



# 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)

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Number 2

## Calendar of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity, Event or Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>Sun*</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: <i>Hello Again, Everybody!</i> Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
		12:30 pm	Peace and Justice Committee Meeting	Conference Room
		<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>All-Church Potluck Picnic</b>	<b>Offsite</b>
Mon	6	7:00 pm	Care Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Tues	7	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 103
Wed	8	11:00 am	<b>Pie with the Parson</b>	Yellow Cat Café
		6:30 pm	Board of Trustees	Conference Room
<b>Sun*</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: <i>Charlottesville &amp; South Bend</i>, Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
			<b>Share the Plate Collection: <i>Bowman Creek Educational Ecosystem</i></b>	
		12:00 noon	Baby Shower for Heather & Kyle Hulse	
Tues	14	7:00 pm	Worship Arts Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Sat	18	6:00 pm	soUUunds South Bend Concert	Lobby/Sanctuary
<b>Sun*</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: <i>Courage, Resilience and Risk</i>, Julica Hermann de la Fuente</b>	
Mon	20		<i>September Newsletter Submission Deadline</i>	
Tues	21	7:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting	Conference Room
<b>Sun*</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: <i>Jesus' Radical Love</i>, Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
		12:00 pm	Grounds Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	29	6:30 pm	Feasters: Aladdin's Eatery	Offsite

*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)).*

**On Sundays in August, weather permitting, the Care Committee will hold Tai Chi classes in our courtyard at 9:30 am. Beginners welcome!**

*Choir Note: The Choir is taking a summer break! Look for information about its re-start in the September newsletter.*

## Minister's Notes

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I am back from Sabbatical, and I do feel refreshed and re-invigorated. I am deeply grateful to everyone who stepped up, to keep our congregation running smoothly in my absence.

Partly due to the conversations I had while on Sabbatical, I am experimenting with a few changes this year. If they go well, we may keep them (and if not, we'll try something else!).

I am swapping my usual Sabbath and Writing Day. Whereas I had been writing on Friday, and taking a day off on Thursday, now I'll be writing on Thursday and taking Friday as my Sabbath, at least on most weeks. I don't expect this to be a big deal, but if it has an adverse effect on something you're planning, please do let me know (the earlier, the better).

I will also try and take one day off each month to go visit my mother in Ohio. We moved her to an assisted living facility, over the Sabbatical. While she appears to be thriving there, it is still an adjustment. So, one overnight visit per month, at least for a while, seems like a good thing.

There will be some changes in the liturgy, each Sunday morning. I welcome your feedback, whether you like the changes, wish they were back the way they were before, or desire something else entirely. Sunday mornings are vital; please let me know your feelings/thoughts.

Over the last four months, I was blessed to engage many good people. I have been inspired by their work, and I feel more hopeful about how we ARE still bending the arc of the universe toward justice. Grounded and strengthened by their lives, I hope to exemplify deep resilience in my own life—and to share it with everyone I meet. {The new & improved Rev. Chip—now with 33% more hope!}

I missed you all, and I look forward to catching up and learning what's been going on in your lives, for the last four months. It may take a little time; I am committed to re-engaging with everyone as soon as possible. Please let me know if you want to chat. Thank you again.

With Spirit,  
Chip

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**Minister's Office Hours:** In addition to his availability for scheduled appointments, Rev. Chip commits to holding Office Hours regularly, to make it easy to just drop in without prior arrangements. These are listed below, on the calendar on the church website, on the back of each Sunday's bulletin, and on Rev. Chip's door. He will be in the church from 1:00 to 3:00 pm (unless otherwise specified) on the following dates:

**Week of July 30:** Wed 1-3, Sat 1-3

**Week of August 6:** Mon 1-3, Tues 5-7, Wed 1-3

**Week of August 13:** Mon 1-3, Tues 1-3, Wed 1-3

**Week of August 20:** Tues 1-3, Wed 1-3, Sat 1-3

**Week of August 27:** Mon 1-3, Tues 1-3, Wed 1-3

**Minister Out of the Office:** Rev. Chip will be away from Michiana once in August. He will take a brief vacation Friday through Monday, August 17-20.

**Pie with the Parson:** Rev. Chip will be at the Yellow Cat Café on Wednesday, August 8, from 11:00 am until almost 1:00 pm EDT. An opportunity to chat in a more casual setting, "Pie with the Parson" is like office hours with pie. Conversations might include everything from climate change or a serious pastoral concern to bluegrass musicians or vegetarian recipes.



## Sunday Services

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### August 5: *Hello Again, Everybody!*

#### Rev. Chip Roush

Not “what I did on my summer Sabbatical” nor even “what I learned...” but “how my Sabbatical is making my life (and, ideally, others’ lives) better.”

