

Today's Music

Prelude:	<i>Ode to Joy</i> Ludwig Van Beethoven/ arr. John Wilson
Musical Meditation:	<i>Someone's Praying, Lord</i> African American Spiritual/ arr. Philip Jones
Offertory:	<i>Finlandia</i> Jean Sibelius
Recessional:	<i>Imagine</i> John Lennon

First Unitarian-Universalist Church

January 31, 2016

"Remembering Vic Schumacher"

**Rev. Lynda Smith and
Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek**



*Liberate Truth ~ Radiate
Kindness ~ Love
Courageously*

**First Unitarian-Universalist Church is an urban center for
spiritual renewal and social justice in Detroit**

ORDER OF SERVICE

ENTERING

Lighting of Candles
Singing Together #100 *I've Got Peace Like a River*
#318 *We Would Be One*
#162 *Gonna Lay Down My Sword & Shield*

WELCOME Linda Darga, Worship Leader

CENTERING

Prelude
Calling To Worship
Kindling the Flame
Opening Hymn* #1026 *If Every Woman in the World*

DEEPENING

Invocation
Silent Meditation
Musical Meditation
Responsive Reading
Message

RETURNING

Offering
Closing Hymn* #305 *De Colores*
Benediction

First Unitarian-Universalist Church

Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Interim Minister
Todd Ballou, Music Director
Alexis Mitchell, Office Administrator
Alyssa Bond, Social Hour Coordinator

Today's Ushers: Anita Jones Regina Weiss
Today's Greeters: Sherry A Wells Roger Ziegler
Hearing Assistance devices are available from any of our ushers.

Large Print Hymnals are available from the **Greeters** in the back of the church.

Please visit us at www.1stuu.org; email the church secretary, Alexis, at info@1stuu.org; or give us a call at (313) 833-9107.

Announcements and Events – January 31, 2016

Music Discussion after the service TODAY

Todd Ballou would like to invite you to a Music Discussion after the service TODAY, starting at about 12:30. This will be a casual discussion of the entire music program at 1st UU church, seeking feedback, ideas, and inspiration for the year ahead. Topics may include instrumental music, our organ, our choir, hymns, or the difference between C sharp and D flat. The last “Congregational Music Forum” was held one year ago in January 2015, and that discussion inspired the purchase of our new teal hymnals.

Intro to First UU" Session: February 7, 2016-12:30 pm

For more information about Unitarian-Universalism, please join us in the Church House, after Social Hour. We will be sharing information about First UU and Unitarian-Universalism. The no-pressure, relaxed session is held to inform you about our church. For more information, please see Regina Weiss or Joan Smykowski

Escalating Inequality: Let's Talk, 2016 Winter Speaker Series

Thursday, February 18, 2016, Hon. Marilyn Kelly

Thursday, March 17, 2016, Peter J. Hammer

At Birmingham Unitarian Church sponsored by 1st UU and four other southeast Michigan UU churches. The fee is \$7 for each talk. For more information or to make reservations, see Mary Lou Malone or Sharon Mills at the Social Justice table during Coffee Hour.

The February Vespers will be at 6pm February 24th in the parlor/memorial hall and feature a newish church member ...here's what she says about her performance: "My Voice is My Instrument" - Anita Jones will share original songs and poems along with the story of her alter ego, Ruby Woods. She will sing acapella and bring along her bag of percussion instruments. Come and enjoy and relax.
Al Acker

Membership Goal

The new membership goal for 2016, the year of our centennial in this building, is 125 members. We've already surpassed our goal of 100 members. We encourage all members to reach out, and invite friends to our services, programs and events.

Announcements and Events – January 31, 2016

Chancel Flower Donations

Today's flowers are given by Linda Darga in loving memory of Vic Schumacher, who died in 1991.

Sunday Sermons

- 2/7 **11:00 a.m. Sermon**, “Black Theology & Black Power”
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
At the outset of Black History Month, I want to consider the first, ground-breaking work of James H. Cone, the father of Black liberation theology. One of the most important theological texts of the 20th century, Black Theology & Black Power opened the doors to contextual theologies in America. This is the first in a month-long series on the influence of black scholars on theology and religion in America.
- 2/14 **11:00 a.m. Sermon**, “Stories”
Speaker: Satori Shakoor
Satori Shakoor is Executive Director of The Society for the re-Institutionalization of Storytelling and a host of The Secret Society of Twisted Storytellers. She has received international acclaim as a singer with “Parliament/Funkadelic” and is one of “The Brides of Funkenstein.” Ms. Shakoor will share her storytelling and musical talents with the congregation.
- 2/21 **11:00 a.m. Sermon**, “Sisters in the Wilderness”
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
Womanist theology is the constructive theology of black women who offered strong critiques both to the often male-centric black liberation theology and the often white-centric feminist theology. The title of this sermon comes from the powerful book Sisters in the Wilderness by Delores S. Williams
- 2/28 **11:00 a.m. Sermon**, “Water: A Tale of Two Cities”
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
The Michigan cities of Detroit and Flint have made international headlines over water issues, and both situations beg questions regarding political economy and race in America.

