



# The Unitarian

First Unitarian Church

801 East Washington Street • South Bend, Indiana 46617

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Website: <http://FirstUnitarian.us> On Facebook: [FirstUnitarianSB](https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitarianSB)

Volume 65

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Number 10

## Calendar of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity, Event or Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sun	1	10:00 am	<b>Easter Pre-Service Social Time</b>	
		10:30 am	<b>Service: A Little Celebration, Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff</b>	
		11:45 am	<b>Youth Easter Egg Hunt and Adult Social Hour</b>	
Mon		7:00 pm	Care Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Tues	3	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 103
			Adult RE: <i>A Bible Class for UUs – Session Three</i>	Conference Room
Wed	4	7:00 pm	Marketing Committee Meeting	Room 108
Sun	8	10:30 am	<b>Service: General Assembly Highlights, F. Klecka &amp; S. Siemers</b> <b>Share the Plate Collection: St. Margaret's House</b>	
		5:30 pm	Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)	Conference Room
Tues	10	7:00 pm	Worship Arts Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	11	6:30 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Conference Room
Sun	15	10:30 am	<b>Service: Poetry in Motion, Jessica Collett</b>	
		12:00 pm	Brunch Bunch at Yellow Cat Café	Offsite
		12:15 pm	Adult RE Class: <i>Many Paths to Mindfulness</i>	Conference Room
		12:30 pm	Peace and Social Justice Committee Meeting	Sanctuary
Mon	16		<i>May Newsletter Submission Deadline</i>	
Tues	17	7:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Fri	20	6:00 pm	Women's Sharing Circle	Conference Room
Sat	21	6:00 pm	<b>Trivia Night – Annual Fundraiser</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
Sun	22	10:30 am	<b>Service: Celebrating Earth Day, Honoring the Planet, D. Mendelsohn</b>	
		11:45 am	Rain Gardens: Presentation by Bowman Creek	Conference Room
Wed	25	6:30 pm	Feasters at Simonini Gourmet	Offsite
Sat	28	10:00 am	Rain Garden Work Day (Area Preparation)	Outside
Sun	29	10:30 am	<b>Service: Arbor Day, in the Ash Grove</b>	
		12 noon	Rain Garden Work Day (Area Preparation)	<b>Outside</b>

\* The Choir rehearses every Wednesday at 7 pm (in the Sanctuary), unless otherwise announced.  
 For additions, updates, or location changes, read the weekly CHIRP email, or check the online calendar at our website ([www.firstunitarian.us](http://www.firstunitarian.us)). Also, we are on Facebook ([FirstUnitarianSB](https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitarianSB)).

## Minister's Notes

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Rev. Roush is on sabbatical, so there is no column from him.

He'll return on August 1, 2018.



For Pastoral Concerns, please contact one of our Care Committee Chairs.

Mary Hagen: 574-291-7546 or [maryhagen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryhagen@sbcglobal.net)

Lois Holm: 574-850-6652 or [holmstead@sbcglobal.net](mailto:holmstead@sbcglobal.net)

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## Sunday Services

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### **April 1: A Little Celebration, Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff**

It is Easter, one of my favorite Holidays! But it is also April Fools' Day. Although not as important, I have a tradition of celebrating it, too. Both joyous Holidays & reasons to celebrate. What could go wrong?

### **April 8: General Assembly Highlights, Susan Siemers and Florence Klecka**

General Assembly, or GA, is the annual gathering of UUs from all over the U.S. and Canada, and the last day begins with a Sunday Service. Board President Susan Siemers and Florence Klecka attended 2017's GA, and will present the highlights of that Sunday Service, with a few words on what they took away from the experience.

*Share the Plate* Collection Recipient: St. Margaret's House

### **April 15: Poetry in Motion, Jessica Collett**

It's April, and time to celebrate National Poetry Month. Bring a poem if you'd like to share it. It can be your own, or one that speaks for, to, or about you. It can be deep, silly, short or a few minutes long, or even the lyrics of your favorite song. If you'd like your name, the poem's title, and the author to appear in the order of service, talk to Jessica Collett (574-344-7550 or [jcollett@gmail.com](mailto:jcollett@gmail.com)) as soon as possible.

### **April 22: Celebrating Earth Day, Honoring the Planet, Diana Mendelsohn**

How can the First Unitarians continue to make sustainable choices?

Can each of us make a commitment to volunteer for five hours this coming year?

