

STARR KING VIEW

Starr King UU Fellowship
-A Welcoming Congregation-



April 2025

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Don't forget!
Auction & Party
Saturday, April 5th at 5:30!
See you there!



New Starr King Administrator

Jennifer Sprague has joined us and Reverend Linda's staff here at Starr King and we are really pleased to have her with us. Jennifer's hours will be flexible in the near term as we work to settle on the final schedule. Jennifer comes with years of experience with other denominations including the Bristol UCC in a similar capacity as Starr King and previously worked at the Meredith Episcopal church. Sharon Warga was kind enough to help cross train Jennifer for two weeks as a transitional assist.



Please stop by and welcome Jennifer when you are next at Starr King.

Office Admin Schedule

Tuesday: 12:30PM - 5:30PM
Wednesday: 12:30PM - 5:30PM
Thursday: 9AM - 1PM

As always, you can email admin@starrkingfellowship.org or leave a voicemail and Jennifer will get back to you when she is in the office.

Minister's Hours: Tues & Wed, 10 am -2 pm; Thurs, 10 am -3 pm;
or by appointment

Sunday Services April 2025

April 6 Joy and Sorrow Interwoven Rev. Linda Barnes

What we care deeply about is revealed in both what brings us sorrow and what brings us joy; indeed, they are interwoven. Tending to both our sorrow and our joy, in the communion of shared experience, is what love is all about. Join us on this Sunday as we will be welcoming new members in this service too!

April 13 Abundance and Reciprocity Rev. Linda Barnes

On this Sunday we'll explore the relationship of abundance and reciprocity and how we might use these relationships to more deeply recognize our interconnection to all of life. A nod to botanist and author, Robin Wall Kimmerer, for making this so very evident.

April 20 Joy in the Morning, Rise Again Rev. Linda Barnes

Easter morning invites us to think again about what might be made new, about what can come from the ashes of our lives. Always it is in the debris of what has been that the seed sprouts, spring comes, and we are born anew.

April 27 Random

Rev. Michael F. Hall

We often tell ourselves that there must be a meaning for the things that happen in our life and world. Many faith traditions look to a deity who ultimately has a plan for absolutely EVERYTHING! This can be very difficult for those of us who don't have the surety of even a made-up God to comfort and/or protect us, considering all the crazy, illogical and unnecessary things that happen in the world. Today, Rev. Michael F. Hall will speak to another possibility, that things are just as random, haphazard and ruled by chance as they appear.

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New Members!

We are excited to welcome five new members to our Fellowship.

Please welcome:

Brian Walsh

Kristen Walsh,

Rosemary D'Arcy

Richard Sottilaro

Clay Morris!

Do You Wish You Could See a Service You Missed?

Did you know that most Sunday Services are recorded and posted to Vimeo - a cloud-based video platform similar to YouTube?

You can view any past service by navigating to the bottom of this page [Sunday Services | Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | Plymouth, NH \(starringfellowship.org\)](#) on our website

You can see the most recent Sunday or any past services.

Minister's Newsletter April 2025

*We cannot cure the world of sorrows,
but we can choose to live in joy.*
~ Joseph Campbell

Our Soul Matters theme for the month of April is *Living Love Through the Practice of Joy*. I know these times are unprecedented. I know our future is uncertain (it always was). I know we fear for the wellbeing of so many. I know, I know. Still, imagine committing to looking for joy and holding it close every day. It might be in the taste of a perfect slice of bread and sweet cream butter. It might be the way your child pulls a pair of pants over her head and dances, just because. It might be the birdsong that has now come alive with the unfolding of spring. Joy is ours, if we so choose. But, dear ones, we must choose. While it might seem like, especially in challenging times, that joy is frivolous, even disrespectful to all who are hurting or fearful, I assure you it is an antidote. It is the chocolate that one ingests after encountering a dementor (Harry Potter reference there). It is the thing that can lead us out of paralysis and into good action. Feeling joy is an act of love for the world. Access and expression to joy is a human right for which you and I must give ourselves permission to find and feel. My deep wish is that you find joy and joy finds you!

