

FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT NEWSLETTER


AUGUST
2017
EDITION

Upcoming Sermon Schedule ...

August 6th — “Liberty vs. Freedom”

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister

One of the promises of the American tradition is liberty and justice for all. However, our current culture seems to have shifted our understanding of liberty to be more about freedom. This sermon will explore the keen differences between these two concepts and how they affect our lives in this country.

August 13th — “On Genealogy”

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister

In my family, my grandmother was very interested in our genealogy and studied it assiduously. More recently, my father took on the task and started employing more modern techniques. How much is who we are determined but from whence we came?

August 20th — “Humanism and Religions”

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Minister

While many think of humanism as being a rejection of religion, more recently there have been strong appeals for humanism to be more closely aligned with and in dialogue with religious traditions.

August 27th — “A Song Sermon”

Julie Beutel

Singer, song-leader, guitarist, teacher, activist & mother Julie Beutel is a native of the city of Detroit. She spent her post-childhood/pre-motherhood years studying, traveling, working and living in several countries in Europe and Central America. She lived and worked with Witness for Peace in Nicaragua during the war for almost two years. Her motherhood years she has spent mainly in southwest Detroit raising her kids, teaching music to children in Southwest Detroit, and singing. She has also washed uncountable mounds of dishes.



4605 Cass Ave.
Detroit, MI 48201
313-833-9107
www.1stuu.org

Inside This Issue

HIGHLIGHTS: Choir Opportunities — Save the [New] Date — UUA President Announcement — Updated Communication Committee News

- [P 2.](#) About Us
- [P 3.](#) News & Announcements
- [P 5.](#) Committee & Member News
- [P 6.](#) Activities
- [P 8.](#) Policies & Procedures
- [P 9.](#) Calendar
- [P 10.](#) Deadlines & Office Hours

SAVE THE DATE!

Installation Ceremony for Rev. Murray
Saturday, September 23
Details on [p 3.](#)



About Us ...

**UU DETROIT IS A MEMBER OF THE UNITARIAN-
UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONS —
WWW.UUA.ORG — IN THE MIDAMERICA REGION —
WWW.MIDAMERICAUUA.ORG**

We are creating **spirituality** and **community** beyond boundaries, working for more **justice** and more **love** in our own lives and in the world; we practice **radical hospitality**.



The symbol of our faith is a **Flaming Chalice**. 

We affirm and promote **seven Principles**.

We **welcome** you as **individual people**, embracing differences of sexual orientation, gender and its expression, religious background, marital status, family structure, age, mental and physical health and ability, racial and cultural identity or background, and educational and socioeconomic status.

We have been at the corner of **Cass and Forest** for over a century ... our Universalist and Unitarian **roots in Detroit** go back over **185 years**.



Our Vision

First Unitarian-Universalist Church is an urban center in **Detroit** for spiritual renewal and social justice.

Our Mission

First Unitarian-Universalist Church strives to be an expanding **transformative** community whose mission is to **liberate** truth, **radiate** kindness, and **love** courageously.



We are a [UUA-recognized](#) **Welcoming Congregation**

We are a proud **member** of the **Cass Corridor Commons**.



FIRST UNITARIAN- UNIVERSALIST CHURCH ORGANIZATIONAL CHART 2017-2018

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT
Dan Hale

VICE PRESIDENT
Nathan Strickland, Jr.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Kathe Stevens

BOARD SECRETARY
Danny Rebb

TREASURER
Bob Lauer

TRUSTEES-AT-LARGE:

Maysel Brooks
Joel Fortgang
Dan Secrest
Dan Wiest

STAFF:

MINISTER
*The Rev. Dr. Stephen
Butler Murray*

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Todd Ballou

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Nancy Shattuck

CHILD CARE PROVIDER
Julia Cuneo

ACTING SOCIAL HOUR
COORDINATOR
Omar Davis

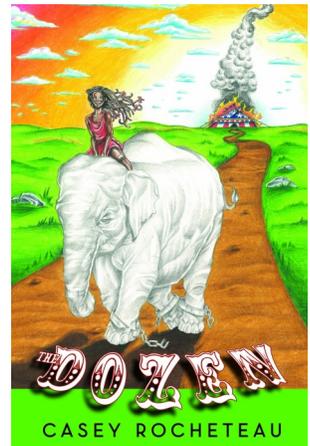
**WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY
SUNDAY AT 11:00 AM**



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ...

CASEY ROCHETEAU'S BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Our July 23rd guest speaker, Casey Rocheteau, had only a few books to sell after the service. If you wish to purchase one of Casey's poetry books, you may at <http://siblingrivalrypress.bigcartel.com/product/the-dozen-by-casey-rocheteau>. The money will go directly to the press and the poet. Also, you may want to check out her web page for contact and other information: <http://caseyrocheteau.org/>.



