

FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT NEWSLETTER



APRIL
2017
EDITION

Upcoming Sermon Schedule ...

April 2nd — “Women Nobel Laureates Working for Peace”

Jody Williams

This women's initiative has been led by Jody Williams, partnering with other women Nobel laureates to build on their activism and achievements to further peace prospects in our troubled world. In this 2017 Max Mark-Cranbrook Peace Lecture we will learn about the project's latest gains and accomplishments, as well as hear about Ms. Williams' continued work in the field of eradicating landmines worldwide, including the global convention still to be signed by several major powers. This is a rare opportunity to welcome and engage with one of world's the most renowned figures in peace activism. Join us for an awards lunch afterwards.

April 9th — “Going Forward!”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray

As we consider the next steps forward for our church, this sermon will focus on the importance of continuing to build community, expand our programs, and commit our faith and conscience toward justice work together. We will talk about our hopes and fears, and how we can contribute to the common cause of the First Unitarian-Universalist Church in Detroit.

April 16th — “In Search of Sanctuary”

Rev. Larry Hutchinson, UU Detroit Minister Emeritus

Sanctuary is a warm, beautiful, strong, safe, and challenging word for me. In a world with so much hostility we offer a counter-culture of hospitality. And sanctuary is always a summons to practice hospitality. “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Matt. 25:40)

April 23rd — “On Reinhold Niebuhr”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray

One of the preeminent American ethicists of the 20th Century was Reinhold Niebuhr, who before joining the faculty of Union Theological Seminary in New York City was a pastor in Detroit for 13 years. This talk will discuss Niebuhr, focusing on his Detroit years and legacy. This month, PBS is showing a documentary called “[An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story](#).”

April 30th — “The Web of Existence”

Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray

Concluding our monthly series on the seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association, I will focus on the Seventh Principle, “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.”

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING:

Our annual congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, **May 21, 2017**, 12:30 PM, in the Sanctuary. See [page 7](#) for details.



4605 Cass Ave.
Detroit, MI 48201
313-833-9107
www.1stuu.org

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About Us ...

**UU DETROIT IS A MEMBER OF THE UNITARIAN-
UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONS —
WWW.UUA.ORG — IN THE MIDAMERICA REGION —
WWW.MIDAMERICAUUA.ORG**

We are creating **spirituality** and **community** beyond boundaries, working for more **justice** and more **love** in our own lives and in the world; we practice **radical hospitality**.

The symbol of our faith is a **Flaming Chalice**.

[CLICK TO FOLLOW LINK](#) →



We affirm and promote **seven Principles**.
← [CLICK TO FOLLOW LINK](#)



We **welcome** you as **individual people**, embracing differences of sexual orientation, gender and its expression, religious background, marital status, family structure, age, mental and physical health and ability, racial and cultural identity or background, and educational and socioeconomic status.

We have been at the corner of **Cass and Forest** for over a century ... **our** Universalist and Unitarian **roots in Detroit** go back over **185 years**.
[CLICK TO FOLLOW LINK](#) →



Our Vision

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

Our Mission

First Unitarian-Universalist Church strives to be an expanding **transformative** community whose mission is to **liberate** truth, **radiate** kindness, and **love** courageously.



Welcoming Congregation

[↑CLICK TO FOLLOW LINK](#)

We are a UUA-recognized **Welcoming Congregation**

We are a proud **member** of the **Cass Corridor Commons**.

[CLICK TO FOLLOW LINK](#) →



[CLICK TO FOLLOW LINK](#)



Black Lives Matter to Unitarian Universalists.

FIRST UNITARIAN- UNIVERSALIST CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 2016–2017

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT

Kathe Stevens

VICE PRESIDENT

Dan Wiest

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Marsha Bruhn

BOARD SECRETARY

Danny Rebb

TREASURER

Bob Lauer

TRUSTEES-AT-LARGE:

Dan Hale

Sydney Schaaf

Nathan Strickland, Jr.

Dave Vaillencourt

STAFF:

MINISTER

The Rev. Dr. Stephen

Butler Murray

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Todd Ballou

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Alexis Mitchell

CHILD CARE PROVIDER

Julia Cuneo

SOCIAL HOUR COORDINATOR

Humphrey Blakemore

**WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY
SUNDAY AT 11:00 AM**



From the Board of Trustees ...

