

**November  
2018  
Edition**



**Newsletter**  
**First Unitarian-Universalist Church  
of Detroit**

## **Upcoming Sermon Schedule**

### **November 4th — “Love Ye One Another ... Except in the Voting Booth”**

*Dr. Terri Laws, Guest Speaker*

We have moral obligations to one another as we consider how we vote. We are told that we should vote in our own self-interest. In light of every major religion's obligation to treat others as we would want to be treated. On this Sunday before election day, Dr. Laws will challenge our thinking on how we exercise such a principle as citizens in a democracy.

### **November 11th — “A Brief History of Unitarian Universalism”**

*The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister*

This church year, I am offering a series of sermons that explores elements of the history of Unitarian Universalism. Too many members of our congregation say that they love being Unitarian Universalists, but that they don't know enough about what that means historically. How better to orient ourselves for the year than to hear the entirety of UU history in 25 minutes or less?

### **November 18th — “The Value of Age”**

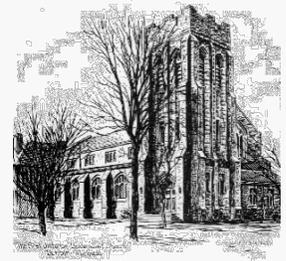
*The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister*

Among the many "isms" that influence how we interact with other people, a common one that we contend with is ageism. To value the opinions and perspectives of people based on their age is a pervasive form of discrimination in American society. We will examine how different societies invest in the elders of the community.

### **November 25th — “On Emerson”**

*The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister*

Today, we take a deep dive into the leader of the American transcendentalist movement, Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882). The architect of American intellectual culture, Emerson is perhaps the most recognized and revered figure in the American Unitarian movement.



4605 Cass Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48201  
313-833-9107  
[www.1stuu.org](http://www.1stuu.org)

We are a [Welcoming Congregation](#)

We believe [Black Lives Matter](#)

We stand in [solidarity with Muslim communities](#)

#### **VISION:**

First Unitarian-Universalist Church is an urban center in Detroit for spiritual renewal and social justice.

#### **MISSION:**

First Unitarian-Universalist Church strives to be an expanding transformative community whose mission is to liberate truth, radiate kindness, and love courageously.

We are a **Member** of the [Unitarian-Universalist Association of Congregations](#) — in the [MidAmerica Region](#)

#### **MINISTER:**

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray

#### **BOARD PRESIDENT:**

Dan Hale

#### **MUSIC DIRECTOR:**

Todd Ballou



## Announcements

### November Potluck Date Change

Our **November potluck** has been rescheduled from the 11th to **November 18**. We'll serve your delicious dishes on the 18th instead!

### You're Invited

New member Suzanne Baker is a member of [Wayne State's Commission on the Status of Women](#). The wider Detroit community is invited to its events, in addition to students, staff, and faculty. Their next event is "[Intersectionality: What Is It?](#)" on **November 15<sup>th</sup>** from 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM.

## Member News



### Send Good Wishes

**Roger Ziegler** is recovering from knee surgery. We suspect Roger's knees gave out because he's always helping in the sanctuary on Sundays. We can't list all the things Roger does, but we have noticed that the sanctuary has not been the same in his absence. We miss Roger's lead on Sunday mornings! Let's all send our best wishes to Roger for a speedy recuperation.

**Mary Lou Malone** is recuperating from recent back surgery. She's at [The Rivers](#), 900 Cook Road, Room 1073, Grosse Pointe, MI, 48236, (313) 885-5005. Mary Lou welcomes your cards, calls and visits.

### GREAT BIG HURRAH for Volunteers

**As we all know, our church runs smoothly because of our many volunteers.** One volunteer who has been under the radar is **Sally Borden**. Sally provides birthday, get well, condolence, and other cards to sign for our members each Sunday

and then makes sure they're sent out. As a member of the Membership Committee, Sally leads our "Intro to UU Detroit" sessions and adds her special knowledge not only of UUism but of this congregation, where she's been a member since 1973. She's also a member of the Worship Committee, serving as Worship Leader and Worship Coordinator. And Sally sings in the choir! Whew! **THANK YOU!**

And another huge **THANK YOU** to all of you who provide transportation to members, so they can attend Sunday services. We love our pews filled with familiar faces!

## Board & Committee News

### Leadership Retreat Report

The Board, Committee Chairs, and Rev. Murray met at our annual leadership retreat on October 13. We are pleased to announce that the Church has chosen **IMMIGRATION** for our focused attention and efforts during the next few years. Of course, we will still be committed to other causes, and individual members will no doubt have special causes to which they are personally committed and should be. But our primary collective attention *as a Congregation* will be focused on contributing to the remediation of the unjust and sometimes inhuman treatment of the immigrant population of those already in our midst and those that long to be.

As we look to refine our efforts to the few issues in this broad topic in which we can most have an impact, we welcome your ideas and, of course as always, appreciate your support.

### Membership Committee

We've created a new **UU Detroit-centric brochure**. The brochures we purchase from the UUA do a great job explaining UUism, but we wanted something that highlighted our



congregation, which in one form or another has been worshipping in Detroit since 1831. Watch for our new brochure in the rack in the narthex!

