



# 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 67**

**March 2020**

**Number 9**

## 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>1</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Gaming I: Alternate Victory Conditions</b> , Rev. Chip Roush	
		<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>All Church Potluck</b>	<b>Foyer</b>
		<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>André Stoner Presentation</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
		1:00 pm	Great Decisions Program	Conference Room
Mon	2	1:00 pm	Committee on Ministry	Conference Room
		7:00 pm	Care Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Tues	3	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Room 103
		7:00 pm	Endowment Committee Meeting	Conference Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Travel &amp; Connection through the Lens of Cuba</b> , Bridget Hardy <i>Share the Plate</i> Offering: Moms Demand Action	
		<b>10:30 am</b>	Grounds Committee Meeting immediately after the service in Room 102	
		<b>11:45 am</b>	<b>Celebration of the Month's Birthdays</b>	<b>Foyer</b>
		11:45 am	Peace and Social Justice Committee Meeting	Conference Room
		11:45 am	Trivia Planning Meeting	Room 101
		Noon	Religious Education Meeting	Room 103
		1:00 pm	Great Decisions Program	Conference Room
Mon	9	9:00 am	<b>Board Report Submissions Due</b>	
Tues	10	5:30 pm	Worship Arts Committee Meeting	Conference Room
Wed	11	6:30 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Conference Room
<b>Sat</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Noon</b>	<b>St. Patty's Day Party following parade</b>	
<b>Sun</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Lo-Lifes &amp; Rockefeller's</b> , Rev. Chip Roush	
		<b>11:45</b>	<b>Stewardship Kick-off Luncheon</b>	
Mon	16		<b>Newsletter Submission Deadline</b>	
		7:00 pm	"Mix Tape of Your Life" Group	Room 103
		7:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting	Conference Room
Fri	20	6:00 pm	Women's Potluck	Offsite
		7:00 pm	Family Movie & Game Night	Conference Room
Sat	21	6-9 pm	Game Night	Conference Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Gaming II: Leveling Up</b> , Rev. Chip Roush	
			<b>Art on the Wall Opening</b>	
		Noon	Exploration and Discoveries Class	Room 103
		Noon	New UU Class	Room 101
	1:00 pm	Great Decisions Program	Conference Room	
Wed	25	6:30 pm	Feasters	Offsite
<b>Fri</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Kirtan</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Service: Gaming III: Our Universe is a Game?</b> Rev. Chip Roush	
		1:00 pm	Great Decisions Program	Conference Room
		3-8:00 pm	Game Day	Conference Room

## Minister's Notes



17 February 2020

I am excited to have André Stoner speaking to our congregation. Some of us may know André from his work with the NNN (Near Northwest Neighborhood of South Bend); a few may know him as a former pastor at Kern Road Mennonite Church. He will speak to us as an organizer with the St. Joseph County chapter of Faith in Indiana.

André Stoner will present on March 1, after the service. While we enjoy our potluck lunch, we'll hear how Faith in Indiana is a multi-faith and multi-racial network of congregations, working with ordinary people to build relational power so that together we can speak effectively into policy and funding priorities on issues that impact our families and our neighbors. The St. Joe chapter has been working on issues of immigration, treatment not incarceration, gun violence reduction, and healthcare.

In its short few years of existence, our local chapter of Faith in Indiana has made significant progress. Come hear how we might be part of this worthy work.

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. He will be in the church from 1:00 to 3:00 pm (unless otherwise specified) on the following dates:

- Week of March 2:** Mon 3/2; Tue 3/3 (5-7p); Wed 3/4
- Week of March 9:** Tue 3/10; Wed 3/11; Thur 3/12
- Week of March 16:** Mon 3/16; Tue 3/17; Wed 3/18
- Week of March 23:** Mon 3/23; Tue 3/24; Wed 3/25
- Week of March 30:** Mon 3/30

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 twice in March. He will take two short study leaves: from Thursday through Monday, March 5-9; and Tuesday through Saturday, March 31 through April 4 (he'll preach at James Reeb UU in Madison, WI, on Sunday 4/5/20).

**HACK YOUR LIFE:  
Avoid Burnout  
Save the Date**

- ❖ April 26, 2020
- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Unitarian Church
- ❖ Guiding the journey:  
Rev. Chip Roush, Pastor  
Dr. Dè Bryant, Psychologist

**\* expect relief!!**



### **March 1: Gaming I: Alternate Victory Conditions, Rev. Chip Roush**

In this first of a three-part sermon series, we'll explore how board games can help make us better (more compassionate) people. See also the articles on three gaming sessions this month, and the "bring a friend" raffle. Stay after for the potluck, and André Stoner's presentation.

### **March 8: Travel & Connection through the Lens of Cuba Bridget Hardy**

Travel literally takes us somewhere else, but we also frequently move internally through its challenges and education. Bridget Hardy has made six trips to Cuba. She uses that experience to explore the benefits of using a change of scenery to change yourself and your relationship to the world.

