

# FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT NEWSLETTER



OUR MISSION: LIBERATE TRUTH • RADIATE KINDNESS • LOVE COURAGEOUSLY

DECEMBER 2015

## *Upcoming Sermon Schedule*

### **December 6th – “Entering Hannukah”**

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

Our Jewish friends are about to enter one of the most popular, if least important, of the Jewish holidays: Hannukah.

What is this holiday, and how has it come to take on such prominence when it is, in fact, a minor holiday. What might the message of Hannukah mean for those who appreciate the wisdom of Judaism from outside of its traditions?

### **December 13th –**

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

The topic will be International Human Rights Day.

### **December 20th –**

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

The topic will be announced.\*

### **December 24th –**

### **Annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (7:00 P.M.)**

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

### **December 27th –**

*Anita “Ruby” Jones*

Join us for a Kwanzaa service led by member Ruby Jones.

**\*Please visit [www.1stuu.org/services](http://www.1stuu.org/services) after  
December 1 for a list of upcoming sermon titles.**

## *Special Congregational Meeting*

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the By-Laws of the First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit, a **special congregational meeting** shall be held on Sunday, **December 13, 2015**, at **1:00 PM** in the Sanctuary, for the purpose of **voting on a slate to fill a Settled Minister Search Committee**. An update to the budget will be presented at the meeting as well as the roll-out of the 2016 Strategic Plan. No vote is required on either the budget or the plan.

## **FIRST UNITARIAN - UNIVERSALIST CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 2015–2016**

### **Officers:**

#### **President**

*Kathe Stevens*

#### **Vice President**

*[OPEN]*

#### **Immediate Past**

#### **President**

*Marsha Bruhn*

#### **Board Secretary**

*Danny Rebb*

#### **Treasurer**

*Dan Wiest*

#### **Trustees At-Large:**

*Joel Batterman*

*Matt Friedrichs*

*Sydney Schaaf*

*Dave Vaillencourt*

### **Staff:**

#### **Minister**

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler  
Murray*

#### **Music Director**

*Todd Ballou*

#### **Office Administrator**

*Alexis Mitchell*

#### **Social Hour**

#### **Coordinator**

*Alyssa Bond*

**Worship Services held  
every Sunday at  
11:00 a.m.**

## *Letter from the President ...*

### **Letter from your Board President, Kathe Stevens:**

Greetings to the First UU Detroit community! And what a community. We continue to nourish ourselves and each other.

Several members of First UU Detroit as well as friends and family attended the Hilberry Theatre's opening of "The Great Gatsby" on October 30, organized by Matt Friedrichs and Sydney Schaaf. The fundraiser was a success financially and an enjoyable evening for all. Patrons were invited to attend the play dressed in flapper outfits. None of us did, but it was additional fun to people watch! Great job, Sydney and Matt!

Have you noticed a strange noise in the chancel on Sunday mornings? An active water leak was located just above the organ blower. The water was pressurized, so it was spraying clear of the blower motor, and soaking the rest of the room. East Michigan Environmental Action Council (EMEAC) was notified, and a plumber fixed the problem on November 2. A humidifier was set up in the organ blower room, which Todd has been emptying and will remove when the humidity is cleared up. As usual, Todd contributes to our church community with more than just music and song.

Thank you to the Membership Committee organizers of our November 8 Good Egg awards, Joan Smykowski and Sally Borden. They did an egg-cellent job to honor our Good Eggs – I think Joan and Sally are Good Eggs too! (See details on page 5.)

I'm looking forward to hearing more details about our UUA Interweave chapter. Irene Brisson and Nathan Strickland held an inaugural meeting on November 15 at the Bronx Bar. Over half a dozen interested folks attended and creatively brainstormed occurred over lunch.

Colleen Dolan-Greene, chair of the Centennial Committee, is calling on members of First UU Detroit to send contact details for friends and former congregants to invite to our Centennial. If you have a suggestion, please email it to [office@1stuu.org](mailto:office@1stuu.org). Please include current contact info and a brief description of the relationship to First UU. In order to be included in time to receive our "Save The Date" card, please send suggestions by January 15, 2016.

