



Our Outlook

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**First Universalist
Church of Rochester**

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Sunday Services | November 2022

November 6 | *Shedding the Savior*

Let us release the idea that we must bring about the world we wish to see on our own. Not one of us is expected to act for justice, to heal, to transform the world alone. Like a snake's skin, we will shed the archetype of the savior.

— Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

November 13 | *Addiction, Excess, and Enough*

What are the boundaries of our limits when it comes to addictive substances? Are there ways to use ethically? How do we know when enough is enough? Join us for an exploration of addiction.

— Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

November 20 | *Reckoning with Violence*

Today is Transgender Day of Remembrance, a day to remember the names and lives of transgender people who have been killed by violence. At the intersections of shame, gender, race, and classism, too many people have died—more and more each year. How do we face and stop this violence?

— Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

November 27 | *Created in the Dark*

Darkness is such a creative force and space. Let's explore how growth and creativity are generated in dark spaces under the surface.

— Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

❖ Services begin at 10:30am ❖

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Worship will be online and in-person at First Universalist Church. Check our Facebook page and website for more updated info! Please join us – Internet link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/131764422>; Phone number: 1-646-558-8656 with Meeting ID: 131 764 422. ❖



Violence Against Transgender Persons? Basta!

Message from
Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

In my Italian lineage there is a phrase, “Basta!” It has been uttered for many decades by folks who are fed up and it means, “That is enough!” Someone is bothering or annoying you? Basta! Witnessing the ways people are treated unfairly? Basta! Folks arguing when they could be working together? Basta! It is an extremely useful phrase. And when shared with the strength and force of an Italian Nonna, it can stop a conversation or an interaction dead in its tracks. Not a phrase to use lightly or to take lightly—basta is serious.

We have an opportunity as a congregation to share our cry of, “Basta!” this month as we head towards Transgender Day of Remembrance on Sunday, November 20. This annual observance calls on us all to remember the known transgender and gender non-conforming people who have died due to violence in the past year. We know that even one name is too much, but the list grows each year in disturbing and sad ways. We have to gather to remember and to again say, “That is enough!” We can no longer stand for violence in our communities—too many lives have been lost.

Our worship service on Sunday, November 20, will address the violence transgender and gender non-conforming people face. Following the service, a brunch will be held at Martin Luther King Jr. Square, which I will plan to head to directly following our service. You are welcome to join me and welcome to attend.

May we continue to say, “Basta!” to the forces that seek to harm and oppress us and our kin. May we find the strength together to address violence in our community and in our own homes.

Basta, First Universalist!
In Faith and Courage,
Rev. Lane-Mairead ❖



More Stories About “Enough”

Message from
Rev. Michelle Yates

In my pursuit of stories for Sunday worship, I end up reading a lot of children’s picture books. I find many gems that just aren’t exactly what we are looking for. I know many of you have children in your lives, or, like me, find that these books speak deeply to the soul no matter your age. Here are three books I found but wasn’t able to use in worship.

- **Enough is ENOUGH!** by Barney Saltzberg explores the dynamic of anyone who has had “enough” of someone else they love. We all need time and space apart, and then we’ll be glad to be together again.

- **Not Enough Lollipops** by Megan Maynor (illustrated by Micah Player) explores big issues of abundance and scarcity mindsets. “Who is worthy?” and “What is fair?” play out on a panic-filled playground.

- **I Am Enough** by Grace Byers (illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo) is beautiful and inspiring poetry. You can watch and listen to the author read the book here [youtube.com/watch?v=a_l4jeZH84k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_l4jeZH84k) or on Netflix.

Here is part of the poem for reflection on the theme of Enough:

“Like the winner, I’m here to win,
And if I don’t, get up again.
I know that I may sometimes cry,
but even then, I’m here to try.
I’m not meant to be like you;
you’re not meant to be like me.
Sometimes we will get along,
and sometimes we will disagree.
I know that we don’t look the same:
Our skin, our eyes, our hair, our frame.
But that does not dictate our worth;
we both have places here on earth.
And in the end, we are right here
to live a life of love, not fear...
To help each other when it’s tough,
To say together: **I am enough.**”

Yours in the Journey,
Rev. Michelle ❖

Finance News & Notes: 2021-22 Fiscal Year— The Final Chapter

Submitted by Ann Rhody, Finance Chair

The 2021-22 Treasurer's Report is now available, and has been sent to members of the leadership group. All members and friends are welcome to the report, and we will have some hard copies available for you at church if requested! The Treasurer's report is our official final accounting of each fiscal year. Of course there are spreadsheets with lots of detail, but the narrative report, so well written by our Treasurer, Dick Shroyer, is a great summary of how we did financially last year. If you'd like a quick and user-friendly view into the church's financial situation, this is a good place to look!