### **April 29: Arbor Day, in the Ash Grove**

After Earth Day, what more is there to say about nature and our need to preserve it? Robert Penn has plenty, in his book, *The Man Who Made Things Out of Trees*. This is a moving tribute to the relationship between humanity and trees, with congregants reading excerpts from this lovely, inspiring book. Coordinated by Florence Klecka.

## **Activities and Events This Month**

### **Easter Sunday, April 1**

**10:00 am: Pre-service Social Hour**  
**10:30 am: Service**  
**11:45 am: Youth Easter Egg Hunt & Adult Social Hour**

**Adult RE - A Bible Class for UUs,**  
**Session 3: Tuesday, April 3, 7:00 pm**  
Led by Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff  
*See Adult RE on page 4 for content details.*

**Kirtan Concert**  
**Saturday, April 7, 7:00 pm**  
Sacred Waters Kirtan will again perform beautiful music in our space. There is no charge, but free-will donations will be accepted. All ages can experience this unique kind of music, from chanting to drumming for dance.

**Brunch Bunch**  
**Sunday, April 15, 12 noon**  
All are welcome to join us for this monthly meal out after the service. We meet at the nearby Yellow Cat Café (Colfax at St. Peter). For more information contact Melanie Deschamphelaere (rvnstr22@yahoo.com).

**Adult RE - Many Paths to Mindfulness**  
**Sunday, April 15, 12:15 pm**  
Led by Becky Lindstrom  
*See Adult RE on page 4 for content details.*



**Women's Sharing Circle**  
**Friday, April 20, 6:00 pm**  
Relax over a simple potluck of appetizers, wine and dessert, enjoy conversation and camaraderie and learn how you can help your global sisters. This month's project, African Women Rising, aims to help women in Northern Uganda, including South Sudanese refugees, increase their food security by teaching them to grow their own food through permagardens. For more information, visit the Dining for Women site <https://diningforwomen.org/programs/african-women-rising/> or contact Barb Carmichael at [barb.carm@comcast.net](mailto:barb.carm@comcast.net).

**Trivia Night: Sat., April 21, 6:00 pm**  
Think you don't know Trivia?? No problem. Someone at your table will! Form teams of 8 of your friends or family, or just come and join a team. This is our third annual fun fundraiser, and they are a blast!! Tables of up to 8 are \$100, or \$12.50 a person. The winning team gets bragging rights and their names on the "trophy"! Tables can bring snacks; beer and wine will be available for purchase. Childcare will be provided. Watch upcoming CHIRPs for sign up information.

**Rain Garden Presentation**  
**Sunday, April 22, 11:45 am**  
Join us for a presentation by *Bowman Creek Educational Ecosystem* about rain gardens.  
*See Grounds Committee news for details.*

**Feasters: Wed., April 25, 6:30 pm**  
All are invited to join the Feasters group (folks who like to eat well) for an evening of food and conversation at Simonini Gourmet (226 Cleveland Rd, Granger, IN 46530) To reserve a seat at the table, contact Cathy Duncan (272-2931 or [kateduncan@aol.com](mailto:kateduncan@aol.com)) by Monday the 23rd.

**Rain Garden Work Days**  
**Saturday, April 28, 10 am- 4:00 pm**  
**Sunday, April 29, 12 noon – 4:00 pm**  
*For details, see Grounds news on page 5.*

## Adult RE Program

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This month we are offering two classes, as described below, that are open to all. We hope you will consider participating in one, or both.

### ***A Bible Class for UUs, Session 3***

In this session, led by Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff, we will look at special interest topics such as LGBT and the Bible, women in the Bible and, if time permits, some of the creation stories in Genesis. We hope to have you join us.

- Tuesday, April 3, 7 pm, Conference Room

### ***Many Paths to Mindfulness***

There are many unique and sometimes surprising paths to mindfulness. Whether you're looking to deepen your existing practice, start a new one, or just figure out what the heck mindfulness is all about, this insightful and engaging two-hour class will coach you through a variety of experiences designed to help you get in touch with the present moment.

This class will be taught by Becky Lindstrom, UC Davis Certified Life Coach and owner of Ever Present Life ([www.everpresentlife.com](http://www.everpresentlife.com)). Please feel free to bring a sack lunch to eat before or during the class. Love donations will be gratefully and anonymously accepted before and after class, with a portion of the proceeds going back to the church. Please send questions to: [becky@everpresentlife.com](mailto:becky@everpresentlife.com).

- Sunday, April 15, 12:15 pm, Conference Rm.

## Committee News

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### **Care Committee**

Happy April. Spring is here!

