

The Vanguard

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

May 2015



Names & Numbers

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

497 Main St., Hobart, IN 46342
Scott Aaseng, Minister
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2014-2015 Board of Trustees

Maggie Reister Walters, President
Gina Miller, Vice President
Tim Cook, Secretary
Jim O'Gallagher, Treasurer
Stephanie Dowell, Jeff Kime,
Kelly Mahler, Pete O'Day

Worship Calendar

Services are held Sundays at 11 a.m.

Sunday, May 3:	Reverend Scott Aaseng "Islam and Us"
Sunday, May 10:	Janet French and the "More mothers".. "Arise, then, women of this day: Mothers and more"
Sunday, May 17:	TBA
Sunday, May 24:	Imam of Northwest Indiana Islamic Center ""
Sunday, May 31:	Reverend Scott Aaseng "The Dream of Beloved Community"

Letter from Our Minister

By Scott Aaseng



We had our third mission pillar conversation on “Putting Our Values into Action” on April 12, along with a dinner to celebrate the end of our Generosity pledge campaign as well as our April birthdays. It was wonderful to have so many people, longtime members and newer guests alike, join us for a festive—and full—day!

It’s clear that “putting our values into action” means a lot of things to people—which only makes sense since there are a lot of values packed into our seven Principles: from accepting each other and valuing the worth of each individual, to world peace and the interdependence of all existence; from compassion and democracy between people, to the search for truth and encouragement to spiritual growth.

So of course putting these values into action runs the gamut at First Unitarian Church: from welcoming each person for who they are to rallying for LGBTQ rights; from learning more about

other religions to becoming more aware of our environment through dune walks; from helping rehab houses or at the soup kitchen or caring for those who are going through difficult times to participating in the democratic process; from examining race relations or income inequality to opening the eyes of young people (and old, I might add) to what is going on in the world.

And it’s interesting how some of these conversations overlap: how social action can be a way of building community; how our desire for community translates into a desire for deeper, more spiritually meaningful conversations; how building community with others, both within and outside our church, can be a way of putting our values into action together with them; how talking about spirituality draws us together in community and moves us towards action.

By the time you read this, we will have had our 5th Wednesday gathering on putting these all together. I look forward to reporting on that conversation next month.

Minister’s Office Hours

Tues May 5: 3-6 pm
Wed May 20: 2-6 pm
Thurs May 28: 2-6 pm

Walk-ins are welcome, though emailing for an appointment is helpful.
ministerhobartuu@gmail.com



From our Board President

Maggie Reister Walters

This month I would like to say Thanks to some of our generous and hard-working members. Please join me in noticing all the great stuff that is happening at First Unitarian of Hobart!

- A special Thank You to Carla, Beth, Sandy and anyone else who has volunteered in the Nursery while we search for a childcare worker. These people have missed our Worship service to make sure that childcare stays available to our congregation.
- Speaking of Worship, a shout out to the Worship Committee who complete our Worship experience with excellent guests and members in our pulpit, clever children's stories and feature our youth in the Service.
- To all the volunteers at Café Agape who faithfully serve a free meal to our community every month
- To Rosalind and all her volunteers for rolling up their sleeves to pick up, sort, price and sell at the Semi Annual Rummage Sale. Great work!!
- Thanks to Sandy and Jerry Ashmore who maintain our building clean and keep a pulse on "parish" life. (If you want to know something, just ask Sandy!)
- If you haven't been there in a while, volunteer to help in our Sunday youth classes. And thank Kristin Schumacher for running a smooth RE program!
- To Connie and Brian Barnes who organize and lead our New Member classes and shepherd our visitors.
- If you haven't seen the new website, take a tour. And say thanks to Kelly Mahler for getting us up and running with a new look and functionality. And to the volunteers who post sermons and podcasts for all to enjoy!
- Jeremy for his downright inspiring and delightfully surprising musical offerings in our Worship.
- To the Choir for your uplifting voices in song!
- Thanks to Michele Ferrell for launching Popcorn Theology.
- We appreciate Marti Pizzini for watching over our ailing and housebound members and everyone who goes out of their way to visit and cheer them.
- To the Generosity Team who led our successful 6 week Generosity Campaign.
- To James Johnson and the Hospitality Committee for setting a lovely reception for our Generosity luncheon.
- Thanks to Scott for joining with us on a journey of discernment as we explore the 3 proposed Mission/Pillars during Worship and First Hour and Coffee Hour discussions.
- To Janet French and the Caring Committee who have created 1st UU neighborhoods and led Coffee Hour workshops so we can all be more connected.
- Thank you to the Board of Directors who work on your behalf and welcome your suggestions and participation.
- CUUPS who host our special family friendly Pagan rituals and game nights.
- Our adult RE organizers (Spirit Circle and First Hour) for a variety of programming on Sunday mornings.
- All of the small groups – book club, Shawl Ministry and all the rest for their fellowship and service.
- To everyone for being a part of us!

