First Unitarian-Universalist Church
February 12, 2017
“A New America?”
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray

Order of Service

Entering
Lighting of Candles
Singing Together* #95 There is More Love
#1021 Lean On Me

Welcome
Dan Secrest, Worship Leader

Centering
Prelude
Calling To Worship
Kindling the Flame
Opening Hymn* #291 Die Gedanken Sind Frei
Choir Anthem Todd Ballou, 1st UU choir director

Deepening
Silent Meditation
Invocation
Musical Meditation
Reading
Response #123 Spirit of Life
Message

Returning
Offering
Closing Hymn* #1028 Fire of Commitment
Benediction

Congregation may exit to the Social Hall for coffee, cookies, and conversation
(* indicates times to stand in body or spirit)
FLOWER DONATIONS
Today’s flowers are given by Dan and Lily Secrest in celebration of UU Detroit.

SUNDAY: FEBRUARY 12: 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.

SUNDAY: FEBRUARY 12: 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.

FEBRUARY VESPERS
Given the current political climate and the proximity to Valentine’s Day Vespers will feature poetry about all kinds of love except the Hallmark variety and some “lovely” music. It’s all happening Wednesday February 22 from 6 to 7 pm in the parlor. Hope to see you there. Al Acker

BOOK DISCUSSION—MARCH 12
Please join us on Sunday, March 12, at 12:30 PM, in the Parlor, for a discussion of "March: Book One," the first book in a graphic novel trilogy authored by Congressman John Lewis, in collaboration with co-writer Andrew Aydin and New York Times best-selling artist Nate Powell (winner of the Eisner Award and LA Times Book Prize finalist for Swallow Me Whole). The book is available in bookstores, including our neighborhood bookstore, Source Booksellers, or online.

ESCALATING INEQUALITY TASK FORCE
The escalating inequality task force is sponsoring “A conversation about school funding in Michigan: Past, Present, and Future” on Thursday, February 16, 2017. The location is the Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave, in Bloomfield Hills. It will be from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. The speaker will be Gilda Jacobs, President and CEO of the Michigan League for Public Policy. This will be the first of three events in this series. Tickets are $7 for each event or $15 for all three. To sign up or get additional information about this series, please see Sharon Mills or Mary Lou Malone during coffee hour.

Sunday Sermons and Events

2/12 11:00 AM Sermon, “A New America?”
Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
In the aftermath of the 2016 election, we have heard about a troubling rise in disturbing behaviors which many would describe as racist and anti-immigrant, including the national story that originated out of Royal Oak here in Michigan. Is this a new American reality, or is this indicative of who we were already?

2/19 11:00 AM Sermon, “On James Baldwin”
Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
During this Black History Month, a request that came from a member of our congregation is that I speak about novelist, playwright, and social critic James Baldwin and his legacy.

2/26 11:00 AM Sermon, “Conscience and Democracy”
Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
Continuing our monthly series on the seven Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association, I will focus on the Fifth Principle: “The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.”