

SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2022



Dearly beloved,

Covenant Renewal Team members thought it would be a blast to turn the Zoom room and the sanctuary GREEN — the color of spring, luck, heart, and yes, money — for Sunday's annual celebration of pledging our financial support to Arlington Street for the coming fiscal year. Do you own something green you could wear to the service? Has anyone tried out that virtual background that looks like a jungle?! *Let's do it!*

Covenant Renewal Sunday is the annual service when we renew our Great Covenant of love and service by pledging our financial support to sustain our beloved spiritual community. You hear the worship coordinator say it every Sunday: Arlington Street is entirely self-supporting. In other words, it's up to us! And what's a pledge? It's bigger than giving when you happen to be in church. It's a covenant to give a certain amount over the course of a year to affirm our love and support for this beloved spiritual community; for the opportunity to grow our souls; and to promote our values in the world. Also, the Finance Team reminds us, it enables them to budget, and to fund that budget!

How much should you give? I say, *Don't give until it hurts; give until it feels good!* This coming year, Rev. Beth and I will each pledge \$100 a week x 52 weeks. It feels great! Scrolling down on the Unitarian Universalist Association's <u>Fair Share Contribution Guide</u> may help you make your decision.

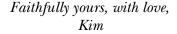
This Sunday morning, the link to the pledge form will appear in the Zoom room chat. If you're in the sanctuary, paper forms will be distributed and collected. Our sainted treasurer, Liz Teixeira, will be holed-up with a calculator, adding up the fruits of our generosity. And then, as if by magic, Liz will appear in the high pulpit with the Very Big Number, and we'll announce our total for "opening day!" It's always one of the most exciting and moving services of the year.

Here are some highlights: Alden MacNulty and her parents, Sharon Gentges and Rohn MacNulty, will share a brief reflection on our Covenant Renewal theme: #No-MatterWhat! Director of Music Mark David Buckles (piano) and Julie Metcalf (violin) sing *Life Calls Us On.* The Arlington Street Choir sings Ysaye Barnwell's *Hope*:

If we want hope to survive in this world today, then every day we've got to pray on, pray on. We've got to walk on, work on, move on, march on, teach on, sing on!

Soprano Hana Omori, visiting from saka, Japan for an engagement with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, will sing *Bridge Over Troubled Water*. Lucy Humphrey, now a sophomore at Wellesley College, is our worship coordinator. My sermon is called *Gratitude and Generosity*. Mark David concludes the service playing his own composition — *Fanfare* — on the organ.

It's going to be an epic Sunday morning! Let's turn it green!





Supreme Court Justice nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson