

The Vanguard

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

June 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, June 7:	Congregants: Committee members & Volunteers "Building the Pillars of Our Faith and Community"
Sunday, June 14:	Reverend Scott Aaseng "Where Do We Go From Here?"
Sunday, June 21:	Reverend Scott Aaseng "Renewing Our Spirits"
Sunday, June 28:	Memorial Committee "Friends Remembered"

Letter from Our Minister

By Scott Aaseng



There's been some curiosity about the origins of our proposed "mission pillars:" Building Community, Growing Spiritually, and Putting Our Values Into Action. We actually began working on them the first Sunday I was here, when we identified many of the core values of First Unitarian Church in terms of community (companionship, connection, acceptance, support), spirituality (peace, passion/energy, courage, vulnerability, wholeness, perseverance), and engagement (sharing, service, democratic process).

I first suggested a form of these mission pillars at a couple of First Hour forums a year and a half ago, and I've written a number of newsletter articles about them since then. The Board and Committee chairs have worked with them at the Leadership Retreat and 5th Wednesday/Thursday gatherings this past year. And we've had sermons and coffee hour conversations about them over the last several months. Now I'd like to propose that we vote on them as a crystallization of the congregation's mission at our Annual Meeting this month.

These mission pillars are really nothing new, simply an affirmation of what this church is already about. But my hope is that clarifying and articulating them can help unite us around what we are all here for and guide where we focus our energies and resources in the future.

We already seek to Build Community, Grow Spiritually, and Put Our Values Into Action through our worship and music, welcoming and coffee hour hospitality, caring for each other, book groups, game nights, Pagan and Zen circle gatherings, religious education (with both children and adults), stewardship, shawl ministry, Café Agape and other service projects, and work on freedom to marry, homelessness and other advocacy actions.

Many of the new things we've introduced, like greeting each other in worship, hiring a new child care coordinator, Neighbor Circles, new member pizza parties, the First Hour *Wisdom Path* curriculum, Popcorn Theology, the "No Immigration Detention Center" sign, and even gender-neutral restrooms, have directly or indirectly been in support of our mission pillars. And we support all this through the work of our various committees.

None of this is to lessen the importance of what our committees do. Recording the service, putting together the newsletter, upgrading and maintaining the website, taking care of memorials, the library/archives, finances, building and grounds, church governance and operations, and all the various fundraising activities (please forgive me for whatever I've forgotten) are all vitally important...so that we can keep on Building Community, Growing Spiritually, and Putting Our Values Into Action. Thank you for all you do to support the work of our church.

Minister's Office Hours

Thurs June 11: 2-6 pm
Wed June 17: 2-6 pm

Walk-ins are welcome, though emailing for an appointment is helpful.

ministerhobartuu@gmail.com

I will be away at the UUA General Assembly in Portland June 23-29, and on vacation from June 30-July 13.



From our Board President

Maggie Reister Walters

“Energy and persistence conquer all things.” **Benjamin Franklin**

Earlier this fiscal year the Board of Trustees decided that staffing our Nursery with 100% volunteers was not a long-term solution for our childcare needs. It was decided that a combination of childcare worker and volunteer coordinator was the new job description. Board member Kelly Mahler offered to spearhead the search. She advertised the way young, high tech moms advertise for a babysitter – online, of course! She screened and vetted applicants and interviewed the most promising. The process took several months and we are delighted to welcome Pamela Slater to our church family. Kudos to Kelly for her perseverance!

“Courage and perseverance have a magical talisman, before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish into air.” **John Quincy Adams**

For two years we have tested the priorities we selected during the Board Retreat in 2013. We have discussed (during coffee hour), preached (during Worship), retreated (with the Board of directors) and workshopped (during first hour) these lofty aspirations into 3 Mission Pillars: to build community, grow spiritually and put our values into action. Join us at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 14, where we will formalize this focus for our congregation.

“Knowing trees, I understand the meaning of patience. Knowing grass, I can appreciate persistence.” **Hal Borland** It's true. Patience and persistence will carry us through. We need your voices to be heard at the Annual Meeting where we will elect 3 new Trustees and approve the Budget that will support our mission in the coming year.

“The art of love is largely the art of persistence.” **Albert Ellis** Our love for each other and for this community is reflected in our traditions. Come and join us for The Church Picnic on Sunday, July 5 – good food and fellowship

The 4th of July Parade – 3 years of increasing visibility and of

spreading the good news of liberal religion in NW Indiana.

Religious Education – volunteer for RE in June or July.

Connie (and Brian) Barnes are stepping down from the New Member and Visitor Support committee at the end of June. Thank you for all the love and support you have given to First Unitarian! The next time you talk to Connie she will probably remind you that EVERYONE is on the membership committee. Greet your neighbor during the next worship service or strike up a conversation during coffee hour and see for yourself.

See you in church!

Maggie

Official Call

Let it be known that the Annual Congregational Meeting of the First Unitarian Church of Hobart will be held following the morning worship on **Sunday, June 14, at 12:30 p.m.**

This meeting is held for the election of members of the Board of Trustees and for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the church. (See below.) Only members who have signed the membership book at least 30 days before the congregational meeting are entitled to vote. Every voting member should make the effort to take part in this very important meeting.

We will: Approve a budget for the next fiscal year and receive reports from church leadership.

First Hour Forum

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

June 7 The new Pew Study: How do we serve the 'Nones'?

