

The Vanguard

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

November 2015



Names & Numbers

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

497 Main St., Hobart, IN 46342
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2015-2016 Board of Trustees

Maggie Reister Walters, President
Gina Miller, Vice President
Tim Cook, Secretary
Jim O'Gallagher, Treasurer
Stephanie Dowell, Jeff Kime,
Kristen Neria, Steve Midmore

Worship Calendar

Services are held Sundays at 11 a.m.

Sunday, Nov 1:	Religious Education Group "Dia de los Muertos"
Sunday, Nov 8:	Reverend Scott Aaseng "What Does This Church Stand For, Anyways?"
Sunday, Nov 15:	Don Parker "The UU Theology of Forrest Church"
Sunday, Nov 22:	Reverend Scott Aaseng "Co-Conspirators of Joy"
Sunday, Nov 29:	Sky Schultz, aka Professor Oops "My Journey to Finding God through Nature, Science, and Wisdom Traditions"

Letter from Our Minister

By Scott Aaseng



There's a lot of new energy and new possibilities in the air these days at First Unitarian. We have task forces working on how we expand our presence in and impact on the wider community, how we engage each other and guests, how we manage and expand our resources to support our mission, and how we take care of our facilities to serve others. And these are going to take all the energy and enthusiasm we have to give, as well as commitment to sticking with it for the long haul. If you'd like to add your energy to these efforts, please talk to Church President Maggie Reister or I.

Yet in the midst of all this activity, it's important that we continue to take the time just to be with one another. Church isn't just about doing; it's also about accepting each other as we are, and caring for each other, and even about forgiving each other. "Task forces" are by definition about getting something done; it might be nice to think about our times of conversation and coffee, of welcoming and supporting each other, and especially of worship and ritual, as "being gatherings"

(I couldn't think of a better counterpart for "task forces")—times just to enjoy being a community together. Our Neighbor Circles and other groups that meet for conversation, meditation, and support might be considered counterparts to our various task forces, committees, and other working groups.

It's the age-old challenge of balancing being and doing in our lives. Treating each other—and ourselves—as human beings ("You") and not just as human doings ("It"). As Ecclesiastes says, there are times for planting and building and gathering and sewing and speaking and even fighting, and there are times for healing and weeping and laughing and dancing and keeping silence and embracing.

May we find our center:

in being community,
even as we build
community;

in being embraced by
the spirit of love that
connects us, even as we
grow spiritually;

in valuing ourselves
and each other, even as we
put our values into action.

Blessed be all.

Minister's Office Hours

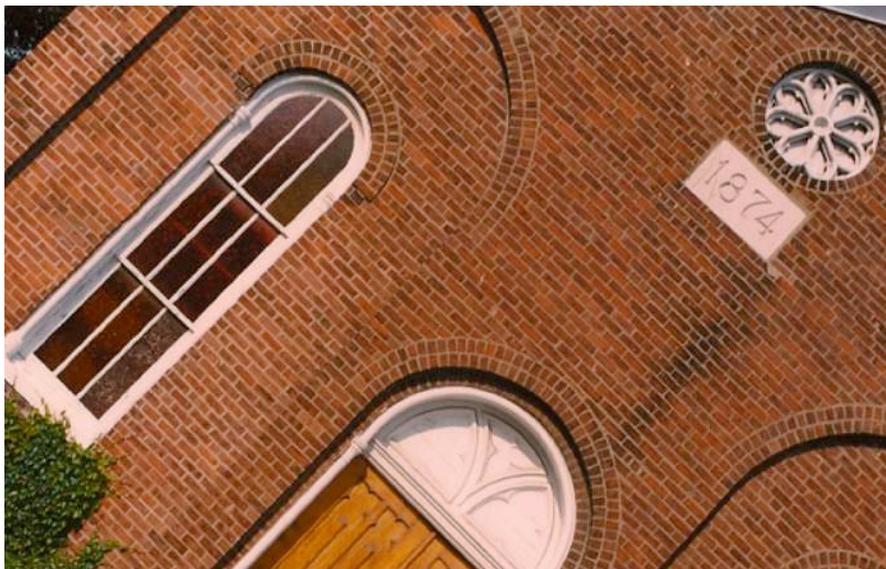
Wed Nov 4: 2-6 pm

Wed Nov 11: 2-6 pm

Wed Nov 18: 2-6 pm

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

ministerhobartuu@gmail.com



From our Board President

Maggie Reister Walters

Indiana Landmarks revitalizes communities, reconnects people to heritage and saves meaningful places. Partners for Sacred Places serves congregations with older buildings. They help church communities make the most of their buildings as assets for ministry and outreach to the larger community.

