

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:

Today: 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.

NEW ART EXHIBITS IN THE SOCIAL HALL

Two complementary art exhibits are on view in the Social Hall beginning today and running through Nov. 27. The ceramics exhibit showcases the talents of artist Pratibha Gupta. She has been a painter and potter for more than 25 years, and her artful vessels exhibit this interdisciplinary work. Presented alongside the ceramics, *Stitch by Stitch* is a textile series in which artist Barbara Harman expresses her long fascination with the beauty of the natural world, embellishing works on fabric with hand embroidery and beadwork. **Join us after both services today for an Artists Reception in the Social Hall!**

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF FIRST UNIVERSALIST!

Attend a focus group to learn more about our proposed capital campaign! We're holding 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: 10/23 at 12:30 p.m., 10/26 at 6 p.m., 10/29 at 11 a.m., and 10/30 at 10:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. No registration required. Please join us!

TODAY: PEACE SITE RE-DEDICATION

Today, between services at 10:50 a.m., there will be a short re-dedication ceremony in the Peace Garden. All are welcome to join us!

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: Sunday, Nov. 6

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:

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

10/9 Simpson Housing Services \$1,141.20

10/16 Coming of Age Boston Trip \$919.15

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/>.

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.

CHORE TEAM

Do you need help with simple household tasks, such as removing or installing an air conditioner, changing lightbulbs, or window washing? These are chores that most of us do easily until we can't. Chore Team helpers are also needed! Contact Bob Friedman at rmarcf@usfamily.net or 612-722-4705 if you need help, or if you would like to join the chore team.

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

STORIES WE DON'T WANT TO TELL

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

OCTOBER 23, 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. Justin Schroeder

Bellsound

Prelude

Selections from *Preludes*

- Ruth Crawford Seeger

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Call to Worship

Suzy Messerole

Opening Hymn #315 (Please rise in body or spirit)

This Old World

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

Faithful Action Spotlight on Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light

Donna Olson

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. Justin Schroeder

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. Justin Schroeder

Musical Offering

Selections from *Preludes*

- Ruth Crawford Seeger

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Sermon

Stories We Don't Want to Tell

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Offertory

When I Was Single

- Traditional, arr. by Ruth Crawford Seeger

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #323 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Break Not the Circle

Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Suzy Messerole

Worship Associate

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Donna Olson

Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light

Chancel Flowers

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

Offering: Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light

Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light believes the active care of creation is integral to spiritual life and social justice. MNIPL brings Minnesota's faith communities together within the growing climate justice movement. MNIPL has mobilized interfaith support for legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota, sparked just community solar development through the Shiloh Temple Community Solar Garden Project, and provided leadership and training to hundreds of faith communities' members across the state. Participants in the Be the Spark and Youth Be The Spark leadership programs connect their gifts and passions with the work of building a more just and sustainable world.

Musical Notes from Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Ruth Crawford Seeger (1901–1953) was an American avant-garde composer whose original works were almost entirely written between 1923 and 1932. She rejected all musical orthodoxy and strove to write a dissonant music that would carry "a deep simplicity—emotion, if we want to use that word—which will link it with the people as with the intellectuals." She was the first woman ever to receive a Guggenheim fellowship, but her compositional work abruptly ceased after her marriage to her teacher and mentor, Charles Seeger, defeated by some combination of motherhood, Marxism, and commitment to her husband's folk music publications. Other than dozens of arrangements of folk songs, she wrote nothing of her own for almost twenty years, only to have her life cut short by cancer. All four of her children became folk singers, but none was as famous as her step-son Pete.

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.