



Our Outlook

First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

September 2018

Sunday Services

September 2018

Minster

The Rev. Lane Campbell
minster@uuroc.org

Minister of Life Span

Faith Development
The Rev. Michelle Yates
edu@uuroc.org

Director of Music

Brock Tjosvold
music@uuroc.org

Office Administrator

Andrea Lewis
585-546-2826
office@uuroc.org

Our Outlook Editor

Andrea Lewis
office@uuroc.org

First Universalist Church
150 South Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14604

Visit us online: <https://www.uuroc.org>

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September 2, 10:00 am | Join us on Labor Day when the Worship Associates present: *Things We Have Learned ... the poignant, the funny, the profound.*

September 9, 10:30 am | *The Co-Mingling of Our Stories.* Bring waters from the many places you have been for our annual Water Communion Ingathering service. This service for the whole church invites us to consider the emotional spaces we have been in over the course of the summer months. We will be kicking off a three-sermon series about Testimony, the power of sharing our stories of transformation. And this will be our first service to officially welcome Rev. Lane Campbell as our new settled minister! —Rev. Lane Campbell

September 16, 10:30 am | *Our Testimony Matters.* Inspired by the memoir from Black Lives Matter co-founder, Patrisse Khan-Cullors, *When They Call You a Terrorist*, let's explore the ways telling our stories can be a heart-healing, eye-opening, and life-giving experience for both the storyteller as well as people listening. Continuing our series about Testimony, this memoir was one of First Universalist's summer reads in the Summer Book Club, as this church community continues in a process of education about systemic racism. What stories do you have to tell about your experience? —Rev. Lane Campbell

September 23, 10:30 am | *The Saving Power of Unitarian Universalism.* Why do people come here, to this place, each Sunday? In what ways does First Universalist Church seek to transform and even to save lives? At the conclusion of our series on Testimony, we offer stories of the ultimate power of Unitarian Universalism to change us, to bring meaning and purpose to our lives, and to create the beloved community this world so deeply needs. —Rev. Lane Campbell

September 30, 10:30 am | The Project Team will present, *The First Americans: In Their Own Voices.* We will listen to the written testimony of Native Americans and hear their thoughts and experiences.

Rev. Lane Campbell Minister



Rev. Lane is now scheduling one-on-one appointments. These will be set up in two-week intervals. Check the Court St. bulletin board and sign-up for your desired day and time. You may also call Rev. Lane to schedule your appointment at (860) 389-4697 or email her at minister@uuroc.org.

New Beginnings

In my first month with all of you, I have had so much time to reflect on the nature of new beginnings. It seems my life is full of them right now — a new city, a new congregation to serve, and creating new friendships. On top of all of that, my partner Anthony and I are getting married right at the beginning of this month! So many new relationships and new experiences are filling my life. It is both a joy and a bit daunting.

One thing I am realizing is that with every new beginning comes an ending. It may be an explicit and easy-to-see ending, such as ending a job or ending a relationship. And sometimes, it feels like a gradual unlearning of old habits, a subtle loss of a friendship, or a shift in the way you relate with others. This kind of change is constant and takes some intentional mindfulness to notice.

With weddings, so much of the ceremony and the receptions and the celebrations that surround it are about the joy of beginning this new marriage — a different phase of the relationship. What often isn't mentioned is the end or even the death of your single self. In marriage, we bring a process of committing to another person in a whole new way — we compromise, and we consider that person in our decisions. No longer are we a lone soldier, doing the things we

we would normally do. That part of us needs or our relationship is bound to be unsuccessful.

I notice this here at First Universalist too. In this new phase of ministry, in my joining with you all, there are things I used to do that I need to let go of and I am sure there are things you all are used to doing that you will need to let go of too. It's all part of new beginnings. It's a part of building a good foundation for any partnership.

And it is not easy. Change is hard. New beginnings can be both joyful and stressful. They are full of promise as well as disappointments. Such is life. It is a cycle we constantly are engaged in, whether we notice or not.

What new beginnings are you embracing these days? Where do you find yourself letting go of old ways to make room for the new?

I invite you this month to be attentive to new beginnings — both the subtle and the more noticeable. Feel free to reach out to let me know where these are popping up in your life and what you find yourself letting go of. It is so good for us to reach out to each other and to know we are not alone, in times when new beginnings are joyful and especially in times when they prove difficult and not as readily embraced.

It is such a joy for me to be in this new beginning with you all.

Meet Brock Tjosvold, our new Music Director!

