the Executive Director of the UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury, of which we are a member congregation. Her sermon will ask the question: How do the lessons from tending, trying, failing and trying again teach us to keep moving our justice work forward?

**November 12**

**Not Gonna Take Away My Shot**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

As the national occurrence of mass shootings and gun violence increases, we grieve the constant loss of life, and ask why we continue to be so attached to our weapons in the face of such regular tragedy. How many people must we lose before we enact systemic change? Madeline Champagne will join us for this prayerful service and lead us in creating a stone installation on our grounds to raise awareness about gun violence.

**November 19**

**Friendsgiving**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

Please join us for this intergenerational worship service. This morning our youth will help us of us who are older understand issues that their generation are often much more comfortable with: such as gender identity, sexual orientation, gender expression, and how to show kindness and love by using one's preferred pronouns. Following the service, we will have a Friendsgiving potluck in the vestry. If you would like to bring a dish to share, sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoA48A5A92DA5FC1-42923062-friendsgiving>

**November 26**

**The Sunken Place**

**Rev. Dave Egan**

As we enter the season when the days grow shorter and the nights longer, we will explore what it means to have more darkness in our world than light. This seasonal shift, along with all of the expectations surrounding the holidays, can leave us feeling depressed, anxious, and overwhelmed. Is this sunken place of the soul something to be fearful of, or possibly embraced?

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 am on Sunday, November 5th.  
Don't forget to set your clocks back.



## From the Executive Board

### Long-term Rental Will Soon Begin in the Vestry



OPPORTUNITIES  
for INCLUSION

*Where Everybody is Somebody*

Formerly GWArc

*Celebrating 65 Years!*



At some point in the next few weeks, Opportunities for Inclusion, an organization serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, will begin renting the First Parish vestry Mondays through Fridays.

In preparation for OFI's use of the space, certain improvements are being made in the vestry and parking lot to conform with requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Disability Services. These include widening the North Street exit to accommodate wheelchairs, hinging the door on the larger bathroom to swing outward rather than inward, and installing a railing on the ramp leading from the parking lot to the vestry entry doors. Once their occupancy begins, First Parish members will not be able to enter the vestry without arranging to do so beforehand with church administrator Sandra Andreassi.

Finding a long-term renter has been a major goal of the Executive Board. The rental income will go a long way toward stabilizing First Parish's financial picture. The Board looks forward to welcoming Opportunities for Inclusion, as its mission of serving others is consonant with our own.

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## Notes from the Church Office



**Information needed: Has your address, telephone number or cell phone number changed? Please email the office at [admin@firstparishmedfield.org](mailto:admin@firstparishmedfield.org) with updated contact information so that we can keep the church database up to date.**

**Please remember the following deadlines:**

Church Newsletter: Third Sunday of the month.

Order of Service: Wednesdays by 5:00 pm.

## Pledge Statements



Pledge statements will be sent out the first week in November. Please contact the [admin@firstparishmedfield.org](mailto:admin@firstparishmedfield.org) if you have any corrections or questions.



## From the Religious Exploration Committee (REC)

SAVE the date!



**Sunday November 5th 8:30-9:30**, REC is hosting a not-to-be-missed

breakfast buffet in the Vestry. Everyone is welcome, and all RE volunteers, past or future, are especially encouraged to attend. The fun part- we will serve Quiches, bagels, and a special Cereal Bar with multiple selections for the young at heart. The business part- Volunteers will have an opportunity to read and sign orientation paperwork, giving you 'qualified' RE Volunteer status. Reading and signing the paperwork at the breakfast is simple and, once completed, no one will pester you for it later! Come to the breakfast to get 'qualified' in one step, on Nov 5th.

Volunteer Update: R.E. is operating without a paid coordinator this year, yet the program is running smoothly, with many thanks to Sarah Zitoli who volunteered as our Lead teacher! Sarah is amazing with the children, and we are so fortunate to have her commitment and dedication to the RE program. Additionally, many of you wonderful folks have stepped up and offered your help in September and October as leaders, guides, and guide sitters. Your willingness to help with our children's all-volunteer-led program makes such a difference.

We have also had terrific volunteers, leading our 'Moments for all Ages' this fall, which is another great way to serve in RE. And finally, thanks and

praise are due to Jackson and Avery Razza who have been reliable and enthusiastic paid sitters in Little lights, making it possible to resume that childcare program which is so important for young families.

