



THE *liberal* FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

In the universalist spirit of love and hope, we give, receive and grow.

Issue 5, Number 10

April 2014

House That Love Built: An Update

See this vacant lot? Soon it will be bursting with activity. Thanks to your generosity, First Universalist is the primary sponsor for a Habitat for Humanity house to be built at 3026 Morgan Ave. N. in Minneapolis. Save the date for the first work camp on May 5th-9th, 2014. The work is fun, the education tremendous, the co-workers incredible, and the lunches delicious. Check the new church website for updates and opportunities to work at our House That Love Built.

Visual Arts Exhibit

“Soul Journey,” a photography exhibit by John McKinley, will be on display in the social hall from April 20 through May 25. The exhibit features landscape photographs on canvas from the canyon country in Utah. “I love the peace and beauty of canyon country. This is where I go to rejuvenate my spirit and attune with the earth’s healing and loving energy without distraction. I seek to share the beauty, balance and being as a reminder of the light within. This is my spiritual practice,” says McKinley.

An artist reception is scheduled for April 27 from 1:00-2:30 PM in the Social Hall. John will be available after both services each Sunday during the exhibit.

Tilling the Soil for Racial Justice Work:

Discussing “Race: The Power of an Illusion”

By Clemma Muller and Kayci Rush

Sunday, April 13 at 1:00pm in the Cummins Room

Tuesday, April 15 at 6:30pm in Room 203

Join us as we watch part one of “Race: The Power of an Illusion”. In “The Difference Between Us,” the first hour of the series, we see that, despite what we’ve always believed, the world’s people simply don’t come bundled in distinct biological groups. We begin by following a dozen students, including Black athletes and Asian string players, who sequence and compare their own DNA to see who is more genetically similar. The results surprise the students and the viewer when they discover that their closest genetic matches are as likely to be with people from other “races” as their own.

For more information, contact:

Kayci Rush at kayci.rush@gmail.com or

Clemma at clemmaj@gmail.com.

Please RSVP to Elaine@firstuniv.org. Childcare is available free of charge by emailing childcare@firstuniv.org at least 7 days in advance of event date.

For up-to-date information about news and events relating to our Racial Justice Work, be sure to check out our new website at:
www.firstuniversalistchurch.org

Earth Day 2014

By Cecilia Newton

Celebrate Earth Day April 27, 2014 at First Universalist Church in the Cummins Room:
Creating Sustainable Communities.

Take action to save the environment and reduce your energy bills at a rock bottom price.

Purchase a Cree brand energy efficient light bulb at the Earth Day special price of \$8.00, available to First Universalist members and friends only. Regular prices are \$9.00 to \$13.00, plus tax. Cree LEDs have a 10 year warranty, are free of toxic chemicals, and have an estimated \$139.00 energy cost savings for the life of the bulb. Order now, with pick up at First Universalist on Sundays starting April 27. Bring in your gently used CFLs, we will get them to people who need them and cannot afford to buy new light bulbs.

Sign up for a Home Energy Squad presentation. Own a home? Have a rental? Do you want to get energy efficient the easy way? Sign up for the 45 minute Home Energy Squad presentation to be held Tuesday, May 20 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Chalice Room. Small changes generate big savings and bring you the satisfaction of environmental stewardship.

Have questions or want to sign up? Contact the Earth Day Committee: Carol Johnson, 612-825-3322 or cjkjohnson@peoplepc.com; Bob Friedman, rmarcf@usfamily.net; Cecelia Newton, newton.cecilia@gmail.com .

Sign Up Form!

Please leave at Faith in Action table in the Social Hall.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

I want _____ LED light bulbs (60 Watt, Soft White) at a cost of \$8.00 each.

Total cost _____

_____ I / we will attend the Home Energy Squad presentation on Tuesday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m.

First Universalist Choir Tackles “Leonardo”: Part 3

By Randy Buikema

For the past several weeks, the First Universalist Choir has been putting the finishing touches on Eric Whitacre's “Leonardo Dreams of His Flying Machine.” Rehearsals for this monumental piece of music began in early January. During the first two months, the choir focused solely on learning the challenging pitches and intricate rhythms of the nearly 150,000 notes in this nine minute work. After the notes were learned, rehearsals have focused on shaping the musical elements to breathe life into the dramatic story.