Brock is a new DMA (Doctor of Musical Arts) student at Eastman, where he will major in Collaborative Piano. He is a brilliant pianist, and over the next few years, he will be honing his skills as a vocal coach, accompanist, and chamber musician. In his audition rehearsal with our choir, he impressed us with his knowledge of vocal technique and diction, with his natural conducting style, and above all, with his warmth and easy-going style.

Brock was born and raised in Kimball, NE, where his grandmother was organist for the local Lutheran Church. From an early age, he played piano for services there. He attended college in Wyoming and completed a piano performance degree; while in college, he also began studying organ in earnest, and he was a church organist there during all four years. He continued graduate studies in Indiana, and again held a church job. Despite his youth, Brock has some impressive experience, and this came through in his playing and conducting for us. We asked him to sight-read a hymn for us to sing: we chose No. 158 from the gray hymnal, which of course was unknown to him. He played it beautifully, and we enjoyed singing!

Walking Together



*Minister of Life Span Faith Development
Rev. Michelle Yates*

I first really knew that Unitarian Universalism was the place for me in my mid-20s. I was sporadically attending my mother's UU church. One Sunday after a long absence, a woman whom I only knew a little caught me on my way into the sanctuary.

She said how glad she was to see me and asked me, "How are you?" Her sincerity was unique. She really wanted to know the answer. As I shared my heartache over relationship woes and the uncertainty over the trajectory of my life and career, she was compassionate and understanding. She offered Beloved Community.

Beloved Community can be a sacred space of connection and caring that is not unlike theologian Martin Buber's description of an *I/Thou* relationship, the *Namaste* greeting in the Hindu tradition, the *divine in me bows to the divine in you*, or the UU *commitment to see and honor the inherent worth and dignity of every person*.

In the past few weeks both before and after my mother's death I received cards, texts, messages, emails, visits, flowers, meals, hugs, offers of child care, etc. All of which have been a testament to the larger Beloved Community of which I am a part.

Thank you, church family, for all the ways you have sent love and care to me and my family during this difficult time. It has become clearer to me more than ever that one can be both broken and whole at the same time and holding both is the great tension and balance of this existence.

One can feel empty from grief and full of love at the same time. And if you don't feel the love or wholeness, the vague remembrance of it, and the promise that, *you*

won't always feel like this, just know that you can get through the *dark night of the soul*, that, and knowing you are part of the Beloved Community; connected in our shared imperfections and held in love. May it always be so.

Walking Together,
Rev. Michelle Yates



From the Board of Trustees

Submitted by Karen Ruganis

Monthly Board meeting minutes are available in the church office and will be posted on the Court St. bulletin board. Be aware that there will be a lag time for postings, as the previous month's minutes must be approved by the Board at its next meeting. In addition, we will occasionally be sharing newsworthy church-wide information and policy decisions in the monthly Outlook. We are reposting our Endorsement Policy, with a reminder that anyone seeking an official church endorsement needs to allow enough lead time before the event and provide sufficient information in order to make a decision about the endorsement.

Endorsement Policy

Part of the vision of the First Universalist Church is to be visible in the Rochester community for *Living Our Values*, which are consistent with the seven UU principles. Public endorsements and sponsorships are encouraged as an opportunity to promote such church visibility. For consistency in messaging and purpose, proposals for public use of the First Universalist Church name for endorsement, sponsorship or general publicity, should be brought to the Board of Trustees, or the Board's delegate, for approval in conjunction with the Minister.

Please contact any of the Board members if you have questions or comments.



Project Team Update

Submitted by Dolores Da Lomba

Intersectionality

It's a new word and a new concept for me, but it seems to describe well how systemic racism works. It is defined as *the complex, cumulative manner in which the effects of different forms of discrimination combine, overlap, or intersect*. That's why a discussion of schools must include the consideration of how segregated or substandard housing and the possibility of lead poisoning affects a child's health and ability to learn; or of how the lack of transportation affects the ability to find a good job or easy access to health care, etc. It's a complicated situation and we hope to examine these and other factors as we learn more about systemic racism within Rochester in the coming months.

FALL BOOK SELECTION: The book selection for fall is *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir* by Patrice Khan-Cullors, a co-founder of the Black Lives Matter movement, and Asha Bandele. Copies are available in the church library as well as the Monroe County library system. Dave VanArsdale and Elizabeth Osta will facilitate the discussion of Part I on October 14 in the Chalice Room, from 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm. You're welcome to bring a lunch so hunger pangs won't deter your participation. Part II will be discussed the following week, October 21, same facilitators, same time, same place. And you can bring your lunch then too.

