



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 Faithful Action Community Partners you'll meet on upcoming Sundays, both during the service, and in the Social Hall afterwards:

October 23: Minnesota Interfaith Power 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 and Joan Naymark at jnaymark@gmail.com to learn more.

CONTEMPLATIVE EVENING WORSHIP TODAY AT 5:30 P.M. HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF FIRST UNIVERSALIST!

Join us at dusk for music, poetry, and silent meditation that feeds the mind, the ear, and the heart. This year's Contemplative Worship series, **Kinds of Light**, begins with a service called **Glow** today at 5:30 p.m. We feel the sun's warmth and see its light, but what about the light we can't see - rocks glowing deep within the Earth, or the warmth of the human heart? This inner light will be expressed through the bright, ringing tones of the trumpet and the warm harmonies of the piano, played by Dean Heller (principal trumpet, Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis) and worship leader Jerrod Wendland. Rev. Ruth MacKenzie will deepen our understanding of the world and ourselves through poems and readings, and lead us in silent meditation.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF FIRST UNIVERSALIST!

At our Annual Meeting in June, we spoke about a comprehensive stewardship campaign. We're holding more than a dozen 45-minute Focus Groups, laying out some of the urgent needs we face as a church, and sharing a vision for how we might address those needs. This week's focus groups are held: 10/16 at 8:15 a.m., 10:45 a.m., 12:30 p.m.; 10/19 at 6 p.m.; 10/20 at 2 p.m.; and 10/22 at 9:30 a.m. No registration required. Please join us!

MEET ARTIST CHANTI TACORONTE-PEREZ

Artist Chanti Tacoronte-Perez will be in the social hall to talk about her art after both services today. The exhibit of her work, “Meditative Art: Yantras,” has been on view for the last several weeks, and today is the last day to see it. Chanti will have several additional pieces, including labyrinths, with her today, so be sure to stop by and meet her!



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 listen deeply to where love is calling us next; and we act with humility, bravery, and compassion in service to justice. 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 during the session after the 11:15 a.m. service.

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:

9/25 Minister's Discretionary Fund \$1,413.56

10/2 Project for Pride in Living \$1,316.87

10/9 Simpson Housing Services \$1,141.20

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.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM

The Pastoral Care Team is a group of congregants, led by the Rev. Jen Crow, who provide confidential pastoral care to friends and members of our congregation in need of support. Our goal is to offer compassionate presence to our fellow congregants in the knowledge that this too is a spiritual practice. If you are in need of a Pastoral Care team visit, please contact Rev. Jen Crow at jen@firstuniv.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: THE WHOLE STORY

THE REASONABLENESS OF HOPE

REV. JEN CROW

OCTOBER 16, 2016

We welcome, affirm, and protect the light in each human heart; we listen deeply to where love is calling us next; and we act with humility, bravery, and compassion in service to justice. 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

DatRhythm

- Bro. Heru

Bro. Heru (William Harris) aka Truth Maze

Call to Worship

Michael Dotson

Opening Hymn #95 (Please rise in body or spirit)

There is More Love Somewhere

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)

Reading

Hope

- Victoria Safford

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Sometimes

- Sheenagh Pugh

Rev. Jen Crow

Musical Offering

Your Song

- Bro. Heru

Bro. Heru (William Harris) aka Truth Maze

Sermon

The Reasonableness of Hope

Rev. Jen Crow

Offertory

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #1028 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Fire of Commitment

Closing Words

Rev. Jen Crow

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Jen Crow

Executive Minister

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries

Michael Dotson

Worship Associate

Bro. Heru (William Harris) aka Truth Maze

Guest Musician

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Lilia Yorkhall

9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Beth Dalby

11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Suzan Klein of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: COA Boston Pilgrimage

Every October members of the graduating class of Coming of Age set off on a pilgrimage to Boston. Youth have a chance to visit King's Church where Unitarian theology began to take root; Arlington Street Church where several of our Unitarian founders served as minister; visit Walden pond where Henry David Thoreau once lived; walk the freedom trail, learn about our abolitionist root system, and place our religious tradition within the emergence of the United States, while taking on racism as the defining framework for our country. This important trip grounds youth in our achievements, our blind spots, and our creativity as a faith tradition. Our offering today helps defray the expenses for all families wishing to have their children deepen their understanding and commitment to Unitarian Universalism.

About Bro. Heru (William Harris) aka Truth Maze

With over 30 years of percussion experience and study of its history and tradition, Bro. Heru is more than equipped to assist others in their drum journey. In 1980, he began formally studying at the age of 12, taking drum lessons and later joined several neighborhood drill teams. In 1989 he became a member of The Spirit of Ashe Drum and Dance Group and was fortunate enough to study under Djembe Fola (master), Fode Bangoura of Guinea, West Africa. In 1990, he studied under Ghanaian Professor of Music, Sowah Mensa at the University of Minnesota and joined his first West African-based drum group called Pepo Alfajiri (Spirit of the Dance) which was led by Busara Whittaker. Bro. Heru currently works with Twin Cities' youth via the public, charter, and private school systems and a wide variety of children's camps as he possesses the gift and passion of working with youth of all ages. He is available for workshops and private lessons. Contact truthmaze1969@gmail.com.

October Worship Theme: The Whole Story

Our lives are not just made up of stories; they are also made by stories. This might be the most important reminder of this month. Indeed, who of us hasn't felt controlled by a story? Stuck in a story? Hopeless about the way our story will end up? A friend tells me that her family "clings to the story about how I'm the clumsy one." I've never seen my friend trip, not once. Or drop a thing, ever. And yet, somehow, when she goes home, she spills coffee on at least one outfit, stubs at least one toe and stumbles down at least one step. The power of story! This month, we endeavor to tell whole stories, the stories that shape us, the stories that stand in our way, the stories that create openings for something new whether in our racial justice work or in our personal lives! Whole stories matter.