We are still looking to fill lots of volunteer slots, and we have openings in November, December, and January. (Click here for the [RE](#) and [Little Lights](#) signup genius links, which can also be found on the front page of the 'members' section of our website) The kids love seeing new faces as volunteers, and starting as a guide in either program is an easy way to get to know them.

## Need a Name Tag?

Please wear a name tag for Sunday Services. It helps many of us!

If you don't have a name tag (or if you would like a new one), please email [admin@firstparishmedfield.org](mailto:admin@firstparishmedfield.org).



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**Veteran's Day, November 11<sup>th</sup>**  
*Thank you to all our veterans for your service to our country!*





**GIVE SOMETHING THAT**  
*Means Something*

## GIVE BLOOD

## First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church

26 North Street  
Medfield, MA 02052

**Tuesday, November 14, 2023**  
**12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: UUMedfield to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Come give blood Nov. 10-30 for an exclusive pair of Elf & Red Cross socks, while supplies last! Join us to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the film Elf and make giving blood a holiday tradition! © & TM New Line Productions, Inc. (s23)



Don't let schedule  
get in the way.

**Schedule your blood donation appointment today!**

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2003 The American National Red Cross. 1-800-55-RED-CROSS

DOI: 10.1002/eqe.2419

## For American Red Cross Blood Drive Volunteers

Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040C4BADAD2EA46-44828390-help>



### Help with First Parish UU Medfeld Fall Blood Drive

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!

[www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

## Gift of Artwork



A series of beautiful paintings were given to First Parish by Mr. James Walker. Mr. Walker is a local artist from Dover. These paintings include many perspectives of First Parish and will be framed so they can be enjoyed by all!



## Adult Education Program



Are you interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism?  
Do you have questions about the big mysteries of life?  
Are you looking for more meaningful relationships in your life?  
Do you yearn for deeper connection and community?

Then we hope you will join us to learn more about who we are,  
where we come from, and how to become more involved.

We will be holding three sessions in the coming weeks.  
We will share a meal together and have an open and informal dialog  
with our minister and members from our Membership Outreach Committee.

Each session will cover the same content, so pick whichever date works best for you.

**Sun. Nov. 19**  
breakfast @ the U House  
8:30-9:30AM

**Sun. Dec. 3**  
lunch @ the U House  
11:30-12:30PM

**Sun. Dec. 17**  
breakfast @ the U House  
8:30-9:30AM

First Parish UU Medfield 26 North St. Medfield, MA [www.firstparishmedfield.org](http://www.firstparishmedfield.org)



# **First Parish UU Medfield's MEN'S GROUP**



If you identify as male, we hope you will join us.

Often men don't have a space in our lives  
to meet with other men and reflect on things  
we have in common: fatherhood, marriage, finances,  
societal expectations, our mid-life crisis, retirement, etc.  
We will meet in the U House for lunch, conversation & connection.

**2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month**  
**Lunch @ the U House**  
**11:30 - 12:30 PM**

First Parish Unitarian Universalist Medfield, 26 North St. Medfield, MA  
[www.firstparishmedfield.org](http://www.firstparishmedfield.org)

# First Parish UU Medfield Friendsgiving Service



Come join us for our annual  
Intergenerational Friendsgiving Service,  
followed by a special potluck lunch.

Sign up for a dish to share:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoA48A5A92DA5FC1-42923062-friendsgiving#/>

## Sunday, November 19

worship service: 10:00am lunch: 11:00am

First Parish Unitarian Universalist Medfield, 26 North St., Medfield, MA

[www.firstparishmedfield.org](http://www.firstparishmedfield.org)



## Green Sanctuary Committee

Our next meeting is Nov. 28 Tuesday, 2023 at 7pm via Zoom. All are welcome! Email [Jeanette Ruyle](mailto:Jeanette.Ruyle) for link and more info.



### Continuing good news on lowering our heating bill and reducing our carbon footprint

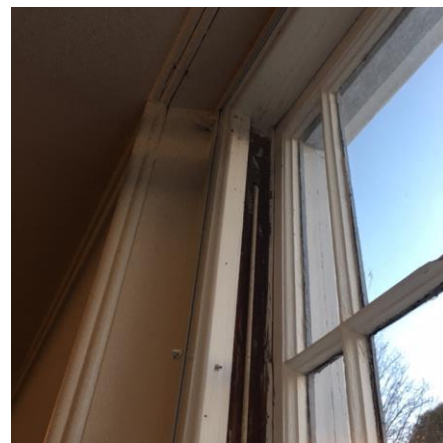
Removable acrylic interior window inserts for the vestry (social hall) windows are installed! Pioneer Glass of Whitinsville, MA did a great job. A few people have already said they think they notice a difference in the vestry—less drafty.

