

GET CONNECTED

CIRCLE REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

Registration for Winter 2017 Circles is now open! This winter, we invite you to grow your soul and find your community within the larger community here at church by joining a circle. Circles are groups of 8-10 committed participants who come together with a trained leader to nurture spiritual growth in community. Whether you're ready to engage in a spiritual practice or deepen your racial justice work, there is something for you! Registration is open now through January 24 online at firstucircles.weebly.com and today, January 15, and Sunday, January 22 in the Social Hall.

THREE MINNESOTANS OF COLOR SHARE THEIR STORIES 1/27

Despite Minnesota's reputation as a national leader in progressive policies, the state has some of the worst racial disparities in the country. The book, *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota*, confronts these inherent contradictions and inequities through the voices of sixteen writers who explore their lived realities as people of color in Minnesota. Join us on Friday, Jan. 27 starting at 6:45 p.m. as contributing authors Taiyon J. Coleman, Bao Phi, and Rodrigo Sanchez-Chavarria read from their personal essays and engage with audience members in a Question & Answer period. First Universalist member Lena Gardner is our host for the evening and will moderate the panel discussion.

ARTISTS' RECEPTION TODAY

A new mother/daughter art show on view in the Social Hall through Feb. 12 features the work of two artists: Sue Peploe and her daughter Jenna Courtney. Please join us for an artists' reception after today's services. Jenna and Sue are also inviting people to add names of women who have inspired and nurtured them to an installation in their show. There will be leaves in a basket to write names to add to willow and osier branches to honor women in our lives.

DAYTIME CONNECTIONS: "USE IT OR LOSE IT"

Join us on Thursday, Jan. 19 at 11 a.m. for a light-hearted approach to fitness hosted by Dennis Haskin with UU friends. Includes biking, yoga and weighted hula-hoops plus a pledge to take action! \$5-10 donation for lunch. RSVP to Sandy at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701. Through Daytime Connections, older adults at First Universalist empower each other to live intentional, joyful, purposeful, and spiritually fulfilled lives.

WINTER WARM-UP DANCE PARTY IS 1/21

Join us on Saturday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m. for our third annual Winter Warm Up Dance Party, an evening of live music and dancing. Tickets are available online at <http://winterwarmup2017.bpt.me/>.



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: 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 during the session after the 11:15 a.m. 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:

12/25 Ministerial Emergency Fund \$272.25 *

1/1 Ministerial Emergency Fund \$336.20 *

1/8 Peace House Community \$823.18

* 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.

NEED A RIDE?

We can help with at least two weeks' notice. Contact Anne McBean at 612-388-0660 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: CLOUD OF WITNESSES

A LIVING SANCTUARY

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER

JANUARY 15, 2017

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.

Coming Together in Song
Hymn #95 *There Is More Love Somewhere*
Eyes on the Prize

Dean Magraw
Eric Kamau Gravatt
Jim Anton

Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Bellsound

Prelude
Coast Highway
- Dean Magraw and Eric Kamau Gravatt

Dean Magraw
Eric Kamau Gravatt
Jim Anton

Call to Worship

Patrick Dougherty

Opening Hymn #1017 (Please rise in body or spirit)

We Are Building a New Way

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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Pulpit Dedication

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Musical Offering
Estupenda Graça (Stupendous Grace)
- Pat Methany and Lyle Mays

Dean Magraw
Eric Kamau Gravatt
Jim Anton

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. 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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Musical Offering

Talkin 'Bout a Revolution
- Tracy Chapman

Dean Magraw
Eric Kamau Gravatt
Jim Anton

Sermon

A Living Sanctuary

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Offertory

Sharrock
- Dean Magraw and Eric Kamau Gravatt

Dean Magraw
Eric Kamau Gravatt
Jim Anton

Little Rock
-Sonny Sharrock

Closing Hymn (Please rise in body or spirit)

Eyes on the Prize

Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder	Senior Minister
Rev. Jen Crow	Executive Miniser
Rev. Ruth MacKenzie	Minister of Worship and Coming of Age
Patrick Dougherty	Worship Associate

Guest Musicians

Dean Magraw, Eric Kamau Gravatt, Jim Anton

Pulpit Team

Richard Helgeson Pulpit Designer and Builder

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie, Meredith Sims, Steve Oakley, Kristen Mengelkoch, Fawzia Kahn

Chancel Flowers

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

Offering: Project for Pride in Living, Inc.

Project for Pride in Living, Inc. (PPL) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering low-income people to become self-reliant through integrated services. Our mission: PPL builds the hope, assets, and self-reliance of individuals and families who have lower incomes by providing transformative affordable housing and employment readiness services.

About Richard Helgeson

Richard Helgeson has been building furniture for the past 25 years. His pursuit of the craft has taken him to workshops at Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Colorado and the Oregon College of Art and Craft in Portland. Combining a mixture of speculative, commissioned, and liturgical work, he strives to produce furniture that is simple, nuanced, and enduring.

About Today's Musical Guests

Dean Magraw is a consummate guitarist, playing with wit and soulful abandon. A performer like no other, he is part-comedian, part-philosopher and all-around musical genius. Transcending genre, he has performed with a cornucopia of collaborators from jazz organist Jack McDuff to folk icon Greg Brown, traditional Irish supergroup Altan to classical violinist Nigel Kennedy.

Eric Kamau Gravatt is an American musician, educator and world-renowned drummer and percussionist. The Philadelphia native has played with world-class jazz artists and toured internationally since the 1970s. He started his career in the mid-1960s, recording with artists from that era including Byard Lancaster, Lloyd McNeill, Andrew White, Terumasa Hino, Eddie Henderson, and Joe Henderson.

Jim Anton is an award winning bassist, composer and educator living in the Twin Cities. He is currently recording with Chastity Brown and has toured extensively with Jonny Lang. Jim has worked with such Twin City luminaries as Peter Ostroushko, the Jayhawks, and John Gorka.

January Worship Theme: Cloud of Witnesses

“Do you see what this means– surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses, such a community of ancestors that have paved the way, cheering us on? It means we better get on with it. Strip down. Throw off every burden. No extra spiritual fat, that keeps us from moving (Hebrews 12:1).” Ancestors bless and burden us with legacy. They tell us why we are here and why being here right now matters. In this month we explore where we come from, whose are we, and where we find ourselves in the sacred arc of history.