



The Unitarian

First Unitarian Church

801 East Washington Street • South Bend, Indiana 46617

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Website: <http://FirstUnitarian.us> On Facebook: FirstUnitarianSB

Volume 66

January 2019

Number 7

Calendar of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity, Event or Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sun	6	10:30 am	Service: Spiritual Downshifting, Rev. Chip Roush	
		11:45 am	All-Church Potluck	Foyer & Conf. Rm
		11:45 am	Mini-celebration of the Life of Janet Sandridge	Room 102
Mon	7	7:00 pm	Care Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Tues*	8	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 103
		7:00 pm	Worship Arts Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	9	6:30 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Conference Room
Fri	11	6:00 pm	Women's Potluck (Newly Revived!)	Offsite
Sun	13	10:30 am	Service: Westworld: Pain Makes Us Human?, Rev. Chip Roush <i>Share-the-Plate Offering: Ibrahim Parlak Defense Fund</i>	
		11:45 am	RE Task Force Open Meeting	Room 102
		11:45 am	Peace & Social Justice Committee Meeting	Conference Room
		11:50 am	Reflection Circle	Sanctuary
Mon	14	7:00 pm	Beloved Conversations	Conference Room
Tues	15	11:00 am	Pie with the Parson @ the Yellow Cat Café	Offsite
Sun	20	9:15 am	Forum: Court Appointed Special Advocates	Conference Room
		10:30 am	Service: Immoderate Moderation, Rev. Chip Roush	
		11:45 am	Art Opening: Daniel Slattery	
		11:50 am	Reflection Circle	Conference Room
Mon	21		MLK Day – Office Closed <i>Newsletter Submission Deadline</i>	
		7:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Sun	27	10:30 am	Service: Bearing Witness, Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff	
		11:45 am	Grounds Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	30	6:30 pm	Feasters @ Parisi's	Offsite

For additions, updates, or location changes, read the weekly CHIRP email, or check the online calendar at our website (www.firstunitarian.us). Also, we are on Facebook (FirstUnitarianSB).

* **Choir Practice:** The Choir practices Tuesdays, 7-8 pm, unless otherwise announced.

Please note the information about Church **Weather Closings** on page 8.

Minister's Notes

You're invited to a mini-celebration of the life of Janet Louise Sandridge (my mother), during the potluck after the service on Sunday, January 6, 2019. My sister, Kathy, and I will bring some pictures and share a few stories with anybody who chooses to listen.

It seems that more and more frequently, people are having multiple ceremonies in multiple locations. I know several people who've held two or three wedding receptions, so that all of their far-flung relatives and friends have an opportunity to celebrate with them. Similarly, I know at least a few families who've held a "main" funeral or memorial service, then held a smaller celebration in another state (or country).

My sister and I are contemplating having a third event, sometime in the late spring or early summer, near the small towns in Ohio where we grew up. My mother had quite a few friends in those towns who were not able to attend the original service in Stow. Plus it is always fun to ponder the hairstyles and clothing we were so proud of, back in the '70s and '80s...

With Spirit,
Chip



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 hours are shown on the calendar on the church website, on the back of each Sunday's bulletin, and on Rev. Chip's door. This month he will be in the church from 1:00 to 3:00 pm (unless otherwise specified) on the following dates.

Week of December 31: Wed 1-3 / Thurs 5-7

Week of January 7: Mon 1-3 / Tues 5-7 / Wed 1-3

Week of January 14: Mon 1-3 / Tues 1-3 / Wed 1-3

Week of January 21: Mon 5-7 / Tues 11 am – 1 pm / Wed 1-3

Week of January 28: Mon 1-3 / Tues 1-3 / Wed 1-3

Minister Out of the Office: Rev. Chip is not planning to be away from Michiana at all in January. He will be away in early February, meeting with the UUA Elections Task Force, Monday through Wednesday, February 4-6, 2019.

Pie with the Parson: Rev. Chip will be at the Yellow Cat Café (Colfax and St. Peter) on Tuesday, January 15, from 11:00 am until almost 1:00 pm EST. An opportunity to chat in a more casual setting, "Pie with the Parson" is like office hours, but with pie. Conversations might include everything from our DRE position or a serious pastoral concern to the Oscar nominations or recipes for snow ice cream.

