

Upcoming Worship Focus - September 6, 2026

Return to Beginning: Love Is the Home of Our Interdependence

Rev. Theresa "Rivka" Gevurtz

As we stand on the threshold of a new congregational year as well as the Jewish High Holy Days, we explore the sacred act of beginning. Drawing on the creation narrative of Genesis, we will reflect on how returning to the roots of our interconnectedness offers a necessary foundation for hope and healing in these complex times. This message invites us to consider how love serves as the home where our interdependent lives truly flourish.

Rev. Theresa "Rivka" Gevurtz is an interfaith minister, spiritual director, and Reiki master based in Gresham, Oregon. She serves as the Dean of Academics and Director of the Sacred Justice Ministry Program at The Chaplaincy Institute, and is a graduate of Starr King School for the Ministry. Rivka is passionate about weaving together ancestral wisdom, social justice, and the contemplative arts to foster community resilience and spiritual growth.

Contact the Worship Team at
worshipassociates@uuccwc.groups.io

Our Minister and Staff

Community Minister Emerita: Rev. Sue Ayer

Music Director: Raymond Elliott

Accompanist: Alex Frazier

Religious Exploration Coordinator: Christine Hinderer



Text to Give now available!

To make a donation to UUCCWC
please text "Give" to (503) 852-2944.

Those needing ramp access to the sanctuary and the lower level of the building, please use the handicap parking spots on Birch, on the south side of the building. To reach the Sanctuary go up the ramp at the back of the church (east side) or use the ramp on the south side to get to the lower level. There is also a ramp to the front door of the Parish House.

An FM hearing assistance system is available for use during worship service. Each receiver has a volume control and little ear-bud headphones. The receivers also can couple to hearing aids that have tele-coil pick-ups. If you would like to use a receiver, please check with the Worship Associate on duty or one of the Usher/Greeters.

Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Washington County

6815 NE Birch St.

Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

www.uuccwc.org

info@uuccwc.org

August 30, 2026

In-Person Service

On-line Service: <https://uuccwc.org/zoom-worship/>



UUCCWC Vision Statement

**A welcoming, liberal religious community
where we care for and encourage each other to**

Free the Mind

Grow the Spirit

Reach out to the World

Sunday, August 30, 2026 at 10:00 am

Prelude Alex Frazier

Gathering

Singing Bowl Darolyn Wylie

Introit *Five Bagatelles, Op. 23 III. Carol*, by Gerald Finzi¹
Alex Frazier, piano and Irene Hilman, clarinet

Congregational Life Darolyn Wylie

Opening Hymn #1046 *We Shall Gather at the River*

Opening Words *Love Can Keep Us Company*, by Jen Crow
Schann Wysong

Nurturing Our Community

Chalice Lighting words by Lisa Doege
Priscilla Bradley

Time for All Ages *Different: A Great Thing To Be*, by Heather Avist
Christine Hinderer

Singing the Children Out *As You Go*, by Kathleen Tracy

We hold you in our love as you go, as you go.

May your heart be at peace as you go.

To nurture the spark of your precious life,

We hold you in our love as you go.

Joys and Concerns Darolyn Wylie

Meditation Hymn #123 *Spirit of Life*

Spirit of Life, come unto me.

Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.

Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;

Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.

Roots hold me close; wings set me free;

Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Offering Words Darolyn Wylie

Exploring

Reflective Reading *Small Decisions*, by J. D. Stillwater
Kaylee Hutchinson

Special Music *Dance Me To the End of Love*, by Leonard Cohen²
Alex Frazier, piano and Irene Hilman, vocals

Sermon *How to Be a Spiritual Ghost*
Schann Wysong

Returning

Closing Hymn #131 *Love Will Guide Us*

Closing Words excerpt from UUA Message, November 6, 2024
Schann Wysong

Chalice Extinguishing words by Craig Rowland
Priscilla Bradley

Invitation to Fellowship Darolyn Wylie

Singing Bowl Closing Darolyn Wylie

Postlude Alex Frazier

Thank you to today's additional helpers

Zoom Host: John Sharp

Producer: Mark Bischoff

Sound Tech: Dee Cooper

Board Member on Duty: Terri Schmiesing

Usher/Greeters: Dawn Glass and Gayle Goodman

Coffee Hour Volunteers: Max Olfert and Alison Hills

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The Religious Exploration (RE) program will explore the idea of “**beginnings**” during the month of September.

09/06 - Religious Exploration Lesson

We will explore **beginning** in sacred space and the ritual of lighting the UU chalice.
Children & Youth begin in the Sanctuary.

09/13 - Waters of the World All Ages Service

Bring water from a meaningful place to participate during the service. Welcoming - **beginning!** Homecoming - **begin again!**
Children & Youth remain upstairs.

09/20 - Religious Exploration Lesson

We will explore **beginning** relationships while building a classroom covenant together.
Children & Youth begin in the Sanctuary.

09/27 - Maker's Space Sunday

Building community while crafting with peers. **Beginning** new projects! No formal lesson.
Children & Youth begin in the Sanctuary.



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