

Flowers

Today's flowers are given in honor of Gordon L. Nelson, a beloved family man who inspired so many with his grace, kindness and steady hand. April 26, 1928 - November 22, 2019.

Given with love by his daughter, Beth Cliff.

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Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich (they/them) is a minister, writer, musician, and activist dedicated to radical inclusion, deep collaboration, and courageous kindness. Rev. Lindasusan has served congregations in CT, MI, and MN; is a certified spiritual director; and serves as a member of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. They identify as a nonbinary bisexual person of color.

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We are looking for hosts for coffee hours in May. This is a wonderful opportunity for committees and groups within the congregation to have fun serving UUWestport. To sign up, email Ruth.

TODAY ~ APRIL 26

Newcomer Orientation: Part I: Who are we? 11:30 - 1:00, East Wing. Join this series to learn how UUWestport can fit into your life.

Share the Plate Nominations. SJC wants your nominations for new recipients in our STP program. See Pat Francek in the foyer.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Board of Trustees Meeting. Tues, Apr 28, 7:00 PM, West Wing. All are welcome to observe the Board's monthly proceedings; please let the secretary know if you plan to attend.

First Friday fUUn Night. Fri, May 1, 5:30 PM, Picnic Tables. All ages welcome to join a meal, a movie and games! Register [here](#).

Remembering Rev. Frank Hall. Our 10 AM, May 3 Sunday service will be dedicated to remembering Rev. Frank. Members will have a chance to share reflections. A celebration of his life will be held later at 2 PM.

When Hope is an Act of Bravery

April 26, 2026

10:00 am



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Westport

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

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.*



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

Thanks for your generosity! Scan to give.



Venmo



Virtual Offering

PRELUDE Nick Barra

WELCOME Felicia Keeton

CHALICE LIGHTING Tom and Kate Croarkin

OPENING WORDS Tom Hearne

***SINGING** “Bright Morning Stars” (Meyer) Mosaic Voices

Bright morning stars arisin’, bright morning stars arisin’,
bright morning stars arisin’, Day is abreakin’ in my soul.

Rise up from morning slumber. . .

Rise up and hear your calling. . .

Oh, lift your voice to heaven. . .

We’ll build this faith together. . .

*** AFFIRMATION** Tom

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 Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich

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.

READING/REFLECTION “The Gates of Hope” (Victoria Safford) Tom

MUSIC “Do Not Be Daunted” (Harrison) Mosaic Voices

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Kate Croarkin

MEDITATION / PRAYER “Prayer for Hope” Rev. Lindasusan
(Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich)

SINGING “Take What You Need” (Reena Esmail) Mosaic Voices

Take a moment, Take a breath, Take time. Take care.

Take heart, Take hope, Take a step, Take a chance.

Take courage, Take charge, Take a stand, Take pride.

Take joy, Take pause, Take a moment, Take a breath.

SERMON “When Hope is an Act of Bravery” Rev. Lindasusan Ulrich

SINGING “Courage, My Friend” Mosaic Voices
(South African Anti-Apartheid Movement, adapted)

Courage (courage)

my friend (my friend)

you do not walk alone.

We will (we will)

walk with you (walk with you)

and sing your spirit home.

Justice, my friend...

Freedom, my friend...

Patience, my friend...

OFFERING Tom

OFFERTORY MUSIC Nick Barra

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING Tom

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.

MUSIC “Change is Coming” (Molly Bajgot) Mosaic Voices

CLOSING WORDS Rev. Lindasusan

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Special Thanks to Erik Paul for his stellar playing this morning!

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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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\* Asterisk (\*) indicates “rise in body or spirit.”