**Share the Plate.** Each month one-half of the loose currency in the offering plate is donated to a cause with a local presence which advances important principles of Unitarianism. This month’s recipient is **Community Meals.** The main task of this organization is to provide a weekly meal on Saturdays at First Baptist Church. Three to four times a year our church cooks and serves the meal for about 250 people living in our neighborhood.

**Change for Change.** Each week generous people put change in the collection plate. This change goes to our Sunday School youth who decide where the money can be best utilized. In the past they have contributed to Community Meals and International Bridges for Justice. This year youth have identified the recipient as Neighborhood Ministry Team, which purchases bus tickets, and food cards and provides blessings bags to people who come to our church requesting help. Your change makes a difference! Thank you for your generosity!

Rev. Frank Rivas, Minister (minister@firstuuomaha.org)

Rev. Ron Knapp, Minister Emeritus

Jan Wilson, Director of Religious Education (dre@firstuuomaha.org)

CarrieHelmberger, Membership Coordinator (coordinator@firstuuomaha.org)

Catharine Dixon, Church Administrator (admin@firstuuomaha.org)

Jenny Hastings, Nursery Coordinator

Patricia Will, Organist

William Miller, Choir Director

Elizabeth Kelly, Choir Accompanist

Stan Harper, Pianist

Robert Medrano, Custodian

 3114 Harney Street

### Omaha, Nebraska 68131

(402) 345-3039

[www.firstuuomaha.org](http://www.firstuuomaha.org)

First Unitarian Church of Omaha

###### Order of Worship

###### April 2, 2017

###### 10:30 A.M.

The First Unitarian Church of Omaha strives to be a welcoming, liberal religious community with traditions of reason and tolerance, which are reflected in how we live our lives. We are committed to introducing our youth to the breadth of religious thought and encouraging them to responsibly discern their own spiritual paths. We promote spiritual growth, social justice and sustainable living to affect positive change in our society and ourselves.

**Order of Worship**

**April 2, 2017**

**10:30 A.M.**

**GATHERING**

 **BELLSOUND**

 **PRELUDE** “Be Thou My Vision”— Irish Folk Tune arr. Wood

 **WELCOME**

 **STORY FOR ALL AGES** Kate Wiig

**\* LIGHTING THE CHALICE**

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us. — Albert Schweitzer

**\* SINGING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR CLASSES**

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.

May the Spirit of Love surround you,

Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** Maria Wallace

 **JUSTICE PULPIT** Elaine Wells

 **Minister:** It is the church that assures us that we are not struggling for justice

 on our own but, as members of a larger community.

 **Congregation**: The religious community is essential, for alone our vision is too narrow to see all that must been seen, and our strength too limited to do all that must be done.

 **Minister:** Together, our vision widens and our strength is renewed.

 **OFFERTORY** ”Fantasia” — Pachelbel

 *(\*Indicates congregation stands as they are able.)*

**REFLECTING**

 **CHORAL INTROIT** “Filled with Loving Kindness” — Hayes

 **A MOMENT OF SILENCE** concluded with a bellsound

 **DOXOLOGY (#123)** “Spirit of Life”

 **FIRST LESSON** — Lao Tsu

 **SECOND LESSON** — William Staford

 **CHORAL ANTHEM** “Wind Beneath My Wings” — arr. Emerson

 **SERMON** “Roots Hold Me Close” Rev. Frank Rivas

 **AFFIRMING**

**\* HYMN (#298)** “Wake, Now My Senses”

**\* BENEDICTION** —from Mary Oliver

 **CHORAL BENEDICTION** “Lean On Me” — Withers

 **POSTLUDE** “Toccata (on St. Anne)”— Young

**Organist: Patricia Will**

**Choir Director: William Miller**

**Choir Accompanist: Judi Torneten**

*The Share the Plate beneficiary for the month of April is* **Community Meals.**

*The Change for Change beneficiary is the* **Neighborhood Ministry Team.**