Raising Funds, and FUN!

Oh, how we miss the Annual Service Auction! And yet, times and conditions dictate that we raise funds differently now.

A wonderful group of folks met with our fundraising leaders, Katherine Flynn and Paula Marchese, to share ideas about how we can raise the planned income in this year's budget, AND build some fellowship, community, and fun—all without putting a great burden on any particular leaders or church members.

Here's the plan!

- The "Spare Change" Drive will be featured in November—find that old jar or coffee cup where you toss your change, and bring it to church on the designated Sundays. Attending virtually only? You can make a donation toward the Change Drive online, or we will come and pick up your change if you'd like!
- There will be a sale of treats during the month of December—bake and/or buy a favorite treat for the holidays!
- We will have a "slow rolling Auction" in January—members can offer dinners, events, and services (much as we used to do for the Service Auction), and you can sign up to attend, for a donation of your choice! For example, perhaps you'd like to host a dinner for six people in your home on a given date. Members can sign up for the dinner

in exchange for a contribution to the church. How much of a contribution is up to you—there will be a listed "value" for each seat at the dinner, but you are free to give more or less as your own personal circumstances dictate.

By conducting the "slow-rolling" Auction this way, we hope to include EVERYONE in the fun and fellowship!

Stay tuned for more details on the December and January events—and remember, for ALL fundraisers, tipping is encouraged! ❖

Voting Deadlines and Information!

Submitted by Karen LoBracco

Election Day is November 8, with polls open 6am-9pm. Early Voting began Saturday, October 29 and ends Sunday, November 6. Check with your local county for locations and who is on your ballot. In Monroe County, there are 14 Early Voting locations, open Tuesday and Thursday 11am-8pm and all other days 9am-5pm. Details are at monroecounty.gov/elections-earlyvoting. Monroe County residents can check out your polling place, see what your ballot looks like and review your information at monroecounty.gov/elections. Make a plan now to vote your values! Also consider Early Voting, Oct. 29-Nov. 6. Monroe County locations and times are listed at monroecounty.gov/elections-earlyvoting. ❖

Union Interfaith Thanksgiving Service November 21 at 7pm

Submitted by Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

Join Rochester's Interfaith community for a service of thanksgiving, freedom and a call towards peace. 2022 is the 151 year of our interfaith community gathering to worship and share with one another for Thanksgiving. The offering will be collected to address food insecurity in our Rochester community. This year's service will be held at St. Monica's Church at 831 Genesee Street, Rochester, NY 14611 and online with connecting info to come. ❖

Drop-In Discussion

Submitted by Beth Ares

Current drop-in discussions are held Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30pm via the church Zoom account, and in-person on the first Sunday of each month in the Chalice Room at 9:15am. Phil Ebersole is the contact about the in-church drop-in discussions. Contact DropInDiscussion@uuroc.org for the Zoom link, or look on uuroc.org! Sometimes discussions are based on books/articles, but you don't have to do any prep to participate. Just drop in!

Nov. 1 | *The Supernatural*

Do you believe in Bigfoot, ghosts, or aliens? Have you ever seen something that you couldn't explain? And what is the difference between a supernatural and spiritual/religious experience? We will discuss origins of some mythical creatures, myths and monsters, and share our own experiences and opinions. Keven Adams presents.

Sunday, Nov. 6 | *Charity or Justice? *In-Person**

What should be your priority in giving of your time and money? Helping those in need, or fighting for a more just society? Phil Ebersole will facilitate.

Nov. 8 | *Open Topic*

Prepare for the unknown, relax and enjoy the conversation.

Nov. 15 | *Children and Families at First Universalist— "Are the kids alright?"*

Learn how the pandemic and changing world have affected church families and their engagement. Consider how programming for children/families has changed over the years and offer your input for our REvisioning. What was your church experience growing up? What have you seen changing for your kids, grandkids, etc? Rev. Michelle Yates presents.

Nov. 22 | *The World Crisis*

We seem to have multiple crises converging; spread of contagious disease, climate-related weather disasters, a dysfunctional economy, a dysfunctional government, all made worse by a proxy war and economic war with Russia. Phil Ebersole presents.

Nov. 29 | *Racial, Social and Economic Justice in American Social History.*

Videos by Tim Wise will be used as springboard to unpack these topics in our discussion. Thank you, Melissa Parrish! ❖

FIAC: FI-AC-tivities

Coming Up!

Submitted by Joy Leccese and Connie Valk

Your Faith In Action Council is in action! We are coordinating and collaborating with individuals, organizations, and of course, our own Social Justice Circles this fall to offer even more opportunities to put our faith in action.



