

GET CONNECTED

INTRODUCING OUR FAITHFUL ACTION COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND THE FAITHFUL ACTION COUNCIL

Faithful Action is how we describe our justice ministry. The term “Faithful Action” recognizes that there are hundreds of ways to act faithfully as we work for a more just and equitable world. We can advocate, write letters, learn about issues, cook and serve meals, build a home, mentor students, protest, stand in sacred witness, and so much more.

Here are the seven Faithful Action Community Partners you'll meet, both during the service, and in the Social Hall afterwards:

- September 18: EMERGE
- October 2: Project for Pride in Living
- October 9: Simpson Housing Services
- October 23: Minnesota Interfaith Powerful and Light
- October 30: Augsburg Fairview Academy
- November 6: Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative
- December 4: Habitat for Humanity

The Faithful Action Council guides our ministry of Faithful Action and provides opportunities for church members and friends – of all ages and interests – to act for justice. We act with a racial justice lens and through Community Partners, as we address systemic inequity and create positive change through education, advocacy, direct service, and generosity. Contact co-chairs Rev. Justin Schroeder at justin@firstuniv.org and Joan Naymark at jnaymark@gmail.com to learn more.

GROW YOUR SOUL IN COMMUNITY: CIRCLES, SOUL MATTERS, AND MORE

One of the core spiritual practices of this community takes place in circles: groups of 8-10 committed participants who gather to reflect on their lives and contemplate our worship themes. You'll find out more about circles—including a new format called Soul Matters—as well as many other spiritual deepening opportunities in our Adult Programming Catalog. Pick one up in the foyer outside the sanctuary! Descriptions, schedules, and registration are also available at <http://firstucircles.weebly.com/>. Registration will be open through Sunday, Oct. 2.

LOVE ROCKS: PARTY IN THE PARKING LOT!

Join us for Love Rocks, an outdoor community event in our parking lot on Saturday, Sept. 24 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.! There will be live music, food trucks, a bounce house and general fun times with fellow congregants and our neighboring community.

NEXT SUNDAY IS SIGN-UP SUNDAY!

From the choir, to the labyrinth, to Sunday morning ushering, there are so many great ways to find your "community within the community" at First Universalist! Join us in the social hall after both services next Sunday, Sept. 25 to learn more and sign up. Contact Sandy DiNanni at Sandy@firstuniv.org for more information.

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 the church office at 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: 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. Childcare is 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:
- 8/14 Minneapolis Crisis Nursery \$1,364.39*
 - 8/21 Habitat for Humanity \$392.11
 - 8/28 Discapitados Abriendose Caminos \$500.11
- *100% of offering to recipient

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/>.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

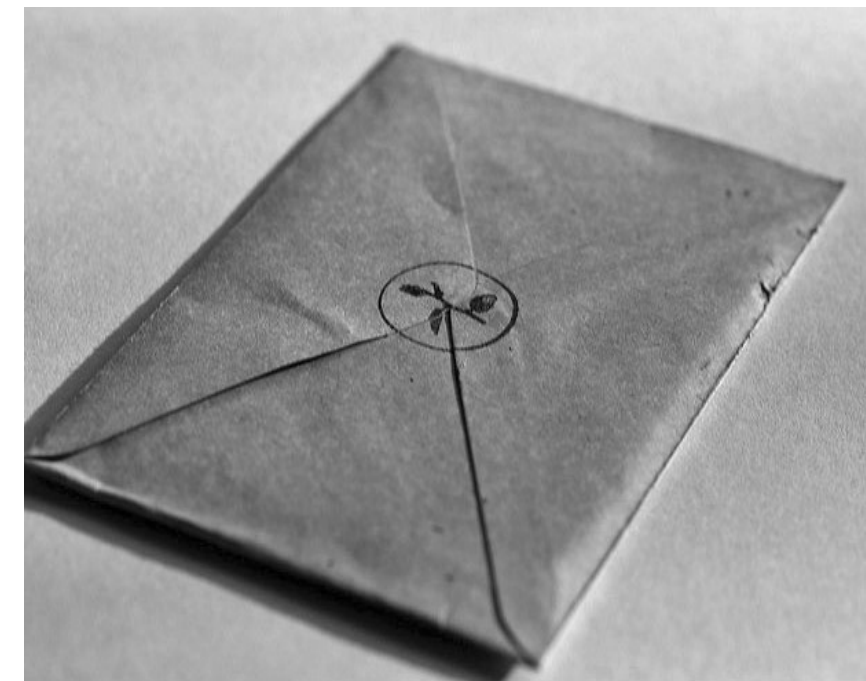
Hearing devices are available; please ask an usher. **Cushions** are available for the pews and are located next to the sound booth and at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Please return them to their home after the service. We also have **fragrance-free rows** marked in the balcony. **For more information**, stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs, call 612-825-1701, or visit our website: firstuniversalistchurch.org.