Westworld & Game of Thrones: Rev. Chip will preach on two television shows, *Westworld* and *Game of Thrones*, this year. He welcomes your opinions, theories, concerns and hopes for either or both of these services. What do you like about these shows? What do you hate? Do they make you think differently about our human condition? Do they make you more or less hopeful for our future?

RE Consultant Report: Many thanks to all who participated in our conversations about the future of Religious Education in our congregation. Our consultant Tracy Beck's report is online at the following link: <http://firstunitarian.us/2018/12/20/report-of-re-consultant/>.

Services this Month

January 6: Spiritual Downshifting

Rev. Chip

Ever felt like your spiritual efforts were adding to your stress, rather than helping you relax? We'll explore ways to "downshift" our spiritual lives, then share in our potluck.

January 13: *Westworld*: Pain Makes Us Human?, Rev. Chip

Rev. Chip Roush

HBO's "Westworld" seems to imply that it takes immense suffering to turn their robots / androids / hosts into fully human beings. We'll explore this and other theologies of suffering.

A Reflection Circle will follow the service.

January 20: Immoderate Moderation Rev. Chip

What better way to celebrate Dr. King's birthday than to help make his vision closer to reality?

A Reflection Circle will follow the service.

January 27: Bearing Witness

Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff

Bearing witness: what is it and when is it needed?

Activities and Events This Month

All-Church Potluck

Sunday, January 6, 11:45 am

Bring something healthy or clean out your cupboards of all those sweets and join us!

Note: Before and during our potluck, Rev. Chip and his sister Kathy will host a Mini-Celebration of the Life of their late mother Janet Sandridge, sharing stories & photos.

Women's Potluck (Newly revived)

Friday, January 11, 6 pm

Gail deSomer will host the newly revived monthly Women's Potluck in her home near the church. Please join us. It's a nice way to

get to know people better. Get directions and RSVP to Kathy Platt (pkplatt@comcast.net or 234-1352) by Wednesday, January. 9.

RE Task Force Open Meeting

Sunday, January 13, 11:45 am

The RE Task Force invites interested members and friends to attend this open meeting to provide input on the RE Director's position.

Social Justice Forum – CASA Program

Sunday, January 20, 9:15 am

For more information, see page 4.

Art Opening: Sun., Jan. 20, 11:45 am

The Art on the Wall Committee is thrilled to be welcoming **Dan Slattery** back for our January art opening. You might remember Dan from several years ago, but be prepared for a surprise. He is using some techniques new to him, so this exhibit will be all new.

Feasters: Wed., January 30, 6:30 pm

All are invited to join the Feasters group (folks who like to eat well) for an evening of good food and conversation at Parisi's (1412 South Bend Ave, SB). To reserve a seat at the table, contact Cathy Duncan by Monday, Jan. 28 (272-2931 or kateduncan@aol.com).

Save the Date

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend these upcoming events.

Frances Luke Accord Concert

Friday, February 8, 7:00 pm

Join us for another amazing Frances Luke Accord concert. (Tickets: \$18 - see Jim Ward.)

Stewardship Luncheon: Sun., March 3

Don't miss the kickoff to our annual pledge drive. – Instead of bringing a dish for a potluck, lunch will be provided at no charge.

Trivia Night: Saturday, April 13

Start organizing your team now! If you would like to help with this fun event, please contact Kathy Platt (pkplatt@comcast.net).

Social Justice Spotlight: *Legal Representation*

Our country guarantees the right to council in criminal cases, but in immigration cases, custody disputes, civil cases, and procedural cases, vulnerable or disenfranchised people may be left to navigate the legal system on their own.

✚ **Learn - Social Justice Forum - January 20, 9:15 am:** Join us to hear from the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) Program of St. Joseph County's Recruiter/Trainer.

✚ **Do:** We are in the process of arranging a visit to volunteer at CASA of SJC.

✚ **Give - Share-the-Plate Offering - Sunday, January 13:** We'll be sharing the plate this month with Ibrahim Parlak to help defray the legal expenses in his struggle to become a US citizen. – You can learn more about Ibrahim and his struggle at: <http://www.friends4ibrahim.com>.

From the Archives

Our Archives Project was funded by a grant from the Endowment Fund, as proposed by Dale Gibson & Chuck Leone, and approved by the Congregation in May 2017. Over the past 18 months three people have worked on organizing our archives: Carla Schulz, Eli Williams, and currently, Florence Klecka. They have been going through, and organizing, our old office files and the saved documents of our Resident Historian, Dale Gibson. Over the next few months, Florence will share some of her findings.

