



The Flaming Chalice

THEOLOGICALLY DIVERSE • RADICALLY INCLUSIVE • JUSTICE CENTERED

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church | May 2022 Newsletter



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MAY 1

Rabindranath Tagore

This Sunday we welcome back Rev. Pratima Dharm, who will be sharing her thoughts about Nobel Prize winning poet Rabindranath Tagore, the “Bard of Bengal.”

Rev. Pratima Dharm leads.

MAY 8

Mother's Day: Seasons of Love & Healing.

Join us as we share memories and honor all those who have loved us into being.

Rev. Maria Cristina leads.

MAY 15

Reimagining Radical Faith Community

This is the theme of our General Assembly this year. Come hear some of the ways the UUA is reimagining radical faith community, and ponder how it applies to us in our time of transition.

Ben Ogilvie leads.

MAY 22

Covenant & Creed

We affirm that our congregation is bound not by creed, but by covenant. By what theologian Rebecca Parker calls “freely chosen and life-sustaining interdependence.” And yet among us there are members who are also bound to us by creed, who have a deep abiding religious faith that is their theological foundation guiding them towards love and justice. Join us as we explore the intersections of covenant and creed.

A dialogue between Rev. Maria Cristina and Mileva Saulo Lewis, Vice-President of the Board of Trustees.

MAY 29

Memorial Day

Guest Speaker TBD

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April Highlights



From the Minister

Beloved Starr King UU Church Community,

After much discernment and with a heart filled with gratitude, I share the news of my departure at the end of August. I have accepted the role of Candidate for Settled Ministry at East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church in Bellevue, Washington.

We have journeyed together for six years and it has been an honor and a blessing to be your Minister. I want to thank you for the 6 years of faith and trust that you have placed in me. Thank you for welcoming me as your Minister and for the opportunity to serve you. I am so proud of the work we have done together as a shared ministry. I feel that through it all, we have transformed each other in ways perhaps neither of us expected.

Transitions are hard and in the coming weeks, we will create opportunities to reflect on our shared experience, to listen deeply to both joys and sorrows, to honor our time together, and to celebrate our shared Ministry.

You are in good hands with a strong Board, dedicated staff and volunteers, and leadership that is wise and compassionate. You will also have the ongoing support of the UUA Regional Staff and the Transitions Office.

May you continue the wonderful and important work that makes this hurting world more loving and just. Deep gratitude for all the ways you bless this Beloved Community!

With Love and Bendiciones,

-Rev. Maria Cristina



Bits from Your Board

Interim Minister Search Team Begins

Almost immediately after Rev. Maria Cristina announced her resignation, the Board moved to name an Interim Minister Search Team: Mileva Saulo Lewis, Vice-President of the Board as Coordinator along with Marilyn Mosher, Ben Ogilvie, and Stephanie Smith. Under the guidance and support of Rev. Keith Kron, Director of the Transitions Office for the Unitarian Universalist Association, we were able to meet the 21 April deadline for the completion of the Interim Search Profile. We are deeply grateful for the slightly more than a dozen people who responded to several of the narrative questions from the profile. This file is open to members of the Search Team and to ministers who wish to apply for an Interim Ministry only.



The profile contains general demographics of our church, the characteristics we believe are important for the Interim Minister to possess, as well as on-going programs and traditions we wish to continue. Specifics include:

General Demographics:

- Congregational culture, history, mission and values;
- Worship service schedule;
- Ministerial history;
- Membership, demographics and finances;
- Accessibility;
- Resources and programs, and
- Personnel and minister's role in relation to other paid staff.

Specific Questions Related to the Interim Minister to Ascertain:

- Desired strengths for the minister;
- Top three things our next minister should focus on to have a successful ministry with us.
- Ongoing momentum which the minister should continue;
- Programs or traditions which the minister should maintain, and
- Trust level in our congregation right now.

Bits from Your Board

Interim Minister Search Team Begins (cont.)

We will use our Constant Contact communication tool to keep you informed. We expect to hear from prospective candidates beginning 2 May. This timeline is fluid and moves only as fast as we receive, review, and can interview applicants.

Once an Interim Minister has been chosen by the Board, this Interim Search Team's work is done. There will then need to be a Transition Team to work with the Interim Minister's entry to our congregation.

Let's remember that we are a resilient people and we will continue to bring our best caring and loving selves to this process and our lives together as a spiritual community. This is indeed the Easter Season, a time of new beginnings.

Announcements

Memorial Service: Garald Mosher
Saturday May 7, 11am

A service to honor the memory of Garald Mosher will be held in our sanctuary, followed by a light lunch.

Masks are required during the service.

RSVPs are helpful but not necessary. Please send any to Marilyn Mosher at mmosher@earthlink.net, or text/phone at 510.909.9182.

Donations to the [Alzheimer's Association](#) are welcome.



