

## GET CONNECTED

### LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE NEXT SUNDAY

The Library Committee invites you to join them on Sunday, March 26 after services at 10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. for cake with your coffee. The library is located off the northwest corner of the Social Hall. Check out (pun intended) a book and review it for other readers. Try your hand at stress-reducing coloring (kids and adults alike). Expand your community and service by signing up to volunteer in the library. Recommend a book you would like to see in the library. There will be games, stickers and prizes for the kids.

### 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](http://firstuniversalistchurch.org).

### 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](mailto:saterstromtom@yahoo.com)).

### 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.

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN KICKOFF PARTY: THANK YOU!

Thank you to the approximately 650 members and friends who joined us on Saturday, March 11 at Minneapolis Event Centers for our Capital Campaign Kickoff Party! It was a wonderful time of celebrating who we are and who we envision becoming. We were pleased to announce that nearly \$3.5 million has already been raised for the capital campaign. Make sure you're subscribed to the Weekly Liberal to keep up to date with the latest information about the capital campaign: [firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal](http://firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal).

## 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](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: 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](mailto:lauren@firstuniv.org).

### CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday Service:

2/26 MN Prison Writing Workshop \$1,491.59

3/5 Augsburg Fairview Academy \$1,049.45

3/12 Honor the Earth \$1,178.09

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).

### NEED A RIDE?

We can help with at least two weeks' notice. Contact Anne McBean at 612-388-0660 or [mcbea001@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbea001@yahoo.com) if you need help with a ride or would like to offer a ride to a congregant.

### 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: RISK

## THE SPACE BETWEEN

REV. MARGARET WEIS

MARCH 19, 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

*Goodbye Lenin!*

- Yann Tiersen, arr. Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Franco Holder

## Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

## Bellsound

## Prelude

*Fish Beach*

- Michael Nyman, arr. Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Franco Holder

## Call to Worship

Patrick Dougherty

## Opening Hymn #346 (Please rise in body or spirit)

*Come, Sing a Song With Me*

## 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. 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

*In Between*

- Rev. Kate Walker

Rev. Margaret Weis

## Musical Offering

*Drowning by Number 3*

- Michael Nyman, arr. Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Franco Holder

## Sermon

*The Space Between*

Rev. Margaret Weis

## Offertory

*Rue des Cascades*

-Yann Tiersen, arr. Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Franco Holder

## Closing Hymn #131 (Please rise in body or spirit)

*Love Will Guide Us*

## Closing Words

Rev. Margaret Weis

## Blessing in Song #413

*Go Now in Peace*

## Worship Leaders

Rev. Margaret Weis

Guest Minister

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Patrick Dougherty

Worship Associate

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Franco Holder

Guest Pianist

Neela Hammer

9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Amelie Vdakes

11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

## Chancel Flowers

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

## Offering: Simpson Housing Services

Simpson Housing Services works to house, support, and advocate for people experiencing homelessness. They provide shelter services for 44 men and 22 women and help individuals and families experiencing homelessness move into stable housing through rental subsidies and supportive services. Families in their housing programs can participate in children and youth services programs designed to help break the generational cycle of poverty and homelessness.

These services include early childhood development, educational advocacy and mentoring, and youth development programs. Volunteers are major contributors to Simpson Housing Services. Over 37,000 hours were volunteered in 2014, the equivalent of 18 full-time staff. Simpson Housing Services is one of First Universalist's seven Faithful Action partners for 2016-2017.

## About Today's Guest Minister

Rev. Margaret L. Weis serves as the developmental minister at Bell Street Chapel in Providence, RI. A lifelong UU, she is passionate about the potential for Unitarian Universalism to transform the world. Margaret serves on the board of the RI State Council of Churches and many local organizations striving to end poverty, increase interfaith involvement, and build community. Margaret lives in Providence, RI with her wife, Susan, and their two rescue dogs.

## About Today's Guest Musician

Franco Holder has performed with the Kenwood Symphony Orchestra and venues such as the Schubert Club, Baroque Room, and Nimbus Theater. He is a past winner of the Artistic Ambassadors Competition and regularly performs with the MNKINO Film Festival Orchestra which brings together filmmakers, composers, and musicians in collaboration to create new short films and original scores, performed live. Franco holds a B.M. degree in piano performance from Indiana University, as well as a degree in religious studies from Iowa State University. He is the organist at Crown of Glory Lutheran Church and head accompanist at Saint Paul Ballet.

## 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.