



GET CONNECTED

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD

Families Moving Forward will be returning to First Universalist soon! We will be hosting families who are currently experiencing homelessness for the two weeks of Aug. 26 – Sept. 9. Many of you have expressed an interest in engaging in this effort. If you're new to our community, this is a fabulous way to meet folks and strengthen bonds. We welcome you! There are many spots open to volunteer your time and talents. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/fmf2018> to sign up.

SOIL, FOOD, AND CLIMATE: WHAT'S THE CONNECTION?

Can the soil save us? First Universalist's Environmental Justice team invites you to a panel discussion on Wednesday, Aug. 8, 6-9 p.m., about regenerative agriculture - a set of enlightened farming and gardening practices that hold promise of not only slowing but also reducing present-day and future atmospheric carbon concentrations. Registration (**free!**) and more details are available at: soilfoodclimate.eventbrite.com.

PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP

If First Universalist is feeling like your spiritual home, then we hope you'll take part in the Pathway to Membership! 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 two-part class will be offered next on Sundays, Aug. 19 & 26, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Sign up by contacting Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701. Childcare is available free of charge with at least seven days advance notice.

LAKE HARRIET WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Join us for our annual outdoor worship service and potluck picnic at the Lake Harriet Bandshell next Sunday, Aug. 12 at 10 a.m.! We'll enjoy music from A Ghost Revival, an inspiring message from Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink, and a delicious potluck picnic together afterwards. Please bring a dish and/or beverage to share, as well as chairs or blankets to sit on. Bring plates, cups and eating utensils for everyone in your party. The picnic will take place on the park hill across the street from the bandshell. **Please note: this will be our only service on this Sunday. See you at the bandshell next week!**

SUMMER CHOIR: AUGUST 19

Do you like to sing? Have you thought about being in a choir, but you can't make an extended commitment? Summer Choir may be just right for you! The Summer Choir will sing once more this summer - on Sunday, Aug. 19. Rehearsal is at 9 a.m. on the day of the service, and the service begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome! If you have any questions, contact randy@firstuniv.org.

OPEN HEARTS AND SPIRITUAL CARE

We know that worship takes us into deep and surprising places. If you find yourself needing to talk with someone about what is stirring for you on a Sunday morning, please speak with one of our pastoral visitors sitting in the narthex during and after the service. This is how we care for one another.



WELCOME

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.

Are You Visiting?

Come to First Step, a brief orientation to First Universalist Church and Unitarian Universalism. First Step is generally offered on first and third Sundays.

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 10 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.

CYCLE OF LIFE

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.

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 info**, stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs, call 612-825-1701, or visit our website: firstuniversalistchurch.org.

OFFERING PLATE

Recent offering plates from Sunday Service:

- 7/8 Habitat for Humanity \$441.27
- 7/15 Women's Prison Book Project \$484.86
- 7/22 Ready Set Smile \$521.02

Know a charitable organization that shares our commitment to justice and equity? Nominate an offering recipient: firstuniversalistchurch.org/offering-plate.

Text to Give

To make a donation to the offering plate via credit card, use your smartphone to text **firstuniv** to **73256**. You'll receive a link to a secure form where you can enter your info. You may also use the Square Cash app using our cash tag, \$firstuniv. Thank you for your generosity!

GET OUR NEWSLETTER

The Weekly Liberal, our email newsletter is published on Thursdays. Subscribe at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Comfort Shawls

Do you like to knit? Contact Pat Foulkes, pfoulkes@hotmail.com, for directions for the comfort shawls that we distribute to congregants in times of need. If you know somebody who is in need of a Comfort Shawl; contact Susan Schonfeld at susanwschonfeld@gmail.com or Mary Ellison at maryellison2491@comcast.net.



*In the Universalist spirit of love and hope,
we give, receive, and grow.*



SUMMER WORSHIP THEME: EMERGENCE

CENTERING DE-CENTERING

ARIF MAMDANI

AUGUST 5, 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

Bright September

- John E. Douglas

JP Douglas

Words of Welcome

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Bellsound

Prelude

Menuet sur le nom d'Haydn

- Maurice Ravel

JP Douglas

Call to Worship

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Opening Hymn #298 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Wake, Now, My Senses

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

JP Douglas

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

Reflections on Belonging

- David Whyte

Arif Mamdani

Myth

- Muriel Rukeyser

Musical Offering

Fables of Faubus

- Charles Mingus

JP Douglas

Sermon

Centering De-Centering

Arif Mamdani

Offertory

We've Had Enough

- Michael Jackson, Rodney Jerkins, LaShawn Daniels, Carole Bayer Sager

JP Douglas

Closing Hymn #6 (Please rise in body or spirit)

Just as Long as I Have Breath

Closing Words

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Postlude

Freedom Is Coming

- South African Hymn

JP Douglas

Worship Leaders

Arif Mamdani

Guest Preacher

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister

JP Douglas

Pianist

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Mary Johnson 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.

About Today's Guest Preacher

Arif Mamdani is a member of First Universalist Church and preparing for Unitarian Universalist Ministry. He recently completed his ministerial internship at Unity Church-Unitarian in St. Paul. Arif is currently serving on a team providing interim ministry services at the UU Church of Minnetonka while also finishing his Master of Divinity degree at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

Summer Worship Theme: Emergence

We humans look at a flock of birds flying overhead, sketching awe-inspiring designs in the sky, and think the birds must be following a leader. But leadership alone has never been the full measure of history nor the full inspiration of the beauty and patterns that emerge from a community of birds in flight. In fact, the patterns we see in the sky are made by each individual bird bringing to the group its own creativity and reacting to the movement of two or three of its neighbors. It is a dance between freedom and faithful followship. Our work in community, our efforts in justice making, and patterns of right relationship emerge in the same dance between freedom (our own creativity) and faithful following (our commitment to our neighbors, community). Together we create patterns of love and justice. This summer we ask: what makes something emerge? How and when do we lead? How and when do we follow? Where and how do we place our attention? What is emerging?