

# FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT NEWSLETTER



OUR MISSION: LIBERATE TRUTH - RADIATE KINDNESS - LOVE COURAGEOUSLY

JANUARY 2016 EDITION

## Upcoming Sermon Schedule

### January 3rd – “A New Year and A Century”

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit celebrates in 2016 a century of worshiping in this sanctuary through its roots in the Universalist tradition. As we celebrate a new year, we also will consider the legacy that comes of this community worshiping in this space.

### January 10th – “On Religious Extremism”

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

The news is full of stories concerning religious extremism in the world today, whether one is speaking about the international terrorism and military-styled conflict committed by Daesh/ISIL, or the domestic terrorism of a Christian-professing gunman opening fire at a Planned Parenthood or a major federal building or a school. It is important not merely to dismiss these actors as atypical offshoots of religion, stating categorically that such agents do not represent the religion from which they originate. After all, faith is known in the world by how it is practiced, and the external narrative concerning a religion can be shaped, changed, and transformed by the actions of a few, resulting in widespread fear of the many.

### January 17th – “The Beloved Community”

*Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray*

Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Beloved Community is a global vision, in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth. In the Beloved Community, poverty, hunger and homelessness will not be tolerated because international standards of human decency will not allow it. Racism and all forms of discrimination, bigotry and prejudiced will be replaced by an all-inclusive spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood. In the Beloved Community, international disputes will be resolved by peaceful conflict-resolution and reconciliation of adversaries, instead of military power. Love and trust will triumph over fear and hatred. Peace with justice will prevail over war and military conflict.

### January 24th – “Did Jesus Mean It?”

*Danny Rebb*

Danny will be speaking on a book published in 1922 by Rev. Dr. Frank Durward Adams, a former minister to the Church of Our Father (the Universalist predecessor to our joined congregation). More details in the “Centennial” section of this newsletter.

### January 31st – “Remembering Vic Schumacher”

*Rev. Lynda Smith & Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek*

A long time member of First UU Detroit, Vic Schumacher was dedicated to peace and justice and was a WWII conscientious objector who spent three and a half years in prison for his beliefs. Vic became “Mr. Social Action” as the many-year chair of the Social Justice Committee. He was involved, and involved the church, in just about every issue of the 60s, 70s, and 80s. The sermon will be jointly presented by former First UU members Rev. Lynda Smith and Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek. Rev. Smith is now a UU minister serving a congregation in Ohio and Rev. Strejcek, who is Vic’s daughter, grew up in our church school. Come and hear the legacy of a First Church UUr.

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

### Officers:

#### President

*Kathe Stevens*

#### Vice President

*[OPEN]*

#### Immediate Past

#### President

*Marsba Brubn*

#### 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! Wow, December was inspiring.

It started with the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Noel Night – one of the biggest events of every year for First UU. To get a sense of the buzz of activity around the Cass Corridor Commons, imagine our smiling, multi-talented crews starting the day before Noel Night – December 4. **Sherry Wells** showed up early to get a jump on cleaning the sanctuary. **Linda Darga, Joan Smykowski,** and **Dan Wiest**, among others, finished up the dusting, vacuuming, and mopping. **Lencha Acker, Dessa Cosma, Carolyn Lusch** and **Aletha Oberdier** were part of a team decorating the Parlor. **Glenn Maxwell** made sure plenty of signage was hung so our visitors could find their way around. **Tim Bailey** and **Jahim** and **Deante Davis**, along with **Art Gabhart**, were raked leaves and spruced up the grounds. **Dan Chicklas**, Tim and Glenn were busy lighting up the church, all the way to the bell tower!

Many of the same folks showed up again on the big night, December 5, to help Aletha Oberdier run the CommonUnity Café. The Café was a huge success in part because **Matt Oberdier** stirred pots on a hot stove all night; **Sharlene Gage** handled the cash box while **Corinne Streicher** and **Regina Weiss** managed the credit card reader; Dan Chicklas, **Joe Fresard**, **Matt Friedrichs**, and Joan Smykowski ladled chili, cider and cocoa; Carolyn Lusch pushed pizza; **Marilyn Mitchell** donated coffee, and ladled, too; and **Margaret Beck** donated pizza.

Meanwhile, Glenn Maxwell was emceeding the music programs in the Sanctuary; Dessa Cosma and Linda Darga were busy advocating for social justice with petitions to be signed; **Emma Velasquez, Emirene Mendoza** and **Elayne Sikelianos** offered gifts for purchase in the foyer; and **Dan Wiest** led tours of the buildings. **Rev. Stephen Murray** visited with his extended family!

Then, organized by Dan Wiest, on December 12 some of our merry Noel Night revelers – Tim Bailey, Art Gabhart, Matt Friedrichs, Joan Smykowski – came back to decorate the Sanctuary, along with **Robert Johnson** and **Omar Davis**. The beautifully-trimmed tree, wreaths, roping and decorations will be appreciated this holiday season, especially during our annual candlelight Christmas Eve Service.

At our December 13 “New Member Sunday” we witnessed **Sean McGraw** as he signed our membership book, and welcomed back Dessa Cosma, who left the Detroit area for some time but has returned. We’re so glad to have both of you involved at First UU. Welcome!

As we go into the Centennial year for our cherished sanctuary, I’m thankful for your support of our mission and for your enthusiasm about the future of our church. I acknowledge my respect for Rev. Murray. He has provided capable leadership under the burden of a half-time ministry, and his sermons are timely and thought-provoking. I believe that our future will be a brighter when we have a full-time, settled minister to lead the charge into our next century at the corner of Cass and Forest. So it is with great joy that I introduce our Settled Minister Search Committee, chosen at our special congregational meeting on December 13:

*cont’d ...*

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



**Lorenza ("Lencha") Camacho Acker** has been a member of First UU for 36 years. She and her husband, Al, have sung in the choir for over 20 years. Lencha has served on two previous search committees, is on the Board of Trustees, and is the First UU representative on the EMEAC Board. Lencha teaches Permaculture – sustainable agriculture – in a Detroit charter school system. She is a member of the Garden Resource Center and a volunteer for Keep Growing Detroit, organizations which support urban gardening and grower education. Lencha loves music, the arts and people.



**Robert Johnson** calls himself a "stand-up philosopher." He has had a many-layered journey in his exploration of world religions and philosophies resulting in a diverse background and understanding of a variety of belief systems. Robert has been a member of First UU for over a decade, has served on the Board of Trustees and, as co-chair of the Worship Committee for the past several years, brings strong experience of what is needed to organize a service from both coordinating and being in the pulpit himself. Robert and his wife, Kathleen, share their zeal for movies by hosting the First UU fundraiser, "Curiously Odd Movie Night."



**Deanna McGraw** joined First UU in 2014, quickly becoming involved in leading our strategic planning process. She is Chair of the Planning Committee and co-chaired the Welcoming Task Force. Deanna's career was in the health and human services and non-profit sectors; she was president of the Detroit Executive Service Corps for 15 years. Deanna and her son, Sean McGraw, run *Recovery House* on the east side. Deanna's passion in life is line dancing.



**Bill McKnight** has been a member of First UU for over 45 years. He's been President of the Board of Trustees, a Board member several times, and chaired the Church's 1992 Capital Campaign. He's now the Treasurer of the Church Trust. In Bill's for-pay life he was a logistics expert at Ford Motor Co. and at Grand Trunk Western Railroad. Other job duties included accounting, public affairs and corporate governance work. For fun, Bill and his wife, Edie, travel and enjoy season seats at the DSO.



**Sharon Mills** was raised a UU in Dayton, Ohio and has been coming to First UU since 2007. Sharon has had strong involvement in social justice activities at the church, including organizing a voter registration drive, and served on two previous search committees. Sharon spent 40+ years in the non-profit sector doing everything from community organization to administration. Sharon has a passion for literacy and volunteers at the Siena Literacy Center tutoring adults and running tutor orientations. Not surprisingly, Sharon loves to read.