If you'd like to engage in resistance through action and want to do it with others, know that this Fellowship is yours in which to do that work. Want to make protest posters? Arrange a time and we'll provide markers and poster board. Want to have a group conversation about what's happening and consider ways that we might go forward together, we can do that. Our community's resources are your resources. Please feel free to reach out to me to explore further.

You know, everything takes more effort than it appears. I have much gratitude. A special thank you to all who made auction events possible, to the planners, and to the bidders. It is a playful expression of being in community. Here at the Fellowship, we've been thwarted by weather when it comes to Sunday services this year. I offer my deep thanks to all those who made our Zoom-only service possible on the last Sunday of March. It takes some doing to pivot and it took a good number of impromptu volunteers to make that happen. Thank you to those who teach RE, to the countless ways you make Smooth Sundays possible, provide tech support on Sunday mornings, greet each other for the book club or Soul Matters, and so much more. This community does choose to live in joy, and I am grateful.

In faith and love,

Rev. Linda

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Vespers



The Vespers will be held on Friday, April 4 at 6 pm. Please join us for this gentle contemplative service and, if you're able, a potluck meal afterwards.

President's Message

As we have recently navigated yet another interruption to our regular Sunday services, please be aware we have taken the safety of those in the immediate area and those traveling distances as central to our decision making. What a wonderful job Reverend Linda and Sarah Dan did allowing us all a wonderful and reflective service on March 30th. We all have decisions and choices to make in how we navigate our lives. One message that has been clear in our services lately is to not let Joy be taken from you. In fact, look for and embrace joy in what unfolds before us. Spring is right under our snow-covered ground with buds of plants, grasses, shrubs and trees already pulsing. The spring sap flowing is a sure sign. Let's be positive and be sure to help one another.

This April 5th is our "People to People" party and service-related auction. A great way for everyone to get together and support our fellowship financially and otherwise. Special thanks to the leadership of Deedie Krieble and Janet Englund for helping make all this happen. This contributes to the financial and social well-being of Starr King and all it does and represents. I hope to see you there.

Bob Chandler

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Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC):

The UUSC launches the Resistance Network.

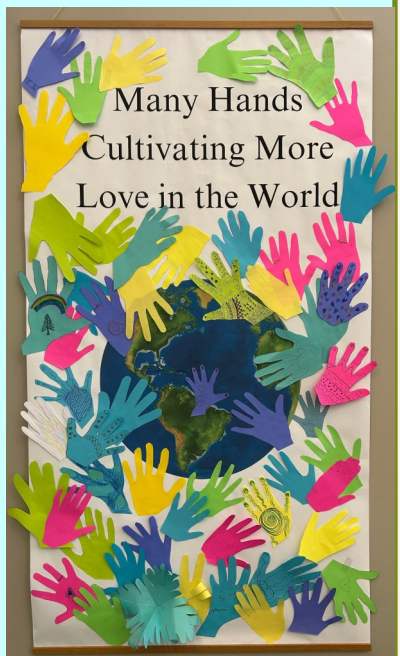
We are living in a time of escalating injustice, but also powerful resistance. Those in power seek to divide us, weaken our movements, and strip away fundamental rights—but we know that justice is only possible when we build solidarity together. Our faith in human dignity, our belief in collective liberation, and our commitment to justice call us to act.

Yesterday, the UUSC launched the Resistance Network—a mobilization hub designed to take immediate action when civil liberties, democracy, and human rights are at risk. The threats we face are vast, but history shows us that resistance works when we act together. The Resistance Network is an opportunity to live our values as Unitarian Universalists and take collective action.



Stewardship Committee

Thank you to members and friends who submitted pledges during our pledge drive for FY 2026. We celebrated the end of the drive on March 9 with our drawing of two \$100 gift cards to the Common Man. Linda Haskins and Susan Scrimshaw and Allan Stern were the lucky recipients. This year we received 64 pledges, four of them new, and raised \$197,266 which was 92% of our goal of \$215,000. You will find more detailed information on the drive in Starr King's Annual Report published in May. We are grateful to you all for generously contributing your time and treasure to support Starr King Fellowship's mission.

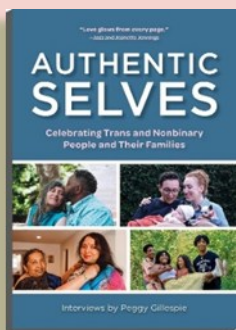


Welcoming Congregation Committee

April 2025 Report

The UUA Has Approved our Renewal!

The Unitarian Universalist Association formally approved Starr King's Welcoming Congregation Renewal on January 17, 2025. Many thanks to Rev. Linda, our Governing Board and all of YOU for your unanimous vote of support at the 2024 Annual Meeting.



Join our Community Read!

We have chosen *Authentic Selves: Celebrating Trans and Nonbinary People and Their Families* (Interviews by Peggy Gillespie) (Skinner House Books, 2023) for our community read. *Authentic Selves* celebrates trans and nonbinary people and their families in photographs and in their own words. Please see Mimi Chandler or Mary Crowell to reserve your copy.

Wear Your Pronouns and Add a Pin!

Wearing your preferred pronouns on your nametag is a simple way to make our trans and nonbinary members and friends feel welcomed in our fellowship. Add a Pride flag pin to your badge to show solidarity in these troubled times. Pronoun stickers and Pride flag pins are available on the Member table in the Starr King lobby. Many thanks to Reed Harrigan for generously supplying the pins!



Speak Up, Speak Out, and Support LGBTQ+ Organizations

Many anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ bills are pending before the New Hampshire legislature this term. We encourage you to make your voice heard!

Reach out for information from these trusted organizations, and please make a donation while you're there:

603 Equality <https://603equality.org/>
ACLU New Hampshire <https://www.aclu-nh.org/>
GLAD Law <https://www.glad.org/>
American Friends Service Committee (NH) <https://afsc.org/programs/new-hampshire>

Starr King's Welcoming Congregation Committee is:

Nancy Chaddock	Mary Crowell	Paul Phillips
Mimi Chandler	Reed Harrigan	Larry Wylie
Bob Clay	Grace Kennedy, DRE	Sarah Wylie



WELCOME



Soundbites

Joy in the Morning.

This Black Spiritual has been on constant loop in my daily being. It is hard these days to find such joy, what with the state of affairs in our world. But, I keep singing and also repeating Rev. Linda's mantra: "Don't let them steal your joy". That precious joy may come in the form of singing birds at dawn's first light. A glimmer of sun after days of rain and clouds. Kids trying out their roller blades in the cul de sac of our condo complex. If it gives me just a glint of hope, then it is a practice worth keeping.

We find this joy through music as well. In our shared singing when we gather in worship. Weekly choir rehearsals. Preparing with the Starr King pick up band for the annual auction. Teaching our younger friends music lessons in the sanctuary. The peace that a heartfelt chant brings when we practice intentionality.

What brings you joy? Which song or songs resonate with you and give you strength and resilience to tackle the day? How might you offer others hope through your actions and gifts of time?

I invite you to join me in this practice of joy as resistance. We Shall Overcome, and possibly find our collective Joy in the Morning.

See y'all in church,
Sarah Dan

SCHEDULE:

Choir meets every Thursday in the Sanctuary 6-7pm (NO choir 4/10)

Sunday:

April 6 - Sarah Dan and Choir
April 13 - Will Gunn, musician
April 20 - Sarah Dan and Choir
April 27 - Sarah Dan and Choir



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Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates to fill positions on the Board and on the Nominating and Endowment Committees that will be open next year. If you have an interest in serving our Fellowship in a leadership role, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee. This is an opportunity to get more deeply involved with the inner workings of our Fellowship. The following positions are open:

Governing Board

President -Elect (2 year term)
Trustee (2 year term, 2025-2027)
Trustee (3 year term, 2025-2028)

Nominating Committee

Committee Member (3 years, 2025-2028)

Endowment Committee

Committee Member (3 year term, 2025-2028)
Committee Member (3 year term, 2025-2028)

Nominating Committee:

