

# GET CONNECTED

## INTRODUCING OUR FAITHFUL ACTION COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND THE FAITHFUL ACTION COUNCIL

Faithful Action is how we describe our justice ministry. The term "Faithful Action" recognizes that there are hundreds of ways to act faithfully as we work for a more just and equitable world. We can advocate, write letters, learn about issues, cook and serve meals, build a home, mentor students, protest, stand in sacred witness, and so much more.

Here are the seven Faithful Action Community Partners you'll meet, both during the service, and in the Social Hall afterwards:

**September 18: EMERGE**

**October 2: Project for Pride in Living**

**October 9: Simpson Housing Services**

**October 23: Minnesota Interfaith Powerful and Light**

**October 30: Augsburg Fairview Academy**

**November 6: Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative**

**December 4: Habitat for Humanity**

The Faithful Action Council guides our ministry of Faithful Action and provides opportunities for church members and friends – of all ages and interests – to act for justice. We act with a racial justice lens and through Community Partners, as we address systemic inequity and create positive change through education, advocacy, direct service, and generosity. Contact co-chairs Rev. Justin Schroeder at [justin@firstuniv.org](mailto:justin@firstuniv.org) and Joan Naymark at [jnaymark@gmail.com](mailto:jnaymark@gmail.com) to learn more.

## GROW YOUR SOUL IN COMMUNITY:

### CIRCLES, SOUL MATTERS, AND MORE

One of the core spiritual practices of this community takes place in circles: groups of 8-10 committed participants who gather to reflect on their lives and contemplate our worship themes. You'll find out more about circles—including a new format called Soul Matters—as well as many other spiritual deepening opportunities in our Adult Programming Catalog. Pick one up in the foyer outside the sanctuary! Descriptions, schedules, and registration are also available at <http://firstucircles.weebly.com/>.

Registration will be open through Sunday, Oct. 1.

## LOVE ROCKS: PARTY IN THE PARKING LOT!

Join us for Love Rocks, an outdoor community event in our parking lot on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.! There will be live music, food trucks, a bounce house and general fun times with fellow congregants and our neighboring community.

## MEDITATIVE ART: YANTRAS

Now in the Social Hall is an exhibit of yantras by artist Chanti Tacoronte-Perez. Yantras are usually geometric diagrams, made of a small dot surrounded by shapes which come together to form the pattern of the divine. The exhibit is on view through Oct. 16.



# 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 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, Sept. 18

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:

**8/14 Minneapolis Crisis Nursery \$1364.79\***

**8/21 Habitat for Humanity \$392.11**

**8/28 Discapacitados Abriendose Caminos \$500.11**

\*100% of offering to recipient

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/>.

## 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).

## CARING CORNER

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).

## 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: INVITATION

# WATER COMMUNION SUNDAY

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

SEPTEMBER 11, 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. Justin Schroeder

## Bellsound

## Gathering at the River

*Children, Children*  
- Laurence O'Keefe

First Universalist Choir  
Dr. Randal Buikema

## Call to Worship

*Each of Us Brings Stories*  
- Penny Hackett-Evans

Lauren Wyeth  
Child Presenters

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

*Gather the Spirit*

## 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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Rev. Jen Crow

## Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder	Senior Minister
Rev. Ruth MacKenzie	Minister of Worship and Coming of Age
Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink	Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries
Rev. Jen Crow	Executive Minister
Lauren Wyeth	Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries
Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Pianist
Dr. Randal Buikema	Director of Choral Arts
First Universalist Choir	Children and Youth from Religious Education

## Guest Artists

Soloists: Charlie Schirvar, Ethan Asis, Noah Ratgen  
Keyboard 2: Jean Van Heel  
Guitar: Noah Sutton  
Bass: Ann Marie McIntire  
Drums: Erin Bekkers  
Original Choreography by James Kunz adapted by Tyler Saccoman

## 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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Rev. Jen Crow

## Rain Storm

Dr. Randal Buikema

## Silence

## Cycle of Life

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

## Story

### *Extravagant Loving*

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

## Anthem

*Joyful Noise*  
- Laurence O'Keefe

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema

## Homily

### *Ollie-Ollie-in-Come-Free*

Rev. Justin Schroeder

## Offertory

*Water Dance III*  
- Karen Tanaka

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

## Water Communion

*Water Dance I*  
- Karen Tanaka

Ministers, Children, and Youth

## Closing Hymn #1007 (Please rise in body or spirit)

*There's a River Flowin' in My Soul*

## Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

## Blessing in Song #413

*Go Now in Peace*

## Chancel Flowers

Today's chancel and narthex arrangement was designed by Meredith Sims of the Visual Arts Committee.

## Offering: Joyce Preschool

Joyce Preschool is a nondenominational program whose mission is to provide children from diverse ethnic, linguistic, and economic backgrounds with developmentally and culturally appropriate preparation for success in school and lifelong learning. The school's vision is to become a recognized leader in providing two-way (Spanish-English) immersion and multicultural early childhood education, offering its model for replication to the local and regional community.

## September Worship Theme: Invitation

Create a clearing, listen for your song and let it teach you how to give yourself to this world. There is no better description of the religious life than this! And notice that it all begins with invitation, with the deep humility and knowledge that while the song is deeply ours, it also comes from something or somewhere beyond ourselves. It takes time, but eventually we each come to realize that – to be whole and to find home – a space must be made, a clearing must be created, and otherness must be invited in.