NATIVE AMERICANS AND SYSTEMIC RACISM: The Project Team will begin the church year by focusing on how systemic racism has impacted our first Americans, Indians/Native Americans. We recommend taking a look at any or all of the following books if you are curious about this topic; *The Invasion of America: Indians, Colonialism and the Cant of Conquest* by Francis Jennings, *1491: Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus* by Charles C. Mann, *The Other Slavery* by Andres Resendez, *Neither Wolf nor Dog:*

On Forgotten Roads with an Indian Elder by Kent Nerburn, and *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks. Thank you to those who have sent in ideas and suggestions.

If you fall in love with one of these books (or one not mentioned) and would like to discuss it, please let the Project Team know. You can use the physical or on-line suggestion box to contact us at pt-suggestions@uuroc.org. Additional titles will be posted on the Project Team bulletin board. We want to hear from you!

SURVEY: A survey is coming. Look for it on September 30. Please help the Project Team in its planning for the upcoming church year. Be thinking about what aspect of systemic racism interests or upset you most. And think about how you'd either like to learn more, share what you already know, or describe your own experiences with racism. The congregation will be choosing an all-church project later this year and we want the greatest possible participation, we need your input and ideas. We'll also be asking what time(s) are most convenient for people to participate.

RAIHN Match Goal Over the Top!

Submitted by the RAIHN Coordinators
Marti Eggers, Sarah Singal, and Chris DeGolyer

First Universalists rallied and supported a friend of the congregation's match (\$2,000 if we could collect \$1,000), by rocketing past the goal. Checks are still coming in, and at this date of publication we have raised \$1,745.00.

We will be proud to hand over a check for \$3,175.00 to Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network, including the friend's donation. This will help the RAIHN Day Center to make improvements for comfort and security.

The congregation of First Universalist Church has been generous with their time, their talents, and treasures. Thank you all.



Music Notes

Submitted by Howard Spindler, Music Committee Chair



Our Hope-Jones organ attracted some attention this summer! On a steamy Sunday afternoon in mid-July, the world-renowned English organist David Moulton came to perform several pieces for a new historical film, *The English Organ*. The video is being produced in England by Fugue State Films, whose CEO, Will Fraser, is a well-known documentary film maker. Our organ is described as “one of twenty of the best surviving instruments from 1730 to the present.” Robert Hope-Jones was an Englishman, so yes, we do belong in this project. It will be finished in about a year, and we will obtain a copy of the multi-DVD boxed set for the church!

On an equally steamy Friday morning at the beginning of August, hundreds of organists from around the US and Canada came to First Universalist Church—in two shifts—to hear the eminent American organist David Peckham perform a recital under the auspices of the Organ Historical Society, which was meeting for the week in Rochester. Mr. Peckham, from Elmira, NY, is a longtime friend of this church: not only a brilliant organist, he is also an expert organ repair technician, specializing in instruments like ours. He has cared for, tuned, and painstakingly restored our Hope-Jones organ for many years, and it was a special treat to hear him draw splendid sounds from the instrument which he has so lovingly nurtured over the years. The recital was recorded by the OHS, and we are hoping to obtain a CD from them. We are now negotiating with Mr. Peckham to return on a Thursday afternoon this season for a performance in the Eastman at Washington Square recital series.

David Peckham concluded his recitals with a hymn for the audience to join in singing. He chose No. 158 from our gray hymnal, *Praise the Source of Faith and Learning*. This beautiful hymn was composed in 1992 by American composer William Albright, on a 1987 poem by Thomas Troeger. The concluding lines resonate profoundly today: *“Praise for justice and compassion, and for strangers, neighbors, friends; Praise for hearts and lips to fashion praise for love that never ends.”*

RAIHN Works!



*Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network
Keeping families together.
Getting families home for good.*

Submitted by Marti Eggers

Angela's Story

Here is the story of one of RAIHN's guests, as told by Kim Hunt-Uzelac, RAIHN Director.

Today a mother who graduated from the program in 2014 unexpectedly stopped by the RAIHN Day Center. (She gave us permission to use her name and story). Angela came into our shelter with her then-husband, Steve, who was discharged from the program. Angela bravely chose to stay in the shelter with her children and successfully graduated in 2014 with a full-time job and an apartment on South Avenue. We didn't even recognize her today; she looks absolutely amazing!! Since leaving RAIHN and graduating from her year of RAIHN aftercare, she received a promotion at the University of Rochester. She is now working as a preventive care manager for Rochester Regional, doing outreach with the chronically homeless to hook them up with resources needed to get into outpatient rehabilitation. She loves her job. She recently moved with her children to Spencerport after becoming engaged to a man who knows of RAIHN through his work at Spiritus Christi. Her children love her fiancé and she is very excited about their future. She was absolutely glowing and wanted to thank all of the volunteers at RAIHN. She told us that she is filled with gratitude for the support and care shown to her family during their stay at RAIHN, stating, “I wouldn't be where I am today without the support I received from RAIHN during that time of crisis. I can't possibly thank RAIHN enough.”

