



GET CONNECTED!

WINTER WARM-UP

Join us on **January 31, 2015 at 8:00 PM** for Winter Warm-Up, featuring First U's own Rock Band! We'll have dancing, light appetizers and beverages available for purchase. Suggested donation for admission is \$10-\$20 but no one will be turned away based on ability to pay. Buy tickets in advance here: <http://winterwarmup.bpt.me/> or in the social hall today.

AUW Winter Tea

Dust off your fanciest hat and get ready to attend our annual Winter Tea! **Saturday, February 7 at 2:00 PM**

Sign up at the AUW table in the Social Hall on Sundays in January or online at: 1uauw.org.

Volunteer: Set-up, clean-up, bring food, serve food or decorate tables in your own theme.

Donate at the tea to Augsburg-Fairview Academy to support its academic program and stock the Food Closet.

Generosity Calculator Online

We express our gratitude by being generous with our blessings. We now have a tool on our website to help you explore your own feelings and goals regarding generosity, both here at First Universalist and in the larger world. It will give you the opportunity to anonymously input why you give, your aspirations of giving and how you wish to allocate your giving. To visit this online "generosity calculator", go to our website or scan this code:



Foundation Board Accepting Nominations

The Foundation Board is a grant-giving arm of the church focused on nonprofit organizations who are doing work to ameliorate the root causes of injustice. The Foundation has opened up nominations & invites the congregation to submit suggestions of nonprofits to whom we might send a Letter of Interest, asking them to apply for a grant during our Spring Round. The nomination window will close on January 21st, so don't delay! If you are interested in making a nomination or in learning more, please email: foundation@firstuniv.org.

Exhibit in Social Hall

January 11- February 15

"Through My Lens" is a photography exhibit created by 65 teens from local social service agencies as a part of Free Arts Minnesota's summer 2014 Teaching Artist Series, led by photographer Wing Young Huie in partnership with the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

CIRCLE REGISTRATION CONTINUES!

Online registration for Community Circles, Spiritual Deepening Circles, and Care Circles is open **now** until January 25, 2015. For more information, contact Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink at elaine@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701 x124

Habitat for Humanity Build Days

Sign up online for 2015 Habitat for Humanity build days! There are a variety of days to choose from, and we are looking for a number of volunteers. To sign up online, visit: <http://firstuniversalistchurch.org/habitat-for-humanity-sign-up/>



WELCOME!

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday service:

- 12/28 Youth Link \$954.20
- 12/21 Racial Justice Work \$1,085
- 12/14 Beacon Housing \$1,140
- 11/30 Joyce Bilingual Preschool \$808

To nominate an offering recipient, go to: www.firstuniversalistchurch.com/offering-plate

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, January 18th

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.

LET US KEEP YOU IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

If you are experiencing a crisis or transition, or celebrating a joy--please let us know. If you'd like to be included in our Cycle of Life each Sunday in worship, please contact Sandy diNanni at (sandy@firstuniv.org) or (612) 825-1701.

If you would like support, please contact Rev. Jen Crow (jen@firstuniv.org or 825-1701) or any member of our Pastoral Care Team.

We are so glad that 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 act outside of our walls; we listen to where love is calling us next.

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.

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.

