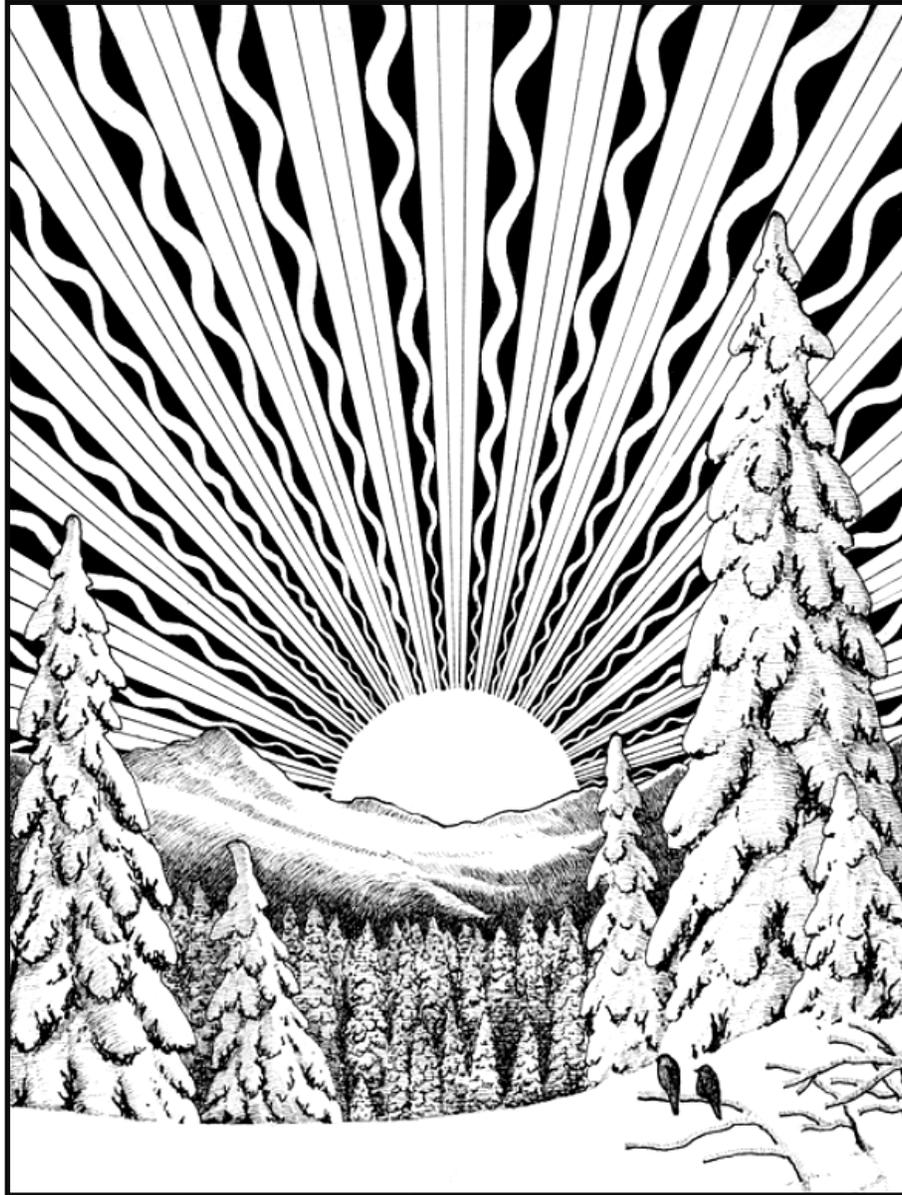


# FIRST UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH

*Gathered in 1858*



## WINTER SOLSTICE SERVICE

*Led by Randy Jefferson*

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Wednesday, December 21, 2022  
7:00 PM

BELLCHIME

PRELUDE— “Walkin’ It On In”

WELCOME

CHALICE LIGHTING — “Come Now Out of the Darkness”

*Annie Foerster*

OPENING WORDS—“Once More”

*Amy Bowden Freedman*

GATHERING HYMN NO. 389— “Gathered Here” (Round)

MEDITATION— “Guided Meditation on Darkness”

*Shari Woodbury*

MESSAGE FOR THE AGES— “Darkness”

*Mildred Pitts Walter*

UNISON READING — Honoring the Cycle of Life

*(Face the East)*

**East:** Spirit of the East, spirit of the air, of morning and springtime. Be with us as the sun rises, in times of beginning, times of new light. Inspire us with the fresh breath of courage as we go forth to new adventures.

*(Face the South)*

**South:** Spirit of the South, spirit of fire, of noontime, and summer. Be with us through the heat of the day and help us to understand our desires. Warm us with strength and energy for the work that awaits us.

*(Face the West)*

**West:** Spirit of the West, spirit of water, of evening and autumn. Be with us as the sun sets and help us to reflect on our past. Flow through us with a cooling, healing quietness and bring us peace.

*(Face the North)*

**North:** Spirit of the North, spirit of Earth, holding the seed of life through the long winter. Be with us in the darkness, at this time of change. Ground us in the wisdom of the seasons as we celebrate the spiral journey of our lives.

HYMN No. 55 — “Dark of Winter”

SOLSTICE REFLECTION—Adapted

*Bridget Meyer*

PREPARING FOR THE LIGHT’S RETURN

THE CENTERING OF DARKNESS—“Celebrate the Light”

Drumming

SHARING THE LIGHT

CLOSING HYMN No. #1063— “Winter Solstice Chant”

CLOSING WORDS— “Winter Solstice”

*Gregory Jones*

BURNING THE YULE LOG AND LETTING GO

## OUR MISSION

To transform ourselves and the larger community by being a bright and welcoming sanctuary of hope, compassion, service, and understanding—allowing individuals of differing spiritual and religious beliefs to experience acceptance and support, a sense of belonging, and continued personal growth as part of a free-thinking, inclusive church community.

## WELCOME

Tonight's service is led by the Randy Jefferson, with music from Margaret Jerz and the UU Wausau Drum Club.

Listening devices are available to help the hearing impaired participate in the service; please ask an usher for assistance.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

This Saturday, December 24th, at 7:00PM, join us for our candlelight Christmas Eve service, led by the Reverend Brian Mason. On Sunday, December 25th, join us for a Christmas Day service, led by the Reverend Brian Mason and Music Director Margaret Jerz.

## STAY CONNECTED TO UU WAUSAU

**E-mail:** To join our e-mail list and stay up-to-date with all the happenings in the Church, visit our website at [uuwausau.org](http://uuwausau.org)

**Like us on Facebook:** [facebook.com/firstuuwausau](https://facebook.com/firstuuwausau)

**Follow us on Instagram:** [instagram.com/uuwausau](https://instagram.com/uuwausau)

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## CLERGY AND STAFF

**The Reverend Brian J. Mason, Minister**

**Jes Zimmer, Director of Religious Education**

**Dänika Gibson, Congregational Administrator**

**Margaret Jerz, Music Director**

**Carolyne Powers, Membership and Involvement Coordinator**

## FIRST UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH

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Office closed this Thursday, December 22nd.