

FRIDAY, MARCH 15TH, 2024



Nine-year-old River Lark-Riley's inaugural ringing of the steeple bells last Sunday (when he also climbed above the ringing room all the way to the very top of the spire)! Thanks to Doc Kinne, Assistant to the Master of the Bells, and to River's mom, Liz!

Dearly Beloved,

After graduating from college in Vermont, I moved to Boston with everything I owned packed in the trunk of my grandfather's Dodge Dart. In a "gap year" between college and divinity school, I went to work as a canvasser and community organizer for Massachusetts Fair Share and, later, Local 925. My biggest passion, though, was the Clamshell Alliance; our goal was to shut down New Hampshire's Seabrook nuclear power plant with nonviolent civil disobedience.

When the very long days were over (my friend Vjosa Dobruja says, "We'll sleep when we're dead"), we'd take the red line to Harvard Square and pile into a little underground club called The Idler. If we were lucky, we'd get some tables all the way up front and crowd the stage, waiting for the folksinger who was writing the songs about our work and our lives — Fred Small. We must have driven him mad — we knew every word and sang along, loudly. But we were very loyal fans.

Fred had started his career as an environmental lawyer; now he was playing at every march and rally, heir to the likes of Pete Seeger, who loved his songs. Before long, he and I were friends — good friends. I performed Fred's wedding and he sang at mine. Eventually, we wooed him from his Episcopal upbringing to Unitarian Universalism, and then to our ministry.

I could say a lot more about Fred, but you're going to have the opportunity to experience him for yourselves this coming Sunday. Rev. Fred Small, our Community Minister for Climate Justice, will be in the pulpit, preaching a sermon called *Be Not Afraid* ... and leading the congregation both in the hymn *Comfort Me* and the song he wrote that has become no less than an anthem at Arlington Street as well as so many other places: *Everything Possible*. Come be inspired by my brilliant, passionate old friend and plan to sing along — the seats are way more comfortable than at the Idler!

Joining Rev. Fred are collaborative pianist Hyunju Jung and Director of Music Mark David Buckles, leading the Arlington Street Choir. Soprano Hannah Shanefield opens the service singing Victor Hugo and Abbie Betinis' *Be Like the Bird*

Be like the bird that,
Pausing in her flight awhile on boughs too slight,
Feels them give way beneath her — and sings —
Knowing she hath wings.

The choir sings May Swenson and Gwyneth Walker's *I Will Be Earth*. Mark David and Rev. Joanna Lubkin will sing Alex Wong and Amber Rubarth's (The Paper Raincoat) *Don't Be Afraid*.

Following the service, the Interim Minister Search Committee is hosting a hybrid open forum. In anticipation of my retirement in June, they write, “[We’re] working on hiring an interim minister, with the expectation of an August 1st start date. You likely have many questions, lots of comments, and a wide range of feelings about the process into which we are entering. We really want to do this transition right, and we would like to do this important work together as a congregation. We want you to be part of this new chapter, and not just hear about it, or have it happen to you.... [At the forum,] the committee will discuss the search process in more detail... Bring your questions, your comments, and your feelings. We welcome them and you.” So many thanks for their leadership to Alan Kemp, Connie Scanlon, Sandy Dixon, and Tom Anderson.

Rev. Fred Small sings,

You can be anybody you want to be
You can love whomever you will
You can travel any country that your heart leads
And know I will love you still.
You can live by yourself
You can gather friends around
You can choose one special one
And the only measure of your words and your deeds
Will be the love you leave behind when you're done.

Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim

p.s. Doc Kinne, Assistant to the Master of the Bells, sends along this update on what's happening in the bell tower (like the choir, this is an in-person offering):

Meetings of the Arlington Street Bellingers Guild (Keepers of the Phillips Chime) begin at 10:30 on Sunday mornings. Please meet Doc at the stairs leading to the left-hand (Boylston Street side) balcony to climb to the bell tower together.

The membership includes Rev. George G. Whitehouse, Founder, Campanologist, and Master of the Bells; Doc Kinne, Assistant to the Master of the Bells; Patrice Keegan, Assistant Bellringer; River Lark-Riley, Apprentice Bellringer; and Ty Kannegieter, Apprentice Bellringer. In addition, included in the membership list in perpetuity is Mary Alice (Woody) O'Kane, Bellringer Emerita, of Blessed Memory. Thank you, Doc!

