

GET CONNECTED



**Not for Ourselves Alone:
Building an Inclusive Future**
First Universalist Church Capital Campaign

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE: \$3,873,097

Thank you to all those who have generously given as of April 12! Thus far, we have received \$3,873,097 in pledges from members toward our capital campaign, *Not for Ourselves Alone, Building an Inclusive Future*. We look forward to meeting with all First Universalist members and friends this spring to discuss our vision for the future of our church!

DAYTIME CONNECTIONS: RESILIENCE

Given the increasing uncertainties, losses, and challenges of aging, how can you be resilient? Drawing on her research related to family resilience, Joan Patterson will guide us through an exploration of resilience—what it means, who has it, how they got it and most of all, how YOU can tap your own capacity for resilience—at our April Daytime Connections program on Thursday, April 20. Program begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch at 1 p.m. A \$5-10 donation is encouraged. RSVP to Sandy at 612-825-1701 or sandy@firstuniv.org.

RACIAL JUSTICE AND OUR UU FAITH WORKSHOP

Join us for a workshop exploring a framework and tools for understanding race, racism, and whiteness and the spiritual imperative that drives our racial justice work. This is a two-part workshop offered on Saturdays, April 22 & 29, from 9–11:30 a.m. To register, contact Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701.

APRIL 30 WORSHIP:

#UUWHITE SUPREMACY TEACH IN

On Sunday, April 30, First Universalist will join more than 400 Unitarian Universalist congregations/communities in shifting our regularly scheduled Sunday morning worship to participate in a teach-in on racism and white supremacy, known as #UUWhiteSupremacyTeachIn. This call to action comes from a growing network led by UUs of color and white UUs working together. Our youth-friendly worship services will take place as scheduled – on Sunday, April 30 at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. – and will take the form of a worshipful teach-in with special guest performers and speakers.

RSVP NOW FOR PLEDGE DAY ON APRIL 26

The Pledge Day tradition continues! Please join us on Wednesday, April 26, 4-8 p.m. at church for a free celebration of our community, including dinner catered by The Sioux Chef, bingo for all ages, a bouncy house, prizes, and more. Our goal is to have all pledges made by Pledge Day so that the budget for the coming year can be finalized. RSVP: <http://tinyurl.com/PledgeDay2017RSVP>

CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETINGS

The Board of Trustees will share a draft budget with the congregation at meetings on Sunday, April 30 at 12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary and Tuesday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Cummins Room. After a presentation of the budget and its rationale, there will be an opportunity for questions. The board will prepare a final version of the budget for presentation at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 4 at 11:30 a.m.

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:

3/26 Youth Cultural Exchange \$1,117.90

4/2 Joyce Uptown Food Shelf \$850.46

4/9 Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative \$1,002.80

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.

CARING CORNER

Write a note to a congregant who could use support! There are cards available in the library, which is located off of the Social Hall. You are welcome to stop by and write a card at any time. Just leave it in the basket and the church will mail it for you.

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: TRANSFORMATION

RESURRECTION 2.0

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

APRIL 16, 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

Call to Worship Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Long Before Music...
- Charles Anthony Silvestri

Prelude First Universalist Choir and String Quartet
Luminous Night of the Soul Dr. Jerrod Wendland
- Ola Gjeilo, music Dr. Randal Buikema, conductor
Charles Anthony Silvestri, text

Wisdom Story Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Opening Hymn #270 (Please rise in body or spirit)
O Day of Light and Gladness

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 Response Dr. Jerrod Wendland
Mad Rush
- Philip Glass

Silence

Cycle of Life Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

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
Luminous Night of the Soul
- Ola Gjeilo and Charles Anthony Silvestri

Sermon Rev. Justin Schroeder
Resurrection 2.0

Offertory
Luminous Night of the Soul
- Ola Gjeilo, music
St. John of the Cross, text

Closing Hymn #61 (Please rise in body or spirit)
Lo, the Earth Awakes Again

Closing Words Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413
Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders
Rev. Justin Schroeder Senior Minister
Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Minister of Worship and Coming of Age
Dr. Jerrod Wendland Pianist
Dr. Randal Buikema Director of Choral Arts
First Universalist Choir
Amelie Vdakes 9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter
Cooper Pappajohn-Goldade 11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Guest Musicians
Violin Zack Klein, Ezelda Hasapopoulos
Viola Svetlana Davis
Cello Elena Denny

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were donated by Janet Merrill in memory of her mother, Janet McConnell Smith, who would have been 110 years old this month. She died in 1999 and is still missed. They were arranged by Dick Rueter of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (TCHFH) is an ecumenical ministry whose mission is to eliminate poverty housing from the Twin Cities and to make decent, affordable shelter for all people a matter of conscience. Each year, in partnership with donors and volunteers, TCHFH builds or repairs approximately 50 homes. Additionally, TCHFH repairs 140 homes each year through the A Brush with Kindness program and has served more than 5,000 local homeowners through the Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program. TCHFH vision: a Twin Cities region where hard-working families can own homes in healthy neighborhoods with access to jobs, transportation, and quality schools. TCHFH is one of First Universalist's Faithful Action partners.

April Worship Theme: Transformation

Karen Armstrong writes: "religion is not about accepting twenty impossible propositions before breakfast, but about doing things that change you. It is a moral aesthetic, an ethical alchemy. If you behave in a certain way, you will be transformed." When we dare to move beyond the known patterns and perceptions of our lives, letting the alchemy of love, listening and justice do its work, then we will be more than changed. The base metals of our lives will be transformed into something precious and flourishing. This is the purpose of religion, and the meaning of a religious life: to be transformed.