

GET CONNECTED

CIRCLE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Register to take part in a Circle at First Universalist this winter or spring! You can sign up in the Social Hall today or next Sunday, Jan. 24, or online at firstucircles.weebly.com. Circles are groups of 8-10 committed participants who gather 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 deeper connection: with our own inner truth, with other people, and with something greater than ourselves.

WAKING UP WHITE DROP-IN BOOK DISCUSSION

Join us for an engaging conversation about the book *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving. Through sharing her own struggle to understand racism and racial tensions, Irving offers a fresh perspective on bias, stereotypes, and tolerance. Two drop-in discussion opportunities are offered: today at 1 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m.

WINTER WARM UP DANCE PARTY FUN-RAISER

Join us on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. for music, food, and fun at the Winter Warm-up Dance Party. Enjoy live music from the Universal Rock Band and special guest performers. Food is included with the cost of admission; beverages available for purchase. Purchase tickets online via Brown Paper Tickets or today in the Social Hall.

ARTIST RECEPTION JAN. 24

The Jewish Women's Circle will be having an Artists' Reception on Sunday, Jan. 24 after second service. The exhibit, *Creation & The Beginning of Knowing*, is on view in the Social Hall through Feb. 14.

FIRST UNIVERSALIST FOUNDATION SEEKING NOMINATIONS

The First Universalist Foundation Board, a grant-giving arm of the church focused on nonprofits doing work to ameliorate the root causes of injustice, is seeking suggestions of nonprofits to whom we might send a Letter of Interest, asking them to apply for a grant during our Spring Round.

The Foundation is eager to fund projects which align with our mission and with whom our congregants are currently engaged. The nomination window will close on January 21. If you are interested in making a nomination or learning more, visit our website and look for "Foundation" under the Generosity tab, or email Foundation@firstuniv.org.

DAYTIME CONNECTIONS CREATIVITY: BRINGING JOY TO THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY OF AGING

Join us for a mid-day adventure of playing and stepping outside of your comfort zones! Small group activities include: Movement & Stories to Discover Inner Wisdom, Singing to Discover the Song in your Heart, Writing to Discover Your Inner Child, and Painting to Tap Inner Joy. Program includes a small meal (\$5 donation requested). To RSVP, contact Sandy DiNanni at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701. Please indicate your first and second choices of Creativity Small Groups.

WELCOME

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday Service:

12/20-27 Beacon Interfaith Housing \$57,688.15*

1/3 Habitat for Humanity \$773.01

1/10 Trust \$936.59

*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 \$firstruniv. 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.

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: Today!

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.

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



WORSHIP THEME: IMPERMANENCE

THE OTHER AMERICA

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

JANUARY 17, 2016

Music for Gathering

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Words of Welcome

Rev. Jen Crow

Prelude

Wade in the Water
-African American Spiritual

Call to Worship

Ginger Murphrey

Opening Hymn #1007 (Please stand in body or spirit)

There's a River Flowin'

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)

Spoken Word

Starfish

Silence

Cycle of Life

Children's Choir
Colleen Cook

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)

Spoken Word

Lightning

Musical Interlude

Troubled Water
-Margaret Bonds

Sermon

The Other America

Offertory

Musical Interlude

Fool's Gold

Closing Hymn #149 (Please stand in body or spirit)

Lift Every Voice & Sing

Closing Words

Guante

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Chava Gabrielle

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder	Senior Minister
Rev. Jen Crow	Executive Minister
Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Pianist
Ginger Murphrey	Worship Associate
Guante	Spoken Word Guest
Chava Gabrielle	Spoken Word Guest

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Dick Rueter of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: TruArtSpeaks

TruArtSpeaks is a young, growing organization that works with youth in the metro area to encourage literacy, leadership, and social change, utilizing elements of Hip Hop and Spoken Word culture. The organization provides a platform for youth to find, develop, and share their stories in safe spaces and dares participants to give back and become agents of the change they seek, while remaining students of the culture. Kyle "Guante" Tran Myhre, who performed at a First Universalist Sunday service last year and works with TruArtSpeaks as Communications Director, emphasizes that "the organization's focus isn't just on the arts; it is an explicitly social justice-oriented organization; so any education work is critical education work. Arts spaces are community-building spaces. Youth are developed not just as poets, but as leaders."

About Today's Spoken Word Guest

GUANTE is an MC, two-time National Poetry Slam champion, activist, educator and writer. He and/or his work has appeared on Upworthy, MSNBC, Welcome to Night Vale, Racialicious, Feministing, MPR, Everyday Feminism, the Progressive, City Pages' "Artists of the Year" list and URB Magazine's "Next 1000" list, and he has performed everywhere from the United Nations to the Soundset hip hop festival to hundreds of colleges, clubs, and theaters across the country. Whether deconstructing traditional notions of masculinity, challenging dominant narratives related to race and racism, or just telling stories about the different jobs he's had, Guante strives to push boundaries in terms of both form and substance. Unapologetically social justice-minded, he's shared stages with artists like Talib Kweli, Saul Williams, Brother Ali, Dead Prez, Sage Francis, Andrea Gibson, and many more. Guante also serves as a teaching artist on the rosters of COMPAS and TruArtSpeaks (where he also serves as Communications Director), engaging in writing and performance residencies with youth, as well as regularly facilitating workshops and classes on a range of social justice issues. Today Guante is joined by Chava Gabrielle, poet and student at TruArtSpeaks.

January Worship Theme: Impermanence

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.