

## Welcome

Welcome to Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church, a presence for liberal religion in Portland since 1821.

From mid-June through Labor Day weekend, our Sunday services are led by lay-members of the congregation. Our summer programs are more informal and offer an exploration of a wide variety of topics and presenters. The rest of the year, most services are led by Rev. Tara Humphries.

If you are visiting and would like to know more about our church, please speak to one of our morning worship leaders following the program.

**MISSION:** At Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church, we are a growing community that informs lives through the power of love. We celebrate diversity, encourage spiritual growth, and promote social responsibility as we travel with care on this earth. We empower our members to share their gifts to build a world of compassion, equality and freedom.

### ALLEN AVENUE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

524 Allen Avenue

Portland, ME 04103

[www.a2u2.org](http://www.a2u2.org)

[\(207\) 797- 7240](tel:(207)797-7240)

## Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church

### *A Summer Spiritual Enrichment Group\**

Presented by Patricia Ellen and Judith Beckett

**Sunday July 28, 2024**



**July 28 2024 –**

**Order of Service**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Emily O'Neill

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Judith Beckett

*When Someone Listens to You,*

John Fox in *Finding What You Didn't Lose*

**LIGHTING THE CHALICE**

Patricia Ellen & Anita Jones

**OPENING HYMN** #346 *Come Sing a Song with Me*

**REFLECTION # 1**

Mike Luce

**JOYS & SORROWS & Prayer**

Judith Beckett

**OFFERING**

Anne Funderburk

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE** *"Piano for Elephants"*

Elephants World Sanctuary, Thailand

**REFLECTION # 2**

Chelsea Ray

**INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT GROUPS**

Patricia Ellen

**READING OF THE COVENANT**

Carol Hayden

**A SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCE**

Patricia Ellen

*Facilitators:* Judith Beckett, Carol Hayden, Mike Luce, Bettye McNeely, Emily O'Neill, Chelsea Ray, Taryn Walker, Kathryn Stannard

**CLOSING HYMN** #1008 *When Our heart Is In A Holy Place*

**BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

Patricia Ellen & Anita Jones

## When Someone Listens to You

When someone deeply listens to you  
it is like holding out a dented cup  
you've had since childhood  
and watching it fill up with  
cold, fresh water.  
When it balances on top of the brim,  
you are understood.  
When it overflows and touches your skin,  
you are loved.  
When someone deeply listens to you,  
the room where you stay  
starts a new life  
your first poem  
begins to glow in your mind's eye.  
It is as if gold has been discovered!  
When someone deeply listens to you,  
your bare feet are on the earth  
and a beloved land that seemed distant  
is now at home within you.

## A few questions to ponder in your Summer SEG\*

How does the poem you just read speak to you?

Have you ever felt as if no one is listening to you?

Who was the best listener you have ever known?

Did the elephant video speak to you? How?

**Poem by** *John Fox in Finding What You Didn't Lose.*