We're also looking for photos, letters or other memorabilia for a Centennial timeline. Please start gathering your mementos of First UU Detroit through the ages. We'll have more details about the timeline — and how to contribute to it — in the January 2016 newsletter.

And don't miss the Book Sale after Sunday services for the immediate future. Several different UU-related books will be available for \$5 or a donation; proceeds will be applied to Centennial costs. Contact Nancy Owen Nelson with questions at [nelan@aol.com](mailto:nelan@aol.com).

***cont'd ...***

### *Letter from the President cont'd ...*

The Governing Board is very sorry to announce that Paul Chislett has resigned from his position as Vice President. Paul expressed his appreciation for being a part of the important work the Board does. He'll continue to take part in the life of the congregation. We honor Paul's continuing commitment in other areas of church life, as well as his organizing efforts in his home community.

Aletha Oberdier deserves a big thank you for taking the lead to organize First UU's annual CommonUnity Cafe on Noel Night. The Café will be open from 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM in the Parlor. Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts to set up, serve refreshments, and clean up. Please see the sign-up sheet to see what donations of food or time are still needed for this annual fundraiser, or contact Aletha at [alethafaye@gmail.com](mailto:alethafaye@gmail.com). Stop by to enjoy Noel Night festivities in Midtown and spend a couple of hours with us, too! (Detailed Noel Night schedule on page 9.)

Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network (DION) will hold an ecumenical worship service in our sanctuary on Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. I'll welcome DION to our church home and introduce its attendees to Unitarian Universalism and our congregation.

Source Booksellers was packed for "Opportunity for All? How to Keep an Inclusive Cass Corridor," a small-group discussion on redevelopment and affordable housing in the church's neighborhood organized by the First UU Social Justice Committee. The discussion will continue on Wednesday, December 16, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, with a panel discussion in the Parlor: see more details on page 9. I hope you are able to attend and join the discussion.

There's still plenty of time to contribute to EMEAC's "Winter Blast Fundraiser" to support building operations this winter. The fundraiser is running from October 24, 2015 through January 31, 2016: 100 Days – \$100 Dollars – 100 Donors. All donations are tax deductible. Donate your \$100 online at [www.emeac.org](http://www.emeac.org) or send donations to EMEAC, 4605 Cass Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201. EMEAC's flyer is re-posted on page 10.

Speaking of EMEAC, it requests that we not decorate the sanctuary for Noel Night, in order to honor all attendees by not singling out a religious tradition. But EMEAC has no objection to a Christmas tree in the sanctuary for First UU Detroit's traditional holiday celebrations. Dan Wiest will be organizing a tree-decorating event after Noel Night. Watch for announcements!

UUs are often asked, what do you believe? I would answer, gathering in community, organizing and planning for inclusivity, advocating for social justice, introducing our faith to other denominations and making sure those already pledged to UUism get to Sunday services. You are all amazing!

best ... *Kathe*



### A Spiritual Home for LGBTQ People

Unitarian Universalism has a proud history of supporting full equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people and their families. As a Welcoming Congregation, First Church of Detroit has completed a national program which involved increasing the understanding and inclusiveness of LGBTQ people, and extends this welcome beyond the congregational walls.

### An Inclusive Place for Spiritual Practice

Inclusion is not just a business practice, it's a spiritual practice. By replacing barriers to inclusion with circles of solidarity and respect, Unitarian Universalists invite you to share in the leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, responsibilities, blessings and joys of congregational life.

### Membership Information

Please see or contact [Regina Weiss](#) or [Joan Smykowski](#) for more information.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Creating a Spiritual Home for You and Your Family

Many people who visit Unitarian Universalist congregations are seekers. Many are seeking a community where they can explore the important questions and the meaning of life. Some want a place where they and their children can participate in activities that will enhance family life. While for others it's a place where they can connect with others who are committed to changing the world with love.

If you feel and believe that the First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit is your spiritual home, please consider joining us. To learn more, please attend the next "Intro to First UU," on Sunday, December 6, 2015, at 12:30 pm. The session is held in the Church House.