Mary Crowell, Chair, Darlene Nadeau, Jane Clay

From your DRE

This past month in RE, the children have had fun exploring the theme of *Trust* through different creative and movement activities. They practiced flowing like water, trusting the fluidity of life, and used art to explore what happens when trust is broken and ways it can be repaired. The children also spent time practicing self-trust, meditating on their unique super powers and reflecting on how we can uplift each other's strengths. Getting to explore these themes as a community, and to be able to express their true self through art and play, is such a huge gift to these children. It is a special part of what happens at the Fellowship. If you'd like to get involved one Sunday, the RE Committee is looking for more volunteer teachers! There is no prior experience in teaching needed, all the activity plans are provided, and you will be paired with a member of the RE Committee who will lead the lesson. It is a wonderful way to get to know the younger members of our community, and have fun exploring the same themes as the service upstairs in a different, creative way. If you'd like to learn more, please send me an email, or speak to Mimi Chandler.



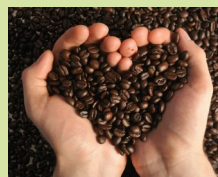
The Our Whole Lives course has made it to the final month! We are so incredibly proud of all the youth who have dedicated so many hours to this class. We would not have been able to offer this course without the amazing contribution of our OWL facilitators, Becky Noel and Larry Wylie. Their commitment and dedication to the growth and well-being of these youth and the wider world is inspiring. We are working to be able to offer even more OWL programs at the Fellowship this Fall.

The Youth Group also continues to meet regularly. They are hard at work fundraising for their upcoming trip to Costa Rica. They will soon begin to learn more about the unique cultural and historical context of the places they will be visiting. A Spanish-speaking country a bit smaller than the state of West Virginia, Costa Rica has a population of about 5 million people. Over 75 years ago, they abolished their military and invested those funds into public healthcare and education. Because of that, there is a very high literacy rate, robust social medicine services, and several generations of people who have only known what it's like to live in peace. Over the next few months, the Youth Group will begin to deepen their understanding of the differences (and similarities) of this new place to where they've grown up. Keep your eyes out for a Coffee House/Open Mic night event happening soon!

Howling Monkey Nicaraguan Coffee Still Available

Shade-grown, organic Howling Monkey Nicaraguan coffee can still be purchased to support both the Starr King Youth group and Compas de Nicaragua.

It is available either whole bean or ground, \$15 per pound. Contact Bob and Jane Clay, claysusanj@gmail.com or 603-996-1207, to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.



SKUUF LENDING LIBRARY

Next time you're in the downstairs lobby, take a look at our lending library. It has recently been refreshed and has many new titles. Some of the new selections focus on LGBTQ+ topics as part of the Welcoming Congregation renewal. Other subjects deal with grief and loss. Both children's and adult books are included.

To check out a book, write your name on the library card in the front of the book and place the card in the card file box. Please return the book in a reasonable amount of time, one month suggested.



Climate Action Committee

The town of Plymouth and our Fellowship member Ted Vansant are highlighted in two articles in the March to May issue of **Green Energy Times**, just released. With all the discouraging cutbacks in EPA and NOAA lately, my focus has been reading sources that provide a balanced approach to all that is happening. Progress toward a renewable future is taking place. One indicator of this are all the ads supporting this free publication that speak to the progress being made by the private sector in northern New England and New York. **Green Energy Times** is available online at greenenergytimes.org. Among the current articles:

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Nancy Chaddock for the Climate Action Committee

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Starr King - Video History Project

Our Starr King Video History project continues to progress. We are looking to capture, share and inspire much of what Starr King has been and remains with us as we evolve through our journey both spiritually and otherwise. We hope this video will connect with our incredible grass roots history and today's outreach with a wider audience. Through interviews, pictures and video clips we plan to share our wonderful story, old and new, that is both informative and inspiring.

As we Zoom record our services every Sunday, we will have Peter Adams of EVP Marketing (our professional helping us) video recording our May 4th service as well as our normal Zoom recording. There will be interview sessions on Saturday, April 26th from 12 - 5pm and Sunday, April 27th after the service from 11am – 1pm. Whether you're a new member, an established member, or a friend, we'd love to hear your story. If you have pictures to include or would like to tell your story on camera, please reach out to any member of the Video task force: Bob Chandler, Bob Gannett, Kathy Kelsey and Reed Harigan.

