

GET CONNECTED

LAKE HARRIET BANDSHELL WORSHIP & PICNIC AUG. 14

Join us for an energizing worship service and potluck picnic at the Lake Harriet Bandshell on Sunday, Aug. 14 at 10 a.m.! We'll enjoy tunes from the band A Ghost Revival, worship led by Rev. Justin and Rev. Ruth, and a delicious potluck picnic together afterwards. This will be our only worship service on Sunday, Aug. 14. Please bring a dish and/or beverage to share, chairs or blankets to sit on, and plates, cups and eating utensils for everyone in your party. The picnic will take place on the park hill across the street from the bandshell following the service. If you have a yellow "Standing on the Side of Love" t-shirt, please wear it!

LEND-A-HAND

Lend-A-Hand is a new monthly volunteer opportunity to help care for our building and grounds as part of a volunteer team, meeting on second Thursdays, July through December 2016. In coordination with our facilities staff, this team undertakes various projects to keep our church clean, orderly and attractive. Cleaning activities might include dusting, sweeping, mopping, or vacuuming. Volunteers might help tidy the sanctuary, social hall, library, entryway, or other spaces, or help fix things: replace light bulbs, patch/paint walls, etc. Volunteers gather at 8:30 a.m. for bagels, juice and coffee and end their activities by noon. The next Lend A Hand group will meet on Thursday, August 11. If you would like to participate, please email Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org to sign up.

PARKING LOT WORK WILL BEGIN SOON

Work on the parking lot, which includes replacing the asphalt and making environmentally sustainable improvements, is set to begin within the next two weeks. During the weeks this work is taking place, the parking lot will be closed. This could affect parking as soon as next Sunday, Aug. 7. People with limited mobility can use the drop-off zone (marked by handicap signs) on Dupont Ave. in front of the Atrium door. Keep an eye on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/FirstUniv) for the latest information.

HABITAT SUMMER WORK WEEK AUG. 15-19

First Universalist is sponsoring a Habitat for Humanity Summer Work Week once again this year. We need to provide 15-18 volunteers per day during the week, which is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 15 through Friday, Aug. 19, 8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day. We'll be working in the early stages of the build at a site in south Minneapolis. Sign up online at: <http://tinyurl.com/1stUhabitat>.

SING IN SUMMER CHOIR NEXT MONTH

The Summer Choir will be singing in services again on Sunday, August 21. If you like to sing but can't make an extended commitment to choir, this is a perfect opportunity for you! There is just one 45-minute rehearsal at 9 a.m. on the day of the service. All are welcome!! If you have any questions, contact Dr. Randy Buikema at randy@firstuniv.org.

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 the church office at 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, Aug. 7

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:

7/3 EDIT \$248.78

7/10 Youth Cultural Exchange \$1,081.87

7/17 Habitat for Humanity \$403.14

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/>.

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.

NEED A RIDE?

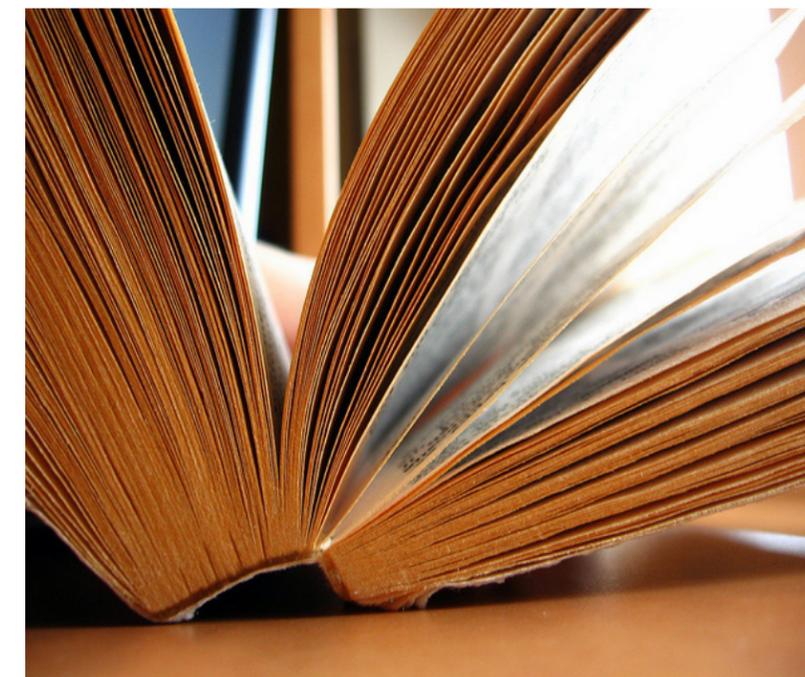
We can help with at least two weeks' notice. Contact Anne McBean at 952 938-2897 or mcbea001@yahoo.com if you need help with a ride or would like to offer a ride to a congregant.

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

BROKEN OPEN

REV. ELAINE ARON TENBRINK

JULY 31, 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

Bellsound

Prelude

II. Allegro molto from *Sonata* Op. 110
- Ludwig van Beethoven

Call to Worship

Patsy Egan Vinogradov

Opening Hymn #128 (Please rise in body or spirit)

For All That is Our Life

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

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)

Readings

The Thing Is

- Ellen Bass

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

What Church Is For

- Patsy Egan Vinogradov

Patsy Egan Vinogradov

Musical Offering

Bagatelle Op. 126, No. 3

- Ludwig van Beethoven

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Sermon

Broken Open

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Offertory

III. Finale (excerpt) from *Sonata* Op. 110

- Ludwig van Beethoven

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #6 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Just as Long as I Have Breath

Closing Words

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries

Patsy Egan Vinogradov

Worship Associate

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Katia Vinogradov

Chalice Lighter

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Karen Johnson of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Our Dancing Daughters

Our Dancing Daughters (ODD) is a youth mentorship program that guides, inspires, and transforms under-served and potentially at risk young women in Saint Paul by way of dance and life skills training delivered to them by the qualified instructors of Kamala Chaand Dance Company and affiliated individuals and programs. This program is offered free of charge to young women who meet the guidelines outlined in the program. Our Dancing Daughters is more than dance education. It is also comprised of financial literacy instruction by a financial planning professional and the girls have access to crisis mediation. ODD also works closely with empowerment groups to ensure healthy body image, access to educational resources and tutors, and scholarship information for college. Participants also serve as educational peers in the program to ensure enrollees graduate from high school.

Musical Notes from Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Ludwig van Beethoven suffered two major traumas in his life. As a small child, he suffered from abuse and neglect at the hands of his alcoholic, and often absent, father. Then, by the age of 30, it became clear that his hearing loss was neither minor nor transitory, but would become permanent and total. Each of these traumas separated him from family and community, driving him deeper within himself; the inner landscape he created as a refuge from the world was also the inexhaustible source of his musical ideas. The happiness he found as an artist remained elusive elsewhere in life; our greatest strengths and greatest weaknesses often grow from the same gnarled root.

Summer 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 these summer months we will endeavor to be alert and present, to see and tell the new story emerging from within, among, and beyond.