

Listening Devices are available in the rear of the sanctuary in colorful bags in a basket. Anyone is welcome to use one.

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**Today's Coffee Hour** is hosted by **Rev. Carlton** in honor of the tremendous spirit of generosity displayed in the congregation, including this year's phenomenal pledge drive...Get Set . . . Go!

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TODAY ~ APRIL 12

Panel Discussion. After the Service, Back of the Sanctuary. We will gather for a discussion with Thayer Barkley on gardening; Jamie Forbes on a walking version of "Forest Bathing"; and Dave Emberling will update us on the current threats to the earth and actions we might take.

At the Get Set ... Go! Pledge Drive Center in the Foyer, you can...

- Make or increase your pledge.
- Decorate Thank You Cards for our Donors. . .we need more!
- Get answers to your questions about your pledge.

Parent Book Club. Couches by Nursery. Join others after the service to discuss *I Have Never Known Men* by Jacqueline Harpman. All are welcome!

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## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

**Personal Financial Freedom / Getting Out of Debt Discussion Group. Apr 13, 7:00 PM, Zoom.** Join Rev. Carlton as he guides us through a discussion of how to get to personal financial freedom.

**UUWestport Women's Potluck Dinner. Fri, Apr 17, 6:30 PM.** This month's potluck is hosted by Chris P. All women are invited. Bring something to eat or drink and meet new friends and old! [RSVP here.](#)

**Remembering Frank Hall.** Our Minister Emeritus, Rev. Frank Hall, died peacefully Tues, Mar 17. A Celebration of Life service will be held on Sun, May 3 at 2:00 PM.



See Soundings for event details. Scan for the latest edition.

Thanks for your generosity! Scan to give.



Venmo



Virtual Offering

# Earth Day: Connecting To Our Mother!

**April 12, 2026**

**10:00 am**



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Westport

10 Lyons Plains Road ~ Westport, CT 06880 ~ 203-227-7205

[www.uuwestport.org](http://www.uuwestport.org)

*The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs.*

*We **INSPIRE** and support individual spiritual growth.*

*We **CONNECT** through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries.*

*We **ACT** in the service of peace and justice.*

**PRELUDE** "Whoever You Are" (Podd)  
Whoever you are, whomever you love,  
Wherever you are on your life journey,  
You are welcome here.

**WELCOME** Ravi Sankar

**CHALICE LIGHTING** The Beardsley Crew

**OPENING WORDS** Pat Francek

\* **SINGING** #134 Our World is One World

\* **AFFIRMATION** Pat  
Love is the spirit of this community, and service its gift.  
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES** "The Earth is Our Mother" Grandmother Nancy

**SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR CLASSES**  
Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet.  
Peace within us, peace above us, let all around us be peace.  
Oh, let all around us be peace.

**MUSIC** "Heaven Help Us All" Matt Robbins  
(by Stevie Wonder)

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS** Marie-Claire Bue

**REFLECTION** Lindy Hennessy

**SINGING** "Tomorrow" (Miner) Matt Robbins  
There will be better days (repeated)  
  
Let the wave wash over me  
Let the wave wash over me  
I am already under  
Let the wave wash over me  
  
I am already under  
Let the wave wash over me  
There will be better days  
Let the wave wash over me  
There will be better days

**SERMON** "Earth Day: Connecting To Our Mother!" Rev. Jim Francek

**OFFERING** Share the Plate: **Beardsley School**  
Anita Pfluger  
*Beardsley School has been one of this congregation's numerous Social Justice Initiatives since 2000. Beardsley is a Pre-K through grade 6 inner-city school in Bridgeport that experiences struggles. Despite daunting needs, our continuous support makes a difference in the lives of students, staff, and families in this wonderful little school.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** "More Waters Rising" Matt Robbins  
(Saro Lynch-Thomason)

There are more waters rising, This I know, this I know.  
There are more waters rising, This I know.  
There are more waters rising, They will find their way to me.  
There are more waters rising, This I know, this I know.  
There are more waters rising, This I know.

There are more fires burning...

There are more mountains falling...

I will wade through the waters...

I will walk through the fires...

I will rebuild the mountains...

There are more waters rising...

**DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING** Pat

May we be grateful for the opportunity to give,  
For generosity is a core spiritual practice.  
May we be grateful for all who freely share their gifts,  
For we are enriched by their giving.  
And may we be grateful even for our needs,  
So that we may learn from the generosity of others.

\* **SINGING** #163 For The Earth Forever Turning

**CLOSING WORDS** Rev. Jim

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* Asterisk (*) indicates "rise in body or spirit."