



## Weekly Announcements

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Chalice Circle

### **“Caring for the Care-Givers”**

Jamie Grassmann, presenter

Sunday, July 25, 10:30 am, on Zoom

The last year and a half have taken a toll on our health care providers, as well as many of us who are caring for friends and family at home. The added stress of being homebound during this time and not being able to visit people who were in the hospital or out of state has raised anxiety levels throughout our lives. What are the ways we can help relieve the burdens that each of us might feel? How can we best support the Care-Givers in our lives?

During the summer months, we hold weekly Chalice Circles on Sunday mornings from 10:30 am–12:00 pm (in lieu of worship). Chalice Circles are drop-in discussion groups grounded in the tradition of small group ministry which emphasizes personal reflection, authentic sharing, and deep listening. Each Chalice Circle will have a presenter who introduces the topic of the day; throughout the summer we will have a variety of presenters and topics. There will also be a Chalice Circle host each Sunday who will support the presenter and guide us through our small group ministry format. Our Chalice Circles will be on Zoom until August 1 or 8. Then we meet in-person in the parish hall for the rest of the summer.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86170075449>

Join by telephone: 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 861 7007 5449

### **StandOut Quincy 4 Black Lives**

Thursdays, 3:30–5:30 pm, church front steps

UFPC is partnering with Quincy for Transformative Change for an initiative in support of Black Lives Matter. We meet on the church front steps weekly to bear peaceful witness and to advocate for justice and equity for our fellow citizens of color. You are invited to join our small but dedicated group. Kindly direct your questions to me at my cell 617-272-0274 or [artclaire@comcast.net](mailto:artclaire@comcast.net). Thank you, Claire Fitzmaurice.

### **Book Group**

Thursday, September 2, 7:00 pm

The UFPC Book Group meets on the first Thursday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, with a gap in summer and in December. All members and friends of UFPC are welcome to join us. We have not decided if we will meet in-person or on Zoom in September at this point. We try to select a balance of styles. You are welcome to come even if you have not finished the book. Over the years we have had some practice at avoiding spoilers and it is always fun to have new voices.

*Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue is the story of the Jende and Neni Jonga who have recently immigrated from Cameroon to the United States in order to create a better life for their son Liomi. Jende applies for a job as a driver for Clark Edwards, a senior executive at Lehman Brothers. Despite their major differences, Clark and

his wife Cindy establish a relationship with the Jongas, with Cindy offering Neni temporary work. When the Jongas undergo financial and immigration hardships, however, their American Dream is put at risk.

### **Water for Our Water Ceremony**

Sunday, September 12, 10:30 am

You are invited to bring water to contribute to our September 12<sup>th</sup> Water Ceremony during the first Sunday worship of our 2021-2022 church year. The water can be from a place that is meaningful to you (near or far) and/or the water can symbolize your life journey this season – representing a joy, sorrow, change, hope, fear, or dream in your life now.

### **Updates on Covid-Safe Building Usage**

Your Board of Governors has been working alongside our Reopening Taskforce (Jim Petosa, Daphne Souvenir, Bill Westland, David Downs, David Bousquin, Joan McDonald, and Rev. Rebecca Froom) to thoughtfully outline plans and policies to begin to use our building and grounds for regular programs and special events. Our work is grounded in our UU principles that respect the worth and dignity of all people and is guided by science. Though the State of Emergency in Massachusetts has now been lifted, we know the global Covid-19 pandemic is far from over. We are looking at the recommendations coming out of the CDC as we consider how to create safe and welcoming spaces for our multigenerational community and for all of the programs, groups, and renters who use our building and grounds. Our policies assume that we are living in a mixed-vaccination society. Though many of us have been vaccinated, not everyone is eligible and not everyone chooses to get a vaccine. Note, UFPC feels strongly that unvaccinated people have a responsibility to continue to protect themselves through masks and social distancing throughout all aspects of their daily lives.

Here are some highlights of our changing Covid-19 policies and practices:

- Masks are no longer required outside.
- Masks are required inside with two exceptions for staff and speakers and performers at events.
- Indoor events are allowed with capacity limits set for each room, including Sanctuary (200), Parish Hall (40), Parlor (14), Dining Room (30), Kitchen (10).
- Room reservations can be made to David Bousquin in the church office at [office@ufpc.org](mailto:office@ufpc.org) David has a complete list of capacity limits for each room.
- We will use our building in ways that encourage social distancing, such as roping off every-other-pew in the sanctuary, creating a one-way path through the building for our historic tours, having all our restrooms be single-occupancy, etc.
- There are many topics the Reopening Task Force will still be discussing including safe practices around eating together, singing together, and the particular needs of young children and families.

United First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist, 1306 Hancock Street,  
Quincy, Massachusetts 02169, 617-773-1290

[office@ufpc.org](mailto:office@ufpc.org), [www.ufpc.org](http://www.ufpc.org), [www.facebook.com/ufpc/uu](https://www.facebook.com/ufpc/uu)

Summer Office Hours: Tuesday–Friday 8:00 am–12:00 pm or by appointment