THE REV. DR. STEPHEN BUTLER MURRAY IS CALLED

The Board of Trustees is delighted to announce that on Sunday, March 26, in a unanimous congregational vote, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray was called as the three-quarter time settled minister of First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit. Rev. Murray will continue in his position of half-time interim minister until the end of his contract and the end of our fiscal year, June 30, 2017. Rev. Murray will become our permanent Settled Minister on July 1, 2017.

As our interim minister, Rev. Murray has served bi-vocationally as President of the Ecumenical Theological Seminary, a position which he will continue while serving as our settled minister.

Before our vote, members of the UU Detroit Settled Minister Search Committee presented to the congregation, starting with a reminder of their appointment in December 2015, and going on to explain their process, challenges, deliberations, and due diligence.

The UU Detroit community is *Going Forward!* with Rev. Murray. (Unabashed plug for our 2017 Canvass Campaign — see [page 5.](#))

THANK THE SETTLED MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE!

We wish to thank the UU Detroit Settled Minister Search Committee for its sterling commitment and creative spirit over the last year.

When you see them, give a hearty “thank you” to Deanna McGraw, who ably chaired the committee, Sharon Mills, Bill McKnight, Lencha Acker, Joan Smykowski, Nate Strickland, Jr., and Chloe Lundine; the search for a settled minister was complicated and time-consuming. The Committee will disband. But we will celebrate with them and Rev. Murray at an installation service to be scheduled for the fall of 2017.

NEW CHILD CARE PROVIDER

Please welcome **JULIA CUNEO**, who joined us on March 26 as our child care provider. Julia will work 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM every Sunday. She is a local youth organizer and activist who works with “We the People of Detroit.” Julia has been babysitting for over a decade and recently co-founded the [Detroit Radical Childcare Collective](#). Included in Julia’s references was the principal of the [Boggs School](#), where she has served in the past as a volunteer and currently serves as a substitute teacher.



Our policies require two people to be with the children at all times. If you’re interested in becoming a child care volunteer and helping Julia with the children on Sunday, please see Sally Borden or Richard Hillier. You’ll be able to volunteer for a regular schedule and Richard sends out email reminders every week.

It’s a sign of the future when a child is dedicated — **Bernice Mae Weidner**, granddaughter of Joan Smykowski and Tim Bailey — on the same day that we welcome our new child care provider. **Say hello to Julia when you see her!**



Letter from the President ...

Greetings to the UU Detroit community!

One year ago, April 16, 2016, we kicked off the centennial celebration of our sanctuary with an historical tour of our roots, starting at the location of the first Universalist church in downtown Detroit, continuing past sites of three other church buildings erected by Unitarians and Universalists, and ending at the corner of Cass and Forest.

We learned that the Universalists purchased a building in 1831 but by 1834 it had been sold and circuit-riding preachers in rented halls conducted worship services. A windstorm blew down the wall of a church the Unitarians were constructing in 1852 "giving the evangelical ministers in Detroit a splendid topic for their Sunday sermons for they thought it a judgment on us for our sacrilege." In 1881, the Universalists built what was considered at that time to be the grandest church in Detroit but by 1913 it was demolished to make way for a new hotel in the madcap years of Detroit's greatest growth and expansion. When Woodward Avenue was widened in 1932 the Unitarians lost the front of their 40-year old building – with its stunning stained glass windows – forcing a move. (Quiz from the [centennial history tour](#): what does one do with an extra set of stained glass windows? Store them for 25 years in the bell tower of the building to which you move, before finally donating them to the Detroit Institute of Arts.)

Throughout our 186-year history, building problems threatened our congregations. In the first decade of this century we plundered our church trust fund to maintain and operate our buildings. From 2000 to 2011, the trust advanced over \$500,000 to the church, until there were only enough funds left to keep the buildings open for another year. With the money almost gone, we organized a 95th anniversary celebration of our sanctuary — just in case we didn't make it to 100 years.

But we celebrated our centennial, and continue to worship in our sanctuary, because we decided we would no longer let buildings take precedence over our congregation. We donated the properties to East Michigan Environmental Action Council. Yet here we are in 2017, once again facing a building crisis. EMEAC is in a tenuous financial position, as our congregation had been in 2010.

