

The Rev. Bruce Southworth



Minister Emeritus

The Rev. Bruce Southworth began his 38 years with The Community Church of New York Unitarian Universalist in 1979. Throughout his devoted service to help build the Beloved Community, “welcoming each to the service of all,” he distinguished himself as spiritual leader, Senior Minister, pastor, preacher, teacher, mentor, author, and social justice activist. In 2017, the congregation voted to designate him as our Minister Emeritus upon his retirement. This honor recognizes our continuing, yet changed, relationship with Rev. Southworth. ([More](#))

For his preaching, Rev. Southworth has twice received the Clarence R. Skinner Award given annually by the Unitarian Universalist Association for the sermon best expressing the social ideals of Universalism.

In 1994, with Nelson Mandela’s candidacy for President, he served as an election observer in Soweto, South Africa, as a member of the Religious Action Network of the America Committee on Africa, the oldest anti-apartheid organization in the U.S.

Rev. Southworth is the author of *This Day: Worship Resources For The Liberal Church* and *At Home In Creativity: The Natural Theology Of Henry Nelson Wieman*. He is both contributor to and editor of *Mahatma Gandhi – An American Portrait*, and editor of the UUA pamphlet “Jesus.”

As a denominational leader, he has served in a variety of elected and appointed positions nationally with the Unitarian Universalist Association. Prior to being called to The Community Church of NY UU, he served as Minister of the Roanoke Valley UU Church.

A life-long Unitarian Universalist, he is an honors graduate of Harvard College and of Union Theological Seminary where he received the Traveling Fellowship awarded by the Faculty – the seminary's highest academic honor for a graduating M. Div. senior.