



# The Unitarian

First Unitarian Church

801 East Washington Street • South Bend, Indiana 46617

Phone: (574) 234-6588 • E-mail: [office@FirstUnitarian.us](mailto:office@FirstUnitarian.us)

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

Volume 67

July 2019

Number 1

## Calendar of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity, Event or Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
Mon	1	7:00 pm	Care Committee Meeting	Off-Site
Tues	2	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 103
Thurs	4		<b>Office Closed – Happy 4th!</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Joy &amp; Healing, Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
Tues	9	7:00 pm	Worship Arts Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	10	6:30 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Conference Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Highlights from the General Assembly, Lay Led</b>	
		11:45 am	Share-the-Plate Offering: YWCA's "Pack a Backpack" Peace and Social Justice Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Mon	15		<b>Newsletter Submission Deadline</b>	
Wed	17	6:30 pm	Membership Meeting	Conference Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: I'm Too Busy to Be Well, Prof. Terri Russ</b>	
		11:45 am	<b>Ice Cream Social</b>	Foyer
Mon	22	1:00 pm	Committee on Ministry Meeting (tentative)	Conference Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Light Bringer, Story Teller, Prof. Dé Bryant &amp; Rev. Chip</b>	
		11:45 am	Grounds Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	31		Feasters	Off-Site



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)).

Choir Rehearsal: The Choir rehearses Tuesdays, 7-8 pm, unless otherwise announced.

## Minister's Notes

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THIS IS PERMISSION.

For those of us looking for a sign, that we are allowed to sing, or color, or cook, or do anything creative and fun—but do it in a way which is somehow IMPERFECT, and not professional—this is that sign. Sing away! Sketch or stir or sew up a storm, and do it with joy. It's not about perfection; it is not about the end result. It is about the process of doing something that makes us happy. Enjoy!

Wait...you're still here? You're already swamped, and this feels like one more task that we're supposed to be accomplishing, so it just pushes you farther into overwhelm? I hear that. Take a deep breath. Maybe today you just \*find\* your colored pencils. Maybe you sing safely in the shower, without a judgmental audience. Maybe you try a shuffle-ball change on your way to make tea in the morning. It doesn't have to be good, but it is allowed to be happy-making.

Our worth does not come from our usefulness. As our first principle states, we have inherent worth and dignity. You need not earn your worth; it is already deep inside you. This also means that you cannot lose your worth, just by coloring outside the lines, or singing a little off-key. You are worthy. You are wonderful. You have permission to be you.

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 also shown 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 1 :** Mon 1-3, Wed 1-3. Sat 1-3

**Week of July 8:** Mon 1-3, Tues 1-3, Wed 1-3

**Week of July 22:** Mon 11a-1p, Tues 11a-1p, Wed 1-3

**Week of July 29:** Mon 1-3, Tues 1-3, Wed 1-3

### Minister Out of the Office:

Rev. Chip will be away from Michiana once in July. He will attend the Southeastern UU Summer Institute (SUUSI) from Friday, 7/12 through Sunday, 7/21. He'll preach on Thursday morning, and help with registration and the information office much of the rest of the week.



Our Unitarian Universalist Association, and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, have joined several other organizations to shut down the **Homestead Child Detention Center**. 2000 child migrants are being held in Florida, in an "emergency influx center"—which means normal standards are not enforced for the living conditions of these children. Learn more, and sign the petition, at <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/sign-the-petition-close-the-homestead-child-detention-center>

## Services this Month

### July 7, 2019: *Joy & Healing* Rev. Chip Roush

Many people seem stressed beyond their carrying capacity these days. We'll do a little healing through joy.

### July 14, 2019: *Highlights from General Assembly*

#### Lay Led

Couldn't make it to GA this year in Spokane? No fear. We'll watch the *Service of the Living Tradition*, the traditional service that caps off this annual assembly of UUs from all over North America.

### July 21, 2019: *I'm Too Busy to Be Well* Prof. Terri Russ

While we all know that practicing wellness (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, relational) should be part of a healthy lifestyle, we often don't have time, or think we don't have time, to do so. We will explore ways to reframe our busy mind and life to create space for intentional wellness practices.

### July 28, 2019: *Light Bringer, Story Teller*

Prof. Dé Bryant & Rev. Chip Roush  
Encouraging hope and agency, through the power of stories. The *Light Bringer* is an interactive figurative sculpture, to be exhibited at the South Bend Museum of Art, August into October.

