

# The Vanguard

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

October 2014



## Names & Numbers

### First Unitarian Church of Hobart

497 Main St., Hobart, IN 46342  
Scott Aaseng, Minister  
ministerhobartuu@gmail.com  
Jan Zorn, Office Manager  
firstunitarian@frontier.com  
(219) 942-1611  
www.firstunitarian-hobart.org

### 2014-2015 Board of Trustees

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

## Worship Calendar

Services are held Sundays at 11 a.m.

Sunday, October 5:	Reverend Scott Aaseng <i>Whose _____ Is It, Anyways?</i>
Sunday, October 12:	TBA
Sunday, October 19:	Reverend Scott Aaseng <i>Zen and the Art of Teamwork</i>
Sunday, October 26:	Rev. James A. Hobart <i>The Religious Imagination</i>

# Letter from Our Minister

By Scott Aaseng



We had a wonderful Leadership Retreat at the end of August. Twenty of us spent part or all of nine hours over two days getting to know each other better, sharing what we're grateful for and what we're looking forward to, and making plans for the upcoming year.

Some wonderful things came out of sharing what we're thankful for at church:

Deep relationships

Hope, joy, and inspiration

The freedom to "roll your own" beliefs (as Bob Allen so memorably puts it)

Community and diversity

Good will and a can-do spirit

Kindred souls

Space to give and receive

A place that's "psychologically life-saving"

A community that sees and loves each other for who we are

We also spent some time thinking through our goals for the church in terms of the outcomes we would like to see:

- Deep, healthy relationships

- Fun, joy, and wholeness
- Personal growth towards broad-mindedness
- Community is understood and diversity is honored
- People are empowered to think, act, love, and risk beyond themselves
- A sense of connection with each other and with our deepest selves
- A community that shares its life with others
- People are valued, enlightened, transformed
- Trust and gratitude
- And more people and resources to sustain the above

What I hear in all that is not that we want something different from what we have, but that we want what we have, only more of it! That what we want and what we're thankful for are much the same. And that perhaps we would do well to appreciate ourselves and each other for what we are, as we seek to grow towards what we will become.

I shared these words from UU singer/song-writer Peter Mayer in a recent service, and it

seemed to resonate with people. Perhaps it relates to what I'm talking about here:

*What if getting to the highest place  
Is like learning what you know  
Or like going to where you are now  
Like coming home...*

I invite you to appreciate your church home for the gift that it is, and to participate in the ongoing work of making it a home for all who seek it. For when we are grateful, we have something to share.

## Minister's Office Hours

**Tues. Sept 30: 3-7**

**Sun. Oct 5: 10-11 am**

**Wed. Oct 15: 3-7**

**Sun. Oct 19: 10-11 am**

**Tues. Oct 21: TBD**

**Sat. Nov 1: 4-7**

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

[ministerhobartuu@gmail.com](mailto:ministerhobartuu@gmail.com)



# From our Board President

Maggie Reister Walters

“A Homeless Awareness Sleepover,” I mused as I read the weekly “Upcoming (events)” email from First Unitarian. “Cool. Sounds like fun.” I pictured a campout in the parking lot. “I’m in.” I let the Faith in Action Committee know I was coming and the day arrived quickly. What do I bring? Is it going to rain? (Would a homeless person know that?) It was going to get cold. I packed a sleeping bag, a pillow, a blanket, a coat (all luxuries, I noted). Mosquitoes? I guiltily snuck in a can of bug spray. And, a plastic dropcloth. I put in a couple of apples (what if I get hungry?) I made a couple of calls on my way to the church (a phone? A car!?) Seriously?? How was I actually going to EXPERIENCE this? I parked my car in the lot and turned off my phone. Yes, I did. I found the Faith in Action crew and their children standing in front of the church holding up signs and making more signs. Facts about the homeless: women and children, veterans, families. Statistics say that there were 5,971 homeless in Indiana during the last week in January. Many suffer from mental illness or behavioral health challenges and substance abuse, but there are many causes: jobs, affordable transportation, domestic violence. Passers by slowed to read our signs, many honked, some stopped. They donated money to our cause, “Hear Us,” an organization helping homeless children and youth. One couple brought us milk and donuts. (Heartwarming!) We shared homeless stories. Have you or has anyone you know ever been homeless? Or, on the edge? We lit candles and continued our vigil. Finally, we slept. On the steps of the church and in boxes. I walked away from this night with a keen awareness of the thousand things I take for granted. I can go to the bathroom when I want. I can get in my car and go. I have a bed to sleep in. So much to be thankful for. So many ways to help.