First off, this month the Faith In Action Council is supporting the Transgender Day of Remembrance being held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Lodge on Sunday, November 20. We are contributing to the brunch being held there that day. For more information, reach out to your FIAC team here: fiac@uuroc.org.

Another opportunity: the Faith In Action Council is looking to establish a new Social Justice Circle focused on outreach and support of LGBTQ-POC people. We are planning to offer a workshop on gender inclusion in the spring, taught by CB Beal, who was our guest speaker in the pulpit in October. Rev. Lane-Maired will be sharing more with us about this event and topic in coming weeks.

If you're interested in connecting with others in our congregation about establishing a Social Justice Circle, please contact us at fiac@uuroc.org. ❖



Credit: XKCD.com

Path to Membership

Submitted by Clinton Swingle

Belong to something bigger than yourself; consider membership at First Universalist. Bring your whole self and join a community committed to justice. You are invited to a Path to Membership session, please save November 19 at 10am. The session will be held in person in the Clara Barton Lounge. We will focus on the congregation and you—offering a deeper understanding of how the congregation works and how you can be part of it.

Of course, we welcome children and can provide fun things for them to do. We do need to know two weeks ahead of time, though, so we can be properly staffed.

In Unitarian Universalism, you can bring your whole self: your full identity, your questioning mind, and your expansive heart.

Together, we create a force more powerful than one person or one belief system. As Unitarian Universalists, we do not have to check our personal background and beliefs at the door: we join together

on a journey that honors everywhere we've been.

Our beliefs are diverse and inclusive. We have no shared creed. Our shared covenant (seven principles) supports “the free and responsible search for truth and meaning.” Though Unitarianism and Universalism were both liberal Christian traditions, this responsible search has led us to an inclusive spirituality drawn from six sources: scriptural wisdom to personal experience to modern day heroes.

Unitarian Universalists believe more than one thing. We think for ourselves, and reflect together, about important questions.

We are united in our broad and inclusive outlook, and in our values, as expressed in our Seven Principles. We are united in shared experience, our open and stirring worship services, religious education, and rites of passage, our work for social justice, our quest to include the marginalized, and our expressions of love.

We join together not because we have a shared concept of the divine. Rather we gather knowing that life is richer in community than when we go it alone. We gather to know and be known, to comfort and be comforted, to celebrate the mystery that binds us, each to all.

We welcome you in the fullness of your beliefs. Join us in exploring life's deepest questions in a spiritually diverse, supportive, and challenging community. We are excited to meet you where you are, and see how we can all learn and grow together.

RSVP to Clinton Swingle at cjswingle@pobox.com or Rev. Lane-Mairad at minister@uuroc.org. ✦

Eastman at Washington Square Concerts

Concerts are held at our church at midday on Thursdays. Each concert begins at 12:15 pm and ends at approximately 12:45pm. Admission is free!

- **Nov. 3 | Jazz at Noon**

Longtime musical associates, colleagues, and friends Bob Sneider (ECMS & JCM faculty) and Jeff Campbell (Chair of Jazz Studies) perform jazz duets. Dr. Crystal Sellers-Battle (voice) will be joining them for a couple of tunes.

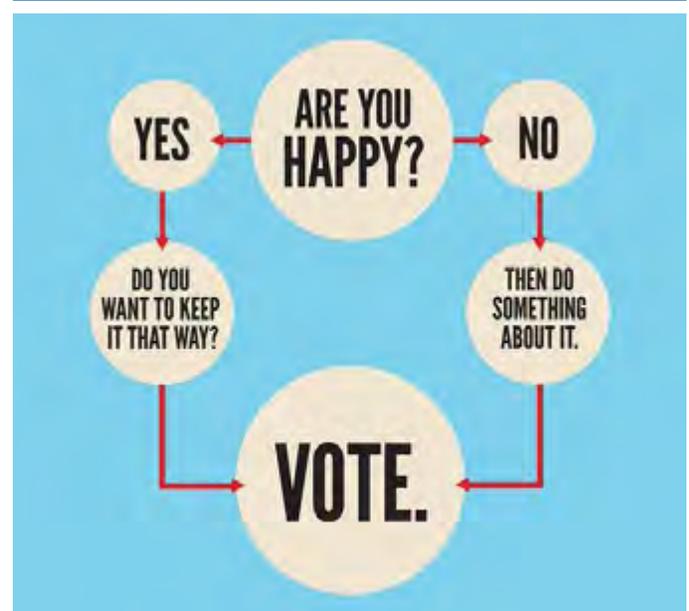
- **Nov. 10 | Rochester Early Music Festival I**

