

GET CONNECTED

LAKE HARRIET BANDSHELL WORSHIP & PICNIC NEXT SUNDAY

Join us for an energizing worship service and potluck picnic at the Lake Harriet Bandshell next 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 next Monday. During the weeks this work is taking place, the parking lot will be closed. 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 THIS 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: 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.

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.

DONATING SUNDAY FLOWERS

A Visual Arts Committee member will create a unique arrangement for you and others in the congregation to enjoy. Once services are over you can take the flowers home. If you're interested, contact Visual Arts Flower Chair Dick Rueter at dick.rueter49@usinternet.com or 612-280-4816 to reserve your date.

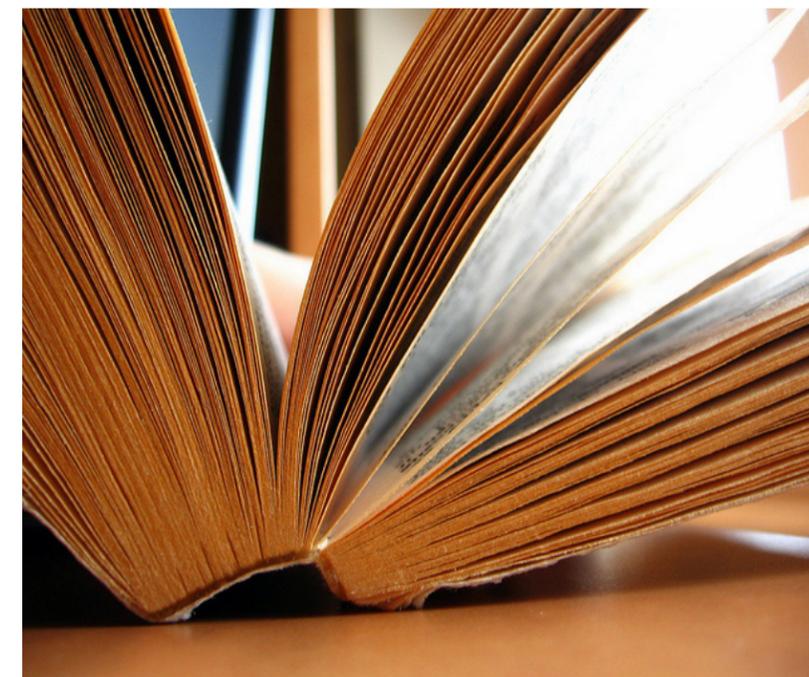
THE WEEKLY LIBERAL

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

WHAT YOU CAN, WHERE YOU ARE, WITH WHAT YOU HAVE

REV. ASHLEY HORAN

AUGUST 7, 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. Ruth MacKenzie

Bellsound

Prelude Dr. Jerrod Wendland
Excerpts from *Aalaiki'ssalaam (Peace Be With You)*
- Naji Hakim

Call to Worship Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Opening Hymn #347 (Please rise in body or spirit)
Gather the Spirit

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 Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

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. Ashley Horan
No Going Back
- Wendell Berry

Musical Offering Dr. Jerrod Wendland
Excerpts from *Aalaiki'ssalaam (Peace Be With You)*
- Naji Hakim

Sermon Rev. Ashley Horan
What You Can, Where You Are, With What You Have

Offertory Dr. Jerrod Wendland
Excerpts from *Aalaiki'ssalaam (Peace Be With You)*
- Naji Hakim

Closing Hymn #354 (Please rise in body or spirit)
We Laugh, We Cry

Closing Words Rev. Ashley Horan

Blessing in Song #413
Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Ashley Horan	Guest Minister
Rev. Ruth MacKenzie	Minister of Worship Arts and Coming of Age
Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Pianist

Chancel Flowers

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

Offering: Sexual Violence Center (SVC)

The Sexual Violence Center has been serving youth and adult victims of sexual violence since 1985. They have offices in Minneapolis and work in Hennepin, Carver, and Scott counties; they will not turn anyone away if they live outside of these counties, but can often refer people to a local agency that has connections with more specific resources to help. The mission of the SVC is to eradicate sexual violence and abuse by challenging the systems and individuals that promote privilege, oppression and domination; educating volunteers as advocates and catalysts for change; and supporting those who have been victimized, empowering them to not only survive but thrive, finding power in our collective voices. The Sexual Violence Center provides a variety of free services, including a 24-hour crisis support telephone line, individual counseling, support groups for victims and survivors, hospital crisis support for victims, legal advocacy, systems change, community and sexual violence instruction for professionals such as law enforcement officers and members of allied social service agencies.

About Today's Guest Minister

Rev. Ashley Horan is the Executive Director of the Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance, and the Learning Coordinator for Beloved Conversations: Meditations on Race and Ethnicity. She lives in Minneapolis with her partner, the Rev. Karen Hutt, and their two children.

Musical Notes from Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Naji Hakim (b. 1955) believes that the purpose of art is "to elevate the soul from the finite to the infinite." This is the goal that brought him from his native Beirut to Paris, where he has flourished as an organist, composer, and improviser. His music approaches religion not from a sense of purity, but of connection: between genres, people, and states of mind. "When writing music for a solo instrument, I think of a playful conversation between three: myself, the performer, and the listener. The memory and heartbeats of all three are part of a same game."

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.