

October 2017

The Flame



**The Monthly Newsletter of
First Unitarian Church of
Omaha**

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Month

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Heart & Hand
Auction

Sunday Services

Sunday, October 1 at 10:30am
"26% of Americans Do Not Believe in God"

Rev. Frank Rivas

Researchers at the University of Kentucky tried to identify what people really believe, not what they claim to believe. The results were surprising. How do Unitarian Universalists respond to this information?

Sunday, October 8 at 10:30am—Guest Speaker

Connie Simon, guest preacher from Meadville Lombard Theological School, is the first in a new series, "New Voice of Liberal Religion."

Sermon: "The Promise of Unitarian Universalism: My Life Matters" with Connie Simon

At General Assembly this year, thousands of Unitarian Universalists pledged their support for pursuing racial justice and embracing people of all ethnicities, gender identities and neural abilities. Are we finally ready to live fully and completely into our principles? Information: Connie Simon has had a diverse career as lawyer, business owner, teacher and social worker. She is now a third-year student at Meadville Lombard Theological school in Chicago and Intern Minister at the Unitarian Society of Germantown in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Connie intends to pursue parish ministry after graduation in May.

Sunday, October 15 at 10:30am
"Gilgamesh"

Rev. Frank Rivas

Gilgamesh, a Sumerian myth recorded circa 2000 BCE, offers a profound perspective on the human condition.

Sunday, October 22 at 10:30am
"Open, Critical, Welcoming"

Rev. Frank Rivas

We talk about welcoming Pagans, Christians, humanists, and more. Do we? Is it even possible to build such a community?

Sunday, October 29 at 10:30am
The Space Between

Collin Hatcher, church member

Behind the mask of a child's Halloween costume stands an ancient tradition that recognizes the division between the light half and the dark half of the year. A time that calls us to confront the veil that separates life and death, times of plenty and scarcity, and to live presently.

Sunday Forums

Forums are held at 9:30am in the Common Room. If you have a topic you would like to share, please contact the Forum Coordinator, Bebe at forum@firstuuomaha.org.

Sunday, October 1 at 9:30am

Midwest Leadership School with Kathy Alexander, Katrina Schmidt, Kerri Wingert, and Seth Wingert

Attendees of the 2017 Midwest Leadership School will share tips for being loving and compassionate leaders in the church and in our world. Q&A will follow. Please join us for an uplifting forum. Bonus youth leadership school speaker Erin Stokes.

Sunday, October 8 at 9:30am

Transylvania - The Home of Our Unitarian Cousins

2018 is the 450th anniversary of Transylvanian Unitarianism and the first proclamation declaring religious freedom. Our church has had a partner church/village in Transylvania since 1992. Janet West will be talking about an upcoming visit and what you would need to know if you are thinking about taking the trip. See page 16 for more information about the Partner Church.

Sunday, October 15 at 9:30am

What is the MTC? How Does it Relate to the Board?

A forum that explains what the Ministry Team Council (MTC) is all about and what we do as opposed to what the Board of Trustees does. Nellie Chenoweth, MTC member, will help explain along with members from the Board and the MTC.

Sunday, October 22 at 9:30am

Celebrating Mabon and Samhain

Join Barbara May and Peggy Pidgeon as they lead a discussion on the importance of Mabon and Samhain to many pagans. Even though the origins of both Mabon and Samhain are covered by the mists of time past, we will journey through what is known of the origin story; why both are celebrated and why modern pagans delight in celebrating the turn of the wheel of the year.

Sunday, October 29 at 9:30am

Food Security and Food Preservation in Eastern Senegal with Nancy Scott

Nancy was in Senegal for Farmer to Farmer and USAID to teach food security and food preservation at the request of a village in Eastern Senegal. They don't yet have widespread access to electricity and are interested in ideas to help prolong the usability of their garden produce. When it all ripens at the same time, profits at the market are low, and much of the harvest spoils.

Rev. Elations

Monthly Column from our Minister, Rev. Frank Rivas

Yesterday a woman drove by our church, noticed the rainbow flag in the wayside pulpit, and pulled into our parking lot. She asked to speak to the minister, and I listened; it was a moment of ministry, just what we're here for. I suspect that our Black Lives Matter banner also makes the church feel a little more accessible. But are we as open as our signage suggests?

I received an email recently; it included the following words, which I use with permission:

My husband is a classic Unitarian. He believes in God and Jesus the way our church ancestors did. Every single time he's been in our church, someone has made fun of Christians. I'm not exaggerating. Whether it was a social function or coffee hour, it has happened quite literally every time. It is bigoted, ugly, and unwelcoming.

The email went on to describe similar words directed against Pagans.

I'm not suggesting that we watch our language. If deep-seated prejudices are not addressed, Christian-bashing or Pagan-bashing or gay-bashing or racism will find another form of expression. I am suggesting something far more challenging, that we find the courage to own the narrowness of our vision, that we find the faith to affirm our desire to love our neighbors as ourselves, and that we talk with one another about how to move forward. This is the reason for listening circles, for religious education, and for Sunday worship. This is also the reason for engaging beyond our walls; not only do we help others, but we also broaden our own understanding.

We are called to both enjoy this creation and to make this Eden more accessible to one another. In so many ways, we are already doing so. I received another email which said, in part, "Each time I [come to church], I am rewarded with loving fellowship, a sense of the sacred physical space, and [the gifts of] gentleness, wisdom, and insight." This is who we are now and who we are becoming.

Blessings and love,
Frank

KIOS Bundled Donations

Each October, First Unitarian members and friends are asked to bundle their contributions to KIOS, Nebraska Public Radio's Omaha broadcasting station. KIOS offers intelligent, timely, stimulating, articulate and often humorous programming at 91.5 F.M.

This is a win-win proposition for you. It supports the outstanding programming on KIOS and is a terrific public relations vehicle for the Church. Last year, the bundling campaign raised \$3,660 for KIOS for which First Unitarian Church was acknowledged as a program underwriter 112 times on programs such as

Morning Edition, weekdays from 6 to 9 a.m.

All Things Considered, weekdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me, Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. and

Prairie Home Companion, Saturdays, 4 to 7 p.m.

Please place your check made out to **First Unitarian Church** in the offering plate and write **KIOS** on the memo line, or mail the check to the church office, or give the check to Lois Norris. Donations will be collected during the month of October.

Church Events

First UU Young Adults Group

Sunday, Oct. 1 after the service in the Merritt Lounge. This group welcomes everyone ages 18-35 from all over the Omaha Metro. We'll begin our new series: "Becoming: A Spiritual Guide for Navigating Adulthood."

