



# The Unitarian

First Unitarian Church

801 East Washington Street • South Bend, Indiana 46617

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## Calendar of Events

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity, Event or Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sun	5	10:30 am	<b>Service: <i>Ghostly Refrigerator Magnets</i>, Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
		11:45 am	<b>All Church Potluck</b>	Foyer/Conf. Room
		11:45 am	Auction Event	Room 103
Mon	6		<b><i>Board Packet Reports Due</i></b>	
		1:00 pm	Committee on Ministry	Conference Room
		6:30 pm	Ad Hoc Lighting Committee Meeting	Room 103
		7:00 pm	Care Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Tues	7	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 103
Wed	8	7:00 pm	Board of Trustees	Conference Room
Sat	11	6:00 pm	BOT Service Auction Dinner	Foyer/Kitchen
Sun	12	10:30 am	<b>Service: <i>Atheism in the 21st Century</i>, part III, Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
			<i>Share-the-Plate</i> Offering:	
		11:45 am	<b>Birthday Celebrations</b>	Foyer
		11:45 am	Peace and Social Justice Committee Meeting	Conference Room
	Noon	RE Committee Meeting	Room 103	
Mon	13	7:00 pm	“Mix of Your Life” Group Meeting	Conference Room
Tues	14	5:00 pm	Worship Arts Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Fri	17	6:00 pm	Women’s Potluck	Offsite
Sat	18	6:00 pm	<b>All Ages Dance Party</b>	<b>Foyer</b>
Sun	19	10:30 am	<b>Service: <i>Never the Dream</i>, Rev. Chip Roush</b>	
Mon	20		<b><i>Office Closed for MLK Day</i></b>	
			<b><i>Newsletter Submission Deadline</i></b>	
		7:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Sun	26	10:30 am	<b>Service: <i>Exploring Spirituality</i>, Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff &amp; BYOT Class</b>	
		11:45 am	Grounds Committee Meeting	Room 103
		Noon	Exploration and Discoveries Class	Conference Room
Mon	27	5:30 pm	Marketing Outreach Committee	Conference Room
Tues	28	6:00 pm	BOT Visioning Meeting	Offsite
Wed	29	6:30 pm	Feasters	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).  
The Choir rehearses Thursdays, 7-8:15 pm, unless otherwise announced.

## Minister's Notes

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16 December 2019

Wanted: board game players, and game teachers.

As part of a sermon series on games and gaming, next March, I hope to have several game nights at the church. It would be great to have a wide variety of game types available, including family games, party games, and maybe even some heavier strategy games. Of course, childcare would be provided for the youngest of our participants, but short multigenerational games will be available, too.

If you have ideas for good games to play, or if you would like to help teach a board game or two to the gathered folks, please let me know.

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 December 30:** Thur 1/2  
**Week of January 6:** Mon 1/6 (2-4p); Tue 1/7 (5-7p); Wed 1/8  
**Week of January 13:** Mon 1/13; Tue 1/14; Wed 1/15  
**Week of January 20:** Tue 1/21; Wed 1/22; Thur 1/23  
**Week of January 27:** Mon 1/27; Tue 1/28; and Wed 1/29

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.

### Minister Out of the Office:

Rev. Chip will be away from Michiana once in January, as he helps with the Ordination of Rosemary Morrison at the UU Church, Tippecanoe County (West Lafayette, Indiana), on Saturday, January 4, 2020.

### More from our Pastor...

#### Welcoming?

Our congregation earned its status as a "Welcoming Congregation" a long time ago. And, the challenges faced by our LGBTQ+ siblings and cousins have changed a bit, since we engaged the original "Welcoming" curriculum. Our UUA has created a follow-up curriculum, "The Five Practices of Welcome Renewal," to help us become better informed, and more deeply welcoming. Beginning in 2020, all congregations will need to engage with this new program, to maintain their "Welcoming" status. Please contact Rev. Chip if you would like to help lead this effort. Find more information at this URL:

<https://www.uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/program/five-practices-welcome-renewal>

Our MidAmerica Regional Assembly will be a one-day event, on Saturday, April 18, in Rockford, Illinois. This is an experiment, moving away from 2-3 day assemblies of the past. Contact Rev. Chip for more details, or register online.



