

First Unitarian Church of Omaha

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OCTOBER 9, 2016

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 October 9, 2016 10:00 A.M.

GATHERING

GATHERING

“In My Life”

– The Beatles

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

Denise Allain

OFFERTORY

*The Share the Plate beneficiary for the month of October is **Community Meals**
Change for Change beneficiary is **Neighborhood Ministry**.*

REFLECTING

REMEMBERING

Response: Those whom we love are with us forever

A MOMENT OF SILENCE concluded with a bellsound

MUSIC

“Sand and Water”

– Beth Nielsen Chapman

HOMILY

LITANY OF ATONEMENT (#637)

AFFIRMING

*** HYMN (#128)**

“For All That Is Our Life”

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Love You Out Loud”

– Carolyn Arend

Pianist: Stan Harper

Early Morning Risers

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@firstuomaha.org)

Rev. Ron Knapp, Minister Emeritus

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

Carrie Helmberger, Membership Coordinator (coordinator@firstuomaha.org)

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

Jenny Hastings, Nursery Coordinator

Patricia Will, Organist

William Miller, Choir Director

Stan Harper, Pianist

Robert Medrano, Custodian

First Unitarian Church of Omaha

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Omaha, Nebraska 68131

(402) 345-3039

www.firstuomaha.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 9, 2016

Visitors: You are invited downstairs after the service for coffee and, if comfortable, asked to take a blue cup which indicates you would enjoy conversation with members. Please also visit the Welcome Table where you can find information on Unitarian Universalism and our church. All visitors, their friends and relatives, and friends and relatives of members are welcome to attend all church functions and social events.

Assisted Listening Devices and Large Print Orders of Service are available in the church entryway for your use. Greeters can direct you to these resources.

Please sign in on the pink sheets in each pew. The information gathered will not only help us count attendance at each service, but will let us know that someone has not been seen lately and may need assistance.

Parking: 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 close to the building.

Children: The sanctuary foyer has a speaker and comfortable chair for those who need a place to comfort a child during the service.

TODAY

Flowers: Today's flowers are provided by Kim Dunovan.

Hospitality: The Friendly Faces Hospitality Team is serving you today. Our team serves on the second Sunday of even months. You will recognize our team members by their green hospitality ribbons. Please let us know if you need anything or have questions.

11:20 a.m. — Sunday Forum: Ardent Spirit: A Conversation about Margaret Fuller — Sanctuary In this interactive forum, we will discuss Margaret Fuller's lasting mark in the interconnected worlds of Unitarianism and transcendentalism. Cassi Moucka will facilitate the conversation, but this will not be a lecture. Please come with an open mind and a willingness to participate actively.

Coffee hour is 11:00 to 11:45 a.m. Please, no food or drink in our beautiful sanctuary.

11:30 a.m. — Bridge Group — Conference Room Meets the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. This group is also a class. If you are a complete novice, join us to learn how to play this age-old game. It will boost your memory and your deductive reasoning skills. If you have played before, come for some time at the game table.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 10 — Women's Alliance — 6:30 p.m. — Common Room

October 11 — Meditation — 8 a.m. — Sanctuary Drop-In Meditation is Tuesday mornings between 8am and 9am. Come to relax, breathe, or just enjoy some peace and quiet in our beautiful sanctuary. This is very informal, with people arriving and leaving at different times, so bring your fob to let yourself in.

October 11 – Board Meeting – 7 p.m. – Common Room

October 12 – Choir Rehearsal – 7 p.m. – Sanctuary

October 12 – YRUU Youth Group Meeting – 7 p.m. – Common Room

October 13 – Lunch with the Minister – 11:30 a.m. – Common Room No RSVP required. Just bring your lunch.

October 13 – Women's Religious Studies' Covenant Group – 1:00 p.m. – Merritt Lounge Sister Maureen will be our facilitator for Chapter 10 "Miracles in Listening Hearts." All self-identified women are most welcome. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Harriet Major at 402-391-0248 or at hmajor323@cox.net.

October 13 – Tolerant Atheist Group – 7:00 p.m. – Common Room The topic: our visions for TAG. What does and could TAG mean to: you, our church, the Omaha Atheist community, UU Humanists, UUA? What is your vision for TAG and how do we get there? Gather your thoughts and come. Doors will open at 6pm for those interested in "Bring Your Own Dinner."