Let me take a moment to thank EMEAC for taking on stewardship of the buildings in 2011. In the past six years, with EMEAC bearing the burden of operating expenses, we've had time to strengthen our congregation, increase membership, and improve finances. From the 70 hardy souls who voted to donate the properties to EMEAC we've grown to 114 members. We've been making monthly payments back into the trust yet our budget is in the black.

Most importantly, we focused on people, not buildings, investing our time and money into the congregation. We've been welcoming children so consistently every Sunday that we've hired someone to provide child care and we've called our first settled minister in over a decade, a proven leader to go forward with us. These two new line items in our budget are a clear indicator of a vibrant future!

Your board is diligently researching options to ensure that our congregation will continue to flourish. Will we be able to work with EMEAC to stay? How? Will we have to pack up our hymnals again and move? Where? Our ancestral Unitarians and Universalists purchased or built places of worship but also held services in rented spaces. What will the UU congregation of 2017 do?

I don't know, but I'm confident I'll be sharing the future, and my heart, with you, my beloved faith community.

best ... Kathe



Going Forward!: 2017-2018 Canvass Campaign

The Importance of Our Church

The Board, staff, and volunteers of First Unitarian-Universalist Church believe in the importance of this congregation within the City of Detroit. As we go forward, and make changes, let us remember that a building does not make a congregation, the people are the church.

Our present church building and campus has not always been the home for the Unitarians and Universalists in Detroit. Since

1831, the Unitarians and Universalists have moved, reorganized, and built within the City of Detroit. Just as our forefathers and mothers, we will continue to go forward as a congregation. Detroit is a resilient city and so are the Unitarian Universalists of Detroit.

Your yearly pledge is the financial backbone of our congregation. With your support, we can plan and go forward as a church family. We hope you will increase your support by 5% for the upcoming year.

We remain optimistic about the future, though we lack the ability to know the future. Working together, the Board and Minister are carefully considering all of our options for the continual growth and financial security of our congregation. We cannot expect the church's endowment to assist us during this time. We have the ability and resources to meet the present challenges. Your pledge is important to our church! Please be generous!

Pledging is Easy! Just Three Steps!

Step 1: Print a copy of a [2017-2018 Pledge Form](#).*

Step 2: Complete your 2017-2018 Pledge Form.

Step 3: Return it to Joan Smykowski, Bob Lauer, or Kathe Stevens.

*We'll have printed copies available at the April 9 kickoff.

Why is Pledging Important During This Uncertain Time?

Yes, the future is uncertain for our congregation. However, a financial safety-net will allow us to go forward with confidence as we make many decisions in the future.

Is Pledging Expected of Me as a Member of UU Detroit?

Yes, there are three requirements to being considered a member of First Unitarian-Universalist Church: (1) Signing the Membership Book, (2) Making a financial pledge and/or (3) Making a donation of record.

Will We Continue to Meet Our Vision and Mission as a Church?

Yes, your pledge is vitally important to allow us to plan and strategize for positive outcomes that meet our Vision and Mission. We hope you will increase your financial pledge for the coming year.



Committee and Member News ...

MONTHLY POTLUCK CHANGE:

On Sunday, April 2, please BRING POTLUCK DESSERTS

There will NOT BE A POTLUCK on Sunday, April 9

MORE INFO BELOW:

PEACEMAKER AWARD LUNCHEON — APRIL 2

On Sunday, **April 2**, please bring **POTLUCK DESSERTS** for an Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Wayne State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. Nobel Laureate Jody Williams and local activists Dr. John H. Hartig, Pastor Barry Randolph, Dr. Stan Levy, and Dr. Bernice "Bunny" Kaplan will be presented with the Max Mark-Cranbrook Global Peacemaker Award in our Social Hall after the service.

CANVASS CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF — APRIL 9

Sunday, April 9th, will be Stewardship Sunday for our congregation. Once a year, we ask all members and friends to make a financial commitment to the church. The theme for the campaign is *Going Forward!* We'll have one meeting, during the end of Social Hour on April 9, to discuss our 2017 Canvass Campaign. If you are unable to attend, please see Joan Smykowski to pick up your pledge form. We appreciate your support and commitment to our church.