SINGING OPPORTUNITY BEGINS AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 10

The UU Detroit Choir is currently taking the summer off and will start up with regular rehearsals after Labor Day, on Sunday, September 10.

Anyone interested in singing is welcome to join us. **Regular rehearsals are at 9:00-10:30 AM, typically on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sunday of each month.** The choir performs music to compliment the diverse services at 1st UU church, while dabbling in music theory, vocal technique, and clapping. This season, we will be repeating favorites such as "Live Your Dream" and "California Dreamin' " while learning the classic by J. S. Bach, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring." As a UU organization, we are also prone to lengthy and inappropriate discussions about politics, word pronunciation, and the best way to arrange the chairs. It is worth getting up early on Sunday morning! For more information, feel free to contact your music director, **Todd Ballou**, at usicdirector@1stuu.org.

REV. MURRAY INSTALLATION AS SETTLED MINISTER

We'd asked you to save September 9 for the installation of the Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray as our settled minister. The date has **changed** to

Saturday, September 23, 2017

11:30 AM in the Sanctuary

**Save
the
Date**



The ceremony will be followed by a luncheon in the social hall. Invitations will be mailed to members and friends as the date approaches.

The Installation Committee is **Dessa Cosma** (chair), **Nancy Owen-Nelson**, and **Kathe Stevens**, with **the Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray** consulting. We're planning a grand celebration to install Rev. Murray as our Settled Minister.

Initial planning will be done by the committee; others will be involved as the plans progress.



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ... cont'd



UUA PRESIDENT: TRANSGENDER BAN IS BLATANT DISCRIMINATION

On July 27, our new UUA President, the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, issued the following [statement](#) in response to Donald Trump's plan to ban transgender people from serving in the U.S. military:

"Yesterday's announcement from President Trump that he is barring transgender individuals from serving in the U.S. military is an act of blatant discrimination against transgender citizens. As Unitarian Universalists, we denounce President Trump's claim that allowing transgender persons to serve in the United States military would be a burden and a disruption. We believe that transgender people should be accorded all the rights and responsibilities due every citizen, including the right to serve our country in the military. Today, more than 15,000 transgender Americans are on active duty in the military, and their status is now thrown into question.

In reversing the decision made last year by President Obama's administration, President Trump not only undermines the strength and readiness of our armed forces but also goes back on his campaign pledge to support the LGBTQ community. We call upon the Trump administration to uphold the American values of equality and service by reversing yesterday's discriminatory decision."

The statement may be found at <https://www.uua.org/pressroom/press-releases/uua-president-transgender-ban-blatant-discrimination>.

[CLICK TO RETURN TO FIRST PAGE](#)



Committee and Member News ...

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Members of the Social Justice Committee have met with leaders at the has reached out to our neighbor across the street, the Wayne State University Islamic Center of Detroit, to explore how to work together.

If you are interested in helping drive social justice in our congregation, please contact chair **Nathan Strickland, Jr.** or join us on the **first Wednesday** of each month from **7:00-8:00 PM** in the Parlor.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair, **Dessa Cosma**, leads the committee; **Sally Borden** helps to conduct the "Intro to UU Detroit" classes; and **Glenn Maxwell** organizes our greeters and ushers; **Deanna McGraw** and **Sharon Mills** are the two newest members. Thanks to all of you for your interest in keeping our radical hospital thriving!

See [p. 6](#) for details on our "Intro to UU Detroit" classes which are scheduled for **August 6** and **October 15**.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

VISION: UU Detroit will be a healthy and active community, featuring efficient, respectful, interesting, and consistent electronic communication throughout the week. Electronic communication will support our face-to-face gatherings, and vice versa. We will be a caring community with well-coordinated means of keeping people without computers and smartphones in the loop. Smaller groups will prosper within our larger community, with many using niche communication technologies, yet also staying connected with the mother ship. With regard to the larger community, we will be accessible and well organized in collaborating on larger goals and in sharing experiences and ideas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit our web page: [Communications Committee](#)

TO VOLUNTEER: Speak to chairperson, **Dan Secret**, at 313-580-7082 or send an email to communications@1stuu.org.



Activities ...

Singing Circle

Singing Circle is held every Wednesday at **7:00 PM**; open to all. Contact **Gwen Foss** at bookdoctorgwen@gmail.com for more details.

Vespers

Vespers runs from **6:00 - 7:00 PM** on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Parlor. See our website for more information: <http://1stuu.org/Worship/vespers/.vespers.php>.