June 14 Open Forum
No leader

June 21 Fourth Principle Forum on our practice of Whole Worship--

intentionally whole congregation/all age, abilities, learning styles and moving of mind, body and spirit. What's working? How may Whole Worship improve? All are welcome. Please join us.
Leaders: Worship Committee

June 28 The Wisdom Path, Prt 2
Leaders: Maggie Reister and Don Parker

Sermons

June 7: Learn how you can get more involved and give back to this church and congregation.

In preparation for the committee fair, members of the different groups will share their experiences and how the work of the committees helps build the pillars of our faith and community.

June 14: Rev. Scott Aaseng
"Where Do We Go From Here?"

June 21: Rev. Scott Aaseng
"Renewing Our Spirits"

June 28: Memorial Committee
"Remembering Friends"
Join us for a stroll down memory lane and also if weather permits a stroll through our memorial garden. We'll remember past members of this church family who helped build our church over the years.

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.

New Childcare Coordinator

Please welcome our new Childcare Coordinator, Pamela Slater. Pamela is currently retired from a previous position at a local Hobart pre-school giving her decades of experience working with children of all ages. Her role at our church is not only to spend time with our children, but also to coordinate volunteers to work alongside her in the nursery.

Pamela is available from a little before 10am and just after 12pm.

You will often find her sitting on the floor in the nursery, playing with our young UUs, and keeping the children entertained. If you haven't already, please stop in and introduce yourself and welcome Pamela to our wonderful congregation. Also know that you are welcome to join Pamela in the nursery as a volunteer. This is a great opportunity to get to know our UU parents and spend time with the youngest people of our church.

General Assembly

June 24-28, Portland, OR.
GA is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). If you are interested in attending, please contact Maggie Reister or Laurie Eberhardt.

First Friday Games & Potluck

6:30 p.m. Friday, June 5. 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

Plan to stay for the annual meeting after the worship service on Sunday, June 14, 2015!!

Common Reader Book Group

6 p.m. Wednesday, June 10,
Common Reader will meet at Main Street Pizza in Kouts. "The Little Prince" is the book to be discussed, and discussion will be led by Carla Banks. "The Little Prince" is a bestselling French novella by author and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupery.

Second Sunday Birthday Celebration

Coffee Hour, June 14. Help celebrate our June birthdays. The birthday folks will be contributing to our coffee hour treats, thereby giving all of us the chance to let them know-- We're glad you were born!
June birthdays:

Karen Livengood, June 6;
Zeta Allen, June 10;
Jerry Ronneau, June 14;
June Wefler, June 27;
Steve Midmore, June 28;
Sue DeGan, June 29.

Coffee Connectors

10 a.m. Wednesday, June 17.
Join Hobart UUers for coffee, tea or whatever at Spill the Beans, Merrillville. Spill the Beans is near the corner of 80th Place and Broadway, one block north of US 30 (7992 Broadway)
219-795-1720.
Come and CONNECT!

See:
www.spillthebeanscoffee.net

Visitor and New Member Support Team

The Visitor and New Member Support Team welcomed new members to our congregation, as well as Unitarians who have transferred from another UU congregation. Members taking part in The Rite of Membership included the following: Mike Sorice, Clarence Huginnie, Anne Floy, and Nancy Boyd. The ceremony was led by Rev. Scott Aaseng and Connie Barnes. Roses were given to each of the new members. Mike Sorice received a white name badge. The Parish Hall was turned into a small Pizza Parlor for a Pizza Party. New members and recent new members enjoyed pizza, soft drinks, and dessert. Door prizes were handed out during the party. Each of the members introduced themselves to the group, as a part of keeping connected.

Fourth of July Parade

It's hard to believe it's almost that time again, but July 4th is almost here! FIA is sponsoring our First Unitarian entry in the Hobart 4th of July parade at 10am. We believe this is a perfect opportunity to display our message and have some visibility and connection to our Hobart community. So, Faith in Action will be collecting nonperishable candy donations up until that date for the religious education children to hand out at the parade. Candy can be given to Tracy or Michelle Ferrell, Connie Karras or Gina Miller. Also, please let Michele Ferrell know if you are interested in walking or riding in the parade. Let's make this our best parade showing ever!

MidWest Leadership School

July 12 -18, Beloit, WI. UUA MidWest Leadership School is a week-long intensive program in leadership and group dynamics.

The deadline for submissions for the July Vanguard is Monday, June 15. Please email them to both noelevans@frontier.com and firstunitarian@frontier.com



June 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	3 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens	4 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	5 6 p.m. wedding rehearsal 6:30 p.m. First Friday Potluck and Games	6 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 1:30 - 5 p.m. wedding
7	8	9 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	10 No yoga class 7 p.m. NA	11 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	12	13 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
14	15 7 p.m. Faith-in-Action meeting	16 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	17 No yoga class 7 p.m. NA 7 p.m. Board 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens	18 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	19	20 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 7 p.m. Wheel of the Year
21	22	23 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	24 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	25 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	26	27 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
28	29	30 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group				

Events
elsewhere

Common
Reader

6 p.m. Wed, June 10
at Main Street Pizza in
Kouts

General
Assembly

June 24-28,
Portland, OR

MidWest
Leadership
School

July 12 -18,
Beloit, WI

Café Agape

9am-2pm Sat. June 27 at
Presbyterian Church of
Hobart

Coffee
Connectors

10 a.m. Wed, June 17
at Spill the Beans,
Merrillville

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 **June 27th**. 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

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[Recipient]

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