Great way to support SKUUF

The purchase of a Hannaford card to use for grocery shopping costs you no additional money but helps SKUUF raise funds. In addition, purchase of Hannaford gift cards is always in good taste and you can use the SKUUF Hannaford program to purchase gift cards to give as thoughtful gifts. Denominations \$25, \$100, \$500. Cash or Checks, sorry no credit cards as fees remove our profit. Remember all checks are made out to SKUUF with Hannaford on memo line.



April 2025 Outreach Offering

Our outreach offering will be received on April 13, 2025 and we will be supporting Reproductive Freedom Fund New Hampshire (RFFNH). We supported them last year when their director came to tell us about their important work. Then during the summer several of us attended volunteer driver training that they provided. This year we are asking for an update on their work. Our guest speaker will be one of their board members who lives in Plymouth.

This organization provides financial assistance to individuals seeking abortion care in or from New Hampshire. Founded in 2019, it aims to remove financial barriers and ensure affordable, safe, and accessible reproductive health resources for everyone in the state. They provide funds but their help goes beyond this. They provide volunteer drives to help with transportation to their providers, and emotional support for those making this difficult choice.

We all understand that addressing issues of reproductive health is becoming more and more challenging. You are urged to come and get questions answered, and learning how to best support this group.



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TIDY UP THE YARD CLEAN-UP DAY Saturday May 10th 9am to 11:30am

If you like being outside & doing yard work (okay, “like” might be the wrong word), please come & help!

Pick-up sticks & rake leaves
Move parking lot logs back into place
Clean up gardens & playground areas

What to Bring (doing the things you “like”)!

Yourself
Gloves
Rakes
Whatever

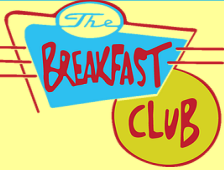
This will be my last yard cleanup day as “B&G Chair”, so see you there!

It would be great if you would let me know if you can be there.

Jennifer Gentry
junebug2104@gmail.com

Second Sunday Hike - April 13

Join us as we hike [Prescott Farm](#) in Laco-
nia. To add to our fun, Jennifer Woodard
has agreed to be our guide! She considers
herself “a curious naturalist with six years
of experience teaching environmental edu-
cation programs at Drumlin Farm (a Mass Audubon Sanctuary)” as
well as conducting programs at Prescott Farm. Plan to spend about 2
hours as she leads us on the trails. Join us as we walk through the
woods to the pond and the Sugarhouse, as Jennifer shares interest-
ing facts. While there are no pets allowed, this is a great hike for peo-
ple of all ages! Bring a lunch to eat before or on the hike. Also, we
hope to stop at [Patrick’s Pub](#) after the hike for refreshments. Good
walking shoes/hiking boots are recommended. Plan to leave from the
Starr King lower parking lot at 11:30 AM after the service. If you plan
to join us, contact Deedie at deediekriebel@gmail.com for more infor-
mation and updates.



Breakfast Club - Friday, April 11

We will meet for breakfast at 8:30 AM at the PSU
Prospect Dining Hall on 8 High Street in Plymouth. You can use your
Breakfast Club cards or pay for the breakfast. Parking is in Lot #204
across the street from the dining hall. After breakfast, we will travel
to the [Museum of the White Mountains](#) for a tour of the new exhibit,
Art and Design Capstone Exhibition, featuring individual students
and their Capstone exhibition projects. Contact Deedie at deediekriebel@gmail.com for more information and a parking pass.

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BOOK GROUP NEWS—April 8

**Starr King Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
Zoom Book Group**
Tuesday, April 8 at 3:30 p.m.

The book cover for 'The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store' by James McBride. It features a woman in a white shirt and blue cap, with a red circle over her face. The text on the cover includes 'THE HEAVEN & EARTH GROCERY STORE', 'NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR', 'JAMES MCBRIDE', and 'WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD'. The background of the graphic has a vertical orange bar with a series of overlapping circles in red, blue, white, orange, blue, grey, and brown.