RAIHN - the Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network - a consortium of faith communities providing safe shelter, meals and other support to families that are temporarily homeless.



Social Justice Plate

Submitted by Shirley Bond

We just want to share with you a note we received from one of our plate recipients this past calendar year:

"To our friends at First Universalist Church: Thank-you for your support of Moms Demand Action. Your March offering will go towards advocating for common sense gun laws in our community". Cha-Ron.

We love receiving cards from organizations who are doing great work and are not on everyone's radar!

September 16's collection will be going to RCSD School #7. Bill Elwell and his committee stated that, "There is always some need at School #7!" Last year the money went toward jackets, book bags, teacher supplies, and special projects. Also, a couple of the teachers' wish-lists were able to be filled.

Suggestions of possible organizations to receive the offerings are made by members of the congregation, and requests are considered by the Social Justice Plate Committee. The committee looks for local organizations that have a broad appeal to our congregation, preferably a local focus which helps us fulfill our mission of serving the community.

An example of that goal was our June offering to Rochester Community Bikes. This local organization repairs donated bikes which they then distribute to members of the community. Thanks to First Universalist, there are individuals who have wheels to get to work or wherever they need to go.

As a side note we would like more members on the committee! It is not time consuming just rewarding! If you are interested in joining the Social Justice Plate Committee, please contact Shirley Bond. or Becky Elwell via office@uuroc.org.



Faith In Action Council

Water, Water Everywhere

Submitted by Joy Leccese

On September 9, 2018 we will celebrate the opening of our new church year with our traditional water ceremony/service. What's that really all about? (Well, come and see, of course...)

In addition to welcoming our new settled minister, Rev. Lane Campbell, on that day the Faith In Action Council (FIAC) will share with the congregation some of what they and the Project Team have been working on. We'll give you a little something to quench your thirst for knowledge about what our Social Justice Ministry's focus is --- hopefully without making you feel like you're sipping from a fire hose.

Since the inception of the Faith In Action Council in the winter of 2017, many more individuals have embraced a variety of issues that demand attention in our local community, nationally and globally. We're proud of our "small but mighty" congregation's efforts to live our principles, reaching out to others in need, standing for justice for all, and creating opportunities to make a difference, one person at a time and one issue at a time. We invite you to listen, to think about where your own gifts can come into play, and where you can make that difference. In the coming months, FIAC and the Project Team will be offering opportunities to expand our individual and collective awareness of the many issues that face us --- especially ones that are rooted in systemic racism.

Our congregation is blessed with many talented, thoughtful and compassionate people. We hope to engage more of you in the coming months and shower you with interesting and challenging opportunities to get engaged. Watch for announcements about our Second Sundays: each month we'll devote the Second Sunday of to our Social Justice Ministry activities and offer you opportunities to dip your toes in the waters of building a world based on justice for all. We will live our mission and vision together: to Nurture the Spirit and Serve the Community. Let's dive in together!

March in the Labor Day Parade to Honor Farmworkers

Submitted by Connie Valk



There are few who labor harder than farmworkers, who bring food to our tables. Yet, they are not included in New York State labor laws. As most of the farmworkers are people of color, this is one of the many aspects of structural racism. Our “Harvesting Justice” Social Justice Circle is working to address this, tying in with our church project.

If you would like to join us in the march with farmworkers and their allies on Labor Day, September 3 at 10:45 am, please come to the line-up spot on Sibley Place off East Avenue, near Prince Street. Wear a red or white top. Our First Universalist Church sign will be present. Signs in support of farmworkers are welcome. (Please no signs about immigrations issues and such, as these depart from the purpose.)

Need more information? Contact Connie Valk via office@uuroc.org. See you at the parade!

Finance Team

A Deficit to Forget ...

Submitted by Ann Rhody

We are happy to report some great financial news about the fiscal year which ended on June 30, 2018: It looks like the large projected deficit (\$10,000-15,000 as of the last monthly Outlook) will not come to be! Thanks to our members who responded to statements sent out by Acting Collector Jim Milch, a number of outstanding 2017 – 2018 pledge payments were received in late June, with others promising to arrive soon. When all is said and done, we will likely finish within a few hundred dollars of the “break even” mark for the year. Final details will be in the annual Treasurer’s Report, scheduled for publication in October.