### **New Member Breakfast!**

On October 28<sup>th</sup>, **Rev. Murray, Dan Wiest** (representing the Board), and **Deanna McGraw, Kathe Stevens, Sally Borden, Glenn Maxwell** and **Sharon Mills**, of the Membership Committee, hosted members who have signed our membership book in the past 12 months at a get-to-know-you (and us) breakfast in the Parlor.

We shared our spiritual (and not) stories, concerns about the world, lots of good food\* and, of course, coffee. We heard that these new members felt welcome the moment they stepped in our door. Thanks to you, the rest of the congregation, for your radical hospitality!

If you haven't already, say **"hello"** and get to know our members who have signed our membership book in the past 12 months: **Meg Baker, Suzanne Baker & Gerhard Krabbe, Martha Bogner, Rebecca Cooke & Russ Lorraine, Katie Hege, Dan Horrigan, Arne & Lyndi Johnston, Elizabeth & Scott Lehto, Susan Matthews, and Daniel & Michelle Peters.**

\*Everyone raved about the food from [Brooklyn Street Local](#). Next time you're in Corktown, stop by to see why we enjoyed it so much.

### **Upcoming Dates**

**TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK for Daylight**

**Savings Time:** Sun., Nov. 4

**Veteran's Day:** Sun., Nov. 11

**EJAM Training in Social Hall:** Sun., Nov. 11

**Potluck:** Sun., Nov. 18 @12 — Social Hall

**Board Meeting:** Sun., Nov. 18 @12:30 — Parlor

**Amnesty International Meeting:** Mon., Nov. 19 @7:30 — Social Hall

**TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE:**

Tue., Nov. 20

**THANKSGIVING:** Thu., Nov. 22

**Vespers:** Wed., Nov. 28 @6:00 PM — [Henry Ford Village, 15101 Ford Road](#), Dearborn, MI in the [Library Reading Room](#), enter via Great Lakes entrance

**NOEL NIGHT:** Sat., Dec. 1

**Quarterly Interactive Board/Congregation**

**Meeting:** Sun., Dec. 2 @12:30 — Social Hall

**Annual "Human Rights Day" joint service w/Amnesty International:** Sun., Dec. 9 @11 — Sanctuary

**Potluck w/Amnesty Int'l and Freedom House:** Sun., Dec. 9 @12 — Social Hall

**Worship Committee Meeting:** Sun., Dec. 9 @12:40 — Parlor

**Board Meeting:** Sun., Dec. 16 @12:30 — Parlor

**"Intro to UU Detroit":** Sun., Dec. 16 @12:30 — Narthex

## **Community**



### **Transgender Day of Remembrance**

As we approach [Transgender Day of Remembrance](#) on November 20<sup>th</sup>, let us keep in mind the [words](#) of UUA President, The Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, in response to Donald Trump's July 2017 plan to ban transgender people from serving in the U.S. military:

"We believe that transgender people should be accorded all the rights and responsibilities due every citizen ... We call upon the Trump administration to uphold the American values of equality and service ..."

It's especially important that we stay vigilant and supportive of our transgender friends, in light of the recent news that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has undertaken an effort to establish a legal (and narrow) definition of gender as being only male or female, and unchangeable, under Title IX, the federal civil



rights law that bans discrimination on the basis of sex.

### **Postcards Sent to Dr. Christine Blasey Ford**

Thanks to **Steve Curtin**, on Sun., Sept. 30th during social hour, we wrote about 40 postcards thanking Dr. Christine Blasey Ford for her courage in sharing her experience. Thank you, Steve, for buying the postcards, organizing the writing campaign, and dropping them in the mail.

### **#FreeSiwatu**

You may continue to write to **Siwatu-Salama Ra**, a mother and community leader in Detroit, and an organizer for East Michigan Environmental Action Council, at:

Huron Valley Correctional Facility  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
MDOC # 463442

#### **Specifications:**

- Standard white or lined paper
- Black or blue pen only
- Cannot include any stain (perfume, watermark, etc.)
- Put MDOC # 463442 on each page so Siwatu can write back
- Don't write anything provocative (e.g. "we're going to break you out")

Visit Siwatu's [Facebook page](#) or [website](#) for more info.

### **Midtown Rental Assistance Program**

"**Stay Midtown** is a residential retention program targeted toward Midtown's working-class population who may be experiencing the negative effects and inconveniences of Detroit's revitalization. As Detroit continues to grow, we want you to be a part of it. We don't want you to

leave Midtown; we want you to Stay Midtown. Stay Midtown offers rental assistance for eligible Midtown residents that are experiencing a housing cost burden due to a recent increase in rent."

**More information, including an online application**, at <https://www.staymidtown.org/>. Or call 313-420-6000 and ask for the "Stay Midtown" program.

