

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 Faithful Action Community Partners you'll meet on upcoming Sundays, both during the service, and in the Social Hall afterwards:

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.

NEW CONTEMPLATIVE EVENING WORSHIP SERIES BEGINS OCT. 16

Join us at dusk for music, poetry, and silent meditation that feeds the mind, the ear, and the heart. This year's Contemplative Worship series, **Kinds of Light**, begins next Sunday, Oct. 16 at 5:30 p.m. with a service called **Glow**. We feel the sun's warmth and see its light, but what about the light we can't see - rocks glowing deep within the Earth, or the warmth of the human heart? On October 16, this inner light will be expressed through the bright, ringing tones of the trumpet and the warm harmonies of the piano, played by Dean Heller (principal trumpet, Civic Orchestra of Minneapolis) and worship leader Jerrod Wendland. Rev. Ruth MacKenzie will deepen our understanding of the world and ourselves through poems and readings, and lead us in silent meditation.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF FIRST UNIVERSALIST!

At our Annual Meeting in June, we spoke about a comprehensive stewardship campaign. We're holding more than a dozen 45-minute Focus Groups, laying out some of the urgent needs we face as a church, and sharing a vision for how we might address those needs. This week's focus groups are held: 10/9 at 10:45 a.m and 12:30 p.m; 10/13 at 12 p.m; 10/15 at 9:30 a.m; 10/16 at 8:15 a.m, 10:45 a.m, and 12:30 p.m. Please join us, all are welcome!

GET INVOLVED, GET CONNECTED

There are so many meaningful ways to get involved and find your "community within the community" at church. Check out <http://tinyurl.com/GetInvolved1U> to learn about all the opportunities available and indicate your interest.

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 listen deeply to where love is calling us next; and we act with humility, bravery, and compassion in service to justice. 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: Sunday, October 16

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:

9/18 EMERGE \$1,230.51

9/25 Minister's Discretionary Fund \$1,413.56

10/2 Project for Pride in Living \$1,316.87

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.

NEED A RIDE?

We can help with at least two weeks' notice. Contact Anne McBean at 952 938-2897 or mcbea001@yahoo.com if you need help with a ride or would like to offer a ride to a congregant.

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: THE WHOLE STORY

THE STORY OF PLACE

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

OCTOBER 9, 2016

We welcome, affirm, and protect the light in each human heart; we listen deeply to where love is calling us next; and we act with humility, bravery, and compassion in service to justice. We do all this as a faith community committed to racial justice.

Music for GatheringDr. Jerrod Wendland

Words of WelcomeRev. Justin Schroeder

Bellsound

PreludeJustin Carlson
Somewhere from West Side Story
- Leonard BernsteinDr. Jerrod Wendland

Call to WorshipLena Gardner

Opening Hymn #350 (Please rise in body or spirit)
The Ceaseless Flow of Endless Time

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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Faithful Action Spotlight on Simpson Housing Services
John Cole Vodicka

Musical InterludeDr. Jerrod Wendland

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 OfferingAlix Dvorak
1000 Beautiful Things
- arr. Craig Hella JohnsonFirst Universalist Choir
Dr. Randal Buikema

SermonRev. Justin Schroeder
The Story of Place

OffertoryFirst Universalist Choir
Make Our Garden Grow from Candide
- Leonard BernsteinDr. Randal Buikema

Closing Hymn #92 (Please rise in body or spirit)
Mysterious Presence, Source of All

Closing WordsRev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413
Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders	
Rev. Justin Schroeder	Senior Minister
Rev. Jen Crow	Executive Minister
Lena Gardner	Worship Associate
John Cole Vodicka	Simpson Housing Services Volunteer Coordinator
Alix Dvorak	Alto
Justin Carlson	Tenor
Will Kemperman	Drums
Dr. Jerrod Wendland	Pianist
Dr. Randal Buikema	Director of Choral Arts
First Universalist Choir	
Amelie Vdakes	9:30 A.M. Chalice Lighter
Cooper Pappajohn-Goldade	11:15 A.M. Chalice Lighter

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

Offering: Simpson Housing Services
Simpson Housing Services works to house, support and advocate for people experiencing homelessness. They provide shelter services for 44 men and 22 women and help individuals and families experiencing homelessness move into stable housing through rental subsidies and supportive services. Families in their housing programs can participate in Children and Youth Services Programs designed to help break the generational cycle of poverty and homelessness. These services include, Early Childhood Development, Educational Advocacy and Mentoring and Youth Development Programs. Volunteers are major contributors to Simpson Housing Services. Over 37,000 hours were volunteered in 2014, the equivalent of 18 full-time staff.

October Worship Theme: The Whole Story
Our lives are not just made up of stories; they are also made by stories. This might be the most important reminder of this month. Indeed, who of us hasn’t felt controlled by a story? Stuck in a story? Hopeless about the way our story will end up? A friend tells me that her family “clings to the story about how I’m the clumsy one.” I’ve never seen my friend trip, not once. Or drop a thing, ever. And yet, somehow, when she goes home, she spills coffee on at least one outfit, stubs at least one toe and stumbles down at least one step. The power of story! This month, we endeavor to tell whole stories, the stories that shape us, the stories that stand in our way, the stories that create openings for something new whether in our racial justice work or in our personal lives! Whole stories matter.