### **March 15: Lo-Lifes & Rockefellers Rev. Chip Roush**

What do Brooklyn shoplifters and 19<sup>th</sup> century robber barons have in common? What positive lessons can we learn from them? Stay after for a free Stewardship Luncheon!

### **March 22: Gaming II: Leveling Up Rev. Chip Roush**

Can board games teach us to be more effective, educated & accomplished? The second part of a 3-part series on gaming. See the article on the "bring a friend" raffle.

### **March 29: Gaming III: Our Universe is a Game? Rev. Chip Roush**

We'll explore how treating the universe like one vast game can lead to surprisingly spiritual (and scientifically sound!) insights. See the article on the "bring a friend" raffle. An afternoon/evening of Train Games will follow.

**The Share the Plate** speaker for March 8 will be Desmond Harris from *Moms Demand Action*. *Moms Demand Action* is a grassroots movement of Americans fighting for public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence.

## **Activities and Events This Month**

### **All-Church Potluck Sunday, March 1, 11:45 am**

You have one last opportunity to share a favorite wintertime food with your church community. Since we are not having a soup supper, this would be a good time to bring a favorite soup/chili, a healthy salad or a delicious bread. Or, you could help us finish off our meal by bringing fruit or something sweet. Whatever you bring -- from your kitchen or your favorite store -- you are welcome at our potluck tables. Do plan to join us.

### **March 15 Stewardship Brunch...**

Thanks to the generosity of the Stewardship committee—there will be a Stewardship Brunch, with food provided for all!

### **The Third Friday Women's Potluck**

will be on March 20, at 6:00, at the home of Mary Hagen. This is a relaxing time to get to know others better. You can prepare a dish or just pick up something at the market. Contact Kathy Platt for directions and to let her know what you might bring. [pkplatt@comcast.net](mailto:pkplatt@comcast.net) or 234-1352

**Feasters** "Feasters" (our group that likes to eat well) will meet at 6:30 on Wednesday, 3/25 at Ho Ping House, 303 S Dixie Way, South Bend. Please contact Mary Alice by 3/24 if you wish to join in the eating fun! 574-387-7342 [maryalichelundergan@gmail.com](mailto:maryalichelundergan@gmail.com)

A **Kirtan** performance will be offered by Allen DeSomer and his group on March 27 at 7:00 pm. Doors will open at 6:30.

## Religious Education Events

Come watch “Wreck-It Ralph” with us on Friday, March 20. AND we will have **GAMES!** We’ll be in the conference room serving popcorn and drinks from 7 pm - 9 pm. All ages are welcome! Parents, if you can use a breather, we’ll keep your children safe and entertained, and have a place for you to leave your contact information in case we need to contact you.



Join us for the South Bend **St. Patty’s Day** event on March 14th! We’ll be marching in the

11:00 parade, and partying at the church after! Gluten free soup for lunch! Potato Race! Watch the CHIRP for details!

# GAMES

Saturday, March 21, will be another Game Night, this time for ages 14 and up, from 6:00-9:00. Lynn McDonald will teach a simplified form of Mah Jongg on Saturday evening.

Sunday afternoon, March 29, we’ll have a **Train Games Day**. These games are more complicated, and take longer to play. We may play 18Chesapeake (if it’s arrived) or another 18xx game; or Age of Steam and possibly Irish Gauge (interested? check BoardGameGeek.com). Train Games Day will go from 3:00-9:00 or so, and will likely include ordering a meal. If you want to play a train game, please contact Rev. Chip so we can plan which game(s) folks want to play.

Lynn may offer another session of introductory Mah Jongg on Sunday evening, March 29, if there is sufficient interest.

Win a **Griffon Bookstore Gift Certificate!** If you bring a friend to one of the game-themed services (March 1, 22, 29), you and your friend will be entered into a raffle for a prize from Griffon Books & Games. One \$10 gift certificate will be raffled every Sunday (3/1, 3/22, 3/29), and a grand prize winner will get an actual game.



## Save the Date!

Our annual Trivia Night will be Friday, April 17, at 7:00. Mark your calendar and plan to form a team or come and join one! Watch the CHIRP and

April Newsletter for more information.

## The Art on the Wall Committee is

pleased to be presenting a nature themed exhibit of work by Diana Mendelsohn, her grandmother Yvonne Mendelsohn, and others from within and out of the congregation, including children. This "For the Beauty of the Earth" Art Show will kick off after service on Sunday, March 22. The show is dedicated to the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in April. Calligraphy, China, Pottery, Stained Glass, Acrylic, Watercolors, Bead Work, and other mediums are represented. We hear there might be music. See you there!