In the opening, Leonardo is “tormented by visions of flight and falling.” Soon, we hear Leonardo's inner voice calling him:

(continued on page 3)

Save the Date for “Habitat on the Hill”

By Peg Meier

Can you spare half a weekday to help legislators understand the importance of affordable housing? On Tuesday, April 8, First Universalists and many others will participate in Habitat for Humanity's annual “Habitat on the Hill.” No experience is necessary. Participants will register at 8:00 AM, train at 8:30 AM and then speak to their legislators until served a free box lunch. To stand out at the Capitol, volunteers will be given a Housing Hero T-shirt and encouraged to wear hardhats, tool belts and other construction gear. If interested, please contact Joan Naymark at joan.g.naymark@gmail.com.

The Affordable Housing Bonding Bill would channel \$100 million into affordable housing across the state. More than 600,000 Minnesota households pay more than 30 percent of their income for housing. More than 10,000 Minnesotans are homeless on any given day. The event is cosponsored by the Homes for All Coalition.



Save The Date!
Tuesday, April 8th!

Put on a Happy Face!

By Sandy DiNanni

How would you like to be called “the loving face of First Universalist?” That's what you'll be called if you volunteer to be a member of our fabulous Welcome Teams on Sunday morning. It's a ministry of radical hospitality, greeting members, friends, and visitors to the church, and chatting with newcomers at coffee. It's not hard: you only serve once a month (except for a one-time 5th Sunday of the month during the year). You volunteer with the nicest people each time, acquiring your Welcome Team colleagues as special new friends, and your job is to show the world the welcoming face of Love's People at First Universalist Church!

Here's a note from church Trustee Jill Braithwaite:

“Being part of a Welcome Team is definitely one of my favorite ways to volunteer at church. It's super simple to do – you just show up 45 minutes before the service, check in with your team and choose your post, and then you get to be the warm, friendly face of First Universalist. It takes courage to visit a church for the first time, and we all know how bad it feels to be in a new place that is not friendly. So it's a great privilege to be part of helping create a positive experience for visitors.”

If the concept of exhibiting the welcoming spirit of First Universalist Church appeals to you, please email sandy@firstuniv.org to be put on a Welcome Team. We know you'll love it!

*First Universalist Choir Tackles
“Leonardo”...continued from
page 2:*

“Leonardo, Leonardo, come fly.” Leonardo journeys through many emotions, sometimes serene and sometimes terrifying, as he contemplates flight. Periodically, the voice returns to center him and inspire him to fly. Despite doubts, Leonardo remains true to his vision. He finally makes the leap and experiences “the triumph of the human being ascending in the dreams of a mortal.”

Come and listen to your own inner voice as the Choir presents “Leonardo” during worship on April 6.





What Do You Carry?

Rev. Jen Crow, Acting Senior Minister

When our six year-old son started at a new school this fall, my wife, Loretta, gave him a heart-shaped rock to carry in his pocket. The rock would be there to remind him that our love -- and the love of everyone who cares about him -- was right there with him on this new adventure. If he felt scared, worried, overwhelmed, or excited he could just put his hand in his pocket and remember us.

I have to admit, that when Loretta came home with the rock, I was skeptical. Sure, I would love that, but he's a six year old boy. I thought, find him a Power Ranger or a cool pen, he'd probably like that, but a rock?

That first night, after carrying the rock with him to school, Henry carefully tucked it back into its tiny silver box with cotton batting and put it right by the head of his bed. Over the weeks and months since then, I've found it in the wash, under his pillow, or at the bottom of his backpack. He carries our heart with him.

Henry's rock has made me think a lot about what we carry. Yes, there are the burdens, the challenges, and the loneliness-- but we carry something more, too. We carry the love of all those who have ever cared about us. We carry the hopes and dreams of those who have prepared the way for us. We carry the challenges that irritate us, push us, and help us to grow into the people we can be.

What do you carry? Whose heart do you carry in your pocket -- and who carries your heart with them?

What keeps you grounded, what reassures, comforts, and strengthens you? We may not always think about it this way, but I believe that this church and all of its people, from the past, to the present, and to the future are there with us. They urge us on, strengthening us, celebrating with us in our victories and holding us up in our losses. I believe that our hearts are carried in each others' pockets -- and I believe that when we know and feel this, our strength is multiplied.

