

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
2020 Building Renovations
First Universalist Church

AS OF MARCH 4, 2020

Q: When are renovations starting?

A: May 2020. The **Religious Education/Administration wing** will close at the end of the day on **Sunday, May 17** following Youth Sunday and final 2019–2020 Religious Education classes. The **Sanctuary/Social Hall** section will close at the end of the day on **Sunday, May 31** after Flower Communion and the Annual Meeting.

Q: Which parts of the building will be inaccessible during renovations?

A: At this point in time (March 2020), we expect that the entire building will be inaccessible during renovations, beginning May 18 for the education/admin wing and June 1 for the sanctuary/social hall wing.

Q: Where will items that belong to committees and groups be stored during renovations?

A: Staff and volunteers from the congregation will be working to clean out storage spaces in preparation for renovations. We expect to be moving items into longer term storage both on- and off-site, and taking with us only items that we'll need to access during the summer for worship/RE/office purposes. If your committee or group has items stored at church - especially things that you'll want access to during the summer - we will be encouraging leaders to make plans to store items offsite in member homes.

Q: Where can my group meet over the summer?

A: We suggest meeting in member homes or booking free meeting space at a local library. Information about available library meeting spaces can be found here:
<https://www.hclib.org/programs/meeting-rooms>

Q: When will renovations be complete?

A: We expect that renovations will be complete in early September 2020, in time for us to be back in our spaces by Sunday, September 13 for Water Communion Sunday and the beginning of the new church year.

Q: How can congregants help?

A: We'll need volunteers to help sort, pack, and move things, archive and organize old files, assess the offsite storage that will be needed, and more. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jenn Stromberg at jenns@firstuniv.org. We also expect to have volunteer opportunities such as help with demo, and painting. Watch *The Liberal* for information closer to May.

Q: Where and when will we worship on Sundays? Will there be Summer Religious Education?

A: We expect to hold one worship service at 10 a.m. each Sunday throughout the summer, as well as offer summer religious education and childcare for ages 6 months to 12 years, just like we normally do. Shir Tikvah, located at 50th Street and Girard Ave. S. in Minneapolis, will be our home base over the summer.

Q: Where will the church office be during renovations and how will we be able to access staff support and supplies?

A: We expect to have a smaller scale work space (location TBD as of early March) for staff during renovations, with workstations and the supplies and equipment necessary to run office operations over the summer. We may or may not have small meeting rooms available at our summer "home base" and expect to take advantage of free/low cost meeting spaces at public libraries, cafes, and other community meeting spaces. Staff will be reachable by email, and we are still working through options for phone setup.

Q: Will space, support, and ministers be available if my family and I need to plan a Memorial Service over the summer?

A: Yes. There are many Unitarian Universalist churches in the area who will help us with housing memorials. Our Memorial Team and ministers will coordinate with the staff at the hosting church in order to provide a meaningful, and beautiful space for your family and loved ones. First Universalist Church will take care of you and your family during your time of grief, and ensure a beautiful memorial.

Q: What work will the renovation project include?

A: We will be sharing details and drawings of the renovation plans with the congregation on Sunday, March 22 at a meeting after the second worship service (12:45 p.m.). Information shared at that meeting will be made available on our website and a display in the social hall after the meeting. More details and the latest information about renovation work is available on our website: <https://firstuniversalistchurch.org/building-renovations/>