

GET CONNECTED

RACIAL JUSTICE AND OUR UU FAITH WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 9 A.M.-1 P.M.

Join us for an interactive workshop exploring a framework and tools for understanding race, racism, and whiteness and the spiritual imperative that drives our racial justice work. This is a distilled experience of the 24-hour training offered by Dr. Heather Hackman. To register, contact Sandy DiNanni at 612-825-1701 or Sandy@firstuniv.org.

WINTER/SPRING CIRCLE REGISTRATION BEGINS TODAY

Circles are groups of 8-10 committed participants who come together with a trained leader to nurture spiritual growth in community. These groups are grounded in the spiritual practices of deep listening and open hearted reflection. Each gathering offers an opportunity for connection: connecting with ourselves, connecting with others, and connecting with something greater than ourselves. Registration is open Jan. 10-24 online at firstucircles.weebly.com. You can also sign up in the Social Hall on Sundays.

CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF KNOWING

First Universalist is hosting the exhibit *Creation and the Beginning of Knowing* by the Jewish Women Artists' Circle Jan. 10 through Feb. 14 in the Social Hall. The exhibit includes artworks from two interrelated themes: *Creation* explores the first chapter of Genesis, the creation of heaven and earth, of light and darkness, of stars and water, and of living creatures; *The Beginning of Knowing* is a follow-up studying the next chapters of Genesis, with the creation of man and woman and the tree of knowledge.

COMMUNITY SOLAR GARDEN KICK-OFF EVENT

Join us for our Community Solar Garden campaign kickoff event today at 1 p.m. in the sanctuary. We will present information about climate change, renewable energy, our UU Solar Garden project, and how to sign up. Presenters will include J. Drake Hamilton, Science Policy Director of Fresh Energy, and Cliff Kaehler, CEO of Novel Energy/Minnesota Community Solar. The program is sponsored by the Environmental Justice Team.

SEEKING ARTISTS TO EXHIBIT IN OUR CHURCH GALLERY SPACE

Do you know or are you an artist who might be interested in exhibiting in our church gallery space? The Visual Arts Committee is looking for talented artists to exhibit artwork next exhibit cycle which starts in September 2016. We are also looking for cross-cultural or social action works. If you're interested or know someone who might be, contact Visual Arts Exhibit Chair Bette DeMars at 952-929-2536, 612-991-3657, or jbdemars2@gmail.com.

SUNDAY FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

It's time to look at your 2016 calendar and reserve a date for donating Sunday flowers, an opportunity to honor and celebrate an individual or event. A Visual Arts Committee member will create a unique arrangement for you and the congregation to enjoy. Once services are over you can take the flowers home or share them with others who aren't able to attend the service. If you're interested contact Marjie Smith at marjiesmith1@aol.com or 612-825-1125.

WELCOME

We are so glad you are here.

At First Universalist Church, in the spirit of love and hope, we give, receive, and grow.

We welcome, affirm, and protect the light in each human heart; 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.

CHORE TEAM

Do you need help with simple household tasks, such as changing furnace filters, gutter cleaning, or window washing? With a little help from our friends, we can stay in our own home longer. Help be part of this church community service team. Many skills from many hands will help many who need occasional assistance. Contact Bob Friedman at rmarcf@usfamily.net or 612-722-4705 if you need help with a chore, or if you would like to join a team that serves many needs.

Are You Visiting?

Come to a brief orientation to First Universalist and Unitarian Universalism, the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Our next orientation takes place: Jan. 17, 2016

Meet us in the front of the Sanctuary immediately after the service. Find out more about our community in this 45-minute overview. No sign up needed. Childcare is provided after the 11:15 service.

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 Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries Lauren Wyeth at: lauren@firstuniv.org.