Historical Tidbits:

Digging through the church archives, Florence has found the following.

- ❖ The original paid invoice for the upright piano that's in the RE classroom at the end of the hall. We paid just \$45 in 1956, before we even had a building!
- ❖ The *South Bend Tribune* article about the 50-lb., 4' x 2' bronze dove that used to rest above the lettering on the church's southern exterior wall at 101 E. Northshore. "Dove in Flight" was sculpted by a friend of the church, Tom Heredia, and dedicated on October 18, 1992. It's currently in storage, but there is talk of putting it on the southern wall of this building, as part of the Memorial Garden signage.

Stay tuned for other discoveries!

Wayside Pulpit Samples:

(Editor's note: For many years these quotes were posted on an outdoor sign, designed for this purpose, at our old building on North Shore Drive.)

- Happiness is not a destination, it is a manner of traveling. – Dr. Hain G. Ginott
- Prove all things: hold fast that which is good. – I Thessalonians 5:21
- Love and Truth are what life's about and Freedom is for finding that out. – Cynthia J. Gould
- People who look too long upon evil without opposing it go dead inside. – Agnes E. Meyer
- Do not let the good things of life rob you of the best things. – Maltbie D. Babcock

Note: We still have over 100 of these slogans on large sheets of paper in the archives. If you would like one of them to use as a poster (for a small donation), see Florence Klecka.

From our Church Historian, Dale Gibson:

Two of our former ministers passed away during the past year. John Morgan, our second minister, died in June at the age of 99. Our third minister, Rudolph 'Rudi' Gelsey, who served the church from 1960-63, passed away in May at the age of 92.

Board News

December Board Meeting Highlights

During the December Board meeting, the Board discussed the **UUA assessment process** for figuring our **denominational dues** for the next fiscal year. The Finance Committee will be asked to look into details of how the assessment was calculated.

There was a discussion about the **RE Consultant's report**, available now at <http://firstunitarian.us/2018/12/20/report-of-re-consultant/>. Issues that need to be followed up on are how the recommendations in the report fit into the context of this church and the history of how we arrived at the current state of our RE program, the establishment of a permanent RE Committee, the hiring of an RE Director, and the content and structure of the RE program.

The follow-up to Chip's Ministerial Evaluation was tabled to the January Board meeting.

Strategic Plan follow up will continue with a report from **Worship Arts** in January. The Building Committee has recommended **replacement of the north half of the roof**. Funding sources and processes will be discussed by the Building, Finance and Stewardship Committees.

The Board asked Rev. Chip to convene an **Emergency Plan Task Force**. The Board also received information about training on the new AED which the church will be getting.

The Board is planning to implement policies and procedures for **background checks** for employees as well as job description and hiring policies for all church positions.

President's Update (Chuck Leone):

Thanks to all who participated in the RE visioning workshop on November 15 and 16. We had over 30 attendees and the discussion was both thoughtful and enlightening. Tracy Beck did a great job of keeping us on track and recording the ideas for what the program could look like in the future. If you would like to read Tracy's

report, you can access it from the "News" section of our home page (firstunitarian.us).

Our job, working with the RE Task Force, will be to create a concept for RE that works for us going forward, that recognizes and acknowledges the current state of our program and creates a plan that includes, recognizes and draws in all of the stake holders to fully participate in a vibrant RE program.

Committee News

Adult Religious Education

Great Decisions Course Coming Again This February: As part of our Adult education program, we are offering the Foreign Policy Association's *Great Decisions Course* -- an 8-week program to learn about and discuss in a small group format current foreign policy topics such as trade with China, refugees and global migration, US and Mexico relations, Middle East regional disruption, etc. A limited number of *2019 Great Decisions Briefing Books* have been ordered and will be available in January for enrollees at \$30 each, on a first come, first served basis (see Marilyn Shaul or Kathy Vetter). Once these are gone, individuals can order their own study books directly from the Foreign Policy Association's Bookstore (www.fpa.org) for \$32-\$35. *Financial assistance is available for those who can't afford the briefing book.*

Starting Sunday, February 10, we will meet weekly (except First Sundays) in the Conference Room about 1 pm to view a short video of experts discussing the topic, and follow it with a small group discussion.