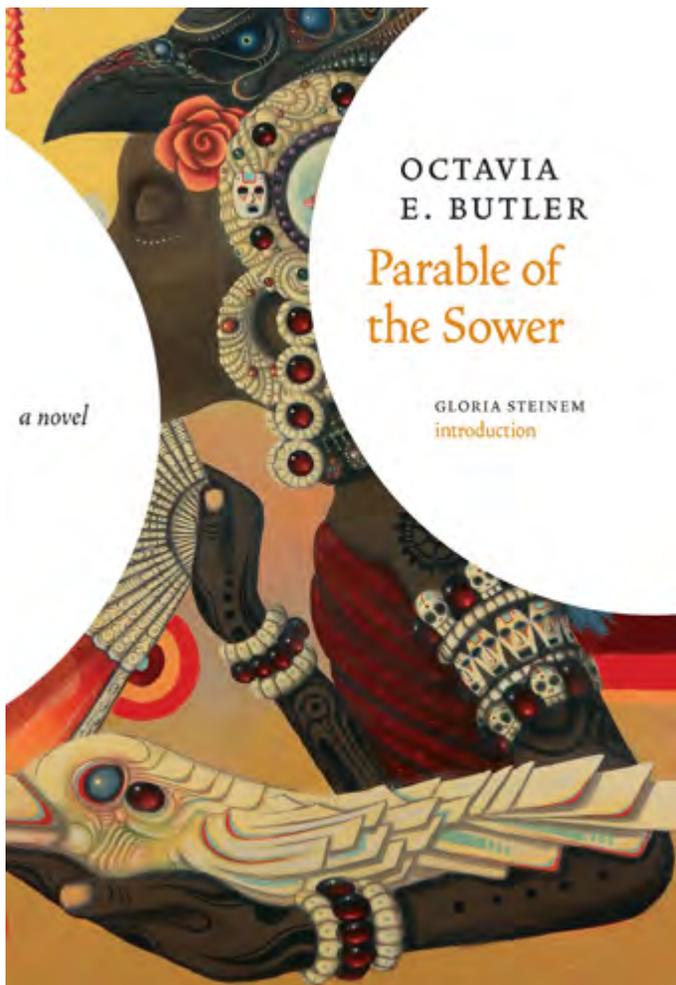
A wonderful period-instrument concert, presented in conjunction with the Rochester Early Music Festival.

- **Nov. 17 | Rochester Early Music Festival II**

A second installment of period-instrument music, presented in conjunction with the Rochester Early Music Festival

- **Nov. 24 | No Concert, Happy Thanksgiving! ✦**





OCTAVIA
E. BUTLER
*Parable of
the Sower*

a novel

GLORIA STEINEM
introduction

Book Group

Submitted by Shirley Bond

Our review selection for November 13 is Octavia Butler's novel "Parable of the Sower". This is a futuristic novel set between 2024 and 2027.

What an interesting book Octavia has written! The book can be summed up in one soulful observation: What is to become of our world? We have work to do, but we can do it. The future generations are counting on us.

Please join us at noon in the Chalice Room for a lively discussion and bring book suggestions for future meetings.

By the way, reading the book beforehand is not required. The goal is to pique your interest!

We meet on the second Sunday of most months. Questions answered by: Shirley B., 325-6084 or Pam J., 738-2558. ❖

Fringe Festival 2022: *Bandaloop at UURoc!*

Photos submitted by Connie Valk

A pioneer in vertical dance movement, California's BANDALOOP returned to the Fringe and the 21-story Five Star Plaza in 2022. The internationally renowned company turns the dance floor on its side by seamlessly weaving together dynamic physicality, intricate choreography and the art of climbing. From the Seattle Space Needle and the NY Stock Exchange to Yosemite's El Capitan and the fjords of Norway, BANDALOOP honors nature, community and the human spirit as it re-imagines what dance can be.

First Universalist members and friends gathered in our parking lot in September to watch in awe, and to just have a good time together! ❖





TOGETHER WE VOTE 2022



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AIGA's civic engagement initiative, part of *Design for Democracy*.
In partnership with Nonprofit Vote and the League of Women Voters.
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Nonprofit VOTE

VOTE 411



First Universalist Church of Rochester

150 South Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14604



First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

Nurture the spirit and serve the community.

First Universalist Church is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, a liberal religion with historical roots in the Jewish and Christian traditions.

**Worship service begins at 10:30am on
Sundays**

Minister | Rev. Lane-Mairead Campbell

Minister of Life Span Faith Development |
Rev. Michelle Yates

Music Director | Dr. Brock Tjosvold

Office Manager | Emma Barry

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More info is available on our website: uuroc.org

The usual deadline for all submissions to
Our Outlook is the 15th of each month.