Peace, Maggie

First Hour Forum

10 a.m. Sundays in the Parish Hall main room upstairs.

May 3 The future and growth of the Youth Religious Education program. Please join us, especially families with children, to share ideas, concerns and enthusiasm for the youth in our congregation. Leaders: Michele Ferrell & Kristin Schumacher

May 10 Wisdom Path
Leaders: Maggie Reister and Don Parker

May 17 Dunelands Conservation Update
Leaders: Shirley Heinze Land Trust representative

May 24 Islam Awareness Month
Leaders: Northwest Indiana Islamic Center

May 31 "The Mission of First Unitarian Church." We've talked about three mission pillars for our church. Can we come to agreement about them at our annual meeting in June?
Leader: Rev. Scott Aaseng

Sermons

May 3: Rev. Scott Aaseng
"Islam and Us"

May 10: Janet French and the

"More mothers"..."Arise, then, women of this day: Mothers and more"
The spirit of Mother's Day lists where it will, encompassing, perhaps, cards and candy, but also harkening back to its 19th century origins promoting civic engagement and a women's global movement for peace. Includes meditation to Bobby McFerrin's hauntingly beautiful rendition of the 23rd Psalm, dedicated to his own mother.

May 17: TBA

May 24 Imam of the Northwest Indiana Islamic Center
Islam Awareness Month

May 31 Rev. Scott Aaseng
"The Dream of Beloved Community"

Coffee Hour Conversations with the Preacher

Join Rev. Scott for Coffee Hour Conversations with the Preacher after worship on May 3 and 31. One table at coffee hour will be set aside for those who want to talk about the day's sermon.

New UU Sessions

New UU Sessions in the Parish Hall of the church
Choice of afternoon or evening sessions
Sign-up Sheet is posted or call the church at (219) 942-1611

Wednesday, May 6:
Session 3: "Serving as a Unitarian Universalist"
Led by Connie Barnes and Carla Banks
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

repeated 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Session 4: "Exploring Issues with Unitarian Universalist"
Led by Rev. Scott Aaseng
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
repeated 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Please note, all four sessions need to be attended if one intends to become a member.

First Friday Games & Potluck

6:30 p.m. Friday, May 1. Join us for our game and potluck night. Bring your favorite game (board and card games), and a dish to share. Or just bring the food and see what everyone else is playing. Be sure you are able to explain any game you bring, in case others have never played it before. We eat at 6:30 p.m., and we break out the games soon after. Contact Patricia Riley-Churilla.

Wheel of the Year

7 p.m. Saturday, May 2, Wheel of the Year. Our local chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) will celebrate Beltane in the fellowship hall. We will weave a maypole and celebrate the start of the growing season. The ritual will be followed by a pot luck, so bring a dish to share. This event is open to the public. All ages are welcome, but no child care is provided so children may participate. (You may accompany your child in the nursery if they need a break.) Minors must bring a parent. Participants must sit within the Circle and give their name during introductions. For more information, contact Kele Ivey or Patricia Riley-Churilla.