People's Film Festival

Monday, Oct. 2 at 7pm. We will watch *Plutocracy III: Class War*.

CommUUnity Night

Friday, Oct. 6 at 6pm in the Common Room. If you haven't participated before, CommUUnity Night is a fun, laid-back all church event. We gather for a potluck of side items (the main dish will be provided by R.E.) and we don't worry about who is bringing what. Kids are free to play. If you can't bring anything or you are feeling too rushed to grab or make something last minute COME ANYWAY! There is always plenty of food and what we really want is YOUU!

Memorial Service for Barb Ross

Saturday, Oct. 7 at 11am in the Sanctuary. A light lunch will be served after in the Common Room. Please remember to park in the parking garage if you are able. We expect a large crowd. Childcare will be provided in the nursery.

Teams Meeting—Cancelled

This meeting scheduled for Oct. 7 as been cancelled. Save the date for 12/2.

POPs (Parents of Preschoolers)

Saturday, Oct. 7 at 5:45pm in the Common Room. All parents of preschoolers (from littles through primary grades) are invited to attend POPs Nights to connect with other POPs from both First and Second Unitarian communities. Childcare is provided on-site (please RSVP). Arrive by 5:45 p.m. and bring a dish to share. Grown-ups will gather in the First Unitarian Church common room (3114 Harney Street). Kids will eat and play in the First Unitarian nursery. Kindly RSVP (for adults and children) to Sarah Eades Hamilton (email: seades.hamilton@gmail.com or call/text: 402-306-6339).

Pathways Class

Sundays in October: 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 11:45am in the Whitney Young Room. This four-week class will take a more in-depth look at what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist and to be a member of First Unitarian Church of Omaha. RSVP to Carrie, Membership Coordinator at coordinator@firstuuomaha.org. See page 17 more details.

Women's Alliance

Monday, Oct. 9 at 6:30pm in the Common Room. Women, and those who identify as women, are invited to attend this gathering. Our program will be presented by the local CUUPS chapter. Their presentation, "The Art of Divination" will be presented by Barbara May from Second Unitarian Church. Warm up with a cup of tea and learn the Victorian art of tea leaf readings. Along with a chance to experience this long standing divination practice, members of our local chapter of CUUPS will offer tarot and runes readings. We now offer childcare. When you RSVP please include if you need childcare, how old your child(ren) are and any dietary needs they require. Snacks will be provided for the children. We ask for \$15 which goes to the cost of dinner, the Merritt Education Fund, and the Partner Church scholarship. If this will be your first time attending a WA get-together, please be our guest. The dinner will be from Gerda's German Restaurant (Octoberfest menu). For the meat eaters: chicken schnitzel and German potato salad or Hungarian goulash with spaetzle (dumplings), red cabbage, salad. For vegetarians: kaese spaetzle (cheese dumplings), red cabbage, salad. A separate dish (yet to be determined) can be prepared for vegans. Please, when you RSVP, indicate whether you prefer veggie or meat. Please RSVP via the Facebook event page on First Unitarian's page, or by emailing Jeri Thurber at jeri.thurber@gmail.com no later than October 5th.

Listening Circle Group Focused on Racial Justice for Youth

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm in the Merritt Lounge. First meeting: Thursday, Oct. 19. Through

readings and careful listening we will reflect on our beliefs and biases as they pertain to race, Whiteness, and working in beloved community. The group is facilitated by Dr. Kerri Wingert, an educator who focuses her teaching around compassion and equity. We especially encourage people who tutor or want to volunteer with YES (Youth Emergency Services) to attend. We will talk a lot about our experiences. We need participants to sign up before attending. Contact Kerri at kerriwingert@gmail.com.

AHA: Atheists, Humanists, Agnostics Discussion Group

We do not meet in October. Save the date for Thursday, November 9th.

Fall Clean-Up Day

Friday, Oct. 13, 8:30am to noon. Join Pierce and Cat to clean up the storage areas of the church including The Cave and The Furnace Room. Donuts and coffee will be offered to everyone who helps. Cleaning can be fun with a crew and we need YOUU! Contact the office at admin@firstuuomaha.org. Please do let us know if you can come help! Thank you!

People's Film Festival

Monday, Oct. 16 at 7pm in the Common Room. We'll watch *Disobedience*, the story of the struggle to save the world. *Disobedience* tells the David vs Goliath tales of front line leaders around the world risking life and limb in the fight for a livable climate. See the Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1322345517893902/>.

Examined Life Group

Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 7pm in the Merritt Lounge. This is a group determined to become democratic with each participant presenting a topic related to how we assess ourselves personally and as members of society. The ultimate aim is to foster mutual understanding among ourselves and the others attending. Interested? Contact Jack at jackheidell@yahoo.com.

Church Events Continued...

The Women's Religious Study Covenant Group

Thursday, Oct. 19 at 1pm in the Merritt Lounge. We will read "The Seventh Step: How Little We Know" from *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life* by Karen Armstrong. Our facilitator will be Pat Will. We welcome all self-identified women. If you are interested, please contact Harriet Major at hmajor323@cox.net or call 402-391-0248.

Young Adult Game Night

Friday, Oct. 20 at 6pm in the Common Room. All are invited to join the Young Adults for this event. We will have childcare! Bring snacks and board games.

Sarah Joslyn Celebration Event

Sunday, Oct. 22. This event celebrates those who have given a bequest to the church. See page 12 for details.

Board Talk Back (4th Sunday)

Sunday, Oct. 22 at 11:30am in the Common Room. The church board wants to hear from you and discuss issues that are important to you.

Taoism Discussion Group

Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 6:30pm in the Common Room. Join us to discuss anything and everything related to Taoism! As Taoism is best understood through practice rather than theory, the goal of this group is to provide a participatory space to explore how Taoism is applied in daily life, with an emphasis on experience. With our direct experiences as a reference point, we can then delve into the main texts of Taoism. The leader is Geoff Erickson: gerickson03@gmail.com. If you have an interest in Tai Chi or Qi Gong, please join us at 6pm (before the group) for a relaxing quick session. The class will be led by Mary Lou Flearl, who also teaches an hour-long class at Omaha Power Yoga. This class at the church is free! Come as you are; the movements are gentle and do not require special clothing or experience.

Heart & Hand Auction

Friday, Oct. 27 at 6pm. See pages 6 and 7 for more information.