THERE WILL NOT BE A POTLUCK ON SUNDAY, APRIL 9 – THE CANVASS COMMITTEE WILL PROVIDE LUNCH SO WE MAY CONCENTRATE ON THE FUTURE! (PLEASE SEE ABOVE ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT OUR APRIL 2 POTLUCK DESSERT.)

2017 PEACEMAKER AWARDS
MAX MARK - CRANBROOK PEACE LECTURE, CEREMONY, AND RECEPTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017
11:00 - 1:00 P.M.

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT,
4605 CASS AVE, DETROIT, MI 48201

2017 AWARDEES

Jody Williams, Nobel Peace Laureate
Global Peacemaker

Dr. John H. Hartig
Community Peacemaker

Pastor Barry Randolph
Community Peacemaker

Dr. Stan Levy
Lifetime Peacemaker

Dr. Bernice "Bunny" Kaplan
Lifetime Peacemaker

Please RSVP "Yes, I'm attending" via email to Barbara L. Jones @ barbaraljones@wayne.edu.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
BARBARA L. JONES, 313-577-9518
BARBARALJONES@WAYNE.EDU

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Dessa Cosma, chair of the Membership Committee, is rolling out some changes! The first is to offer our "Intro to UU Detroit" classes quarterly rather than monthly. We expect this will make the classes more dialogue friendly *i.e.*, classes will have more than one person participating. Dates are **May 14**, **August 6**, and **October 15**.

Welcome to new members **Jillian Gross Fortgang**, **Joel Fortgang**, **Anarosa Mendoza-King**, and **Veronica Adams**. They each came to UU Detroit in different ways but have now made the commitment to continue as members. We're so glad to share the journey with you!

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Nate Strickland, Jr., will chair the UU Detroit Social Justice Committee. That committee is working to rebuild, planning a **congregational conversation** around social justice at UU Detroit, and identifying some local issues to potentially focus on in the year ahead. These issues include: fair and affordable housing in Midtown, the State's plan to expand toxic waste dumping in Detroit, public transit, non-partisan redistricting, and water rights.

If you are interested in helping drive social justice in our congregation, please join us on the **first Wednesday** of each month from **7:00-8:00 PM** in the Parlor.

If you have any questions, please contact Regina Weiss at 219.306.3453 / regina.a.weiss@gmail.com.



Committee and Member News (ANNUAL MEETING)...

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: ANNUAL MEETING — MAY 21

The annual congregational meeting of the First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit has been called for Sunday, **May 21**, 2017, **12:30 PM**, in the Social Hall.

The Nominating Committee presents its proposed slate for the 2017-18 Fiscal Year.

Board Positions

Current terms expiring June 30, 2017 are those of Trustees Dan Hale, Sydney Schaaf and David Vaillencourt, as well as Kathe Stevens, current President; Dan Wiest, current Vice President; and Marsha Bruhn, Immediate Past President. Appointees Danny Rebb, Secretary, and Bob Lauer, Treasurer, are expected to remain on the board. The Nominating Committee is proposing the following Board officers and Trustees for the 2017-18 fiscal year, to be voted on at the Annual Congregational Meeting on May 21.

POSITION	NOMINEE	TERM	COMMENTS
President	Dan Hale	2018	One-year term, per bylaws
Vice President	Nathan Strickland, Jr.	2018	One-year term, per bylaws
Trustee-at-Large	Dan Wiest	2018	Filling second year of Nathan Strickland's position
Trustee-at-Large	Maysel Brooks	2019	Two-year term
Trustee-at-Large	Joel Fortgang	2019	Two-year term
Trustee-at-Large	Dan Secrest	2019	Two-year term

General Assembly Delegates 2017 (3)

Dan Hale
Matt Friedrichs
Kathe Stevens

MidAmerica Regional Assembly Delegates 2018 (3)

No candidates recommended at this time. There will not be a separate Regional Assembly, as General Assembly 2018 will take place in our Midwest Region at Kansas City, MO. Regional Assembly activities will be consolidated within GA that year.

Nominating Committee is recommending that the congregation authorize the Board of Trustees to appoint candidates, if needed.

Nominating Committee (5 members, 1-year term)

Marsha Bruhn
Jillian Fortgang
Matt Friedrichs
Mary Lou Malone
Regina Weiss

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Bruhn, Matt Friedrichs, Mary Lou Malone, Regina Weiss



Committee and Member News (ANNUAL PICNIC) ...