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



**Aletha Oberdier** is originally from southeast Connecticut, having joined a UU church for the first time in Utica NY in 2006. Aletha has been attending First UU since 2013 – becoming a member in 2014 – and is the lead of the Young Adults Group. She organized the very successful CommonUnity Café at 2015 Noel Night. Aletha and her husband, Matt, own a house in New Center, and both work as graphic designers in or near the city. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Comparative Literature. Aletha is a long-time vegan, fiber artist, and self-identified feminist and environmentalist.



**Joan Smykowski**, who as Chair of the Membership Committee has promoted radical hospitality at First UU, has been a member since 2010. She has been involved in Noel Night committees, was co-chair of the Canvass Committee, and served on the Board of Trustees. Prior to retiring, Joan was employed as an administrator by a number of non-profits in the Detroit area. Joan lives in Livonia with her husband, Tim Bailey. Her hobbies and interests include making art, especially pottery and painting. She is an active member at her community recreation facility.

Thank you so much to the hardworking Nominating Committee: Lencha Acker, Mary Lou Malone, **Rhonda Rogers**, and Elayne Sikelianos, chaired by **Marsha Bruhn**.

At the December 13 meeting we also heard from **Deanna McGraw** about the wind-up of our 2015 Strategic Plan, and Deanna introduced the [2016 Strategic Plan](#). Finance Committee member **Bob Lauer** provided a report on our 2015-16 budget to date. We appreciated all this information and our capable presenters, too.

On December 16, "[Opportunity for All?](#) How to Keep an Inclusive Cass Corridor," the second community conversation on gentrification in our neighborhood, was sponsored by our Social Justice Committee. Moderator **Larry Gabriel**, a former resident custodian at First UU and current freelance *Detroit Metro Times* contributor, led panelists **Ted Phillips**, Director of *United Community Housing Coalition*; **Janet Jones**, owner of *Source Booksellers*, and her daughter, **Alyson Jones-Turner**; and **Bradford Frost**, Director of the *Detroit Corridor Initiative*, in a thoughtful discussion which included spirited questions and commentary from some of the **more than 70 concerned participants**, including our own **Jenny Teed**. The panel was introduced by **Joel Batterman**, Chair of the Social Justice Committee. First UU members Glenn Maxwell, Sean McAde, Rhonda Rodgers and Sherry Wells were on hand, as well as members of the Social Justice Committee, including Dessa Cosma, Linda Darga, **Mary Lou Malone**, **Sharon Mills**, **Carolyn Ludwig**, Jenny Teed, and Regina Weiss, with assistance from Matt Friedrichs and Dan Wiest. EMEAC co-directors **Darryl Jordan** and **Will Copeland** stopped by, as well as **Piper Carter**, EMEAC's Commons Events Coordinator. Many participants provided their email addresses and asked that the conversation be continued. Great job and carry on!

*cont'd ...*

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

December 21 was the first work anniversary of our office administrator, **Alexis Mitchell**. We're glad to have you here, Alexis!

Don't you agree December was inspiring?

\* \* \*

Our congregation – via action by your Governing Board – has contributed to East Michigan Environmental Action Council's "Winter Blast Fundraiser." The goal of the fundraiser, which began in October and will run through January 31, 2016, is *100 Days – \$100 Dollars – 100 Donors*. All donations are tax deductible. You too can help to support building operations this winter. Donate online at [www.emecac.org](http://www.emecac.org) or send donations to EMEAC, 4605 Cass Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201.

\* \* \*

We're publishing a new church directory in 2016. If you haven't already updated your contact info, you have a couple of weeks to do so. Contact Governing Board Secretary, Danny Rebb, at [dfrebb@aol.com](mailto:dfrebb@aol.com).

\* \* \*

We'll welcome Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network (DION) on Sunday, January 17, 2016. DION has invited our congregation to a potluck after our worship service, followed by a panel discussion on "Religion and Violence: Interfaith Perspectives," part of DION's Adult Religious Literacy Program. Five faith traditions will participate: A.M.E., Quaker, Muslim, Jewish and UU. The panel will be followed by an interfaith worship service, "Lifting Up Detroit In Song & Prayer." Watch for more details in upcoming Sunday orders of service and on Facebook.