Conservative/Liberal Dialogues

6 Sundays, 2:30-4pm in the Common Room starting October 29. See page 9.

CUUPS Samhain Ritual

Sunday, Oct. 29 at 6pm in the Common Room. Come join us as we celebrate Samhain, perhaps the biggest festival of the year! The veil between the worlds is thin at Samhain as it is at Beltane. This is the third harvest festival and we celebrate summer's end and the coming of winter. This is the time of the Dark Mother and the Crone. Welcome one and all! Ritual starts at 6:30pm. Potluck to follow—please bring a dish to share. Childcare will be provided.

Book Club

Monday, Oct. 30 at 7pm in the Merritt Lounge. The book for this month is *Dark Money* by Jane Mayer. Questions? Contact Dave at drichardson821@gmail.com.

Recurring Events

NAMI Connections

Meets every Wednesday at 1pm in the Whitney Young Room. This is a peer-run group for persons living with mental health challenges. This group will meet every Wednesday at 1pm. If you have questions, please email Terri Lynn at quburr77@outlook.com.

YRUU—Youth Group

Wednesdays at 7pm in the Common Room. Our weekly youth group at church meets September - May. Need more information? Contact the advisors at yruuomaha@gmail.com

Choir

Wednesdays at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Would you like to join the choir? Contact our Choir Director William at choirdirector@firstuuomaha.org

Lunch with the Minister

Every Thursday at noon in the Common Room. Bring your own lunch and join us! No RSVP required.

Women's Religious Studies Group

This group meets every Thursday, except for the 3rd week of the month at

1pm in the Merritt Lounge. This group explores a wide range of religious beliefs through reading and discussion. New members welcome. We're reading *The Essence of Shinto: Japan's Spiritual Heart* by Motohisa Yamakage. Contact Neva at hansen.cozine@gmail.com.

Refuge Recovery Group

Every Thursday, 6pm to 7:30pm, in the Whitney Young Classroom beginning Sept. 28. A new chapter of Refuge Recovery, "a Buddhist path to recovery from addiction," is being organized by Forrest Knapp. Refuge Recovery is a program that "does not ask anyone to believe anything, only to trust the process and do the hard work of recovery." For further information, see refugerecovery.org or email Forrest at forrestknapp@yahoo.com.

Dungeons and Dragons Group Meeting

Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month in the Whitney Young Room at 12:30pm. Questions? Contact Roman at RobertmNoriega@gmail.com, 402-769-4260.

Bridge Group

Meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month in the Conference Room at noon. If you've played before, come for some entertainment and time at the game table. Novices welcome too. Contact Scott Kemper at scott.kemper@gmail.com.

Future Events

Sunday, November 5: Team Fair

This is our traditional team fair that happens every fall. Teams represented will include: House & Grounds, Fundraising, Garden, Membership, Fellowship, Partner Church, Hospitality, Office, and more. Contact mtc@firstuuomaha.org for more information.

Women's Alliance Bake Sale

Sunday, November 19 during coffee hour. Get all your goodies from our annual bake sale which is held the Sunday before Thanksgiving! Help the

"Heart & Hand" Auction Party

Friday, October 27, 2017 6-9 p.m.

At First Unitarian Church 3114 Harney St.

A major FUNdraiser for the church operations budget

Eat, Party, Shop!

What will YOU Donate??



Auction Categories

1. **Gourmet Gatherings**
(features eating-dinners, etc)
2. **Giving & Receiving**
(services, lessons, a helping hand)
3. **Going Wild**
(games, activities, sports, outings)
4. **Great Goods**
(tempting physical items)



Casual-Informal-Fun!

FREE Childcare
by reservation

New This Year:

On-line sales of many items
ahead of the auction:
Go to the Auction Website!
TWO growing catalogs!

Delicious Food!
Fall Favorites Potluck
Cash Bar: beer, wine, soda
(Free lemonade, coffee, etc.)
HALLOWEEN

Costumes Encouraged
(but optional)

Prizes: Best in Category!

1. **Thrift-Store Thriller**
(features thrift-store finds)
2. **Pun Fun** (put your "pun" on)
3. **Spook's Choice** (open)

Raffle Basket!

Door Prizes!

To **DONATE** items for Auction

To **VOLUNTEER** to help out

VISIT the Auction Area (Common Room)

EMAIL auction@firstuomaha.org

To **SIGN UP** for the potluck or childcare

To **GET A BIDDER #** for on-line shopping

GO ON-LINE: <http://www.firstuomaha.org>

CALL Katrina 402-916-9741

Donation deadline is October 23 (sooner is better, of course)



DON'T MISS the AUCTION ACTION!!

Please support the **Halloween "Heart & Hand" Auction Party** on **Friday, Oct 27th, 6-9 pm** at First Unitarian Church! Donate! Attend! Shop!

Our major annual FUNdraiser for the operating budget. So-named because it features items that build connections (e.g., dinners, parties, lessons) as well as intriguing stuff.

Delicious food! End a busy workweek with food, fun, and friends. Bring something for the Fall Favorites Potluck. Cash bar (beer, wine). Free coffee, tea, lemonade.

Costume contest with prizes! Categories are: Thrift-Store Thriller (features thrift-store finds), Pun Fun (put your "pun" on), & Spook's Choice (open). Door prizes! Raffle of "Big Basket of B"! Schedule same as last year: Potluck, then big Silent Auction, the fun Live Auction with desserts. Don't miss it!

Explore the Auction Website ([click here](#))! Register to bid! Shop TWO catalogs: one with on-line sales ahead of auction (new) & one for Auction Night. Check often—the catalogs grow as donations come in. The site has all the info you need, including donating and reserving childcare. Get your name on the "Donors" tab, and notice all the businesses supporting our church.

Donate auction items! Help build an awesome Auction Catalog. What can YOU donate? The goal is to raise \$15,000 for the operating budget. We did it last year, and with your help, we'll do it again! **DEADLINE for donations and childcare is Monday, Oct 23th.** To donate, visit the Auction Area at church, use the Auction Website, email auction@firstuuomaha.org or call Katrina (402-916-9741) or Donna (402-699-3183), Auction Co-chairs.

Free childcare by reservation (infant to 5th grade). Sign-up at Auction Area or on-line. Older children/youth attend the auction or can be with the younger children with childcare-workers permission. Kids' Costume Parade (optional).

Can't be at the auction? Arrange a **proxy bidder** and pre-bid, setting your bid nice and high!

Remember: this is all for a good cause, so be generous and enjoy. See you Friday, Oct 27th!

Ways You Can Get Involved & Help

YES Meal Volunteers Needed

Monday, Oct. 16 at 9am in the kitchen. Help us make a meal for YES (Youth Emergency Services). We have chicken nuggets and tater tots. Can you help cook? Or can you donate fruit or desserts? Contact Kim at kjcallaghan@hotmail.com.