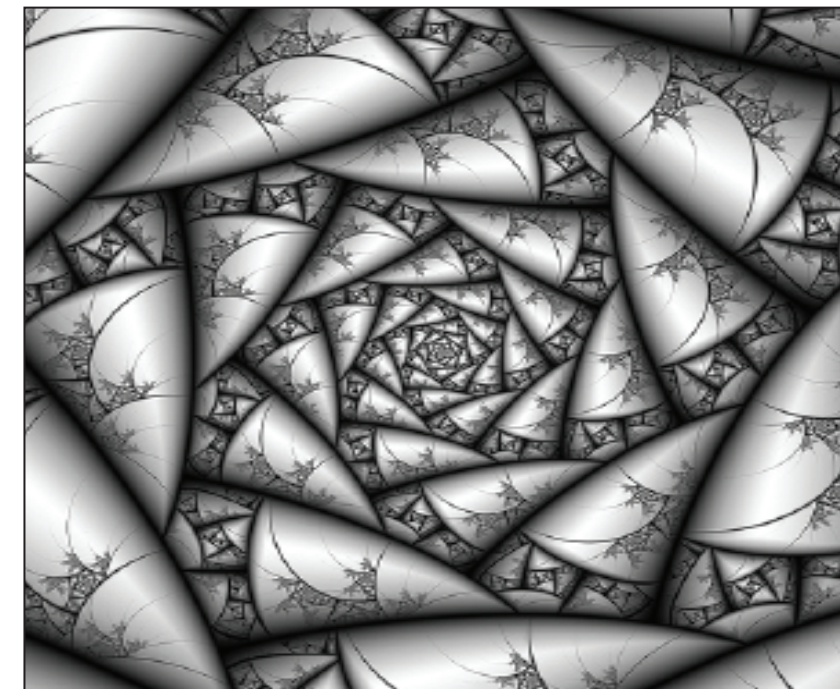
For more information about First Universalist, go to our website: www.firstuniversalistchurch.org, stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs after services, or call our church office, 612-825-1701.

The Weekly Liberal

Want to know what's going on at First Universalist Church? *The Weekly Liberal* (our weekly newsletter) is for you! If you aren't already on the e-news distribution list and would like to be, simply sign up online by visiting our website or by scanning the QR code below. Please note, too, that paper copies of *The Weekly Liberal* will always be available in the office and at Sunday's services.



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



UNSEEN CHANGE AGENTS

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

JANUARY 18, 2015

Music for Gathering

Andante from Piano Sonata

-Florence Price

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

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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Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Bellsound

Prelude

We Shall Overcome

-arr. Mark Hayes

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema, Conductor

Reading

From Freedom's Daughters

-Lynne Olson

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Musical Offering

Peace in This House

-Mac Huff

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema, Conductor

Amanda Carlson, Mezzo Soprano

Call to Worship

Rama Hart

Sermon

Unseen Change Agents

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Opening Hymn #153 (please rise in body or spirit)

Oh, I Woke Up This Morning

Offertory

Troubled Water

-Margaret Bonds

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

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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Closing Hymn #149 (please rise in body or spirit)

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Musical Interlude

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Blessing in Song # 413

Go Now in Peace

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Music for the Journey

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries

Dr. Randal Buikema

Director of Choral Arts

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

First Universalist Choir

Chalice Lighters

Representatives from the 6th Grade class.

Worship Design and Coordination

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Minister of Worship Arts

Chancel Flowers

Today's flowers were arranged by Marjie Smith of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Racial Justice Work

Musical Notes from Jerrod Wendland:

Today's service features music from two important composers whose reputations are doubly obscured: first for being African-American, secondly for being women. Florence Price (1887-1953) was born in Arkansas and studied at the New England Conservatory (where she tried to pass as a Mexican) before settling in Chicago. While there, she met Margaret Bonds (1913-1972), a young pianist and composer who later performed Price's Piano Concerto and frequently collaborated with poet Langston Hughes. In 1932, they both won prizes in the Rodman Wanamaker Competition, leading to the premiere of Price's Symphony by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. That these works were written in the face of both personal and political obstacles makes the accomplishments of both women even more impressive.

Worship Theme: Arc of Change

In his poem, "The Layers," Stanley Kunitz looks back on his life of changes, "the milestones" and "abandoned campsites" of his journey. All of us leave a trail of hopes that have fallen along the wayside, or burning embers of insight that light the way forward in our changing patterns. Change *is*. That is the nature of things. In a beautiful turn of phrase the poet writes, "a nimbus-clouded voice directed me: "Live in the layers, not on the litter." This month we live in the layers of change, exploring the arcs of our own lives, the arc of this faith community, and the arc of history and change. To paraphrase Kunitz's final line: We are not done with our changes.