As we wrap up our annual pledge drive and look ahead to the next church year, with all of our hopes and dreams, let us remember that our hearts are in each others' pockets. Let us give to one another generously, so that our love and strength may be multiplied as we give, receive and grow.

~ Rev. Jen

THE liberal

FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

In the Universalist spirit of love and hope, we give, receive and grow.

Ministers

Senior Minister	Rev. Justin Schroeder
Program Life	Rev. Jen Crow
Membership &	Rev. Elaine Aron
Adult Ministries	Tenbrink
Worship Arts	Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Emeriti	Rev. John Cummins Rev. Kate Tucker

Worship Arts

Director	Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Music Director	John Jensen
Choral Director	Dr. Randal Buikema

Operations

Director	Diane Gavere
Assist. Finance Admin.	Brad Schmidt
Communications Manager	Heidi Johnson
Office & Events Manager	Bree Mattson
Administrative Assistant	K.C. Bogdan
Facility Manager	Tracy Van Epps
Sr. Cleaning Custodian	Tim Ewing
Sound System Operator	David Kellermann

Faith in Action

Interim Director	Rev. Jen Crow
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Membership & Adult Ministries

Director	Rev. Elaine Aron
Membership Support	Sandy DiNanni

Children, Youth & Families Ministries

Director	Lauren Wyeth
Youth Coordinator	Abe Levine
Program Assistants	Alice Fredrickson Emily Christie

If you want a print version of the Liberal, contact sandy@firstuniv.org, 612-825-1701, or pick up a print copy at the Information Center. The online color version at firstuniv.org/ newsletter has live links. Our office hours are Mon-Thurs 8:30am-8pm; Fri 8:30am-4pm; Sat we are closed; Sun 8:00am-1pm. Church Services are 9:30am and 11:15am during the year and only 10am during the summer.

3400 Dupont Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55408
Phone: **612-825-1701** Fax: **612-825-8879**
www.firstuniv.org

Planned Giving and 4th Annual Day of Service: Heritage Circle March 15th, 2014

By Marjie Smith

There is a quote of Albert Einstein's that I strive to live by:

"A hundred times a day I remind myself that my inner and outer life depend on the labors of others, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the measure as I have received and am still receiving."

I am grateful for my life and the gifts I have been given. So when it comes time for me to shuffle off this mortal coil, I am comforted to know that the values that I hold will continue after my lifetime. That is because I am part of the Heritage Circle.

Join us in this meaningful quest of giving beyond your lifetime and become a member of the Heritage Circle. It's easy: Either go to the church's website and click on Planned Giving or call Diane Gavere in the church office at 612-825-1701, ext. 104.

"It is for times we shall never see. May it be so and amen."

Child Dedication

The only upcoming Child Dedication service will be held at both services on Sunday, May 11, Mothers' Day.

If you're ready to have a child dedicated at First Universalist, fill out the form on our website, under Contact Us--Online Forms-- as soon as possible.

It needs to be into the office before Sunday, May 4, 2014.

By Judy Broad (Project Coordinator)

We did it! On March 15th, 322 of us worked on 18 different service projects. Nine projects happened in the church building, including sorting the 3rd floor storage area and SPIFF cleaning the pews and classroom windows, all while the needles were flying for Knitting for Charity. Many youth helped make Care Packages for the Homeless (which we can purchase and distribute!) and worked on Day Brighteners for the recipients of Meals on Wheels. We drew design ideas for the Little Free Library (the post is in!) while collecting & sorting books for the Women's Prison Book Project. Those with a lot of patience sorted tiny seeds for Gardening Matters. We also had several people assist by helping to organize and clean-up the spaces at church and assist in serving lunch to about 100 people!

The rest of the groups traveled within the metro area to sort medical supplies at Mano A Mano, do clean-up and organizing work at A.F.A. and Ascension Place, and to sort and pack food at Second Harvest Food Shelf. We sent two different groups there, one of which was made up entirely of our 7th & 8th graders! Habitat had three active work sites and were served a lunch prepared by another of our groups in the church kitchen. One group traveled an hour to work in the greenhouses at Philadelphia Community Farm while the hearty removed buckthorn at the Coldwater Spring Unit, which is part of the National Park Service.