## New Members Class

If you are new to the church and would like to learn more about us, please attend our New UU class. This two-session course will be held on Sunday March 22 and Sunday April 5 from noon to 1:30 Lunch will be provided.

During the sessions, we will get to know each other, learn about our Seven Principles, discuss what it means to become a member and tell you about how our church is governed. Rev. Chip Roush will share our Unitarian-Universalist history and how we fit into our larger denomination.

To enroll, please contact Gail deSomer at [gaildesomer@yahoo.com](mailto:gaildesomer@yahoo.com) or call or text her at 574-850-8156. Childcare will be provided



### Peace and Justice Committee Request

The Peace & Justice Committee is looking for tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations to be the recipients of our Share-the-Plate collections on the second Sunday of every month. The preference is for locally based charities that help people in need. We try to have organizations come back no more frequently than every two years. It works best if we have a representative who will to speak for 2-3 minutes to the congregation about the work of the organization.

Please send suggestions to Anne Mannix at [amannix.nda@gmail.com](mailto:amannix.nda@gmail.com)

### Grounds Committee



Plans have been made for installation of the hardscape

for our **Memorial Garden** this spring. Serene Scapes will install a sitting area and a paved walkway leading to it from our parking lot. 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 helping to pay for the finishing touches of the memorial garden, you may put a check in the offering basket with MEMORIAL GARDEN written on the memo line. You may also send a check to the church or see Susan Van Fleit or Barb Carmichael.

Thanks to those of you who have contributed to this project!

### Care Committee

Observe the ground and tree branches. Buds are appearing. Appreciate the extra light each day, as the days get longer. March 19 is the first day of spring!

Thank you all for your generous donations for “Undie Sunday” throughout February in support of the ongoing community project with Broadway Christian Parish.



This month’s Happy Birthday Celebrations go to: Kathy Wells-Lantz(2), Janet Bogar(9), Heather Hulse(10), Lynn Grate(14),

Gail deSomer(15), Carter Chambers(15), Phoenix Sones(15), Becky Lindstrom(17), Chris Hamlin(18), Jim Ward(20) Laura Carew(22). Sam Wistreich(30). A call or card of remembrance is always welcome.

Celebrate these birthdays with a gluten free cake on Sunday, March 8 after the service.

We also celebrate with Merna Holloway and Susan Siemers for their great recovery after surgery! And Kathie Carr is back home again in Indiana!

### Among Us

Michelle Minisan will be having back surgery again. Dale Gibson is still recovering slowly from the spinal fracture. It was great to see him at the church’s anniversary celebration. Remember to connect with all those who are spending more time at home than they would like!

A special thank you goes to those in our community who transport fellow community folks to church and activities: Gail and Allen deSomer, Barbara Williams, Jim Curlee, Mary Alice Lundergan, Catherine Lundergan, Janet Bogar, and Dan and Lois Holm.

The Care Committee has placed a first aid kit and blood pressure cuff in the kitchen in the bottom draw nearest the refrigerator.

Thank you for all that you do for one another.



## Regional Assembly Registration Now Open!



Our MidAmerica Regional Assembly will be Saturday, April 18, in Rockford, Illinois. **Early-bird registration (by March 20)** is only \$100 for adults (\$75 for Young Adults or youth; \$50 for childcare). Taquiena Boston, Special Advisor to the President of our UUA, will be the keynote speaker. The event lasts from 9:30am until 4:45pm, CDT. This one-day Assembly is an experiment, less expensive than the 2-3 day Assemblies of the past. Contact Rev. Chip for more details, or click on the following link to find out more information about Regional Assembly including pricing, hotel information, schedule of events, workshop information, how to register, and much more:

<https://www.uua.org/midamerica/ra/2020>



Registration for this summer's Chalice Sparx Family Camp & Retreat for Unitarian Universalist families is now open. Join us July 10-13 in Cassopolis, Michigan for an amazing all ages

experience at lovely Camp Friedenswald in southwestern Michigan

[www.chalicesparx.org](http://www.chalicesparx.org). Like us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/chalicesparx/> and join us in Michigan July 10-13, 2020!

## In the Community



The 50th anniversary of Earth Day will be held at

5:30 pm at the Leeper Park fountain, featuring Earth Day birthday cake, ice cream, and music.

St. Patrick's County Park is the location of the 32nd annual community Arbor & Earth Day Celebration, 8:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, April 25. There is no entrance fee to the park before 10:00 am. Plants, trees, kids ecology activities, woodpecker tour, wildflower planting, volunteers are welcome. Contact Diana; [diana79mendelsohn@gmail.com](mailto:diana79mendelsohn@gmail.com).