The next step for “tightening the envelope” is doing something about the single-pane sanctuary windows, including long overdue maintenance.

The next step for our heating system is to get an assessment done by a qualified engineer to plan for an updated system, hopefully using air source heat pumps. Contacts have been made; stay tuned.



There is a clear acrylic panel in front of this window. It is so clear it's hard to see!



### GSC meetings will be on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 7pm via Zoom

We are striving to be consistent in meeting dates so it will be easier to join in with us!



**LAST CHANCE...**



**Repeated from last month but still important:**

**Be a climate activist-- Petition Gov. Healey to stop gas pipeline expansions in MA!**

Eversource has been wanting to build an additional pipeline through Springfield to Longmeadow. Residents of these communities have been fighting it, as reported in [this article](#).

Although the state Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs has issued a delay, as reported [here](#), it is very likely Eversource will try to work around this.

The [UU Mass Action](#) Climate & Environmental Justice Team is joining in with [Mass Power Forward](#) to send Gov. Maura Healey a message to keep her promise about climate goals and "Put Gas in the Past."

**If you agree and have not already signed, go to [this petition](#)**

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## Request for Sanctuary Flowers for November & December



Your help is requested to ensure that we have Sunday Worship Service Flowers.

Flowers are a wonderful way to celebrate or memorialize an occasion, event or a loved one.

If you would like to provide worship service flowers, please contact Louise Rachin at [lrachin@comcast.net](mailto:lrachin@comcast.net)



# Medfield Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service

**Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM**



*Hosted by*  
**The Church of the Advent, 28 Pleasant Street, Medfield**  
**There will be a combined choir.**

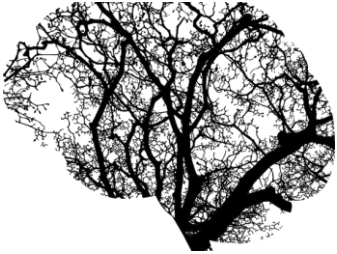
**We hope that you can join us for this wonderful community tradition.**

# Mediation & Reflection

Shirley Riga, Spiritual Director

Member of the Pastoral Care Committee

## The Answer is Not in Our Mind



The biggest assumption I made in my life was when I expected life would be like I wanted with people like I wanted and things like I wanted and trips like I wanted

and anything else like I wanted. What a huge wake-up call life offers. I heard the other day children born over the last 20 years to today come into this life fierce. They arrive wise into this changing world. They do not have time to languish through the learning as so many of us did through the 50's and 60's. Life is happening faster now. They come in running with the train as they hop on into their existence.

I cannot assume if children suffer then they are in the wrong place at the wrong time. They come in with a purpose greater than I can imagine. My daughter lived 32 years on this earth struggling with liver disease and yet I believe she made the choice to arrive with this huge disability. (It is the only way I have justified in my mind and heart why a baby is born so ill) She made this choice in her life plan somewhere before she took presence in her human body to struggle so she could learn about compassion and experience the true meaning of conviction, commitment, and love.

I allow myself the luxury of believing her life was on a trajectory created by her soul to fulfill the lessons she needed to make her whole as a being of light. I cannot assume her life was wasted because she suffered and cried and struggled. There is more going on than my human mind can figure out. My struggle to accept and reason and

hunt for cures was part of my life journey in acceptance for that which I can't control.

I lived under the great illusion that life on earth as a human is all there is. I was death phobic. That death is the end – another illusion in this life. The worst fate imaginable to me was death. I feared death for me and I feared it for those I loved. I used to believe God is outside of me and my goal is to hunt for God and be worthy to deserve a love if I earn it. I believed every bad deed I have done deserved punishment for my unworthiness and would be meted out by a judging figure up in heaven. As I love myself, I realize I am creating the beliefs based on my fears.

My illusions are transmuting into inner truths as I walk my journey and listen to my heart. I answer to my heart wherein lies my source. Change is happening at a much faster rate. Children are wiser and more knowing. They have opinions on the environment and kindness and what is good and what they want to do. It is important to listen. As an adult I am still the student discovering there is more to this world than I can see or know or experience.