Care Committee

May we each find more peace, purpose, and joy throughout this New Year, 2019.

The days are now getting longer, which means more daylight! Hurray!

We can continue our celebrations with the January birthdays and enjoy the community gluten free cake after the service January 13.

Birthdays this Month

Willow Crisovan (2), Zae Munn (3)
Roger Birdsell (15), Dan French (15)
Bill Stevens (26), Dale Gibson (29)

The loss of a parent is most difficult.

Reverend Chip will be mourning the loss of his mother, Jan Sandridge, for many, many months to come. The celebration of life was in Stow, Ohio on December 15. Chip is so grateful for his sister's strength at this time. Hold him in tenderness.

Ellen Triebold has also lost her mother. Pat Peters Hundhausen died in Port Townsend, WA. Our sympathies to Ellen and her family. A memorial service will be held at the Unitarian church in Port Townsend, WA 1/26/19. A Memorial Grove Fund at Quimper Village is being planned.

Gary Looney had two surgeries 12/24/18 on his hand and neck at Elkhart General Hospital. Connect with Gary and Ralph with a card or call for continuing support.

An AED [Automated External Defibrillator] has been purchased. It will be installed next to the fire extinguisher just west of Chip's office. If you are certified in the use of an AED and CPR please notify the church office. There will be training for others who are interested and an opportunity to update your certification in the future. Congregants who would like to take the class should notify the office with their contact information. There will be more information to come.

Also, this is a reminder to fill out the emergency contact form that is securely stored for just that reason, emergencies. The forms are in the workroom file cabinet under "Care Committee". You can return the completed form to the co-chairs, Lois Holm or Mary Hagen, or Rev Chip.

Thank you for the loving care that you share with one another.

Grounds Committee

Please plan to join us following the service on Sun. Feb. to add your valuable input to our memorial garden discussion. More details to follow in the February newsletter.

Membership Committee

During our December *Ingathering* Ceremony, Larry Dzaugis signed our membership book. If you haven't met Larry, please start the New Year out right by welcoming and getting to know him.

Worship Arts Committee

The Worship Arts Committee is looking for new members. As a member you will provide input for Sunday Services and help plan and lead the lay-led services. The committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month. If you are interested in serving on the Committee, please contact the Chairperson, Florence Klecka (mayfield.david@att.net).

Other Church Announcements

Auction, Holiday Bazaar & More!

The results are (almost) in on two of our major fundraisers! We took in over \$10,000 at our annual Service Auction November 3. Our Bazaar brought in almost \$1400. Much thanks to all our donors, buyers, and especially volunteers.

Sanctuary Technology Upgrade

Thanks to an Endowment Fund grant and the work of a planning group led by Becky Lindstrom, last fall we developed a plan to upgrade our Sanctuary technology. And, after many hours of design & prep work by David Mayfield, as well as construction in the Sanctuary attic and at home by David and his son Stuart, that plan will soon come to fruition. – The technology will include: two 65" TVs (that come down from the ceiling with the push of a button - WOW!); a camera for live streaming or later podcasting; as well as a computerized sound desk to make it all work well together. Thanks to everyone involved for your time & expertise, and especially to David for again lending us his knowledge, skills and time!

Fern Hamlin's Quilts - Last Chance

Fern's quilts will be on display until the middle of this month. – *FYI: Fern donates 20% of her proceeds to the church!*

Volunteer Opportunities

AED Training Volunteers Needed: The training will be in two parts: an on-line course, as well as an in-person class. You will complete the on-line knowledge course on your own, before attending the in-person physical skills class. *Contact the church office if you are interested in participating.*

Concert Planning: *Enjoy Music?* If you are interested in planning concerts please contact Jim Ward (jrwsaranac@gmail.com).

Social Hour Hosts Needed: In order to continue to serve coffee and tea this winter, we need **more Social Hour Hosts**. We have instructions for set up, and Marilyn Shaul, our dishwasher extraordinaire, helps with clean up. If you cannot set up and clean up, Kathy Platt may be able to pair you with someone who can do the other half. *A sign-up sheet is on the refrigerator in the kitchen.* And, watch your CHIRP for a link to on-line signup for Social Hour Hosts.

Around the UUA

RA & GA - Save the Dates: Our MidAmerica Regional Assembly (RA) will be held in St. Louis this year, on the weekend of April 5-7, 2019. Our UUA President, Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, will be the keynote speaker. There may be some changes to our General Assembly (GA) this year; it will occur in Spokane, Washington, June 19-23, 2019. Watch this location for more info.

