



GET CONNECTED

ARTIST'S RECEPTION FOR DAKOTA HOSKA

Please join us for an artist's reception for Dakota Hoska in the social hall today after worship. Dakota is a member of First Universalist, and *Capturing Moments* - an exhibit of her oil paintings - is on view in the social hall gallery space through Sunday, July 3.

HIKING WITH FIRST U SENIORS

Join other First U seniors for a nature hike on Tuesday, June 14, at Lebanon Hills Park in Eagan. Meet inside the Lebanon Hills Park Visitor Center at 9:30 a.m.; the group will head out no later than 9:40 a.m. The planned hiking route is on well-established wooded trails of varied terrain and will last approximately 2.5 hours. For those interested we will gather at J's Restaurant in Burnsville following the hike. If you intend to participate please RSVP to Tom Saterstrom via email or phone at saterstromtom@yahoo.com or 952-239-3629.

CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN 2016-2017?

We've received financial pledges for the 2016-2017 church year from nearly 600 households. Have we received yours? Every gift helps our ministry flourish. If you haven't made your financial pledge yet, please do so today. You can pledge online, over the phone (by calling the church office), or by filling out the gold pledge card found in the pews. Thanks for your support!

YOUR INVITATION TO SING IN SUMMER CHOIR

Do you like to sing? Have you thought about being in a choir, but you can't make an extended commitment? Summer Choir may be just right for you. The Summer Choir is scheduled to sing in services on **June 19, July 24 and August 21. Rehearsals are at 9 a.m. on the day of the service.** Yes, only one rehearsal on the day of the service. Music is easy enough to learn in the 45-minute rehearsal. All are welcome! If you have any questions, contact Randy at randy@firstuniv.org.

SUMMER SUNDAYS FOR KIDS BEGINS TODAY

On Summer Sundays, childcare and Religious Education classes are offered from 10-11am for children ages 6 months up through those entering 6th grade in the Fall. We enjoy a more relaxed pace and focus on building community. Kids are grouped together as follows: Nursery (6-17 months); Preschool (18 months to 3 years); Young Children (4 years through entering 1st grade); and Elementary-Age Kids (entering 2nd-6th grade). No need to register in advance - please join us as often as you're able!

SUMMER SUNDAYS AT FIRST UNIVERSALIST

Worship Services are held at 10 a.m. during the summer. We ask that you please 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. See you in church!



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 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: Sunday, June 19, 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.

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday Service:

- 5/15 Coming of Age Boston Trip \$769.33
- 5/22 Families Moving Forward \$782.69
- 5/29 Center for Fathering at Urban Ventures \$315.15

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

NEED A RIDE?

We can help with at least two weeks notice. Contact Anne McBean at 952 938-2897 or mcbea001@yahoo.com if you need help with a ride or would like to offer a ride to a congregant.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

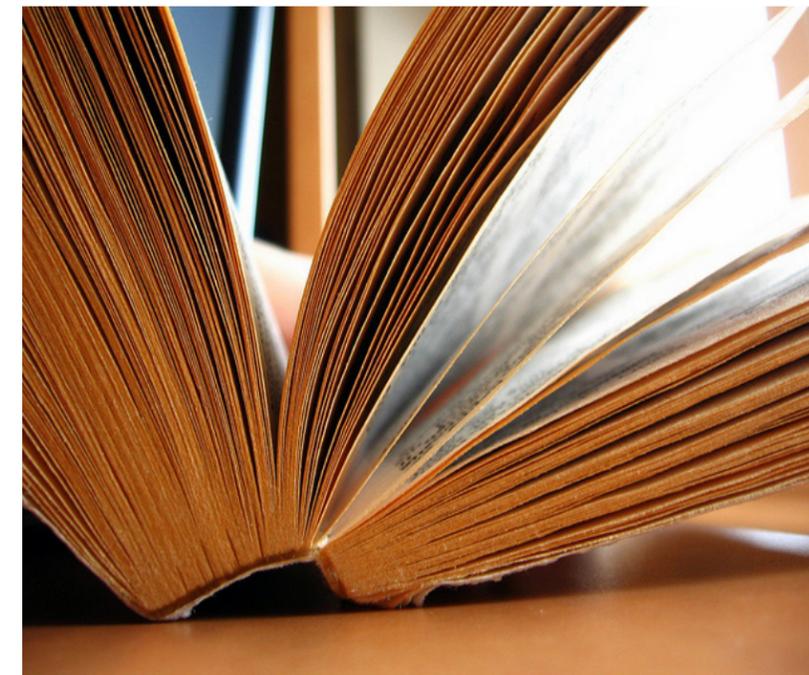
Hearing devices are available; please ask an usher. **Cushions** are available for the pews and are located next to the sound booth and at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Please return them to their home after the service. We also have **fragrance-free rows** marked in the balcony. **For more information**, 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 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: TELLING A NEW STORY

