

Website: www.1stuu.org

Email: office@1stuu.org

First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit Newsletter

4605 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201
Office Phone: 313-833-9107

June Edition

Upcoming Sermon Schedule

June 2

Rev. Roger Mohr,

**“Play-time, Play-space, Play-
mates.”**

It is possible that we are all on vacation together here on Earth, for the fun of it. But are we enjoying our trip?

June 9

Rev. Roger Mohr

“Detroit Future City.”

The DEGC and the Kresge Foundation have just released their plan for economic development in Detroit.

What does the future hold?

June 16

Rev. Roger Mohr

“Finding Your Voice.”

One sign of oppression is when we feel unable to share our thoughts and feelings.

June 23

The Worship Committee and EMEAC Our Church History and the 50th Anniversary of the March Down Woodward

June 30

The Worship Committee

Welcoming Worship

The First UU Church of Detroit is a place where we strive to love courageously, radiate kindness, and liberate the truth. For many of us, there is a fine line between liberating the truth as we see it, and exhibiting rudeness or disrespect for people with differing beliefs. The Worship Committee will discuss the challenges and opportunities we face in furthering our mission and vision in a creative and welcoming manner. We are open to new members and look forward to working with those interested to match volunteer interests with committee roles and responsibilities.

July 7

Rev. Roger Mohr

“Negotiating With the Cosmos.”

In a sense, all of life is a process of coming to terms with it.

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 2012-2013

Officers

President

Sally Borden

Vice President

Cynthia ZurSchmiede

Immediate

Past President

Marilyn Mitchell

Board Secretary

Kathe Stevens

Treasurer

Dan Wiest

Staff

Minister

Rev. Roger Mohr

Music Director

Todd Ballou

Cantor

Gwen Foss

Office Admin

Tamara Halliburton

**Worship Services
held every Sunday
at 11:00 a.m.**

All those who are involved in the service on Sunday (Speakers, Worship Coordinator, Trustee of the Day, Cantor, and Music Director and/or Guest Musicians) will meet in the Sanctuary at 10:30am each Sunday to review the service.

The President's Corner

The President is temporarily on vacation, but wants to thank **everyone** for all their efforts this year!

The Rev's Room

Congratulations on a fabulous year! We have done very well this year, meeting or exceeding almost all of our goals. Well done!

As we come to the end of the church year, I am feeling the rhythm of the year, and the way that the energy of the church ebbs and flows, becoming less strong and even as we begin the summer. That is natural and normal, especially for churches that run an academic year calendar (most UU churches do so). I know that as we come to the end of the year this year, I am feeling a little tired and distracted, looking forward to some warmth and sunshine, and struggling to stay focused on the details.

However, this summer I want to try to keep going strong through the season. This year I noticed that there is a natural lull after the autumn holidays, as winter sends all of us indoors for rest and comfort. That is also normal and natural. We finish the winter solstice and holiday festivities, and we feel that a well earned rest is in order as we wait for the arrival of spring. Certainly that is the way I feel. But I noticed that between the post holiday let down and my own winter travels, there was not much time between the renewed focus of March and the dissipating energy of May. If we wait until September to get back to it, we only have October and November before we move into holiday distractions and winter lull. At that rate, the church is only really available for progressive work four or five months a year.

So this year, let's try to be more active and engaged through the summer months. If we can maintain some of our momentum going through June, July, and August, we may find ourselves in a much better place as the holidays roll around this year. Then we can take a rest over the winter, and enter the spring ready to run strong through to the holidays next year. Summer attendance was much higher than winter attendance last year, and I think we should try to capitalize on that information. Let's focus on growth and development this summer, so that come November we have that much more for which to be thankful.

Namaste! Rev. Mohr

Activities Coordinator

Summer's here. Two ideas a year ago were to do the Riverwalk and the Dequindre Cut. I've not done either of them (or, believe it or not!) visited Eastern Market. Who can be tour guides for these three? I'll fill my minivan if we do one or more after church.

The UUA General Assembly is closer than usual to us. It will be in Louisville KY, a mere 7 1/2 hr. drive. As was said at our Annual Meeting, it's a good thing to attend at least once (I've been several times). The musical programming is amazing. The sessions are memorable, with Unitarian Universalists from not only all over our country but also from around the world. The exhibit hall has many fascinating booths to visit. You'll be even more proud to belong. Contact Mary Lou Malone, who will be one of our representatives this year.

Sherry A Wells, 248-543-5297

Membership Drive And Annual Canvass

Our membership stands at 88 and we expect to welcome an 89th member on the second Sunday in June. One of our newest members, Tommy Wyatt, brought his wife, Vicky, to church last Sunday, and she said she enjoyed the service. It was great to see new member Joel Batterman in the choir on the 19th and super-great to hear the beautiful flute accompaniment of new member Sydney Schaaf two weeks ago. Other new members, Tim Bailey and Joan Smykowski, were honored for their services to the church two weeks ago, together with Sally Borden, Dan Secrest and Dan Wiest – all highly deserving honorees.

