

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Nursery During the Worship Service

Niko Pucillo-Dunphy and Jesse Hoyle offer child care during the church service. Please feel free to bring your infants and toddlers to have fun with Niko and Jesse while you are in the sanctuary participating in the service.

Religious Exploration Children's Classes

RE Classes will begin next Sunday. We will be introducing the Earth Advocates plan. We will make a covenant together and will play the earth ball name game.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group will begin on Sunday, September 22. We will be meeting from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall and will enjoy some snacks, fellowship and games. What will you be adding to your mirror and window mural? What field trips are you ready to help organize and attend? We have Lakeville Arts Festival coming up on October 5, and it will be our first effort to "get out there" and show everyone what UUs bring to the community.

Volunteer Opportunities

Our RE Committee meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. We meet at the church, and new members are welcome. You do not need a child participating in the RE program to join, just ideas and a love of our youth. Please consider volunteering to teach downstairs for a section of our program. We also need volunteers to help with plays and skits during the year as well as readers for our Message for All Ages during the service. Please contact dre@uumiddleboro.org if you are interested.

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
September 8, 2024 Ingathering

Chimes **Eamon Gunn**

Organ Prelude *Jig Fugue* by Dietrich Buxtehude

Welcome **Natalie Johnson**

President's Message **Jeff Giddings**

Hymn* #361 *Enter, Rejoice, and Come In*

Opening Words by Katie Gelfand **Rev. Beau Rivers**

Chalice Lighting **Emmett Gunn**

Chalice Lighting Response
May We Shine a Light of Love (See back cover)

Musical Offering **Chalice Choir**
River of Peace
by Lindy Hearne, arr. Joanne Hammil

Message for All Ages **Kelly Lownds**
The Little Stream Called to the Sea, A Sufi Tale
adapted by Paul Beedle

Unison Reading - Covenant Statement
Creating a caring community is the promise of our church. To listen deeply, show compassion, build trust, and honor our differences: these things we covenant together.

Meditation by Molly Housh Gordon and Jamila Batchelder
Natalie Johnson and Rev. Beau

Water Ceremony **Rev. Beau**
Musical Offering **Chalice Choir**
All Lifted Hearts from Sources (See insert)
by Kendyl Gibbons and Jason Shelton

Responsive Reading *Water Blessing* **Rev. Beau** and **Natalie Johnson**

Piano Interlude *Dream Gift* by Spencer Brewer

Reading by Tim McCarthy

Hymn* #1011 *Return Again*

Homily *Coming Home, Like Rivers to the Sea* **Rev. Beau Rivers**

Offertory *Walk in Jazz Time* by Paul E. Giasson
The September Cash in the Plate will be donated to the Matthew Mission Food Pantry, Taunton. The goal of the Matthew Mission Food Pantry is fighting hunger with an emphasis on personal dignity – their customers can select what they need from the shelves of the food pantry. Norm Grenier is President of the Matthew Mission Food Pantry.

Thanksgiving **Rev. Beau**

Hymn* #100 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Benediction **Rev. Beau**

Extinguish Chalice **Rev. Beau**

Sung Benediction *Go Your Way in Peace. (See back cover)*

Postlude *Ridgecrest* by Joseph M. Martin

Announcements **Natalie Johnson**

Joys and Concerns **Rev. Beau Rivers**

Unison Benediction *Go out into the world in peace.
Have courage.
Hold on to what is good.
Return to no person evil for evil.
Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak.
Help the suffering. Honor all beings.*

* Please stand as you are able.

Thank you to all who helped with today's service:

<i>Greeters:</i>	<i>Lois Aldrich & Gil Cote</i>
<i>Worship Associate:</i>	<i>Natalie Johnson</i>
<i>Sound:</i>	<i>JR Pucillo-Dunphy</i>
<i>Live Streaming:</i>	<i>Dan Hotchkiss</i>
<i>Coffee Hour Hosts:</i>	<i>Jeff Stevens, Barista</i> <i>Tony Soares, Welcome Cake</i> <i>Hospitality Team</i>

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Jim Norris.

Music Notes

Kudos to the Chalice Choir for today's musical offering (River of Peace) and water communion chant (All Lifted Hearts.) Special thanks to Ruth Iampietro for accompanying the choir and to Mia Stevens for adding electric bass to our opening hymn.

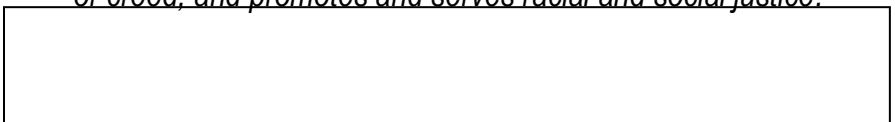
*The musical offering is an excerpt from the third movement of **Sources**, a multi-movement oratorio celebrating the sources of Unitarian Universalism. The ending words are "peace" in 10 different languages: Hindi, Hebrew, Kurdish, Arabic, Japanese, Cherokee, Latin, Esperanto, Russian, and English.*

Chalice Choir

Dody Adkins-Perry, Nancy Backus, Holly Begley, Cindy Benard, Rick Benard, Jim Bonnar, Sandie Brangan, Sue Curtiss, Kathleen Dascoulias, Valerie Fontaine, Kimberly French, Bet Giddings, Dan Hotchkiss, Dorine Levasseur, Marc MacQueen, Mal Marvill, John Mullen, Andrea Priest, Ed Priest, Patty Simon, Jeff Stevens, and Nicola Wilbar

Our Mission:

To create and sustain a welcoming and caring community that embodies our UU principles, inspires spiritual growth without dogma or creed, and promotes and serves racial and social justice.



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CHALICE LIGHTING RESPONSES:

May We Shine a Light of Love

Words & Music by Joyce Poley

May we shine a light of love, May we shine a light of love,
With ev'ry thought, With ev'ry step we take
May we shine a light of love.

Rise Up, O Flame (#362)

Words: Anonymous; Music: Christoph Praetorius

Rise up, O flame, by thy light glowing,
Show to us beauty, vision, and joy.

CHILDREN'S CALL TO R.E. CLASSES:

Children's Blessing

by First UU Nashville Youth Choir

May your mind be open to new learning.
May your lips bring truth into the world.
May your heart know love, and your hands do the work of justice,
as you go your way in peace,
as you go your way in peace.

Go Now in Peace (#413)

Words & Music by Natalie Sleeth

Go now in peace, Go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you everywhere,
Everywhere you may go.

SUNG BENEDICTIONS:

Go Lifted Up (#1057 teal hymnal)

Words & Music by Mortimer Barron

Go lifted up, Love bless your way,
moonlight, starlight guide your journey into peace
and the brightness of day.

Go Your Way in Peace

by Mozart/Jim Scott

Go your way in peace, wander as you may,
Blessed is the path you take: may love guide you on your way.