

The Vanguard

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

September 2016



Names & Numbers

First Unitarian Church of Hobart

497 Main St., Hobart, IN 46342

Jan Zorn, Office Manager

firstunitarian@frontier.com

(219) 942-1611

www.firstunitarian-hobart.org

2016-2017 Board of Trustees

Maggie Reister Walters, President

Kristen Neria, Vice President

Stephanie Dowell, Secretary

Jim O'Gallagher, Treasurer

Tracy Ferrell, Janet French,

Jeff Kime, Gail Thomas

Worship Calendar

Services are held Sundays at 11 a.m.

Sunday, Sept 4:

Environmental play to kick off Climate Change theme for the month of September

Sunday, Sept 11:

Janet French, with Patricia Riley-Churilla (Calling the Directions), and other congregants
Come Together: Ingathering Water Communion.

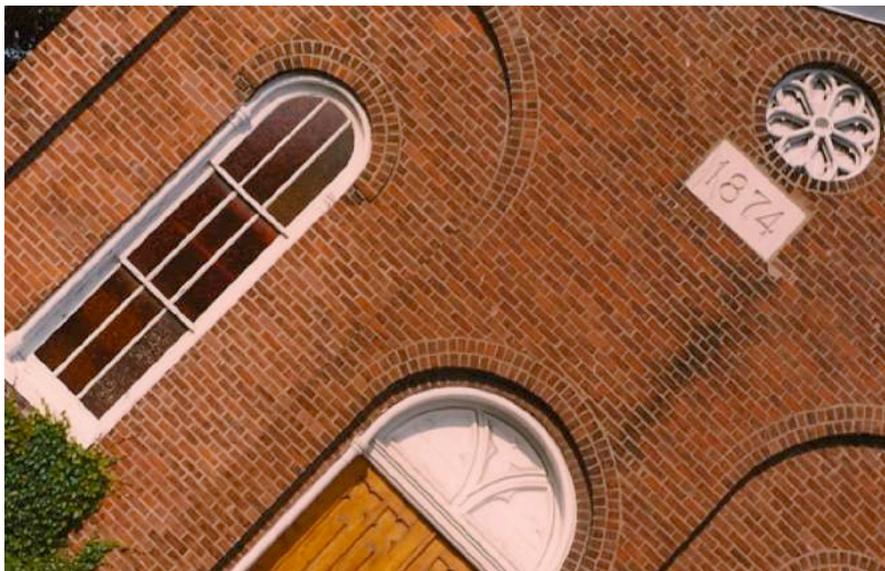
Bring a small vial of water reminiscent of your summer to contribute to our communal vessel as we launch our new church year. We'll re-covenant with one another, commission this year's leadership, lift up this year's Religious Education program, and take a solemn moment to reflect on the 15th anniversary of 9/11.

Sunday, Sept 18:

Faith in Action focuses on Climate Change

Sunday, Sept 25:

Beloved Conversations



From our Board President

Maggie Reister Walters

“The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. And the realist adjusts the sails.” *William Arthur Ward*

So who are we?? Any realists here? I think who we are - changes. Ask yourself, who am I with my partner, my siblings, my parents, my co-workers? Do you change? When I am with my family, I get louder. Not because my brothers and I are arguing necessarily – we might be – but we are just loud people! We talk loud and laugh louder. At work I struggle to be fully honest – hoping to avoid conflict. At church I am a leader, a member of the choir and, I hope, a friend. But, I'm not always the same. Rev. Scott Aaseng facilitated a series of workshops with us that resulted in our identifying 3 objectives that we felt, in all our diversity as a faith community, was our common ground. 3 Mission Pillars. What are they? (Building community, Growing Spiritually, Putting our Faith into Action) These words are more than a statement. They are a path to creating and sustaining a whole, healthy congregation. Building community is an invitation AND a commitment. I believe we *long* to be together. How do I tell you and remind myself that it matters when we are not here, not contributing to meaningful discussion, not helping to solve problems, being real and holding each other accountable. Maybe it's time for you to “step-up”, try on a new role, get out of your comfort zone. And, maybe, you need to be reminded to step back, to breathe or recover from burnout. WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER. Moving forward without a minister means we need each other even more to share ministry, to encourage spiritual growth and to care for each other. Let's take a moment to reflect: how do you see your own participation in our community? In our ministries, on a committee, in service and action, in worship and music. Is it fulfilling, satisfying, joyful, frustrating? I don't have the answer but how we choose to be with one another during this time that we are completely lay-led is really important. Communicating directly with each other is essential to healthy problem solving. Our Caring/Membership committee is developing resources for us to practice direct communication and healthy problem solving. Come on, you know it's not that easy!