WEDNESDAYS AT
UU DETROIT

The Worship Committee is always open to new ideas for speakers and for sermon topics, either in terms of texts and sources, or in terms of topics. If you have an **idea for a speaker or a sermon**, please do feel free to share it: worship@1stuu.org.

MESSAGE
TOPICS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

If you have a milestone (joy or sorrow) to share or a visitor to introduce on Sunday, please write the message on one of the index cards which can be found in the backs of the pews, and place the card in the offering basket during the collection. Milestones and visitor names will be passed to the Minister for sharing as part of our closing circle. Please note that announcements about meetings are more appropriate for coffee hour.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held from **7:00 - 9:00 PM** on the second Thursday of each month at the Whole Foods Community Room. The dates of the next two meetings are **August 10** and **September 14**. All are welcome at Board meetings. Whole Foods Market is located at 115 Mack Ave (corner of John R), Detroit. If you have an item you wish to have included on the agenda for discussion at the meeting, please contact **Danny Rebb**, Secretary to the Board, at secretary@1stuu.org.

Sundays at UU Detroit

"Intro to UU Detroit"

Are you new to the Church, or just interested in learning more about our Church and tradition? The "Intro to UU Detroit" class offers introductory information on 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 Unitarian Universalist tradition as a whole, and a second goal is to focus specifically on the history and traditions of UU Detroit. Please do attend: we are proud of who we are, and we want you to be proud to be with us! Classes are scheduled for **August 6**, and **October 15**.

Welcoming New Members

Do you wish to come forward as a new member, present yourself 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. Let Membership Committee Chair, **Dessa Cosma**, know you're interested so we may welcome you properly! dessacosma@gmail.com.

SECOND Sundays: Potluck

Time to break out your best recipe and bring it to share with our UU Detroit community! As we add new members, it's 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.



SECOND Sundays: Networking

All congregants are invited to bring and share your personal business cards for distribution on the second Sunday of the month. Many of us would certainly like to be able to support businesses of fellow church members and if you feel the same, here is an opportunity to do just that. Contact **Ruby Jones** (racedancer@hotmail.com) for more details.



Activities ... cont'd

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a global movement of people fighting injustice and promoting human rights. Amnesty International meets at UU Detroit on the **3rd Monday** of every month at **7:30 PM** in the Parlor. Contact **Dan Wiest** at dfwiest@comcast.net for more information.

Care Committee

Help us to minister to each other. If you or someone you know is sick, in need of a pastoral call or other assistance, please let the Care Committee know by contacting its chair, **Nancy Owen Nelson**, at nelnan@aol.com to provide a network for communication and support. Other Care Committee members are **Sally Borden**, **Linda Darga**, **Edie McKnight**, and **Nathan Strickland, Jr.**

Child Care

Child care is available during Sunday worship service with our child care provider, **Julia Cuneo**, in a bright, cheerful room in the back of the Church, off the Narthex. Volunteers are urged to step up to help with child care. See Child Care Committee Co-Chairs, **Sally Borden** or **Richard Hillier**, for details.

Young Adults Activities

Visit the UU Detroit Young Adults Group Facebook page to learn about activities, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/young1stuu/> or contact **Aletha Oberdier** at alethafaye@gmail.com to join our Google Group.

Check the Church Calendar!

There are so many interesting things going on at UU Detroit! Please be sure to check the church calendar before you schedule an event. You may access it online at <http://www.1stuu.org/calendar>. If the day looks free for your event, you may reserve a room by sending an email to newsletter@1stuu.org. Either webmaster Dan Secrest, office administrator Nancy Shattuck, or newsletter editor Kathe Stevens will get your room scheduled and get information about your event into the newsletter.

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 suggested donation of \$20 is negotiable if your situation requires. **Lencha Acker** purchases the flowers each Saturday at Eastern Market and brings them to Church. The donor takes the flowers home to enjoy and returns the vase later. If you would like to sign up to donate flowers, please use the [Flower Donation Signup Sheet](#) on our website, see our Office Administrator, **Nancy Shattuck**, after the service, or send an email to webmaster@1stuu.org!



Share our Facebook Posts!

Facebook events are being created on our [Facebook group](#) for sermons, Vespers, Membership activities, and other events. When you see a Facebook event about church activities, PLEASE SHARE IT on your newsfeed! Help get the word out about what's going on at UU Detroit.

Do You Want To Know About EMEAC Events?

You can find out what's going on with East Michigan Environmental Action Council, the owner of our building and manager of the Cass Corridor Commons, by clicking on the [Latest News](#) tab at www.emecac.org.

Cass Corridor Commons News

UU Detroit is part of the [Cass Corridor Commons](#), a multi-use nonprofit green space and community hub that embodies principles of shared space, environmental justice and social justice principles. The Commons' [Facebook page](#) has up-to-date information .



