



# GET CONNECTED

## Fossil Fuel Teach-In

**Saturday, March 21**  
9:00 am-2:00 pm

*A Teach-In on Fossil Fuel Infrastructure*

Join us in the Sanctuary bright and early for “What’s the Plan? A Teach-In on Fossil Fuel Infrastructure in MN,” co-sponsored by MN350 and the International Forum on Globalization.

Speakers include Winona LaDuke, Rep. Frank Hornstein, Victor Menotti, and regional leaders in movements to stop frac-sand mining, crude oil trains, and oil pipelines. Let’s come together and find common spiritual ground from which to address this public policy crisis and protect ourselves and the earth. FREE and open to the public. Teach-In begins at 9:00am, lunch by the Sioux Chef (for a small fee) at 12:30pm.

## WANT TO HEAR FROM PEOPLE IN FERGUSON?

Come see *‘Hands Up Don’t Shoot Our Youth Movement’* here at church. It’s a documentary filmed in Ferguson on the day of Michael Brown’s funeral, by Ralph Crowder III. We’ll be screening it on **Tuesday, March 24th at 6:30 in the Social Hall**, and you will have a chance to meet the filmmaker. Contrasting with the mainstream media coverage and speculation of the events leading up to his death, you will see, hear and feel the perspective of African Americans there about how he died.

## An Invitation to Join First Universalist Choir

Have you thought about singing in the choir? YOU are welcome to join us! Ability to read music and previous experience is helpful but not necessary. An open heart, eagerness to learn and the desire to be part of a large and dynamic choral ensemble are qualities we look for in new members. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 PM. Contact [randy@firstuniv.org](mailto:randy@firstuniv.org) for details.

## Nominating Committee is Recruiting

The Nominating Committee is actively recruiting candidates for leadership positions on the **Board of Trustees**, the **Foundation Board**, and the **Nominating Committee** itself for the next church year. We believe the congregation is full of untapped talent and encourage people to step forward and share their skills. To qualify for any of these positions, you must be a member in good standing of the church. Elections occur at the Annual Meeting in June. Go online to view more detailed position descriptions and apply. Contact any Nominating Committee member to find out more: Ginny McAninch (chair), Deborah Talen, Doug Smalley, Bob Albrecht, David Lauth, Greg Hoelzer, and Lark Weller, Board of Trustees representative. Email [nomination@firstuniv.org](mailto:nomination@firstuniv.org)

## ‘Restore the Vote’ Today

Please join AUW/MUUSJA and LWVMN – leaders in defeating the harmful 2012 Photo ID amendment – in our current drive to promote voting rights in Minnesota: restoring the right to vote to the 47,000 citizens with felony convictions who live in our communities.

Don’t miss our program **TODAY**, March 15, 1:00-2:00pm, in the Chalice Room.



# WELCOME!

## CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

*Offering plates from Sunday service:*

- 2/8 Habitat for Humanity \$1,176
- 2/1 MUUSJA \$1,055
- 1/25 MN Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice \$1,025
- 1/18 Racial Justice Work \$1,079

To nominate an offering recipient, go to: [www.firstuniversalistchurch.com/offering-plate](http://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, March 15th**

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 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](mailto: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](mailto:sandy@firstuniv.org)) or (612) 825-1701.

If you would like support, please contact Rev. Jen Crow ([jen@firstuniv.org](mailto: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](http://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.*



# GRACE-FULL

REV. JEN CROW

MARCH 15, 2015

**Music for Gathering**

Sonatine, Op. 59 No. 3  
I. Allegro Moderato  
II. Assez Anime  
- Charles Koechlin

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

**Words of Welcome**

Rev. Justin Schroeder

**Bellsound**

**Prelude**

O Love That Will  
Not Let Me Go  
-Peace

First Universalist Choir  
Dr. Randal Buikema, Conductor

**Call to Worship**

Ben Miles

**Opening Hymn #21 (please rise in body or spirit)**

For the Beauty

**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)

**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  
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

**Reading**

Walking our Boundaries

- Audre Lorde

Rev. Jen Crow

**Anthem**

Sunday

-Sondheim/arr. Mac Huff

First Universalist Choir and Orchestra  
Dr. Randal Buikema, Conductor

**Sermon**

Grace-Full

Rev. Jen Crow

**Offertory**

III. Allegreto

- Charles Koechlin

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

**Closing Hymn # 108 (please rise in body or spirit)**

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

**Closing Words**

Rev. Jen Crow

**Blessing in Song #413**

Go Now in Peace

**Music for the Journey**

IV. Final

- Charles Koechlin

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

**Worship Leaders**

Rev. Jen Crow Minister of Program Life  
Rev. Justin Schroeder Senior Minister  
Dr. Jerrod Wendland Pianist  
Dr. Randal Buikema Director of Choral Arts  
First Universalist Choir and Orchestra

**Music Notes from Jerrod Wendland:**

For this week’s service, I was inspired by the music of Charles Koechlin (pronounced “Cake-Lan”), a little-known French composer who devoted most of his life to teaching. His music is suffused with color and light, making it aptly suited to the theme of Grace, but I also picked it because any melody can appear in a different “voice” - whether in the higher range of the piano, or the low range, or the middle. His music is never just a melody and an accompaniment, but rather a network of voices working together for a common goal, and it is in the connections between those voices that the work’s grace resides.

**Chalice Lighters**

Elizabeth Becher-Ingwalson 9:30  
Olivia Dalby 11:15

**Worship Design and Coordination**

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Minister of Worship Arts

**Chancel Flowers**

Today’s flowers were arranged by Maren Ahlberg of the Visual Arts Committee.

**Offering: Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative**

Beacon is an interfaith collaborative of congregations committed to ending homelessness through shelter, affordable housing, and public advocacy. Beacon is 70 congregations and counting, including First Universalist Church. This September, we will begin hosting families experiencing homelessness through Beacon’s Families Moving Forward program.

**Worship Theme: Grace**

The great theologian Paul Tillich once described grace as that thing which breaks into our lives and surprises us into wholeness. We are struck alive like a bell awakened with sound and purpose, and we ring with a new pattern. Grace bestows assurance, grounding, and hope. Tillich says, “Grace transforms fate into a meaningful destiny; it changes guilt into confidence and courage.” This month we explore the nature and movements of grace.