### August 12: *Charlottesville & South Bend*, Rev. Chip

One year ago, racist groups attacked peaceful demonstrators in Charlottesville, VA. Almost fifty years ago, an unknown arsonist burned our church. How the differences and similarities of these two events may inform our actions into the future.

### August 19: *Courage, Resilience and Risk*, Julica Hermann de la Fuente

Our guest preacher Julica Hermann de la Fuente brings us three stories about immigration, courage, resilience and risk.

### August 26: *Jesus’ Radical Love* Rev. Chip

Although it is usually misunderstood—or outright denied—by some who claim to follow him now, Jesus of Nazareth preached and lived a radical message of love for all persons. That message resonates, and inspires, and challenges us still. Many thanks to Bill Stevens for suggesting this topic, having purchased the right at last year’s auction.

## Activities and Events This Month

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### All-Church Potluck Picnic Sunday, August 5, 5:00 pm

All are welcome to the home of Kay and Deeb Azar for our annual All-church Summer Potluck Picnic. We will have activities for all ages. Please bring a dish to share and lawn chairs if you have them. RSVP’s not required but appreciated, contact Kathy Platt at [pkplatt@comcast.net](mailto:pkplatt@comcast.net) or 234-1352. When you RSVP Kathy can provide directions to the Azar’s house just north of Notre Dame.

## Shower for Heather & Kyle Hulse

### Sunday, August 12, 12 noon

*It’s a Shower for Two!* Join us after the service in the Conference Room for a Baby Shower for Kyle and Heather Hulse. They are expecting twin boys in the fall! Stop by for some cake and share your favorite parenting tips and stories. Heather & Kyle are registered at Amazon and Walmart. They would equally appreciate vegan casseroles to freeze or diapers in any size. If you have a chance, let Gail deSomer know if you plan to attend at [gaildesomer@yahoo.com](mailto:gaildesomer@yahoo.com) or call or text 574-850-8156.

### Concert Featuring: *After Ours*



### Saturday, August 18, 7:30 pm

[After Ours](#) is a self-described “head-nod-jazz” duo from South Bend, IN comprised of [Eli Kahn](#) (7-string guitar) & [Mike Schroeder](#) (drumset) with a unique approach to improvisation and dynamic range.

Having worked together for 9+ years in different groups, the two musicians have developed a tight chemistry that translates to their original music and interpretations of contemporary tunes. This concert celebrates the release of their new record, “All The Time”.

Opening the show, we are thrilled to host “The Dean’s List.” [The Dean’s List Jazz Group](#) is a Michiana Jazz combo playing straight ahead swing, blues, ballads, and Latin tunes with their own twist. The group was formed in 2013 by percussionist [Sonny Carreño](#) and guitarist [Danny Dean](#), thus the name. They met as guest musicians at a gig and decided they wanted to form their own band that focused on jazz. Local saxophone dynamo [Sam Que](#) and bassist Randy Horst round out the quartet.

Also featured will be the paintings of [Lauren Steinhofer](#), who will be displaying art as well as live-painting for the show. *Doors open at 7 pm, music at 7:30.* Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. See Jim Ward or go to: <https://m.bpt.me/event/3564436>.

**Feasters: Wed., Aug. 29, 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 Aladdin’s Eaters (317 W University Dr, Mishawaka, IN 46545). To reserve a seat at the table contact Cathy Duncan, (272-2931 or kateduncan@aol.com) by Monday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**More from Rev. Chip**

**Beloved Conversations Course:** We will present the acclaimed UU-designed curriculum on race and identity, “Beloved Conversations,” this year. After an intense and amazing kickoff event on Friday evening and all day Saturday (September 14 & 15), there will be eight two-hour sessions, held every other week. Depending upon the schedules of the participants, and the ways we work around various holidays, the course should end sometime in January, 2019. You can learn more about the curriculum, and the 140+ UU, Jewish & Quaker congregations who’ve used it, at: [meadville.edu/fahs-collaborative/fahs-curriculum-catalogue/beloved-conversations/](http://meadville.edu/fahs-collaborative/fahs-curriculum-catalogue/beloved-conversations/)

**Children’s RE Program**

During the month of August, the RE students will continue with the art focus from July. In addition, the students will be learning new board games and card games. Various members of the congregation will be working with the students in August. If you might be interested in teaching in the Re program from September through December, please let me know. Dan Holm, Director of Religious Education (DRE)

**Committee News**

**Care Committee**

Summertime and the local corn, cherries, and peaches are ready! Enjoy the abundant local fresh produce. It’s good, and good for your wellbeing.

Weather permitting we are doing 30 minutes of TaiChi in the garden at 9:30 before church each Sunday. No experience necessary. Join us!