October 15 – Church Newsletter Deadline – Noon Email articles to the church office: admin@firstuomaha.org.

October 15 – Adult Game Night – 6:30 p.m. – Common Room Join the young adults for some fun and games. No need to RSVP. Just show up!

October 16 – Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. – "A Conversion to Humanity"

Rev. Frank Rivas

Learning to affirm ourselves as mortal, limited, imperfect beings.

October 16 – CUUPS Book Study Group – 8:45 a.m. – Merritt Lounge CUUPS will lead a book study on *The 12 Wild Swans: A Journey to the Realm of Magic, Healing and Action*. In this book, renowned leaders in the Wicca movement use a fairy tale to teach about the "reclaiming" model of witchcraft that blends magic, personal growth, and activism in three different pathways. We will be starting with the Elemental pathway, which is the basic level. Please read the introduction before attending. We will meet on the third Sunday of each month.

October 16 – Forum: Religion in the Context of Time – 11:20 a.m. – Sanctuary

John Goldner will discuss Channing's Baltimore speech as it relates to Christianity in the 1830s and use other examples from his experience with Reform Judaism in the 1950s and his experience as a member of three other Unitarian churches and fellowships in the 1960s.

October 16 – Arts and Crafts Night – 7:00 p.m. – Common Room Bring your current project and supplies and join us for some artistic fellowship! We will meet from 7-9 pm on the third Sunday of the month in the Common Room.

October 17 – People's Film Festival – 7:00 p.m. – Common Room We will show two short films about the death penalty. The first is the short (8-minute) award-winning documentary "Stones." Its subject is an exploration of the death penalty in Nebraska. The maker of this film was a student from Creighton University. The second clip is 37 minutes from "Democracy Now."

Examined Life Group Update After the first meeting the members of the "Examined Life" voted to convene both the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7pm. Members pursued a general approach for examining particular life experiences through a process of deconstruction and introspection that would lead to self-understanding. The unique experiences shall be explored within a developing analytical process that may be applicable to universal concepts as well as single explanations. Meeting twice a month ideally shall lead to familiarity with one another and a bond for the creation of a path to a meaningful life.

October 19 – Investment Group Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Whitney Young Room

Dean Christensen will lead an investment group. This session is for anyone with any level of experience. The group did not meet over the summer and this is its first meeting of the fall. If you have questions, contact Dean at 636-577-5899.

Sarah Joslyn Society

The annual Sarah Joslyn Society luncheon will be held on October 23rd. This event is to welcome new members of the Society and to honor those who have chosen to remember First Unitarian in their wills. If you have ever considered a bequest to the church, now is an excellent time to follow through. Terms and conditions of your bequest are entirely up to you and all that's required is your assurance that said arrangements have been made. We'd love to have you join us! Questions? Contact Deb Duggan at 402-553-5477 or deb-duggan1117@gmail.com.

October 24 – Book Club – 7:00 p.m. – Merritt Lounge We will discuss *The Ethics of Immigration* by Joseph Caren (The Holland Lecture by the author is on Wednesday 10/26). For more information, contact Dave at richardson.david@westside66.net.

WAYS TO HELP

YES (Youth Emergency Services) Meal Prep

Tuesday, October 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the church kitchen. We will be serving chicken and noodles, chili, bread/rolls and dessert. Organizer Kim Callaghan would like donations of bread/rolls, desserts and plastic silverware/bowls. Personal care items always welcome! Dinner needs to be delivered at 2:00 p.m. Two volunteers would be awesome! Please email Kim at kjcallaghan@hotmail.com to volunteer. Thank you!

Blessing Bags

The third annual Blessing Bag Day is Saturday, November 5 at the Inclusive Life Center (1941 South 42nd St. Suite 124, Omaha). Drop off time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Build the bags time: 12:00-2:00 p.m. The blessing bags are given out at the church door. We need YOUR help! For details on what donations we need or how to volunteer, please visit www.inclusivelife.org/blessingbags or visit our Facebook event for details: <https://www.facebook.com/events/321423061535132/>. You may email Royal at info@inclusivelife.org for more information. Thank you!

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 6pm in the Common Room.

Help us feed people in our community. Volunteers and donations are needed for this special event. Go to <http://www.inclusivelife.org/thanksgiving/> for all the information.