VIC SCHUMACHER: A Full, Happy and Meaningful (Unitarian) Life

Vic Schumacher was born and raised in The Bronx and by the time he was of draft age, having found the *War Resisters League (WRL)* and *Fellowship of Reconciliation*, he had become a pacifist and actually obtained conscientious objector status. On the day he was to report for alternative service, he was torn. CO's were required to pay for the privilege of alternative service and, although he could afford it, many were too poor and would go to prison. Feeling this unjust, on the day he was to report, he decided to go back home, back to work and waited to be arrested. Eventually picked up, he went to trial and spent nearly 3 years in federal prison. That is one example of how deep his moral commitment was.

Paroled to Ann Arbor, he became active politically, married, moved to Dearborn, the center of his milk route, and had 3 wonderful children, Yvonne, Don and Jim. They attended no church. His mother had taken him to every denomination of church in NY, figuring he would see the Lutheran Faith was the true one! It resulted in him becoming a Humanist. When Yvonne was 5, Vic saw her kneeling with the Catholic neighbor girl "praying," Figuring he'd better do something, he brought her to 1st UU; he found his home. Yvonne and Don became active with Liberal Religious Youth (LRY) and he became chair of the Social Justice Committee where he was involved in the antiwar movement. For all the national marches, he would regularly fill 2 or 3 buses with church members. He participated in the Martin Luther King March in Detroit and in Washington D.C. He was involved in many groups, including Viet Nam Vets against the War, whose office was in the church house and the Women's Coffee House in Pullman Hall. He was also an ardent environmentalist. His moral commitment to oppose war and violence, as a pacifist, meant he would not disrespect people whether they were peaceniks, soldiers, police, nor property. He truly lived our first principle.

He participated in, or organized many, many local social justice groups and seemed instinctively to know the right thing to do. When the first black family moved into Mayor Hubbard's segregated Dearborn, Vic organized a 24-7 vigil to protect their house. Hubbard also enlarged every newspaper article about a black person arrested for a crime and hung them on the City Hall Bulletin Board. Vic

collected them and sent them to the state Civil Rights commission, which ordered the mayor to stop.

Vic organized the second "underground railroad" during the war in Viet Nam. Thousands of young men either refused the draft or deserted the service while on leave. The resisters already in Toronto organized to help the new arrivals get jobs and get all the things they needed to obtain Landed Immigrant Status in Canada, so they'd be legal. But they had to apply for this status as they were coming from the US (where they could be arrested) and then entering Canadian Customs. Most went through the Detroit crossing (it was the easiest). They would be sent to Windsor, contacts would call Vic to pick them up, bring them into Detroit and then take them back across. At the height of the war, Vic organized about 30 drivers to keep the railroad moving. Not a single car that carried a guy was ever searched, no draft resistor was ever questioned, and although our phone was tapped, and we were "aiding and abetting" a crime, we were never questioned by the FBI. This continued until the war ended. The first kid Vic drove prepared bodies of dead soldiers in Viet Nam for body bags, so he deserted while he was on leave. It was a remarkable time.

Vic and I fell in love at first sight in 1971 and were soul mates throughout our marriage. Our activities included: sailing, folk dancing, squash, tennis, canoeing, hiking, a month out west each summer backpacking in the mountains, often with one of the kids, movies, plays, symphony, running, and baseball on league teams. He was a lifelong NY Giants fan, even after they moved to SF. He was very proud of starting to run marathons in his 60's and ran several. Of course, we went to meetings and more meetings, demonstrations, marches; he served for years on the board of WRL. At 1st UU he served on the Board for 2 terms. He amazed many people because he was always the optimist and never, ever discouraged. Although he dedicated his life to peace and social justice, I must say, he was just as good of a husband. He was killed by a car, the day after his birthday, in 1991, while we were jogging by WSU campus, having lived an incredibly happy and fulfilled life. And he died with his running shoes on!