Suffering is painful to witness no matter who the sufferer is. Its purpose is to break open the heart and feel. Break open the binds that hold the love we have inside. Struggle starts the process that feels like an inside tug of war between love and fear. Love is our nature.

Our job is to see through the illusions and walk our path and follow the gentle kindness we bestow on ourselves. Our job is to feed our body, mind, and spirit to help us grow so we can feel strong enough

to open our hearts. This is our time to rise through our illusions.

The wisdom of the Universe guides us as we carry ourselves through a great change, opening our eyes and our hearts discovering that we are all one, in this together, transmuting together. Awareness helps us stay on our path. Truth is our sword to slash through the illusions that pop up as fear pulls us off our path. We have free choice. We have a strong will. We know what love feels like. These are our allies. We always can get back on the path and continue forging ahead knowing fear will rise again and this time we are ready.

*"Crisis is the resistance to change. Change is the nature of our existence. Thought, embodied in the me, is static because it can only approximate life. Change, which is movement is dynamic and is a threat to the dominance of thought. Change contradicts thought and its center, the me."* [Doing Nothing by Steven Harrison](#)

[Bapuji](#) on Struggle

*Struggle is the life of everyone. Some describe it as a horrible demon but it is actually an angel and the well-wisher of everyone.*

*Struggle guides everyone's life. It leads human beings from untruth to truth, from ignorance to knowledge, from darkness to light, and from death to immortality.*

*Struggle is a very skillful sculptor. It transforms an ordinary human being into a deva who is respected by the world; it shapes the life of every great master of the world into a unique and unparalleled work of art.*

*Food will not digest without proper exercise. Likewise, life will not develop properly without struggle.*

*When happiness is experienced at the end of unhappiness, its sweetness is indescribable. When an individual has triumphed over his struggle and looks at his attainment, he then understands the true nature of struggle. Afterwards he no longer believes it is his enemy; he looks upon it as a kinsman or loved one."*

*Edited excerpts from Bapuji's 1979 Birthday Discourse on "Life and Struggle".* [A Journal of Consciousness](#)

## From the Social Justice Incubator – Dignity Matters



FPUU supports Dignity Matters, a local non-profit that provides menstrual supplies and undergarments to 15,000 women and girls in Massachusetts living in poverty and/or experiencing homelessness.



They are having a fall drive and are collecting donations of tampons, pads (including Depends type pads/underwear), new underwear, and new/gently used bras. Donations can be left in the bin located on the porch of the U House.

If you prefer, shop their [Amazon Wish List](#) for shipment directly to the Dignity Matters warehouse. [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2AoBMFSCY4W/refnav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_1?](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2AoBMFSCY4W/refnav_wishlist_lists_1?)

If you have any questions, email [becca\\_kornet@yahoo.com](mailto:becca_kornet@yahoo.com). Thank you!

## It's a Small World!

Mike and I have just been visiting Sammy in Barcelona (she's studying abroad there) and look who we ran into at the airport in Madrid boarding the same flight to Boston!!!

Duncan and Louise have been visiting their former exchange student and his family (pretty sure they said in Ibiza).

What a crazy small world! So lovely to see happy familiar faces and get a hug as we get ready to head home at the end of a fabulous vacation ♡

(Louise, Duncan, Mike and Sara)







**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

## **Article II Proposal (amendments listed separately below)**

### **1 Article II Purposes and Covenant**

#### **2 Section C-2.1. Purposes.**

3 The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to and use its organizational  
4 powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are  
5 to assist congregations in their vital ministries, support and train leaders both lay and  
6 professional, to foster lifelong faith formation, to heal historic injustices, and to advance our  
7 Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