### People's Inauguration IV

Previous *People's Inaugurations* have been held on January 20. This year, that is the day we celebrate the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Therefore, the People's Inauguration IV: Every Person Matters (focusing on the census) will be Sunday afternoon, January 26, 2020. There will still be dozens of organizations with tables and information. See you there!

## Religious Education News

# All Ages Dance Party

Come have a great time moving to the music with us Saturday, January 18th from 6pm to 9pm!

Our own Eli Williams will be DJing

tunes guaranteed to make you shake your groove thing! Don't worry about feeding the kids before you come because we will be serving dinner, soft drinks, snacks, and treats!

This is a family friendly event so bring your mama, your daddy, your sister, your brother, your son, your daughter, your grandma, your grandpa, or just yourself!

### Adult RE News and More...

**Exploration & Discoveries:** Beginning Jan 26<sup>th</sup>! Led by Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff

Join us for conversations and activities about aspects of spirituality that have personal ramifications in our lives. This group will meet every Fourth Sunday at noon after the service. All are welcome to join for one session or for all. With advance notice, child care can be provided.

### **Great Decisions Program...A Message from Barbara Williams:**

If there is sufficient interest in doing the Great Decisions program, we can offer it in February and March. Topics for discussion in 2020 are: Climate Change and the Global Order, India and Pakistan. Red Sea Security, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, China's Road into Latin America, The Philippines and the U.S., Artificial Intelligence and Data. Tentative dates for the viewing of the films and discussions are Sundays, Feb 9, 16, 23, March 8, 15, 22, 29, and, if someone volunteers to help lead discussions, April 12. Again, I am proposing 1-3 pm on those dates. Please e-mail [office@firstunbitarian.us](mailto:office@firstunbitarian.us) or call the office and let Peg know that you are interested. I am recommending that we have a minimum of 8 people sign up in order to hold the program. Cost is \$33. per briefing booklet (\$34 -- \$32 plus tax).



## Upcoming Services

Jan 5: *Ghostly Refrigerator Magnets*

Rev. Chip Roush

Let's begin the new year with positivity and joy! How might we encourage ourselves & each other in these challenging times?

Jan 12: *Atheism in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, part III*

Rev. Chip Roush

The final sermon in the series will explore the challenges facing Atheism in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

January 19: *Never the Dream*

Rev. Chip Roush

We'll honor Dr. King and all those who continue working to bring his dream alive.

January 26: *Exploring Spirituality*

Rev. Byrd Tetzlaff and BYOT Class

We invite you to warm up with our stories of exploring personal theology. The members of the "Building Your Own Theology Class" will share some of their experiences and insights.

### Worship News

*Joys & Concerns in absentia*

If you are unable to attend a service on Sunday, but still want to share a joy or concern, please send your message to Mary Hagen or Lois Holm and they'll read it for you.

A new section called "Worship Documents" is in the "Members" page of our Website. Guidelines for Lay Leaders are there to download.

Coffee Hours on Sundays don't happen by themselves! There is a small crew that assures that our weekly gathering happens, and they are almost always the ones who set up and clean up. If you appreciate social hour, please sign up in the kitchen to help, so that this wonderful handful of people can have a break. Thank you!!!

## Activities and Events This Month

### All-Church Potluck

Sunday, Jan. 5, 11:45 am

We have made a New Year's resolution to make our potluck more friendly to those with special diets. We still welcome all offerings, but we will have signs you can put next to dishes you've brought that are vegan, vegetarian or gluten free. And, we will have signs to mark dishes that have nuts. (If you have another diet need, please let us know.)

We hope this will make our potluck a bit more friendly for all in our community. As usual, whatever you bring, including holiday leftovers, you are welcome at our potluck tables!

### Women's Potluck

The monthly Women's Potluck will be the third Friday, Jan. 17, at 6:00. Elena Wake will host. This is a relaxing way to get to know others better. You can cook, or just grab something at the market. Please contact Kathy Platt to let her know you're coming and to get directions, [pkplatt@comcast.net](mailto:pkplatt@comcast.net) or 234-1352.