That's what 1,277 hours of work can accomplish! Our partner organizations are very grateful for our assistance. I hope that we are all happy and proud to have had the opportunity to be of service, knowing that we also do this work to nurture our own growth.

I want to send a big "thank you!" to the following Project Coordinators:

Barbara Benner, Barbara Melom, Nora Whiteman, Welcome Jerde, Susan Schonfeld, Ginny McAnnich, Judy Goebel, Paul Kloth, Nancy McCall, Cindy Marsh, Tom Saterstrom, Cecelia Newton, Robert Friedman, Kathleen Coskran, Lark Weller, Paul Densmore and Sheila McGuire

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

'The Liberal' is Taking a Summer Vacation

By Heidi Johnson

Starting this June, *The Liberal* will be taking a summer vacation. While *The Liberal* typically takes a hiatus over the summer, this year we will be corresponding the publication schedule of *The Liberal* with the church calendar year: this means that the May edition of *The Liberal* will be the last edition before the summer. During this time, staff will be assessing the ways and means in which we communicate here at First Universalist, in hopes of gauging the effectiveness of our publications and communication methods. Please note that the website, Bulletin, social media accounts, and Weekly Church E-News will still be utilized to communicate news, events, and important information with the congregation. Listed below is additional information about these avenues of communication:

Website

Our new website has been live since the first week of March! In addition to updated pages, links, and general information, our website also has a number of new features—most notably the ‘upcoming events’ section and ‘blog’, which features news, information, and photo galleries. The website is updated daily.

Weekly Church E-News

This weekly email is the companion piece to our new

website, and features links to the upcoming Sunday Order of Service and Bulletin, messages from staff, news, and upcoming event information. This e-news is emailed out every Thursday night. If you would like to be included in our distribution list for the Weekly Church E-News, email Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org.

Social Media

First Universalist has Facebook and Twitter accounts! Both of these accounts are updated regularly (typically daily) with news, announcements, affirmations, gratitudes, and other information. Both accounts are public and open to any and all to join/follow.

The Bulletin

This supplement to the Sunday Order of Service contains short announcements and news tidbits, and is published as a paper version (in the Sunday OOS) and electronically (a PDF is posted on the website every Thursday night, prior to the Sunday service). Submissions for this publication are due by Wednesday at 10:00 AM, and must be kept under 75 words. Submissions can be emailed to communications@firstuniv.org—please note that occasional edits for content, length, and style should be expected.

If you have any questions about communications at First Universalist, please email Communications Manager Heidi Johnson at communications@firstuniv.org. Also please note that **the deadline for the May edition of The Liberal is April 15th**. Be sure to email your submissions before the deadline!

Photos from the March 15th Day of Service:



April Board Update

By David Bach

In March's "Liberal," the Board of Trustees provided a summary of the February 2 "State of the Church" meeting. We received a number of questions about plans for Faith in Action, both in terms of programming and staffing. Justin and Jen, supported by the Board, clearly stated that a director of Faith in Action will be hired, probably in July, at least 20 hours a week with a goal of 30 hours depending on results from our Annual Pledge Drive. A number of you had questions about the budget. We will be sharing a draft budget with the congregation on April 27. Suggestions to move the budget process and Annual Meeting earlier in the year will be looked at seriously for next year. It is not practical this year with Justin's sabbatical. Issues related to meeting the UUA Fair Share contributions are currently being discussed by the Board and looked at carefully in relation to the budget.

We collected a total of 75 written questions on February 2, and stated that we would prepare responses and explore the best way to share this information with you. No one was more adamant than me, as president of the Board and presider over the event, that every question would be answered. I said that in the spirit of love and respect I have for every one of you. So this is my "come to Jesus" confession (from my Methodist past.) The difficulty of answering every question has become clear in the days since the "State of the Church" meeting. We are grateful for all questions and comments we received. Some were not questions but statements you hold dearly. Rather than providing responses to 75 questions or comments, this column will respond to the primary themes within which many fell.

Staffing – The balance between program and administrative staff is being looked at carefully. Human Resource policies have been reviewed by the Board, including expectations of appropriate hiring, evaluation, salary and termination policies. Staff are working with a consultant to look at the workplace needs and culture carefully.