I hope you came to the Committee Fair on Sunday, September 7. It was your chance to ask all the questions you never asked about Communications, Worship, Faith in Action, Fundraising, Buildings and Grounds, Religious Education. We have many opportunities to connect and serve. Communications is looking for anyone who knows how to write a Press Release or likes playing with A/V equipment. Especially for managing the sound board and recording our services. Worship and Music is

looking for Greeters, folks to read the announcements and thespians. We welcome everyone’s participation in our worship services! Have you ever thought you would like to tell a children’s story? Or try your hand at a sermon topic? The Religious Education committee is looking for volunteers to help teach in the Sunday School. Try it once. We have a great curriculum. We also need some volunteers in the Nursery. It is a beautiful experience. Just ask Carla or Dr. Steve. Buildings and Grounds need assistance with planting and weeding the garden and other building maintenance. They also could use a grant writer or someone knowledgeable about grant applications. Maintaining an historic building is a special challenge.

So, if you didn’t sign up to try something new yet, now is your chance! Sing in the choir. Meditate with Empty Circle Zen. Lend your voice and lend a hand.

Maggie



# First Hour Forum

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

Oct. 5: UU's and Pacifism

Oct. 12: 'Popcorn Theology' program introduction

Oct. 19: Unitarians, Libertarians, Libertarian Unitarians, and Unitarian Libertarians

Oct. 26: Transcendentalism -- program introduction

# Rummage Sale

Our semi-annual rummage sale is scheduled for **Friday and Saturday, October 17th and 18th**. Finally, all the stuff cluttering your house can find a good home, and you can find some new treasures to replace them! The hours will be 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Saturday. Remember, volunteers setting up get first dibs on the good stuff.

We will begin taking donations on Sunday October 12th. Please make sure clothes and other articles are clean and in good repair.

As usual, we will need all the help we can get for setting up all the week before, as well as working the sale days. If you can give even an hour, we will be glad to have you! Even more important is tear-down on Saturday; that has to be done much more quickly. If you are willing and able to help transport larger items, that would be very much appreciated. Please contact Rosalind Davila for more information or to volunteer.

# PPP

**Wednesday, October 8th at 6:00 p.m.** at the home of Richard Johnson and Marti Pizzini in Chesterton. If you would like to come to Poetry, Prose and Potluck this month, please contact Richard and Marti by phone or email or through the church office. That way our hosts will know how many places to set, and she can advise you on what kind of food might still be needed. They will be providing Swedish meatballs from Richard's mom's recipe.

Submitted by Glenn and Suzanne Keldsen on behalf of the entire PPP group.

share poetry and prose readings. Some of these readings are original, but most are not. A new addition to our activities: Recently a couple of people chose just to comment on books that they've been reading lately. If you just want to come and listen, you're welcome to do that too!

# Science Café

**Friday, October 10, 2014 at 7p.m.**

Determining the Health Risks of Homelessness: Dying on the Street  
*This October Science Cafe occurs two weeks earlier than usual*

Join Carl Wolf, Executive Director of Respond Now and member of First Unitarian Hobart as he discusses the health risks associated with homelessness. Carl will present the Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool, a tool for identifying and prioritizing the street homeless population for housing according to the fragility of their health. It is a practical application of research into the causes of death of homeless individuals living on the street conducted by Boston's Healthcare for the Homeless organization, led by Dr. Jim O'Connell. The Boston research identified the specific health conditions that cause homeless individuals to be most at risk for dying on the street.

## RUMMAGE SALE

OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup>, 9-6

OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>, 9-2

Bring your donations beginning Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup>.

PS: If you're new, it may be helpful to know that the "Poetry, Prose and Potluck" (PPP) group meets monthly in one another's homes, where we break bread together, check in, and



## Common Reader Book Group

**Wednesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> NOON** at the Church. \*Note date and time have changed\*  
Bring your lunch. The book selected is *A Stolen Life* written by Jaycee Dugard herself and covers the period from the time of her abduction in 1991 up until the present. In her stark, compelling narrative, she opens up about what she experienced—and offers an extraordinary account of courage and resilience. Book will be available on Sundays; see Sandy Ashmore.

Wendy Masters  
[Wwm3@frontier.com](mailto:Wwm3@frontier.com)

## Comfort Shawl Ministry

**Wednesday, October 15 at 1:30 p.m.** at Church. Bring you hooks and needles; lots of yarn on hand.

Wendy Masters  
[Wwm3@frontier.com](mailto:Wwm3@frontier.com)

## Library and Archives Committee meeting

Library and Archives will meet in the Library: **Sun. Sept. 28, 12:30** and **Sun. Nov. 2, 12:30**

Newcomers are always welcome. For more information contact Don Parker.

## Fundraising: SCRIP

Holiday shopping season is soon upon us. With a little advance planning to buy your SCRIP cards before going shopping, you can really benefit the church. Here are some examples of the many retailers who accept SCRIP cards and the kinds of profit we can make by using them.

Gasoline - Family Express and Speedway both pay 4%. Each \$100 you spend (and that's not hard to do at the gas station) would net us \$4.

Groceries - Jewel and GFS Marketplace give us 4%, so a \$50 card for Jewel would be worth \$2 profit for the church. Strack and Van Til is worth 2% to us, and Walmart gives us 2.5%.

