

BULLETIN

Welcome!

We are so glad that you are here.

At First Universalist Church, in the spirit of love and hope, our mission is to practice giving, receiving, and growing. We welcome, affirm, and protect the light in each human hear; we act outside of our walls; we listen to where love is calling us next. We do all this as a faith community committed to racial justice. These spiritual practices and commitments are the ways we move in rhythm with the great love that is alive in the world.

Come to a brief orientation to First Universalist and Unitarian Universalism, the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. **Our next orientation takes place September 7;** meet us in the front of the Sanctuary immediately after the service. Find out more about our community in this 30-minute overview. No sign up needed and coffee & childcare are provided.

The Visiting Families Welcome Station at the north end of the Religious Education wing has information about our Children, Youth & Family Ministries. Stop by if you are interested in learning more, or email our Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries, Lauren Wyeth, at lauren@firstuniv.org.

Hearing Devices are available - please ask an usher. Cushions are available for the pews and are located next to the sound booth and at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Please return them to their home after the service.

We also have Fragrance-Free rows marked in the balcony.

For more information about First Universalist, go to our website: www.firstuniversalistchurch.org stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs after services, or call our church office, 612-825-1701.

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday service

8/10 Northside Achievement Zone \$363
8/17 Racial Justice \$565
8/24 Sheridan Story \$459

To nominate an offering recipient, go to:
www.firstuniversalistchurch.com/offering-plate

New Children's Choir Director

We are pleased to announce that Colleen Schafle will be our new Children's Choir Director. Colleen is a music teacher in the Anoka-Hennepin district, and has done additional training in various areas, including developing children's voices. She is a St. Olaf graduate, and sings in the First Universalist Adult Choir as well as the National Lutheran Choir. We were very impressed with her energy and skills during her audition. Children's Choir will begin Sep 28, 10:45am-11:10am in our new music room, Room 102, on the first level of the religious education wing. First Universalist Church thanks the Children's Choir Search Team for their persistence and dedication in finding our new choir director. We extend big gratitude to Jill Ambrus, Ann Kay, Sherry Kempf, Sharon Mandel, Channing McKinley, Lauren Wyeth, and Ruth MacKenzie.

The First Universalist Foundation Board

is thrilled to announce that for their Fall Grant Cycle, they will once again be accepting nominations from the congregation and those meeting "most" of their criteria will be invited to apply for a small grant via a Letter of Interest. To inquire or make a submission, please e-mail: Foundation@firstuniv.org.

BULLETIN

Tilling the Soil for Racial Justice

Monthly Discussions about Racial Justice

Join us for a meaningful discussion of *White Like Me*, part-memoir and part-polemical essay by Tim Wise. Wise examines what it means to be white in a nation created for the benefit of those who are "white like him," and how privilege seeps into every institutional arrangement, from education to employment to the justice system. All are welcome!

This book discussion will take place in room 203 at these times:

Sunday, **Sept. 14**, 1:00-2:30pm
Tuesday, **Sept. 16**, 6:30-8:00pm

For more information, contact Clemma Muller (clemmaj@gmail.com) or Kayci Rush (kayci.rush@gmail.com). You can also email them to purchase this book for \$8.99. Childcare is available free of charge by signing up online via the childcare request form at least seven days in advance.

Water Communion Sunday: September 7, 2014

Water Communion Sunday is a worship service of reunion and recommitment. One of the meanings for the word communion is: united in a common fellowship. We bring a small sample of water from our journeys near, or far, during the year, and merge them together in a single body of water. We do this to celebrate our unity as a faith community and remember that we are held in an ocean of love. Water Communion is an inter-generational service.

Just bring a small vial of water from your backyard, or from your travels, to merge with other waters from around the globe. It's a great day. Don't miss it!

Registration For Adult Programming Opens Sunday, September 7th

We have some wonderful adult ministry offerings for this Fall, including:

- * Community Circles
- * Spiritual Deepening Circles, such as Spirituality and the 12 Steps and Unitarian Universalist Spiritual Journeys.
- * Racial Justice Workshops
- * Unitarian Universalist History
- * Daytime Connections for Seniors
- ...and more!

You can check them out online and register beginning Sunday, September 7. Registration is also available in the social hall on Sundays, September 7, 14, and 21. For more information, contact Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink at Elaine@Firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701 x124.

