

GET CONNECTED

FEB. 11 WORKSHOP: A CONVERSATION FOR WHITE PEOPLE NEWLY SEEKING TO BE ANTI-RACIST

In this moment, many white people are answering the call to racial justice action and getting engaged for the first time. Well-meaning white people may be confused or not understand anger they may encounter as they enter contemporary anti-racism work. Do you have questions about why people get mad when someone says “All lives matter”? Does the statement, “If it’s not intersectional feminism, it’s white supremacy” leave you baffled? This group is designed for you! Please join us for this conversation on how white people can thoughtfully engage in anti-racism work. The workshop takes place at church on Sunday, Feb. 11, 1-2:30 p.m. Register with Sandy DiNanni by emailing sandy@firstuniv.org or calling 612-825-1701.

NOMINATE AN ORGANIZATION FOR A FOUNDATION GRANT

The First Universalist Foundation board is beginning its 2018 granting season and wants to hear from congregants about which organizations would be good candidates for a grant. At this time, we are particularly interested in organizations that address human rights at risk. We are also interested in organizations whose leadership includes people of color, women, or other underrepresented groups. This year, the Foundation will be granting up to 10 smaller grants (up to \$5,000) and up to 5 larger grants (up to \$20,000). We are accepting nominations until February 5th so please nominate away! Please send an email to foundation@firstuniv.org to nominate an organization.

ANNUAL STATE OF THE CHURCH MEETING FEB. 11

Please join us for our annual State of the Church meeting after the second service on Feb. 11 at 12:30 p.m. At this meeting, the Board of Trustees and Staff of the Church will share updates on where we’ve been and where we’re going! We will share a story about the history of our building that was discovered as the Building Team has been working with our architects on building and renovation plans, and lay some groundwork for governance changes the congregation will be asked to approve at our annual meeting in June. And, of course, a high-level mid-year budget update and a look at upcoming programs and events. We have so much to be proud of as a faith community, and big goals still in front of us. Mark your calendar and plan to join us on February 11!

PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP CLASS

If First Universalist is feeling like your spiritual home, then we hope you’ll take part in the Pathway to Membership! Joining First Universalist is a symbolic, spiritual act of saying “yes” to growing your soul in this place, with these people, within our free faith tradition. This new member class is a great chance to build community, explore Unitarian Universalism and our church’s unique history, and learn how to get involved. This class is offered as a two-part series on Tuesdays, Jan. 30 and Feb. 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Sign up by emailing Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org or calling 612-825-1701.

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 or Rev. Ruth MacKenzie at 612-825-1701 or any member of our Pastoral Visitor Team.

Are You Visiting?

Come to a brief orientation to First Universalist and Unitarian Universalism.

Our next orientation takes place: Sunday, Feb. 4

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:
12/24 Marnita's Table \$566.25
12/31 Centro Tyrone Guzman \$408.24
1/7 Habitat for Humanity \$765.90

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 enhance the beauty of our worship service or celebrate an individual or event. A Visual Arts member will create a unique arrangement. Once services end, you can take the flowers home, or have them delivered to congregants who could use a caring gesture. Contact Dick Rueter at dick.rueter49@usinternet.com or 612-280-4186 if you are able to provide flowers or help deliver them after worship.

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.*



(detail) *Anahita, Danami, and Roya*, 72" x 60" oval, Oil, pastel, and acrylic on canvas, 2017, by Leslie Barlow

WORSHIP THEME: LOVING

LOVING RESISTANCE

REV. JEN CROW

JANUARY 28, 2018

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

Franco Holder

Words of Welcome

Rev. Jen Crow

Bellsound

Prelude

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

- Christopher Miner

Lyrics by George Matheson and Shelley des Islets

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema

Call to Worship

Greta Gaard

Opening Hymn #347 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Gather in Spirit

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

Franco Holder

Commissioning of Pastoral Visitors

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

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

For Calling the Spirit Back from Wandering the

Earth in Its Human Feet

- Joy Harjo

Rev. Jen Crow

Anthem

Ubi Caritas

- Maurice Duruflé

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema

Sermon

Loving Resistance

Rev. Jen Crow

Offertory

Prelude Op. 32, No. 12 in G Sharp Minor

- Sergei Rachmaninoff

Franco Holder

Closing Hymn #121 (Please rise in body or spirit)

We'll Build a Land

Closing Words

Rev. Jen Crow

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Jen Crow

Executive Minister

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care

Greta Gaard

Worship Associate

Franco Holder

Pianist

Dr. Randal Buikema

Director of Choral Arts

First Universalist Choir

Niigan Andrews

9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Matthias Dalby

11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Suzan Klein of the Visual Arts Committee

Offering: Navigate MN

Navigate is a nonprofit organization that builds power for immigration and education justice. Their theory of change centers the realities of undocumented people and their families. Navigate aims for systemic change that would allow immigrants to live without fear of deportation and have a chance at opportunity. In the same way, Navigate works for systemic change in the education system, from racial gaps to access to affordable higher education and equitable access to state and federal aid to those raised in the US, who live within poverty guidelines and whose immigration status does not allow them to be applicants at the moment. Navigate MN envisions a visible Latinx community that is recognized by its contributions to the state and the nation, with clear vehicles and tools to keep building intergenerational socioeconomic, cultural and political wealth that contributes to the wellbeing and the prosperity of all Minnesotans, regardless of socioeconomic status, race, immigration status, dis/ability, and gender identity.

January Worship Theme: Loving

This month we are inspired by the work of Leslie Barlow, a young artist who has taken the art scene in the Twin Cities by storm. In her series of paintings called, *Loving*, Ms. Barlow uses the Supreme Court ruling of 1967 against anti-miscegenation (or anti interracial marriage) laws, as the launching pad for her study of family, challenging perceived family normalcy and the lack of representation of diverse family dynamics. Her series invites us into the extraordinary of ordinary love in all different kinds and variety of families. This month we explore Loving. The people we love. The variety of families from which we were born, and the big hearted call to Love found in the very DNA of our family of faith.