SAVE THE DATE: ANNUAL PICNIC — MAY 27

Hello Everyone,

It's that time of year! Mark your calendars for our 4th annual regional UU picnic, **May 27th**, 2017 from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM on Belle Isle (at Woodside Shelter, on the south side of Belle Isle, on the shores of Lake Okonoda, just like last year. Woodside Shelter is ADA accessible).

UU Detroit's Young (at heart) Adults are happy to plan this outing, but we could use your help!

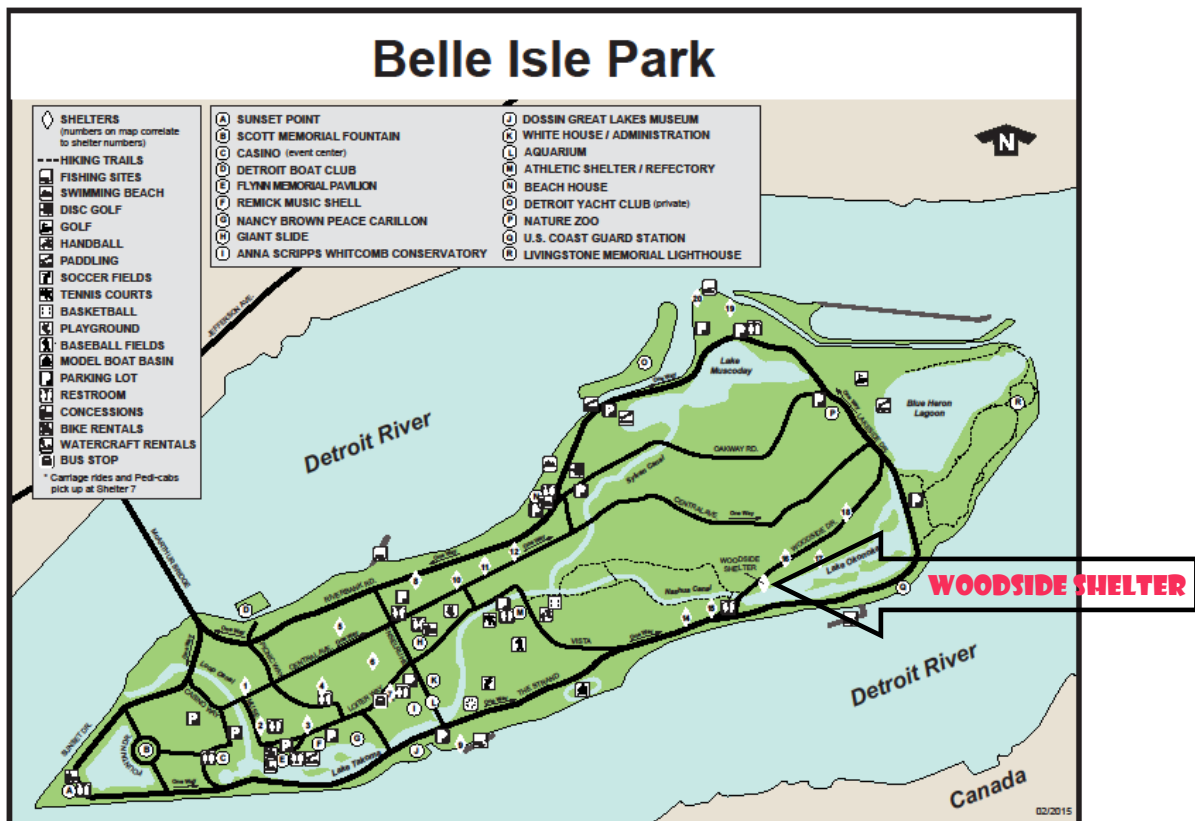
"How can I help?" you may be asking yourself. Great Question.

Here are 3 ways:

1. Of course, this is in part a potluck, so please bring a dish to share. Additionally, there are a few picnic essentials we'd like folks to sign up to bring. You can sign up to bring these things [here](#).
2. Volunteer for a set-up, cooking, or clean-up role the day of our picnic. You can sign up to do that [here](#).
3. And don't forget to invite your UU friends & family from around the area!