First Universalist Choir Begins September 3rd

6:30 potluck

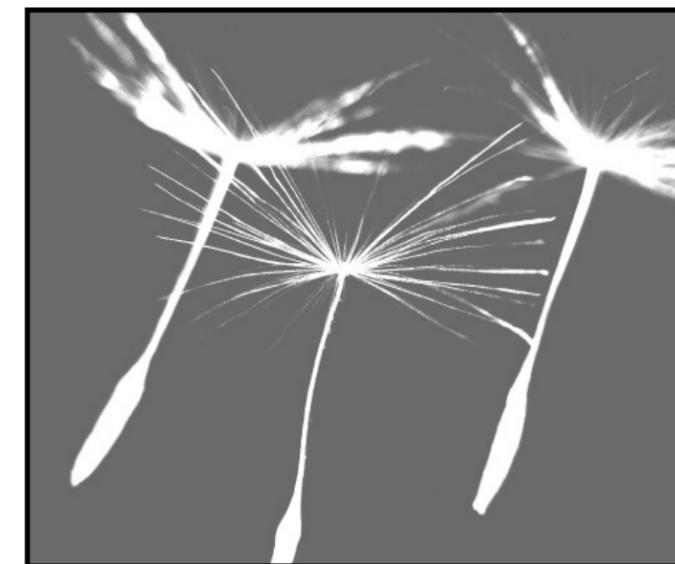
7:30 rehearsal

Now is a great time to join the choir. Prior experience and ability to read music is helpful but not necessary. For more information, contact randy@firstuniv.org



First Universalist Church
of Minneapolis

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



*Hitting Life's Pause Button:
for a Moment, a Morning,
or Maybe Longer*

Mark Ritchie

August 31, 2014

Music for Gathering

Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Bellsound

Prelude

Andrew Bourgoin

Day By Day
-arr. Tom Fetkke

Call to Worship

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Opening Hymn #21

For the Beauty of the Earth

Lighting the Chalice

*Love is the spirit of this church,
and service is its law.
This is our great covenant:
To dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love,
and to help one another.*

-James V. Blake
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Musical Interlude

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Hymn of Prayer # 123

Spirit of Life (seated)

*Spirit of life, come unto me,
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea:
Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close. Wings set me free.
Spirit of Life, come to me. Come to me.*

-Carolyn McDade
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Reading

Excerpts from *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

Musical Interlude

Sweet, Sweet Spirit
-arr. Don Wyrzten

Andrew Bourgoin

Sermon

*Hitting Life's Pause Button:
for a Moment, a Morning, or Maybe Longer*

Mark Ritchie

Offertory

In This Very Room
-arr. Marilyn Thompson

Andrew Bourgoin

Closing Hymn #131

Love Will Guide Us

Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song # 413

Go Now in Peace

Music for the Journey

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder Senior Minister
Mark Ritchie Guest Preacher
Andrew Bourgoin Guest Pianist

Mark Ritchie serves as Minnesota's Secretary of State. Mark and his spouse Nancy Gashott are long-term members of First Universalist Church. Prior to his first election to office in 2006 Mark worked for nearly 20 years as president of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy. After he leaves office in January he will work with a citizens committee to bring the 2023 World's Fair to Minnesota.

Worship Design and Coordination

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Rev. Justin Schroeder

Chancel Arrangement

Pam Vincent of the Visual Arts Committee did the arrangement for today's service.

Offering

Youth Farm

Youth Farm's mission is simple. They teach children and youth how to farm and cook food. In so doing, Youth Farm grows leaders, food, community, and progress.

To nominate an offering recipient, go to:
www.firstuniversalistchurch.org/offering-plate

Please note: if you are making a pledge payment today, note that in the memo line.

Summer Worship Theme: Seeds

Hidden in the seed is wonder: the possibility of prairie grass, the manifestations of marigolds, the surprising turn of events when we plant hope in our lives. Whether we plant seeds in our backyard or in gestures of social justice, we enter the divine amplification system that deeply connects our actions to the creative energy of Spirit. As a wise man once said, a world of justice and peace is like a mustard seed, that when planted grows up to become the greatest of all shrubs, so great that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade. This summer we will explore the theme of seeds. What seeds are we planting to grow a more whole and holy world? What seeds are you planting to grow a more whole and holy life?

What is our part in the divine amplification system?