



GET CONNECTED!

Book Discussion: Capturing Nature Art Exhibit

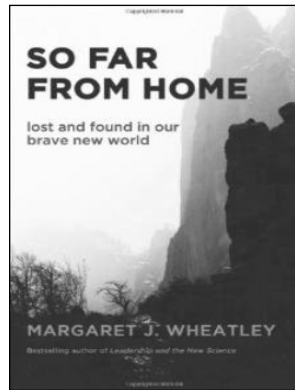
What Does Justice Look Like? The Struggle for Liberation in Dakota Homeland, by Waziyatawin

Sunday, April 12 at 1:00pm
OR Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30pm, Cummins Room

Discussion facilitated by Suzanne Hay, Kayci Rush, and Rev. Justin Schroeder. During the past 150 years, the majority of Minnesotans have not acknowledged the immense and ongoing harms suffered by the Dakota People ever since their homelands were invaded over 200 years ago.

Worship Resources:

For further study and contemplation, here is the book referenced in the sermon.



THE PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP

Feeling like First Universalist could be your spiritual home? Our next Pathway to Membership class is a two-session experience on Sundays, April 19 and 26 from 1-4pm. To sign up, contact the Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink at Elaine@Firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701x124.

Three artists--Erin Mason, Jo Ann Musumeci, and Jill Ewald--are all interested in capturing nature in their art work. They are displaying their work at First Universalist in the Social Hall April 5 through May 17. The artists will be available to talk with you about their artwork and have additional items for sale including on Sunday, April 19, after both services.

Worship Theme: The Big Questions

Church is one place where we ask the big questions. We venture into the unknowable, the big questions with curiosity, and humility because we know ourselves as marvelous, and a speck of dust, all in the same breath of being.

Join us this month when we delve into the big questions:

- What is the nature of being human?
- Why is there so much despair?
- What is holy?
- What is wholeness?
- Is there evil?
- What is this wondrous thing called life?

FREE: JAZZ BAND GIG IN THE SOCIAL HALL

Friday, April 17th from 7:30 to 9:30 PM

John Jensen and the Jazz Band will be playing 30s and 40s ballads and swing music perfect for dancing and/or listening. Several years ago a few First U members jointly scored an auction win for a performance by John Jensen and the Jazz Band and we've decided to share it with fellow First U folks.

Bring a finger food snack to share if you wish. We'll provide paper plates and napkins and will be taking up a collection to cover custodial charges. We will NOT have utensils, bar service or child care available that night. BYOB is also NOT an option but we WILL have terrific music in abundance! No RSVP needed to come enjoy fabulous music. Dance or just enjoy the jazz!



WELCOME!

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday service:

- 3/29 Youth Cultural Exchange \$810
- 3/22 Racial Justice \$960
- 3/15 Beacon Interfaith Housing \$1,259
- 3/8 Youth Cultural Exchange \$1,315

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: Sunday, April 19th

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.

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.



photo by Peter Tandlund

WARRIORS OF COMPASSION

REV. RUTH MACKENZIE

APRIL 12, 2015

Music for Gathering

Pavane in the Dark Morning
-from *Pleiades Dances*
-Takashi Yoshimatsu

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
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Words of Welcome

Rev. Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Youth for Night on the Street

Bellsound

Prelude

Fuzzy Bird Sonata
I. Run, Bird.
-Takashi Yoshimatsu

Kendra Wheeler
Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Spoken Word / Sacred Text

Frank Sentwali

Musical Offering

Fuzzy Bird Sonata
II. Sing, Bird.
-Takashi Yoshimatsu

Kendra Wheeler
Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Call to Worship

Ginger Murphrey

Sermon

Warriors of Compassion

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Opening Hymn #1040 (please rise in body or spirit)

Hush
(teal hymnal)

Offertory

Fuzzy Bird Sonata
III. Fly, Bird.
-Takashi Yoshimatsu

Kendra Wheeler
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
(reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Closing Words

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Silence

Music for the Journey

Rondo – Spring Comes Again
-from *Pleiades Dances*
-Takashi Yoshimatsu

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Worship Leaders

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Minister of Worship Arts & Coming of Age
Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink Minister of Membership & Adult Ministries
Dr. Jerrod Wendland Pianist
Kendra Wheeler Saxophonist
Frank Sentwali Spoken Word Artist

Worship Guests:

Frank Sentwali is the creator of Edu-Poetic Enterbrainment, a Twin Cities’ spoken word and music ensemble. Frank has spent years in the education system as a tutor, teacher and mentor. He currently co-facilitates S.E.E.D. (Sentwali Entertainment Education Division), presenting programs in schools and community centers.

Kendra Wheeler has performed throughout the Midwest. She has performed at the Chicago Symphony Center as a soloist, and placed first in the Schubert Club Competition. She is also a member of ZA Saxaphone Quartet, a new chamber group comprised of students of the University of Minnesota that won the Midwest Young Artist Competition and has performed on the radio.

Chalice Lighters

Kailyn Wittrock 9:30
Maya Conners 11:15

Worship Design and Coordination

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie Minister of Worship Arts

Notes From Jerrod Wendland:

Takashi Yoshimatsu is a contemporary Japanese composer who dropped out of college to join a rock band. Self-taught as a composer, he is influenced as much by Pink Floyd and Yes as by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. Besides Fuzzy Bird (one of a number of compositions about birds), he has written six symphonies, volumes of piano music, and an orchestral arrangement of ELP’s Tarkus (yes, that’s the one with the armadillo-tank on the cover!).

Chancel Flowers

Today’s flowers are donated by Jeanne and John Peppel in celebration of the marriage of their son, Scott Lloyd Peppel and Michela Bond Blain on Saturday, April 11, 2015, in Charleston, SC.

Offering: Night on the Street

Night on the Street 2015 is happening Fri., April 17. Sponsored by Plymouth Congregational Church and Beacon Interfaith Housing Collective, Night on the Street gives youth the experience of sleeping on the street while also participating in a night of learning, sharing, social media advocacy - and oh yeah, FUN! Many of First U’s Coming of Age youth and High School Group will be participating this year.