

Inviting the Bell

**Chalice Lighting** by Pat Uribe-Lichty  
*The chalice we light today is a symbol of our faith.  
It binds us together as one people:  
a reminder that our strength is in our shared hope for the  
world, and that our common work is the creation of Beloved  
Community among ourselves and in the world.*

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

**\*Hymn #148** “Let Freedom Span Both East and West”

Welcome

**Covenant** First Unitarian Church of Des Moines Bond of Union  
*We covenant to associate ourselves together for the study and  
practice of morality and religion, as interpreted by the growing  
thought and noblest lives of humanity, hoping thereby to prove  
helpful one to another and to promote truth, righteousness and  
love in the world.*

**\*Hymn #155** “Circle Round for Freedom”

**Story** “The Playground with the Fence”  
by Faithyna Leonard

Children’s Benediction

**Spotlight** Sharing Gratitudes Elaine Imlau

Joys and Sorrows

Moment of Silence

**Sung Response #1031** “Filled with Loving Kindness” (v. 3)

Offering

**Reading** Elizabeth Williams

**Music** “There is a Balm in Gilead” Bell Ave. Ringers  
arr. M. Helman

**Sermon** “Righting the Ship” Rev. Steve

**\*Hymn #318** “We Would Be One”

**\*Extinguishing the Chalice** by Robin F. Gray  
*The flame is extinguished, but not our hope for the future, our  
courage in the face of crisis, or the love we share in all the world.*

\*Spoken Benediction

**\*Sung Benediction #1058** Be Ours a Religion

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

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Minister	Rev. Steve Sieck
Celebrant:	Elizabeth Williams
Storyteller:	Faithyna Leonard
Song Leader:	Louise Alcorn
Musicians:	Bruce Martin, Bell Ave. Ringers, Karen Kraemer
Pastoral Care Associate:	John Morrow
AV Tech:	Oge Nnadi
Hospitality Team Lead:	Becky Evans

### **TODAY'S FORUM: Food Insecurity in Iowa**

Learn about two key organizations addressing food insecurity: Our own FEDS which provides meals in homeless shelters and DMARC which operates food pantries across the region. Find out how you can get involved!

Next week's forum: Board of Trustees will present a draft of the 2026-27 budget.

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

- **Your Pledge**
- **Basket Donation**
- **Faith in Action 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.

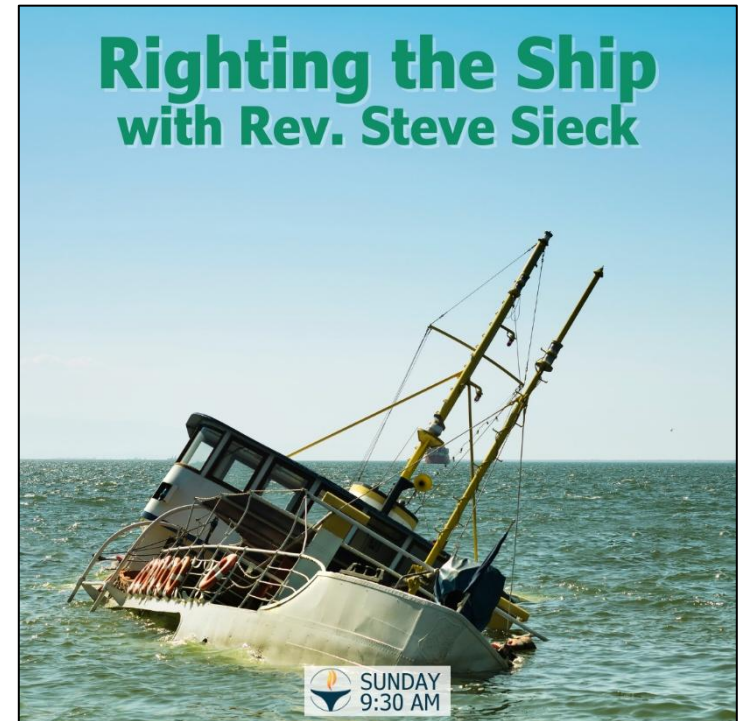
### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

- **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 coatroom.

# Welcome

## to the First Unitarian Church of Des Moines

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



2026 January 18 ~ 9:30-10:45  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Winter



New Moon