

# The St. Louis Unitarian

March 2016 Vol. 46 No. 9

Worship, RE and Nursery 10:00 a.m.

## MARCH 2016 WORSHIP INFORMATION

### **March 6 — "Youth Sunday"**

Lynn Hunt, Religious Educator

What is the world like for the youth of today? Are there pressures that young people have not felt in former generations? Are there ways to overcome these pressures? This morning, members of the high school Youth Group will share their thoughts and feelings about the life of a young person in today's world. This is always a thought provoking and energizing service for all ages.

### **March 13— "More Than a Minyan"**

Rev. Thomas Perchlik

A synagogue requires more than a minyan, and a UU church is more than its people. Why join a congregation? Why is First Unitarian needed in Saint Louis? What difference will we make together that we cannot achieve alone? In what ways are we more than a minyan?

### **March 20— Palm Sunday: "Steadfast Love Endures Forever "**

Brian Mason

In Catholic & Christian churches throughout the world, Palm Sunday is the culmination of Lent, celebrating Jesus's entry into Jerusalem, eventual arrest, death, and resurrection. While traveling, so we're told, people placed upon the ground cloaks and cut branches as Jesus, atop a donkey, rode past. It is a time of preparation, expectation, sorrow, and eventual peace. So what are we to make of this Prince of Peace, these Palms, and this Passion?

### **March 23—"Spring Equinox Vespers"**

**Presented by ERDE (Earth Reverent Dedicans Extraordinaire)**

**Featuring Mark Biehl with Tibetan Singing Bowls**

Mark returns to share with us the deeply spiritual practice of meditation with singing bowls. Celebrate the change in seasons and the coming of spring with a deeply relaxing and enlightening experience. This live performance can be very helpful in reducing stress and anxiety, while increasing the body's energy and sense of well-being. Mark has graced us with his Tibetan Singing Bowls and it is a pleasure to be able to offer this spiritual experience again.

 **Clark  
Lecture  
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March  
6

**Unfish Fry  
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**April 10  
Church**

**Get  
together**

 **FAIR  
TRADE  
COFFEE  
SALES**  
**MARCH 6, 20**

~continued on page 5 (see Sermons)~

## MINISTER'S COLUMN

In 1895 Abby Eliot, one of the founders of our church in Saint Louis, wrote a letter. In it she described Saint Louis of sixty years earlier, including these details, "The woods very thick, and Choteau Pond almost surrounded by shanties where the poor gathered so as to use the water for washing clothes. Chills and fever everywhere, and scarcely a poor family I ever saw but had some one in bed sick- no sewerage, no dry cellars, no nurses, no street cars."

She and her husband, Reverend Eliot, along with many in the congregation, worked to help those poor families get the health care, food, water, and even the sewage systems that they desperately needed. Since the earliest days, we have cared about undoing the degradation of poverty. Even our promotion of education is motivated by that goal.



Our Social Responsibility Committee is at the center of helping each of us reach toward our vision of Love and Justice. In the past six years the only *stated* focus of our Social Responsibility programs has been: "Hunger, Homelessness, and Healthcare." Of course, we are trying to reduce the first two and promote the third. But this statement of purpose has the potential to pull us in three directions. The one thread that holds all of these together is an anti-poverty orientation. To be anti-poverty is to work against the effects of poverty, to help people get out of poverty, and to fight to keep people from slipping into poverty.

A great 20<sup>th</sup> Century theologian and leader who had many Unitarian friends was Howard Thurman. He understood the work of religion as this: "To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people, to make music in the heart." From our international programs such as Partner Church, to our local efforts, like Sandwich Making, let us do that anti-poverty work together.

