



GET CONNECTED

WINTER CIRCLES: SIGN UP BEGINS JAN. 10

Enrich your spiritual life by joining a Circle this winter! Circles are groups of 8–10 committed participants who come together with a trained leader to nurture spiritual growth in community. Information about offerings will be made available the second week of January, and sign up will open online at firstcircles.weebly.com on Thursday, Jan. 10.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MAYAN CALENDAR

On **Saturday, Jan. 12** from 1-3 p.m., our Sanctuary and Resistance Team is sponsoring a presentation by Gina Kanbalam Miranda, who will share an overview of Mayan history and the Mayan calendar. Gina will explain the components of the calendar, how it foretells events about our lives and the life of our planet, and share wisdom about this ancient Mayan philosophy.

DAYTIME CONNECTIONS: TURNING POINTS

What are your turning points? On **Thursday, Jan. 17** at 11 a.m., hear from members of the Peace and Social Justice Writers Group at The Loft Literary Center, who reveal riveting accounts of a generation touched by the turbulent winds of mid-century America. We will share our own turning points and turbulent times. Through Daytime Connections, older adults at First Universalist empower each other to live intentional, joyful, purposeful, and spiritually fulfilled lives. To register, contact Sandy DiNanni at sandy@firstuniv.org or 612-825-1701.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WINTER BUILD DATES

First Universalist has three Habitat for Humanity work days coming up in early 2019, and we'd love to have you on the crew! The dates are **Thursdays, Jan. 10, Feb. 14 and March 14**. The work day is from 8:15 a.m. until 4 p.m., and lunch will be provided. Additional details and sign up form are available on our website at <http://firstuniversalistchurch.org/habitat-for-humanity-sign-up-form/>

12-STEP SPIRITUALITY: JANUARY DATE CHANGE

12-Step Spirituality meets one Saturday per month and is designed for those actively working a 12 Step program, as well as those wanting to explore & deepen their spirituality through meditation. Each session includes Centering Prayer meditation instruction, two 20-minute Centering Prayer sessions, reading from 12 Step literature, and presenters sharing personal experiences and sharing on selected topics. The next meeting is **Saturday, Jan. 19**, 9 a.m. to noon.

IMMIGRATION MORAL WITNESS, MORAL ACTION

First Universalist's Sanctuary and Resistance Team is excited to welcome two local leaders to our ongoing conversations about ways to provide effective support to local immigrants, refugees, and their families. On **Thursday, Jan. 24** from 7-9 p.m., Gerardo Guerrero Gomez, the Mexico Consul General of the St. Paul office, and Michelle Rivero, the Director of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs of Minneapolis, will describe the work of their offices, offer suggestions about actions we can take, and answer questions.



WELCOME

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.

Are You Visiting?

Come to First Step, a brief orientation to First Universalist Church and Unitarian Universalism. First Step is generally offered on first and third Sundays.

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.

CYCLE OF LIFE

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 or Rev. Ruth MacKenzie at 612-825-1701 or any member of our Pastoral Visitor Team.

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 info**, stop by our Information Center in the Social Hall downstairs, call 612-825-1701, or visit our website: firstuniversalistchurch.org.

OFFERING PLATE

Recent offering plates from Sunday Service:

- 11/25 Augsburg Fairview Academy \$1,085.88
- 12/2 Unitarian Universalist Service Committee \$1,861.40
- 12/9 Hiawatha/Franklin Encampment \$2,648.08

Know a charitable organization that shares our commitment to justice and equity? Nominate an offering recipient: firstuniversalistchurch.org/offering-plate. Thank you for your generosity!

GET OUR NEWSLETTER

The Weekly Liberal, our email newsletter, is published on Thursdays. Subscribe at: firstuniversalistchurch.org/the-weekly-liberal

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Sunday Flower Arrangements

Donating flowers can enhance the beauty of worship or celebrate an individual or event. After services, you can take the flowers home, or have them delivered to congregants who could use a caring gesture. Contact Dick Rueter at dick.rueter49@usinternet.com or 612-280-4186 if you'd like to provide flowers or help deliver them after worship.