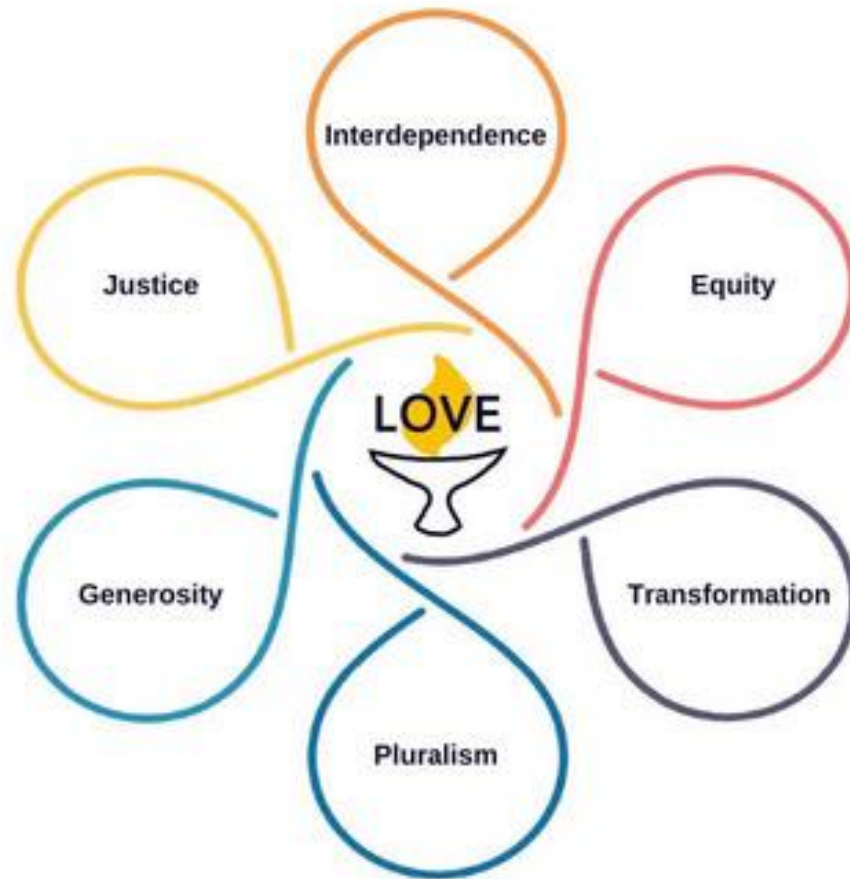
8 The purpose of the Unitarian Universalist Association is to actively engage its members in the  
9 transformation of the world through liberating Love.

#### **10 Section C-2.2. Values and Covenant.**

11 As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our  
12 association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of  
13 freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

14 Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are  
15 accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual  
16 discipline of Love.

17 Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:



18 Image Description: This image is of a chalice with an overlay of the word love, over the flame,  
19 with six outstretched arms that create a circle around each of the core values and form a six  
20 petal flower shape. Each arm is a different color and clockwise they are: Interdependence  
21 (Orange), Equity (Red), Transformation (Purple), Pluralism Dark Blue), Generosity (Teal), and  
22 Justice (Yellow).

23 **Interdependence.** We honor the interdependent web of all existence

24 We covenant to cherish the Earth and all beings by creating and nurturing relationships of care

25 and respect. With humility and reverence, we acknowledge our place in the great web of life,

26. and we work to repair harm and damaged relationships.

27 **Pluralism.** We celebrate that we are all sacred beings diverse in culture, experience, and  
28 theology.

29 We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and  
30 meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

31 **Justice.** We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.  
32 We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of  
33 inclusive democratic processes to make decisions.

34 **Transformation.** We adapt to the changing world.  
35 We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change  
36 is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

37 **Generosity.** We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.  
38 We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our  
39 generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

40 **Equity.** We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and  
41 worthiness.  
42 We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully  
43 accessible and inclusive communities.

44 **Section C-2.3. Inspirations.**  
45 As Unitarian Universalists, we use, and are inspired by, sacred and secular understandings  
46 that help us live into our values. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which  
47 they were created and are currently practiced. These sources ground us and sustain us in  
48 ordinary, difficult, and joyous times. Grateful for the religious ancestries we inherit and the  
49 diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

50 **Section C-2.4. Inclusion.**  
51 Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for persons  
52 and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to replace  
53 such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to be  
54 an association of congregations that truly welcome all persons who share our values. We  
55 commit to being an association of congregations that empowers and enhances everyone's  
56 participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

57 **Section C-2.5. Freedom of belief.**

58 Congregational freedom and the individual's right of conscience are central to our Unitarian  
59 Universalist heritage.

60 Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and bonds of union so long  
61 as they do not require that members adhere to a particular creed.