Audio Team: Helpers Needed

Did you enjoy the Early Morning Risers last month? Do you want to join EMR but don't sing or cannot play an instrument? Did you know that YOU can still be a key player? How? Join the Sound Team. If you can use a laptop or a smart phone, you can help with the sound system! Contact the church office today to find out how you can get involved. Help us make Sunday mornings sound even better. You are needed. Email: admin@firstuomaha.org

Heritage Task Force

We're looking forward to celebrating in 2018-2019 the Centennial of our building and the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Articles of Incorporation. We need people with a variety of skills and interests: event planners, publications and public relations types, techies, writers, editors, archivists, artistic types and of course people who love the church and its history. Interested? Contact Dave Richardson at drichardson821@gmail.com. Our meeting will happen on Saturday, Oct. 14 at 9:30am in the Common Room.

Community Meals Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers for Saturday, November 18th! See page 12 more information.

Sanctuary Task Force

Volunteers are needed to help spearhead this effort, learn what is involved, and educate our congregation on the matter. We don't have to start from scratch! Rev. Cindy Simpson of Second U preached on the matter as recently as May and the UUA website has a whole section dedicated to the Sanctuary Movement. Time is of the essence. We want to act quickly yet deliberately, and we believe educating ourselves and the congregation is a critical first step. Interested parties are asked to read the UUA's Sanctuary Toolkit as well as the transcript from Rev. Cindy's sermon (<http://www.2uomaha.org/services/el-santuario>) and are invited to attend the October board meeting on Tuesday, October 10th at 7pm to share information gained, develop an official charge, and sketch out some action steps for the task force. In the meantime, your board will be inquiring with representatives from our church and others to address this issue many of us hold dear. Thank you from your First Unitarian Church Board of Trustees. **If you are interested in being on the Task Force, please email the office at admin@firstuomaha.org or call the office at 402-345-3039 ext 101.**

Thank You!

Blessing Bag Day Recap

A dozen people came together to assemble Blessing Bags at church on Friday, Sept. 8th. Donations of socks, granola bars, water bottles, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other toiletry items flowed in and our team assembled 120 bags. These Blessing Bags will be given out at church during the week by the church office and they are available to give out on Sundays. Look for the Blessing Bag bin in the copier room. Each bag contains a 10-page Resource Guide that lists shelters, food and clothing pantries, and other agencies that offer assistance. Thank you to everyone who donated items, gave cash donations and gave time to put together the bags. This important project could not have happened without you!



Wayside Pulpit: New Glass and Pulpiteer

Kim Dunovan volunteered to take over our church sign that faces Harney Street. She will be updating the sign with new quotes every couple of weeks. Our sign was tagged with graffiti a couple of months ago and the plexi-glass became hazy when the graffiti was removed. Kim has ordered new glass that will improve the look of the sign. Thank you, Kim! We want to thank Cassi Moucka for helping with our Wayside Pulpit sign for more than two years.

Recycling: Making the Church Greener

Thank you to Adam Sagert for removing recycling from the church kitchen for years. Now a new volunteer has been found: Jeri Thurber. Jeri volunteered to take aluminum, glass and cardboard left in the recycling bins in the kitchen to a center. Thank you, Jeri! We also want to acknowledge Lois Norris and Carolyn McNamara, who remove the paper recycling from the church office each week. Thank you for recycling!

FRUSTRATED BY ALL THE POLITICAL ARGUING?

JOIN CONSERVATIVE-LIBERAL DIALOGUES!



OCTOBER 29 - DECEMBER 3 (6 Sundays), 2pm-3:30pm in the Common Room at First U Church

Sometimes it feels impossible to talk with people who see things differently.

Still, many people from various political perspectives want to solve problems.

The Conservative-Liberal Dialogue process provides a safe way to share your experiences, concerns, differences and solutions. Here's how it works:

1. An equal number of Conservatives and Liberals are invited
2. "Speed Friending" exercise connects people personally
3. Rules of respectful communication are taught in a fun, interactive way
4. Experts will present facts on economic opportunity, climate, and immigration
5. We discuss topics 1-to-1, so EVERYONE gets to talk and be heard
6. We begin by talking about how we developed our beliefs and values, then grow our ability to deal with controversial subjects.

Come even if you think you don't have the courage, or the patience, or the ability to communicate with folks who are different from you.

Do your part to generate understanding and cooperation, and you may be surprised how much we all have in common. Call Elaine Wells at 402-415-9500 for more information.

There is no charge, but registration is necessary. The link to register is <http://bit.ly/CLDialogues>

Notes from Religious Education


By Jan Wilson

Our new year is launched! It is good to see old and new faces and to throw ourselves into an exciting year of exploration and fun.

Our middle schoolers, sixth grade and above, will be honored in a rite of passage ceremony on Sunday, October 29. These young people will be attending our Sundays at Spielbound program where they will be collaborating on board games that teach as well as foster cooperation and team building. See below.

YRUU, our youth group on Wednesday nights, is for grades 7-12. We have begun a new year with new advisors: Justin Short, from Second Unitarian Church, and our own Geoff Erickson. Carolyn Miller, from Second Unitarian, will be returning. The youth will be learning about world religions and touring some local congregations to learn more in person. We welcome any youth to join the group on Wednesday night in the Common Room at First Unitarian. Please email yruuomaha@gmail.com.

Our POPS group, Parents of Preschoolers, is well underway. They are a combined group with the parents of Second Unitarian Church. See page 4 for information about their meeting in October. The Middle Room students are learning all about the Abrahamic religions. We are learning that we have much history in common with these faiths. Learning about the beliefs of others helps formulate our own belief systems.

Seth Conner	
Jackie Petrow	
Xander Wiig	
Sophia Godfrey	
Liam Wiig	
Simón Sanchez-Soto	
Miles Godfrey	
<h3>A Rite of Passage</h3> <p>Our middle school students have advanced through our Sunday School program and will be spreading their wings by participating in our Sundays at Spielbound program.</p>	

Listening Circles Now Forming!

What is a Listening Circle?

A small group of individuals – friends, visitors, or members of UU who listen and discuss various topics. Both the topics and format of discussion are designed to encourage active listening, which strengthens and deepens relationships.

What Can Listening Circles Do For Me and Our Community?

A listening circle develops and enhances relationships of participants, builds trust, strengthens listening skills, and develops a safe space for everyone. These skills and relationships will improve all First UU activities as we grow and connect with one another.

What Kind of Topics Will We Discuss?

Both challenging and fun topics are explored. Currently we have prepared these topics: play, living simply, justice, forgiveness, expectations, endings, confronting evil, aloneness, and addictions.