FROM PRISON TO PROTEST

PASTOR DANNY GIVENS, JR.

JUNE 12, 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

Arif Mamdani

Prelude

Prelude No. 5 in D Major
- Dmitri Shostakovich

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Call to Worship

Arif Mamdani

Opening Hymn #126 (Please stand in body or spirit)

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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

Cycle of Life

Arif Mamdani

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

The Cure at Troy
- Seamus Heaney

Arif Mamdani

Musical Interlude

Prelude No. 6 in B Minor
- Dmitri Shostakovich

Sermon

Pastor Danny Givens, Jr.

From Prison to Protest

Offertory

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #348 (Please stand in body or spirit)

Guide My Feet

Closing Words

Arif Mamdani

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Arif Mamdani

Worship Associate

Pastor Danny Givens, Jr.

Guest Minister

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Meredith Sims of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Youth Cultural Exchange

Youth Cultural Exchange (YCE) is part of First Universalist's Children, Youth & Family Ministries. Since 1993, approximately 100 youth from our church have participated in exchange programs with youth from Poland, Ecuador and Nicaragua. Currently, YCE partners with Project Minnesota-Leon (PML) to create an exchange program with youth from Leon, Nicaragua. Our youth are matched with a Nicaraguan teenager. Each is invited into authentic relationship as they travel to one another's country, stay in one another's homes, are welcomed into a family, and share activities of daily life.

About Arif Mamdani

Arif Mamdani is a member of First Universalist Church. He is enrolled in the Master of Divinity degree program at United Theological Seminary and is pursuing ministerial fellowship with the Unitarian Universalist Association. Arif is employed as an Associate Director with the Kaleo Center for Faith, Justice & Social Transformation, and lives in St. Paul with his wife, Channing McKinley, and their daughters, Satya and Rasana.

About Pastor Danny Givens, Jr.

Pastor Danny Givens, Jr. is the Senior Pastor of Above Every Name Ministries, a young, cutting edge congregational in the Twin Cities that prides itself in being a "Church for the People." As an advocate for Racial/Social Justice surrounding the systemic issues Blacks & People of Color face on a daily basis, Pastor Danny devotes his time and energy to the #BlackLivesMatterMpls Movement in the role of Clergy Liaison. In addition to his BLM work, Pastor Danny is one of the Founding Members of Black Clergy United for Change (BCUC) - a collective of black clergy committed to the work of Racial Justice and Social Transformation in urban communities and abroad.

Musical Notes from Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906-1974) wrote his *24 Preludes and Fugues* in the last years of Stalin's dictatorship. By this point he had already been publicly attacked by the government twice: in 1936 and 1948. Each attack carried with it the threat of imprisonment, even assassination. In the strict form and sparse texture of these pieces, Shostakovich found an escape from the anxieties that hounded him — an escape, perhaps, from one prison into another.

May Worship Theme: Telling a New Story

At the intersection of what is holy and what is human is a willingness to change; to shed old habits, old ways of thinking, old frameworks, old skin; to cast off what no longer functions; and dare to do a new thing, to tell a new story. This ability to change is at the heart of creation and creator. In the book of Isaiah, God says: "Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it?" In this month we will endeavor to be alert and present, to see and tell the new story emerging from within, among, and beyond.