



## Weekly Announcements

Thursday, August 21, 2025

Chalice Circle

### **“101 Years of James Baldwin”**

Chris Jackson, presenter

Nicole Smith, facilitator

Sunday, August 24, 10:30 am, in-person

The writer would have turned 100 in 2024. We will consider his impact on society and its continuing cultural importance.

Each summer, we gather in the parish hall on Sunday mornings for the Chalice Circles in lieu of worship. Chalice Circles are a form of small group ministry, which invites deep listening, reflection, and sharing on a thoughtful topic. Each Sunday, a congregant leads that week's Chalice Circle, presenting the topic for reflection and discussion. The presenter is paired with a facilitator from our Chalice Circle leadership team. Chalice Circles run from June 22–August 31. Childcare is available.

### **Book Group**

Thursday, September 4, 7:00 pm, on Zoom

The Book Group meets on the first Thursday of the month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, with a gap in summer and in December. All members and friends are welcome to join us. We will conduct our meetings via Zoom. Each year, we choose a variety of genres and forms. You are welcome to come even if you have not finished the book. For more information visit: [www.ufpc.org/book-group](http://www.ufpc.org/book-group).

The book this month is the timeless literary classic The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas. The story explores themes of justice, revenge, and redemption, primarily through the journey of its main character, Edmond Dantes, a young sailor who is unjustly imprisoned. Thrown in prison for a crime he has not committed, Dantes is confined to the grim fortress of If. There he learns of a great hoard of treasure hidden on the Isle of Monte Cristo and becomes determined not only to escape but to unearth the treasure and use it to plot the destruction of the three men responsible for his incarceration. A huge popular success when it was first serialized in the 1840s, Dumas was inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment when writing his epic tale of suffering and retribution.

Join by computer: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83582134326>

Join by telephone: 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 835 8213 4326

### **Writing Group**

Sunday, September 7, 12:00 pm, in-person

We welcome everyone to join us in a free writing session and optional sharing of our words that pursue thinking on a theme. This is a non-critiqued, open minded, generous group that encourages self-expression in a supportive gathering. You can attend one or more sessions. No reservation is required. Groups tend to vary in size between 6 and 14 participants, and the session lasts for forty-five minutes to one hour. Our Writing Group meets in person on the first Sunday of the month in the parlor at 12:00 pm. There are no meetings in January or June. Contact facilitator Leslie Simpson at 617-448-9645.

### **Poetry Group**

Tuesday, September 9, 7:00 pm, in-person

The Poetry Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month in-person from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the parish hall. Bring a poem or two you would like to share with the group. Each participant has an opportunity to read their poem out loud. It can be a poem by someone else or one you wrote. Then, in turn the members discuss their thoughts on it. Contact Albert Vaughn at [vaughn.albert@icloud.com](mailto:vaughn.albert@icloud.com).

### **Kindred Spirits Discussion Group for Seniors**

Tuesday, September 16, 10:30 am–12:00 pm, in-person

Join us for a monthly discussion group, grounded in our UU values, where we reflect on current events and pressing social issues. Kindred Spirits is open to seniors aged 60+ and will meet on the third Tuesday of the month at our church. We will meet in the parish hall. Coffee and tea are provided.

### **Soul Matters Small Group Ministry Registration**

Are you interested in exploring spiritual questions while reflecting and connecting with others in our United First Parish Church Community? Consider joining a Soul Matters small group! Soul Matters groups bring together a group of 6-12 people to reflect on a monthly theme through a format that encourages personal reflection and fosters deep connection with fellow members and friends of the congregation. Soul Matters small groups are facilitated by our Ministerial Intern, Ann Parsley, and our Lead Minister, Rev. Rebecca Froom. This year we will be offering two Soul Matters groups: Third Thursdays from 7:00 - 8:30pm on Zoom; and Fourth Tuesdays from 7:00 - 8:30pm at United First Parish Church. More information and registrations are available in the parish hall or online at <https://forms.gle/y9adLtvBhdZxDMfc6>. **Please register by Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.**

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Summer Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:00 am–1:00 pm or by appointment.