

GET CONNECTED

NEXT 24-HOUR RACIAL JUSTICE TRAINING ANNOUNCED

You're invited to apply to participate in the next 24-hour racial justice training led by Dr. Heather Hackman this spring! This is the last 24-hour training we'll be offering for the foreseeable future. The trainings are scheduled for Saturdays, Feb. 6, Feb. 20, and April 9, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit our website at firstuniversalistchurch.org for complete details.

MERCHANTS OF DOUBT FILM SCREENING

The Environmental Justice Team will show the documentary movie "Merchants of Doubt" on Sunday, Nov. 22 at 1 p.m. in the Cummins Room. "Merchants of Doubt," inspired by the book of the same name, is a satirically comedic reveal of the pundits-for-hire who present as scientific authorities but spread maximum confusion about public threats from toxic chemicals to pharmaceuticals to climate change.

SAVE THE DATE: WINTER SOLSTICE SERVICE DEC. 21

For 35 years, First Universalist has honored the longest night of the year, and joyously celebrated the return of the sun! Join us on Monday, Dec. 21, as we observe another turning of the year. The evening includes a 12-minute period of darkness, so consider if your children will be comfortable during that time. As always, we will move through the evening with beautiful music, a story for all ages, and spreading of the light.

Want to get involved? Contact Pamela Vincent, pbvincent1@comcast.net.

VIDEO DISCUSSION TODAY:

RECONSTRUCTION & THE CIVIL WAR

Reconstruction, the Second Civil War is from the acclaimed PBS series *American Experience*. It offers insights into topics in American history including the Civil War, slavery, abolition, race relations, civil rights, black suffrage, and more. Join us for a viewing of excerpts from this video, followed by discussion, either today at 1 p.m. or Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. This is a drop-in group; no registration is required.

HOLIDAY WREATHS AND CENTERPIECES FOR SALE

Today between services we will have beautiful wreaths, swags, and centerpieces for sale. Please stop by the Social Hall and pre-order your greens. This year the proceeds will go to Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative. Delivery to the church will be Sunday Dec. 6. This is the last week to pre-order your wreaths!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR AT FIRST UNIVERSALIST

Please contact Michael Dotson at mdotson904@att.net to learn more about the "People of Color Circle" that meets regularly at First Universalist Church or to learn more about the learning sessions on self care and coping strategies for racial oppression that are led by Marie Michael. (Marie Michael works closely with Heather Hackman; Heather has been leading Racial Justice trainings for many of the white people in the congregation.)

WELCOME

We are so glad 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**, stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs, call 612-825-1701, or visit our website: firstuniversalistchurch.org.

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!

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

CELEBRATING OUR GENEROSITY

Offering plates from Sunday Service:

10/11 Boston COA Trip \$814.94

10/18 Augsburg Fairview Academy \$990.85

10/25 UUSC Crisis Fund for Refugees \$1,240.06

Know a charitable organization that shares our commitment to justice and equity? Nominate an offering recipient at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/offering-plate

You can give online through the Square Cash App. Our cashtag is \$firstuniv. Thanks!

LET US KEEP YOU IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

If you are experiencing a crisis or transition, or celebrating a joy—please let us know. To be included in our Cycle of Life each Sunday in worship, contact Sandy DiNanni at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701.

If you would like support, contact Rev. Jen Crow (jen@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701) or any member of our Pastoral Care Team.

CARING CORNER

Write a note to congregant who could use support! There are cards available in the library, which is located off of the Social Hall. You are welcome to stop by and write a card at any time. Just leave it in the basket and the church will mail it for you.

THE WEEKLY LIBERAL

The Weekly Liberal (our email newsletter) is published on Thursdays. Subscribe at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal/

Do you have news or information you'd like published? Fill out the submission form on our website!



WORSHIP THEME: BORDER CROSSING

DROPPING THE STORYLINE

REV. ELAINE ARON TENBRINK

NOVEMBER 15, 2015

Music for Gathering

Étude No. 2

– Philip Glass

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Prelude

Time

– Benjamin Britten

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema

Call to Worship

Sherry Kempf

Opening Hymn #12 (Please stand in body or spirit)

O Life That Maketh All Things New

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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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

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Reading

Kindness

– Naomi Shihab Nye

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Anthem

Song for Athene

– John Tavener

First Universalist Choir

Dr. Randal Buikema

Sermon

Dropping the Storyline

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Offertory

Mad Rush

– Philip Glass

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Closing Hymn #86 (Please stand in body or spirit)

Blessed Spirit of My Life

Closing Words

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Music for the Journey

Étude No. 3

– Philip Glass

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Worship Leaders

Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink

Minister of Membership & Adult Ministries

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Minister

Dr. Jerrod Wendland

Pianist

Dr. Randal Buikema

Director of Choral Arts

First Universalist Choir

Elizabeth Haugen

9:30 Chalice Lighter

Ava Bleifuss

11:15 Chalice Lighter

Worship Design & Coordination

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Minister of Worship & Coming of Age Program

Chancel Flowers

Today’s flowers are in loving memory of long-time member and Visual Arts Committee member Fran Addington. They are dedicated to her by her daughters Barb Addington, Becky Addington, Susan Addington, and Carol Whitman.

Offering: Senior Corps Programs

Senior Corps Programs are housed within Lutheran Social Service of MN and provide volunteer opportunities to seniors across the state and metro. The overall mission of LSS is to express the love of Christ for all people through service that inspires hope, changes lives, and builds community. The vision of the organization is that all people have the opportunity to live and work in community with dignity, safety, and hope. The Senior Corps programs help us reach these goals by offering service to our most vulnerable populations - our elderly and our children.

Musical Notes from Jerrod Wendland

Philip Glass (b. 1937) is a composer who has followed a peculiarly American progression: Outcast, Icon, Industry. A prize student at Julliard, he got a Fulbright to Paris, where he discovered two of his three great loves: the music of North India, and Bohemianism. (The third was Schubert.) Returning to the U.S., he founded his own ensemble (of synthesizers, saxophones and sopranos) and his own method for making music: consonant harmonies articulated through rhythmic patterns, metamorphosing at a glacial pace. Barred from the mainstream, his group played in lofts and galleries, while he paid the bills driving cabs. Success came quickly (ca. 1981-1984) and ended both his bohemian lifestyle and the most exciting chapter of his music. If you haven’t done so, please watch the film Koyaanisqatsi.

November Worship Theme: Border Crossing

We must become experienced border crossers if we are to thrive as a faith tradition. So writes Unitarian Universalist Association President, Peter Morales. Border crossing or moving beyond our personal, social, and cultural experience of the world and experiencing life from another vantage point is spiritual work. All the major religions outline different spiritual technologies necessary for freeing ourselves from the prison of our Selves, and crossing borders. So, how do we become more adept at identifying borders? How do we ready ourselves to make a crossing? How do we immerse ourselves in another place, another context, another reality in order to truly meet the world, and lean into whole and holy life?