Policies and Procedures ...

So, You've Been Wondering About UU Detroit's Policies and Procedures?

Featured policy and procedure of the month: *Disruptive Behavior Policy*

In June 2016, your Board of Trustees approved a [Policies and Procedures Manual](#). The need for a manual became apparent from several different sources as diverse as the Planning Committee to our staff, from individual congregants to the Board itself. The P&P may be found on the first page of our website, 1stuu.org. Click on any title in the Table of Contents in the manual to go directly to that policy.

We're going to feature a summary of a P&P every month in the newsletter so you may get to know how UU Detroit operates!

— Planning Committee

POLICY STATEMENT: "In the event of any individual's physical or emotional well-being or freedom to safely express their beliefs or opinions at any UU Detroit event being threatened, the source of this threat must be addressed firmly and promptly, even if the ultimate result is the expulsion of the offending individual(s)."

RATIONALE OR BACKGROUND: "UU Detroit strives to be an inclusive community, affirming our differences in belief, opinion, and life experience. However, concern for the safety and well-being of the Congregation as a whole must be given priority over the privileges and inclusion of the individual. Our actions as people of faith must reflect an emphasis on security to the degree disruptive

behavior compromises the health of the Congregation."

This policy was needed because there have been rare occasions at UU Detroit when there was disruptive behavior at meetings, worship services, or other Church-related events.

The procedures outline who should handle disruptive behavior in what settings and what action to take, including, if necessary, calling the Wayne State University Police, which patrols the area in which our church is located.

The Minister or Board President is to be notified anytime an action is undertaken to address disruptive behavior and the policy states next steps for them.

Disruptive behavior not requiring an immediate response shall be referred to an *ad hoc* committee created whose members shall be appointed by the Board. Procedures are set out for action steps by the *ad hoc* committee.

We want all who attend or visit UU Detroit to feel welcome, comfortable, and safe.

"Behavior is a mirror in which everyone displays [their] own image."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (28 August 1749 – 22 March 1832) — German writer and statesman.

<http://quotes.yourdictionary.com/author/quote/546367>

[CLICK TO RETURN TO FIRST PAGE](#)



Calendar ...

All events take place at UU Detroit, 4605 Cass, unless otherwise indicated

View the UU Detroit calendar at <http://www.1stuu.org/calendar>

Wednesday, August 2

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall
7:00 PM: Social Justice Committee meeting
— Parlor

Sunday, August 6

11:00 AM: Worship Service "Liberty vs. Freedom" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray) — Sanctuary
12:30 PM: "Intro to UU Detroit" — Parlor

Monday, August 7 — Esbat: Full Sturgeon Moon (Native American/Pagan) & Raksha Bandhan (Hindu) 2017

Wednesday, August 9

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall

Thursday, August 10

7:00 PM: UU Detroit Board of Trustees meeting
— Whole Foods Community Room, 115 Mack Ave at John R, Detroit

Sunday, August 13

11:00 AM: Worship Service "On Genealogy" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray) — Sanctuary
12:00 PM: Potluck — Social Hall

Wednesday, August 16

7:00 PM: Worship Committee meeting — Parlor
7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Social Hall

Sunday, August 20

7:30 AM - 6:00 PM: Generative Somatics training in Social Hall
11:00 AM: Worship Service "Humanism and Religions" (Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray) — Sanctuary

Monday, August 21

7:30 PM: Amnesty International — Parlor

Wednesday, August 23

6:00 PM: Vespers — Parlor
7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Sanctuary

Sunday, August 27

11:00 AM: Worship Service "A Song Sermon" (Julie Beutel)

Wednesday, August 30

7:00 PM: Singing Circle — Sanctuary



Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray



First Unitarian-Universalist Church of Detroit, which has a [long history of activism](#) and is an affirming and [welcoming congregation](#), is an urban center for spiritual renewal and social justice, whose members strive to liberate truth, radiate kindness and love courageously. We are a proud member of the [Cass Corridor Commons](#).

FIRST UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF DETROIT

4605 Cass Avenue
Detroit, MI 48201

... in the Cass Corridor Commons ...

Please visit us at www.1stuu.org,
email us at officeadmin@1stuu.org,
or give us a call at (313) 833-9107.

Deadlines & Office Hours ...

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 officeadmin@1stuu.org by **12:00 PM Thursday**.

Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, August 20th

Next issue covers September 1 — September 30, 2017

No submissions accepted after the deadline — send items to newsletter@1stuu.org.

Office Administrator Work Schedule

Nancy Shattuck works every Sunday from 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM.