

## GET CONNECTED

### PLEASE COMPLETE THE CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

The Board of Trustees is called upon to measure how well our church is living up to its mission. And so every year we ask you to fill out a survey describing how First Universalist touches your life. This is your chance to let the church leadership know how well - or poorly - the church is serving your needs. The survey usually takes less than 10 minutes to complete. Please fill it out online at [FirstUniversalistChurch.org/survey](http://FirstUniversalistChurch.org/survey) by the end of May. Thank you!

### LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR SUMMER CIRCLES

Set some time aside this summer to engage with life's deeper themes: join a circle! These gatherings of 8-10 people are a great way to get connected at First Universalist and to stay spiritually grounded throughout the summer. This summer's Community Circles will reflect on our summer worship theme, Telling a New Story. Each session is an opportunity to dig into the stories that we have been given and to consider the ways that life has transformed our perspective and continues to shape the stories we tell and believe. Registration is open through today at <http://firstucircles.weebly.com>.

### REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RE registration for the 2016-2017 church year is now open online at: <http://1stureligiouseducation.weebly.com/>

### ANNUAL MEETING IS JUNE 5

Following our annual Flower Communion Service on Sunday, June 5, is the Annual Meeting of the Congregation from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This truly is a celebration of a very successful year for First Universalist Church. It is also a time when we conduct the business of this church that only Church Members can do. This year that includes the approval of the budget, approval of funding for a comprehensive stewardship campaign, initial plans for the stewardship campaign, and election of Trustees, Foundation Board Members and Nominating Committee Members.

### SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10 A.M. STARTING MAY 29

Starting next Sunday, May 29, we will have one Sunday service at 10 a.m. for the summer months. During this time, we ask you to bring your own mug to the social hour after the service. This helps save on water, labor, and keeps the kitchen cool during the hot summer months. We look forward to seeing you at church!

### LAKE HARRIET BANDSHELL OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC

Save the date for our annual worship service and potluck picnic at the Lake Harriet Bandshell: Sunday, Aug. 14 at 10 a.m.



## 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.

### 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](mailto:sandy@firstuniv.org) or 612-825-1701.

If you would like support, contact Rev. Jen Crow ([jen@firstuniv.org](mailto: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: June 5, 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.

**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](mailto:lauren@firstuniv.org).

### CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday Service:

5/1 Racial Justice Work \$1,126.82

5/8 Habitat for Humanity \$741.62

5/15 Coming of Age Boston Trip \$769.33

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

If you'd like to make a donation but don't have cash, use the Square Cash App. It takes no time at all to set up and use! First Universalist's cash tag is \$firstuniv. For more information, go to <http://firstuniversalistchurch.org/new-giving-option-square-cash/>.

### MEAL SUPPORT

New baby? Illness? Accident? Let us know if you or somebody in our community would like us to create a meal train for you. Meal trains typically run two to six weeks depending on need and give congregants a way to help. Contact Kathy Urberg at [kathyurberg@gmail.com](mailto:kathyurberg@gmail.com).

### 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](http://firstuniversalistchurch.org).

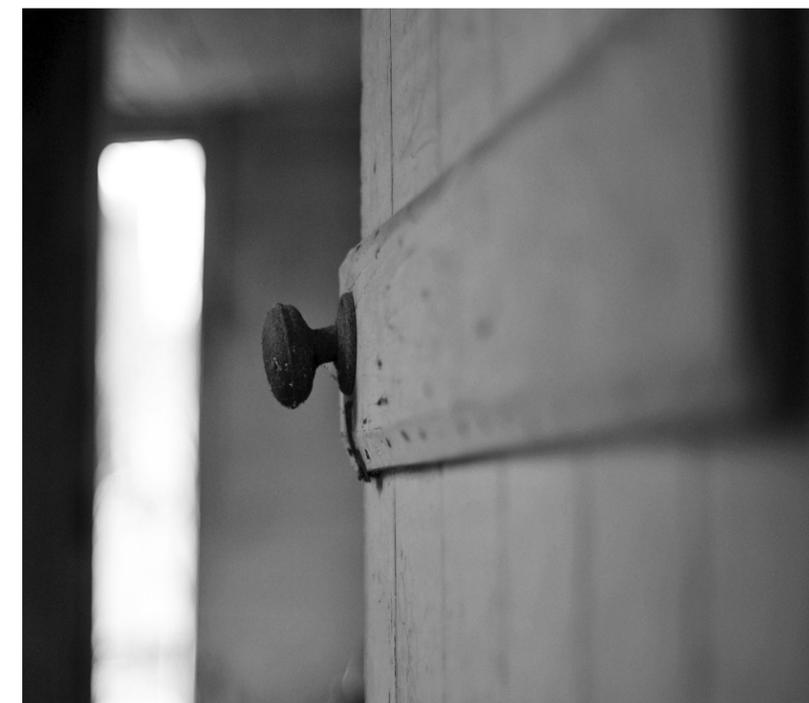
### THE WEEKLY LIBERAL

The Weekly Liberal is published on Thursdays. Subscribe at: [firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal/](http://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: DOORWAYS

*YOU CAN'T BE OFF THE  
HOOK IF YOU KEEP IT  
REAL*

REV. KAREN HUTT

MAY 22, 2016

*We welcome, affirm, and protect the light in each human heart; we act for justice 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.*

**Music for Gathering** Dr. Jerrod Wendland

**Words of Welcome** Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

**Prelude** Dom Wooten  
*Recondita armonia* First Universalist Choir  
- Giacomo Puccini Dr. Randal Buikema

**Call to Worship** Khalil Khelah

**Opening Hymn #108 (Please stand in body or spirit)**  
*My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

**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  
  
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**Musical Interlude** Dr. Jerrod Wendland

**Silence**

**New Member Ceremony** Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

**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  
  
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**Reading** Rev. Karen Hutt

**Anthem** Dom Wooten  
*Love Changes All* First Universalist Choir  
- David T. Clydesdale (arr.), Shelley des Islets (text) Dr. Randal Buikema

When wars go on and sorrow even longer  
I wonder where a single soul can aid.  
You take my hand, and show me two are stronger  
And step-by-step we walk on unafraid

(Chorus)  
And then I know we truly will be free  
My spirit, filled, now hears the call  
Our hearts allied, now we can clearly see  
Love changes all, love changes all!

When quiet comes and solitude enlightens  
I feel the earth contain and hold my fear  
I feel your heart, within my own it brightens  
All hearts join in, united, strong, and clear

Dear lives oppressed, unjustly kept divided  
Take heart and know our voice joins in the cry.  
Let's stand as one in witness and united  
That nevermore the innocent shall die  
(Chorus)

**Sermon** Rev. Karen Hutt  
*You Can't Be Off the Hook if You Keep it Real*

**Offertory** Dr. Jerrod Wendland

**Closing Hymn #326 (Please stand in body or spirit)**  
*Let All the Beauty We Have Known*

**Closing Words** Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

**Blessing in Song #413**  
Go Now in Peace

**Worship Leaders**  
Rev. Karen Hutt Guest Minister  
Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries  
Khalil Khelah Worship Associate  
Dr. Jerrod Wendland Pianist  
Dr. Randal Buikema Director of Choral Arts  
First Universalist Choir  
Dom Wooten Tenor

**Chancel Flowers**  
Today's flowers were arranged by Lena Vdakes of the Visual Arts Committee.

**Offering: Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative**  
Beacon's Families Moving Forward program offers families experiencing homelessness hospitality, emergency shelter and a path to home with support for stability. First Universalist Church and more than 60 congregations throughout the Twin Cities metro area create shelter space at their congregation sites. In addition to a safe place to sleep and a warm meal, volunteers share kindness and compassion with families experiencing homelessness.

**About Rev. Karen Hutt**  
Rev. Karen Hutt has been a UU minister for 23 years. She has served as a DRE and church pastor in Chicago. Currently she is a Clinical Pastoral Educator at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. She lives in South Minneapolis with her partner Rev. Ashley Horan and their two children Zi and Aspen.

**About Dom Wooten**  
Tenor Dominique Wooten studied vocal performance at the University of Northern Iowa. Originally from New Jersey, Dom has been in the Twin Cities for a little over 4 years now with his awesome partner Timothy. He has been seen on stage in various roles at Theater Latté Da, Artistry Theater, Minnesota Opera, and Mill City Summer Opera. He is excited and pleased to be singing at First Universalist Church and would like to thank Randy Buikema for bringing him back to fellowship again!

**May Worship Theme: Doorways**  
Alexander Graham Bell once said, "When one door closes, another opens." Although it may sound a bit pollyannaish, there is a deep truth in this saying. Things come to an end. Experiments fail. Initiatives run their course. The truth of the matter is that life does not stop its unfolding. A door is always closing. A door is always opening. In this season of new life, graduations, coming of age, we mark and celebrate doorways.