Restaurants give us a higher margin, ranging from 3% at Dairy Queen to 9% at Olive Garden and Red Lobster, with Chili's at 11% and others in that area. Ask to see the list, since there are too many restaurants to list each separately.

Other retail stores include Barnes and Noble, at 9% profit for us, Cabela's at 11% and Bass Pro Shop for 13% profit. Lands' End and L.L.Bean online retail stores are each at 16%, so a gift or gift card

The deadline for submissions for the November Vanguard is Monday, October 20. Please email them to both [noelevans@frontier.com](mailto:noelevans@frontier.com) and [firstunitarian@frontier.com](mailto:firstunitarian@frontier.com)



from them would be a wonderful bonus for us as well as a nice gift.

There are many, many more, so be sure to ask. Remember, you pay face value for the cards. The retailer gives a discount when we buy it, and that difference is our profit. So it does not cost you any more than the amount you would have paid. Using SCRIP cards for your everyday needs as well as for gifts and special purchases makes money for the church with no extra cost to you. If you have any other questions or need to make an order, see Beth Porch.



## Financial Report for August 2014

*The Second Month of Our 2015 Fiscal Year*

Our **income total for the month** was **\$8,150**. On the other hand, our **expenses amounted to \$15,450**, so we experienced a **net loss of \$7,300 in August**.

The income figure above included \$3,040 in Scrip sales, while the expense figure included \$2,950 that we paid to the Great Lakes Scrip Center. That left us with a net monthly profit of \$90 for our Scrip program. Note that if we could maintain that pace for the entire year, we would generate over \$1,000 in income! Through August the Scrip program has generated a net profit of \$140 for us.

**August pledge income** was **\$4,300**. That brings us to **\$30,200 for the first two months** of our fiscal year. That's almost **29% of the \$105,450 that we budgeted for the entire year**. As we mentioned last month, that's because many of our major pledging households choose to give a sizable percentage of their annual pledges at the start of our fiscal year.

Our August expenses included our **annual payment of \$2,530** to support the **UUA's MidAmerica Region**. We also paid the **Church Mutual** insurance company **\$1,820, which is half of the annual premium for our public liability, property and fire insurance**. These two non-recurring expenses contributed \$4,350 to our August expense total of \$15,450.

Through the first two months of the year our total income was \$39,600, while our expenses totaled \$26,650. **Through August then our income exceeded our expenses by \$12,950.**

D. Pifko, Financial Assistant    G. Keldsen, 2014 Treasurer    J. O'Gallagher, 2014 Finance Chair

# October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens meeting 7 p.m. NA	2 6 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	3 6:30 p.m. First Friday Potluck and Games	4 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
5 5 p.m. Parish Hall reserved	6	7 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	8 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	9 6 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	10 7 p.m. Science Cafe	11 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
12 12 p.m. Monthly Birthdays Coffee Hour	13 7 p.m. Faith-in-Action meeting	14 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 7 p.m. Board meeting	15 Noon Common Reader Book Group 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens meeting 7 p.m. NA 7 p.m. Board Meeting	16 6 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	17 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Rummage Sale	18 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Rummage Sale
19	20	21 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	22 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	23 6 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	24	25 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
26	27	28 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	29 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	30 6 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	31	

## Events elsewhere

### Poetry Prose Potluck

**Wednesday, October 8th**  
at **6:00 p.m.** at the home  
of Richard Johnson and  
Marti Pizzini in Chesterton

### Susan Werner Concert

**Friday, November 7th** at  
**7:30 p.m.** at the First  
Unitarian Church of South  
Bend



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

## Singer/Songwriter Susan Werner to Perform in South Bend

*First Unitarian Church to Celebrate New Location with Concert*

Noted singer/songwriter Susan Werner will perform on Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:30 pm at the First Unitarian Church of South Bend.

First Unitarian Church has recently moved to a new location at 801 E. Washington Street-- just a few blocks from the East Race near downtown South Bend. This concert is an opportunity to celebrate this new space in a special way.

Susan Werner has long been a

favorite of critics and fans alike for her unique blend of folk, jazz, blues and gospel music. Chicago based and nationally acclaimed, her catalogue includes the 2007 album, "the Gospel Truth," which explores faith and social responsibility. Other work presents a fresh take on Cole Porter style pop and cabaret. Her current release, "Hayseed," is inspired by the American farmer. "Susan Werner is immensely talented--and I sympathize with her humane values. Her concerts can heal your spirit and energize your soul," writes Chip Roush, First Unitarian's minister.

Tickets for the event are \$20.00, and can be purchased in advance by completing the ticket purchase form located on the church's website at [www.firstunitarian.us](http://www.firstunitarian.us) or at the door. The church is located at 801 E. Washington St., South Bend (corner of Washington and St. Peter).

### 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