

First Unitarian Church of Louisville

~ A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations ~

(502) 585-5110

www.firstulou.org

We are grateful for those who serve this morning, including:

Service Coordinator: Rev. Kathy Hurt

Worship Associate: Linda Berry

Chancel Decoration: Bev Daly



January 7, 2018

THE COURAGE OF MY CONVICTIONS

SPEAKER: REV. DR. KATHY HURT

~ GATHERING ~

Gathering Music

Ethan McCollum

Bell Sound

Welcome

Clare Gervasi

Prelude

Ethan

Chalice Lighting

Linda Berry

Call to Worship

Rev. Kathy Hurt

+ **Hymn**

We Begin Again in Love

#1037

~ AFFIRMING ~

Declaration (*unison*)

Linette Lowe

We are a church of reason and spirit
that witnesses for progressive faith,
Nurtures our community and transforms our world.

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law.
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Joys and Sorrows (*unison*)

When I breathe in, I breathe in peace.
When I breathe out, I breathe out love.

Moment of Prayer and Meditation

Sung Response (*unison*)

Make us aware we are a sanctuary.
Each made holy loved right through
With thanksgiving we are a living sanctuary anew.

There's a truth beyond our knowledge.
There's compassion beyond our pain.
There's a spirit burning brighter;
There's a love to guide our way.

Invitation to Generosity

Clare

With gratitude for the abundance in our lives, we give to the life of this congregation and to the life of the surrounding community.

Offertory

Ethan

~ **EXPLORING** ~

Moment for All Ages

Rev. Kathy

Song for the Children

Come and go with me to that land,
Come and go with me to that land,
Come and go with me to that land where I' m bound. (x2)

There'll be justice in that land,
There'll be justice in that land,
There'll be justice in that land where I'm bound. (x2)

Sermon

The Courage of My Convictions

Rev. Kathy

+ **Hymn**

Faith of the Larger Liberty

#287

~ **RETURNING** ~

Extinguishing the Chalice (*unison*)

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth,
The warmth of community, or the fire of commitment.
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

Closing Words

Postlude

Ethan

Benediction (*unison*)

Here, may you know that you are loveable, and that indeed, you are loved.
And may you carry that love out into the world as a blessing.

+ *Please Rise in Body or in Spirit*

Infant and Toddler Care in the Nursery is available in room 214. The service is piped in to the library (the door by the organ) if you need to step out with your child. **"Busy Bags"** are available on the Usher Table or ask an Usher.

Join Us Next Week: Sunday, January 14

Celebration of Life 11:00 am

Join Us Next Week: January 14, 2018

“Beyond Making America Great – UUs and MLK”

Speakers: David Cooper and Brian Daly

“Make America Great” was part of a slogan for a marketing campaign that changed America. We are now engaged in a great battle for the soul of our country. UUs are active in this debate and have a special responsibility for engaging in activism because of our seven principles and direct connection with Martin Luther King’s principles of nonviolence. David Cooper, an educator, poet, social justice advocate, and UU member will explore with First U member Brian Daly actions we can take to live our UU principles.

Religious Exploration 9:45 – 10:45

RE classes will resume January 14 with One Room Schoolhouse for children and youth and **new class offerings** for adults. The new adult classes and descriptions are listed after the FYI and at <http://firstulou.org/lre>

10th through 12th grade OWL Do you know a 10th through 12th grader who would benefit from age-appropriate, values-based, scientifically driven sexuality education? If so, please contact Linette (dre@firstulou.org). Classes will begin in January.

Beloved Conversations

Beloved Conversations is a religious exploration curriculum. It is a large body of work that takes faith formation to another level, encouraging us to go deep into the dynamics and structures of racism in our communities and ourselves. It allows space to explore the deep-seated systems of oppression in which we participate and give us tools to disrupt racism.

This curriculum cannot be done in an hour on Sunday mornings and, as a result, will take a larger commitment of time -- separate from our Sunday morning RE. If interested, send an email expressing your interest by January 31 to Christe Lunsford at (intern@firstulou.org).



