

AS WE AWAIT THE DAWN

by Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger

Sunday, December 21, 2025

“Light and dark are different, but not opposed to each other. They are friends with one another, and with us.”

Gary Kowalski

Senior Minister SM Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger

Minister of Faith Development MFD Rev. Annie Gonzalez

Worship Associate WA Jenn McClain

Lay Pastoral Associate LPCA Lay Pastoral Care Team

Dir. of Faith Dev. For Children DFDC Nate Sellers

Music Director MD Brad Conner

Youth Choir Director LCD Janet Welby

Steve Sussman, *piano*

A Warm Thanks to Today's Volunteers

Natalie McClain, Bob Bass, Bob Batt, Chris Tohline, Sarah Dorer, Clayton Springer, Ellen Scheiner, Rich Suval, Lee Vorderer, Carol Epple

Focal Point

Donated by Stacy Chandler and Chris Gittins

“This shortest day as promise awakens in the sleeping land.”

Welcome Yule!

If you are visiting today, Welcome!

After services, all are invited to join us for fellowship and coffee in the Common Room. Stop by the Welcome Table and complete a blue card to be added to our email list.

Assistance & Accessibility

Hearing assisting devices are located at the back of the Sanctuary and in Page Room. Large print bulletins and hymnals are available. All floors are accessible by our elevator at the Elm St. entrance. If you prefer privacy, the back two rows of pews and the upstairs Bacon room will not appear on zoom. Our masking & fragrance-free room is located on the 2nd floor. Noise cancelling earphones are available. Ushers are on hand to help. Please wear a name tag. New tags can be requested at the Welcome Table.

Youth

†All children, 4 to 14, are invited to join classes. Childcare for infants and children under 3 is available most Sunday mornings in our downstairs nursery.

Today's FD Classrooms

PreK - 5th

Rm L02

6th-7th

Rm 204

ORDER OF SERVICE

SOUND OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS WA

CHALICE LIGHTING & ADVENT CANDLES

LIGHTING MENORRAH

OPENING WORDS SM

“The Shortest Day” by Susan Cooper

*OPENING HYMN

“Gather the Spirit” No. 347

**UNISON AFFIRMATION

TIME FOR ALL AGES DFDC

SINGING THE CHILDREN OUT

May your mind be open to new learning

May your lips bring truth into the world

May your heart know love, and your hands do the work of justice
as you go your way in peace, as you go your way in peace.

JOYS AND CONCERNS LPCA

READING WA

“What is Unitarian Universalism” by Rev. David Schwartz

OFFERING WORDS SM

OFFERTORY

REFLECTION SM

“As We Await the Dawn” by Rev. Jamie

CLOSING HYMN

“Rising Green” No. 1068

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISH CHALICE SM

POSTLUDE

*Please rise in body or spirit.

**See back of

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

A digital infrastructure projects survey is now open till Jan 5. Everyone is invited to complete the webform

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y5TRVC9>

which covers infrastructure problems, proposed solutions, cost alternatives & community values. Your thoughtful responses to this survey are greatly appreciated!

WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY	7:00 AM	Winter Solstice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service
	11:30 AM	Carol Sing-a-Long
	11:30 AM	Fellowship & Coffee
	11:30 AM	SYG
	2:00 PM	Multi-Generational Games
MONDAY	1:00 PM	Knot Committee
	3:30 PM	Dot Ellis Memorial
	5:00 PM	Youth Alumni Reunion
	7:00 PM	Capital Campaign Committee-ZOOM
TUESDAY	4:00 PM	Immigration Vigil/Art Exhibit
	7:00 PM	Meditation
WEDNESDAY	3:30 PM	Family Christmas Eve
	7:40 PM	Prelude Music
	8:00 PM	Traditional Christmas Service
THURSDAY		MERRY CHRISTMAS!
FRIDAY		CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY-OFFICE CLOSED
SATURDAY		

~check the website calendar for more details~

OPEN GROUPS & PROGRAMS

Faith Development

Sunday (PreK - 7th) during Sun Service
Jr. Youth Group (6th - 8th) Wed 3:30 - 5 pm
Sr. Youth Group (9th - 12th) Sun 2:30 - 4 pm

Choirs

Adult Choir Thur 7:30 pm
Sr. Youth Choirs (6th - 12th) Thur 4:00-4:15pm
Jr. Youth Choirs (3rd - 5th) Thur 4:00-4:15pm
KidSing (age 5-2nd) Contact Janet Welby

Drop-In Meditation Group

1st, 3rd, 4th & last Tue 7pm

Vespers

2nd Tue 7 pm

Women's Book Group

monthly Sun. 6 pm

Short Story Group

Thur 9:30 am

Join a Small Group

contact Rev. Annie

Multigenerational Gaming Gathering

3rd Sun 2 pm

Friday Night Potluck Dinner

1st Fri 6 pm

Immigration Justice Committee

contact Cecile Mercado

UNISON AFFIRMATION

Love is the spirit of this church

And service is its law.

This is our great covenant:

To dwell together in peace,

To seek the truth in love,

And to help one another.

El amor es el Espíritu de esta Iglesia
y el servicio es su ley.

Este es nuestro gran pacto:

Vivir juntos en paz,

buscar la verdad en espíritu de amor,

y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.

"Connect" with us to be added to our email list.



Volunteer



Connect



Donate

Parish Office: Monday to Friday, 10:AM - 2:00 PM
781-275-7994

Church Staff

Senior Minister: Rev. Jamie Hinson-Rieger
minister@uubedford.org

Minister Faith Development: Rev. Annie Gonzalez
ministerfaithdev@uubedford.org

Dir. of FD for Children: Nathan Sellers
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Minister Emeritus: Rev. John Gibbons
Parish Administrator: Brenda Rybicki
parishadministrator@uubedford.org

Assistant Admin: Marika McGrath
mmcgrath@uubedford.org

Choir/Music Director: Brad Conner
bconner@uubedford.org

Youth Choir Director: Janet Welby
jwelby@uubedford.org

Organist: Sandra LaBarge-Neumann
Custodian: Joe Mitchell

Parishioner Editor: Carla Bradford
editors@uubedford.org

Parish Board President: Stacy Chandler
boardpresident@uubedford.org

Parish Board: Mark Bailey, Bea Brunkhorst,
Ted Carlson, Peter Cho,
Wendy Innis, Susan Lincoln

Church Committee Chairs

Environmental Justice (EJC): Ginny Steel

Finance: Wendy Innis, *treasurer*

Gallery@FirstParish: Maria Green, Doris Smith

Hospitality: Catherine Van Praagh

Immigration Justice: Cecile Mercado

IT: Sandy Currier

Lay Pastoral: Elizabeth Connors

Membership: TBA

Music: Lisa Tohline

Nominating: Sarah Dorer

Parish Council: Bea Brunkhorst

Partner Church: Sharon McDonald

Personnel: Carol Gregory

Physical Plant: Joel Parks

Stewardship: Sarah Dorer, Bill Rabinowitz

Social Responsibility: Moriah Tumbleson-Shaw

UU Urban Ministry Delegates: Cecile Mercado & Robert Schmalz

FIRST PARISH IN BEDFORD

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CONGREGATION



ORDER OF SERVICE

DECEMBER 21, 2025

10:00 AM

75 Great Road
Bedford, MA



uubedford.org