Sunday mornings – A thoughtful artistic approach to all aspects of worship has brought a strong spiritual and thematic thread to our services. It has involved musician and artists from inside and outside the church. Some people expressed concerns about the use of outside musicians rather than congregants. Yet our choir is the largest it has ever been with a variety of styles of music being performed. The choir is sometimes accompanied by a small orchestra that is filled first with members of the church and then complemented with community members. The worship service is always evolving and changing and it is clearly the responsibility of our ministers to shape. With the potential of a third service in the fall of 2015 there will be the opportunity to envision an additional worship experience for our church.

How program decisions are made – There remains room for improvement in how staff communicate changes in programming, and how those decisions have been reached. Staff are already seeking input from congregants as additional decisions need to be made; they are also evaluating how these changes need to be communicated differently in the future.

Communications – Likewise, there is room for communications improvements at all levels– board, staff, and the congregation. The website was just overhauled to address this critical public face of the church. Staff are reviewing current communication channels including the "Liberal," emails, blogs, Facebook, and others. Later in the year, staff plan to create a thoughtful communications plan that positions us to do a much better job in the future. The Board used its March 22 Working Session to discuss Linkage to the Congregation and Board Leadership to improve our effectiveness. Expect some concrete improvements to come from us in the next few months.

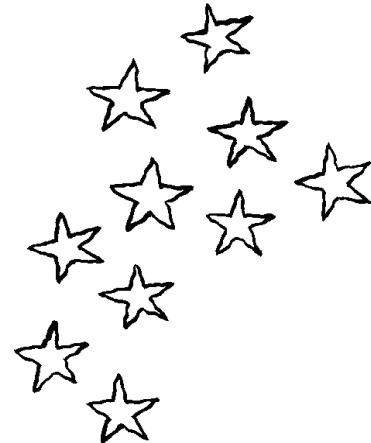
Capital needs – The Board took steps when refinancing the mortgage to provide the opportunity for an additional line of credit to be used for capital repairs and replacements. In addition, discussions have been held by the

'Board Update' continued on page 11...

Worship Theme: Life Beyond Your Wildest Dreams

If you desire a bright tomorrow, you must build a brighter dream
Dare to let your dreams reach beyond you
Know that history holds more than it seems
We are here alive today because our ancestors dared to dream
~Maya Angelou

Recited in the song *The Dreamer*, by rapper Common



April Sunday Worship

April 6 ~ Come fly! Come dream!

First Universalist Choir, and Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
With dream statements by Lena Katherine Gardner,
Arif Mamdani, Suzy Messerole

In this Sunday of music and message, First Universalist choir performs Eric Whitacre's incredible, Leonardo Dreams of his Flying Machine. Juxtaposed with this compelling choral work of dreaming big, we weave the dreams that wake us up in the middle of night, the dreams that reach beyond us, compelling us into new understandings of ourselves, our community, our culture.

April 13 - The Ill-Fitting Grief of Ambiguous Loss

(Sharing Sunday)
Rev. Kelli Clement

We know that loss is a consequence of love, and we may even imagine what grief may come in our lives. But what of grief & loss that lie beyond our imagining? How does love support us through the "Ill-Fitting Grief of Ambiguous Loss?"

April 20 – Resurrection, the Artistry of Life

(Intergenerational Service)
Rev. Ruth MacKenzie & Rev. Jen Crow

Using an old tale of resurrection from the Finnish epic, Kalevala, this Easter Sunday will be an exploration of the common threads of resurrection stories in many religious traditions, calling us to be artists of our lives and whole living.

April 27 – Youth Sunday/ Earth Day

High School Youth of First Universalist Church

Every year, we are astounded by the wisdom, heart and talent of our youth. This Sunday will be no different. Join us for music and message about the Nature of Being Human: our connection to ourselves, connections to one another, connections to the world and this earth.

Want to Be a Worship Associate?

Do you love worship?
Do you have a flair for writing stories or prose?
Are you comfortable speaking in front of a group?
Please consider applying to be a Worship Associate for the 2014/2015 church year.

The Worship Associates team is a group of 8 - 10 people who are meaningfully involved in the planning, creation and presentation of each Sunday's service. Each member shares the chancel with the presiding minister two or three times a year, and is responsible for writing and presenting the Call to Worship.