We look forward to a fun and relaxing picnic with you!

Dessa Cosma & The YA Krew





Announcements & Events ...

Escalating Inequality Task Force — April 20

“Part I: The Fall and Rise of Income Inequality” and “Part 2: Jobs in a Second Machine Age” will be presented on Thursday, **April 20**, 2017 at the [Birmingham Unitarian Church](#), 38651 Woodward Ave, in Bloomfield Hills, from **6:30 PM to 9:00 PM**. The speakers will be Charles Ballard, Professor of Economics at MSU and Lou Glazer, President of Michigan Future, Inc. Tickets are \$7 per event. To register in advance, see Sharon Mills or Mary Lou Malone at the Social Justice table during social hour. You may also [register online with Eventbrite](#): (tinyurl.com/2017Series) or at the door. This series is sponsored by the Birmingham Unitarian Church, Northwest UU, UU Detroit, Beacon UU Congregation, and the UU Church of Farmington.

Training in Social Hall — April 23

Economic Justice Alliance of Michigan will be training in the social hall from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Sunday, **April 23rd**. We'll use the Parlor for our coffee hour.

Women Walking Woodward for Peace — May 14

Sunday, **May 14**, 2017, we will gather to hold vigil as mothers, sisters, women, vessels of light, containers of peace and fierce Goddesses for justice.

9:00-10:00 AM @ the intersection of Forest & Cass ([UU Detroit](#))* If you would like to share a song, poem, prayer, dance, etc... Please message Anita Jones (racedancer@hotmail.com).

You are invited to a special service at UU Detroit immediately following the vigil: "Mothering Peace" featuring the Halima Cassells, Michelle Martinez & Lydia Wylie-Kellerman.

*we will NOT gather at Grand Circus Park — signs and banners will be provided.



Rev. Murray at GA — June 21-25

Rev. Murray isn't wasting any time in his continuing UU incarnation! He'll be presenting on the topic of "Diversity as Strength for Unity" at the upcoming [UUA General Assembly](#) in New Orleans, LA, **June 21-25**, 2017.



Policies and Procedures ...

So, You've Been Wondering About UU Detroit's Policies and Procedures?

Featured policy and procedure of the month: [Communications Policy](#)

In June 2016, your Board of Trustees approved a [Policies and Procedures Manual](#). The need for a manual became apparent from several different sources as diverse as the Planning Committee to our staff, from individual congregants to the Board itself. The P&P may be found on the first page of our website, 1stuu.org. Click on any title in the Table of Contents in the manual to go directly to that policy.

We're going to feature a summary of a P&P every month in the newsletter so you may get to know how UU Detroit operates!

— **Planning Committee**

"POLICY STATEMENT: UU Detroit will strive to be a healthy and active community, featuring efficient, respectful, interesting, and consistent communication. We are a caring community which strives to have a well-coordinated means of keeping those with and without electronic equipment connected to the congregation.

RATIONALE OR BACKGROUND: We rely on volunteers to manage and communicate organizational information for internal and external purposes. Standard communication procedures can help us achieve our policy."

We live in a world where we can communicate instantly. While we still use ponderous 20th century methods, such as the newsletter you're reading, we also communicate electronically. The policy describes the responsibilities of the Communications Committee, which works very hard to usher UU Detroit into the 21st century, and sets out guidelines for communication tools, techniques, training and support. A couple of policy highlights are:

- Any new technology account that uses the First Unitarian-Universalist Church name or acronyms must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to purchase/initiation.
- Our listserv, 1stuu@1stuu.org, is our primary UU Detroit email list. It should only be used to distribute the following:
 - ◊ Newsletter.
 - ◊ Announcements regarding UU Detroit-sponsored events.
 - ◊ News that is likely to be of interest to most UU Detroit members and friends on the email list.
 - ◊ Member milestones – brief and personal.

The policy describes different communication channels and sets standards to determine the best use of each, outlines the duties of the webmaster and the communications committee, and explains how to get events listed on the church calendar.

Speaking of a ponderous method of communication, last but not least, the rules to set up a phone tree are included.

P.S. We still advocate 1:1 communications. But we also want to stay in touch with one another as efficiently as possible to further our common goals.





What We're Doing ...