Community Organizations Events and News

Choir Fundraiser – *The Ripple Effect*
Saturday, January 26 (4:30 – 7:30 pm)
St. Peter's United Church of Christ (915 N Ironwood)
BRRRR, it's frreeezing outside! How about some hot chili to warm you up a bit? The \$10 suggested donation at the door includes limitless chili, cornbread, beverage, dessert, dinner music (provided by the choir with special guest Art

Gorman!). All proceeds go to the choir's general operations, including our Carnegie Hall performance and 4th annual tour in Dec. '19.

Humanist Forum Events

For any of the events listed below, RSVP to:
<https://www.meetup.com/Humanist-Forum/>

* ***Hungry Humanists Meet for Dinner*** **Thursday, January 3, 6:30pm**

Meet us at Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza in the shops at Tuscana Park (201 Florence Avenue - N. of Heritage Square, Granger). Tony Sacco's offers excellent pizza (1/2 price on Thursdays), burgers, and a good selection of vegetarian foods and craft beers. We have visited before and we were very happy with the food and the ambiance. Check them out at <https://tonysaccos.com/pizza-locations/granger-in/>. Ask for Rita's table.

* ***Favorite Books Show & Tell***

Thursday, January 17, 6:30 pm

Tutt Branch, SJC Library (2223 Miami Street, SB)
The HF will host their annual event which is a big favorite because we all love books! The books can be humanism related, but may be any other topic, and can be fiction or non-fiction. Bring 1 or, at most, 2 books that you've enjoyed and be prepared to give us a 5-minute report on your book(s). The public is welcome and there is no admission charge. For more info contact Rita Prangle (rita.prangle@gmail.com or 574-855-4928).

Pilgrimage Healing - *Bountiful Good*

We live in a bountiful universe. Blessings are everywhere – in the world of nature, in our relationships at home and work, and in our private lives. When we pay attention, when we stop, and when we really look, we can see blessings appear as perfect solutions, unexpected good, feelings of health and wholeness, and perhaps an awareness of Divine Presence that just fills us. When we recognize these gifts and hold them in a spirit of gratitude, we open the way for more. How wonderful is that?

Pilgrimage Healing is a time to open to the endless flow of good. It is a time to be truly immersed in the goodness of universal love. Come share such an experience, or give it as a gift to someone you love. For more information, contact Linda Jacobs at 574-360-7699 or lsj621@sbcglobal.net. Gift certificates are available for a \$20 donation. Healing partners include Maureen Briones, Linda Carter and Linda Jacobs.

Church Communication

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
(For January 2019: Monday, Dec. 17)

2018-2019 Board of Trustees

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

Adult RE	Gail deSomer
Aesthetics	Melanie Smith-Guillaume
Building	Roger Birdsell
Building Use	Gary Metzler
Care	Mary Hagen & Lois Holm
Children & Youth	<i>Vacant</i>
Religious Ed	
Com. on Ministry	Jim Curlee
Endowment	Joseph Gress
Events	Kathy Platt
Finance	Elena Wake
Grounds	Barb Carmichael & Susan VanFleit
Marketing	<i>Vacant</i>
Membership	<i>Vacant</i>
Peace & Justice	Andrea Vollrath & Kay Azar
Social	Kathy Platt
Stewardship	Ron Robinson
Worship Arts	Florence Klečka

Our Church Staff

Minister: Rev. Chip Roush
minister@firstunitarian.us
Cell: 231-709-0032

Director of Youth RE: *Vacant*

Interim Office Coordinator: Kathy Vetter

Bookkeeper: Finda Kamanda
treasurer@firstunitarian.us
Please send finance questions to this email.

Our Sunday Team

Youth RE Teachers

Please contact Rev. Chip or Board President, Chuck Leone if you are interested in helping with our youth RE program.

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

Weather Closings

Watch our church Facebook page, and/or our website, and/or your television with all the cancellations at the bottom of the screen, to see if the church has cancelled a service due to weather, etc. *Whether the church is open or not, we depend on you to make the best choices for you and your family—if it looks too risky, we're happy to see you the next weekend.*

During the week, the office is only closed if the South Bend Community Schools' Administration Building is closed. – For evening meetings, please check with the organizers.