How Often and For How Long Do Groups Meet?

Groups will meet twice a month for an hour to an hour and a half either at church or in homes.

What Does a Meeting Look Like?

A clear format is used for listening circles to ensure everyone is heard. We read several quotes on a single topic, followed by a short period of contemplation, and then discuss the quotes in three rounds.

- Round 1: Each member shares impressions without response.
- Round 2: Discussion. Follow up on ideas expressed, question, and expand.
- Round 3: Final thoughts shared by each individual. Did your viewpoint change from the conversation?

What if I Want to Facilitate One Meeting or More?

Great! The set format for listening circles makes guiding easy. Facilitators do as much or as little as they would like and have the opportunity to receive a vast amount of support. Minimally, just bring the topic of the day. Before your first meeting, you will receive a quick 5-10 minute one-on-one orientation, a manual with suggestions and topics, become a part of an on-line facilitator's community, and have the option of attending a group training meeting.

What Do You Expect of Me if I Join?

We ask that you be committed to attending and let the facilitator know if you cannot. We ask participants to listen and share deeply, be aware how much time they are taking to share, welcome new members, avoid cross talk, avoid judging, avoid giving feedback, avoid "fixing" people, and keep stories shared confidential.

We Want You!

We would like to grow and learn with you in small groups. We hope this will bring together people who may not normally interact with one another, and we hope to strengthen our community. Please email listeningcircles@firstuuomaha.org or go to <http://www.firstuuomaha.org/circles> to fill out the online form.

Listening Circles will begin in October. Please sign up today!

Hope in Action

Our church believes in community, and that is what Hope in Action, a sub-team of the Caring Team, is all about. Any one of us might need assistance, and we want to make it easier for you to ask for support and easier for you to offer support when others are in need.

WHO IS SERVED?

Church members, friends, regular attendees and their spouses are eligible for assistance from Hope in Action.

WHO CAN HELP?

Everyone! Hope in Action is an opportunity for everyone in our church community to support each other by sharing knowledge, skills and resources.

Hope in Action will use church communications, including the enews, to let our church community know when help is needed to respond to a request for support. And we will report back to the church community about how we were able to respond. All communication will be done in a manner that maintains the degree of confidentiality requested by the person seeking assistance.

WHAT SUPPORT CAN BE EXPECTED?

Hope in Action is there when people are dealing with a medical problem, need transportation or help around the house, can use assistance with referrals to social service agencies or just need someone to talk to about the ups and downs of life. Our response will vary depending on the type of support that is needed in our church community and what resources we have available.

Although Hope in Action is not able to respond to emergencies, short-term financial assistance may be available for lodging, food, clothing, medication, transportation and utilities. Financial disbursements are not made directly to the person making the request for assistance.

HOW TO ASK FOR SUPPORT

Requests for assistance must be made directly by the person needing help. Hope in Action does not respond to any anonymous or third-party requests for assistance.

Here are the ways you can ask for support from Hope in Action. You may send an email to

hopeinaction@firstuuomaha.org or use the Hope in Action link on the church website. Or, you may simply complete a Caring Card, located in the church pews and place it in the offering plate.

WHO DECIDES WHAT SUPPORT WILL BE OFFERED?

Hope in Action will use a team approach, so at least three members of Hope in Action must participate in determining the nature of the response.

COMMUNITY MEALS

Every Saturday churches in our area join together to cook a meal, serve their neighbors and bring a sense of community to our neighborhood at First Baptist Church. Our church has committed to the following Saturday for Community Meals:

Saturday, November 18

Please mark your calendar and contact me if you are interested in helping. We will need people to help with desserts, cooking, serving and cleaning up. Thank you to everyone who has already helped with meals earlier this year. Thanks! Diane Withem, dianewithem@gmail.com

SHARE THE PLATE

Each month one-half of the loose currency collected in the offering plate is donated to a local cause that advances important principles of Unitarianism. In the month of October we share the plate with **Community Meals**. Our church is part of Neighbors United. The main task of this organization is to provide a weekly meal on Saturdays at First Baptist Church. In addition to reg-

ularly volunteering at this meal, three or four times a year our church cooks the meal for about 250 people living in our neighborhood. See the column to the left for more information.

CHANGE FOR CHANGE

Each week generous people put change in the collection plate. This change goes to the Sunday School kids who decide what to do with the money. In the past they have helped Community Meals and International Bridges for Justice. The kids are now donating this change to the **Neighborhood Ministry Team**, which purchases bus tickets and food cards and gives out blessing bags to people who come to the church door from our area. Your change makes a difference! Thank you for your generosity!

SARAH JOSLYN CELEBRATION

It's not too late to become a member of The Sarah Joslyn Society and secure your place at the annual celebration scheduled for October 22nd. Each year at this fun event, we look forward to welcoming our newest members and honoring everyone who has made a commitment to leave a bequest to the church. As our founder, Dixie Lemon, always reminds us, "You'll never miss the money." Contact Deb at debduggan1117@gmail.com or (402) 553-5477 for more information.

Women's Alliance *by Kathi Oliver*

Are you drawing a blank on which book to read next? Take a page from Mrs. Leon Smith's book list from 1953, presented to the Woodson Center Library by the Evening Alliance of First Unitarian Church of Omaha. Her list, typed on Chieftain Bond paper, includes books about science, food, and politics. During our adventures of digging through the archives, we saw many articles, recipes, meeting minutes, and checklists. This month we present you with a book list found in the file folders, 1952-1954.

George Washington by Bernard Fay

The Gateway to American History
by Randolph G. Adams

The True Story of George Washington
The True Story of U.S. Grant
both by Elbridge S. Brooks

When Jefferson was Young
by Mabel Analey Murphy

Sun Yat Sen by Nina Brown Boker

Stories of Outdoor Science by Lewis M. Dougan

Strange Animals and Their Stories
Strange Reptiles and Their Stories
both by A. Hyatt Verrill

Our Country's National Parks, Vol. I & II
by Irving R. Melbo

Our Starland by C.C. Wylie

Nutcracker of Nuremburg by Donald E. Cooke

Black and Silver by Mary Brown Clement

The Luck of Roaring Camp by Bret Harte

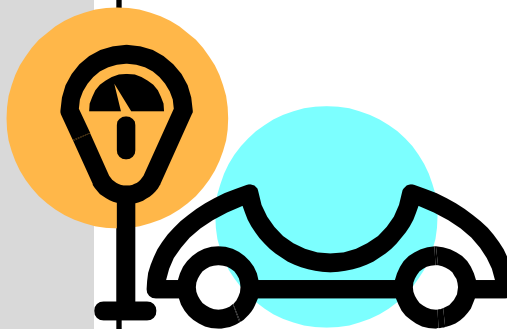
The Father of Little Women
by Honore Willsie Morrow