Friends to Remember. A sad part of our church life is the death of congregation members and friends. There is often a desire to make memorial gifts in honor of those who pass away. How is this done and where does the money go?

Gifts in memory of someone are generally put into the Memorial Fund. This fund can be used for any church program, as determined by the Board of Trustees. However, a memorial gift may be directed toward *any* purpose the donor chooses. For example, if the donor feels that the music program was particularly special to someone who has passed away, they may direct the gift to the organ fund, or some other musical purpose. If you’d like to make a memorial gift and you need some guidance or information, please don’t hesitate to contact a member of the Finance committee.

And a (Healthy) Heart Full of Thanks! The congregation’s recent purchase of an AED machine was fully funded by a generous gift from an individual congregation member. Many thanks for this gift, and our hearts beat a bit easier knowing that life-saving help, if needed, is just a few steps away.

Labor Day





Submitted by Kate Fleury

Yes, there is a solar farm near my house. I can see it through the trees. I live out in the country, in Hilton, New York. It is on the west side of Payne Beach Road, many acres in the solar collection. I haven't been able to find out who owns it or manages it, yet.

According to *Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming*, edited by Paul Hawken, the cost of photovoltaic collection of the sun's energy was \$1900/watt at the start, in 2017, down to less than \$0.65/watt. An interesting fact is that the first major purchasers of solar cells were the oil companies, which needed energy for their oil rigs! Solar energy is now the fastest growing energy in the world and may soon be the least expensive. Even in Chernobyl, plans are set to build one of the largest solar farms in the world. What an appropriate use for contaminated land.

Solar can edge out seriously polluting methods of extracting energy, such as coal, reducing by 94% emissions of carbon, and by 100% emissions of sulfur, nitrous oxides, and mercury. In 2012 these emissions were thought to be responsible for as many as 3.7 million premature deaths -- AND they also damaged our floating aquarium, our life source, and our homes. I think wind farms and solar farms look beautiful, not just as large geometric graphic designs on the landscape, but also as promises of hope that "all is not lost." We as a species haven't quite ruined everything yet. They sure beat the look of chimneys spewing out black noxious dangers.

The hippies and writers of science fiction, as well as many pioneers working very diligently on small steps, had visions of healthy ways to provide energy for ourselves. We have become accustomed to using energy freely, taking it for granted. We cook, turn on lights, have hot water, play games, listen to music involving electric instruments and sound projection. There are fans

and an air conditioner in my little house. I don't have to go down to Lake Ontario to wash my clothes. I want a simple life, but not the grinding short hard life my forebears had.

When I find out more about that solar farm right down the street, I will be sure to give all of us an update!



Cozy Night Supper

Submitted by Kathy Russell

Mark those calendars for Friday, October 27, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm for a potluck supper in the Clara Barton Lounge. Sign up will be in October. At this Cozy Night Supper there will be a great conversation about how, why, and where we volunteer in our city with a very high rate of hands-on and charitable giving. Helping others is a natural instinct, connected to our faith, and one of the reasons Rochester is a nice place to live. Come to learn and share and eat!

And for those who like to look ahead, this church year's Cozy Night Suppers are planned ahead in the Clara Barton Lounge from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm on the following Friday evenings.

November 2018	December 2018	February 2019	March 2019	April 2019
23	28	1	8	12

Cozy Night Supper Programs: Would your Social Justice Circle or other group like to be an educational/interactive 50-minute program for one of our Cozy Night Suppers? Good dates still available! (November 23, December 28, February 1, and March 8). Contact Kathy Russell via office@uuroc.org for information and reservations.

Living Our Values, Making A Difference

Sprucing Up, On Painting Day

We spruced up parts of our building with a fresh coat of paint on August 18.



Tom Ruganis, co-chair of the House Committee, set painting priorities, provided supplies and organized our painters. He also painted.

Tom Williams, shown here in the Minister's study, said he loves to paint. Really!



Patricia Stott



Rev. Lane Campbell



Connie Valk and Tom Ruganis



Eileen Fernandez



Karen Dau



Karen Ruganis



Moritz Wagner



Michael Scott



Katherine Flynn



Shirley Bond



Ed Deller



Dave VanArsdale



Richard Reed

Community Garden August 19, 2018



There are at least eight (8) tomatoes and many more goodies in this Aug. 19 photo of our Community Garden along South Clinton Avenue, thanks to our dedicated gardeners.

AED Training August 19, 2018



Our own Kate Fleury (right) shows Carole Hoffman (left) the church's automated external defibrillator (AED) device on Aug. 19. Kate led six training sessions over the summer and will lead three more.