—Yours in Peace,  
Thomas



*GROWING OUR FUTURE...*

## Long Range Planning at First Unitarian

An Update:

We're moving along! Over the past two months, we have been identifying goals and objectives that address the various themes/opportunities that have emerged from our feedback from our leadership, staff, various cluster committees, members and friends. We have begun reviewing these goals/objectives with the Board and Council seeking their priorities and helping them establish plans to achieve these goals over the next 3-5 years. Areas of concentration include these common themes:

### *Stewardship*

- Improve our church governance
- Increase our financial resources
- Enhance and maintain our facility and site

### *Community*

- Engage our community in focused social change
- Recruit and retain new members
- Integrate new members
- Increase unity and participation
- Communicate effectively

Over the next few months we will be sharing those goals/objectives with you. In an effort to insure that our goals can be achieved, we have elected to make them "SMART": Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely.

Many thanks to those on the Long Range Planning Committee that have participated in the second phase of our effort – analysis and identification of goals:

**Tony Fathman, Susan Lammert, Dan Livengood, Alicia Claire Lloyd, Karen Siegrist, Rev. Thomas, and Stan Veyhl.**

— Larry Dusenbery



## FAIR TRADE COFFEE SALES

### March 6 and March 20

Remember that we now accept *credit and debit cards* as payment through PayPal, in addition to cash and checks.

All Fair Trade products sold at First Church support small-scale farmers and their local cooperatives in the authentic Fair Trade model. Thank you for being a part of this. It matters.



Newsletter Folding is

**Tuesday, March 22 2016**

## Clark Lecture

Sunday - March 6 at 7 p.m. with reception following the lecture.



Theresa Carrington, a **TED** Gateway Arch presenter, is founder and Executive Director of The Blessing Basket Project (BBP), a social enterprise with a global reach. BBP's financial model creates best practices to alleviate severe poverty throughout the world. The success and value of BBP has been recognized by many organizations including Washington University, which has studied the BBP model for poverty reduction; and The Missouri Botanical Gardens, which asked BBP for assistance in preserving forests in Madagascar by developing alternative earned income paths for the people who live there.

Theresa is a passionate and dynamic speaker. Her stories are filled with inspiration and humor. She's the driving force behind (and in front of) what is becoming one of the best evidenced-based ways to end severe poverty. This is a "Do Not Miss" event!

—John Knoll

## Dining & Dancing at the Hotel Transylvania March 19, 2016

You don't want to miss this event sponsored by the Partner Church Committee. There will be a delicious dinner of goulash, wine and sumptuous desserts. A program will follow which will include a Hungarian Folk Dance demonstration and an opportunity to join in the dancing, if you like.

Meet us at 5:30 on March 19, 2016 in Fellowship Hall. Tickets will go on sale February 28 after church.

—Julie Oyen-Keller

## Fellowship Dinner

Please save the date of Sat. April 23rd for "The Fellowship of the Church" (our annual Fellowship Dinner with a Tolkien theme this year). The quest will begin with our gathering together at 6:00 p.m. for food fellowship and fun. We are looking to collect pictures of the life and work of the church from the last few years. Please send your digital images to: Dan Livengood (dan.livengood@gmail.com)

or Brittany Hagedorn (Brittany.Hagedorn@gmail.com) for use in the program.

—Margaret Weck

## SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**DESIGNATED COLLECTIONS:** As a way of putting our faith into action, we as a church periodically dedicate one of our collections to a worthy non-profit or church program. March's designated collections are Partner Church (March 13, 2016) and First UU Sandwich Making (March 27, 2016).



The mission of Partner Church is to maintain and foster the relationship between our church and our partner church in Csokfalva, Transylvania (Romania), a relationship dating from 1991. On-going activities include providing financial assistance with room and board expenses to students from our partner congregation attending high school, university, or Hungarian Middle School outside the village; providing a small supplement to our partner minister's salary, and providing financial assistance for the church building and projects as needed. This recipient was nominated by church member Carolyn Nolan.