Parking at Church

Parking is directly west of the church in the surface parking lot or on the street. If you are able to park in the MidTown Crossing garage to the west of our parking lot, it would leave our small parking lot for visitors and those who need to park closer to the building. You may park in the Midtown Crossing Parking Garage to the west of the church lot. The entrance to the parking garage is on Farnam Street. Have your ticket validated

downstairs in the Common Room. Find the ticket-validating machine on the south side of the Common Room on the bookcase. **You must have your ticket validated for free**



Visiting the Church

When you visit the church during the week day, you will most likely find all the doors locked. This is done so that our staff is safe. We ask members and friends to be sure that all the church doors are locked after an event and sometimes after an event has started to make sure that everyone inside the church is safe. If you find the side door (the handicap accessible door closest to the parking lot) locked just buzz the doorbell to the left of the door. It's the light gray button on the left hand speaker box. See below. If someone is in the office, he or she will speak to you over the speaker. Please identify yourself. Then you will be buzzed in. Sometimes a staff member or another church member in the building will hear the door and just go open it for you. The door bell can be heard in most parts of the building. If you are hosting an event or need to get into the building when no one is here, please contact the church office to receive a fob so you can enter the locked building. The fob temporarily unlocks the door allowing you to enter the side door. If you need to have the door remain unlocked for a meeting or event, please contact the office.



Elders for the Earth: 2017 Retreat in the Spirit of Chautauqua

Anything else you're interested in is not going to happen if you can't breathe the air and drink the water. Don't sit this one out. Do something. ----Carl Sagan

Elders for the Earth is a multi-day interdisciplinary gathering geared for folks 50 years and over, who want to learn more about and do something about a changing climate. This Chautauqua-like event is being held at beautiful Mahoney State Park near Ashland, NE beginning Sunday, October 1 and concluding Wednesday, October 4. Come when you can, leave when you must.

Speakers include, Senator Tony Vargas (free public lecture Sunday at 2:30 p.m.), Scott Williams (Omaha Biofuels Coop), Dr. John Gamon (UNL), Gus Von Roenn (Permaculture Solutions), Senator Patty Pansing Brooks, Kim Morrow (Verdis Group) and Jane Kleeb (BOLDNebraska).

Workshops/Playshops cover right brain, left brain and out of doors experiences. Participants will enjoy live music, delicious locally sourced food, book reviews and time to enjoy hikes in the woods! Come when you can, leave when you must.

More information here:
www.elders4theearth.com

Experiences of a Palestinian Christian: Oppression and Hope for Peace Speaker: Nora Carmi

Born in Jerusalem in 1947, Nora Arsenian Carmi, is a Palestinian Christian who became a refugee in her own city, divided after the establishment of the Israeli State. From her late father, Noubar Arsenian, a genocide survivor of the Armenian Massacres of 1915, and her Christian upbringing, she learned the value and sanctity of human life as she grew up in the land termed "holy" where conflict and strife have prevailed over the six decades of her life. Nora has served as community builder in Palestinian society in both professional and voluntary capacities, advocating for a just peace and empowering women and the community through skill development and spirituality. Her career has included leadership with the YWCA of Palestine, Sabeel Liberation Theology Center and Kairos Palestine. She travels extensively, speaking in church and political circles around the world about the urgency of ending the injustice in Palestine and Israel. Nora has served on the Steering Committee of the Christian Peace-Makers Team (CPT) and on the boards of the International Parenthood and Family Planning of the YWCA and the Coalition for Jerusalem. She currently serves on the Palestinian Islamic Christian Commission, the National Association for the Visually Handicapped and the Advisory Board of BILDA, the Swedish diaconal movement. She represents Palestine and the Middle East on the Executive Committee of World Day of Prayer International, is involved with the National Coalition of Church in Palestine related organizations (NCCOP), is a member of the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum (PIEF) of the World Council of Churches, and is an organizer of the annual World Week for Peace for Palestine and Israel (WPPI). Nora has received multiple honors for her empowerment of women and community work. In 2009 she was chosen to address His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to the

Holy Land and in 2015 she was among the delegation privileged to meet His Holiness Pope Francis. Despite the pain of Palestinian suffering, Nora believes that peace begins with a smile (Mother Teresa of Calcutta) and continues to contribute as long as she is able.



Speaking engagements:

Wed., Oct. 4, 7:00pm:
Harper Center, Room 3028
Creighton University
620 North 20th Street, Omaha

Thurs., Oct. 5, Noon:
Soup and Substance Presentation
Warde Conference Center, Mercy Hall
College of St. Mary
72nd & Mercy Roads, Omaha
RSVP Required: www.csm.edu/Soup

Outside Opportunity:

Bourbon at the Border: A theater production scheduled at The Union of Contemporary Art (2423 N. 24th St., Omaha NE). This show will feature our very own Kabin Thomas! It will run from September 22 to October 8. Show Description: When May and Charlie joined hundreds of other Americans who went to Mississippi in the summer of 1964 for a massive voter registration drive, they had no idea their lives were about to change forever. As students at Howard University, their campus activism had been met with calls to their parents and threats of expulsion. The stakes in Mississippi were a lot higher. White supremacists, outraged at the challenge to their segregated way of life, responded with violence that left three civil rights workers dead and many wounded. Years later, May and Charlie are still searching for a way back from the damage that was done to them during that long ago "Freedom Summer." Go here for all the details: <http://www.u-ca.org/events/2017/9/22/bourbon-at-the-border>

Sedition in Nebraska, 1917-2017

CHANCELLOR: A university is famous for people with opinions. This is not the time for opinions.

SCHRAG: But, surely, freedom of speech and academic liberty affect the university most profoundly.

CHANCELLOR: That's very grand, but I hardly think that you, personally, carry the mantle of intellectual freedom on your shoulders, do you? Not when the opinion of the people is arrayed against you.

This is the Chancellor of the University of Nebraska, where Andrew Schrag is a Professor of German. The time is 1917-18, and the dialogue is from “Sedition,” by playwright David Wiltse, Professor Schrag’s grandson.

The Angels Theatre Company plans to present two or more readings of “Sedition” in fall 2017 to commemorate the centennial of the events it portrays. One reading will be part of its 2017-18 salon reading series along with other plays on the theme of free speech. Another reading will be the basis for the fall 2017 annual membership meeting of the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska. First Unitarian Church plans to have a reading of this play in the near future at church. Watch the enews and website for more information.