There are just three requirements to becoming a member of First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit:

- Sign the Membership Book (usually the second Sunday of each month, though other arrangements may be made by contacting [Joan Smykowski](#)) and
- Making a financial pledge to the Church and/or
- Making a financial contribution of record.

The next Membership Book signing will be Sunday, December 13, 2015. We hope you'll join us!

### Important Membership Dates

December 6, 2015, 12:30 pm—"Intro to First UU"

December 13, 2015—Membership Book Signing

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS CONT'D



### Five Good Eggs at First UU

On November 8, 2015, five Good Eggs were awarded to unsuspecting members of our Church. The members were awarded because of the examples of their belief and practice of the Unitarian Universalism seven Principles, especially the seventh of the seven Principles. They did not form a committee to get the job done, they just did it.

To quote, Rev. Forrest Gilmore, of Bloomington, Indiana, "Our seventh Principle, respect for the interdependent web of all existence, is a glorious statement. Yet we make a profound mistake when we limit it to merely an environmental idea. It is so much more. It is our response to the great dangers of both individualism and oppression. It is our solution to the seeming conflict between the individual and the group.

"Our seventh Principle may be our Unitarian Universalist way of coming to fully embrace something greater than ourselves. The interdependent web—expressed as the spirit of life, the ground of all being, the oneness of all existence, the community-forming power, the process of life, the creative force, even God—can help us develop that social understanding of ourselves that we and our culture so desperately need. It is a source of meaning to which we can dedicate our lives."

The five Good Eggs who were awarded golden eggs have picked up other members of our congregation from their homes, delivered them to Sunday service, and returned them home, through sun, rain and snow.

**Dan Secrest** became a member in 1980.

Dan especially appreciates the third Principal: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.

**Nancy Owen Nelson and Roger Ziegler** became members in 2012. Nancy and Roger appreciate the first, second and fourth Principles.

1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

2nd Principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations; and

4th Principle: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

**Mary Lou Malone** first attended First Church in January 1970. Mary Lou's favorite Principles are the first and seventh Principles. Those Principles are:

1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person and

7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

**Dale Compton** became a member in April 2012. Dale's favorite Principles are the first and seventh Principles. Those Principles are:

1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person and

7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS CONT'D

### 100 Members for 100 Years *100-4-100 Campaign Announced*

**The Membership Committee is announcing the 100 Members for 100 Years Campaign for 2016. The 100-4-100 Campaign is encouraging all members and friends of First Church to become involved.**

**You can make the 100-4-100 Campaign a success by:**

- Inviting friends and family to services, programs and events.
- Welcoming visitors and new members to our Church before and after the services.
- Engaging visitors and new members in positive conversations during the Social Hour.
- Reaching out to old friends of First UU, that you haven't seen for awhile to attend a program or service.
- Volunteering to share information about First Church at groups or meetings.
- Assisting with any upcoming celebrations for the 100th Anniversary.
- Encouraging visitors to attend the "Introduction to First UU" session.

**Though we have been very close to have 100 members recently, there is always at least a 10% attrition rate yearly in any church. We believe if we have 100 committed members, in 2016, our Church will stabilize and grow for the next 100 years.**

**Membership at First Church only requires three steps:**

- Signing the Membership Book,
- Making a financial pledged to the Church and/or,
- Making a donation of record to the Church.

**We hope you will be part of the 100-4-100 Campaign, which will officially start in January 2016.**



**Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles**, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. We live out these Principles within a "living tradition" of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience. The Principles are not dogma or doctrine, but rather a guide for those of us who choose to join and participate in Unitarian Universalist religious communities.

1st Principle: We believe that each and every person is important.

2nd Principle: We believe that all people should be treated fairly and kindly.

3rd Principle: We believe that we should accept one another and keep on learning together.

4th Principle: We believe that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.

5th Principle: We believe that all persons should have a vote about the things that concern them.

6th Principle: We believe in working for a peaceful, fair, and free world.

7th Principle: We believe in caring for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things.