Your Board of Directors has committed to submit our application for consideration to Sacred Places Indiana, a collaborative program offered by Indiana Landmarks and Partners for Sacred Places.

Are we ready? What do you think? Here are the highlights of the 7 point checklist for Readiness.

1. A vision for Community outreach (though it may not be fully articulated) that regards buildings as assets for ministry and service.
2. Stable, energetic and committed leadership
 - Our pastoral leadership is open to doing new things and beginning new relationships and initiatives, rather than operating in a passive "caretaking" mode.
3. A desire to deepen community connections and enhance community programs.

Does our congregation...

- House or actively support community outreach that benefits non-members more than members?
 - Show openness and readiness to collaborate with community or nonprofit organizations offering programs that express or are compatible with the church's mission?
 - Display interest in improving existing programs?
4. Significant financial need for repairs and capital improvement
 - Our historic building suffers deferred maintenance
 - Our annual budget allows for little or inadequate maintenance expenditures
 - We have not undertaken a capital campaign of any consequence in many years

5. An openness to raising funds in new ways
6. A willingness to invest in the Sacred Places Indiana process
Is our congregation...

- Willing to invest time and energy in Sacred Places Indiana program, including *New Dollars/New Partners* training and follow-up?

7. Ownership or use of historic building(s) that have cultural, and/or architectural importance

Do the following conditions apply to our congregation?

- Our building(s) is listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and/or the state or local registers
- We value our building(s) and practice good stewardship and preservation as our resources permit
- We are willing to undertake capital projects to repair, restore and preserve our building

We believe we are a fit for this ambitious program. We will know soon if we have been accepted into the first round of this exciting initiative. Maggie

First Hour Forum

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

Nov. 1 Long Strange Trip: The 2000-year History of Unitarian Universalism, Pt. 1.
Host: Don Parker

Nov. 8 Long Strange Trip Pt. 2.
Host: Don Parker

Nov. 15 Long Strange Trip Pt. 2, cont'd.
Host: Don Parker

Nov. 22 Guest at Your Table program.
Host: Children's Religious Education (RE)

Nov. 29 Program by Service Speaker Skye Schultz.
Hosts: Worship and RE Committees

First Friday Games & Potluck

6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov 6. 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

Bring In Your 'UU World' When You're Done With It

Please DO NOT tear off the back address panel (because that makes it look tattered). We promise to White Out over it. We will RECYCLE your 'UU Worlds' by using them as giveaways on the Visitors' Table.

Leave your donated 'UU World' on the table in the office.

never played it before. We eat at 6:30 p.m., and we break out the games soon after. Contact Patricia Riley-Churilla.

Popcorn Theology

5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7th
Popcorn Theology will show the movie "Confederate States of America" by Spike Lee, depicting a version of our country's history if the South had won the Civil War. This movie is for middle school ages and up. Bring a dish, dessert or beverage to share, if you wish. Potluck to begin at 5pm, movie at 5:30, and discussion following.

Souper Soup

12 noon Sunday, Nov. 8, Souper Soup, our annual soup contest. If you think you can beat previous years' winners, now is your chance to shine. The winner gets his or her name on the plaque and a whole lot of glory. Just as much fun is all the eating. Your ticket gets you a tasting bowl to try any and all of the soups, then you vote with your dollars for your favorite. Bring your Crockpot with your best soup, or bring a dessert, some crackers or cheese, cornbread, whatever. We appreciate all of it. Tickets are \$5 each, or a maximum of \$20 per family. The proceeds from this event help our work at Cafe Agape, the community dinner at the First Presbyterian Church that we host one Saturday each month. Sign up on the clipboard in the Fellowship Hall, or contact James Johnson.

New UU Sessions

Ready to take that next step in your spiritual journey? Essential to First U membership is participation in two, upcoming UU sessions, one in November and the other, in December.

UU session I is being offered on two dates: **Sunday, November 8th from 3 - 5pm**, and **Wednesday, November 11th from 7 - 9pm**.