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(Sermons) ~continued from page 1~

**March 27 — “The Earth Awakes Again**  
Rev. Thomas Perchlik  
Special Music by the First U Choir

Easter Day, for UU, is an inclusive party. In it we celebrate resurrection of Jesus, of all human souls, and of life on earth. One meaning of resurrection is 'revival.' In a time when global temperatures are rising, and species are threatened including us, what kind of revival is possible?



First UU Sandwich Making is a multigenerational social justice activity that informs and promotes the issue of hunger in St. Louis. Project volunteers (our adults, teens, and children) gather twice monthly in Fellowship Hall before and during services to prepare bag lunches for the homeless in downtown St. Louis. The lunches are distributed through Gateway 180, the largest Missouri shelter serving women and children, and the Centenary Methodist Church Bridge Program. All First Church members and newcomers are invited to join in the Sandwich Project which springs into action each second and fourth Sunday of the month, year-round. This recipient was nominated by church member Rosemary Lawton.

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### REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR REGIONAL ASSEMBLY!

Join us to explore "The Who in the New Era." Our three keynote presenters will share their thoughts on how Unitarian Universalism could be exactly what current religious explorers want from faith communities.

There will be many great workshops and outstanding worship services led by ministers from across the region. For complete information and a link to register, please visit our website:

<https://www.midamericauua.org/events/regional-assembly>

## WOMEN'S ALLIANCE



**Tuesday, March 8**  
11:00 a.m.:  
Business Meeting

12 Noon: Lunch in  
Fellowship Hall.  
Bring your

own sandwich or salad; dessert and coffee are provided.

1 p.m: Clark Room—**Esley Hamilton**  
noted Historical Preservationist.

### **Topic:**

***George Fox Steedman and Architecture.***

No reservation required. Interested women members of the Church have a standing invitation to the Meeting. They may come to the program, if they cannot make Lunch. No reservation is needed for Lunch. Please feel free to contact Pam Gempel, Alliance President, if you have questions.-Telephone 314-646-7918 or email her at [gempel928@aol.com](mailto:gempel928@aol.com)

### **Tuesday, March 22.**

12 Noon Lunch in Fellowship Hall.  
Bring your own sandwich or salad.  
Dessert and Coffee will be provided.

1 p.m. Church Library-**Yvette Clemons**,  
Church Administrator, will talk about  
"Thoughts and Views from the  
Church Administrator."

Visitors are welcome to the Lunch period and to the talk. No reservations are needed. Please see or contact the Alliance President, Pam Gempel, for further information.

## **Toward Justice Book Discussion**

***The New Jim Crow*** by Michelle Alexander  
**March 24, 31 and April 7 (7:00 – 8:30pm)**  
***Please Note – It is important to have the entire book read by the first session.***

Join with members of the Toward Justice Anti-Racism group in discussing this seminal book. Associate Professor of Law at Ohio State, Michelle Alexander argues that “we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it.” By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control – relegating millions to a permanent second-class status – even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness. In the words of Benjamin Todd Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, this book is a “call to action.” (Publisher’s description) This book is widely available thru bookstores and libraries. Please let Lynn Hunt know if you need help obtaining a copy. Toward Justice member, **Cathy Rauch**, will facilitate the discussions.

## **Men's Wellness Ministry Men's Group**

We've 'set' the men's group meeting date for the 3rd Tuesday of each month. However, in March, there are 5 Tuesdays and the 3rd one [March 15 - the Ides of March] is the Missouri Primary Election day. I will be, as I have done so for 12 years, serving as an Election Manager that day, and won't be able to facilitate the group that evening. Hence, ONLY for March, I am moving the date of the Men's Group to March 22, which is the 4th Tuesday.

In April, we'll go back to the 3rd Tuesday for the meeting time. As always, all adult males in the congregation who wish to participate are heartily welcome. The meeting time is always 7 - 8:30 p.m., and we meet in the Clark Room.

