

GET CONNECTED

COMING OF AGE CEREMONY, CONGREGATIONAL MAY 14 AT 3 P.M. BUDGET MEETING MAY 9 AT 7 P.M.

The yearlong Coming of Age journey will culminate on Saturday at the Coming of Age ceremony. Each youth will stand on the chancel and share their personal credo with family, friends, and community members. Coming of Age youth have put a great deal of time and thought into their statements. On May 14th, our congregation has an opportunity to honor and celebrate this incredible group of young people and their faith journey. All are welcome and warmly invited to attend.

WORSHIP ASSOCIATE APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 15

Do you love worship? Do you have a flair for writing stories or prose? Consider applying to be a Worship Associate this year! Worship Associates speak in worship services two or three times during the year, and associates and Rev. Ruth MacKenzie gather for two half-day retreats to discuss worship themes, talk about writing for oration, review how to lay out a manuscript, and practice public speaking. If this interests you, please write a 500 word piece about forgiveness and submit your manuscript to Rev. Ruth MacKenzie at ruth@firstuniv.org. The deadline for submissions is May 15.

SUMMER CIRCLE REGISTRATION

Set some time aside to engage with life's deeper themes: Join a circle this Summer! These gatherings of 8-10 people are a great way to get connected at First Universalist and to stay spiritually grounded throughout the Summer. Registration for Summer circles opens today at <http://firstucircles.weebly.com>. For more information, contact Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink at 612-825-1701 x124 or elaine@firstuniv.org.

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.

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.

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, May 15

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. Childcare is provided after the 11:15 service.

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:

4/10 Habitat for Humanity \$1,643.81

4/17 Youth Cultural Exchange \$670.99

4/24 First Universalist Youth Ministry \$1,216.11

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

If you'd like to make a donation but don't have cash, use the Square Cash App. It takes no time at all to set up and use! First Universalist's cash tag is \$firstuniv. For more information, go to <http://firstuniversalistchurch.org/new-giving-option-square-cash/>.

COMFORT SHAWLS

Do you like to knit? Contact Pat Foulkes, pfoulkes@hotmail.com, for directions for the comfort shawls that we distribute to congregants in times of need. Or perhaps you know somebody who is in need of a Comfort Shawl; contact Congregational Care co-chairs Kathy Urberg at kathyurberg@gmail.com or Kathy Coskran at 612 202-9322 or kac1122@aol.com.

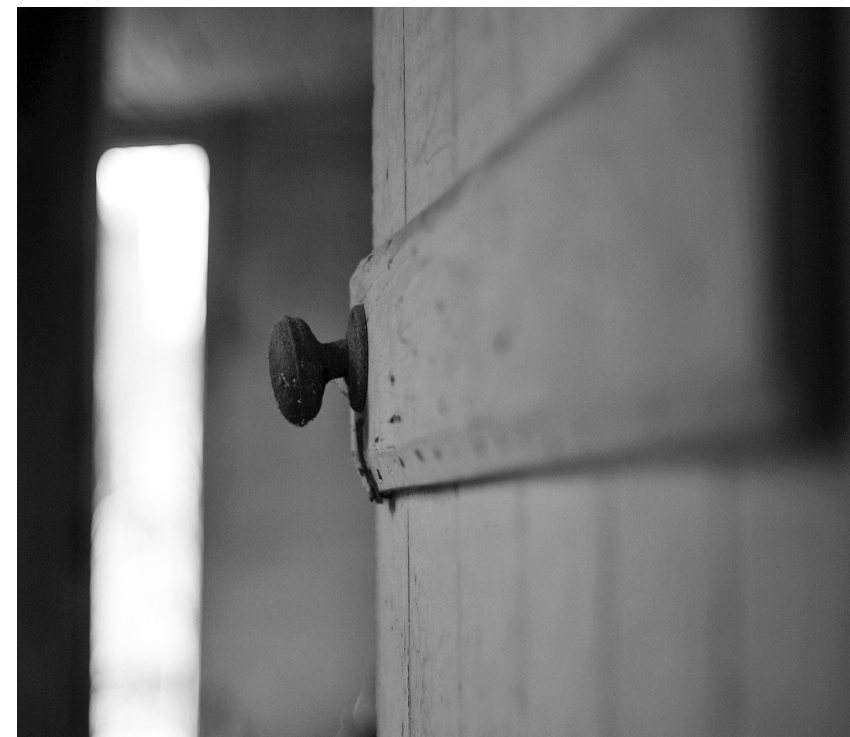
HELPFUL INFORMATION

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.