FYI

First Sunday Lunch Menu Baked pasta, Tossed salad, Garlic toast, and Triple-chocolate brownies. First time visitors are our guests. Requested donation is \$5. The luncheon crew will be one person short on Sunday. We could use an extra hand to help with beverages about 11:30, and we will definitely need several people to wash dishes and pans. If you can help, please stop by the kitchen Sunday morning and let us know – thanks! –Tiffany and Jack

Brownbaggers January 8 *Over There... Over There... No, Over HERE!* Yes, the Brownbaggers welcome Kathy Johnson, Historian, to tell us about the "War to End All Wars" (one hundred years ago) - Join us, Monday, January 8, 2018 at 11:45 or so in the Church Library "...and we won't be back till it's over, over there!"

Really, Really Free Market Join us for the Really Really Free Market at First Unitarian on January 13th, 2017 from 4-6pm. What is a Really Really Free Market? It's like a community yard sale where everything is free. What can I bring? Anything you'd like to give. From clothes that no longer fit to food, books, stories, crafts, services, performances, music, a skill you'd like to share, or anything else that you think would benefit the community. Sponsored by Mission & Outreach.

Social Justice Webinar Series begins January 9, entitled *Breaking Down the Silos: An Assessment Model for Social Justice-Rooted Congregations - Part 1/2*. This is presented by The UUA Mid-America Region and Minnesota UU Social Justice Alliance as a monthly six part Social Justice webinar series. Join us at First U Louisville at 7:45pm on the second Tuesday of the months January through June to view each webinar. There will be a pot of home made soup to share at 6:30pm on January 9, so bring a sandwich or whatever! Questions, contact Del (del.ramey@ieee.org) or Trish Ramey (tramey@alum.bu.edu). More information on the series (<https://www.midamericauua.org/resources/justice>).

Women's Alliance Annual Appreciation Breakfast for Clinic Escorts is scheduled for Saturday, January 13th, 2018. We welcome donations of muffins, quickbreads, egg dishes or fresh fruit from interested Womens' Alliance members (or any other members of our church). Also – if you would like to attend (and be a hostess/host), please let us know. Contact Jane Martin Buckley (jane_buckley@earthlink.net or 502-491-9444). Please mark your calendar for our next scheduled Women's Alliance Meeting on February 10th.

Shannon Stromberg A memorial service for Shannon Stromberg will be held at First Unitarian on Sunday, January 14 at 2:00pm. See Pam Middleton for more information about the service and Ron Zorn to help with the reception.

Anne Caudill died last week at the age of 93. Her memorial service will be Saturday, January 27 at 1pm at Kraft Funeral Home, 708 E. Spring St, New Albany, with visitation beforehand.

One Room Schoolhouse Goes Multigenerational! On the second Sunday of the month, our children and youth gather with Linette and friends to explore the ministry theme through a song, story, mindfulness practice, and activity stations. And now, adults can be part of the fun and learning, too! Join us January 14 for the first Multi-gen One Room Schoolhouse (MORSH?), where we will explore our theme of Courage. Activities will include vision boards, crafting, writing, and music--there will be something for everyone! This is a great opportunity to get to know our community members of all ages--you never know when you will make a new friend. Please plan to join us in the Social Hall at 9:45 on January 14 and support our efforts to grow community through religious exploration – together!

Recycle Your Old Christmas Lights Your old lights can be turned into cash by First U's Solar Array Project and used to buy more solar panels for First U! Drop them into the SAP aluminum can receptacle in the courtyard (outside the kitchen door) or give them to Joe or Kathy Kremer. Questions? Email Joe (joe_kremer_99@yahoo.com).

Coffee in the Social Hall Join us for a cup of coffee before or after the service! (If you are the one making coffee, please remember to just use one package per pot!) Contributions toward the cost are welcomed.

Guest at Your Table If you were unable to bring your box or monetary contribution in on Christmas Eve, you can bring it in this Sunday. Guest at Your Table is an annual collection for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which works to advance human rights around the world. Every little bit helps support our partners worldwide!

2018 Calendars CLCM clients can use your unwanted 2018 calendars!!! Bring them anytime and place them in the box on the volunteer desk.