Your Board of Trustees and Leadership teams are committed to listen and create spaces for ongoing conversation in important matters such as with the Search Committee on August 28 and other special First Hour and Coffee Hour Conversations. The monthly Board Meeting convenes at 6:30 every month for congregational input and discussion. Faith & Action is coming together at 6:30 for informal conversation prior to their 7 pm

meeting. We have an easel in Fellowship Hall for anyone to write down their suggestions.

In short, we are asking. We are asking everyone to participate in sharing ministry as we move forward. At General Assembly in Columbus Ohio this summer speaker after speaker emphasized that we don't ask enough. We don't ask enough of each other and we don't ask enough of ourselves. Maybe it's true. I know I am more engaged when I am “on the court” of life, participating, listening, doing what I say I will do and making it right when I don't. Sometimes I take it on the chin. Beats watching TV...

Maybe this is an opportunity to strengthen the 3 Pillars. To be more open and honest, to take risks, to deepen a friendship, to make a healthy choice to step up or perhaps to step back. “Do not fear the winds of adversity. Remember: A kite rises against the wind rather than with it.” “The reality is, it takes daily cultivation of a spiritual path, preferably with spiritual kin in proximity, to sustain not the feeling elation, but the focused, mindful path of steady growth.” *S. Kelley Harrell, Gift of the Dreamtime*

Blessed be, Maggie

First Hour Forum

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

Sept 4: "Everglades of the North: The Story of the Grand Kankakee Marsh". Less than a century ago, the Grand Kankakee Marsh once saturated nearly a million acres in Northern Indiana and Illinois, including large parts of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties, which resembled the swamplands of Florida's Everglades. The marsh was home to some of the highest concentrations of wildlife on the planet, with waterfowl so numerous they literally blackened the sky. The marsh was called Chicago's food pantry, and industrialists made their fortunes from its seemingly endless natural resources. Today less than 5% of the Grand Kankakee Marsh has survived humankind's advances. But with a better understanding of the important role wetlands play in the environment, there is a renewed effort to restore part of what was lost.
Host: FIA Committee

Sept 11: Virtual "Toxic Tour" of Northwest Indiana, by Thomas Frank. Thomas Frank is the former director of the East Chicago Waterway Management District and is now an environmental justice activist and artist. Thomas has been working in southeast Chicago and Whiting for two decades and has an encyclopedic knowledge of the environmental legacy of big industry in this region. His presentation reveals just how much

pollution, corruption and rationalization gets dumped onto Northwest Indiana. Thomas has been called a rabble-rouser, a revolutionary, and the "local Paul Revere of a national movement". Join us for an eye-opening presentation with startling figures, graphic images and keen insights about Northwest Indiana and its industrial legacy.
Host: FIA Committee

Sept 18: To be announced ...
Host: FIA Committee

Sept 25: To be announced ...
Host: FIA Committee

FYI...

The state has closed the intersection of Indiana 130 and County Line Road in Hobart until the end of September for road and traffic signal work.

First Friday Games & Potluck

6:30 p.m. Friday, September 2.
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.

World Goddess Day

6:00 pm Tuesday, September 6, at Church. Bring your favorite Goddess-themed songs, chants, poems and prayers, and celebrate World Goddess Day. There will be chanting, a spiral dance, Goddess-related readings, and other activities related to the Goddess.

According to their Facebook page, "THE WORLD GODDESS DAY PROJECT emerged to unite the Mother Goddess' worshipers world wide through their many expressions and manifestations." The World Goddess Day project was founded by Brazilian author Claudiney Prieto in 2014.

Sponsored by Wheel of the Year, CUUPs, Hobart IN Chapter, this event is free and open to the public.

Second Sunday Coffee Hour Birthday Celebration

September 11: Help celebrate our September birthdays during coffee hour. The birthday folks will bring coffee hour treats, thereby giving all of us the chance to let them know--We're glad you were born!

Sept 2, Kim Swift;
Sept 5, Bob Allen & Don Parker;
Sept 7, Anne Floy;
Sept 9, Brian Barnes & (Sharon) Star Koelm;
Sept 12, Gail Thomas;
Sept 16, DJ Lackey;
Sept 19, Connie Barnes;
Sept 24, Kelly Mahler;
Sept 26, Ranata Kliemchen
Sept 28, Brian Porter.