We are grateful for Barbara Williams and Mary Hagen's successful knee replacements. Rita Prangle's knee surgery will be on April 13. Keep her in your attention. Eddie Forero has a long recovery with the use of only one arm, while his elbow heals and heals, and then therapy. Richard Hunsberger has information to gather and decisions to make concerning his shoulder. Continue your

attention to Richard and David as they go through this process.

### **April Birthdays**

Happy Birthday!

This month's celebrations go to:  
Barb Carmichael (4), Tama Crisovan (8)  
John Sherck (9), Alfred Guillaume (10)  
Adeline Sherck (11), Mary Hagen (18)  
Kathy Platt (24), Allen deSomer (29)

Join us for GF birthday cake after the service April 8 to celebrate these people.

*If you have a birthday this month write it on the birthday calendar posted on the wall in the south hall. Party on!*

Our **Loan Closet** of durable medical aids and baby furniture will be reorganized across from the elevator on the lower level. Please find the clip board to sign out and in. We would like to keep track of the useful items and eliminate what is not useful. Thank you for your assistance.

There is a proposal out to the endowment disbursal for 2018 to place an AED (automated external defibrillator device) in our building and for doing some Basic Life Support training sessions. We have some donated funds for this program already. If you are interested in being involved in the selection of the device, planning the training sessions or participating in the programs in any way, contact Barbara Williams via email ([barbarawilliams@gmail.com](mailto:barbarawilliams@gmail.com)).

Please also note the announcement of assistance funds for UU seniors available through the MidAmerica Region in the *Around the UUA* section on page 6.

Continue to take loving care of one another.

### **Committee on Ministry**

Our Listening Center seems to be taking off, with a handful of people visiting each week. We plan to be at our table in the foyer with our notecards and comment log after every church service. If someone wants to share a compliment or criticism or to use our notecards, stamps, and directory to send a

kind word to someone directly, we are there to listen and to help. Of course, members and friends can also provide feedback on the church's ministry by contacting Jessica Collett, the committee's chair, at [jlcollett@gmail.com](mailto:jlcollett@gmail.com) or talking to the other committee members (Rich Wallace and Jim Curlee).

### **Grounds Committee**

**HELP PLANT A RAIN GARDEN!!** The Grounds Committee is finalizing plans to install rain gardens on the south side of our building. We are very excited to announce that we have received monetary help and support from two local environmental groups. In order to realize our dream of beautifying our grounds while remaining true to our goal of protecting the environment, we are going to need many volunteers! Workers are needed to prepare the land and install the plants. You will be given specific tasks and don't need special skills to help. Our schedule is as follows:

- April 22 (after church): Presentation from Bowman Creek Educational Ecosystem to explain just what a rain garden is and how it will be implemented at our church.
- April 28 - 29: Preparation of the land on the south side of the building
  - Saturday: 10 am – 4 pm
  - Sunday: 12 noon – 4:00 pm
- May 5 – 6: Installation of plants

Please say “yes!” when asked to help or contact one of the co-chairs to volunteer: Barb Carmichael ([barb.carm@comcast.net](mailto:barb.carm@comcast.net)) or Susan Van Fleit ([scvanfleit@gmail.com](mailto:scvanfleit@gmail.com)).

### **Membership Committee**

Please welcome new member Rose Fournier, who joined at the Ingathering Ceremony on March 25. Rose shared with us the following brief bio:

I grew up in Vermont went to college in MI and VA. I have lived in Texas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Virginia and Vermont. So I am a bit of a gypsy.

I first attended the UU church in Richmond, VA. Later I joined the church in Derby Line, VT

when I had moved back home to help take care of my Dad who had cancer. In 2005 I moved to Elkhart for work and in 2017 moved to South Bend.

I work as a surgical tech at Elkhart General Hospital. In the past I have volunteered at Church Community Services and volunteered for crisis hotlines.

For fun I read a lot, write some, do a little art work and build guardian spirit dolls. I am mom to six fur babies: two dogs Beauregard and Beckett and four cats. My brother and family live in the DC area, my Mom passed away about a year ago. One of my tag lines tends to be "to know me is to be confused."

### **Peace and Social Justice Committee**

*Share the Plate* Collection: Our second Sunday collection this month will go to **St. Margaret's House**. St. Margaret's House (<http://www.stmargarets.house.org/>) is a day center that welcomes women and children who live in economic poverty. They provide meals, address immediate needs, and offer assistance through their programs. They work to break down barriers of isolation while discovering the unique talents and gifts of everyone who comes through their doors.