Singing Circle

Singing Circle is held every Wednesday at **7:00 PM**; open to all. Contact **Gwen Foss** at bookdoctorgwen@gmail.com for more details.

WEDNESDAYS AT
UU DETROIT

Vespers

Vespers runs from **6:00 - 7:00 PM** on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Parlor. See our website for more information: <http://1stuu.org/Worship/vespers/.vespers.php>.

The Worship Committee is always open to new ideas for speakers and for sermon topics, either in terms of texts and sources, or in terms of topics. If you have an **idea for a speaker or a sermon**, please do feel free to share it: worship@1stuu.org.

MESSAGE
TOPICS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

If you have a milestone (joy or sorrow) to share or a visitor to introduce on Sunday, please write the message on one of the index cards which can be found in the backs of the pews, and place the card in the offering basket during the collection. Milestones and visitor names will be passed to the Minister for sharing as part of our closing circle. Please note that announcements about meetings are more appropriate for coffee hour.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held from **7:00 - 9:00 PM** on the second Thursday of each month at the Whole Foods Community Room. The dates of the next two meetings are **April 13** and **May 11**. All are welcome at Board meetings. Whole Foods Market is located at 115 Mack Ave (corner of John R), Detroit. If you have an item you wish to have included on the agenda for discussion at the meeting, please contact **Danny Rebb**, Secretary to the Board, at secretary@1stuu.org.

Sundays at UU Detroit

"Intro to UU Detroit"

Are you new to the Church, or just interested in learning more about our Church and tradition? The "Intro to UU Detroit" class offers introductory information on what the Church is all about, and it is an important step toward becoming a member. There are two objectives: one is to share information on the Unitarian Universalist tradition as a whole, and a second goal is to focus specifically on the history and traditions of UU Detroit. Please do attend: we are proud of who we are, and we want you to be proud to be with us! Classes are scheduled for **May 14, August 6, and October 15**.

Welcoming New Members

Do you wish to come forward as a new member, present yourself to the community, and sign the membership book? This is an important ceremony honoring those who have chosen to identify themselves with our values, our tradition, and our community. Membership Chair Dessa Cosma wants to know you're interested so we may welcome you properly! dessacosma@gmail.com.

SECOND Sundays: Potluck

Time to break out your best recipe and bring it to church to share with our UU Detroit community! As we add new members, it's a good time to share fellowship and nourishment with the people who nourish us, in return. Remember that everything must come and go the day of the event – we have no refrigerator space to keep things beyond the immediate need. If you have dietary concerns (peanut allergies, and such), please do let us know, so that food can be labeled.



SECOND Sundays: Networking

All congregants are invited to bring and share your personal business cards for distribution on the second Sunday of the month. Many of us would certainly like to be able to support businesses of fellow church members and if you feel the same, here is an opportunity to do just that.



What Else Is Going On? ...

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a global movement of people fighting injustice and promoting human rights. Amnesty International meets at UU Detroit on the **3rd Monday** of every month at **7:30 PM** in the Parlor. Contact **Dan Wiest** at dfwiest@comcast.net for more information.

Care Committee

Help us to minister to each other. If you or someone you know is sick, in need of a pastoral call or other assistance, please let the Care Committee know by contacting its chair, **Nancy Owen Nelson**, at nelnan@aol.com to provide a network for communication and support. Other Care Committee members are **Sally Borden**, **Linda Darga**, **Edie McKnight**, and **Nathan Strickland, Jr.**

Child Care

Child care is available during Sunday worship service with our child care provider, **Julia Cuneo**, in a bright, cheerful room in the back of the Church, off the Narthex. See Child Care Committee Co-Chairs, **Sally Borden** or **Richard Hillier**, for details.

Young Adults Activities

Visit the UU Detroit Young Adults Group Facebook page to learn about activities, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/young1stuu/>, or contact **Aletha Oberdier** at alethafaye@gmail.com to join our Google Group.

Check the Church Calendar!

There are so many interesting things going on at UU Detroit! Please be sure to check the church calendar before you schedule an event. You may access it online at <http://www.1stuu.org/calendar>. If the day looks free for your event, you may reserve a room by sending an email to newsletter@1stuu.org. Either webmaster Dan Secrest, office administrator Alexis Mitchell, or newsletter editor Kathe Stevens will get your room scheduled and Alexis will get information about your event into the newsletter.