At the Annual Meeting, the congregation decided to erase the projected \$6,235 deficit by adding \$2500 to the projected pledge income line of \$68,000 (and making another adjustment). Miraculously, three pledges totaling \$4,995.00 landed in my hands after the meeting, so we are well on our way to having a zero deficit and maybe even surplus.

Thank you to all who have pledged. There are still 21 pledging units out there who have not either picked up or returned pledge forms. Come on. You know who you are. Make your pledge!

Church Announcements and Events

1st UU Board Meetings

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month.

June 12

Memorial Hall

7:00 - 9:00 pm

All are welcome at board meetings. If you have an item you wish to have included on the agenda for discussion at the meeting, please contact Kathe Stevens, Board Secretary at kathestevens@gmail.com

Vespers Wednesday

Vespers runs from 6:00 - 7:00pm on the **2nd** Wednesday each month.

Singing Circle

Wednesdays at **7:00 pm** - Singing Circle at the church. Open to all. Contact Gwen Foss bookdoctorgwen@gmail.com for more details.

Monthly Young Adults Meeting

Join young adults from the congregation and beyond to discuss the development of this new social and community group within First UU. They meet on the third Sunday of the month at 12:30 in Memorial Hall.

Message Topics

Remember, Rev. Mohr is always open to new ideas for sermon topics, either in terms of texts and sources, or in terms of topics. If you have an idea for a sermon, please do feel free to share it.

Theatre Party – June 16th

A few tickets left for the World Premiere of Roaming Charges, for Sunday, June 16th at 2 p.m. at the Detroit Repertory Theatre. It is a "gorgeous play about mothers and daughters, race, suburbia, academia, identity and poetry." Join others of 1st UU for a theatre party. Margaret Beck buys group tickets, saving \$5 for each of us while another \$5 goes to the church. Your cost is \$15 plus dining together afterwards. margretbeck@comcast.net or 313 882 7775.

Acknowledgements

If you have a milestone or visitor to introduce, please write the message and put it in the *visitor-milestone box *in the narthex (foyer at back of church) or give it to any usher to deliver for you.

Church Announcements and Events

FIRST Sundays: Intro to FUUD

Are you new to the church, or just interested in learning more about our church and tradition? The New UU class is about offering introductory information about what the church is all about, and it is an important step toward becoming a member. There are two objectives: one is to share information on the UU tradition as a whole, and a second goal is to focus specifically on the history and traditions of the Detroit church. Please do attend: We are proud of who we are, and we want you to be proud to be with us!

SECOND Sunday: Welcoming New Members

This is a normal service, but we also include a time to invite our new members to come forward, present themselves to the community, and sign the membership book. This is an important ceremony honoring those who have chosen to identify themselves with our values, our tradition, and our community. Make them feel welcome among us!

SECOND Sunday: Potluck

Time to break out your best recipe and bring it to church – share your food with FUUD! As we begin to add new members, it is a good time to share fellowship and nourishment with the people who nourish us, in return. Remember that everything must come and go the day of the event – we have no refrigerator space to keep things beyond the immediate need. If you have dietary concerns (peanut allergies, and such), please do let us know, so that food can be labeled.

Chancel Flower Donations

Our custom for providing flowers for each Sunday service is to have members and friends donate them in honor or memory of a person or event. The signup sheet for donating flowers is in the back of the church (some call it the narthex). Please take a moment to add your name and the person/event you wish to honor. Suggested donation is \$20 but is negotiable depending on your situation. Lencha Acker purchases the flowers each Saturday at the Eastern Market and delivers them to church on Sunday. The donor then takes the flowers home to enjoy and returns the vase later. If you have questions, see Lencha Acker after the service or call her at 313-393-8544. Thank You!

Sunday Worship Service

The Worship Committee generally plans for Sunday worship service to run for about 1 hour. However, the Worship Committee does allow our speakers to take a few more minutes if needed to finish their point. So as a general guideline, please plan for Sunday worship services to end between 12:00 and 12:15pm.

Church Announcements and Events

The Worship Committee is where much of the creative work of the church takes place. As such, it provides a fun and rewarding opportunity for church members to participate in the life of the church and contribute to our mission and vision. We are open to new members and look forward to working with those interested to match volunteer interests with committee roles and responsibilities. The Worship Committee will be presenting a worship service on Sunday, June 30 with the intent of sharing more information regarding these challenges and opportunities. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more, please contact Reverend Roger or one of the current committee members.

The Worship Committee (worship@1stuu.org):

- Lencha Acker
- Todd Ballou
- Kathleen Jacobs Johnson
- Robert Johnson
- Mary Lou Malone
- Sean McAde
- Reverend Roger Mohr
- Nancy Owen Nelson
- Danny Rebb
- Dan Secrest
- Elayne Sikelianos

1st UU Walking/Running Team

Rev. Mohr is interested in starting a team of walkers and runners to participate in local races. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rev. Mohr.