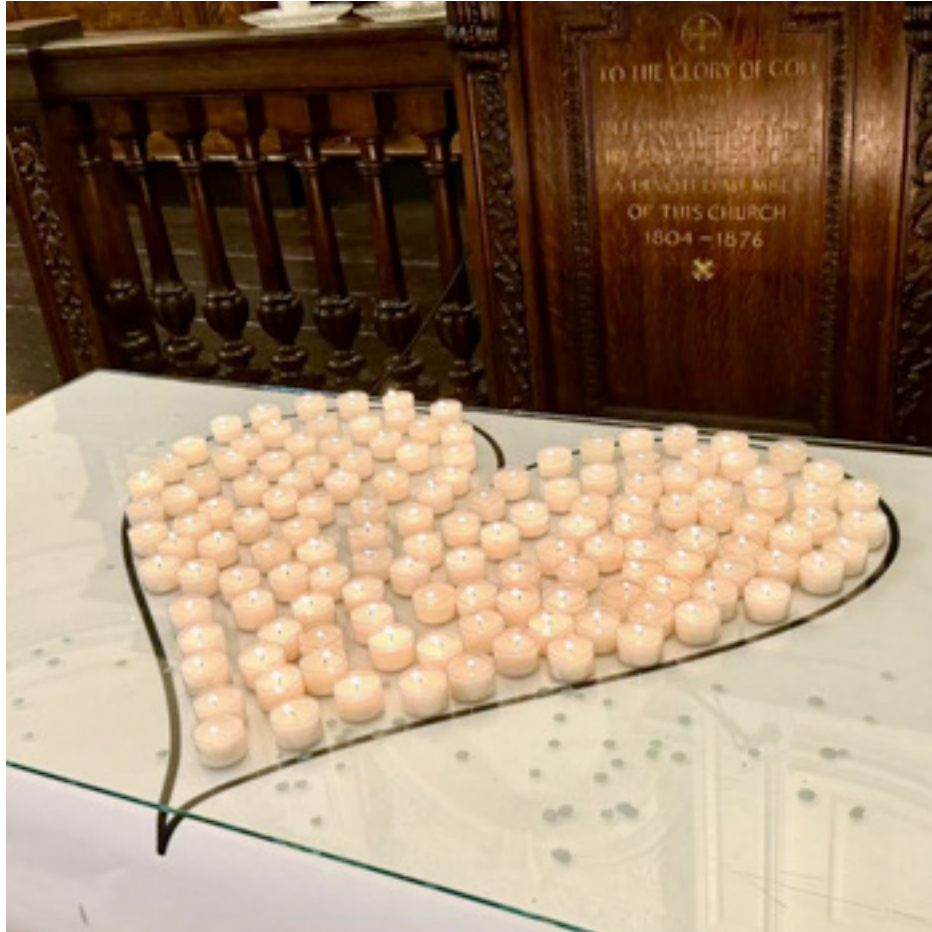
p.p.s. Once again, thanks to our Interim Minister Search Committee for this information on the search process review for you to review in advance of Sunday's open forum.

