

GET CONNECTED

SAVE THE DATE! CAPITAL CAMPAIGN KICKOFF PARTY IS MARCH 11

You're invited to celebrate the launch of First Universalist Church's capital campaign with a party for all ages! Please save the date—Saturday, March 11 from 5 to 11 p.m.—and plan to join us at Minneapolis Event Centers (212 2nd St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414) as we gather to celebrate all we've accomplished in the past and all that we envision for the future. This event is FREE and for everyone in our community. We want you with us! More details will be announced in the coming weeks.

USING YOUR MORAL POWER

Feeling fired up and ready to act? If our current political climate is inspiring you to do something more, but you're unsure exactly how to act or where to put your energy, this hands-on introduction to citizen advocacy will leave you with actionable steps to make your voice heard. This workshop on Sunday, Feb. 12 from 1 to 2 p.m., will take the fear out of connecting with your representatives and embolden you with knowledge about when and how to reach out when it matters most.

PANCAKES & CARTOONS

Drop-in for a pancake breakfast (gluten free option, too) on Saturday, Feb. 11 between 8 and 10 a.m. and stay to hang out and watch classic cartoons. Connect with ministers and other First U members and friends. This event is free and all ages are welcome! Hosted by the First Universalist Pledge Team. NO Presentations or "Asks" – just pure fun on a mid-winter Saturday morning! RSVP requested to Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701.

MAKING MORE OF THE WOMEN'S MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Did you participate in the Women's March in St. Paul or Washington? UU marchers are encouraged to attend a Post-March De-brief and Mobilization Meeting, hosted by Lena K. Gardner and Ashley Horan, on Monday, Feb. 6 from 7-9 p.m. This meeting will help us extend our efforts beyond the march and challenge us to continue to lean into our racial justice work. It will be a chance to unpack your experience of the march and set your sights on moving forward in commitment to the liberation of all people.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD BOOK DISCUSSION

Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*, one of the most acclaimed books of 2016, reimagines the Railroad as an actual labyrinth of tracks and tunnels running underground throughout the South, transporting escaped slaves North. The book has been described by readers as "chilling," "a great adventure story," and a "reanimation of American slave narratives." Join a guided discussion that explores the art and impact of this powerful book on Monday, Feb. 13 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Please read the book in advance.

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, Feb. 5

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:

- 1/8 Peace House Community \$823.18
- 1/15 Project for Pride in Living (PPL) \$905.22
- 1/22 TRUST, Inc. \$1,242.85

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.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

Donating Sunday flowers is an opportunity to honor and celebrate an individual or event. 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 or share them with a loved one. 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: CLOUD OF WITNESSES

PROPHETIC RESISTANCE

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

JANUARY 29, 2017

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

Étude in A-Flat Minor
- H. Leslie Adams

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Call to Worship

Lena K. Gardner

Opening Hymn #169 (Please rise in body or spirit)

We Shall Overcome

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. 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

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Reading

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Musical Offering

Glory

- John Legend, Common, and Rhymefest

First Universalist Choir
Ricky Morisseau
Dr. Randal Buikema

Sermon

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Prophetic Resistance

Offertory

Final Étude

- H. Leslie Adams

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #148 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Let Freedom Span Both East and West

Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries

Lena K. Gardner

Worship Associate

Dr. Randal Buikema

Director of Choral Arts

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

First Universalist Choir

Ricky Morisseau

Soloist

Kendra Andrews

9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Matt Dalby

11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

First Universalist Orchestra

Violin

Mary Hanson, Martha Moriarty

Flute

Martha Sawyer

Clarinet

Dave Thomas, Emma Eberhard

Bassoon

Cate Calkins

Trumpet

David Bach, Peter Weissmann

Trombone

Brian McCullough, Scott Smith

Bass

Ann Marie McIntire

Drums

Bobby Gillespie

Keyboard

Martha Johnson

Chancel Flowers

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

Offering: EMERGE

Based in North Minneapolis with a presence in Cedar-Riverside, EMERGE helps people facing significant obstacles redefine themselves. Every year, EMERGE serves over 3,000 clients annually, and its clients are 91% people of color, 64% live in poverty, 33% have a criminal background, 15% have no High School credentials, and 12% are immigrants or refugees. EMERGE provides a wide range of services that include: employment opportunities via its staffing agency and employment enterprises, employment readiness and coaching, adult training and credentialing programs, youth employment and education services, financial literacy education and coaching, and transitional/supportive housing, especially families with custodial, single fathers.

About Today's Soloist

Ricky Morisseau is from West Palm Beach, FL where he earned his BA in Theatre Performance with a minor in Dance from Florida A&M University. When he is not on stage Ricky is working with the youth teaching the dramatic arts and dance through SteppingStone Theatre and Stages Theatre Company. Ricky was recently in the Guthrie's production of *A Christmas Carol* as a member of the ensemble and is currently in a show at the Illusion Theatre. He has always had a passion for singing and being on stage and continues to feel blessed when he is given the opportunity to share it.

January Worship Theme: Cloud of Witnesses

“Do you see what this means– surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses, such a community of ancestors that have paved the way, cheering us on? It means we better get on with it. Strip down. Throw off every burden. No extra spiritual fat, that keeps us from moving (Hebrews 12:1).” Ancestors bless and burden us with legacy. They tell us why we are here and why being here right now matters. In this month we explore where we come from, whose are we, and where we find ourselves in the sacred arc of history.