

GET CONNECTED

BDE MAKA SKA COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Join us on Wednesday, March 22 as we allow the spirit of water to guide the flow of our dreams towards a more transformative way of life at the next Mde Maka Ska Community Conversation. If you would like to participate in the meal, please RSVP to kmengelkoch1@msn.com by Wednesday, March 15. Come together collectively to follow the flow of life-giving water, to look upstream towards the future in new ways that reflect its endless nourishment of water. Join us for a light dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by a conversation from 6:30-9 p.m.

DAYTIME CONNECTIONS: AWAKEN SPIRIT, CREATE JUSTICE!

At our next Daytime Connections program on Thursday, March 16, join Rev. Ruth MacKenzie in an exploration of singing, theology, and the role singing plays in spirituality and justice making. We will sing, tell stories, delve into songs of spiritual awakening and resistance, and create our own song to buoy and enliven our hearts. Program begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 1 p.m. A \$5-10 donation is encouraged. Registration is requested for lunch planning: contact Sandy DiNanni at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

The Nominating Committee is recruiting candidates for leadership positions on the Board of Trustees, the Foundation Board, and the Nominating Committee itself for the next church year. We encourage members to step forward and share their skills! The application deadline is April 1, and elections occur at the Annual Meeting in June. Position descriptions and application can be found at firstuniversalistchurch.org.

CONTEMPLATIVE EVENING WORSHIP MARCH 26

"Kinds of Light: SKY" is the fourth and final service in our 2016-17 Contemplative Evening Worship Series. Light divides our world into two hemispheres: land and sky. The one is where we live and work; the other represents our hopes, our aspirations, our dreams. The second illuminates the first, just as the dreams we have at night illuminate our waking life. What happens when we build a bridge between them? We'll explore these themes through the piano trio *Ladders to the Sky*, by Gwyneth Walker, as well as piano music by Gareth Farr and John Psathas, with the help of violinist Ginna Watson and cellist Corey Grossman. Please join Rev. Ruth MacKenzie and Dr. Jerrod Wendland on Sunday, March 26, at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary for a meditative hour of music and poetry for opening the heart and deepening the spirit.

A GOOD TIME FOR THE TRUTH: RACE IN MINNESOTA BOOK DISCUSSION

In this provocative book, sixteen Minnesota writers provide a range of perspectives on what it is like to live as a person of color in Minnesota. They bring us generously into experiences that we must understand if we are to come together in real relationships. Join us for a drop-in book discussion on March 16 at 7 p.m.

SENIOR HIKE WITH DAYTIME CONNECTIONS

Join us for our next senior hike with Daytime Connections! Gather at 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 23 at the Dunn Brothers Coffee located at the west end of the Lake St./Marshall Ave. Bridge. It is about a 1.5-hour hike and offers stunning views upstream to downtown Minneapolis and the Mississippi River canyon downstream. RSVP to Tom Saterstrom (952-239-3629 or saterstromtom@yahoo.com).

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, March 19

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:

- 2/19 Simpson Housing Services \$1,156.64
- 2/26 MN Prison Writing Workshop \$1,491.59
- 2/19 Augsburg Fairview Academy \$1,049.45

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.

NEW BABY WELCOME

Having a baby? Want to help welcome a new baby? Contact co-chairs of our new baby welcome team, Ann Terlizzi at 612-728-7232 or annterlizzi@visi.com, or Jody Beresford at 952-828-9977 or spice777@aol.com.

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: RISK

NOT FOR OURSELVES ALONE

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

MARCH 12, 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. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Bellsound

Prelude

Walk Hand in Hand With Me

- Johnny Cowell, arr. Dr. Jerrod Wendland

First Universalist Church

Dr. Randal Buikema

Call to Worship

Welcome Jerde

Opening Hymn #1008 (Please rise in body or spirit)

When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place

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. Jen Crow

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. Ruth MacKenzie

Anthem

Church *Defying Gravity* from *Wicked*

- Stephen Schwartz

First Universalist

Dr. Randal Buikema

Kelsey Speaks, Soloist

Sermon

Not for Ourselves Alone

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Offertory

Pastorale on Winter

Rondo... Spring Comes Again from *Pleiades Dances*

-Takashi Yoshimatsu

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

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

Fire of Commitment

Closing Words

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Rev. Jen Crow

Executive Minister

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Minister of Worship and Coming of Age

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries

Welcome Jerde

Worship Associate

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Dr. Randal Buikema

Choral Arts Director

Kelsey Speaks

Soloist

First Universalist Choir

Anne Marie McIntire

Bass

Bobby Gillespie

Drums

Knut Remmem

9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Thessaly Ackerman

11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were donated by Tom Saterstrom, and his sister Diane, in loving memory of their parents, Margaret and Stan Saterstrom. They were arranged by Candace McClenahan of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Honor the Earth

Honor the Earth's mission is to create awareness and support for Native environmental issues and to develop needed financial and political resources for the survival of sustainable Native communities. Honor the Earth develops these resources by using music, the arts, the media, and Indigenous wisdom to ask people to recognize our joint dependency on the Earth and be a voice for those not heard. Most recently Honor the Earth hosted a celebration of the subsistence lifestyle of several Native American peoples, culminating in a horseback tour of the Native communities that would be devastated by the proposed Enbridge pipeline. Honor the Earth, in partnership with members of the local communities, organized the tour, with educational and outreach presentations on the pipeline proposals and ways for community members to get involved. Honor the Earth focuses on education and organizing against extreme extraction, regranting to support small grassroots Native groups protecting sacred sites and cultural traditions, renewable energy development on tribal land, and community-based food sovereignty.

March Worship Theme: Risk

Risk is a dance with danger. It is stepping into a moment, unsure of what lies ahead. We may enter risk of our own accord or be pushed into risk-taking by life circumstances. Risk stands on the precipice of a failed attempt, a generative opening, or maybe a little of both. Whether we are comfortable with risk-taking or not, it is central to a whole and thriving life. There is no way to avoid it. In this month, we explore the nature of risk, and the spiritual muscles we need to develop in order to meet it.