**The final two
New UU Sessions**

Wednesday, May 6

**Session 3: 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
(repeated 7 – 8 p.m.)**

**Session 4: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
(repeated 8 – 9 p.m.)**

Book Donations Needed

Youth Religious Education will be accepting educational or other book donations for the Central School library in the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu through Sunday, May 3. The school was destroyed by a cyclone in March. Please forward any donations to Michele Ferrell.

Spring Cleaning

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturdays, May 2nd and May 9th. Join your Building & Grounds Committee for our annual Spring Cleaning fun. We'll clean inside and out. Contact for more info, Connie Karras.

Shawl Ministry

Shawls, lap blankets, hats, and other items will be available at the May 10 Mother's Day Service.

Common Reader Book Group

7 p.m. Wednesday, May 13. We will meet for dinner (optional) at 5:30 p.m. at Lake Park Restaurant, as we have done in the past. Due to a scheduling conflict, we are meeting on the second Wednesday, at least through the summer. May's book is the classic "Wind in the Willows," by Kenneth Graham. Discussion will be led by Sandi Waters.

Connectors Meeting

12:30 p.m. Sunday, May 17, the Connectors will meet in the basement library. Topics include review of the three Neighbor Circle Mission Pillar dialogues/process and an assessment of how communication between Connector/s and each circle is happening and/or how communication/relationships may be improved. Let Janet French know if there are other items for our agenda.

Popcorn Theology

May 16th, 6pm. Inside Islam: What a Billion Muslims Really Think. This is part of FIA/RE Islamic awareness month. Discussion to follow. Offered for ages middle school and up, this is a multigenerational event. Feel free to come late or leave early, these are informal sessions. Feel free to bring a dish, beverage or dessert to share.

Visit to Northwest Indiana Islamic Center

On **May 24th**, the Northwest Indiana Islamic Center will be presenting first hour and the sermon. At **1:15 p.m.**, the congregation is invited to view their afternoon prayer session at the Northwest Indiana Islamic Center on Colorado St. in Crown Point, with tour after. Older children and up are invited. Conservative dress is required, no sleeveless tops, any skirts must be to ankle. Please RSVP for this to Michele Ferrell.

Visitor and New Member Support Team

Please remember to greet our visitors and help them feel welcome by answering questions or introducing them to someone.

The deadline for submissions for the June Vanguard is Monday, May 18. Please email them to both noelevans@frontier.com and firstunitarian@frontier.com



May 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:30 p.m. First Friday Potluck and Games	2 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Spring Cleaning 7 p.m. Wheel of the Year
3	4	5 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	6 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. repeated 7 – 9 p.m. New UU Sessions 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA 7 pm Concerned Citizens meeting	7 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	8	9 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Spring Cleaning
10	11 7 p.m. Faith-in-Action meeting	12 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	13 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. Common Reader Book Group 7 p.m. NA	14 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	15	16 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 6 p.m. Popcorn Theology
17	18	19 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	20 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA 7 p.m. Board 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens	21 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	22	23 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
24	25 Memorial Day, office closed	26 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	27 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	28 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	29	30 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
31						

Events
elsewhere

Café Agape

9am-2pm Sat. May 30 at
Presbyterian Church of
Hobart

Café Agape



For the most current information on what's happening at First Unitarian, sign up to receive the weekly Wednesday email

Every **Saturday**, the Presbyterian Church of Hobart hosts Cafe Agape, a free community meal. First Unitarian volunteers coordinate a meal once a month. Michele Ferrell is looking for anyone interested in volunteering this month on **May 30th**, instead of May 23rd, due to a scheduling conflict. Volunteers should plan to arrive at the Presbyterian Church to prepare food from 9 - 11 a.m., to serve food from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and to help with clean-up from noon - 2 p.m. (Help with all if you can.) Please contact Michele Ferrell. Thanks!

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

P.O. Box 291
Hobart, IN 46342

[Recipient]

Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Address Line 3
Address Line 4