

Inviting the Bell

**Chalice Lighting** by Katie Sivani Gelfand  
*We light this chalice as a symbol of reunion. We reunite in this auditorium to share the flow of our hearts with one another. We gather together in ritual to celebrate our fountains of joy, to hold each other through storms of grief, to guide one another through rapids of transformation, and to rest together on ponds of stillness. Together, we honor the spirit of water, its many forms, and its life-giving essence.*

- \***Passing the Peace** “Peace be with you”
- \***Hymn #188** “Come, Come, Whoever You Are” (sung 3 times)

Welcome

**Covenant** First Unitarian Church of Des Moines Relational Covenant  
*We covenant to care for our own well-being, each other’s well-being, and the well-being of our community as a whole. We will recognize the inherent worth and dignity of all; be respectful and kind, valuing the gifts and individuality of all; listen with empathy and consider the impact of our words and actions; be patient and understanding with each other; find a pathway and work for reconciliation.*

- \***Hymn #360** “Here We Have Gathered”

**Story** “*They Call Me River*”  
by Maciek Albrecht

**Music** “*Big House*” UU Singers  
by Kyle Pederson

**Readings** “On the Origin of Water Communion” (UUA)  
“Pilgrim at Tinker Creek” by Annie Dillard

**Spotlight** Leadership-Community Faire Sally Boeckholt

Joys and Sorrows

Moment of Silence

**Sung Response #1007** “There’s a River Flowin’ in my Soul” (v.1)

Ritual of Water Communion

Sermon

Offering

- \***Hymn #100** “*I’ve Got Peace Like A River*” (vv. 1-3)

\***Extinguishing the Chalice**  
*As we extinguish this chalice, we give thanks for the time we have shared together, for the great lake of hope, compassion, and love that we make from our gathered waters. Let us carry this love into the world.*

\***Spoken Benediction**

- \***Sung Benediction #1057** “Go Lifted Up”

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

Minister	Rev. Steve Sieck
Celebrant:	Elijah Evans
Storyteller:	Faithyna Leonard
Song Leader:	Barbara Martin
Musicians:	Bruce Martin, pianist; UU Singers, Kirk Martin, Karen Kraemer
Pastoral Care Associate:	Ellen Taylor
AV Tech:	Gianfranco Berardi
Hospitality Team Lead:	Crystal Loving

### TODAY'S FORUM:

Join us after the Service for a Capital Campaign Brunch!

**ONLINE GIVING**. Support various programs with online donations! Scan the QR code and select a fund:



- **Your Pledge**
- **Basket Donation**
- **Faith in Action Partners** (donations split evenly among partners)
- **And more!**

**FAITH IN ACTION**. Our 2025-26 Faith in Action Partners are the **YMCA Supportive Housing Campus** and **Refugee and Immigrant Voices in Action**. You can now give to these groups through our online giving or by using the envelopes located in the auditorium. All donations will be split evenly between the two organizations.

### Accessibility:

- **Assistive Listening Devices, full-page magnifiers, large-print hymnals and hymnals in Braille:** These are available just inside the Auditorium doors, on the shelves to your left.
- **Disability parking and accessible entrances:** Parking is available outside the west doors just past the drop-off lane in the right lane, or in the lot just south of the church on Casady Drive.

**Lift to all building levels:** Main floor on the east side of the coat room.

# Welcome

to the

## First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

*Love radically. Grow ethically and spiritually. Serve justly.*



2025 September 7th ~ 9:30-10:45  
12th Sunday of Summer



Full Moon