**August Birthdays!**

- Michael Coppedge (7), Glenda Gibson (11)
- Eli Williams (12), Florence Klecka (13)
- Forest Wallace & Autumn Crisovan (24)
- Eileen Murphy (24)
- Melanie Smith-Guillaume (29)

We will celebrate the many August birthdays with GF birthday cake during Social Hour after the service on August 12.

*Want to be included in this list? There is a monthly birthday calendar on the bulletin board in the south hallway. Just add your name when your month comes around.*

**Among Us:**

- Eric Williams is living in a new home with a few other young men. He may need rides to church when Barbara is not available.
- Please remember to give attention to Susan Siemers, who is amazingly still baking and selling, and David Williams who are working hard toward a balance of wellness in their bodies. Their families and caregivers might also be in need of help and attention as well.
- Michelle Minnisan will have foot/ankle surgery early this month. Calls and cards are always appreciated.
- Elly Wynia's father, John Wynia, 79, died 7/4. Also Elly’s mother-in-law, Jean Trey, 93, died 7/1. Our sympathy is extended to Elly and George.

If you have visiting family, remember we have a “loan closet” in the basement with baby furniture and durable medical supplies

for you to borrow. Please remember to sign out the items on the clipboard.

Safe travels while vacationing and attending reunions. Keep hydrated!

### **Grounds Committee**

The committee is wrapping up its work on rain gardens and other strategies to resolve our storm water drainage issues as part of the grant from St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation District. We are now turning our attention to the creation of a memorial garden and the installation of bike racks. Since our grounds are in need of weeding and general maintenance, we will host a clean-up event at the church on Saturday morning, July 28. The building will be open at 8 am for coffee and light breakfast. Many hands make light work, so please try to join us at some point. In the event of rain, we will work after the service on Sunday, July 29.

### **Peace and Justice Committee**

Thanks to your generosity last month our *Share the Plate* collection allowed us to send \$445 to 466 WORKS. It is a local community development organization founded by Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church that focuses its efforts on improving the infrastructure, safety, and quality of residential housing in South Bend's Southeast Neighborhood.

This month our *Share the Plate* collection will go to Bowman Creek Educational Ecosystem (BCe2), which also started in the Southeast Neighborhood. It is an independent non-profit organization that has a summer internship program now in its third year. The focus is on regional talent development, with the current intern team comprised of students from 13 local universities, state college campuses, community colleges, and high schools. The interns are studying 13 different disciplines, and we believe that our success stems from the variety of perspectives that our team members bring. An internship like no other, BCe2 provides an environment where students can take risks, exercise creativity, and apply what they learn in the classroom to create real impact in the community. *Of note,*

*our own Willow Crisovan is an intern with Bowman Creek this summer.*

Their model of an educational ecosystem brings people from different backgrounds and different sectors -- educational institutions, local government, and community organizations-- together to tackle our community's most challenging problems. They started in the Southeast neighborhood of South Bend, where the revitalization of Bowman Creek catalyzed their work and shaped their commitment to social, economic, and environmental sustainability from the very beginning. Now, they use this same framework in a variety of projects, working with neighborhood residents to build our shared community. *By the way, this spring we were a recipient of a grant from BCe2 for our Rain Gardens!*

## **News from the Board**

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### **Board Meeting Notes - July**

At the Annual Meeting in May, there was a call for more regular information to be disseminated by the Board to the congregation. Your Board Secretary (Melanie Smith-Guillaume) will make every effort to get a summary to the office to go in the newsletter each month. Also realize that these notes are from the Draft Minutes. The minutes are not finalized until they are voted on at the following month's meeting. In the meantime, if you would like a longer version of the draft minutes, please see the copy on the bulletin board outside the workroom.

### *Board Retreat*

- We would like to work on goal-setting for the minister and Board.
- We would also like to get a sense of what Chip's expectations are as he comes off sabbatical and to explore what the Board's expectations are as we reflect on our experience without a minister during Chip's sabbatical.
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experience without a minister during Chip's sabbatical.

- Another item for discussion at the retreat will be implementation of the Strategic Plan.
- Chuck Leone will coordinate a day and time in mid-August.

#### *Committee Positions to Fill*

- RE Committee Chair
- Marketing Chair
- Committee on Ministry — Usually the minister and Board chair work on filling vacancies on this committee.

#### *New Banner*

- After her experience at GA, Kay Azar reports that we need a new church banner to display at General Assembly. Ours is very worn.
- Ron Robinson will contact her to let her know that she can spearhead making a new one. She may be looking for volunteers to design and construct a new banner.

#### *Finances*

- The budgeted deficit for FY 2017-2018 was \$14,283, but the actual deficit was \$5,362.74, much better than we had projected. There may still be small adjustments to the total but the shortfall will be taken care of with unrestricted savings.
- So far pledges are at \$147,535 with about 20 people out. The Stewardship Committee will follow up with these people.

