

Unitarian Church of Quincy

January 2024 Newsletter



January 2024 Services

Date: January 7

Speaker: Carol Nichols

Title: When Justice Seems Lost

Reflecting on this world at the beginning of 2024, where the world is witness to the unfairness of economic, racist, national and personal injustice, where and how do we find our footing? What path leads us to betterment?

Date: January 14

Speaker: Sharon Buzzard

Title: New Year Reflections

TBD

Donate-a-Plate for January will go to Advocacy Network for Children

Date: January 21

Speaker: TBD

Title: TBD

Date: January 28

Speaker: TBD

Title: TBD

Semi-Annual Meeting Announcement

Hear ye, hear ye!! On Sunday January 14th, after the 10:30am service, we will have our congregation's semi-annual meeting. Church committees will be presenting reports on their past and upcoming activities, along with a discussion of other church business. Please make a point to attend in-person or virtually. We'll keep it short!

Ministers' Message

We hope you are staying warm during this winter season. It was rewarding to see many familiar faces, and many new ones as well, at the Christmas Eve service. Longtime Unitarians who were back in town for a visit came out to join the service, and some folks had family members in from far away. And of course many regular churchgoers were traveling, and some were able to join us on Zoom. And special thanks to the members of the Low Brass Ensemble for joining the service.

Our texts for Christmas Eve were "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" and "The Peace of Wild Things." Both of those poems remind us to slow down, take stock, and give ourselves permission to withdraw from the world for a time before returning to the busy day-to-day. We hope you are finding that place of peace for now, while gathering energy for the year ahead. See you later this month! We'll be in town on the 14th for Sharon's talk and the semi-annual meeting.

FIRST FRIDAY/HOLIDAY TAKEDOWN

We welcome the new year with a new month of First Fridays on January 5th in the church's Garden Room at 6:30pm! In December a First Friday was combined with the annual Hanging of the Greens to beautify the church with outdoor greenery and small soothing white lights. Now it is January and it will take many hands to put the church to its original state and tuck away the many lights and other holiday decor for the next season. Please join us for a First Friday and Holiday Take Down party! Please bring something sweet or savory to pass and whatever you'd like to drink. With many helping hands we'll make short work of putting the church to rights so we can get down to the serious job of wine, conversation, and genteel mayhem!

Paul Miller, please bring your truck so the beautiful cedar tree that you generously donated to grace the Garden Room can make its exit as it's looking dangerously dry and it's not yet time for any bonfire I believe!

I hope to see many people who have had time to recuperate from the pace of the holiday season and join me on January 5th for the first First Friday of 2024!

Best from Mary Beth

Upcoming Candlelight Dinner Information

The March 8, 2024, Candlelight Dinner is fast approaching! This event is very popular in our community and the 64 reservations fill up quickly. It will be a grand evening with cocktails and appetizers followed by a 3 course dinner in the Garden Room. After dinner the guests will go into the sanctuary for entertainment by Gypsy, Tango, Foxtrot. The committee has met twice and the plans are coming together. There are many volunteer opportunities such as set-up and clean-up, dishwashers, waiters, bussers, cooks for side dishes, vegetarian entree, appetizers, desserts, etc. For more information, please contact Mary Beth or Leann.

New Information for our Trash and Recycle Receptacles

For way too long, we have not been very well prepared to keep trash and recyclables separate in the kitchen. We hope to do better! The bins have been labeled—the trash goes into the bin with the lid and the recyclables go into the open bin. There is a list of what can be recycled near the open bin.

There are four categories of recyclables:

PAPER: newspaper, magazines, junk mail, paper books (hard covers removed)

CARDBOARD: cereal, food boxes, paper towel rolls, shoe boxes, corrugated boxes

TIN/PLASTIC/ALUMINUM (ALL RINSED and EMPTY) : water/soda bottles, milk/juice jugs/ detergent bottles, food containers, tin food cans(labels removed), beverage cans

GLASS: RINSED glass bottles and jars.

There is a long list of Non-Recyclable items—please read posted list.

Thanks for your cooperation!

Fellowship Committee