*P&J Survey*: Thanks to the 32 people who have participated in the Peace and Justice Survey. We received thoughtful answers and creative suggestions. The survey will help our social justice work to be more effective and to better meet the needs of church members. So if you haven't filled out the survey yet, please do so in the next few weeks. There are 10 questions and it only takes about 6 minutes. You can complete the survey online through Survey Monkey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D2LFBS9o>. For a paper copy contact Anne Mannix ([amannix.nda@gmail.com](mailto:amannix.nda@gmail.com)), or look for her during Social Hour. The goal is to get the survey finished by the end of April. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Good, bad or indifferent, we want to hear what you think.

### **Stewardship Committee**

Don't forget to turn in your pledge forms to the office or to one of the Stewardship Committee members. We're counting on getting a good return so that we can use the

information to plan our budget for the next fiscal year. Thanks for your support of the church and its mission. If you've lost your form or never received one, please contact Chuck Leone ([leone1129@gmail.com](mailto:leone1129@gmail.com)).

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## Announcements

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### Annual Reports Due May 1

Committee Chairs are asked to have their Annual Reports turned in to the church office by May 1. Other non-committee groups who would like to submit a report are encouraged to do so (by May 1 also).

### Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 20, 12 noon

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for our Annual Congregational Meeting.

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## Volunteer Opportunities

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### Like Coffee?

We always need folks to host Social Hour after the Service each Sunday. Sign-up is in the kitchen and will soon be on-line. There is always someone to help you, including our amazing dishwasher Marilyn Shaul!

### Grounds Help

If you'd like to help with the improvement of the church grounds, join us for one of our Rain Garden Work Days (April 28-29 and May 5-6), or contact Susan Van Fleit ([scvanfleit@gmail.com](mailto:scvanfleit@gmail.com)) or Barb Carmichael ([barb.carm@comcast.net](mailto:barb.carm@comcast.net)) to volunteer for other tasks at another time. There is always plenty to do, such as lawn mowing, which will begin all too soon.

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## Around the UUA

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### Chalice Sparx Family Camp & Retreat July 12-15, 2018 in Sturgis, Michigan

Hiking the trails, singing by the campfire, playing games ... all childhood camp fun. But this UU camp and retreat is not just for kids — it's for people of all ages. Make connections, build friendships and

experience nature together as a family — with other families, youth and adults — in an environment where diverse religious, spiritual and theological perspectives are welcomed and celebrated. With programs for children drawing upon the natural environment, workshops for adults and youth on spiritual practices, multigenerational worship, and fun group activities such as canoeing, archery, s'mores around a campfire and popcorn popped in a kettle over an open fire -- all with a variety of accommodations from dormitory-style lodging to hotel-like rooms in the Retreat Center. Tent and RV camping is also available at nearby Amigo Park. Registration is now open at [www.chalicesparx.org](http://www.chalicesparx.org)

### UU Buddhist Fellowship Mid-American Retreat: Saturday, May 5

This will be at the Lake County Unitarian Universalist Church. Cost is \$25 (scholarships available) which includes a vegetarian lunch. Donations will be accepted for the keynote speaker. To register, go to: [https://goo.gl/forms/7HOY1dXs9oEYbAW\\_E2](https://goo.gl/forms/7HOY1dXs9oEYbAW_E2). For more information, contact: Erich Moraine [emoraine108@gmail.com](mailto:emoraine108@gmail.com).

### UU Seniors Financial Assistance

Financial assistance funds are available for UU seniors in need through the Iva Laughlin Fund.

Mrs. Iva Giles Laughlin, who died in January 1904, was an active and inspirational Universalist laywoman who lived in Chicago. She made this bequest to help those in need when they were elderly. The Iva Laughlin Fund is administered by our MidAmerica Region of the UUA. Examples of grant requests include:

- Hearing aids
- Rent assistance
- Medical expenses
- Food subsidy
- Funeral expenses
- Utility subsidy
- Personal care assistance

Grants can be used to reimburse expenses recently incurred or to fund pending expenditures. The grants, however, are limited to discrete, one-time requests, not

ongoing support. Grants will be made based on need. Individuals can expect a decision on their application within 4 to 6 weeks. Please know that all grant requests are confidential. To apply, send an email with the following information to the [LaughlinFund@gmail.com](mailto:LaughlinFund@gmail.com) or mail to The Laughlin Fund, c/o MidAmerica Region, 2355 Fairview Ave. N., #312, Roseville, MN 55113.