50th Anniversary Freedom Walk

On Saturday, June 22nd, UAW-Ford and the Detroit Branch NAACP are sponsoring a 50th anniversary march in honor of the original Freedom Walk led in Detroit by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The march will gather at Woodward and Forest at 9am and finish with a rally at Hart Plaza.

Weekly Order of Service Deadline

Have an item/event to be included in our weekly Order of Service? We'll do our best to include it, although printed materials have significant space limitations. Send your information to office@1stuu.org by **4:00 pm Thursday**.

Church Announcements and Events

Used Instrument Donation Drive – “Playing It Forward”

The College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts Alumni Association of Wayne State University, in conjunction with the Detroit Public Schools, is conducting a used instrument donation program. They are looking for gently used brass, woodwind, percussion and string instruments for elementary, middle and high school DPS students.

The instruments will be collected at two sites on separate days:

Tuesday, June 25, 2013; 11am-6:30 pm

WSU Oakland Center, 33737 W. 12 Mile Road, Room 305, Farmington Hills, MI 48331

Wednesday, June 26, 2013; 12-4:30pm

WSU Main Campus-Welcome Center, 42 W. Warren, Detroit, MI 48201

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Smykowski at 734-748-078 or at joan.smykowski@gmail.com.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a global movement of people fighting injustice and promoting human rights. Amnesty International meets at 1st UU on the third Monday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Parlor. Contact Dan Wiest for more information.

Gwen Foss - New Contact Information

PLEASE NOTE:

MY NEW EMAIL: bookdoctorgwen@gmail.com

MY NEW PHONE: 248-893-7029

Cheers,

Gwen Foss

www.gwenfoss.com (at the same old address)

July Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, June 20th

Next issue covers July 1 - July 31, 2013

No submissions accepted after the deadline.

Send items to office@1stuu.org

National Events

Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

General Assembly, A Meeting of Congregations

June 19 - 23, 2012

Louisville, KY

www.uua.org/ga

Mark your calendars now!

2103 General Assembly Preliminary Program Slots Include:

Statement of Conscience on Immigration: What Congregations are Doing

Roe v. Wade at 40 and What's Next

The Promise and Practice of Good Governance

Building a Young Adult Environmental Justice Network

Leverage UU Consumer/Investor Power with Social Media

What Young Adults Look for in a Congregation

Radical Relationship I: The Science of Covenant

Covenant of Gratitude: Our Commitment to the Earth

Navigating Cultural Differences We Never Knew We Had

Civil Disobedience: It Takes a Team

Worship: Come Sing a Song With Me

Climate Change: Civil Rights for All Ages

Building Interfaith Alliances: When We Are Not Enough

Occupy Your Faith!

The Teachable Heart: Lay Leadership Formation

Loving the Hell out of the World

Spiritual Tools for Activists

JUNE 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Church Fundraiser – June 16th!						
<i>See inside for more details!</i>						
2 11:00am - "Play-time, Play-space, Play-mates." 12:30pm - Intro to FUUD	3	4 Happy Birthday John Angry and Margaret Beck!	5 7:00pm - Singing Circle Happy Birthday Glenn Maxwell!	6	7	8 9:00am - Spring Planting, various locations
9 New Member Sunday 11am - "Detroit Future City." 12:30pm - Potluck	10	11	12 6:00pm - Vespers 7:00pm - Singing Circle 7:00pm - Board Meeting Happy Birthday Margaret Wilkie and Sandra Thottakath!	13	14	15 Happy Birthday Carmen Mendoza -King!
16 11:00am - "Finding Your Voice." 12:30pm - Young Adults Mtg Happy Birthday Ann Harvey!	17 7:30pm - Amnesty International Meeting	18	19 7:00pm - Singing Circle	20	21	22
23 11:00am - Church History/ 50th Anniv - Woodward March Happy Birthday James Robinson!	24	25	26 7:00pm - Singing Circle Happy Birthday Carolyn Ludwig!	27	28	29 Happy Birthday Dan Secrest!
30 11:00am - Welcoming Worship						



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us a call at (313) 833-9107.

Community Announcements and Events

Spring Planting with The Greening of Detroit

Volunteers are needed to plant trees throughout Detroit. All plantings are on Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit <http://greeningofdetroit.com/> or call Julia, volunteer manager, at 313-285-1254 for location information and registration. The remaining spring planting dates are: June 1,8

Detroit Farm and Garden Free Classes

Detroit Farm and Garden hosts a number of free classes each season; classes run from 1-3 p.m. Contact them at 313-655-2344 for more information or email detroit-farmandgarden@gmail.com to be added to their monthly events and classes listserve.

Upcoming Classes

- Raised Ben and Container Gardening - June 16th
- Organic Lawn Care - July 21st
- Hard-Scaping, Patios and Walkways - August 18th
- Composting - September 15th
- Fermentation - October 20th