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*UUA Bylaws Section C-15.1: If the proposal receives preliminary approval, within six months after the close of the General Assembly, the study commission, taking into account the decisions of the General Assembly, shall prepare the proposal to amend Article II.*

## Approved Amendments

Amendment #	Proposer	Section	Summary	lines impacted
Amendment 30	Viola Abbitt	C-2.1 Purposes	adds spiritual development	6
Amendment 26	David Schwartz	C-2.1 Purposes	adds creation of new UU communities	6
Amendment 52	John Millspaugh	C-2.2 Values and Covenant	revises value of Interdependence	23-26
Amendment 5	Matthew Johnson	C-2.3 Inspirations	adds language on mystery and wonder	45-49
Amendment 13	Kathi Bayne	C-2.2 Values and Covenant	revises justice/democracy value	33

### [Amendment 30 by Viola Abbitt: adds spiritual development](#)

**Bold underlining indicate insertion** ; [brackets indicate deletion.]

I propose the following change to line 6

6 professional, to foster lifelong faith formation **and spiritual development**, to heal historic injustices, and to advance our

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## Amendment 26 by David Schwartz: adds creation of new UU communities

**Bold underlining indicate insertion** ; [brackets indicate deletion.]

2 Section C-2.1. Purposes.

3 The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to and use its organizational

4 powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are

5 to assist congregations in their vital ministries, support and train leaders both lay and

6 professional, to foster lifelong faith formation, to heal historic injustices, **to support and encourage the creation of new Unitarian Universalist communities**, and to advance our

7 Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

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## Amendment 52 by John Millspaugh: revises value of Interdependence

**Bold underlining indicate insertion** ; [brackets indicate deletion.]

The "Interdependence" value and covenant statement currently reads:

23 Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence.

24 We covenant to cherish Earth and all beings by creating and nurturing relationships of care

25 and respect. With humility and reverence, we acknowledge our place in the great web of life,

26 and we work to repair harm and damaged relationships.

Our amendments would result in the following:

Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

With humility and reverence, we covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation, creating and nurturing sustainable relationships of repair, mutuality and justice.

Here is the current statement, showing amendments: :

23 Interdependence. We honor the interdependent web of all existence **of which we are a part.**

**24 With humility and reverence, we** covenant to [cherish] **protect** Earth and all beings **from exploitation**, [by] creating and nurturing **sustainable** relationships of [care] **repair, mutuality,**

**25 and [respect] justice.** [With humility and reverence, we acknowledge our place in the great web of life,

26 and we work to repair harm and damaged relationships.]

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## Amendment 5 by Matthew Johnson: adds language on mystery and wonder

**Bold underlining indicate insertion** ; [brackets indicate deletion.]

Lines 45-49

As Unitarian Universalists, we **proclaim that direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are a primary source of inspiration. These experiences open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives.** **We draw upon**, and are inspired by, sacred, [and] secular, **and scientific** understandings that help us **make meaning and** live into our values. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which these understandings were created and are currently practiced. These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and joyous times. Grateful for the **experiences that move us, aware of the** religious ancestries we inherit, and **enlivened by** the diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

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### **Amendment 13 by Kathi Bayne: revises justice/democracy value**

**Bold underlining indicate insertion** ; [brackets indicate deletion.]

32 We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of  
33 inclusive democratic processes to make decisions **WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION AND THE SOCIETY AT LARGE.**

## FPUU Calendar of Events

Saturday, November 4	Small Suppers/Offsite
Sunday, November 5	Daylight Savings Time RE Breakfast/8:30 am/Vestry
Monday, November 6	Staff Meeting/10:30 am/Zoom Medfield Historical Society Meeting/7:30 pm/Vestry
Wednesday, November 8	Membership Outreach Committee Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Thursday, November 9	Worship & Music Committee Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Friday, November 10	Veteran's Day Observed
Saturday, November 11	Small Suppers/Offsite
Sunday, November 12	Men's Group/11:30 am/U-House
Tuesday, November 14	Medfield Community Blood Drive/8:00 am/Vestry
Wednesday, November 15	Right Relations Team Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom Annual Fund Drive Committee Meeting/7:15 pm/Zoom
Thursday, November 16	Executive Board Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Saturday, November 18	Small Suppers/Offsite
Sunday, November 19	Newsletter Deadline What is UU'ism/8:30 am/U-House Friendsgiving Potluck/11:30 am/Vestry
Tuesday, November 21	Medfield Interfaith Community Thanksgiving/TBD
Thursday, November 23	Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 26	Men's Group/11:30 am/U-House ART Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Tuesday, November 28	Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting/7:00 pm/Zoom
Thursday, November 30	The Larger Circle Band Rehearsal/7:00 pm/Vestry