NEW Adult RE Classes Begin Next Week, January 14

Neurodiversity Dr. Devi Pierce will lead discussions on definitions and characteristics associated with Autism spectrum disorders, ADHD, mood disorders, addictive behaviors, dementia, personality disorders and psychotic disorders. The class will explore how the congregation might make accommodations for welcoming and including people with these diagnoses and how a greater understanding of neurodiversity can contribute to our spiritual growth and the expression of the seven principles. Meets first and third Sundays in the Library, Rm. 103.

World Religions Elizabeth Fairhead will lead a brief introduction to religious traditions practiced around the world and in our own community that will support the faith development of participants. The class will touch on both eastern and western religions. Meets on fourth Sundays in the Library, Rm. 103.

Parents and Families Group Join an informal, self-directed discussion circle for those who are currently parenting, have done so in the past, or aspire to. Discussion topics provided. Weekly in room 203.

Multigenerational One Room Schoolhouse (MORSH) On the second Sunday of the month, adults, children and youth gather with Linette and friends to explore the ministry theme through a song, story, mindfulness practice, and activity stations. And now, adults can be part of the fun and learning, too! This is a great opportunity to get to know our community members of all ages--you never know when you will make a new friend. Please plan to join us and support our efforts to grow community through religious exploration--together! Second Sundays in the Social Hall.

Women's Spirituality Group In Part II of the *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven* program, we will continue our journey into the past to reclaim the stories of powerful women to be found in ancient Judaism and in early Christianity. We will also look at the global silencing and brutalization of women that accompanied the rise of patriarchal religion and society. Finally, we will celebrate the exciting new world-view and theology that has emerged in our time, and explore the personal and social changes that may be suggested by that new world-view and theology. Begins February 4, weekly in the Parlor, Rm. 101. In order to facilitate the spiritual deepening and sharing of participants, this will be a closed group, so plan to register in class on Feb. 4.

Beloved Conversations Beloved Conversations: Meditations on Race & Ethnicity is an experiential Unitarian Universalist curriculum that provides a space to heal the brokenness of racism into new patterns of thought and behavior. It was created by Dr. Mark Hicks, professor at in Chicago. Participants commit to a weekend retreat February 9 and 10, followed by eight sessions that occur weekly after church on Sunday or a weeknight. It is led by trained facilitators.

Welcome to First Unitarian!

If you are a visitor to our congregation today, we trust you will find meaning in our service. First Unitarian Church is a liberal, self-governing, self-supporting church in covenant with the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with their caregivers. Childcare is also available upstairs in room 214. If you find you need to step out of the service with your child, the service is piped into the library (the door by the organ).

Free Parking: The lot off 4th Street next to the church is free all day Sunday. The lot off York Street, across from the library, is free until 1:30pm.

Calendar of Events <http://firstulou.org/calendar>

~ We Are a Welcoming Congregation ~

We welcome all persons to participate fully, openly, and equally, in all aspects of our congregational life, in ever-widening circles of inclusion. We respect and affirm diversity and its gifts in race, ethnicity, national origin, affectional or sexual orientation, family or relationship structure, gender identity, gender expression, sex, abilities, neurodiversity, age, socio-economic class, political views, religious belief, creed, or interpretation of religion.

Our Ministry Staff

Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt, Interim Minister

Linette Lowe, Dir. Religious Exploration Christe Lunsford, Student Minister

Support Staff

Ethan McCollum, Choir Director	Christina Roberts, Childcare Coordinator
Barbara Creasy, Office Administrator	Elena Meeks, Childcare staff
Earl Reynolds, Building Supervisor	NaQueesha Puckett, Childcare staff and RE Assistant
Michael Purintun, Bookkeeper	Vantreasea Jones, Custodian
Brytner Evangelista, Accompanist	

ZOOM Into First U

Members and friends can sign into Zoom and access the service in real time. Go to the website www.firstulou.org. Click on the “Worship” tab. Then select “Livestreaming our Sunday Service” and follow the directions. You can also go to firstulou.org/online-service. Enjoy the service.