## Pilgrimage Healing

We might consider March winds blowing away the debris of winter as a metaphor for the gentle flow of energy healing us to release "old stuff" that is no longer serving us for good. This movement of energy in us is available now and always. We can let go and open to new levels of growth any time we wish. Pilgrimage Healing is a perfect way to experience release and renewal

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Linda Jacobs at 574-360-7699 or by email [lsj621@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lsj621@sbcglobal.net). Healing practitioners include Maureen Briones, Linda Carter and Linda Jacobs. ~Namaste!



Sat, March 7,  
2020  
2:00 – 5:00 PM  
Islamic Society of  
Michiana

Community members will share authentic stories surrounding tea and coffee traditions! Experience a taste of another culture while making friends and drinking in the sights and sounds of Tanzania, Kashmir, Sudan and more. Bonus this year - a silent auction with incredible gifts. Proceeds benefit ISM Noor Academy, the daycare ministry at the Islamic Society of Michiana. Seats are limited. Secure your ticket now!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-international-tea-tickets-9006321249>



## Humanist Forum March Events

### Hungry Humanists Meet for Dinner@Cre-Asian Vietnamese Restaurant

Thursday March 5 @ 6:30PM;

1639 N Ironwood Dr., South Bend, 46635. Ask for Rita's table. Cre-Asian specializes in Chinese and Vietnamese cuisine, so you'll have a lot of good choices. Please RSVP by the day before if possible. Check out their menu here:

<http://www.creasiansouthbend.com/>

### PI and Politics on Saturday, March 14 6:30pm: First Unitarian Church, 801 E Washington St, South Bend, 46617

We'll be meeting up with Northern Indiana Atheists in the conference room at the church for pizza and a short podcast from The Thinking Atheist speaking with Justin Scott, Iowa State Director of American Atheists on his questions to some of the candidates on how they will represent atheists, humanists, and other non-religious constituents. Details are tentative.

### Behind the Curve - Exploring a Flat

**Worldview** on Thursday, March 19, 6:30pm; River Park Branch Library, 2022 E. Mishawaka Ave South Bend, 46615. We'll watch the 2018 documentary, "Behind the Curve." Throughout the film, flat Earth advocates discuss their experimental approaches to proving their theory.

Professionals in the scientific community are interviewed for their take on the flat Earth conspiracy, and to discuss the current scientific views on conspiracies and the possible consequences of a lack of critical thinking in society. We'll take time for a short discussion, as this documentary is approximately 1.5 hours long. We'll have some snacks to tide us over.

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

**Azerbaijan Delegates** in South Bend, March 6-14 URC is set to welcome six delegates from the nation of Azerbaijan, who will be in the US studying how our area's women assume religious

leadership roles and how our interfaith networks run. It will be a busy and full week, with visits to our local higher education institutions, local interfaith groups, and a trip to Indianapolis.



Other key notes from the United Religious Community:

- **Interfaith Gathering** luncheon on Tuesday, March 10 (noon to about 1:15 p.m)
- There will be a couple of opportunities for informal discussions on Wednesday, March 11

### Mark your calendars for URC Day of Prayer Observance on May 7!

For more info on the above, please contact John Pinter or Lisa Stockberger: 574-282-2397 x3.



LUNAFEST Michiana 2020 is coming in April. LUNAFEST is a traveling short film festival featuring the untold stories of women and girls. This year it consists of 7 short films lasting

from 5-20 minutes each with small group discussions following. Films are appropriate for ages 14+.

It will be held on Saturday, April 4th, from 1-4 pm in the Joshi Performance Hall at Indiana University South Bend. Doors open at 12:30. Advance tickets are \$20/\$5 for students and \$25/\$10 at the door. Tickets on sale at IUSB Box Office. Call 574-520-4203 or log onto <http://go.iu.edu/2ion> to reserve your tickets.

Beneficiaries for profits in 2020 are YWCA of North Central IN and Family Justice Center of St. Joseph Co--both agencies serve victims of abuse.



Resale to the Rescue is proud to host the second annual S/No Balls Dance Party....a special evening of

dancing and fun to raise funds for spay/neuter services to help control the pet population in our community. Any event featuring the Whistle Pigs is bound to be a great time!

In addition to great music and dancing, we'll have a cash bar, snacks/bake sale, silent auction, and tons of fun.

Tickets are only \$15.00 each! They are now available at Resale to the Rescue and Pet Refuge (CASH OR CHECK ONLY, PLEASE!). They will also be available at the door if they are not sold out. Tickets are also available online at Eventbrite...<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sno-balls-dance-party-tickets-89287624689>.

## 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
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Care	Mary Hagen
	Lois Holm
Children & Youth RE	Katie Robbins
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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	Anne Mannix Kay Azar
Social	Kathy Platt
Stewardship	Suzanne Waller
Worship Arts	Florence Klečka



Please remember that our choir rehearses each Thursday from 7:00 - 8:30pm. All are welcome to join this intergenerational group of singers!

## 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

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 April 2020: March 16)