

This Week's Service



Sunday, November 27th at 10:30 am
NO in-person service this week. Please join us on Zoom.

Join Rev. Roger (Musician Sherri Lemnios will provide music) for "GRATITUDE, GRATITUDE, GRATITUDE,"

Many religious and spiritual traditions encourage a sense of awe, wonder, and amazement, the aim of which is to find the sacred in all things. It seems to me that in order to do that, a spirit of gratitude is essential. Join us for a guided meditation and reflection on gratitude, as we enter the busy holiday season.

To join us online this Sunday, please follow this link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83800453066?pwd=cTI0bUdWTmt0Q0dLNlV4SHVNR09nZz09>

Meeting ID: 838 0045 3066
Passcode: 097426
To join by phone (audio only): +1 301 715 8592



UUCOB News & Notes



An invitation to Members & Friends of UUCOB when attending services in-person:

You are always welcome to bring flowers or other seasonal objects to grace our altar in front of the church near our chalice. Bringing a bit of nature inside is always appreciated by all.



UUCOB Community Outreach Event

In partnership with JCOB (Jewish Community of the Outer Banks), UUCOB will provide meals for *Room In The Inn* from December 18th to 24th.

[Room In The Inn](#) is a faith-based organization that provides hospitality, food, and shelter to homeless adults in the Outer Banks during the winter months.

Nancy Byrne and Laura Singletary will be heading up this project. Hot dinners will be prepared and taken to *Room In The Inn* in Nags Head.

On Sunday, December 18th (time TBA) join Rev. Roger for "Cook With Roger" where we'll be cooking at the Meetinghouse for *Room In The Inn's* evening meal. After the meal is prepared and packaged up, it will be taken to *Room In The Inn* to be served.

Breakfast and lunch items will consist mostly of packaged goods taken to the house at the beginning of the week.

There are many tasks to be done: grocery shopping, cooking, baking, packaging, offering to transport meals to the *Room In the Inn* center in Nags Head.

UUCOB's schedule to provide meals: 12/18, 12/19, 12/21, and 12/23

We have had lots of volunteer response already, but please contact Nancy Byrne if you would like to contribute financially or in any way. Email: byrne1153@gmail.com or Phone: (252) 202-9392

Connect with UUCOB

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Email: info.uucob@gmail.com
Phone: 252-261-2801

Visit our website: <https://uucob.org/>

Check us out on Social Media: [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#)

Minister's Message



Friends, as you likely know, I work with you all but I live in Colorado Springs. I serve as half-time interim minister at All Souls in Colorado Springs (in co-ministry with Beth Elliot also 20 hours) and as a contract minister half-time in Parker, Colorado, a suburb of Denver. And of course, remotely, 10 hours a week with all of you.



Image: Rocky Mountain Public Broadcasting Service



Image: New York Times 11/20/2022

This past weekend in Colorado Springs on Saturday night around midnight five beautiful, dancing LGBTQ people were gunned down and murdered at Club Q, known as a place of safety and sanctuary.

That morning at 7:00 a.m., I received a call from my friend, Jessie Pocock, director of *Inside Out Youth Services*, here in the Springs. "Our community needs a vigil today. *Inside Out* is too small. Can we use All Souls Church?" "Of course," I said and set in motion the leadership of the church to host the vigil. I was preaching in Parker that morning.

My co-minister, Beth Elliot was covering All Souls (we both work half-time for All Souls).

The service at All Souls that morning was to have been a celebration of All Souls finishing their congregational record. Instead, they sang together and prayed together and opened the doors of the sanctuary at 11:30 a.m. An estimated 700 people came through that morning and afternoon. Governor Polis zoomed in and he and his husband both spoke to the grieving crowd. The Mayor came to pay respects.

It was a powerful day. And what I've told All Souls is that instead of celebrating the congregational record, we lived out and embodied it. I came back right after preaching in Parker to be with my community. Jessie Pocock told me: "All Souls was the first place I thought to call."

We provided safe space for a community in deep grief. We provided coffee and Audio/Visual. We provided candles and Jimmy Johns sandwiches. We provided hugs and pastoral presence. It was enough and not enough, all at once. It is impossible to put into words the grief and anger in that church that morning and afternoon. We were all shattered, and still we showed up.

As it is with All Souls, so it is with UUCOB. All of our congregations are places of liberation and healing, a place of refuge and community. (We are not alone in that. Sunday night and Monday, progressive churches and temples held interfaith vigils that were also well attended.) But for we who call ourselves Unitarian Universalists, we know our call in this world: to be places of community (with radical openness to folks regardless of their identities), healing, and ultimately liberation (for all).

The Guardian newspaper interviewed me: You can find that interview [here](#).

The Colorado Springs Independent published Sunday the opening words of the sermon on gratitude that I gave at Parker that morning. You can find that [here](#).

I will be in the Outer Banks December 15-22. I look forward to seeing you all. I keep each of you in my prayer. I beg your prayers for me as well.

Blessings, Reverend Roger

Book a time with Rev. Roger at: <https://calendly.com/rogerbutts80905/roger>

Phone: 719-433-3135

Email: revrogerobuuc@gmail.com