SCHRAG: Every man is free to voice his view on any folly—just as I am free to dispute it. It's called freedom of speech. I hold it precious.

[PROSECUTOR] MEGRIM: I couldn't agree more. Nothing is more precious than the freedom of speech—except the freedom of this country. We are here today because of the possibility of sedition. And what is that but the misuse of freedom of speech?

At each reading of the play, AFCON will provide historical background concerning the 1918 University of Nebraska professors trial, in which a dozen professors were put on trial before the Board of Regents for not being sufficiently loyal and anti-German as the U.S. went to war with Germany. In addition to Andrew Schrag, victims of the 1918 professors trial included Harry K. Wolfe, who got his Ph.D. in Germany and brought the new scientific psychology back to Nebraska in the 1880s; George Washington Andrew Luckey, an expert in child study and pedagogy, who founded and led what became the College of Education; and Clark Persinger, a staunch defender of academic freedom who headed the Department of American History.

A century later, questions of academic freedom in times of patriotic fervor and ethnic hysteria remain as relevant as ever, and not just in higher education. Most Nebraskans don't know that every Nebraska school district is required by a 1949 law to have a “committee on Americanism” charged with monitoring the history and civics curriculum to ensure the production of a “patriotic citizenry.” LB 308, a bill introduced in January 2017 in the Nebraska legislature, is designed to activate these committees.

CHANCELLOR [to SCHRAG]: What would happen if everyone went around practicing his “freedoms”? The average man doesn't know what his freedoms are and doesn't exercise them. He worships the gods his parents gave him and agrees with the loudest voice he hears, he does what he's told and he's happy to do so—it relieves him of the burden of thinking. If everyone said and acted as he wished, authority would be forced to sit upon us like a stone on an egg. We have freedom only as long as we don't exercise it.

We hope the presentation of “Sedition” will increase historical awareness and spur useful discussion about the exercise of freedom in 1917 and 2017. If you have suggestions or would like to get involved in planning these events, contact AFCON Board Member, Linda Parker, at lparkerlib@gmail.com.

Partner Church Team Update

Team Members: Nadine Keith, Evy Rosser, Dave Olson, Ron and Anne Knapp, Val Murray, Nancy Scott, Kandy Scott, Mary Jo and Mike Stoll, Bob Hess, Sharon and Pete Piehler, Bebe Mcammond, and Janet West, Chair.

WHERE IS TRANSYLVANIA? COME TO THE BEFORE-CHURCH FORUM ON OCTOBER 8 AND FIND OUT.

At the church forum on October 8, the Partner Church Team will make a presentation on Transylvania and our Partner Church/village in Firtosmartonos, Transylvania, Romania. Also presented will be some preliminary information about the upcoming pilgrimage to Transylvania in July 2018.



THE PARTNER CHURCH TEAM SENDS THE MONEY YOU DONATED TO THE PARTNER CHURCH FUND TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR PARTNER CHURCH/VILLAGE, FIRTOSMARTONOS, TRANSYLVANIA

Each year, First Unitarian Church sends scholarship money to Rev. Katalin Szasz-Cserey to be distributed to the village young people. The students who are given partial scholarships are either in high school or college. The Partner Church Team sends a total of \$2,400 per year, \$1,200 in September and another \$1,200 in January. During August of each year, the eligible students complete a questionnaire that includes what school he/she will be attending, what courses the student will be taking, what the student's plans are after completing high school or college, and what the scholarship money will be used for. Although the Romanian government pays for the students' educational expenses at the high school level, most of the students, whether high schoolers or in college, must live in a dormitory during the week, many miles from the village. The scholarship money pays for dormitory and transportation costs and books.

Attila Szasz

Attila graduated from a high school in June, 2017. He is now attending college in Koloszsvar (Cluj) majoring in Mathematics-Informatics.



Dalma Szentpali

Dalma completed the basic education of Medical School. In February, 2018, she will sit for an exam. If she does well on the exam, she will study psychiatry.



Pathways (to Membership)

New session **starting Sunday, October 8th** and running consecutive Sundays (10/8, 10/15, 10/22, & 10/29) following church service in the Whitney Young room (downstairs by the nursery).

This is a chance to get a more in-depth look at what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist. We'll have member-led discussions about the history of our church and the UU church at large, our church governance (the congregation-led church), religious education, elements of worship, and much more!

RSVP to Carrie at coordinator@firstuuomaha.org

(Drop-ins are welcome, but to get the most out of the class you'll want to be there for the 4-week course). Hope to see you there!

*Tentative Schedule for October workshops (dates/ topics may alter)

Week	Date	Topic	Speaker(s)
1	October 8 th	Introductory class Elements of being a UU	Carrie This is get-to-know-you time Beth Conover
2	October 15 th	History of Unitarian Universalism History of our Church	Rev. Frank Rivas Dave Richardson
3	October 22 nd	Governance—the congregation led church What it means to be a member and ways to get involved	Jackie Anderegg Membership team member
4	October 29	Stewardship Hospitality teams Religious Education	Walt Jesteadt—Stewardship/pledging Membership team member Carolyn McNamara—Hospitality teams Jan Wilson, DRE

Minister

Frank Rivas

minister@firstuuomaha.org**Director of Religious Education**

Jan Wilson

dre@firstuuomaha.org**Membership Coordinator**

Carrie Helmberger

coordinator@firstuuomaha.org**Church Administrator**

Catharine Dixon

admin@firstuuomaha.org**Organist**

Pat Will

Choir Director

William Miller

choirdirector@firstuuomaha.org**Choir Accompanist**

J. Gawf

Pianist

Stan Harper

Minister Emeritus

Ronald Knapp

Nursery Coordinator

Jenny Hastings

childcare@firstuuomaha.org**Nursery Aide**

Gale Callaghan

Custodian

Bobby Medrano

Nominating CommitteeMolly Dewell, Dave Olson,
Kathy Oliver, Carol Ramsey,
Marie Sedlacek, Ben Wallace**THE FLAME**

Deadlines are the 15th of each month.

Word limit: 200. Send submissions to

admin@firstuuomaha.org.