Peace and Justice Action Team

PJAT MOVIE NIGHT

EARTH EMERGENCY

JUNE 10, 7-9PM VIA ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9796339783?pwd=ZmhFOtA1T0JRa3JvV0ZzZDVkd1VUUT09>

This revealing film examines how human activity is setting off dangerous warming loops that are pushing the climate to a point of no return--and what we need to do to stop them. With captivating illustrations, stunning footage and interviews with leading climate scientists as well as support from Greta Thunberg. 'Earth Emergency' adds the missing piece of the climate puzzle.

PJAT will send a reminder email with the same link a few days before the movie night.

You can click [here](#) to join the movie night at 7pm on Friday April 8th.

EARTH EMERGENCY

The background of the lower half of the image is a photograph of two large, jagged icebergs floating in the ocean. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water is dark blue with some whitecaps. The text 'EARTH EMERGENCY' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

SoUUlful Family Ministry

April Highlights

Sharing thoughts.....

Attachment

Think for a moment about the “Go to person” in your life, and then think about the “why” you go to them. What you are experiencing is an attachment connection that we humans need to live a balanced life. That go to person provides security, love, validation and more. For the young child the attachment connection creates a safe environment to explore their surroundings, knowing they have a trusting, loving adult, with open arms, waiting for their return.

At birth a bond with a caregiver begins this attachment process. These special connections continue through out our lives, creating new ones along the way. There are many different levels and depths of attachments and we can have more than one, i.e. neighbors, family members, teachers, babysitters.

SoUUlful Family Ministry supports such attachments simply by creating a safe environment for our children to explore their world. We are the “go to people” who offer a snack to eat, art to create, opportunities to share feelings and provide helping hands when needed.

Our weekly family projects, Happy Heart Circle Time and church activities all promote and support the attachment process .It’s a “Never Ending Story”, which we all are experiencing together.

Happy Heart Circle Time

Our circle time enjoyed an original slide show. We settled back, got comfy and enjoyed the photos of Mother Earth. The children continue to explore the importance of creativity and how it plays a part in our lives. It’s when our mind and heart create a special friendship is when we can get creative. Creativity helps to solve problems, express yourselves and better understand who we are.



SoUUlful Family Ministry

April Highlights (cont.)

Family Project Time

Rocks were honored this month. We held them in our palms, felt their presence and then painted them! The children were challenged this month to use their creativity and create something from “scratch” using just pipe cleaners. The challenge was in the demo recording, all I said was “make something.” Usually I demo what to make, but not this time. LOL

Special Projects and Events

I am so excited about our children's community garden. I invite you all to come, visit and enjoy the peacefulness. If a plant looks thirsty feel free to water, or if a plant is needing to join the others in the flower bed, plant it. If a seed represents growth, cover it with soil. I want to thank these people, Walt, Shiela, Ethel-May, Lea and Reneé R. I really felt the love when they all volunteered to help set the garden up. Thank you all!!

Thank you Rev. Maria Cristina for being our “Easter Bunny.” The children really enjoyed the basket of spring goodies. The children's Easter party was a fizzy blast, we mixed baking soda, vinegar and food coloring in hollow eggs and stepped back to watch the show. The children had a variety of eggs, toys and surprises to hunt for. They needed two baskets! Spring is here.

Gratitude

I continue to appreciate the people who help in the classroom, deliver project bags and special deliveries. Lavon, Kelly H. and Corina.

-Lorie Miller, SoUUlful Family Coordinator



Ongoing Activities

Starr King welcomes all church interest groups and committees to meet in-person at the church either inside or outside the facility. If your group has been meeting by Zoom, it may continue to do so, by discretion of the group. All groups meeting in-person on the Church grounds should continue to observe COVID safety protocols by:

- Wearing masks
- Practicing social distancing
- Refraining from serving and sharing refreshments

We applaud your continued participation in SKUUC activities.

Evening Meditation	First Thursday of the month, 7:00–8:30pm, every Wednesday after, 7:00–8:30pm, on Zoom. Open to all. Contact: Diane Meyerson
Small Group Ministry	Contact sgm@starrking.org for more information.
Board Meeting	First Wednesday of the month, 7:30 on Zoom. Open to all. Contact: Roy Dickerson
Peace and Justice Action Team	Second Sunday of the month after worship (after a 15-20 minute break) in a hybrid model via Zoom using the same link as the service.
Starr King Singers	Sundays before the service from 9:30-10:00 a.m.
Adult RE	(On hold) Second Tuesday of the Month from 11–12 noon on Zoom Contact: Mileva Saulo Lewis
Choir Practice	(On hold) Meets every Sunday from 9–10:15am in the Fellowship Hall. Contact: Lea Casini



May Birthdays

May 12
Laura Otermat
Torsten Fink

May 16
Lavon Hodges
Beckett Wagner

May 21
Karen Kramer

May 29
Carol Henrie