Permission to publish from: Shirley Bond, Karen Dau, Ed Deller, Richard Reed, Karen Ruganis, Tom Ruganis, Tom Williams, Patricia Stott, Rev. Lane Campbell, Connie Valk, Eileen Fernandez, Moritz Wagner, Michael Scott, Katherine Flynn, Dave VanArsdale, Kate Fleury, and Carole Hoffman.

Drop-in Discussion

Submitted by Beth Ares

Drop-in discussions are held each Sunday morning in the Chalice Room on the second floor of our church, starting at 9:15 am during the regular church year. Sometimes our discussions are based on certain books or articles, but you don't have to read anything or do any advance preparation to participate. Just drop-in! People of all viewpoints are welcome to make presentations or join in the discussions.

September 2 - 11:30 am | *Happy Life*: Anu Partanen has written a book, *The Nordic Theory of Everything: In Search of a Better Life*, in which she describes how Finns achieved one of the most effective educational systems in the world. She explains how they put policies in place that created some of the happiest people in the world. Imagine! Kate Fleury will lead the discussion.

September 9 - 9:15 am | *Save a Life*: An AED, (Automated External Defibrillator), is so easy to use, you don't even have to have training to use it and save a life. Once you turn it on, you just do what it tells you! But, maybe you would appreciate being more informed? Kate Fleury, RN, BSN, a Certified American Heart Association Instructor, will show and demonstrate lifesaving techniques that we can use here at First Universalist if it were needed.

September 16 - 9:15 am | *The Four Elements of Success* by Laurie Beth Jones: This book discusses different inherent personality types and the interaction between them. Hopefully we can discover what types or combinations of types we are and why we tend to get along with some and have friction with others. Robert Remley will lead this discussion.

September 23 - 9:15 am | *Is Social Media Toxic?* Phil Ebersole will lead a discussion on how social media manipulates the mind, drawing on the ideas in Jaron Lanier's Book, *Ten Arguments for Deleting Your Social Media Accounts Right Now*.

September 30 - 9:15 am | *Don't Worry - Be Happy*: Discouraged? Anxious? Depressed? Stressed? We will share and shred our troubles, get silly, and leave laughing. A feel-good session you don't want to miss. Beth Ares will lead the discussion.

If you have read or written a book or article, attended or presented a workshop or talk, or have a topic that you would like to share with us, please contact Beth Ares (coordinator) or any of our Drop-In Discussion Committee members: Shelley Adams, John Belli, David Damico, Kate Fleury, Bob Remley.

Church Library and Bookstore



Submitted by Phil Ebersole

Open During Coffee Hour

The First Universalist Church library and bookstore are open for browsing, borrowing and buying each Sunday during coffee hour (MOCHA).

Books along the wall shelves are our lending library. They may be checked out for up to four weeks (and renewed) by members and by friends who have been coming long enough to get a name tag. If you have an overdue book, please return it so that others may read it.

Our bookstore offers books for sale on the freestanding shelves and table. They include Unitarian Universalist books available for half price and donated books available for 50 cents each. If you have books that you think others would be interested in reading, you may leave them in the donation box in the library area.

We also have shelves of free donated children's books and a free magazine exchange rack.

If you like books and like people, you may enjoy serving on the Library Committee. Speak to Phil Ebersole if you're interested.

Adult Education

Submitted by Kathy Russell

Learning To Be a Human Being: *The sixteen people I've never met who have taught me the most.* A theme-centered small group led by Lew Ward -Baker.

Given my evolutionary biological makeup, what characterizes the noblest aspects of what distinguishes me from other primates? Can I name sixteen people I've never met who have given me the greatest understanding of what I define to be humanity and thus helped me know who I am and what I can do? Am I willing to share what I've learned and from whom with a small group of similarly open seekers?

If you're interested and can make a commitment, come to an organizational gathering after church on Sunday, October 7 from 12:15 pm until 1:00 pm in the Choir Room.

Summer Musicians Thanks for Sharing Your Gifts!

Submitted by Ann Rhody, Summer Music Coordinator

This was a challenging summer for music, in that our sanctuary piano was undergoing repair and restoration and was unavailable for the entire summer! Our heartfelt thanks to Jillian Beaman, who graciously loaned her fine electronic piano for use during the summer, and to all who shared their musical gifts during our summer services. Your music enhanced the worship experience, and the congregation appreciates you!