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday Service:

- 12/6 Simpson Housing \$1,095.23
- 12/13 Racial Justice Work \$1,442.15
- 12/20-27 Beacon Interfaith Housing \$57,688.15*

*100% of the offering to Holiday Giving

Know a charitable organization that shares our commitment to justice and equity? Nominate an offering recipient at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/offering-plate

You can give online through the Square Cash App. Our cashtag is \$firstuniv. Thanks!

LET US KEEP YOU IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

If you are experiencing a crisis or transition, or celebrating a joy—please let us know. To be included in our Cycle of Life each Sunday in worship, contact Sandy DiNanni at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701.

If you would like support, contact Rev. Jen Crow (jen@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701) or any member of our Pastoral Care Team.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

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**, stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs, call 612-825-1701, or visit our website: firstuniversalistchurch.org.

THE WEEKLY LIBERAL

The Weekly Liberal (our email newsletter) is published on Thursdays. Subscribe at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal/ Do you have news or information you'd like published? Fill out the submission form on our website!



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



WORSHIP THEME: PASSAGES

To LIVE IN HEARTS THAT LOVE

REV. JEN CROW

JANUARY 10, 2016

Music for Gathering

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Words of Welcome

Rev. Jen Crow

Prelude

Wings of You

-David Carnes, Lisa Hirst Carnes

A Ghost Revival

Call to Worship

Frederic MacDonald-Dennis

Opening Hymn #1040 (Please stand in body or spirit)

Hush

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)

New Member Ceremony

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Musical Interlude

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Hymn of Prayer #123 (please remain seated)

Spirit of Life

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

My Dead Friends

-Marie Howe

Rev. Jen Crow

Musical Offering

Laney

-David Carnes, Lisa Hirst Carnes

A Ghost Revival

Sermon

To Live in Hearts That Love

Rev. Jen Crow

Offertory

Awake and Awake Up

-David Carnes, Lisa Hirst Carnes

A Ghost Revival

Closing Hymn #1028 (Please stand in body or spirit)

Fire of Commitment

Closing Words

Rev. Jen Crow

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Song for the Journey

Say Goodbye

-Beck

A Ghost Revival

Worship Leaders

Rev. Jen Crow

Executive Minister

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership & Adult Ministries

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Frederic MacDonald-Dennis

Worship Associate

Lilia Yorkhall

9:30 Chalice Lighter

Henry Mitchell-Crow

11:15 Chalice Lighter

A Ghost Revival

Church Members & Guest Musicians

Lisa Hirst Carnes

David Carnes

Ken Brahmstedt

Olivia Hahn

Karla Dietmeyer

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were provided by the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: TRUST (Toward Renewed Unity in Service Together)

TRUST, Inc. is a nonprofit, interfaith coalition of Minneapolis congregations that has served the needs of seniors, families, and youth of Minneapolis since 1970. TRUST has a membership of 18 churches, including First Universalist Church, representing nine different denominations. Through TRUST, churches gather to do "good works" in the community, providing human services in the community, doing together what no individual congregation could do alone and providing these services across racial and economic lines and physical barriers.

About Today's Musical Guest

David Carnes and Lisa Hirst Carnes have been attending First Universalist for the past five years. They have two boys, Jackson (14) and Leo (12). A Ghost Revival is their latest musical iteration after meeting in college, marrying, and setting off on their musical careers. To learn more about the band or to sign up for their mailing list, visit GhostRevival.com. They are currently recording their debut album - out really soon! Along with their musical pursuits, they own ArcStone, an interactive design and marketing agency located near Lake and Lyndale in the physical world and at ArcStone.com in the virtual world.

January Worship Theme: Passages

A disciple of Buddha felt great anxiety at the Buddha's imminent departure from his village. "I cannot bear life without you here," he cried. "What will I do? I will be drawn into the extremes of suffering and joy and I will not be at peace." The Buddha wrote some wise words on a paper. He said, "When you are pulled by life into the extremes of joy or the lows of pain and worry, read this." The man opened the note. It read: "This will not last." This month we examine the essential impermanence of life. This life is made of passages.