First Unitarian-Universalist Church
April 26, 2015
“The Exact Center of the Modern World: Phillip Levine’s Detroit”
Frank D. Rashid

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* #318 We Would Be One
#157 Step by Step the Longest March
#118 This Little Light of Mine
Welcome – Sally Borden, Worship Leader

CENTERING
Prelude
Calling To Worship
Kindling the Flame
Opening Hymn* #77 Seek Not Afar for Beauty

DEEPENING
Silent Meditation
Invocation
Musical Meditation
Reading
Message

RETURNING
Offering
Closing Hymn* #140 Hail Detroit, the Motor City (see insert)
Benediction

All are invited to the Social Hall for coffee, cookies, conversation.
( * indicates times to stand in body or spirit)
RESPONSIVE READING

We believe that humans are created in and for relationship and that sexuality is a life-giving and life-fulfilling gift.

We believe that all persons have the right to enjoy relationships that express love, justice, mutuality, commitment, consent, and pleasure.

Marriage is a holy covenant and a commitment to another person to share life’s joys and sorrows.

All families must be supported in building stable, empowering, and respectful relationships.

Our commitment to justice challenges us to speak and act for all who seek to express their love in the commitment of marriage.

Today, we call on the Supreme Court of the United States to put an end to marriage discrimination.

May the wisdom of the justices, the skill of the attorneys and the integrity of the plaintiffs prevail for the freedom to marry.

May true relational justice be served and human rights safeguarded for all.

All: Where there is love, the sacred is in our midst.

Announcements and Events – April 26, 2015

Interactive Workshop
On Saturday, May 30th, there will be an interactive full-day workshop on class and classism at the Birmingham Unitarian Church. The workshop, U.U. Class Conversations, will explore the implications of class and classism, and the connection between racism and other forms of oppression. Lunch will be served. Child care is available. It is suggested we carpool when possible.

Time: 8:30 AM to 4:00PM. Suggested fee: $20 (More if you can, less if you can't).

Registration deadline: May 23. Registration forms will be available during Coffee Hour. See Mary Lou Malone or Sharon Mills.

Women Walking Woodward for Peace - May 10 - 8:30am
Join us this Mother’s Day. For each of the last three years we have walked from from Grand Circus Park to Ferndale, taking our inspiration from Julia Ward Howe’s Mother’s Day proclamation. This year we will begin and end our walk at First UU, culminating in our 11:00am worship service. More information can be found on our Facebook page: Women Walking Woodward for Peace. Coordinator, Anita (Ruby) Jones.

Child Care Volunteers Still Needed
We're looking for a few good people to help with our upcoming child care service that we hope to start very soon.

Volunteers will care for/play with young children during the church service in the newly renovated room at the back of the sanctuary. You do need to undergo a background check which we will do and fill out a short application.

We have some volunteers but would like two or three more so we can take turns with the child care. Please see Richard Hillier or Sally Borden after the service.

Chancel Flower Donations
Today’s flowers are given by the Secrest family, in the celebration of Lily Secrest's birthday
**Announcements and Events – April 26, 2015**

**2015-2016 Canvass Campaign**
Each year during the Canvass Campaign, we ask members to give careful thought to the tradition First Church represents, the role it plays in our lives, and the opportunities we enjoy for spiritual growth. In the spirit of good stewardship, we are asked to make a responsible annual pledge to keep our church open and thriving. Pledges from members and friends are by far the most significant source of operating funds for First Church. Joan Smykowsk will be able to provide canvass brochures and pledge forms during social hour today and will be available to take questions.

**Freedom to Marry’s National Weekend of Prayer**
Today First UU is joining over 200 congregations and faith communities participating in Freedom to Marry’s National Weekend of Prayer. The Welcoming Task Force thanks Nancy Owen Nelson for graciously incorporating a responsive reading and a prayer into today’s worship service to support the legal teams, the plaintiffs and all American families anxiously watching the Supreme Court’s deliberations on April 28.

**New Member Sunday**
We will be welcoming Annie Jacobites and James Biller to our congregation.

**Annual Congregational Meeting, May 17.** The Annual Congregational meeting will be held in the Sanctuary following the service on May 17. The agenda will include proposed amendments to the by-laws; adoption of the 2015-16 budget; and election of members to the Board of Trustees, General Assembly, and Nominating Committee.

**Activities In and Outside the Church**

5/3  11:00 a.m. **Sermon**, “The Meaning of Work.” May 1 is International Labor Day, a time for celebrating the importance of work, and working people, in our lives, and in our culture.

5/10 11:00 a.m. **Sermon**, “Radical Mothering.” Join us on this Mother’s Day with 5 voices from the community.

5/17 11:00 a.m. **Sermon**, “Diving Into the Future.” This is Rev. Mohr’s last Sunday in the pulpit with First Church. Let’s take a moment to celebrate the possibilities of new beginning, new cultivations, and new possibilities.

**Closing Hymn: Hail Detroit, the Motor City #140**
words by Felix Adler, music by Rowland Hugh Prichard

1 Hail **Detroit, the motor city**, pictured by the seers of old: everlasting light shines o’er it, wondrous things of it are told. Wise and righteous men and women dwell within its gleaming wall; wrong is banished from its borders, justice reigns supreme o’er all.

2 We are builders of that city. All our joys and all our groans help to rear its shining ramparts; all our lives are building-stones. Whether humble or exalted, all are called to task divine; all must aid alike to carry forward one sublime design.

3 And the work that we have builded, oft with bleeding hands and tears, oft in error, oft in anguish, will not perish with our years: it will live and shine transfigured in the final reign of right: it will pass into the splendors of the city of the light.