Editor/Designer: Cat Dixon

Proofers: Lana Hammel,

Scott Kemper, Lois Norris,

Debbie Hunsberger

Flame Mailing Team:

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First Unitarian Churchwww.firstuuomaha.org

402-345-3039

Meet Our Leaders

Board Members

Alan Vovolka (President), Maria Wallace (President-Elect), Catherine Plumlee (Secretary), Geoff Erickson, Linda Parker, Floyd Prine, Joe Schaaf, Donna Tubach-Davis

Email: board@firstuuomaha.org**Trustees of the Capital Trust**

Evelyn Whitehill (2018), Dean Christensen (2019), Daniel Byrd (2020)

Committee on Ministry

Bruce Godfrey, Collin Hatcher, Carol Ramsey, Donna Tubach-Davis

Ministry Team Council

Rev. Frank Rivas, Nellie Chenoweth, Maria Wallace, Diane Withem

Email.com: mtc@firstuuomaha.org**Ministry Teams and Team Leaders**

Archives/Heritage Task Force—Dave Richardson & Janet West

Black Lives Matter—Rene Harper

Caring—Louise Jeffrey

Chalice Guild—Kay Lynn Goldner

Community Meals—Diane Withem

Early Morning Risers—Mary Kay Peters & Peg Pidgeon

Fellowship Team—Judith Wright, Nadine Keith & Nellie Chenoweth

Finance Team—Walt Jesteadt

Forums—Bebe McCammond

Garden—Sharon Conlon

Fundraising Team—Donna Neff and Katrina Schmidt

Hope in Action—Kim Dunovan

Hospitality Teams—Carolyn McNamara

House and Grounds Team—Pierce Carpenter

Listening Circles—Katrina Schmidt

Membership Team—Mike McAtee & Janet West

Midtown Helping Hands—open

Office Team—Carolyn McNamara

Omaha Together One Community—Janet West

Partner Church Team—Janet West

Recycling Coordinator—Jeri Thurber

Social Justice Coordinator—Laura Thomas

Stewardship Team—Open

Wayside Pulpit—Kim Dunovan

Women's Alliance—Catherine Plumlee

Worship Arts Team—Maria Wallace

Young Adult Group—Collin & Becca Hatcher

YRUU—Geoff Erickson & Carolyn Miller

On Sunday, October 8th: members of the **River City Mixed Chorus** will be handing out mini packages of Skittles before and after Sunday service. Called "Come Out Singing Sunday," the chorus wants to raise awareness for **National Coming Out Day**, which is October 11, and raise funds to help chorus members attend the GALA Festival of Choruses in 2020 in Minneapolis. Suggested donation is \$1. Carol Ramsey, church member, will help with this effort on October 8th.

Church Events

First UU Young Adults

Sunday, Oct. 1 at 11:30am in the Merritt Lounge. See page 4 for details.

People's Film Festival

Monday, Oct. 2 at 7pm. See page 4.

Private Wedding

Sunday, Friday, Oct. 6 at 4pm

CommUUnity Night

Friday, Oct. 6 at 6pm in the Common Room. See page 4.

Memorial Service for Barb Ross

Saturday, Oct. 7 at 11am in the Sanctuary. See page 4.

POPS (Parents of Preschoolers)

Saturday, Oct. 7 at 5:45pm in the Common Room. See page 4 for details.

Pathways Class

Sundays in October: 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th at 11:45am in the Whitney Young Room. See page 17.

Church Office Closed

Monday, Oct. 9

Women's Alliance

Monday, Oct. 9 at 6:30pm in the Common Room. See page 4.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 7pm in the Common Room.

Fall Clean-Up Day

Friday, Oct. 13 at 8:30am in the cave. See page 4 for information.

Private Wedding

Saturday, Oct. 14 at 4pm.

Flame Deadline

Submit your newsletter articles to admin@firstuuomaha.org by October 15th at noon.

YES Meal

Monday, Oct. 16 at 9am. See page 8.

People's Film Festival

Monday, Oct. 16 at 7pm in the Common Room. See page 4 for details.

Examined Life Group

Tuesday, Oct. 17 at 7pm in the Merritt Lounge. See page 4.

The Women's Religious Study Covenant Group

Thursday, Oct. 19 at 1pm in the Merritt Lounge. See page 4.

Listening Circle Group Focused on Racial Justice for Youth

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm in the Merritt Lounge. First meeting: Thursday, Oct. 19. See page 4.

First U Young Adults Game Night

Friday, Oct. 20 at 6pm in the Common Room. See page 5.

Board Talk Back

Sunday, Oct. 22 at 11:30am in the Common Room. See page 5 for information.

Sarah Joslyn Celebration

Sunday, Oct. 22 at 5pm in the Common Room. See page 12 for details.

Taoism Discussion Group

Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 6:30pm in the Common Room. See page 5 for details.

Heart & Hand Auction

Friday, Oct. 27 at 6pm. See pages 6 and 7 for more information.

Conservative-Liberal Dialogues

First meeting: Sunday, Oct. 29 at 2pm in the Common Room. See page 9.

CUUPS Samhain Ritual

Sunday, Oct. 29 at 6pm in the Common Room. See page 5 for information.

Book Club

Monday, Oct. 30 at 7pm in the Merritt Lounge. See page 5.

Recurring...

Lunch with the Minister

Every Thursday at noon in the Common Room. See page 5.

Women's Religious Studies Group

Meets most Thursdays at 1pm in the Merritt Lounge. See page 5.

Refuge Recovery Group

Thursdays at 6pm in the Whitney Young Room. See page 5.

Dungeons & Dragons Group

Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. See page 5.

Bridge Group

Meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. See page 5.

NAMI Connections

Meets Wednesdays at 1pm in the Whitney Young Room. See page 5.

YRUU (Youth Group) Meeting

Wednesdays at 7pm in the Common Room. See page 5.

Choir Rehearsals

Wednesdays at 7pm in the Sanctuary. See page 5.

Future Events...

Team Fair

Sunday, Nov. 5 during coffee hour. See page 5 for details.

Women's Alliance Bake Sale

Sunday, November 19 during coffee hour. See page 5.

Holiday Dinner—Save the date!

Saturday, December 9 with social hour at 5:30pm and dinner at 6:30pm. More information will be available soon.

CALL FOR PHOTOS!

Like to take pictures? If you capture a great photo of the Sunday service or the garden outside or an event in the Common Room, please send your photo to the church office at admin@firstuuomaha.org. We are always looking for new photos we can share in our newsletter, on the church website and social media. Thank you!

SOCIAL MEDIA AND FIRST U

Like our Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Unitarian-Church-of-Omaha-158134657609262/>

The church creates Facebook events for Sunday services and often for other church events. This is a public page meaning if you post to the page, anyone on Facebook can view that post.

Join our closed Facebook group here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/77808136080>

Follow us on Twitter

[@FirstUOmaha](https://twitter.com/FirstUOmaha)

Heart and Hand Auction
Friday, October 27
See pages 6 & 7

First Unitarian Church of Omaha
3114 Harney St.
Omaha, NE 68131

www.firstuomaha.org