—Donald Jeffries

## Money Matters:

Our 2016-17 canvass is now well underway with the countdown to Celebration Sunday April 10 rapidly approaching. The focus of this year's canvass is "reflective" pledging: pledging not out of habit but from meaning. In this spirit the Canvass team invites all First Church members and friends to take a moment to reflect on what being a part of our First Unitarian Church community means to each of our lives. Below are two brief profiles that we hope will stimulate your thoughts (and generosity) this canvass season.



### Why We Pledge: Reflections by Todd and Shannon O'Boyle

For us, religion is about providing our children the tools they need to be accepting of themselves while they explore, un-

derstand, and find and cultivate peace in our world. We found First Church to be a natural home for us, putting covenant over creed, and supporting our values of compassion, sustainability, and community.

As our children came of school age, their world expanded -- they made friends and began to explore. We worked to instill our social values but felt we were losing ground over their spirituality. We could see why people "go to church," and we wanted to find one that shared our values.

The First Church RE program continues to be a perfect fit for our family. We feel deep

roots connecting us to nature and sustaining humankind and we'd finally found a community that understood and could help us instill that into our children.

Throughout the years, our children have been exposed to many facets of spirituality, helping them grow into thoughtful, compassionate young adults. This community has provided a place of comfort and allowed our children a special voice. The foundational values explored in RE make sense to us and prepare our children to participate in making the world a better a place for everyone.

### Lessons From A Middle Schooler: An Anecdote by Amy Genova

When 12-year-old Penny Peck attended a canvass service and heard other members talk about the church, she was inspired. "When it came time to fill out the pledge cards," said her mother, Vickie Peck, "Penny decided to do one too!"

Penny, a St. Louis middle school student, especially enjoys the exposure to different religions. She likes Sunday school and the donuts. In addition, Penny has been making sandwiches for the homeless on the 2nd and 4th Sundays since the age of 4. She really enjoys hanging out with the sandwich crew and has made many friends.

Penny knows that supporting the church helps to support the sandwich program, and that's a pretty big motivator. Josh, Vickie and Penny Peck have been members of First Church since 2006.

**Your Canvass Team invites you to join us  
Celebration Sunday, April 10th to reflect  
and to celebrate the riches flowing from  
our church community!**

—Judy Meyer

# LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT

LYNN HUNT,  
CREDENTIALLED RELIGIOUS EDUCATOR

We are at that time of year where every warm day comes with a glimmer of hope that it is the harkening of spring and all of its glory. Where when on a walk one searches the ground for signs of green leaves of bulbs pushing through the earth. When children's pants start getting too short and you cross your fingers hoping you will not have to buy more (that will not be wearable next winter). When our minds start drifting to summer plans and even what the next fall will bring. All these musings are attuned to growth that is taking place before our eyes. We notice it more acutely in the spring of the year, but a lot of effort and care has gone into nurturing the results we see.

As it is in nature, so too is it in our Religious Education and Faith Formation. Teachers and advisors have been tending to the nourishment of our children and youth throughout the year in many ways. Currently in the Pre-School, **Katy Wittwer** and **Lynda Mueller-Drendel** have been exploring love, families and growth with the children. The kindergarten has looked at similar themes (and the many configurations of families) with **Claire Weichselbaum** and **Sue Herzberg**. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades continue to learn from Wisdom Tales from around the world and have recently been exploring sustainability with **Jason McLure** and **Amanda Kracen**. **Danielle Kozemczak** and **Grace Munie** have been leading the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> graders through the saga of Exodus.

