

The Flaming Chalice

THEOLOGICALLY DIVERSE • RADICALLY INCLUSIVE • JUSTICE CENTERED Starr King Unitarian Universalist Church | April 2024 Newsletter

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April Worship Services:

Please see <u>our website</u> for an updated listing of our upcoming worship services.



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March Highlights











From the Minister

Rev. Elizabeth Sollie

My hope is that our next step in the transitions process will be to revisit our mission and vision. This is a proposal guaranteed to elicit grumbling. Very few people love the process or the outcome. We talk, talk until we have a sufficiently bland — yet noble and comprehensive — statement that we can all live with it and then wordsmith it a little more for good measure. Then we grudgingly agree on it, stick it in a drawer or an obscure corner of our website and let it trouble us no more. What's not to love?

I am not interested in crafting a such a statement. I actually want to know the collective sense of mission you share. I want to hear your yearning for your tomorrows. I want to know what ignites passion. I want to know what you are on fire about in your faith. I want you to notice what perks you up and gets you excited when you start to talk about doing something.

I took notes today for one of our small group conversations about how we can grow into better people. The theme that started to bubble and rise was about meeting the isolation and loneliness in our communities. There was a clear sense of mission in the room.

Maybe it would help to stop thinking about mission and vision in lofty terms. Terms like ending injustice in the world. Terms that defeat us before we begin. Maybe our mission includes alleviating the loneliness of our neighbors and ourselves. Maybe we actually need to start thinking small.

At any rate, if we do work on mission and vision, I would like to start with yours. We have dabbled together. I invite you to keep thinking and talking about it and see what develops wings.

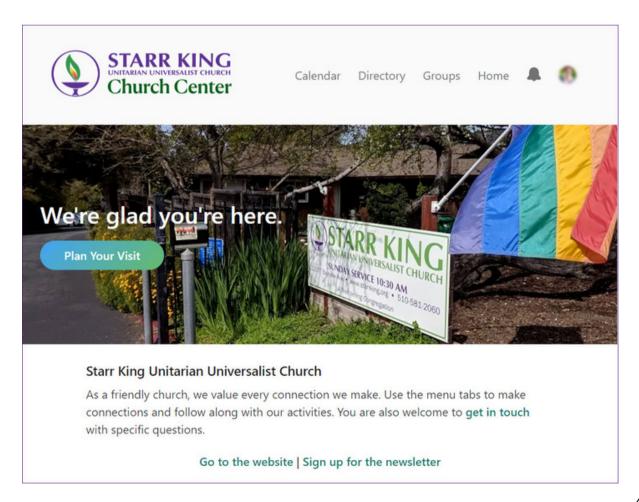


Announcements

Church Management Database

Starr King has new Church Management Database (CMDB) software, which is used to keep track of contact information for visitors and members, information about pledges and donations, and even information about our events and groups. There are two components to the software: **Planning Center** for our administrators and staff and **Church Center** for church members and participants. Church Center can be accessed from a web browser (e.g. Safari, Firefox, Chrome, etc.) on a computer or from an app on either an Apple iPhone or an Android phone. Church Center will enable each person to manage their own profile information, view their pledges and donations, interact with the groups they are members of or lead. They can also view the most current church calendar and directory.

On **Sunday, April 28, 2024**, after the service, there will be a short presentation about Church Center and then a team of people will be available, on Zoom and in person, to help people get the app installed on their phone and to get signed in, so each person can access their information and the church directory. There will be a Zoom meeting later the following week to show the presentation again and to assist with the app. Additional assistance will be available after service for the first couple of weeks in May.



Ongoing Activities

- Masks are optional.
- Eating & drinking are permitted in the Fellowship Hall
- Singing without masks is permitted
- Encourage gathering in all indoor and outdoor settings.

We will continue to provide:

- Virtual worship as an option as well as for meetings
- KN95 mask for your use

Evening Meditation	Every Wednesday 7:00-8:30 pm, on Zoom. Open to all. Visitors welcome. Contact: Diane Meyerson
Board Meeting	First Tuesday of the month, 4:00–5:30 pm on Zoom. Open to all. Contact: Mileva Saulo Lewis
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.
Starr King Choir	Every Monday 7:00-8:00 pm. Contact: Linli Wang at <u>music@starrking.org</u>
Small Group Ministry	Contact: Terry Hunt (<u>hunt.terence@gmail.com</u>) or Mileva Saulo Lewis (<u>milevalewis@comcast.net</u>)
Adult RE	Check our website for upcoming opportunities: https://starrking.org/adult-programs