If you'd like to be on in the email zoom list, send a request to
admin@starrkingfellowship.org.

A complete list of all the book selections for the year can be found at
<https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/interest-groups>.

Celebrate World Labyrinth Day on May 3 at Starr King's Labyrinth

We invite you to participate in “Walk as One at 1” at our own Starr King labyrinth. Every year on the first Saturday in May thousands of people around the globe participate in World Labyrinth Day as a walking meditation for world peace and planetary healing. Join us as we participate in creating a rolling, global wave of peaceful energy as we gather from one time zone to the next. Meet with us as we mindfully unite to walk our labyrinth with meditative music and songs of peace.

We will gather at the rear, lower entry to the Fellowship at 12:30 for a short introduction before we walk at 1:00PM.

For more information contact:
Darlene Nadeau or Kathy Kelsey.



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Saturday, April 12 at 4:00 PM in Starr King Fellowship Hall



Join musical collaborators Hailey McAvoy, Bethany Pietroniro, Claire McCahan, Molly McCahan for a concert event exploring one artist's experience living with Cerebral Palsy and her journey towards self-discovery, self-trust, and the full habitation of her body.

Featuring original works by Hailey McAvoy alongside selections from the Folk, Americana, and Classical traditions, we invite you to join Spiral Songs for a new and unique performance. (This performance is recommended for ages 10 & Up)

-Free Admission- Generously sponsored by the Young Ladies Library Association

What's on the Starr King Website

During every Sunday Service announcement we hear the statement “for more information go to our website.”

Here are a few things you can find there:

- * For a list of board members, committees and chairs, and recent board minutes, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/committees>.
- * To learn about interest groups such as breakfast club, Sunday hikes and book group, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/interest-groups>.
- * To learn about Adult Spirituality offerings such as Soul Matters, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/adult-spiritual-exploration>.
- * For a two minute summary of what we believe, go to <https://www.starrkingfellowship.org/about>.
- * **There's so much more. Please surf around!**

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
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admin@starrkingfellowship.org
(603) 536-8908
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Staff

The Rev. Dr. Linda Barnes, Minister
Sarah Dan Jones, Music Director
Grace Kennedy, Director of Religious Education
Sharon Warga, Office Administrator

Governing Board

Pres.: Bob Chandler
Vice Pres.: Connie Maatta
Treasurer: Janet Englund
Secretary: Suzan Gannett

Trustees:
Suellen Skinner
Louise Randal
Jim Hostetler

Mission and Vision statement

Mission:

At Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, we cultivate more love in the world and nurture more love for the world.

Vision:

Our Fellowship welcomes and cares for people of all ages and varied identities. We experience joy as we build community and use our relationships with each other to create a more loving world.

Our Fellowship embraces what is meaningful and beautiful. We offer diverse experiences in worship, music, and the arts through our services, events, and the use of our building.

We live and model our values, collectively creating social and environmental justice with direct action and financial support.

About Membership in Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

What it Means to be a Member

Membership is open to all individuals sixteen years and older regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender or sexual orientation who are in harmony with the visions, goals and principles of Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

You are invited to become a member by participating in a Path to Membership orientation or by meeting with the Minister to review the benefits and responsibilities of membership. All new members sign the official Membership Record book witnessed by the Minister or a Membership Committee Chair.

Members are entitled to the services of the Minister and the use of the sanctuary for Rites of Passage (weddings, dedications, memorial services, etc.) at no cost. Members are eligible to serve in elected officer positions and serve as committee chairs. Members have the privilege of full voting rights.

Membership is maintained by active participation in the Fellowship, by supporting the annual Stewardship Drive and/or contributing service toward the Fellowship.

What it Means to be a Friend

A Friend of Starr King UU Fellowship is an individual in harmony with the visions, goals and principles of our Fellowship who chooses not to sign the Membership Record Book. A Friend may participate in any and all Fellowship activities but does not receive Rites of Passage services without a fee, is not eligible to vote or serve as an elected officer or committee chair.

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