\* \* \*

A recent *Alban Weekly* article, The Transforming Power of Gratitude, resonated throughout with words that align with our Seven Principles: gratitude gives us a larger perspective on the events of life, our congregation's gifts and limitations, and life as a whole (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Principles); gratitude is a matter of intentionality and action (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Principles); gratitude is the virtue of interdependence (7<sup>th</sup> Principle). It included a quote from Meister Eckhardt: "if the only prayer you say in your whole life is 'thank you,' that will suffice."

I am filled with gratitude for all of you. Thank you.

best ... Kathe

## Finding a Religious Home for Interfaith Couples

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If your life partner is someone who comes from a religious tradition from your own, you are familiar with the joys and challenges of creating intimacy across cultural boundaries. Many interfaith couples have found their way to Unitarian Universalist congregations.

## What Are the Basic Beliefs of Unitarian Universalism?

Unitarian Universalism is a non-creedal religion. We do not require our members to adhere to a particular statement of belief. We encourage individuals to articulate their own beliefs and to follow their own spiritual journeys.

## Can Both of Us Be Accepted Equally?

UU congregations are open to people of all backgrounds.

## Do I Have to Convert to Become a Unitarian Universalist?

We do not ask you to give up the religious convictions of your heritage.

We welcome each of you.  
For more information please see  
Regina Weiss.

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Liberate the Truth | Radiate Kindness | Love Courageously



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

## The Membership Committee is Announcing the 100-4-100 Campaign to Increase Membership

Please join us as we celebrate 100 years in our present congregational home. In 1913, the Universalist congregation bought the house belonging to Perry and Clara McAdow at Cass and Prentis and the garden extending north to Forest. Universalist services were held in the McAdow house, until the sanctuary, built in the garden, was completed and dedicated in April 1916. In the following year, the congregation added a third building to the Church complex, housing an auditorium and underground gymnasium. In 1932, the City of Detroit widened Woodward Avenue, truncating the fronts of the churches on the east side of Woodward, including the Unitarian Church. The Unitarians and Universalists voted to meet in the Universalist church building and hear sermons of the Unitarian minister for one year. In June 1934, a legal agreement binding the two bodies was adopted.

Please make the 100-4-100 Campaign a success by inviting new and old friends to services, programs and events. Encourage those who are undecided about being a member, to join. Membership only requires three steps: (1) Signing the Membership Book, (2) Making a financial pledge to the Church and/or (3) Making a donation of record to the Church.

## Upcoming Important Membership Dates

January 3, 2016, 12:30 pm-Introduction to First UU

January 10, 2016, After the Service, Membership Book Signing

For more information, please contact Regina Weiss  
at [regina.a.weiss@gmail.com](mailto:regina.a.weiss@gmail.com)



## Greeters Update

### January 2016 Greeters

We are happy to announce our Greeters who have volunteered for the month of January 2016:

Aletha Oberdier

Roger Zeigler

Deanna McGraw

Maysel Brooks

Sydney Schaaf

The Greeters will be in the narthex, ready to greet current members and future members each Sunday at 10:30 am. In this role they are especially welcoming "*the inherent worth and dignity of every person*" that walks through our doors. Please join the Membership Committee in thanking these Greeters. All Greeters are the initial inspirational embrace of the future members of our Church.

## Greeters Needed

To volunteer as the initial inspirational embrace of the future members of our Church, please contact Glenn Maxwell at [detroitglenn@gmail.com](mailto:detroitglenn@gmail.com).

## Welcome to New and Returning Members

We would like to welcome to our Church family:

**Sean McGraw of Roseville**

**Dessa Cosma of Detroit**

We hope they will continue to explore the important questions and the meaning of life as members of the First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit.

## Introduction to First UU Session Becoming a Member in 2016

Unitarian Universalism does not require members to adhere to a particular statement of belief. We place strong emphasis on freedom of belief and the right of each individual to pursue his or her own path in the search for ultimate truth. The individual pursuit of truth, however, does take place within a larger context. Our congregations have adopted a set of seven Principles that outline our most basic shared values and our mutual exception about how we will interact with one another and with the larger world. We affirm and promote:

- ◆ The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- ◆ Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- ◆ Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- ◆ A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- ◆ The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- ◆ The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- ◆ Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

If you feel and believe 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 January 3, 2016 at 12:30 pm in the Church House.

