

GET CONNECTED

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

First Universalist Church will be hosting families from Families Moving Forward for two weeks: August 20 through September 3. Many of you have expressed an interest in engaging in this effort. If you're new to our community, this is a fabulous way to meet folks and strengthen bonds. We welcome you! There are many spots open to volunteer your time, talents, and contributions. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/FMF-FirstUU> to sign up.

HOLIDAY GIVING

2017 marks the return of our Holiday Giving Program, a bi-annual campaign that encourages members to consider cutting their holiday spending in half and to contribute these savings to this year's Holiday Giving recipient. The Holiday Giving team is seeking non-profit organizations in the city of Minneapolis that are committed to advancing racial equity to apply to be the recipient of this year's Holiday Giving Program. If you know of a good candidate, please send the organization an invitation to apply at: <https://goo.gl/forms/omSfj78IdynMiDji2>. The deadline for applications is Aug. 8, 2017.

LAKE HARRIET BANDSHELL OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC

Join us for an energizing worship service and potluck picnic at the Lake Harriet Bandshell on Sunday, Aug. 20 at 10 a.m.! We'll enjoy music, an inspiring message from Rev. Justin, and a delicious potluck picnic together afterwards. *Please note: this will be our only worship service on Sunday, Aug. 20.* For the potluck, please bring a dish and/or beverage to share, chairs or blankets to sit on, and plates, cups and eating utensils for everyone in your party.

THE PATHWAY TO MEMBERSHIP

If First Universalist is feeling like your spiritual home, if our mission moves you, then we hope you'll take part in the Pathway to Membership! This new member class is a great chance to build community, explore Unitarian Universalism and our church's unique history, and learn how to get involved. This class is offered as a two-part series, the next of which takes place on **Wednesdays, Aug. 9 & 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.** To register, contact Sandy DiNanni at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701. Childcare is available free of charge with at least seven days advance notice.

SUBSCRIBE TO *THE WEEKLY LIBERAL*

Our email newsletter, *The Weekly Liberal*, is published on Thursdays. To make sure you're in the know about all that's going on at First Universalist, subscribe at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal/. Would you like to write about your experience at a recent church event or volunteer activity? Do you have photos to share? Are you on a church committee that has news or information to communicate to the congregation? Contributions from members of our community are welcome; submit your news using the form on our website at the link above or email communications@firstuniv.org.

SUMMER SUNDAYS AT FIRST UNIVERSALIST

Worship Services are held at 10 a.m. during the summer. We ask that you please bring your own mug to the social hour after the service. This helps save on water, labor, and keeps the kitchen cool during the hot summer months. See you in church!

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.

Our next orientation takes place: Sunday, Aug. 6

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 10 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:

7/2 Walk-In Counseling Center \$664.98

7/9 Mni Ki Wakan Water Summit \$667.20

7/16 Augsburg Fairview Academy \$1,188.78

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.

SUNDAY FLOWERS

Donating Sunday flowers is an opportunity to honor and celebrate an individual or event. A Visual Arts Committee member will create a unique arrangement for you and the congregation to enjoy. Once services are over you can take the flowers home. Contact Visual Arts Flower Chair Dick Rueter at dick.rueter49@usinternet.com or 612-280-4186 to reserve your date.

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: MEETING THE MOMENT

CAPTURING THE MOMENT

REV. KAREN GUSTAFSON

JULY 30, 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.

Music for GatheringDr. Jerrod Wendland

Words of WelcomeRev. Ruth MacKenzie

Bellsound

PreludeDr. Jerrod Wendland
Weeping Willow Rag
- Scott Joplin

Call to WorshipRev. Ruth MacKenzie

Opening Hymn #188 (Please rise in body or spirit)
Come, Come, Whoever You Are

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

Silence

Cycle of LifeRev. Ruth MacKenzie

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. Karen Gustafson
Excerpt from Our Town
- Thornton Wilder

Musical OfferingDr. Jerrod Wendland
Heliotrope Bouquet
- Scott Joplin and Louis Chauvin

SermonRev. Karen Gustafson
Capturing the Moment

OffertoryDr. Jerrod Wendland
Wall Street Rag
- Scott Joplin

Closing Hymn #298 (Please rise in body or spirit)
Wake, Now, My Senses

Closing WordsRev. Karen Gustafson

Blessing in Song #413
Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders
Rev Karen GustafsonGuest Minister
Rev. Ruth MacKenzieMinister
Dr. Jerrod WendlandPianist

Chancel Flowers
Today's flowers were arranged by Rita Franchett of the Visual Arts Committee.

Offering: The Council on American-Islamic Relations – Minnesota
CAIR's mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding. CAIR does this through training, education, civic engagement, and media justice.

About Today's Guest Preacher
Karen Gustafson is Minister Emerita of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth where she served from 1986-2007. After six years as Associate Minister at First Unitarian Society Madison, WI, she retired and then, restless, she served as Interim Minister for the Michael Servetus Unitarian Society in Fridley. She is currently “retired” in Knife River, MN, where she enjoys time with her husband, John, and various children and grandchildren, and guides Life Review retreats for UUs in transition.

Musical Notes by Dr. Jerrod Wendland
I think of Ragtime as the third stage in the process of making African-American music the dominant popular music of the US. (After minstrel shows, but before "hot music"—early jazz and blues.) Scott Joplin (1868-1917) happened into world-wide fame with the rag that he wrote for an African-American social club in Sedalia, Missouri: the Maple Leaf Club. His career ended in New York, struggling to get a performance for his grand opera Treemonisha. (It didn't happen until 1972.) His career traces the same path seen in miniature on the covers of his compositions: from poverty and quaintness to gentility and universality, by way of the parlors of the middle class.

Summer Worship Theme: Meeting the Moment
Sometimes it happens in a small room, when your mind quiets, and the rhythm of your breath begins to lead. Sometimes it happens in a conversation, when you take a leap of faith and step into a hard conversation. Sometimes it is that crazy notion that will not be pushed aside, and you make an about turn that leads into an unimaginable freshness of life and purpose. Sometimes it’s showing up in the streets, in a rotunda, in a meeting, in covenantal community. Sometimes it's showing up for yourself. The religious life is meeting the moment over and over again. Join us this summer as ministers and speakers from all different walks of life and contexts tell of their spiritual grounding, and stories of meeting the moment.