### Feasters

"Feasters" (our group that likes to eat well) will meet at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, January 22, at Simonini Gourmet (226 W Cleveland Rd, Granger). Please contact Mary Alice Lundergan by (date) if you wish to join in the eating fun! 574-387-7342 or [maryalichelundergan@gmail.com](mailto:maryalichelundergan@gmail.com)



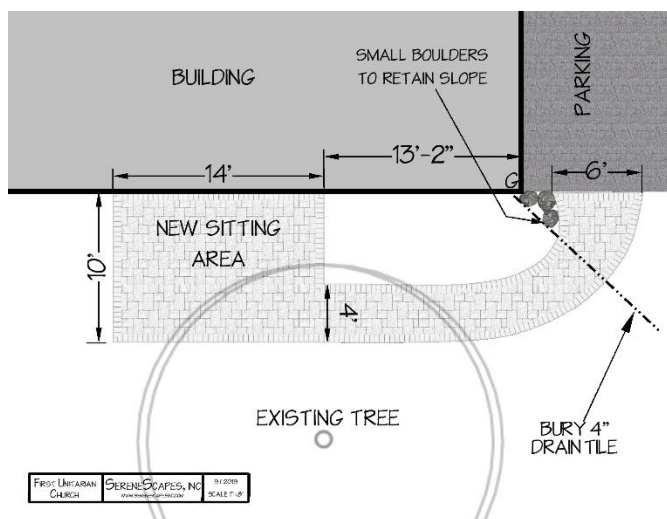
## Grounds Committee



We are pleased to announce that we have contracted with a local company,

Serene Scapes, to install the hardscape for our memorial garden on the south side of our building. This will consist of a sitting area and a paved walkway leading to it from our parking lot. The work will occur next spring and will bring this project very close to completion. An endowment grant will cover most of the cost but we still need to raise some funds for the hardscape, benches, and any additional plantings. If you are interested in donating to help with the finishing touches of the memorial garden, please see Barb Carmichael or Susan Van Fleit.

### The Plan...



## Care Committee

May we each find more peace, purpose, and joy throughout this new year, 2020.

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



We can continue our celebrations with the January birthdays and enjoy the gluten free cake for all after the service on

January 12: Willow Crisovan Wallace (2), Rin Adams (9), Dan French (15), Bill Stevens (26), Glen Swank (26), Dale Gibson (29), Michelle Minisan (31).

## Among Us

Darlene Catello and Dale Gibson wish to thank all for your helping and supporting them both as Darlene's ankle heals and Dale recovers from a lumbar spine fracture. Please continue your loving attention as their healing/strengthening process continues.

We are grateful that Dan French is healing from his falls and hospitalizations. Keep him and Karen Dickson in your remembrances as they deal with the surprises of aging together.

Michelle Minisan is dealing with complications from her last back surgeries and looking ahead to working with a new doctor. Her daily suffering is unimaginable. Please remember her with a call or note. 574.315.8907 bluejellibean@gmail.com

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 & Mary Hagen) or to Rev Chip.

Thank you to all who have stocked the freezer drawer in the kitchen with soup to share with those who need it.

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

## Membership Committee

### New Member Biographies

Please introduce yourself and welcome the following new members when you see them. Wearing your namebadge will help the new folks remember you.

#### **Carol (Mathis) Rybak**

I was born on December 6, 1960, in Elkhart, where I lived until 1972. Our family moved to Bolivar, TN for 2 years and then came back north to South Bend, where I have since resided. I grew up in the Missionary Baptist faith. My Dad was a minister. We were very active in the church. My religious views have evolved through the years, and I like to learn about other religions and theories.

In 1982, I married John Rybak, who was raised Catholic, but no longer was associated with the Church. We had a good and loving marriage, and respected each other's opinion on many different topics. My husband passed away in February of 2017 after a long illness.

I have one son who will soon be turning 34. We get along great and share the love of art and music.

My years of employment have mainly been in Administrative work and Human Resources, processing payroll and insurance benefits. My current employer is Healthwin, where I've been since 2011.

I enjoy cooking, reading, watching movies, and Notre Dame football, as well as Da Bears!!

I want to say thank you for making me feel welcomed in the U U Community.

#### **Brigitte Hagman**

I was born in Germany, into a non - practicing Catholic family. My parents felt that I should grow up with traditional religious values, so after elementary school I went to a school that was run by Catholic nuns. I remained in the church into my late 30's, and then finally found the way out.