UUA Interim Minister Search Overview

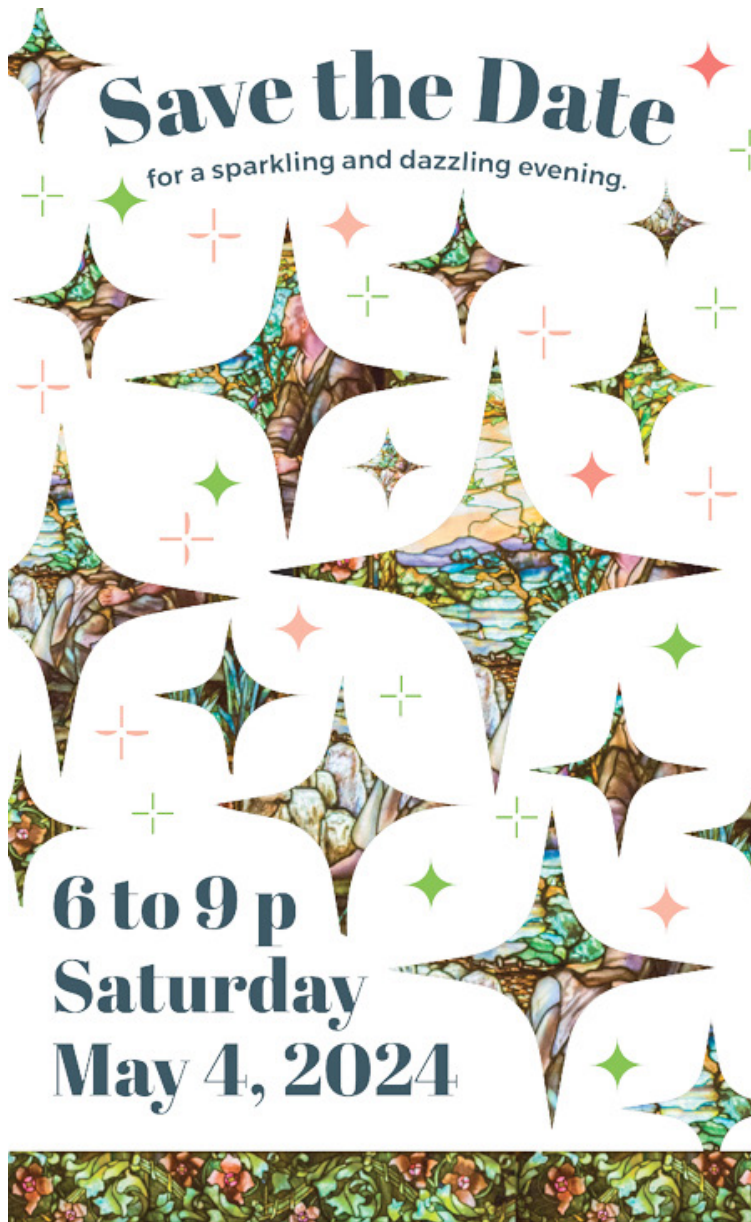
- * Most interim ministries last 24 months, though occasionally the ministry may be longer or shorter.
- * An interim minister assists the congregation in moving beyond its last ministry and equipping itself for a new, different ministry. This preparation involves helping the congregation look at practices that may or may not be serving them well, assisting through the emotional process of transition, setting sights forward, and connecting the congregation to needed resources.
- * An interim search committee of three to five members is appointed by the Board (Prudential Committee).
- * The interim minister is hired by the Board of Trustees.
- * The search for an interim minister takes place in April and May of each year for an August 1st start.
- * The Interim Search Committee completes a search profile on the Unitarian Universalist Association's Ministry Search System. The search profile is completed by mid-April. The profile includes:
 - ~ draft ministerial agreement (approved by the board)
 - ~ a congregational budget
 - ~ a copy of the by-laws
 - ~ covenants or policies around behavior or expectations of congregations
 - ~ a couple of orders of service
 - ~ several newsletters
 - ~ recent board minutes
 - ~ search team bios
- * Interim ministers review all search profiles in the last week of April (4/26/24) and decide where to apply
- * Names of applicants (up to six) will be released to the Search Committee on 4/28/24
- * The Search Committee will conduct interviews in the two-week consideration window

- * Offer date/offers extended by Search Committee to interim ministers on 5/15/24
- * Confidentiality of applicants is essential. This means that only the Search Committee members know who is applying.
- * The Board must trust the team it assembles to make hiring decisions (including ranking applicants and making a verbal offer once matched).
- * Ministers need to be able to trust that their identities will be held in confidence by the search team throughout this process.

Source: *Unitarian Universalist Association Transitional Ministry Handbook*



Covenant Renewal in our beloved spiritual community: *All In!*
photo credit: Mary Gillach



Save the Date

for a sparkling and dazzling evening.

6 to 9 p
Saturday
May 4, 2024

mark your calendars
for a night of fundraising,
celebration, and music.

We will honor and thank Rev. Kim Crawford Harvie for her
35 years of love and service to our beloved community.

Our attire will sparkle and dazzle while our tears will glisten.

Your presence will not only make this party unforgettable
but also ensure the spirit of compassion and community
lives on at Arlington Street Church for years to come.

Details and invitation to follow.

The graphic details are from our
own beautiful Tiffany windows.
Come see them for yourself!

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist *Gathered in love and service for justice and peace*

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