Life Beyond Your Wildest Dreams

This month, we delve into the power of imagination, and dreaming big as pivotal factors in creating a world of wholeness. In twelve step circles, life beyond your wildest dreams is a statement of spiritual awakening. It is short hand for grace breaking into a life of addiction, disarray, and suffering, and offering opportunities far beyond one's hopes. In her poem, Angelou encourages us to think big, to extend

our dreams beyond our personal wellbeing, and dream ourselves into ways and means for a better world, a world of right relationship with the holy, with ourselves, one another, and the earth. Some of the most outlandish dreams of yesterday are reality today.

What is a dream that is brighter? What are the dreams that reach beyond you? What is life beyond your wildest dreams?

Resources:

A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose
By Eckhart Tolle

Eckhart Tolle expands on his ideas presented in the Power of Now, and shows how transcending our ego-based state of consciousness is not only essential to personal happiness, but also the key to ending conflict and suffering throughout the world.

Hope Beneath Our Feet: Restoring Our Place in the Natural World
Edited by Martin Keogh

Hope Beneath our Feet is a series of essays from people of all walks of life presenting diverse strategies for creating change in ourselves, and our communities. Essayists such as Paul Hawkin, Barry Lopez and Alice Walker explore questions such as: how do we live our lives right now? How can we replace despair with hope, apathy with action?

Movies

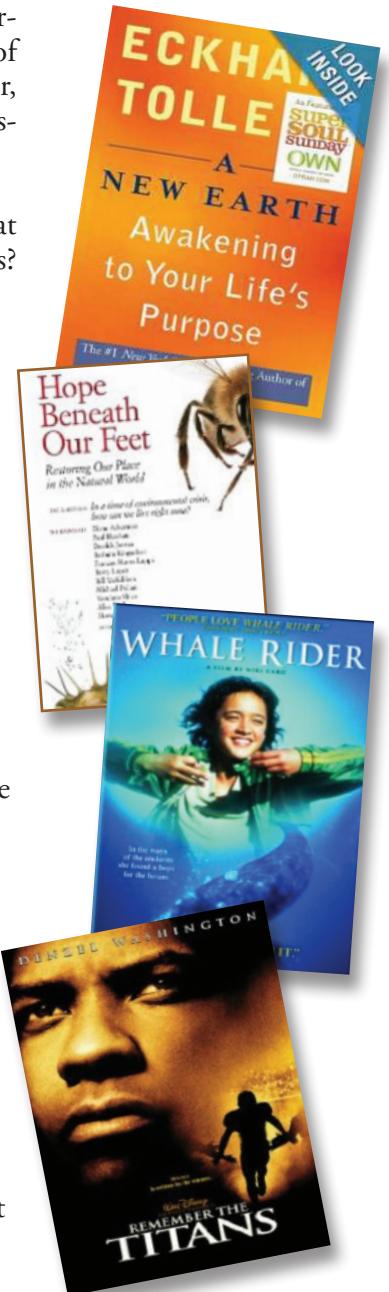
Whale Rider Remember the Titans A Royal Affair



Preparation for Worship Associates entails three half-day retreats. The first retreat will be scheduled in August before the church year begins.

If this interests you, write a 500 word essay about it and send it to:
Rev. Ruth MacKenzie (ruth@firstuniv.org) by May 1, 2014.

The worship team will be choosing applicants representative of the multi-generational, multi-cultural congregation we are becoming. So, get your application in now!



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Could First Universalist Be Your Spiritual Home?

Check out these great ways to learn more about this faith community and meet fellow journeyers.

First Step

First Step is a short overview of Unitarian Universalism and First Universalist Church. Sessions run about half an hour and no sign up is needed -- just show up and learn more about our church community! Childcare is available.

Upcoming Classes:

1st and 3rd Sunday of every month after each service.

The next classes are April 6 and April 20.

Newcomers Circle

This gathering is an opportunity to learn more about Unitarian Universalist history, theology, and connect with others who are getting to know First Universalist. Through deep listening and open-hearted reflection, this circle offers an opportunity to get to know ourselves, each other, and this liberal faith tradition more deeply.