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



JANUARY WORSHIP THEME: OUR BEAUTIFUL BODIES

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

REV. JUSTIN SCHROEDER
JANUARY 6, 2019

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 Gathering

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

-trad. German,
arr. The OK Factor

The OK Factor

(Please bring the picture of your loved one, or an object that represents them, to the altar on the chancel during this time.)

Words of Welcome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Prelude

Blackbird

-Lennon & McCartney,
arr. The OK Factor

The OK Factor

Wisdom Story

Badger's Parting Gifts

-Susan Varley

Lauren Wyeth

Opening Hymn #128

For All that is Our Life

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
(Reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Music for Journeying

Up in the Air

- The OK Factor

*(2nd - 5th grade go to their RE classes. Youth remain.
Now is another chance to bring pictures or objects to the altar.)*

The OK Factor

Reading

For Those Who Have Died

- Judah Halevi or Emanuel of Rome

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Sharing Our Loss

Lighting the Candle of Impermanence

Musical Interlude

The OK Factor

Silence

Cycle of Life

Rev. 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
(Reprinted with permission by the UUA)

Reading

My Mother's Belly

- Sonya Renee Taylor

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Naming Ritual

Lighting the Candle of Memory

Musical Offering

Shenandoah

- Traditional
arr. The OK Factor

The OK Factor

(6th grade and youth go to their RE classes.)

Homily

Remembrance Sunday

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Offertory

Missy

- The OK Factor

The OK Factor

What Lives On

Lighting the Candle for What Remains

Closing Hymn #6

Just As Long As I Have Breath

Closing Words

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Blessing in Song #413

Go Now in Peace

Worship Leaders

Rev. Justin Schroeder

Senior Co-Minister

Rev. Ruth MacKenzie

Minister

Lauren Wyeth

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Zoe Wagner

9:30 Chalice Lighter

Niigaan Andrews

11:15 Chalice Lighter

Franco Holder

Pianist

The OK Factor

Guest Musicians

Guest Musicians: The OK Factor

Olivia Diercks and Karla Colahan, cellist and violinist of a new-classical crossover duo, have one word to describe their musical connection: lucky. Organic and genuine, their original compositions feel both comfortingly familiar and uniquely fresh. Their distinct compositional and performance style awarded them the honor of being finalists for the prestigious McKnight Fellowships for Musicians in 2018. Their passion for education has taken them across the United States to conduct workshops with students, and has led to their new education initiative, ATLAS (launched August of 2018). Combining a love of folk music and their investment in young students, ATLAS houses teacher lesson plans, student study guides, and leadership opportunities. You can find out more about The OK Factor at <https://www.theokfactor.com>.

Offering: Clare Housing

Clare Housing provides a continuum of affordable and supportive housing options that create healing communities and optimize the health of people living with HIV/AIDS. In 2016, Clare Housing achieved multiple milestones: 100% of residents were linked to healthcare, 96% retained care, 87% were virally suppressed (compared to 62% in Minnesota & 30% in the US), and 90% maintained their housing for at least 12 months. Program staff includes registered nurses and 24/7 support staff who work closely with case managers and physicians. Clare Housing is the only program of its kind in the region and was one of the first in the United States to provide intensive residential services to people living with HIV/AIDS.

Text to Give! To make a donation to the offering plate via credit card, use your smartphone to **text firstuniv to 73256**. You'll receive a link to a secure form where you can enter your info. You may also use the Square Cash app using our cash tag, \$firstuniv.

January Worship Theme: Our Beautiful Bodies

In one of the most beautiful biblical passages, the psalmist writes: "For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. (Ps 139: 13-14)" This month we recognize, accept, and cherish that we have our being in a body- fearfully and wonderfully made. We grow. We age. We have gifts. We have limitations. We experience one another and ourselves in bodies that are beautiful and wondrous no matter their particular characteristics. This month we explore our being in a beautiful body.