The deadline for submissions for the September Vanguard is **Monday, September 19.** Please email them to both noelevans@frontier.com and firstunitarian@frontier.com

Common Reader Book Group

6 p.m. Wednesday, September

14. Come join us at Beth Porch's MAIN STREET PIZZA PLUS 201 S Main St, Kouts for HOMEMADE pizza, soups, salads, sandwiches, desserts, and more. Between mouthfuls, we will be discussing *Tevye, the Dairyman and Railroad Stories* by Scholem Rabinovich (1859-1916), the "Jewish Mark Twain"; "Twenty-one tales that examine human nature and modernity as they are perceived by men and women riding the trains from shtetl to shtetl.", first published in 1894. [Good Reads]. As always, reading the book is not a requirement. Sandy A. has available books at Church.

Coffee Connections

10 a.m. Thursday, September

15. Shifting our schedule slightly, we will now meet the 3rd Thursday of the month at Spill the Beans, 7992 Broadway, Merrillville. Join us for coffee and conversation.

Caring/ Membership/ Connectors

12:30 p.m. Sunday, September

18. Meeting will take place in the basement library. Future meetings will take place on the third Sunday of every other month. The one exception is the November meeting, which will be the second Sunday, November 13, due to Thanksgiving.

Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War

Tuesday, September 20, on PBS

You won't want to miss this Ken Burns production starring Tom Hanks as Unitarian minister Waitstill Sharp, who with his wife Martha, a trained social worker, assisted scores of imperiled Jews and refugees fleeing Nazi occupation across Europe. Interested in viewing with others? Sign-up sheets (to host, or as interested guest) are on the library table in the parish hall.

Pagan Apologetics

6 – 9 p.m. Monday, September 26,

Pagan Apologetics study sessions, "Helping Pagans develop the tools to defend their own individual faith." Using Pagan "scriptures," poems, books, and other sources from within the Pagan community. Sessions continue on the fourth Monday of the month through 2016. Each session will be independent of other sessions, and there will be review from previous sessions.

Contact Patricia Riley-Churilla for more information.

Shawl Ministry

While Fall shopping, plan ahead for February's cold and the need for hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, and socks for Faith in Action's Café Agape monthly dinner for Hobart area residents. Knitters, crocheters, and needle crafters can get a head start on making handmade items to donate.

Fundraising

Our semi-annual Rummage Sale is coming up next month. Start sorting out your stuff and let us turn it into treasure! We are able to store some things, so if you need to, you can bring it to church now. We can provide boxes if you need them; ask Beth or Rosalind. Make your plans for the second week in October to come help us one day (and shop a little, too!).

Fundraising will resume our monthly meetings in September. Anyone is welcome to join us, to help or just for the company, since we always have fun! We are always looking for new ideas, so let us know if you have a great idea.

To all the crafty people out there, we are going to have an auction at Thanksgiving Dinner again this year. It was quite popular last year, and we had some interesting donations. Any contributions would be appreciated. Contact Beth or Carla for details.



September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 6:30 p.m. First Friday Potluck and Games	3 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
4 10 a.m. First Hour and RE 11 a.m. Service	5 Church office closed	6 6 p.m. World Goddess Day 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	7 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. Beloved Conversations 7 p.m. Common Reader Book Group 7 p.m. NA	8 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	9	10 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
11 10 a.m. First Hour and RE 11 a.m. Service 12 noon Second Sunday Birthdays	12 7 p.m. Faith-in-Action	13 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	14 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	15 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	16	17 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group
18 10 a.m. First Hour and RE 11 a.m. Service	19 7 p.m. Beloved Conversations	20 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	21 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Board & Congregation 7 p.m. Board meeting 7 p.m. NA	22 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	23	24 7 a.m. Empty Circle Zen Group 6 p.m. Wheel of the Year - Mabon
25 10 a.m. First Hour and RE 11 a.m. Service p.m. Beloved Conversations	26 6pm - Pagan Apologetics 7 p.m. Building & Grounds	27 7 p.m. Empty Circle Zen Group	28 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7 p.m. NA	29 5 p.m. TOPS 8 p.m. AA	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 Café Agape, a free community meal. First Unitarian volunteers coordinate a meal once a month (usually the fourth Saturday). Our volunteer date this month is **Saturday, September 24**. 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 the Faith In Action Committee. 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