## Settled Minister Search Committee

At a previous meeting of the Board of Trustees, it was decided that the search for a settled minister should begin this coming January 2016. Consistent with the UUA, this will be an 18-month process, with the potential to call a settled minister by Fall of 2017. According to the church's by-laws, the Nominating Committee prepares a slate of candidates for a vote by the congregation. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Mary Lou Malone, Lencha Acker, Rhonda Rodgers, Elayne Sikelianos, and Marsha Bruhn.

The UUA's Settlement Handbook for Ministers and Congregations recommends a seven-member Settled Minister Search Committee. Members of the committee should be known and respected by others in the congregation; committed to the congregation as a whole; willing to attend every meeting and give 250-400 hours over the coming year; reflect the diversity of the congregation; pledged to conduct a fair and nondiscriminatory process; and well suited to working as a team member.

The Nominating Committee recommends the following slate of candidates to be voted on at the special congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday, December 13, 2015, following the church service:

Lencha Acker  
Robert Johnson  
Deanna McGraw  
Bill McKnight  
Althea Oberdier  
Joan Smykowski

*Submitted by Marsha Bruhn for the Nominating Committee*



## Quarterly Financial Report

This will be the first of a continuing series of reports to keep the congregation informed of First UU's financial status on a quarterly basis. What follows is a summarized Profit and Loss statement:

Income	1st Quarter	Budgeted	
Sunday Revenue	26,963	29,659	
Fundraising	52	-	
Prentis Lot	3,900	3,900	
Trust	1,050	1,050	
Misc	350	75	
Total Income	\$ 32,315	34,684	
Expenses			
Minister and staff	8,531	7,352	
Committees	3,683	4,672	
Fundraising	115	40	
Admin & General	625	2,094	
Total Expenses	\$ 12,954	14,158	
Surplus/Deficit	\$ 19,361	20,526	

The budgeted amounts are for the first quarter only.

Keep in mind that the large surplus is due in part to the fact that many large donors pay their pledge at the beginning of the fiscal year. Pledge contributions historically diminish as the year goes on while expenses do not.

The budget amount for the minister and staff has been adjusted due to the hiring agreement with Rev. Murray as a part-time minister which differs from the amount approved by the congregation at the annual meeting. While the agreement amount is lower than the original budget, the expenditures for the first quarter were higher because of some payments due Rev. Mohr from last fiscal year.

Other items to keep in mind with the surplus is that First UU bears some legacy liabilities for paying off arrears to Rev. Mohr for his retirement benefits and the City of Detroit for back payroll taxes. Those liabilities get first priority for any budget surpluses. A regular payment plan is being followed to accomplish this goal.

First UU also has not been a "fair share" congregation to the UUA or Mid-America region for years despite using their resources to help obtain ministers and assistance through troubled times. "Fair share" denotes the dues a church pays the UUA through an assessment per member to support the services they supply. \$2200 was budget for all of our dues, although a fair share payment was assessed at \$6,064.



## *Church Announcements and Events*

### **First UU Detroit Board Meetings**

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month.

December 9	Whole Foods Community Room	7:00 - 9:00 pm
January 13	Whole Foods Community Room	7:00 - 9:00 pm

All are welcome at board meetings. Whole Foods is located at 115 Mack Ave at 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, Board Secretary at [dfrebb@aol.com](mailto:dfrebb@aol.com).

### **Vespers Wednesday**

Vespers runs from 6:00 - 7:00pm on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Parlor. *In consideration of busy holiday schedules, THERE WILL BE NO VESPERS IN DECEMBER.* We'll return to our regular schedule in January, on the fourth Wednesday. Hope to see you then!

### **FIRST Sundays: "Intro to First Church"**

Are you new to the church, or just interested in learning more about our church and tradition? The New UU class is about offering introductory information about 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 UU tradition as a whole, and a second goal is to focus specifically on the history and traditions of the Detroit church. Please do attend: We are proud of who we are, and we want you to be proud to be with us!

### **SECOND Sundays: Welcoming New Members**

This is a regular service, but we also include a time to invite our new members to come forward, present themselves 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. Make them feel welcome among us!

### **SECOND Sunday: Potluck**

Time to break out your best recipe and bring it to church – share your food with FUUD! As we begin to add new members, it is 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.