Eastern spiritual practice has been the focus of the 5<sup>th</sup> graders with **Jan Herzog** and **Tara Perry**. The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders have been exploring ethics from a myriad of points of view with **Noah Durham**, **Sarah Francois** and **Brian Mason**. The 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade Coming of Age class has been looking at UU history with teachers **Laurel Heddens** and **Heidi Meister** and exploring UU theology with their mentors: **Catherine Hunter**, **T. J. Hunter**, **Amy Genova**, **Lynda Mueller-Drendel** & **Heidi Meister**. Our youth group is ably led by our great advising team of **Victoria Bonvento**, **Sara Park** and **Ben Rosensweig** who are busy planning the Youth Sunday Service and making plans to host a Youth Conference! Special thanks to all of you for the tending to and nurturing the soulful growth of our children and youth.  
*Lynn*

## Youth Conference Coming!

**April 8 – 10<sup>th</sup>**

Our Youth Group and Congregation is hosting the Southern Region area Youth Conference this spring. This is always a fun and exhilarating program as youth groups from around the area will gather for fun, worship, learning and social justice. Many hands are needed to sustain this program – please watch for details on how you can support our youth!

## Adult Faith Formation

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall for these classes, presentations and spiritual experiences.



## UNFISH FRY

**The Unfish Fry is coming! Friday March 11th from 5:00pm-8pm** the

Unfish Fry Crew will be serving an all vegetarian meal that will be open to the public. Tickets will be on sale in Fellowship Hall from February 21st – March 6th after services and at the church office. Adult tickets are \$8 and child tickets are \$5. This event is sponsored by the RE activities committee. Everyone is highly encouraged to attend and invite friends, relatives, or co-workers! This is a great opportunity to enjoy good food, music and fellowship and introduce people to Unitarian Universalism. The Unfish Fry Crew will see you there!

## Covenant Groups

In Covenant Groups people come together in a circle of trust, in covenant, to be in right relation with one another with respect and care. We cultivate deep listening as each person takes a turn in a kind of sacred space to express what stirs in them about the topic of the session. The careful listening enriches the lively back and forth interchange that follows. If you would like more information about joining a group you can: sign up in Fellowship Hall, call the Faith Development Office (314-361-0595 ext 25) or send a message through the website: (<http://www.firstuustlouis.org/engaging/covenant-groups>).

## New LGBT Group Forming

A new Covenant Group is forming under the leadership of **Meghan Garvey** and **Alicia Lloyd** for those interested in joining a LGBT group. Please sign-up in Fellowship Hall if you are interested in joining the group or want more information.

***Save the Date for the Covenant Group Potluck Mixer – Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is opportunity for people to experience a Covenant Group and for existing group members to get together.***

## Buddhism Book Discussion Group

**Second Tuesday of the month  
(March 8th – 6:30 – 8:00pm)**

Want to learn more about Buddhism? Have you read about Buddhism and would love to discuss the concepts with others? We are partnering with The Pragmatic Buddhist group (that meets on Thursday evenings) with a Buddhism book discussion group. March selection is ***The Heart Sutra***. The heart sutra is one of the most frequently discussed sutras in the Mahayana tradition. The heart sutra deconstructs all our traditional, rigid, and habitual ways of thinking, including our thoughts about our spiritual path. The group will be using Thich Nhat Hanh's version found in: *Awakening of the Heart: Essential Buddhist Sutras and Commentaries*. Left Bank Books will have it available soon and will post it here: <http://www.left-bank.com/buddhist-book-club> In addition, readers can get the heart sutra for free on the web: [http://www.buddhanet.net/pdf\\_file/heart\\_s2.pdf](http://www.buddhanet.net/pdf_file/heart_s2.pdf)

Sign-up in Fellowship Hall to receive more information about this group.

## **Membership Orientation Session**

### **GET YOUR BEARINGS –**

Membership Orientation Session

There will be a UU Orientation Session on March 6 from 11:20-12:30 in Room C8 for anyone who is interested. Learn a bit more about our faith with Reverend Thomas, have your questions answered, and meet some other new and longtime people in this church. Please sign up, but if you don't, please come in regardless. The church will provide light refreshments and childcare for this session.

