

Rebecca is a life-long UU, dedicated at the Community Church of NY in 2007. She has been part of All Souls since 2010, progressing from the “angel chorus” to Coming of Age. She is particularly concerned about human rights and the environment. After learning that the top way to combat global warming is the education of women, she started a fundraiser for the Malala Fund. Rebecca attends ..., where she particularly enjoys studying Latin and Arabic. In addition, she is a talented artist, and one of her works is currently hanging in the education wing of the Met in the Scholastic Gold Key honorees exhibition. Prior to the pandemic, she was a competitive swimmer, and has recently started running. Rebecca lives in Manhattan with her parents, her cat Groucho, and her frog Jaws.

### **Credo Statement~**

Good morning, my name is Rebecca Randall and I’ve been a Unitarian Universalist my whole life so I’ve always had the freedom to delve into my religion and I do think that I am a religious person, which I believe to be someone who deeply questions all aspects of human existence.

While I have been encouraged to explore my beliefs at All Souls, I don’t remember really thinking too much about them until after my grandmother died in 2017. Following that, I think I wanted to have an explanation for why everything happened so I decided everything was a result of karma, but I’ve come to believe that karma does not exist. If it does, then what did I do to deserve the amount of pain I felt after that terrible night when I learned that my grandmother had finally lost her battle with cancer?

Instead of karma I’ve come to believe that all things happen for a reason. My grief was not a punishment from some higher power, but I had to grieve in order to become who I am today. I don’t believe that people have been created by a God, as such, but I do believe that we all have a purpose, otherwise we wouldn’t be here. Destiny may sound a bit grand, but I feel like we all have destinies. I do think, though, that our destinies shift with each of our actions and so I believe that everyone should put effort into their aspirations and challenge themselves to become better people each day. That way in the end, even if we don’t accomplish whatever goals we initially set, we have achieved something whether we are aware of it or not.

But what happens after that end? I've thought about this a lot and I'm not sure that I have an answer, and I may never have an answer, but I know that I will continue to search for it and I invite you all along on this journey with me.