Theo Munson

Martha Welch

Ann Rhody

Charles Courtsal

Lisa Gwinner

Brendan Courtsal

Lew Ward Baker

Richard Reed

Kitty Forbush

Keith Stott

Allie Perine

Kate Fleury

Debra McCullough

Richard Wilder

Jillian Beaman

Ed Deller

Glenda Brayman and her vocal ensemble

Liz Neureiter-Seely

Neil Seely

Sarah Singal

Howard Spindler

House Committee News

Submitted by Tom Ruganis

This has been a busy and productive summer. The highlight was the painting day on August 18. Most of the effort went into the three rooms of the Minister's Study. These were painted using colors selected by our new Minister and the rooms look fantastic! Other areas that were addressed were the posts in the Clara Barton Lounge, one of the RE bathrooms and the wall going down to the basement in the Court Street foyer. Thanks to Shirley Bond, Ed Deller, Tom Williams, Karen Dau, Richard Reed and Karen Ruganis!

In other news:

- The windows for the Minister's study were installed. The increased ventilation and tighter storm windows will make the area more comfortable both summer and winter.
- The repaired stain glass door in the Minister's Study was reinstalled.
- An additional leak presented itself in the flat roof over the Minister's Study. This was repaired in time for the painting project and did little damage.
- We are still waiting for the two smaller windows for the volunteer office, but they should arrive soon.
- One of the interesting things about our beautiful church is that the downspouts from the roof go through the walls. This requires that the 22 traps in the basement need to be cleaned out on a regular basis to prevent backup and interior wall damage. This work was done in August.
- The lock from the parking lot to the Clara Barton Lounge was repaired. The key was also changed, and new keys have been distributed.
- The annual waxing of the floors was started over the summer. It has been decided that lesser used areas will be done on a bi-annual basis.
- Our Court Street sign was updated to reflect our new Minister. Thank you, Mike VanArsdale.
- The elevator permit expired at the end of August and the necessary inspection has been completed and passed with a new certificate.

As always, if you are interested in joining the House committee or helping out with ongoing support of the building please feel free to contact anyone on the committee. The House Committee is currently: Tom Ruganis and Ed Deller (Co-Chairs), Sarah Singal, Marcy Klein, Michael Scott, and Shirley Bond. We would love to hear from you!



Coffee Hour 'MOCHA'

How exciting is it that our formal church year has finally come about! Along with anticipated insightful sermons from our enthusiastic Rev Lane Campbell and stimulating music from our choir under the direction of the new music director, Brock Tjosvold, will be that great social hour to gather (following the service) as our weekly gracious hosts provide munchies for the MOCHA table.

If you'd like to be a part of this fabulous ministry, there are always slots to be filled. Whatever you chose to provide can be elegant or simple, and always appreciated. Contact Carole Hoffman via office@uuroc.org to add your name!

Staff Hours



Rev. Lane Campbell – Minister

Tuesday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wednesday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Thursday: Study Day.

Open hours will be held at a coffee shop (TBD)

Friday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

(860) 389-4697

Andrea Lewis – Office Administrator

Monday thru Thursday 9:00 am - 3:45 pm

The office will be closed on Fridays.

(585) 546-2826

Brandon Fagan – Sexton

Tuesday & Thursday

approx. 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday approx. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

After Labor Day

Open hours will be

Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am - 3:45 pm

The office will be closed on Mondays.



Submitted by Shirley Bond

What a busy summer! There is a lot of activity going on. What a wonderful showing of the First Universalist members and friends that attended the City Council hearings to let their voices be heard!

Apparently, we ARE being heard and we are demanding a Police Accountability Board that includes;

- * An independent agency of city government
- * Independent investigative authority
- * Disciplinary power through a disciplinary matrix
- * Power to assess Rochester Police Department policies and procedures to make recommendations
- * Subpoena power

Rochester City Council is still considering options, but the good news is coming around the bend. *Enough is Enough* has partnered with various organizations and has put in a tremendous amount of energy toward the cause and we are so pleased to be working together with over 50 faith organizations in Rochester to get this done and in place in a timely manner!

First Universalist is one of those faith organizations. We as members of the Police Accountability Board Alliance along with the fact that our church is across the street from Washington Square Park, are getting ourselves known and for the right reasons.

Roc/ACTS continues to work via their task forces on issues such as early childhood education, decent wages and conditions for healthcare workers, criminal justice, immigration, and *Raise the Age*.

By the time you are reading this we will have already been to a two-hour program called *Your Voice Matters and How to Communicate Effectively in Order to be Heard*.

Roc/ACTS is a 4-year-old organization dedicated to the belief that by working together we can empower communities to transform society. We are still in the toddler stage but making steady progress toward reaching attainable goals for Rochester.