MEAL SUPPORT

New baby? Illness? Accident? Let us know if you or somebody in our community would like us to create a meal train for you. Meal trains typically run two to six weeks depending on need and give congregants a way to help. Contact Kathy Urberg, kathyurberg@gmail.com.

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!



WORSHIP THEME: INVITATION

INVITED IN

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

SEPTEMBER 18, 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 Gathering	Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Cycle of Life	Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink	
Words of Welcome	Rev. Justin Schroeder	Hymn of Prayer #123 (please remain seated)		
Bellsound		Spirit of Life		
Prelude	Dr. Jerrod Wendland	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)		
Call to Worship	Conrad Carlozzi	Reading	Rev. Justin Schroeder	
Opening Hymn #360 (Please rise in body or spirit)		Earth Prayers - Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon		
Lighting the Chalice		Musical Offering	Dr. Jerrod Wendland	
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)		Plegaria de la infanta de Castilla - Joaquín Rodrigo		
Faithful Action Spotlight on EMERGE	Jon Vang	Sermon	Rev. Justin Schroeder	
Musical Interlude	Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Invited In		
Silence		Offertory	Dr. Jerrod Wendland	
		Danza Valenciana - Joaquín Rodrigo		
		Closing Hymn #326 (Please rise in body or spirit)		
		Let All the Beauty We Have Known		
		Closing Words	Rev. Justin Schroeder	
		Blessing in Song #413		
		Go Now in Peace		

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder	Senior Minister
Rev. Elaine Aron Tenbrink	Minister of Membership and Adult Ministries
Conrad Carlozzi	Worship Associate
Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Pianist
Jon Vang	EMERGE

Chancel Flowers

Today’s flowers were arranged by Lena Vdakes of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: EMERGE

Based in North Minneapolis with a presence in Cedar-Riverside, EMERGE helps people facing significant obstacles redefine themselves. Every year, EMERGE serves over 3,000 clients annually, and its clients are 91% people of color, 64% live in poverty, 33% have a criminal background, 15% have no High School credentials, and 12% are immigrants or refugees.

EMERGE provides a wide range of services that include:

- Employment opportunities via its staffing agency and employment enterprises
- Employment readiness and coaching
- Adult training and credentialing programs
- Youth employment and education services
- Financial literacy education and coaching
- Transitional/supportive housing, especially families with custodial, single fathers

Musical Notes by Dr. Jerrod Wendland

History is filled with artists who can be classified as "extroverts" (Byron, Wilde) and as "introverts" (Dickinson, Baudelaire). Joaquín Rodrigo Vidre (1901-1999) strikes me as someone with the qualities of both: an exciting, sprightly style informed by Valencian dance rhythms; and a haunted, passionate style with chiaroscuro straight out of a Velazquez painting. Blind from the age of three, Rodrigo wrote music in Braille. The *Prayer of the Princess of Castille* is his response to the Spanish Civil War. He is best known in this country for Miles Davis' cover of his *Concierto de Aranjuez*.

September Worship Theme: Invitation

Create a clearing, listen for your song and let it teach you how to give yourself to this world. There is no better description of the religious life than this! And notice that it all begins with invitation, with the deep humility and knowledge that while the song is deeply ours, it also comes from something or somewhere beyond ourselves. It takes time, but eventually we each come to realize that – to be whole and to find home – a space must be made, a clearing must be created, and otherness must be invited in.