## *Church Announcements and Events*

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

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month.

January 13	Whole Foods Community Room	7:00 - 9:00 pm
February 10	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.

### **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: <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 use the [Flower Donation Signup Sheet](#) on our website, 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:nelan@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*

### **Escalating Inequality: Let's Talk, 2016 Winter Speaker Series**

Sponsored by Birmingham Unitarian Church, First UU and four other southeast Michigan UU churches, the speaker series takes place at BUC, 38651 Woodward Avenue in Bloomfield Hills.

Thursday, January 21, 2016, Chuck Collins, Senior Scholar, Institute for Policy Studies, Boston, **Inequality Matters: How Wealth Inequality is Wrecking the World and What We Can Do About It**

Thursday, February 18, 2016, Hon. Marilyn Kelly, former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice, Distinguished Jurist in Residence, WSU, **Has America Fulfilled Its Promise of Equal Justice for All?**

Thursday, March 17, 2016, Peter J. Hammer, Director, Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights, Professor, WSU Law School, **150 YEARS LATER: The 13th Amendment—Freedom Comes to Michigan?**

The fee is \$7 for each talk or \$15 for all three. For more information or to make reservations, see Mary Lou Malone or Sharon Mills at the Social Justice table during Coffee Hour.

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### **First UU Detroit Directory Update**

Danny Rebb is compiling a new First UU Detroit directory. If you've changed your address, email, or phone, please let Danny know at [dfrebb@aol.com](mailto:dfrebb@aol.com). We want to stay in touch with you!

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### **UUA May 2016 Trip**

The Unitarian Universalist Association has been sponsoring trips to the Deep South to visit the historic sites in the Civil Rights Movement, *e.g.*, Selma and the church at which the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., preached, museums and other churches and cemeteries. People who have taken the trip tell me it is an incredible, unforgettable experience. Registration for the May, 2016, trip is now open at <http://www.uulivinglegacy.org/may-2016-registration-information.html>. I am planning on going and I would love to share a room with someone and have other people from our church go. Follow the link and learn more. ... *Linda Darga*

## *Church Announcements and Events*

### **News about our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

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 looking for photos, letters or other memorabilia for a Centennial timeline. Please start gathering your mementos of First UU through the ages. Contact Colleen for more information about the timeline and how to contribute.

Nancy Owen Nelson is running a 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 with questions at [nelnan@aol.com](mailto:nelnan@aol.com).

On January 24, 2016, Danny Rebb will be preaching the first sermon of an historical series to commemorate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of worship at the corner of Cass and Forest. The source material will be taken from the book "Did Jesus Mean It? – Based upon Four Fundamental Sayings of Jesus as Recorded in the Sermon on the Mount," written by one of our previous ministers. A visit to the Bentley Historical Museum at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor unearthed this gem by Rev. Dr. Frank Durward Adams, who was pastor of the Church of Our Father-Universalist, from 1923 to 1933. Danny will be speaking on how the ideas in Rev. Adams' book, published in 1922, are still relevant to our faith almost 100 years later.



## *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:

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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>

Dec 2015 (Eastern Time)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 11am - Worship	30	1	2 5pm - Membership 6pm - Social Justice 7pm - Singing Circle	3	4	5 5pm - NOEL NIGHT
6 9am - Choir Practice 11am - Worship 12:30pm - Introducti	7	8	9 7pm - Board 7pm - Singing Circle	10	11	12
13 9am - Choir Practice 11am - Worship 11:45am - New 12pm - Potluck @ 1pm - Special	14	15	16 6pm - "Opportunity 7pm - Singing Circle 7pm - Worship	17	18	19
20 9am - Choir Practice 11am - Worship	21 7:30pm - Amnesty	22	23 7pm - Singing Circle	24 7pm - Christmas Eve	25	26
27 11am - Worship	28	29	30 7pm - Singing Circle	31	1	2



*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**.

### **February Newsletter Deadline**

Wednesday, January 20th

Next issue covers February 1—February 29, 2016

No submissions accepted after the deadline.

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