Chancel Flower Donations

Our custom for providing flowers for each Sunday service is to have members and friends donate them in honor or memory of a person or event. The suggested donation of \$20 is negotiable if your situation requires. **Lencha Acker** purchases the flowers each Saturday at Eastern Market and brings them to Church. The donor takes the flowers home to enjoy and returns the vase later. If you would like to sign up to donate flowers, please use the [Flower Donation Signup Sheet](#) on our website, see our Office Administrator, **Alexis Mitchell**, after the service, or send an email to webmaster@1stuu.org!



Share our Facebook Posts!

Facebook events are being created on our [Facebook group](#) for sermons, Vespers, Membership activities, and other events. When you see a Facebook event about church activities, **please share it!** Help get the word out about what's going on at UU Detroit.

Do You Want To Know About EMEAC Events?

You can find out what's going on with East Michigan Environmental Action Council, the owner of our building and manager of the Cass Corridor Commons, by clicking on the [Latest News](#) tab at www.emeac.org.

Cass Corridor Commons News

UU Detroit is part of the [Cass Corridor Commons](#), a multi-use nonprofit green space and community hub that embodies principles of shared space, environmental justice and social justice principles. The Commons' [Facebook page](#) has up-to-date information .



Calendar ...

All events take place at UU Detroit, 4605 Cass, unless otherwise indicated

View the UU Detroit calendar at <http://www.1stuu.org/calendar>

Sunday, April 2

9:00 AM: Choir Practice — Chancel

11:00 AM: Worship Service "Nobel Laureate Women Working for Peace" (Jody Williams) — Sanctuary



12:30 PM: Max Mark-Cranbrook Global Peacemaker Award Luncheon — Social Hall

Wednesday, April 5

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall

7:00 PM: Social Justice Committee meeting — Parlor

Sunday, April 9

9:00 AM: Choir Practice — Chancel

11:00 AM: Worship Service "Going Forward!" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray) — Sanctuary

12:00 PM: Potluck — Social Hall

12:30 PM: "Going Forward!" Annual Canvass Campaign Kick-Off — Social Hall

Wednesday, April 12

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall

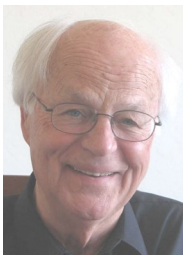
Thursday, April 13

7:00 PM: UU Detroit Board of Trustees Meeting — Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave at John R, Detroit

Sunday, April 16 — Easter

9:00 AM: Choir Practice — Chancel

11:00 AM: Worship Service "In Search of Sanctuary" (Rev. Larry Hutchison, UU Detroit Minister Emeritus) — Sanctuary



Monday, April 17

7:30 PM: Amnesty International — Parlor

Wednesday, April 19

7:00 PM: Worship Committee — Parlor

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall

Sunday, April 23

11:00 AM: Worship Service "On Reinhold Niebuhr" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray) — Sanctuary

11:00 AM-5:00 PM EJAM training in the Social Hall — coffee hour held in the Parlor

Wednesday, April 26

6:00 PM: Vespers — Parlor

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall

Friday, April 28-Sunday, April 30 — Regional Assembly 2017, Oak Park, IL

Sunday, April 30

11:00 AM: Worship Service "The Web of Existence" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray) — Sanctuary





First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit, which has a [long history of activism](#) and is an affirming and [welcoming congregation](#), is an urban center for spiritual renewal and social justice, whose members strive to liberate truth, radiate kindness and love courageously. We are a proud member of the [Cass Corridor Commons](#).

FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT

4605 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201

... in the Cass Corridor Commons ...

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

Deadlines & Office Hours ...

Weekly Order of Service Deadline

Have an item/event to be included in our weekly Order of Service? We'll do our best to include it, although printed materials have significant space limitations. Send your information to office@1stuu.org by **12:00 PM Thursday**.

Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, April 20th

Next issue covers May 1 — May 30, 2017

No submissions accepted after the deadline — send items to newsletter@1stuu.org.

Office Administrator Work Schedule

Alexis Mitchell works every Sunday and occasionally during the week, as needed. Her hours are generally:

First and third Sundays: 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Second, fourth and, if necessary, fifth Sundays: 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM