

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

9:30 AM

Catherine Burnett and Lillie Pang, Minneapolis. Catherine and Lillie have attended First Universalist for 20 years! Catherine is an educator and Lillie an administrator for the Minneapolis Public Schools. Catherine joined the church some years ago. Lillie has decided now is the time. The anti-racism work at First Universalist has really made an impact on her. The work the church is doing in this area gives their family hope.

Ian Cook and Colleen Schaeffe, Lauderdale. Ian works as a Nonprofit Services Specialist at the Charities Review Council and is a composer of new music. A music teacher for students from 1st through 5th grade, Colleen also leads the First Universalist Children’s Choir. They are both active musicians; Ian sings in the Academy of Voices and plays trombone. Colleen plays violin in the Northern Symphony Orchestra, and they both sing in the National Lutheran Choir and the First U adult choir, and play in the First U orchestra. They will be married in this church in August.

Ray Dillon and Dick Rueter, Minneapolis. After living together for almost three decades, they’re planning to marry in 2017. Dick worked as a critical care nurse for 25 years, and for the last 15 as an upholsterer. Ray has been an elementary teacher for 44 years. Playing classical piano is one of his passions. They love all things canine, and breed Cairn Terriers for show. They say this church community has helped them grow toward their best selves.

Renate Fiora, Minneapolis. Renate is a high school physics teacher, assistant speech coach, sci-fi/fantasy fan and “Crazy Cat Lady.” In her free time she practices archery, arts and crafts, music, and tap-dancing.

Katie Johnson, Minneapolis. Katie is a longtime Minneapolis resident delighted to have found a spiritual home at First Universalist. Her days are filled with nonprofit work advocating for education and social justice, and graduate school classes in clinical social work. She enjoys cooking with local foods, swimming in Minnesota lakes, and biking to work.

Joseph Jones, Minneapolis. Joseph is retired after working for 26 years for Northwest Airlines. He has four sons and is a nature lover, rose grower, kayaker, and Qigong participant, all as a way to meet and make new friends.

Kelsey Kelley and Jason Steck, Minneapolis. Kelsey works as an Assistant County Attorney. She is excited to join this progressive spiritual community and is passionate about social justice. She enjoys trying new restaurants, playing clarinet in the Minnesota Freedom Band, and being active outside. Jason is a Judicial Law Clerk at the Minnesota Court of appeals in St. Paul. He enjoys writing, watching sci-fi, playing with his cat, Spock, and playing in a gaming group.

Charles Mac Luepke, St. Paul. Charlie grew up on an Iowa farm and moved to Minnesota in 1986 to a hobby farm. He worked in Minnesota State Government for 25 years and is now happily retired, working part-time as a trucker. Charlie lives with Melody Werner.

Brian and Sara Lukkason, Minneapolis. Brian and Sara are proud parents to 5-month-old Margot, who just took part in our Child Dedication Ceremony. They are both music teachers by training and are excited to be joining First Universalist.

Andrea McMartin, Minneapolis. As a life-long UU, Annie grew up at the First Unitarian Church of Oklahoma City. Last September she and her husband, James Snyder, moved to Minneapolis from Evanston, Illinois, where she was active in the Unitarian Church of Evanston. She’s a hiking and camping enthusiast.

Jeffrey and Kelsey Speaks, Oakdale. Jeffrey is the Head Butcher for the restaurant Butcher and the Boar in Minneapolis. In his spare time, he is a musical theater actor and singer and loves to cook and study religion. Kelsey is a Speech Language Pathologist for Genesis Rehabilitative Services. She loves reading, singing, knitting and crafting. They live in Oakdale with their two cats, Munich and Miles.

Jen Steiner and Rich Peske, Minneapolis. Jen and Rich live in the Kenny neighborhood with their kids Henry (7) and Vivian (5). Jen is a physical therapist with NovaCare Rehabilitation, and Rich is an architect working in energy conservation with The Weidt Group. As a family they enjoy running, camping, hiking, and searching for the perfect pizza. They are delighted to raise their children in a progressive and inclusive faith.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

11:15AM

Roger Ballou, Minneapolis. From Wisconsin, this church community feels “most right” for him, as Roger is from New England and is in the lineage of Rev. Hosea Ballou, one of the renowned early leaders of Unitarians in the U.S. Roger is passionate about classical music. He is a core faculty member at the Adler Graduate School and a therapist in private practice at Minnetonka Psychology and Wellness. He also leads parent education training and support groups.

Eric and Lisa Berglund, Maple Grove. Their daughter, Kira, joined the First U choir, and the Berglunds visited to hear them sing. Long-time UUs, they found they really enjoy the services. Retired, Lisa and Eric enjoy travel, volunteering, outdoors activities, and the many entertainment and cultural events offered in the Twin Cities.

Kira Berglund, St. Louis Park. Kira works in the environmental field helping schools and businesses reduce waste and recycle more. She enjoys singing in the choir at First U, and in her free time, she likes to bike, camp, garden, and practice yoga.

Dan and Kristen Carberry, Minneapolis. Parents of seven- year-old twins Allison (Allie) and Kathryn (Katy), the Carberrys enjoy outdoor activities like walking and biking around the lakes, working in the yard, and playing at the park. Things they love about this church are the community and the music, and they’re looking forward to being a part of it.

Bryana French, Minneapolis. An Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University of St. Thomas, Bryana is interested in multicultural development, social justice and anti-rape activism. She’s the owner of a Lab-mix rescue dog. First Universalist is the first church of which she has been a member.

Sheryl A. Fried, St. Louis Park. She retired as a paralegal in 2008 and, through the Minnesota Literacy Council and REACH Together, is currently helping adult refugees and immigrants improve their English language skills and prepare for the U.S. Citizenship tests and interview.

Douglas Gordon, Maple Grove. Father of two boys, Finlay, 10, and Willem, 8, Doug works at Optum Technology of United Health Group. He says, “We’ve already benefited from the spiritual insights, steady heartbeat and clasped hands of its fellowship...I have discovered new depths of kindness and the value of belonging.”

Elizabeth Horton, Minneapolis. Betsy grew up in a musical Episcopalian family. She’s a clinical social worker who married a psychiatrist. They raised two wonderful daughters but fell away from traditional religion. Then one of the daughters became a UU minister, and reading her sermons helped Betsy appreciate the UU focus on peace, love, and justice. She is grateful for your warm welcome and looks forward to joining the choir!

Victoria Huitt, Minneapolis. Victoria is an instructor, administrator, and acupuncturist at the Northwestern Health Science University.

Angela Kieffer and Joel Peterson, Minneapolis. Parents of three-year-old Zinder, they are “thrilled to become members of this community. Finding First Universalist has been inspiring on many levels. Social justice, equity, and open-mindedness are just a few of the commitments we also hold deeply. We look forward to supporting and celebrating this great work with you.” Angela is a teacher and Joel is a technology recruiter.

Jeffrey and Karen Snyder, Minneapolis. Jeff and Karen moved from Rochester, MN to Minneapolis in June of 2014 as one of the early actions in their retirement. Jeff left IBM as an engineering project manager; Karen retired from Mayo Clinic as a research program coordinator in the Department of Psychiatry. They enjoy outdoor recreation, such as canoeing. Jeff was an active lay leader in their last UU congregation and he has recently become Treasurer for MUUSJA.

Lena Vdakes, Bloomington. Lena is a stay-at-home mom who home-schools her children, Skyler, 13, and Amelie, 8. Her interests include education, mixed-media art, and Capoeira, a Brazilian dance style.

Judy Young, Richfield. Judy is retired from a career in hospice, as a grief counselor. She’s newly inspired by legacy writing, ethical wills and advance care planning for emergencies and late life decisions. She says, “Community Circles are a church best practice; I love them and all of you!”



Worship Theme: Thresholds

DEAR EVERYTHING

REV. RUTH MACKENZIE

MAY 17, 2015

Music for Gathering

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Folk Song from Suite Impressions
-Judith Lang Zaimont

Words of Welcome

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Bellsound

Call to Worship

First Universalist Choir

The Circle of Life
-H. Zimmer/Lebo M/E. John

Angela Henderson, Rev. Ruth MacKenzie
Conducted by Dr. Randal Buikema

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)

Opening Hymn #347 (please rise in body or spirit)

Gather The Spirit

Musical Interlude

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

New Member Ceremony

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

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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Collage of Voices

Excerpts of Credos from Coming of Age Youth

Luke Peichel
Amanda Mosborg
Zoe Christenson

Anthem

The Color Purple
-Russell/Willis/Bray

First Universalist Choir
Angela Henderson
Conducted by Dr. Randal Buikema

Sermon

Dear Everything

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Offertory

In Pop Style from Suite Impressions
-Judith Lang Zaimont

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #1030 (please rise in body or spirit)

Siyahamba
Zulu... We Are Marching... We Are Singing... We Are Dancing...

Closing Words

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Blessing in Song #413 (please rise in body or spirit)

Go Now in Peace

Music for the Journey

May from Calendar Set
-Judith Lang Zaimont

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

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
Dr. Randal Buikema	Director of Choral Arts
Angela Henderson	Guest Vocalist
First Universalist Choir	

Guest Instrumentalists:

Nick Mordal	Bass
Tommy Jacobs	Drum Kit
Charlie McKinstry-Luepke	Djembe

Coming of Age Worship Leaders:

Zoe Christenson
Amanda Mosborg
Luke Peichel

Chalice Lighters

Luca Knych	11:15
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Notes from Jerrod Wendland:

This week, I turn to Judith Lang Zaimont, a contemporary composer with a Minneapolis connection (she used to teach at the U of M). A lifelong pianist with many volumes of piano music, she is precise and imaginative when it comes to sound and harmony. A precise observer of natural phenomena, she writes music about the water cycle, the progression of the seasons, and the planets. Her aim: “like any artist, to go towards discovery.” She turns 70 this November.

Worship Design and Coordination

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie	Minister of Worship Arts
Dr. Randal Buikema	Director of Choral Arts

Chancel Flowers

Today’s flowers were arranged by Bette DeMars of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Honor the Earth, MN Interfaith Power & Light

Honor the Earth is a Native-led organization, established by Winona LaDuke and Indigo Girls Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, in 1993 to address the two primary needs of the Native environmental movement: the need to break the geographic and political isolation of Native communities and the need to increase financial resources for organizing and change. As a unique national Native initiative, Honor the Earth works to raise public awareness and raise and direct funds to grassroots Native environmental groups. Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light believes the active care of creation is integral to spiritual life and social justice. MIPL responds to climate change by bringing Minnesota’s faith communities together and by providing opportunities for congregations to join the growing climate justice movement.