## Other Church Activities, Events, & News

### Feasters - Wed., July 31: 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**. To reserve a seat at the table, contact Roger Birdsell by Monday the 22nd (574)245-7825 or [rhbirdsell@gmail.com](mailto:rhbirdsell@gmail.com)).



This month, the Bazaar Committee is starting to work on our **holiday bazaar**. We are collecting items for our gift baskets now. We are also planning to open the ecology themed **ECO-BAZAAR** on one Saturday in December to the public. Please bring items you wish to donate to the church and store in the basement in the area marked "Bazaar Donations."

We have lots of planning and prep work to do. Please watch for details in the CHIRP and in our Sunday bulletin.

### Last Call to Order T Shirts!

Our T-shirts can still be ordered! The shirts are \$15 and come in men's and women's styles. The shirts are blue, but a gray color is shown to display the design.

Please place your order through Wendy at [wendycl13@att.com](mailto:wendycl13@att.com)



### Ice Cream Social

by our RE students, there will be sugar-free and vegan varieties!

To again celebrate International Ice Cream Day, we will have our annual Ice Cream Social following the Service on **Sunday, July 21**. In addition to ice cream made

## Committee News

### Care Committee

Summer is officially here and still very wet, creating lush greenery. Enjoy the sun when you can and remember to laugh!

We can celebrate the graduate, Anna Chambers, who will be on her way to Mount Holyoke in the fall. Any others?

Let's also celebrate the July birthdays!

### Birthdays this Month

Walt Tomasch (26), Elise deSommer (27), Susan Siemers (29), Elyse Weistrch, Karen French.

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

Join us for birthday cake celebration after the service, July 14.

### Among Us

We have had multiple deaths in our community this spring. Please keep these people in mind when you have time to reach out by phone, card, or email note.

Michelle Minisan, lost her daughter, Danni Poznak. We were honored to help Rev. Chip with the memorial service.

Mary Alice and Catherine Lundergan lost their younger sister, Teresa Lundergan, from Washington, Indiana.

Kay and Deeb Azar's mother, Miriam Azar, died after a full 95 years.

Janet Bogar lost her older half sister, Kay.

Bette Asplund is recovering from a hip dislocation, which has postponed her scheduled second opinion regarding her brain tumor. Bette and Bob have had a challenging year.

We can each count our blessings daily, as we take a breath and awake each morning. And remember those who are struggling.

The Care Committee reminds us that if we have visitors with needs, that there are medical durable goods and baby equipment in the CC corner of the basement (across from the elevator) to check out to borrow.

Be safe. Have fun. ~the Care Committee

### Grounds Committee

#### Lawn Mowers Needed

The grass is growing again, so, we again need volunteers to mow our lawns. You may be pleasantly surprised at the much-reduced noise level of our easy-to-use, environmentally-friendly, re-chargeable lawn mower. If you can help out this summer, please contact Barb Carmichael or Susan Van Fleit (Grounds Co-chairs).



Efforts to improve the **drainage** in the northeast section of our grounds seem to be working after the addition of sand to counterbalance the heavy clay soil. We hope to have sod on the ground soon so that it will be accessible as an RE play space.

The **dove sculpture** that hung near the entrance of our original church has been beautifully cleaned and restored by John Hagen, artisan at Fire Arts and spouse of Mary Hagen. We hope to have it professionally installed on the west side of the building soon.

Estimates for a **wall plaque and stone walkway for the memorial garden** have been solicited from local firms.

**The organic lawn care treatment** in May has improved the condition of our grass as we continue to make progress in all areas of our grounds.

The Social Justice Spotlight for July is on education. The *Share the Plate* will go to the YWCA's "Pack a Backpack."

### Membership Committee

Last month we talked about how to approach newcomers during coffee hour. Explaining a little bit about who we are and why we meet together is a good starting point. And, it is also important sometimes to just listen. Many times, someone who is new to the church is coming because they have just had a life crisis or big event in their life - a death in the family, a divorce, a new job, a cross-country move, etc. So, along with explaining a bit about us, please be sure to ask the newcomers about themselves and how they are doing, and then stand back and listen.

If you like to **meet and greet folks whom you don't know**, consider joining the **Membership Committee**. Contact Anne Mannix or Gail deSommer.

## Committees Need YOUR Help!

### Community Activities and Organizations' News

#### **Experience Pilgrimage Healing:**

We live in a bountiful universe. Blessings are everywhere - in the world of nature, especially this time of year, 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 a Presence that just fills us. **Pilgrimage Healing is a time to open to the endless flow of good.** 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 by email [lsj621@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsj621@sbcglobal.net). Gift certificates are available. Healing partners include Maureen Briones, Linda Carter and Linda Jacobs.

### **Humanist Forum July Events**

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

**Fundraiser at Monterrey Mexican Bar & Grill** on Tuesday July 2 @ 6:30 pm; 507 E. McKinley Avenue, Mishawaka, IN 46545. Ask for Rita's table. If you can't make it at 6:30 pm feel free to visit anytime between 7 am - 9:30 pm that day.

Monterrey has agreed to donate 20% of all breakfast, lunch, dinner, food, drinks, to-go and gift cards purchased to the Humanist Forum when you present the coupon, either printed out from the Meet Up website or presented on your phone, when you pay. Come support a good cause!

**Hungry Humanists Meet for Dinner @ Mandarin House** Thursday, July 11 @ 6:30pm; 2104 Edison Road South Bend, 46617. Ask for Rita's table.

Note date change to 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday - this Hungry Humanist dinner only, to avoid conflict with July 4. Mandarin House is highly rated for food and service. You can look over the menu here: [MANDARIN HOUSE CHINESE RS](#)

**School Choice: Taxpayer-Funded Creationism, Bigotry and Bias** on Thursday, July 18 @ 6:30pm; River Park Branch Library, 2022 E. Mishawaka Avenue South Bend, 46615.

"School choice" advocates claim they are working to improve educational opportunities by using public funds to subsidize private school students. Many of these private schools use Abeka, Bob Jones University Press and/or other fundamentalist curricula. The textbooks in these series teach young earth creationism; hostility toward other religions and other sectors of Christianity, including Roman Catholicism; and a biased version of history that is often factually incorrect. This video focuses on Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit program, but the information is applicable in other states, such as Indiana, with school vouchers or corporate tax credit programs. A discussion will follow the video.

## Our Church Staff

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**Minister:** Rev. Chip Roush  
[minister@firstunitarian.us](mailto:minister@firstunitarian.us)

Cell: 231-709-0032

Office Hours (see Minister's Notes)

### Coordinator of

**Religious Education:** Rich Wallace  
[cre@firstunitarian.us](mailto:cre@firstunitarian.us)

Cell: 574-406-3333

**Office Manager:** Peg Faulmann  
[office@firstunitarian.us](mailto:office@firstunitarian.us)

Office: 574-234-6588

Office Hours: Mon–Fri: 9 am – noon

**Bookkeeper:** Finda Kamanda  
[treasurer@firstunitarian.us](mailto:treasurer@firstunitarian.us)

*Please send finance questions to this email.*

## Our Sunday Team

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### Youth RE Teachers

*Please contact Rich Wallace if you are interested in helping with our youth RE program.*

**Nursery Care Provider:** Diana Mendelsohn

**Summer Pianist:** Ian Bunker

**Choir Coordinator:** Carys Kresny

If you'd like to help **plan and/or lead our lay-led services**, join the **Worship Arts Committee**. For more information, or to get involved, contact chair Florence Klecka ([mayfield.david@att.net](mailto:mayfield.david@att.net) or 287-7797).

### More Volunteer Opportunities

- ✓ **Concert Production:** Help select, schedule & plan future concerts. Contact Jim Ward ([jrwsaranac@gmail.com](mailto:jrwsaranac@gmail.com)).
- ✓ **Train to use** our new **AED**. Contact one of the Care Committee Chairs.
- ✓ Please consider signing up **to host Social Hour** after the Service. Bringing snacks is not required. A sign-up sheet is on the refrigerator and it is GREATLY appreciated!

## 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  
(For July 2019: Monday, 15th)

## 2019-2020 Board of Trustees

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### Officers:

Ron Robinson, *President*

Suzanne Waller, *Vice President*

Elena Wake, *Treasurer*

Melanie Smith-Guillaume, *Secretary*

### Trustees:

Janet Bogar

Howard Berberick

Anne Mannix

## Committee Chairs

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Adult RE

Gail deSomer

Aesthetics

Melanie Smith-Guillaume

Building

Roger Birdsell

Building Use

Gary Metzler

Care

Mary Hagen & Lois Holm

Children & Youth

*Vacant*

Religious Ed

Com. on Ministry

Jim Curlee

Endowment

Joseph Gress

Events

Kathy Platt

Finance

Elena Wake

Grounds

Barb Carmichael &

Susan VanFleit

Marketing

*Vacant*

Membership

Gail deSomer & Anne

Mannix

Peace & Justice

Andrea Vollrath & Kay Azar

Social

Kathy Platt

Stewardship

Ron Robinson

Worship Arts

Florence Klečka