### **Singing Circle**

Wednesdays at **7:00 pm** - Singing Circle at the church. Open to all. Contact Gwen Foss at [bookdoctorgwen@gmail.com](mailto:bookdoctorgwen@gmail.com) for more details.

## *Church Announcements and Events*

### **Acknowledgements**

If you have a milestone (joy or sorrow) to share or a visitor to introduce during a worship service, 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 with the congregation as part of our closing circle.

### **Amnesty International**

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

### **Young Adults Activities**

The first UU Young Adults group participates in two activities per month. To learn find out about upcoming Young Adults activities, visit us on Facebook at: [groups/young1stuu/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/young1stuu/) or contact Aletha Oberdier at [alethafaye@gmail.com](mailto:alethafaye@gmail.com) to join our Google Group.

### **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 visit the signup sheet on our website at [1stuu.org/Worship/worship.php](http://1stuu.org/Worship/worship.php), see our Office Administrator, Alexis Mitchell, after the service, or send an email to [webmaster@1stuu.org](mailto:webmaster@1stuu.org)!

### **Care Committee**

The Care Committee addresses pastoral cares of our church community. It is chaired by Nancy Owen Nelson. Other members are Sally Borden, Edie McKnight, and Nathan Strickland. Please contact Nancy Owen Nelson, [nelnan@aol.com](mailto:nelnan@aol.com) or call her at 313-914-3475, if you would like a member of our Care Committee to reach out to you in a time of need.

### **Child Care**

Childcare is available during service in a bright, cheerful room in the back of the church, off the narthex. See Sally Borden or Richard Hillier for details.

## *Church Announcements and Events*

### **Noel Night in the Cass Corridor Commons**

SANCTUARY: **5:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Detroit Community Music Showcase.** This showcase features bright young Detroit musicians and performance ensembles representing community and school music programs. **9:00 p.m. - Thornetta Davis.**

PARLOR ROOM: **5:00 p.m. - CommonUnity Cafe** hosted by First Unitarian-Universalist Church. The CommonUnity Cafe will feature a wonderful menu of seasonal treats, so you can fill your hearts and appetites with cheer!

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM: **5:00 p.m. - The "FREE MARKET of Detroit Swap"** is an interactive and fun experience that lets community members circulate wealth amongst itself. All participants are encouraged to bring at least one usable/wearable item (in good-to-great condition) that they no longer use. From there, the fun takes-off with participants swapping and dancing to great music! Youth EcoCrafts and make-and-takes: recycled craft stations where guests can construct seasonal decorations and unique gifts from recyclable materials!

D. BLAIR THEATER (BASEMENT): **6:00-8:30 p.m. - Holiday Healing Festival.** Dynamic art performances, healing arts workshops, and inspiring presentations, and provided by skilled members of Detroit's healing justic community.

### **Social Justice Committee Event**

On Wednesday, December 16, from 6:00 - 8:00 PM, the First UU Social Justice Committee will host a panel discussion in the Parlor: "Opportunity for All? How to Keep an Inclusive Cass Corridor." Confirmed panelists include Ted Phillips, director, United Community Housing Coalition; Janet Jones, owner of Source Booksellers, and her daughter, Alyson Jones-Turner; and Bradford Frost, Detroit Corridor Initiative. Larry Gabriel, a former resident custodian at First UU and currently freelance *Detroit Metro Times* contributor who was named Best Columnist by the Association for Alternative Newsmedia in 2012, will be a co-moderator.

### **Free Movie & Discussion**

Ethyl Rivera of the Sierra Club's Southeast Michigan Group will present a free movie & discussion:

"The Future of Energy: Lateral Power to the People"

January 10, 2016—1:00 PM to 2:30 PM

First Unitarian-Universalist Church Parlor

For questions contact Carolyn Ludwig at [carolwig1@yahoo.com](mailto:carolwig1@yahoo.com).