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### **Liberal Understanding of the Bible March 31, April 7- 28 & May 5 (7:00pm – Clark Room) Facilitated by Rev. Perchlik**

What is the Bible? How did it come to be? How can I understand and use it? In contrast to those who think they know what “the Bible says” a liberal understanding approaches the Bible as a living document, always changing even when the words are set. In six sessions (March 31-May 5) Rev. Thomas will lead an exploration of scriptures from the Torah, through the Nevi'im, the Ketivum, the Gospels, the Epistles and Revelations. The primary resource for the class is Reverend John Buehrens' book, *Understanding the Bible: an Introduction for Skeptics, Seekers, and Religious Liberals*. Sign-Up in Fellowship Hall.

### **Dr. Liz Crouch Zelman, Author Presentation March 13, 2016 – 11:30 – Clark Room (light lunch available)**

Elizabeth Crouch Zelman will present and discuss her recently published book, *Our Beleaguered Species—Beyond Tribalism*. One reviewer had this to say about her book: “...*Our Beleaguered Species*... is beautifully grounded in biological and anthropological accuracy as well as in genuine humanism. The result is an important, much-needed call for our species to acknowledge our problems but at the same time, to take heart in our prospects.”

Elizabeth, who is member Tom Crouch's sister, received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan in 1974, taught at the college level for 10 years, and then pursued a career as a speech pathologist with the Special School District in St. Louis County until her retirement in 2007. Since that time, she has returned to her first academic pursuit and has taught several courses pertaining to evolutionary anthropology at Washington University's Lifelong Learning Institute.

—Lynn Hunt

## TOWARD JUSTICE

The Toward Justice Group that was formed in the wake of the Ferguson events. The group meets to study and discuss racial justice actions in which we can participate and reform issues for which we will advocate. We provide study and action opportunities for the congregation. The group is a member of the Don't Shoot Coalition. We also attend various education events that are offered in the metropolitan area. **If you would like to receive the new Toward Justice Information Newsletter** (which lists many educational events happening in the St Louis Region) please inform Lynn Hunt or sign-up in Fellowship Hall.

Special thanks to group members **Cathy Rauch** and **Susan Lammert** who recently attended the ACLU sponsored lobby day in Jefferson City promoting the Fair and Impartial Policing Bill.

### **Upcoming Event: Anti-Racism Workshop with Chris Crass at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Columbia, MO**

**April 9<sup>th</sup> (10:00am – 2:00pm)**

Join with other UUs for this community-wide workshop focusing on the critical need for collective action against racism with activist and author Chris Crass. Chris is the author of "Towards Collective Liberation: anti-racist organizing, feminist praxis and movement building strategy." He is also a nationally recognized activist and speaker on this matter. Sign-up in Fellowship Hall if you are interested in carpooling to this event or to receive more information.

## **Great Books Discussion Group**

***The Persian Wars* -- selections from the writings of Herodotus  
Sunday, March 20th, 12:30pm**

The *Histories* of Herodotus is now considered the founding work of history in Western literature. Written in the 450s BC *The Histories* serves as a record of the ancient traditions, politics, geography, and clashes of various cultures that were known in Western Asia, Northern Africa and Greece at that time. Although not a fully impartial record, it remains one of the West's most important sources regarding these affairs. Moreover, it established the genre and study of history in the Western world (despite the existence of historical records and chronicles beforehand). (Wikipedia) Join the Discussion! Great Books meets on the 4th Sunday of the month from 12:30-2pm at United Provisions in the Loop (6241 Delmar – **please note that this is a new location**), and is using the collection *Great Books Reading and Discussion Program second volume of the Third Series*, which can be ordered through the Great Books Foundation Site (<http://www.greatbooks.org>). **Facilitator Mike Nolan.** (Sign Up in Fellowship Hall for more information)

## RECYCLING



Don't forget....the church belongs to a recycling

program with **Quill**, our office supply company. The church receives rebates for recycling inkjet cartridges. Recycle bins are found in the copy area of the church office.



**DON'T FORGET  
TO LIKE US,  
FOLLOW US  
AND CHECK-IN  
ON  
FACEBOOK**

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR FITNESS: BODY, MIND AND SOUL....

