First Unitarian-Universalist Church
September 13, 2015
“Black Lives Matter.”
Aurora Harris

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* #348 We’re Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table
#169 We Shall Overcome
#118 This Little Light of Mine
Welcome – Sharon Mills, Worship Leader

CENTERING
Prelude
Calling To Worship
Kindling the Flame
Opening Hymn* #304 A Fierce Unrest

DEEPENING
Silent Meditation
Invocation
Musical Meditation
Reading
Message

RETURNING
Offering
Closing Hymn* #170 We Are a Gentle, Angry People v 1-4 only
Benediction

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

Today’s Music

Prelude: 
South African Trilogy from “Songs of Protest and Praise from South Africa”
arr. Stephan P. Barnicle
1. Siyahamba/We Are Marching in the Light of God
2. Vula Botha/Open Botha, We are Knocking
3. Bamthatha/ Speak out Lord

Musical meditation: Move Me
Richard Alan Henderson

Offertory: I Believe I Can Fly
R. Kelly

Recessional: Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Round
Joan Baez

First Unitarian-Universalist Church
Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Interim Minister
Todd Ballou, Music Director

Today’s Ushers: Kathe Stevens  Glenn Maxwell
Today’s Greeters: Kathleen Jacobs  Marsha Bruhn

Hearing Assistance devices are available from any of our ushers.

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 – September 13, 2015

1st UU Church initiates “Singing the Journey” Project in September!
We will begin our fundraising efforts to purchase our hymnal supplement “Singing the Journey.” These books will be marked in honor of this building’s centennial in 2016.

At coffee hour, during September and October, you will have the opportunity to purchase hymnal dedications for $20 each. In addition we are offering reduced dedications for $10 for those who need it, while also soliciting sponsor donations of $5 to cover the cost of the reduced donations for those who are able. Our fundraising effort will culminate in a music concert and sing-a-long to celebrate our new repertoire of songs.

Movie Night Fundraiser for 1st UU Church - SUNDAY September 20th at 3:00pm
Kicking off our September with the fun and zany, Three Idiots, a Bollywood film about 2 friends in search for their old college friend to settle a bet on who's more successful and how does one define success. Cleverly written and a great feel-good story. Popcorn provided!

Vespers
Vespers runs from 6:00 - 7:00pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise specified. In September, we will be meeting on the 5th Wednesday (September 30) due to special circumstances. Vespers is held in the church parlor and consists of poetry, music, and a bit of discussion.

Chancel Flower Donations
Today’s flowers are given by Joan Smykowski, in celebration of her birthday.

Announcements and Events – September 13, 2015

Registration is still open for the “Developing Your Leadership Workshop”
Organizations are only as strong as the people who lead and manage them, whether you are a church, a nonprofit organization or a for-profit company. There is nothing more critical to an organization’s success than the development of its leaders: especially today as churches are continually challenged to identify strategies that help improve organizational stability.

Leaders are needed at all levels of churches. Your Planning Committee is pleased to announce a two hour workshop on leadership development to be held on Sunday October 4 at 12:30 at church.

The workshop will be limited to the first 15 church members who register to attend. OPENINGS ARE STILL AVAILABLE, please register to attend by emailing deanna.mcgraw@sbcglobal.net or call Deanna at 586-202-5241.

2015 Congregational Planning Meeting Invitation
The Board is pleased to announce that there will be a congregational planning meeting open to all church members on October 10. This planning meeting will be an opportunity for you to help shape our activities and allocate our volunteer resources for 2016. Your voice is needed to continue the growth of our church and our faith. Please plan to attend.

The meeting will be held on October 10, 2015 from 9:30 am to noon. The planning meeting will be held at Grandmont Rosedale Development Corp. main office - 19800 Grand River (just east of Evergreen, north side of street, at Bretton Drive). There is parking behind the building, on the street, and in the Auto Zone parking lot next to the office.

In order to plan for space and refreshments, you must register to attend by October 4, 2015. You may email your attendance to Deanna.mcgraw@sbcglobal.net, call Deanna at 586-202-5241, or sign-up with Deanna at coffee hour starting August 30, 2016.
**Sunday Sermons and Activities**

**New Member Sunday:** Sunday, September 13th
If you are interested in joining our congregation, please see Regina Weiss (regina.a.weiss@gmail.com)

**Potluck for TODAY September 13th, 2015**

9/13 11:00 a.m. Sermon, “Black Lives Matter.”
**Speaker:** Aurora Harris
Acclaimed Detroit poet, AURORA HARRIS attended the #BlackLivesMatter conference this year in Cleveland, Ohio. She will share an update and her personal reflections on the movement.

9/20 11:00 a.m. Sermon, “A Dream of Peace.”
**Speaker:** Rev. Dr. Stephen Murray
On the day before the United Nation’s International Day of Peace, it is important to ask why there is this annual demarcation. What might we consider to be the basis of conversations on peace, and what resources might we bring to bear in considering peace? Of particular interest is how forgiveness is involved in our dream of peace.

9/27 11:00 a.m. Sermon, “Friendships with the Religious Other.”
**Speaker:** Rev. Dr. Stephen Murray
Encountering the “religious other” is a constant in a cosmopolitan society, especially when one takes on the identity of Unitarian-Universalism in the city, where one throws one’s arms wide open to all who would come, from wherever they would come. Perhaps the most important way that we can know another person is through friendship, and in this sermon, we will explore the joys, the burdens, the challenges, and the triumphs of inter-religious friendships.

**Aurora Harris**

Acclaimed Detroit poet, AURORA HARRIS is the winner of a 2015 National Lawyers Guild- Michigan Chapter Unsung Heroes Award, the 2014 Howard Zinn Lifetime Achievement Award in Peace Studies and the 2012 PEN-Oakland Josephine Miles Award for her book of poetry Solitude of Five Black Moons. She holds an M.A. in Social Foundations of Education from Eastern Michigan University. Ms Harris is a Lecturer at The University of Michigan-Dearborn teaching English and African American Literature courses.