

For more about the larger Unitarian Universalist denomination with which we are affiliated, go to:  
<https://www.uua.org/>.

**Good to know at UUSD:**

UUSD is an intentionally multigenerational congregation and all ages are always welcome in the Sanctuary. Nursery Care for children ages 0-5 is also available on at least the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month. Children’s Faith Education programming is held at least 3 Sundays a month. For a place to listen to and watch the service if your child would like to move about, please enjoy the comforts of our Foyer. For any questions about Children’s Faith Exploration programming at UUSD, connect with Dr. Heather Hamilton at [CFEDirector@uusd.org](mailto:CFEDirector@uusd.org).

Our music program always welcomes new voices, instrumentalists, and accompanists. Reach out to our Director of Music Ministries, Julie Keefer, at [DirMusicMin@uusd.org](mailto:DirMusicMin@uusd.org).

Office Administrator Sandy Scheet-Robitaille is available Monday through Thursday from 9am to 2:30pm and can be reached at [Admin@uusd.org](mailto:Admin@uusd.org). Contact Sandy if you need a new or updated nametag. Nametag key: Yellow = Pastoral Care Associates; Green = Safety Response Volunteers; Blue = Board Members.

**Recording** - This worship service is being livestreamed and digitally recorded. Space is available at the back of the sanctuary for those who do not want their image or the images of their children live-streamed, recorded, archived, photographed, or posted on the UUSD’s website, social media, or in print.

**UUSD Online Giving** - Anyone can donate via the Donate link at the top right of the website at <https://uusd.org> or via the QR code to the right. Text-to-give is available at 302-321-1707. Members and Friends can donate via Give Now in the Breeze app. Contact our Office Admin if you need help accessing Breeze. Contact [treasurer@uusd.org](mailto:treasurer@uusd.org) for questions about online giving. Our Annual Pledge Drive is every March and we also welcome new pledges at any time throughout the year. However you choose to do so, thank you for supporting UUSD!



**Our Covenant of Good Relations**

The members and friends of UUSD, in order to celebrate and nurture our search for meaning, connection, and acceptance, make this covenant with each other:

- I will seek to create a loving community, through worship and joyous community, that holds each member in safety, care, and trust.
- I will listen, reflect, and respond with respect.
- I will practice goodwill and assume it from others.
- I will speak from my own experience.
- I will speak responsibly and directly with those with whom I have conflict and honor our differences.
- I will be a positive participant in, and share responsibility for, the life of the church.
- I will strive with integrity to live by this covenant as an expression of the principles and purposes of the UUA.

(This Covenant was adopted by UUSD in 2002.)

**Unitarian Universalists  
of Southern Delaware**

A Welcoming and Progressive  
Spiritual Community

**April 13, 2025**



**“For a Glimmer of Hope”**  
Rev. Heather Rion Starr

**Our Vision**

*We are a caring community dedicated to being  
an inclusive, spiritual hub for our region  
that responds to the needs of our changing world.*

**Our Mission**

*Nurture spiritual growth  
Embrace diversity  
Work for justice  
Strive for a loving world*

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April 13, 2025

When music begins, help us to create a listening,  
meditative environment together.

Gathering Music                      *6 Short Piano Pieces Op. 6 No. 5*                      Julie Keefer  
by Michael Kravchuk

*Let it Be*  
by Paul McCartney and John Lennon

Gathering Song #108 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* (gray hymnal)

Opening Words    Rev. Heather Rion Starr

Chalice Lighting    “Beckoning Onward”  
by Marj Shannon

As we light this chalice,  
may it focus our attention,  
comfort our aching hearts,  
and quiet our circling minds.  
May it renew our stubborn hope,  
strengthen our resolve,  
and brighten our path  
as we reach ever forward.

Welcome and Announcements    Marj Shannon

Affirmation    by Rev. James Vila Blake

Love is the spirit of this church,  
and service its law.  
This is our great covenant:  
To dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in love,  
And to help one another.

Centering Music    Julie Keefer

Joys and Sorrows    Rev. Heather

Leader: In our joys and in our sorrows  
Congregation: **We are not alone.**

Prayer/Meditation

Song of Meditation #123 *Spirit of Life* (gray hymnal)

Reading    “Let Us Pray”    by Marj Shannon

Offertory    *Peace Prayer Mandala*    (see insert)

Reflection    Rev. Heather

Song of Reflection    *Plowshare Prayer*    UUSD Choir  
Ellie Peel, Soloist

Extinguishing the Chalice    by Rev. Michael Smith/Marcie Leonard

We extinguish the flame in this chalice,  
but not the one in our hearts.  
This is the light of our soul that shines forth  
when the world seems too dark.  
It is the spark that ignites hope  
when that seems lost.  
Your light is precious;  
carry it with you...always.

Benediction    Rev. Heather

Congregation: **Stay awkward, stay brave, and be kind.**  
—Brenè Brown



Good morning and welcome visitors! This is a place where we teach love, we encourage compassion and justice, and we celebrate diversity. Our services vary in form and content from week to week. We encourage you to join us for several weeks to get a more complete idea of who we are and what we are about.

Joys and Sorrows to be shared in the Sunday Update should be sent to Jean Charles at worship@uussd.org by 3pm Sunday. Please also email Jean if you are not receiving the Update and would like to.

Minister: Rev. Heather Rion Starr. Director of Music Ministries, Piano: Julie Keefer. Children’s Faith Exploration (CFE) Director: Prof. Heather Hamilton. Guitar: Ron Parks. Bass: Rick Welk. Cello: Cathy Rion Starr. Worship Associate: Marj Shannon. Board Representative: Jane Miller. Audio Visual Support: Cheryl Hickey. Featured Committee Table: Fundraising. Social Time Clean-up Crew: Men’s Covenant Group.