

BULLETIN

Welcome!

We are so glad that you are here.

We aspire to be a church that lives and practices racial justice principles, and that welcomes all, regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, skin color, or economic status. At First Universalist, our mission is to practice giving, receiving, and growing into Love's people. This is the path we invite you to walk with us.

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 30-minute overview. No sign up needed and coffee & childcare are provided.

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 our Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries, Lauren Wyeth, at lauren@firstuniv.org.

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 about First Universalist, go to our website: www.firstuniversalistchurch.org stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs after services, or call our church office, 612-825-1701.



CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday service

August 3, 2014 Pillsbury Crisis Nursury
\$808

July 27, 2014 Minnesota Neighborhoods
Organizing for Change
\$465

First Universalist Church Annual Family Campout

Labor Day weekend

Saturday, Aug. 30 - Monday, Sept. 1

Our 3rd Annual Family Campout is a great way to start the church year! All families with children and youth enrolled in Religious Education at First Universalist are welcome. Just 20-30 minutes from the cities, we spend three days and two nights tent camping, playing, and relaxing together in the beautiful, secluded woods of the Camp Sacajawea Retreat Center. More information and registration at: 1stfamilycampout.weebly.com.

Office/Front Desk Opportunity

The front desk needs more cheerful volunteers to join our reception team! Hours and time commitments are flexible and can be as much as a few shifts per week or as little as one Sunday a month. Represent First Universalist by greeting visitors, answering phones, monitoring doors and helping out with projects, all while spending time in a vibrant and welcoming office environment. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, **please contact Chelsea Bertsch**, Administrative Assistant, at 612-825-1701 or at chelsea@firstuniv.org

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Chancel Update

Several volunteers from our congregation have painted and refurbished our sanctuary. If you're like me, you may have a multiplicity of reactions to the new colors of our chancel wall: liking the clean look, wistful about the old colors, not sure, loving how the blue at the top of the chancel really pops and looks like the sky. Here are a few things I'm keeping in mind as I look at the chancel.

~This is the first step in beautifying our chancel.

~The colors the team chose are to provide a more neutral, inviting palette on which our visual arts team can create.

~The chancel colors will lend themselves to new artistic endeavors, such as fabric artists creating large banners that compel our imaginations and anchor our worshipful hearts.

~Other pieces that will come into play are a new pulpit, and chalice next year.

Thanks to the Association of Universalist Women for their generosity in financially supporting this endeavor. Thanks to Bill McTeer, Weld Ransom, Kristen Mengelkoch, Averil Bach, and Meredith Sims for their expertise. Thanks to all the painters! And thanks to First Universalist Church for its sense of adventure. ~Rev. Ruth

Your invitation to sing in Summer Choir

Summer Choir may be just right for you. The Summer Choir is scheduled to sing August 24. Rehearsals are at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the service. Music is easy enough to learn in the 45 minute rehearsal. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact: randy@firstuniv.org

Backpacks for Augsburg Fairview Academy Students

New or gently used backpacks are needed for Augsburg Fairview Academy (AFA) high school students. Students prefer black or neutral colors (and want to avoid gang colors like bright red, blue and green). **Bring your donations to the HUB on Sundays.** First Universalist Church supports AFA as part of our racial justice and housing ministry. We provide supplies for a Food and Clothing Closet as well as tutors and classroom assistants. In addition, AFA received a grant from the First Universalist Church Foundation to develop student leadership. Food donations will begin in September, and the tutoring will begin in October. More information on how to get involved will be available in September.

Fall Grant Cycle for First Universalist Foundation

The First Universalist Foundation Board is thrilled to announce that for their Fall Grant Cycle, they will once again be accepting nominations from the congregation and those meeting "most" of their criteria will be invited to apply for a small grant via a Letter of Interest.

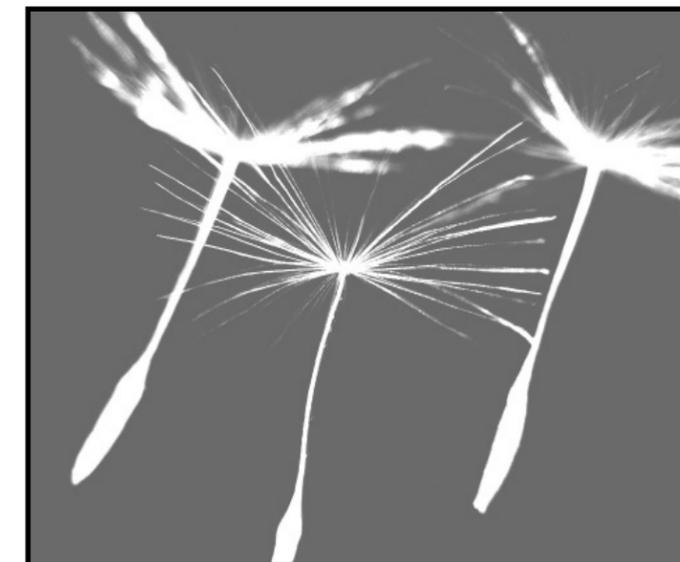
Mission Statement: First Universalist Foundation acts as a catalyst for social change by promoting and supporting the development of emerging leaders, youth, young adults, and/or disenfranchised communities through monetary grants to nonprofits working in those communities.

To inquire or make a submission, please e-mail: Foundation@firstuniv.org.



First Universalist Church
of Minneapolis

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



The Necessity of Discomfort

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

August 17, 2014

Music for Gathering

Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Bellsound

Prelude

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go
-arr. Jeff Bennett

Andrew Bourgoin

Call to Worship

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Opening Hymn #108

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

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
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Musical Interlude

Andrew Bourgoin

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Hymn of Prayer # 123

Spirit of Life (seated)

*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
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Reading

Sunset
-Rainer Maria Rilke

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Musical Offering

Poor Wayfaring Stranger
-arr. Mark Hayes

Andrew Bourgoin

Sermon

The Necessity of Discomfort

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Offertory

It Is Well With My Soul
-arr. Marilyn Ham

Andrew Bourgoin

Closing Hymn #128

For All That Is Our Life

Closing Words

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Blessing in Song # 413

Go Now in Peace

Music for the Journey

Worship Leaders

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Minister of Worship Arts
Rev. Justin Schroeder Senior Minister
Andrew Bourgoin Summer Pianist

Worship Design and Coordination

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Minister of Worship Arts

Offering

Today's offering supports the Racial Justic Work of the church

Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers were arranged by Meredith Sims of the Visual Arts Committee.

Summer Worship Theme: Seeds

Hidden in the seed is wonder: the possibility of prairie grass, the manifestations of marigolds, the surprising turn of events when we plant hope in our lives. Whether we plant seeds in our backyard or in gestures of social justice, we enter the divine amplification system that deeply connects our actions to the creative energy of Spirit. As a wise man once said, a world of justice and peace is like a mustard seed, that when planted grows up to become the greatest of all shrubs, so great that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade. This summer we will explore the theme of seeds. What seeds are you planting to grow a more whole and holy world? What seeds are you planting to grow a more whole and holy life?

What is our part in the divine amplification system?

Upcoming preachers:

August 24: Rev. Jen Crow will be preaching

August 31: Mark Ritchie, guest speaker, will be preaching

*Don't forget to collect and save water from a sacred place this summer!
We'll gather and merge the waters on September 7, at our Water Communion service.*