

Today's Coffee Hour is hosted by the
Beardsley School Committee.

We organize and coordinate all of UUWestport's support of Beardsley School: tutors, classroom readers, library helpers, Read Aloud Days, Career Days, book sales, and enrichment activities.

Beardsley School Committee members: Sari Bodi, Beth Cliff, Lynne Laukhuf, Diane Melish, Diane Moller, Anita Pfluger, and Kathy Roberts.

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**TODAY ~ MAY 31**

**Try My Jesus Book Available. 11:15. Foyer.** After service, you can purchase a copy of Rev. Carlton's book, *Try My Jesus: Daily Reflections to Free Your Mind, Deepen Your Faith, and Invite Universal Love Into Your Life*. They are \$18.00, payable in cash, check (to YAG Publishing LLC), Venmo (@Carlton-Smith-52), CashApp (\$trymyjesus). He will sign copies of the book as well.

**Black Lives Matter Table. 11:15. Foyer.** Stop by the table in the foyer to help more children experience joy, safety and opportunity this summer. \$60 covers Wakeman's annual membership fee; \$149 secures one week of summer camp.

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UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Planned Giving and Legacy Society Conversation. Jun 6, 11:00 AM. Meeting House. Join the Stewardship Committee for an important conversation facilitated by Drs. Chris Altrock and Anthony Cernera about the future of planned giving at UUWestport. This session will explore the best path forward for strengthening the Legacy Society.

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

**Thanks for your generosity!**  
Scan to give.



Venmo



Virtual Offering

# Awakening Curiosity: Free and Responsible Quests for Truth and Meaning

**May 31, 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** Nick Barra

**WELCOME** Ravi Sankar

**CHALICE LIGHTING** Ali and Laila Alzabidi

**OPENING WORDS** Rev. Carlton E. Smith

**\* SINGING** "Filled with Loving Kindness"

May I be filled with loving kindness. May I be well.  
May I be filled with loving kindness. May I be well.  
May I be peaceful and at ease. May I be whole.

**\* AFFIRMATION** Bob Perry

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.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** *Noreen Coyne, Aly Crouse,  
Amanda Hilton, Linda Keller,  
Katherine Noordsij and Gaby Vishnevskaya*

**Congregation: We, the members of UUWestport, joyfully  
acknowledge your choice to join with us.**

**New Members:** I become a member of this  
congregation aware of the privileges and  
responsibilities of membership and with a deep feeling  
that this shall be my spiritual home.

**Congregation: Ours is a faith that reveres the past, envisions  
the future, and calls us to live thoughtfully and vibrantly in  
the present. We honor all those who have brought us to this  
day, and we celebrate your new-found commitment.**

**New Members:** I bring to my new community my  
talents and enthusiasm as well as my shortcomings  
and doubts.

**\* SINGING** "I Know I Can"  
Though days be dark with storms,  
And burdens weigh my heart,  
Though troubles wait at ev'ry turn,  
I know I can go on.

When sorrow heals my soul,  
And burdens make me strong,  
Though troubles wait at ev'ry turn,  
I know I can go on.

My sister in my heart,  
My brother in my song,  
Though troubles wait at ev'ry turn,  
I know I can go on.

And though the journey is long,  
The destination is near,  
Though troubles wait at ev'ry turn,  
I know I can go on.

So brothers take my hand,  
And sisters sing my song,  
When hope awaits at every turn,  
I know we will go on.

**CLOSING WORDS** Rev. Carlton

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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."

**All In Unison: This morning we renew our covenant to strive to be a congregation whose doctrine is love where we seek to speak our truths, to love one another, and to respond to the demands of justice.**

**Congregation: We welcome you and pray we may be deserving of your affirmation.**

**New Members:** I share your aspirations, join you in covenant, and hope to build on your example.

**All In Unison: Now, united as one family, having affirmed one another in love and having renewed our best intentions, let us be on about the great work we are in: to cultivate together a liberal religious community founded on our deepest convictions. Amen.**

#### **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**

*The Way* (Muir)

Bob

Friend, I have lost the way.

***The way leads on.***

Is there another way?

***The way is one.***

I must retrace the track.

***It's lost and gone.***

Back, I must travel back!

***None goes there, none.***

Then I'll make here my place -

***The road runs on -***

Stand still and set my face -

***The road leaps on***

Stay here, forever stay.

***None stays here, none.***

I cannot find the way.

***The way leads on.***

Oh, places I have passed!

***That journey's done.***

And what will come at last?

***The way leads on.***

#### **MUSIC**

"Crowded Table"  
(arr. Paine)

Cathy Paine, Autoharp

#### **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Jim Francek

#### **MUSIC**

"Be Ye Lamps Unto Yourselves"  
(attributed to Gautama Buddha)

Cheryl Dixon, Flute

Be ye lamps unto yourselves; be your own confidence;  
hold to the truth within yourselves as to the only lamp.

#### **MESSAGE**

"Free and Responsible  
Quests for Truth and Meaning"

Rev. Carlton E. Smith

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** "I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free" (Billy, arr. Holdgate) Phil Thomas, French Horn

#### **DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

Bob

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.