THE WEEKLY LIBERAL

The Weekly Liberal 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!

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



WORSHIP THEME: DOORWAYS

REVOLUTIONARY WOMEN

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

MAY 8, 2016

We welcome, affirm, and protect the light in each human heart; we act for justice 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.

Music for GatheringDr. Jerrod Wendland

Words of WelcomeRev. Justin Schroeder

PreludeAl Shlosha D’varim
- Allan E. NaplanFirst Universalist Choir
Dr. Randal Buikema

The world is sustained by three things,
by truth, by justice, and by peace.

Call to WorshipGinger Murphrey

Opening Hymn #65 (Please stand in body or spirit)
The Sweet June Days

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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Musical InterludeDr. Jerrod Wendland

Child DedicationRev. Jen Crow

Silence

Cycle of LifeRev. Jen Crow

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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ReadingRev. Justin Schroeder

Musical OfferingFirst Universalist Choir
Dr. Randal Buikema
The Green Laughter of Spring
- Warren Park (music); Rev. John Cummins, Minister Emeritus (text)

I am struck dumb with wild and wordless wonder
That on this planet, hurtling around the sun,
The Green Laughter of Spring
Rises to clothe our Earth,
Cell, seed and birth, eternally,
In spite of winter storms and cold.

Through ages of fire and ice, the flow of life,
In countless deaths and multimillion forms
Has known the confraternity and miracle of birth.

This, my miracle, my resurrection of the flesh,
Too vast, too true for little creeds,
Is Spring’s unbridled mirth.

SermonRev. Justin Schroeder
Revolutionary Women

OffertoryDr. Jerrod Wendland
Country Dance
- Warren Park

Closing Hymn #128 (Please stand in body or spirit)
For All That Is Our Life

Closing WordsRev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413
Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders
Rev. Justin SchroederSenior Minister
Rev. Jen CrowExecutive Minister
Ginger MurphreyWorship Associate
Dr. Jerrod WendlandPianist
Dr. Randal BuikemaDirector of Choral Arts
First Universalist Choir
Knut Remmem9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter
Braeden Dahmes11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

Instrumentalists
David Kozamchack, Colleen Cook, Svetlana Davis, John Dunham

Soloists
Tina Wade, Shelley Thron, Justin Carleson, Lou Quast

Chancel Flowers
Today’s flowers were donated by Charlie Luepke and Melody Werner in honor of their wedding on Saturday, May 7th. The arrangement was created by Dick Rueter of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: Habitat for Humanity
The Mission of Habitat for Humanity is to create a world where everyone has a decent place to live, and to put God’s love into action. By doing this, Habitat for Humanity brings people together to build homes, communities and hope.

About Warren Park
Warren Park graduated from the University of Minnesota, focusing on music composition. His musical career began with the founding, in 1970, of the West Bank School of Music in Minneapolis (a community non-profit that is still flourishing), where he served as director for 14 years. Warren has composed music for many choral and instrumental ensembles for over four decades, writing music during the last ten years especially for modern dance and puppetry performances with the Eclectic Edge Ensemble and Mad Munchkin Productions. His music has been featured in the shows *Sirocco*, *A Grimm Tale*, *Tracing Fault Lines*, *Snowbound*, and others. He also is a professional piano tuner technician.

May Worship Theme: Doorways
Alexander Graham Bell once said, “When one door closes, another opens.” Although it may sound a bit pollyannaish, there is a deep truth in this saying. Things come to an end. Experiments fail. Initiatives run their course. The truth of the matter is that life does not stop its unfolding. A door is always closing. A door is always opening. In this season of new life, graduations, coming of age, we mark and celebrate doorways.