### **Your Local UU Community Resources**

Our own Gwen Foss owns and operates Alan's Used Books, specializing in unusual and interesting quality used books. Browse <http://www.gwenfoss.com/> for categories from Agriculture to History, Music to Women's Studies. Do a search for "Unitarian" or "Universalist" to see what pops up! Gift yourself or someone else with a book on science, poetry, scripture or personal experience to help live out our seven UU Principles.

## *Church Announcements and Events*



E.MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL  
ACTION COUNCIL

WINTER BLAST FUNDRAISER

100 Days

\$100 Dollars

100 Donors

Please donate \$100 dollars

To keep the building operating during the  
winter season

October 24, 2015-January 31, 2016

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX  
DEDUCTIBLE

**DONATE ONLINE AT EMEAC.ORG**

OR SEND DONATIONS TO

EMEAC

4605 CASS AVENUE

DETROIT, MI 48201



Please consider a donation to EMEAC, our partner in the Cass Corridor Commons, and caretaker of the buildings:

Good news: Dessa Cosma will continue to use the Social Hall in 2016 for her *Center for Progressive Leadership* training. We'll move over to the Parlor for our social hour on these dates in 2016:

January 24

February 21

March 13

April 10

May 22

June 26

July 24

August 28

All training dates are on the First UU church calendar at <http://www.1stuu.org/calendar.php>.

## *Calendar: First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit*

**All dates found at** <http://www.1stuu.org/calendar.php>

### **Wed Dec 2, 2015**

**6pm** Membership Meeting  
Where: House Lobby

**6pm** Social Justice Committee meeting  
Where: Parlor

**7pm** Singing Circle  
Where: Social Hall

### **Sat Dec 5, 2015**

**9am** Choir Practice  
Where: Sanctuary

### **Sun Dec 6, 2015**

**9am** Choir Practice  
Where: Sanctuary

**11am** Worship Service: "Entering Hannukah" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray)  
Where: Sanctuary

**12:30pm** Introduction to First Church  
Where: Narthex

### **Wed Dec 9, 2015**

**7pm** Board Meeting  
Where: Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack at John R in Detroit

**7pm** Singing Circle  
Where: Social Hall

### **Sun Dec 13, 2015**

**9am** Choir Practice  
Where: Sanctuary

**11am** Worship Service: "International Human Rights Day" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray)  
Where: Sanctuary

**11:45am** New Member Sunday  
Where: Sanctuary

**12pm** Potluck  
Where: Sanctuary

**1pm** Special Congregational Meeting  
Where: Sanctuary

### **Wed Dec 16, 2015**

**6pm** Panel Discussion: "Opportunity for All: How to Keep an Inclusive Cass Corridor"  
Where: Parlor

**7pm** Singing Circle  
Where: Social Hall

**7pm** Worship Committee  
Where: Social Hall

### **Sun Dec 20, 2015**

**9am** Choir Practice  
Where: Sanctuary

**11am** Worship Service (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray)  
Where: Sanctuary

### **Mon Dec 21, 2015**

**7:30pm** Amnesty International  
Where: Parlor

### **Wed Dec 23, 2015**

**7pm** Vespers  
Where: Parlor

**7pm** Singing Circle  
Where: Social Hall

### **Thu Dec 24, 2015 – Christmas Eve**

**7pm** Annual Candlelight Worship Service (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray)  
Where: Sanctuary

### **Fri Dec 25, 2015- Christmas Day**

### **Sun Dec 27, 2015**

**11am** Kwanzaa Service (Anita "Ruby" Jones)  
Where: Sanctuary

### **Wed Dec 30, 2015**

**6pm** Vespers  
Where: Parlor

**7pm** Singing Circle  
Where: Social Hall



*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](http://www.1stuu.org),  
email us at [info@1stuu.org](mailto:info@1stuu.org), or give  
us a call at (313) 833-9107.

## *Church Announcements*

### **Message Topics**

Remember, 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](mailto:worship@1stuu.org).

### **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](mailto:office@1stuu.org) by **12:00 pm Thursday**.

### **January Newsletter Deadline**

Sunday, December 20th

Next issue covers January 1—January 31, 2016

No submissions accepted after the deadline.

Send items to [office@1stuu.org](mailto:office@1stuu.org)