### QIGONG OFFERED AT FIRST UU

- **Qigong** combines mindful, gentle, physical postures and movements with meditation, breath-work, sounds (mantras) and self-massage techniques to revitalize your Vital Life Force energies and to enhance physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual healing.
- **Qigong** techniques help to dissolve accumulated stress and fatigue, increase energy, and strengthen the immune system.
- Accumulated daily practice of **Qigong** movements and meditation build up a storehouse of Qi energy and also lead to enhanced concentration, improved mental focus, and greater intuitive functioning.



*Hour long Qigong classes on Tuesdays  
at 2pm in Hope Chapel.*

*These are pay-as-you-can classes.*



### TOASTMASTERS CLUB

Join us each first and third Sunday at 7 p.m. in the Clark Room. For information contact Stan Veyhl at (314) 863-3229 or [sveyhl@earthlink.net](mailto:sveyhl@earthlink.net).

## DO YOU SHOP ON-LINE?



When making your on-line purchases be sure to log on to GoodSearch.com. Search for your items through Good Search, each search earns money for First Unitarian Church. The potential is SO MUCH higher...cost to you...ZERO!

Simply go to the GoodSearch website, log-on and input "First Unitarian Church of St. Louis" into the field that asks for what group you want to support. It's that easy.

It's a free and easy way to raise money for our church and get some of your shopping finished.

Each month, GoodSearch sends the church a check!



Don't forget to use your eScrip card when shopping at Schnucks. The church receives a percentage each time you shop. Don't have an eScrip Card? Stop by the sign-up table in Fellowship Hall and pick up one this Sunday. Simply register on-line and you are ready to earn money for First Unitarian Church.

## ROAD TO MEMBERSHIP

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Anyone who wishes to join our congregation as a member may sign the membership book on the last Sunday of each month shortly after the service.

The minister or a board officer (President, Church Council Chair, Secretary or Treasurer) will meet you on the Sanctuary chancel.

*We welcome you to our religious community*

## MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

### THANK YOU FOR THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL DONATIONS:

- A total of \$547.50 was donated to Designated Collections on January 24 for UUSC. A total of \$147.00 was donated to Designated Collections on February 14 for Interfaith Partnership.



**Please be sure to update  
your contact information  
with the church office this  
month by calling  
314-361-0595 ext. 21  
or email us at  
office@firstuustlouis.org.**

## JOYS AND CONCERNS FROM FEBRUARY 2015

Let us keep in our minds all who live with grief or joy this day, those who are healing from illness or surgery and those who have family members who are ill.

—We send our healing thoughts and prayers to **Robert Murphy** who is in the hospital undergoing some tests.

—Please extend your healing thoughts and prayers to **Karen Siegrist** who is recuperating from recent surgery on her knee due to an infection.

—Congratulations to **George Sessen** and **Theodosia Christine Tails** (our terrific Sandwich Making Coordinators) upon their 15th Wedding Anniversary!

—We extend our healing thoughts and prayers to **Teresa Sweeney** who recently had several melanomas removed. She is doing very well.

—**Dianne Pennington** wants all her friends in this church to know that her sister-in-law, Elizabeth McKinley, died. She was 37 years old. Though Dianne and Joe Pennington moved to Glasgow this year they remain in our larger circle of concern.

—We extend our sympathy to **Kimberly Perry** whose mother Nancy Perry died suddenly on February 2.

—Our thoughts are with **Chris Kocher** who is recovering from surgery on a broken leg.

*In Our Thoughts  
& Prayers*

# CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Please keep in mind that the calendar is updated daily and does not show outside rentals. Refer to the Web Site calendar for up-to-date information.

