

Inviting the Bell

Chalice Lighting by Nadine McSpadden
*During our darkest moments, still, there is hope.
When facing our biggest challenges, still, there is hope.
When all we can do is put one foot in front of the other,
still, there is hope.
We are the hope—for ourselves and for one another.
Always, there is hope.*

***Passing the Peace** “Peace be with you”

***Hymn #95** "There is More Love Somewhere"
(verses 1-2)

Welcome

Covenant by James Vila Blake
*Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.*

***Hymn #95** “There is More Love Somewhere”
(verses 3-4)

Story A Flicker of Hope
by Julia Cook

Children’s Benediction

Spotlight Dare to Dream

Joys and Sorrows

Moment of Silence

Sung Response #1002 “Comfort Me”
(verses 1-2)

Offering

Reflection Louise Alcorn

Music “Julio-O” Peter Sieck
By Mark Summer, arr. Kevin Treiber

Sermon “Choosing Hope” Rev. Steve

***Hymn #112** “Do You Hear?”

***Extinguishing the Chalice** by Rev. Tandi Rogers
*May we choose hope, even when it trembles.
May it be the kind of hope that plants seeds,
Waits in the dark, and trusts the stirring.
Hope that doesn’t deny despair, but dares to outlast it.*

*Spoken Benediction

***Sung Benediction** “Hymn of Valor”

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Minister	Rev. Steve Sieck
Celebrant:	Louise Alcorn
Storytellers:	Faithyna Leonard, Peter Sieck
Song Leader:	Sarah Chang
Musicians:	Bruce Martin, piano; Peter Sieck, viola
Pastoral Care Associate:	Barb Glass
AV Tech:	Rob Malcomson
Hospitality Team Lead:	Lynne & Kerry George

TODAY'S FORUM

Iowa's First Mini-Forest- Iowa's first mini-forest was planted in May 2024 with a lot of support from First Unitarian. What happened and how is the forest doing?

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)
- **Endowment**
- **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.

Accessibility:

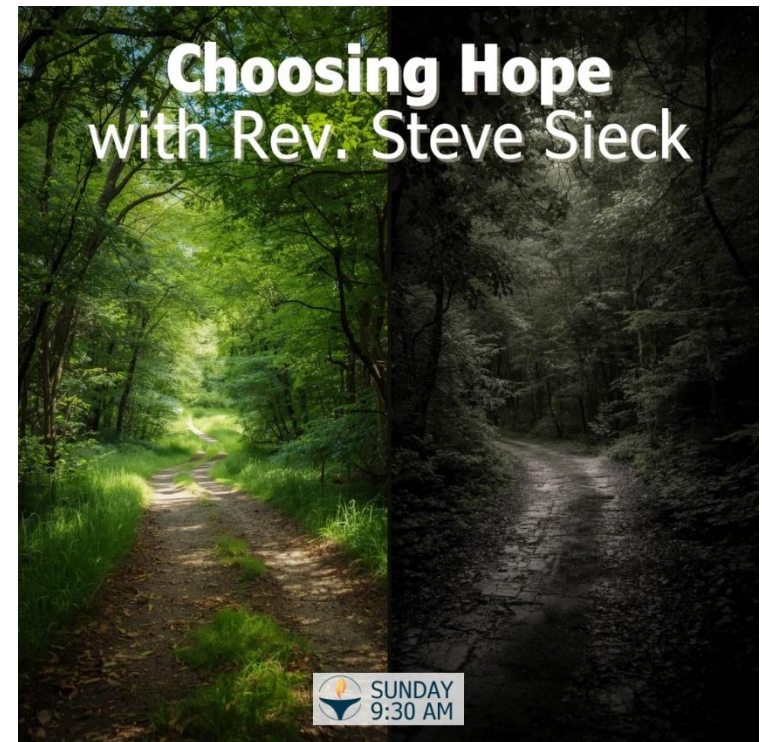
- **Assistive Listening Devices, full-page magnifiers, large-print hymnals and hymnals in Braille:** These are available just inside the Auditorium doors, on the shelves to your left.
- **Disability parking and accessible entrances:** Parking is available outside the west doors just past the drop-off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

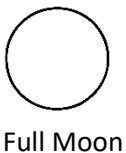
Welcome

to the First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

Love radically. Grow ethically and spiritually. Serve justly.



2025 December 7 ~ 9:30-10:45
11th Sunday of Fall



Full Moon