- Applicant's Name
- Name of person submitting application if not the applicant
- Address, telephone # & email address
- Date of Birth
- Name of congregation to which the applicant belongs
- An explanation of the use of the grant
- The amount being requested
- A quote or a bill to support that amount
- An explanation of when the money is needed and any other sources of funds being requested to help
- Any other relevant information that will support your application

The size of grants varies based on the availability of funds. Grants can be as large as \$1,000 with typical grants ranging between \$250 and \$500. If a grant cannot fund the total request, a smaller amount can be distributed to help fund the total need.

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## In the Community

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### **Ripple Effect Spring Concert - All Creatures Great and Goofy** **Saturday, April 28, 7:00pm**

Are you tired of winter doldrums and ready for spring to be sprung? The Ripple Effect choir will be performing their spring concert at Coalbush United Methodist Church (15977 Jackson Road, Mishawaka, IN 46544). Spring-inspired selections will feature the lovable inhabitants of our animal kingdom. Music will include everything from fun 60's classics and humorous American folk songs to Broadway showstoppers and stunning vocal jazz. A free-will offering will be taken, with 10% of the proceeds donated to Heartland Small Animal Rescue. Please also

contribute to the rescue by bringing items such as pet food and toys, bedding, peanut butter, and paper towels to the concert. For more info, contact Sherry at [sherry@sherryk.com](mailto:sherry@sherryk.com) (preferred) or 574-291-9044.

### **Lyme Disease – A Tick Borne Epidemic In Your Backyard**

Governor Eric Holcomb declared May 2017 as LYME DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH and may do so again this year. The highest rates of human Lyme infections in Indiana are in the Northwest counties. You are at risk for serious tick borne vector illnesses, and there are many, every time you go outdoors or simply let your animals come inside. This month the Humanist Forum of South Bend will host a representative of INDIANA LYME CONNECT, Tamara Ciszczon, who is an education and research advocate, to speak to us regarding Lyme-centric issues such as prevention, tick removal, diagnosis and treatment options. Come join us at the River Park Branch Library at 6:30 pm on Thursday April 19, 2018. RSVP's appreciated at <http://www.MeetUp.com/Humanist-Forum>.

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## Church Communication

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### **Mailing Lists**

If you are interested in being added to our weekly CHIRP (news via email) or our monthly newsletter (*The Unitarian*, sent via email or U.S. mail) list, please contact the church office ([office@firstunitarian.us](mailto:office@firstunitarian.us)).

### **Deadlines**

Please send information to be included in the following, using the deadlines below.

- **CHIRP:** Tuesdays at 9:30 am
- **Order of Service:** Thursdays at 9:30 am
- **Newsletter:** Third Monday

## Our Church Staff

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**Minister:** Rev. Chip Roush

[minister@firstunitarian.us](mailto:minister@firstunitarian.us)

Cell: 231-709-0032

*On Sabbatical until August 1, 2018*

**Director of Youth RE:** Dan Holm

dholm@iusb.edu | Cell: 574 8558105

**Office Manager:** Meadow Smith

office@firstunitarian.us | 574-234-6588

Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am – 12 noon

**Bookkeeper:** Finda Kamanda

treasurer@firstunitarian.us

*Please send all finance questions to this email.*

## Our Sunday Team

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### Youth RE Teachers

*K to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades:* Heather Hulse &  
Wendy Lohman

*3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Grades:* John Bentley

*6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Grades:* Susan VanFleit &  
Byrd Tetzlaff

**Nursery Care Provider:** Diana Mendelsohn

**Pianist:** Siwon Kim

**Choir Coordinator:** Alan Hamlet

*If you would like choir information, please contact Alan at: hamlet.1@nd.edu*

## 2017-2018 Board of Trustees

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### Officers:

Susan Siemers, *President*

Chuck Leone, *Vice President*

Elena Wake, *Treasurer*

Melanie Smith-Guillaume, *Secretary*

### Trustees:

Janet Bogar

Wendy Lohman

Florence Klecka

Eli Williams

## Committee Chairs

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Adult RE

Gail deSomer

Aesthetics

Melanie Smith-Guillaume

Building

Roger Birdsell &  
Jean DeWinter

Care

Mary Hagen & Lois Holm

Com. on Ministry

Jessica Collett

Building Use

Gary Metzler

Endowment

Joseph Gress

Events

Kathy Platt

Finance

Chuck Leone

Grounds

Barb Carmichael &  
Susan VanFleit

Marketing

Becky Lindstrom

Membership

Gail deSomer

Peace & Justice

Kay Azar & Annie Mannix

Social

Kathy Platt

Stewardship

Chuck Leone

Worship Arts

Florence Klečka

Youth RE

Dan Holm