

From the Beginning
 Ian Van Sice, Worship Leader
 Cecil Struck, Worship Associates
 Rev. Nancy Palmer Jones, Minister
 Christiana Fernandez-McQuain, Coordinator of Family Ministries
 Stephen Pyle, Pianist
 Lydia Patrick, Songleader
 Sunday, September 6th, 2026

Prelude	<i>Aurora/ From the Beginning</i>	John Bettis & Richard Carpenter/ Greg Lake
Singing #389	<i>Gathered Here</i>	Philip A. Porter
Welcome and Centering		Ian Van Sice
Congregational Candle	<i>Remembering Bruce Leonard</i>	
Call to Worship	<i>From the Darkness Comes Life</i>	Otto Concannon
Chalice Lighting	<i>The End is the Beginning</i>	Katie Sivani Gelfand
Wonder Box Wisdom	<i>The Stuff of Life</i>	Marion Dane Bauer/Ill. Ekua Holmes
Singing	<i>Infinitely Whole</i>	Alex Fam/Bran Lennox
Reflection	<i>Roots of the Family Tree</i>	Cecil Struck
Reflection	<i>In Medias Res</i>	Bob Patrick
Anthem	<i>Let the Mystery Be</i>	Iris DeMent
Homily	<i>Choose Your Own Adventure</i>	Ian Van Sice
Music For Reflection	<i>How Great Thou Art</i>	Stuart K.Hine
Prayer and Meditation	<i>Beauty is our Birthright</i>	Rev. Dr. Rebekah Savage
Singing #22	<i>Dear Weaver of Our Lives Design</i>	Nancy C. Dorian/ Niklaus Herman
Sharing Our Gifts	Offering shared with <i>Worthy Now Prison Ministry</i>	
Offertory	<i>Where Do I Begin? We've Only Just Begun</i>	Francis Lai/Roger Nichols
Gratitudes		
Call to Connection		
Singing	<i>As We Carry This Flame Forward</i>	Wesley King / William Moore
Closing Words	<i>It is Our Journey Together</i>	Rev. Dr. Debra Haffner
Extinguishing Our Chalice		Elizabeth Selle Jones (adapted)

+Our plate is shared 50/50 with the quarterly plate recipient and UUCG.
 Please make checks payable to UUCG and indicate on the memo line if the check is for your
 annual pledge contribution or today's plate recipient.



UUCG Beyond Sunday Morning

Events This Week

* in-person, + online, ~ off-site

*+ Mon, Sep 7 at 6:30pm:	<i>Alphabet SoUUp</i>
* Tue, Sep 8 at 7:00pm:	<i>Choir Rehearsal</i>
+ Thu, Sep 10 at 10:00am:	<i>Covenant Group</i>
* Fri, Sep 11 at 7:00pm:	<i>QUUest Jr.</i>
* Sat, Sep 12 at 9:00am:	<i>UUCG Men's Group</i>

Faith Formation Hour No Programming

There will not be any Faith Formation Hour programming today. Please check the Calendar of Events page on the UUCG website for updates on future schedules.

<https://www.uucg.org/calendar-of-events>

“We’re made of starstuff.” What does that mean?

by Kate Howells, excerpted from <https://www.planetary.org>

The Planetary Society’s co-founder Carl Sagan famously said that we are made of starstuff. The full quote comes from his 1980 television series “Cosmos”: “The Cosmos is within us. We are made of star-stuff. We are a way for the Universe to know itself.”

What made Sagan such an amazing science communicator was his ability to say beautifully poetic things like this, all while being completely scientifically literal. We humans truly are made of the elements that stars create. We are starstuff.

Our home world was formed along with the rest of the Solar System about 4.6 billion years ago from a giant cloud of dust and gas. Most of that material became the Sun, which became massive enough to spark nuclear fusion at its core. Some of the leftover material spread into a rotating disk, from which the planets, moons, and other bodies formed.

The origin of that dust and gas is where the starstuff concept comes into play. Much of that Solar System-forming material was hydrogen and helium, which have both been around since the earliest days of the Universe. But abundant heavier elements — carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, iron, etc — first came into being about a hundred million years after the Big Bang, when clouds of hydrogen and helium collapsed into the first stars.

When very massive stars reach the end of their lives, they explode as supernovae. In those last moments, immense energy powers the fusion of [many elements]. As the star explodes, these elements are flung out into space. Together with heavy elements created through other stellar processes, they can eventually become ingredients for forming a planet, enriching the soil, feeding a plant, and becoming part of a human.

UU Values

As Unitarian Universalists, we draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building six values with Love at the center.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:

Interdependence: We honor the interdependent web of all existence.

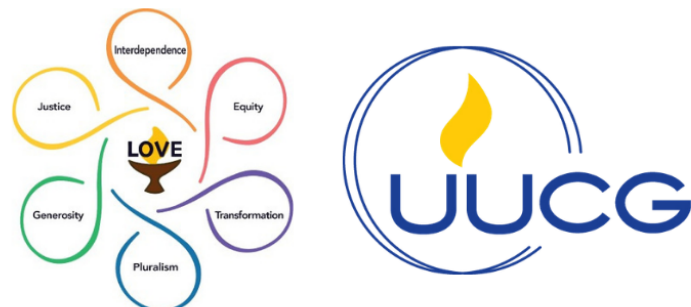
Pluralism: We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

Justice: We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

Transformation: We adapt to the changing world.

Generosity: We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Equity: We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.



What is Your Origin Story?

All of us have experienced different beginnings. Which do you feel have defined the person you are right now? And what other beginnings are presenting themselves to you?