Upcoming Circle:

Tuesdays, April 8, 15, 22
from 7:00-8:30pm

The Path to Membership

Could First Universalist be the home for your spiritual journey? The Pathway to Membership invites participants into a more in-depth exploration of Unitarian Universalism, the history of this congregation, and experience of membership. The Pathway to Membership is a requirement for membership.

Upcoming Class:

Saturday, May 10;
9:00am-3:00pm

To register, please contact the Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink at elaine@firstruniv.org or call at 612-825-1701 ext. 124. Childcare is available free of charge by contacting childcare@firstruniv.org at least seven days in advance.

Good Friday Solidarity Rally at Planned Parenthood on April 18th

By Tracy Yue

Each year on Good Friday, the Planned Parenthood clinic is picketed by hundreds of people who do not believe that a woman should be able to make her own personal health care decisions. In response, hundreds attend the Solidarity Rally at Planned Parenthood to stand against the distorted religious messages of shame and guilt that are heaped upon women for their very sexuality. Please join UUs from around the state as we lift our voices for reproductive justice because of our faith, not in spite of it.

The Rally is from 9am to 3pm. MN Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice (MNRCRC) is holding two interfaith worship services at 11:30am and 1:30pm, which will feature speakers & singers of various faith traditions.

AUW is again sponsoring a FREE bus to the Rally from First Universalist Church. Or, feel free to go on your own*. Our group will attend the rally for 2 hours to include the 11:30am interfaith service. The Bus will depart the 1st U parking lot at 9.30am and return at 12.45pm (total time 3.25 hours). Sign up for the Bus Ride at the AUW table in the Social Hall on Sundays or sign up online at AUW's website 1uauw.org.

On April 18th, in the 1st U parking lot, please check in with Tracy Yue. If you have further questions please contact auw.firstuniv@gmail.com. Recommendations:

- * You must be able to walk & stand for 2 hours straight.
- * Wear comfy shoes!
- * Dress warmly, as this is entirely outdoors, rain, sleet or shine. [if you're freezing, you will be able to warm up inside the PP building.]
- * Bring cash/card for the Food Trucks and PP t-shirts. (Yes, Food Trucks!)
- * Bring your own placard or use PP's pink ones.

Planned Parenthood Clinic is located at 671 Vandalia St, St Paul (Vandalia & University Ave.) Street parking is very limited, so public transport & biking is best. The #50 bus stops right on the corner.

... 'Board Update' continued from page 7...

Board about a capital campaign in the near future.

Growth and strategy – The Board is reviewing and updating the current Strategic Plan and Board and staff are already planning to create a three-year budget later this year to help in financial planning. We will want to begin creating another Strategic Plan with the congregation in the next few years as well.

The Board is committed to staying in the conversation with you and with the dedicated ministers and staff of First Universalists so that we can support each other in our ongoing journey to serve the mission of this church and as we Give, Receive and Grow together.

Dave Bach
President,
Board of Trustees

Housing Advocacy in St. Paul -- Make a Difference Tuesday April 8

- **What is it?** Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity's Annual "Habitat on the Hill MN-2014". Speak with your MN State Representative and Senator about supporting the \$100 million Affordable Housing Bonding Bill.
- **How can you help?** Join others from First Universalist and Habitat for Humanity. No experience necessary; you will be trained that morning. Share your belief in the importance of affordable housing. Sign up at Twin Cities Habitat: go to tchabitat.org/hill.
- **When:** April 8, 2014. 8:30 am to 1 pm.
- **Contact:** Rebecca Lucero at Rebecca.Lucero@tchabitat.org. To car pool from the church, contact Joan Naymark jnaymark@gmail.com Drop Joan a note to let her know you're planning to attend. We'd like to have a count from our congregation.

3400 Dupont Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408
Phone: 612.825.1701 Fax: 612.825.8879
Sunday Services 9:30am and 11:15am

Save the Date for AUW's Spring Dinner

- AUW (Association of Universalist Women) will hold its Spring Dinner and Annual Meeting on:
- **Friday, May 16th at church.** This is its last event of the season.
- Please come to celebrate the connections and contributions AUW has fostered this year, elect new Board members and enjoy dinner together. More info to come in the May issue.

SUPPORT OUR CHURCH



ART 4 U

PURCHASE
Art + Books

BY OUR OWN UU_s



Sundays March 30, April 6 & 13
in the Social Hall