

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 in 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

**May 4, 2025**



**Jean Charles Service Sunday  
Leadership Development Committee**

**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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May 4, 2025

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

Gathering Music

Star Wars Theme Song

May the [Fourth] Be With You

by John Williams

Julie Keefer

If You Believe

from “The Prince of Egypt”

by Stephen Schwartz and Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds

Gathering Song #1008

When Our Heart is in a Holy Place (teal hymnal)

Opening Words

Susan Goekler

Chalice Lighting

by Rev. Alice Anacheke-Nasemann

In a time of uncertainty, when everything around us is changing constantly – each day new developments, rising numbers, changing guidelines; when the world we live in suddenly seems upside-down and topsy-turvy: we light our chalice to remind ourselves of our grounding in our faith. We remember that the flaming chalice came into being as a beacon of hope during World War II: a secret symbol that offered help. In the midst of it all, we wrap ourselves in the warm light of a familiar flame, a reminder of the strength that emerges when we come together in community.

Welcome and Announcements

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 #123

Spirit of Life (gray hymnal)

Joys and Sorrows

Rand Lytton

Leader: In our joys and in our sorrows

Congregation: **We are not alone.**

Prayer/Meditation

Song of Meditation #1031

Filled with Loving Kindness (teal hymnal)

Reading

Beth Nevill

Offertory

Get Happy/Happy Days Are Here Again

arr. by Sabrina Carpenter and Sarah Carpenter

Valerie McNickol and Ruth Lamothe, duet

Reflections

Ruth Lamothe, Paul Barnette, Joanne Saltzberg, Ron Parks, and Lori Rocheleau

Song of Reflection

Lead with Love

by Melanie DeMore

(see insert)

Chalice Extinguishing

Take the Fire

by Ron Parks

Take the fire from this place,  
Let it shine on ev’ry face,  
Lift the light of truth and grace for all.  
Everyone plays a part; it’s our mission and our art,  
As we joyously depart to serve.  
Peace, blessed be, namaste and amen,  
Seeking the path once again.  
Live in love, grow in grace, in each heart is sacred space.  
With compassion, we embrace the world.

Benediction

Dar Sellers

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.

Last week’s participation: 153 Adults, 16 Children, 7 Visitors, 22 Live-streamed, 5 via Zoom.

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. Vocal Team: Paul Barnette, Valerie McNichol and Lorin Rocheleau. Worship Associate: Susan Goekler. Board Representative: Donna Davis. Audio Visual Support: Cheryl Hickey. Featured Committee Table: Covenant Group Council. Clean-up Crew: Leadership Development Committee.