#### **President's Update**

##### *Sing the Mortgage Campaign Successful!*

Our campaign to pay down the mortgage on the church building culminated in the payment of \$75,000 to 1st Source Bank on June 29, 2018, to reduce our mortgage balance to \$163,332.41. The mortgage started at \$400,000 four years ago.

The pay-down has the effect of allowing us to lower our monthly mortgage payments from \$2,700 per month to \$1,914.15 per month, thus relieving pressure on our annual operating budget. We will benefit from these

annual savings through the remaining term of the mortgage which is scheduled to be paid off in 2028.

Thanks to all who contributed, as well as those who helped in other ways, to take this important step in keeping the Church on solid financial footing for the years ahead. And, if you'd still like to help, the Church's Building Fund is still open to donations for not-yet-scheduled roof repairs and other related improvements.

Chuck Leone, President

**Summer Building Use:** During the summer, committees often take a break. If you are doing so, please let the Office know so we don't cool a room which no one uses.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

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### **Coffee or Lemonade?**

Most continue to want coffee and hot tea during Social Hour throughout the summer. We may add lemonade and iced tea, especially on hot days. However, if no one signs up to help, there may be nothing. The Social Committee takes over in that case, but may be traveling at times. A sign-up sheet and instructions are in the kitchen and someone will help if it's your first time, *including a dish washer*. Thank you!

### **Lawn Mowers Needed**

Don't miss your chance to use our new, battery operated lawn mower - a much easier, more environmentally sound way to mow. We need people every week in August and September. Please contact Barb Carmichael or Susan Van Fleit to volunteer.



### **Grounds Clean Up**

Since our grounds are in need of weeding and general maintenance, we will host a clean-up event at the church on Saturday morning, July 28. The building will be open at 8 am for coffee and light breakfast. Many hands make light work, so please try to join us at some

point. In the event of rain, we will work after the service on Sunday, July 29.

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## Around the UUA

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### **Annual Summer UU WomanSpirit Gathering: August 3-5, 2018**

Please save the date for the Annual Summer WomanSpirit Gathering sponsored by the Women and Religion Committee of the former Central Midwest District of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Diana Mendelsohn is serving on the planning committee and will be coordinating local carpools to the Camp Ronora, Watervilet, MI location. For more details, contact Diana.

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## In the Community

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### **Humanist Forum Activities – August**

*Hungry Humanists Meet for Dinner*  
Thursday, August 2, 6:30 pm

Join us at Portillo's. Home to America's favorite Chicago-style hot dogs, Italian beef, burgers, salads, and chocolate cake, Portillo's is a familiar name in the Chicago area. Fast, but REALLY GOOD! RSVP at <https://www.meetup.com/Humanist-Forum/>, or email [rita.prangle@gmail.com](mailto:rita.prangle@gmail.com)

*Discussion: Secular Grieving*  
Thursday, August 16, 6:30 pm

Join us at the River Park Library for *Secular Grieving: Surviving Loss Without Religion*. Humanist Celebrant, and founding member of FreeThought Fort Wayne, Victoria Gipson will discuss the approaches to grieving, pain and suffering that are unique to those who espouse a more secular or non-theistic lifestance and may identify as humanist, atheist, agnostic, or non-religious. This presentation will also discuss the ways in which the grieving process is universal and common to all individuals regardless of their religious stance. Helpful coping skills for dealing with grief and healing after a loss will also be presented.

### **Pilgrimage Healing**

For those who have Pilgrimage Healing Gift Certificates which have expired, we would like to offer some options: 1) Call to schedule an appointment, and we will honor your certificate. 2) Not interested? Consider re-gifting your certificate. Just call to let us know the name of the new recipient, and we will update our records.

For more information, contact Linda Jacobs at 574-360-7699 or by email [lsj621@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsj621@sbcglobal.net). Healing partners include Maureen Briones, Linda Carter and Linda Jacobs.

## 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).

### **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

**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 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:** Ian Bunker

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

## 2018-2019 Board of Trustees

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### Officers:

Chuck Leone, *President*  
Ron Robinson, *Vice President*  
Elena Wake, *Treasurer*  
Melanie Smith-Guillaume, *Secretary*

### Trustees:

Janet Bogar  
Anne Mannix  
Wendy Lohman  
Rich Wallace

## Committee Chairs

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Adult RE	Gail deSomer
Aesthetics	Melanie Smith-Guillaume
Building Care	Roger Birdsell
Building Use	Mary Hagen & Lois Holm
Endowment	Gary Metzler
Events	Joseph Gress
Finance	Kathy Platt
Grounds	Elena Wake
	Barb Carmichael & Susan VanFleit
Membership	Gail deSomer
Peace & Justice	Kay Azar & Anne Mannix
Social	Kathy Platt
Stewardship	Ron Robinson
Worship Arts	Florence Klečka