We should all be proud that we are doing our best for our community. Many thanks to all who are involved. If you should require more information or wish to join any task force, please contact Shirley Bond or Robert Remley, via office@uuroc.org.

UU Book Note

When They Call You

A Terrorist:

A Black Lives Matter Memoir

by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele
with a foreword by Angela Davis (2017)

Submitted by Phil Ebersole

Patrisse Khan-Cullors, an artist and activist from Los Angeles, was one of three black women who started the *Black Lives Matter Movement*. This book is her memoir of growing up and living in a world in which black lives still didn't seem to matter.

She wrote about her childhood, about how her mother held multiple low wage jobs to make her family survive, about her work as an activist and a performance artist, and about her search for love as one who doesn't recognize society's definitions of gender.

The main advantages she had were supportive teachers in elementary school and in a social justice-oriented charter high school.

For each awful thing that happened to her, her family and her friends, she cited a news article or academic study that showed it was part of a pattern, not an isolated event. The effect is powerful. Her anger is understandable.

Rather than try to summarize her book, I'll just take one thread—the ordeals of her older brother Monte. He was literally charged with terrorism in 2006 after he got into a shouting match with a white woman after a fender-bender accident – terrorism being defined as making someone feel afraid. Although, according to Cullors, Monte never in his life physically harmed anyone. Police used rubber bullets and a Taser to subdue him.

This was not Monte's first run-in with the law. He had what was later called schizo-affective disorder, meaning that he heard voices in his head. He had a run-in with the law in 1999 at a time when Los Angeles jail guards tortured prisoners for their own sadistic amusement. When his mother finally located him, he was bruised and drooling, had lost 40 pounds, and was afraid to tell what happened to him.

Soon after, he was convicted of attempted burglary in another case after his voices told him to break into someone's house. He was released in 2003, with nothing to wear but a shirt, boxer shorts and bathroom clogs.

After an arrest in 2006, he was kept in solitary confinement for 23-hours a day. He was denied his medications, Cullors said, and she and his mother were not allowed to see him.

When his court date arrived 21 days later, he was brought into the courtroom strapped to a gurney and covered with a face mask, like Hannibal Lecter. He was undergoing a psychotic episode. His public defender said nothing. The judge simply postponed the case for two weeks.

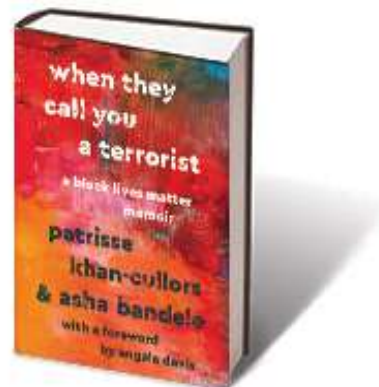
The family learned then that Monte had been convicted while in prison the first time, of illegal possession of a weapon, which meant that, if convicted again he would go to prison for life under California's "three strikes" law.

A real lawyer offered to take on their case for \$10,000. At the time, Monte's mother had \$150 in the bank. But they somehow raised the money, and the lawyer succeeded in deleting the gun possession conviction from the record. Monte "only" had to go to prison for five more years.

With experiences like this, Patrisse Kahan-Cullors and her friends Alicia Garza and Opel Tometi saw the killings of Trayvon Martin in Florida and Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri as further evidence that black lives don't matter to the nation at large.

That's why they launched the *Black Lives Matter Movement* via Twitter. Even though they only advocated non-violent protest, they themselves were accused of terrorism.

The First Universalist Church library has five copies of *When They Call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir* available for borrowing.



First Universalist Church

150 South Clinton Avenue
Rochester, New York 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 10:00 am Sundays
After Labor Day Service Begins at 10:30 am

Minister | Rev. Lane Campbell

Minister of Life Span Faith Development | The Rev. Michelle Yates

Music Director | Brock Tjosvold

Sexton | Brandon Fagan

Nursery Care Providers | Carol Williams & Sundae Hodge

Office Administrator | Andrea Lewis

Summer Office Hours, Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 3:45 pm

After Labor Day - Office hours, Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 am - 3:45 pm

Closed Monday. **Telephone** 585-546-2826

Board of Trustees 2018 - 2019

Nancy Gaede (President), Karen Ruganis (Clerk), Kitty Forbush, Richard Reed, Theresa McFarland-Porter, Tim Mullins, Eric VanDusen, The Rev. Lane Campbell (ex-officio)

Editor, *This Week at First Universalist* (digital) and monthly newsletter *Our Outlook*: Andrea Lewis

More information is available on our website: <http://uuroc.org>. The usual deadline for all submissions to *Our Outlook* is the 20th of each month.

