First Unitarian-Universalist Church

September 3, 2017

“Working for a Greater Good”
Valerie Ackerman

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*  #182 O, the Beauty in a Life
#162 Gonna Lay Down My Sword and Shield

WELCOME

Worship Leader, Sally Borden

CENTERING

Prelude
Calling to Worship
Kindling the Flame
Opening Hymn*  #128 For All That is Our Life

DEEPENING

Silent Meditation
Invocation
Musical Meditation
Reading
Response  #123 Spirit of Life (please sing along)
Message

RETURNING

Offering
Closing Hymn*  #114 Forward Through the Ages
Recessional

Congregation may exit to Social Hall for coffee, cookies, and conversation

(* indicates times to stand in body or spirit)
FLOWER DONATIONS: Today’s flowers are dedicated by Jody Wise “in celebration of my father, who would have been 91 on September 2,” and provided by Susan Matthews.

COFFEE HOUR: Today we’ll enjoy our coffee, cookies and conversation in the Social Hall. Please join us.

REV. MURRAY’S INSTALLATION: Invitations have gone out. Don’t forget to RSVP. Saturday, September 23, 2017, 11:30 AM in the sanctuary of First Unitarian-Universalist church of Detroit, we will install the Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray as our settled minister. The ceremony will be followed by a luncheon.

INVITING NEW MEMBERS: Are you interested in becoming a member of UU Detroit? Have you loved us for a long time but not yet made the commitment? Or are you new to us, but know you’re ready to take the plunge? Either way, we’d love to have you! If you’re interested in becoming a member, please talk to Dessa Cosma, the Membership Committee Chair. We will be inviting new members to sign the book during the service on Sunday, September 24th.

SINGING OPPORTUNITY: Anyone interested in singing is welcomed to join us. Regular rehearsals are in the Church Sanctuary at 9:00-10:30, typically on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sunday of each month. The choir performs music to compliment the diverse services at 1st UU church, while dabbling in music theory, vocal technique, and clapping. For more information, feel free to contact your music director, Todd Ballou, at musicdirector@1stuu.org

TODAY: 9/3: 11:00 AM - Working for a Greater Good
Valerie Ackerman
Typically, in a city like Detroit, a celebration of Labor Day evokes hard hats and assembly lines, but when I was a member of the UAW, I worked in a public school for emotionally impaired children in Inkster. Traditional concepts of "labor" have changed as off-shoring and mechanization advance, but what about all the other ways we work? Are these labors of love and necessity worthy of celebrating too? I think so.

9/10: 11:00 AM - More Inter-Religious, Increasingly Secular
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister
This summer, I was scheduled to lead a workshop at the UU General Assembly which would explore how we are, as a nation, both more inter-religious and increasingly secular concurrently. I will offer a sermon-sized examination of this topic.

9/17: 11:00AM – The Reformation
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister
In this 500th year since the beginning of the Reformation, we will explore what happened in the world of belief at the time of the Reformation, and how that continues to affect us today.

9/24: 11:00AM - What Do We Stand For?
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister
Every now and then, it is important to talk about the current environment of the church and society. Who are we and who are our neighbors? What are the deep needs that we can answer and what are the ones that we are not equipped to respond to meaningfully? What ought we be and what ought we do?

10/1: 11:00AM - On Genealogy [8/13/17]
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister
In my family, my grandmother was very interested in our genealogy and studied it assiduously. More recently, my father took on the task and started employing more modern techniques. How much is who we are determined but from whence we came?