I have been an unashamed atheist for about 2 decades now, but I am not militant about it. If somebody believes in God(s), that is fine with me, as long as we can "live and let live." I was unaware of UU until I met Byrd, and then I accompanied her one Sunday. I realized that UU met a need deep within me and I am still trying to puzzle out what that need is.

#### **Ben and Kaely Barwick**

Kaely grew up in a rural town in Kansas; Ben grew up in Elkhart County, and we met during college. We've now been married for 10 years and have two daughters (who we do realize are more popular than us) - Mae, 3, and Lydia, 1. While Mae is creative, loves books, and enjoys playing outside, Lydia is adventurous, inquisitive, and loves spreading everything everywhere.

Kaely works as a case manager for Medicaid waivers that serve the intellectual and developmental disability populations, and Ben works as a stay at home parent.

We enjoy gardening, raising chickens, and being outside. Kaely also enjoys baking and cooking, sewing, reading, and being productive, while Ben enjoys woodworking, writing, reading, and cycling. While we were both raised Mennonite, we no longer ascribe to the Christian faith, but long for a community where we can belong as we are.

Also joining the church recently are Andrea Vollrath and Catherine Lundergan.

# 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](mailto:lsj621@sbcglobal.net). Gift certificates are available for a \$20 donation. Healing partners include Maureen Briones, Linda Carter and Linda Jacobs.

## **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.



## **Humanist Forum January Events**

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

\* **Hungry Humanists Meet for Dinner**  
@ The Prized Pig Thursday, January 2 @ 6:30pm; 114 Lincolnway East Mishawaka, 46544. Ask for Rita's table.

Great BBQ in a relaxed atmosphere! The emphasis is on meats, but appetizers and sides offer a reasonable selection of vegetarian choices. Good comfort food on a cold winter day. Please RSVP by the day before if possible and check out their menu items here:

<https://www.facebook.com/Prizedpigbbq/>.

\***Favorite Books Show & Tell** at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, January 14, at the River Park Branch Library, 2022 E. Mishawaka Avenue South Bend, 46615.

The Humanist Forum 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). **Note modified schedule as this is NOT the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday as usual.**

More information is available by contacting Rita Prangle: [rita.prangle@gmail.com](mailto:rita.prangle@gmail.com), 574-855-4928. The public is welcome, and there is no admission charge.

## Board of Trustees 2019-2020

### Officers:

Ron Robinson, *President*  
Suzanne Waller, *Vice President*  
Elena Wake, *Treasurer*  
Melanie Smith-Guillaume, *Secretary*

### Trustees:

Janet Bogar  
Anne Mannix  
Howard Berberick  
Bert Dodds

## Committee Chairs

Adult RE	Gail deSomer
Aesthetics	Melanie Smith-Guillaume
Art	Kay Azar
Building	
Board of Trustees	Ron Robinson
Building Use	Gary Metzler
Care	Mary Hagen Lois Holm
Children & Youth RE	Katie Robbins
Com. on Ministry	Kathie Carr
Endowment	Joseph Gress
Events	Kathy Platt
Finance	Elena Wake
Grounds	Barb Carmichael & Susan VanFleit
Marketing	Larry Dzaugis
Membership	Gail deSomer
Nominating	Chuck Leone
Peace & Justice	Andrea Vollrath Kay Azar
Social	Kathy Platt
Stewardship	Suzanne Waller
Worship Arts	Florence Klečka

## Social Hour & Potluck Hosts

Please consider signing up to host Social Hour after the Service. Easy directions to make the coffee are posted in the kitchen. If this is your first time, someone will help with setup and cleanup. Bringing snacks is not required. A sign-up sheet is on the refrigerator and it is GREATLY appreciated

## CHURCH STAFF

**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)

574-406-3333

Office Hours: Wed. 10:00 am-5:00 pm  
& by appointment

**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

### Youth RE Teachers

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

**Nursery Care:** Diana Mendelsohn

**Pianist:** Dylan Bajo

**Choir Coordinator:** Carys Kresny



**Mailing Lists:** If you are interested in being added to our weekly

CHIRP email or our monthly newsletter, *The Unitarian*, 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 February 2020: January 20)