### **Share the Plate Sunday**

Our *Share the Plate* recipient on Sunday, October 21, was the [Unitarian Universalist Association \(UUA\) relief fund](#) for the victims of Hurricane Michael. The UUA stands with its congregations which have been impacted by natural disasters such as Hurricanes Florence and more recently Michael. The UUA has established a Hurricane Michael Recovery Fund to assist congregations in repairing any damage, and to respond to the needs of their members' and their community's efforts to get back on its feet.

UUA staff is working closely with leaders in the Association's Southern Region, to ascertain where the need is greatest and distribute funds efficiently.

### **Vespers**

Our October 24<sup>th</sup> vespers featured *Anne Gautreau*. During her second sabbatical, Anne studied Irish literature and folklore at Trinity College Dublin. After living in a cottage on the Dingle Peninsula for two months, she deemed Seamus Heaney her favorite poet and ever after enjoyed weaving his writing into courses she taught. She shared his exquisite words at October Vespers. In order to gain a sense of how life in Ireland shaped Heaney's language, you may enjoy an 11-minute video: [Walking Tour: Seamus Heaney - The Music of What Happens](#).



## UU Detroit November Birthdays!

2nd	Mary Lee Ventzke
4th	Scott Lehto
9th	Stephen Young
10th	Robert Johnson
14th	Elizabeth Lehto
17th	Darlene Harris
19th	Sharon Mills
23rd	Hunter Murray
25th	Kathe Stevens

*inSpirit*  
UU BOOK AND GIFT SHOP

## Denominational News

### Inspirational Resources

Go to Beacon Press [online](#) to see powerful and timely resources on race, dismantling white supremacy, and movement building. Now more than ever, Beacon Press publishes the resources you need to inspire action, find meaning, and learn more.

### Love Resists

The UUA “Love Resists” campaign suggests [five ways to respond with love](#) to the newest attack on immigrants.

If you can do only one thing: Share your personal and professional perspective as comments on the public record against the indefinite detention of the children of asylum-seekers and against the “public charge” proposal which would discriminate against legal immigrants based on income and class. Each comment needs to be individual (not a “form letter”) so speak from the heart.

### MidAmerica Chalice Lighter Call

The *Chalice Lighter* program awards grants to congregations throughout the MidAmerica region.

For the Fall 2019 *Chalice Lighter* call, MidAmerica will be awarding one large grant to a single

congregation in the region with the hope that by giving bigger grants, congregations will dare to take on bigger projects, projects that could use a boost from Chalice Lighters in the \$10,000 to \$15,000 range. To make sure that there will still be plenty of opportunities for congregations to get grants under \$10,000, the Chalice Lighter program is going to start supporting *Faithify* campaigns beginning in September 2019.

More information about *Faithify* below.

To donate or for more information, go to the [Chalice Lighters page](#) on the [MidAmerica website](#).

### Faithify Campaigns

*Faithify* is an online crowd-funding platform for Unitarian Universalism that has, since 2014, raised over 1.3 million dollars for nearly 350 campaigns, including many campaigns from congregations in our region, MidAmerica. Check the [Faithify website](#) to find out about new campaigns for October as well as to get updates on old campaigns.

## Church Life

### Communicate

#### Send an email:

[Choir](#) (Todd Ballou)

[Email listserv signup](#) (Webmaster)

[Minister](#) (The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray)

[Newsletter](#) (Newsletter Editors)

[Office administrator](#) (Nancy Shattuck)

[Webmaster](#) (Dan Secrest)

[Weekly email digest](#) (Webmaster)

#### Go to a page on our website:

[Board Members & Committee Chairs](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Facebook group](#)





## Community

### Send an email:

[Amnesty International](#) (Dan Wiest)  
[Share personal business cards](#) (Ruby Jones)  
[Sign the Membership Book](#) (Deanna McGraw)  
[Suggest sermon topics](#) (Worship Committee)

## Learn About Us

### Send an email:

["Intro to UU Detroit"](#) (Sally Borden)

### Go to a page on our website:

[Facebook page](#)  
[History](#)  
[Parking](#)  
[Website](#)

## Participate:

### Send an email:

[Help with Sunday child care](#) (Sally Borden)

### Go to a page on our website:

[Flower Donation Signup Sheet](#)  
[Greeter Signup Sheet](#)  
[Visitor Table Signup Sheet](#)

## Reserve a Room

### Send an email:

[Sunday morning/afternoon or Wednesday evening](#) (Newsletter Editors)  
[Other days](#) (Dee Collins — 313-556-1702)

## Deadlines



### Order of Service Deadline

Send your item to be included in our weekly Order of Service by **12:00 PM Thursday** to [officeadmin@1stuu.org](mailto:officeadmin@1stuu.org).

### Newsletter Deadline

**November 20<sup>th</sup>** — send items to [newsletter@1stuu.org](mailto:newsletter@1stuu.org)  
 Next issue covers November 1- 30, 2018  
 No submissions accepted after the deadline

# THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to 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



## **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

[officeadmin@1stuu.org](mailto:officeadmin@1stuu.org),

or give us a call at

(313) 833-9107

First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit, which has a [long history of activism](#), is an urban center for spiritual renewal and social justice, whose members strive to liberate truth, radiate kindness and love courageously. We are a member of the [Cass Corridor Commons](#).

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