## **Wednesday, March 2**

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, March 3**

5:00 p.m. - Facilities Meeting (C1)

## **Saturday, March 5**

9:30 a.m. - CRC (All Rooms)

10:00 a.m. - Youth Sunday Rehearsal (S)

2:00 p.m. - Don't Shoot Coalition (FH)

## **Sunday, March 6**

### **Youth Sunday, Family Chapel, Fair Trade Coffee**

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (S)

11:15 a.m. - New to First U Covenant Group, C8

11:30 a.m. - Writing Group (CLK)

7:00 p.m. - Toastmasters (CLK)

7:00 p.m. - Clark Lecture (S)

## **Tuesday, March 8**

11:00 a.m. - Women's Alliance

2:00 p.m. - Qigong Class (CH)

6:30 p.m. - Policy Board (C1)

6:30 p.m. - Buddhist Book Discussion (CH)

## **Wednesday, March 9**

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, March 10**

5:00 p.m. - Unfish Fry Setup (FH, K)

7:00 p.m. - Worship Committee (L)

## **Friday, March 11**

5:00 p.m. - Unfish Fry (All Rooms)

## **Saturday, March 12**

9:30 a.m. - CRC (All Rooms)

## **Sunday, March 13**

### **Newsletter Deadline/DC: Partner Church**

9:00 a.m. - Sandwich Making for the Homeless

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (S)

11:30 a.m. - Knitting Ministry (C7)

11:30 a.m. - Canvass Meeting (C1)

## **Tuesday, March 15**

2:00 p.m. - Qigong Class (CH)

6:30 p.m. - Finance Committee (C1)

7:00 p.m. - Library Committee

## **Wednesday, March 16**

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

## **Saturday, March 19**

6:00 p.m. - Partner Church Dinner (FH)

## **Sunday, March 20**

### **Fair Trade Coffee**

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (S)

11:30 a.m. - Emily-Jeremy Colton Covenant Gr. (C7)

11:30 a.m. - Kelley/Veyhl Covenant Group (C8)

11:30 a.m. - Feinberg Covenant Group (DR)

7:00 p.m. - Toastmasters (CLK)

## **Tuesday, March 22**

9:30 a.m. - Newsletter Folding (C1)

12:00 p.m. - Women's Alliance

2:00 p.m. - Qigong Class (CH)

6:30 p.m. - Church Council Meeting (C1)

7:00 p.m. - MWM Men's Group (CLK)

## **Wednesday, March 23**

6:00 p.m. - Long Range Planning Committee (C1)

7:00 p.m. - Spring Equinox Service (S)

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, March 24**

7:00 p.m. - The New Jim Crow Book Discussion (L)

7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday Service

## **Friday, March 25**

6:00 p.m. - Young Adult Vespers and Fellowship (CH)

## **Saturday, March 26**

9:30 a.m. - CRC (All Rooms)

## **Sunday, March 27**

### **Designated Collection: Sandwich Making**

9:00 a.m. - Sandwich Making for the Homeless

10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (S)

11:30 a.m. - Canvass Meeting (C1)

12:30 p.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

12:30 p.m. - Great Books Discussion (Offsite)

## **Wednesday, March 30**

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

## **Thursday, March 31**

7:00 p.m. - The New Jim Crow Book Discussion (L)

7:00 p.m. - Liberal Perspectives on the Bible (CLK)

For updates to the church calendar visit

**[firstuustlouis.org](http://firstuustlouis.org)**

The St. Louis Unitarian  
First Unitarian Church  
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Member, Unitarian Universalist Association

**The St. Louis Unitarian  
Volume 46, Number 9  
March 2016**

April newsletter deadline: March 14

Fold: March 22 @ 9:30 a.m.

Submit news to [office@firstuustlouis.org](mailto:office@firstuustlouis.org)  
(314) 361-0595/96 • fax: (314) 361-0712

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**Membership**

**Dan Livengood**, Membership Coordinator

**Mary Thompson**, Sunday Sexton

**Elliott Smith, Constance Taylor** Custodian

**Donald Jeffries**, Newsletter Proofreader

**Office Hours**

Mon — Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday Closed