UU session II will take place in December at a date and time TBA. Session I can be attended by anyone interested in learning more about UUism, and/or wanting to provide support to others on their journey, and session II is open to those seeking to join the church. Completion of both sessions I and II are required for First U membership.

To register for either the November 8th or November 11th session, email Visitor & New Member Support Team Co-Chair Connie Karras indicating your date preference, along with any questions/concerns you may have.

Common Reader Book Group

12 noon Wednesday, Nov. 11 at Church. Please bring your lunch. The book choice is "To Kill a Mockingbird," and/or "Go Set a Watchman." Sandy Ashmore has copies of the "To Kill a Mockingbird" book. Lots of options. It should be a good discussion! Members and friends always welcome.

Connectors Meeting

12:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov 15, in the basement library. Along with our regular agenda, there will be time for a brief report by those of us able to attend the 11/4 workshop on forming care teams. See Janet French for more information.

Thanksgiving Feast

12 noon Sunday, Nov 22. Our annual Thanksgiving Feast is always one of our largest gatherings; you will see old friends and new ones too. Plan on bringing a side dish, rolls, dessert, or whatever. DJ will have his clipboard soon for signups, so start thinking about your signature showoff dish that you use to impress your friends.

We always have a wonderful variety of tasty dishes; everyone always does such a nice job!

See DJ Lackey for more information or to sign up or volunteer for cleanup.

This year during our Thanksgiving Feast, Fundraising is planning a raffle. We already have several items planned, with more to come. You are sure to find something for yourself or a gift for a friend, and support the church at the same time. We will have gift baskets and other interesting items available for you. If you have something to donate, we'd love to have it! Contact Beth Porch, Rosalind Davilla, Carla Banks, Karen Smith or Cindy Hesemann for more information.

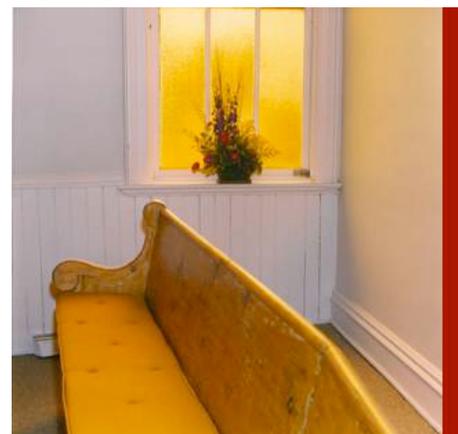
SCRIP Program

SCRIP is an on-going, simple fundraising strategy First Unitarian uses. As the holiday shopping season soon is upon us, we would love to see all of you using this to shop and give. And don't forget your everyday expenses: gas, groceries, drugstore, as well as Amazon cards are available, so every expense can be utilized to make money for the church. It is possible for you to donate \$50 or more to the church without spending a penny extra, just by using SCRIP cards. You'd be surprised how fast it adds up! For more information or to order your cards, see Beth Porch. Also, we hope to soon have SCRIP Reload, so you can order and reload your cards yourself at home. This will alleviate the need to remember your checkbook on Sunday and plan a week ahead. We will be excited to let you know when that is ready to use, so pay attention to the Weekly Updates for more information.

Shawl Ministry

Calling all knitters, crocheters, & shoppers: Last year in mid-winter the Shawl Ministry along with the help of many other members and friends donated a number of hats, scarves, mittens, and gloves to Cafe Agape, a Faith in Action monthly program. We invite you to knit, crochet, sew, and purchase these items to donate in Jan/Feb. Questions, please see Wendy Masters.

The deadline for submissions for the December Vanguard is Monday, November 16. Please email them to both noelevans@frontier.com and firstunitarian@frontier.com



November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	4 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens 7 p.m. NA	5 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	6 6:30 p.m. First Friday Potluck and Games	7 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 5 p.m. Popcorn Thology
8 12 noon Souper Soup	9 7 p.m. Faith-in-Action meeting	10 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	11 Noon Common Reader Book Group 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	12 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	13	14 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Zen retreat
15	16	17 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	18 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. Board meeting 7 p.m. NA 7 p.m. Concerned Citizens	19 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	20	21 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
22 12 noon Thanksgiving Feast	23	24 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	25 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	26 Thanksgiving church office closed	27 church office closed	28 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
29	30					

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. Brian Porter is looking for anyone interested in volunteering this month on **Saturday, November 28.**

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 Brian Porter. 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