



Venture Vol. 59, No. 5 October 2017

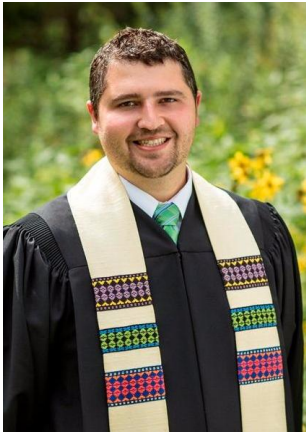
Our Mission: To be a compassionate, welcoming community that nurtures spiritual growth and practices justice.

Sunday Services in October

Services & Religious Education for Children & Youth at 9:00 & 11:00 am

Fellowship between services in the Commons

Childcare available during services for babies and toddlers (6 months+ to 3 years old)



Rev. Luke
Stevens-Royer

October 1 - *Keeping Broken Things*

Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, Minister
Mark Brutinel, Worship Associate
Maritza, Klezmer band from Decorah, Iowa
Connie Schuelka, keyboards

October 8 - *Reflections from the Edge: On Being North of Oceti Sakowin Camp*

Rev. Karen Van Fossan, M.Div., Guest Minister
UU Minister of Bismarck/ Mandan, ND
Jeff LarsonKeller, Worship Associate
Leon Joseph Littlebird, Native flutes
Connie Schuelka, keyboards

October 15

Rev. Karen Hutt, Chaplain at University of MN Medical Center
Anne Black-Sinak, Worship Associate
Connie Schuelka, keyboards
Community Health Service, Inc., Shared Plate

October 22

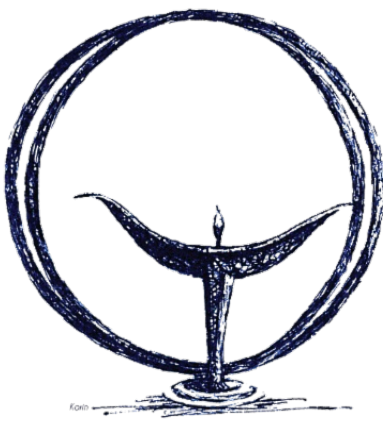
Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, Minister
Winston Vermilyea, saxophone
Connie Schuelka, keyboards

October 29 - *All Souls, Intergenerational*

Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer, Minister
Jeff LarsonKeller, Worship Associate
Walden Hill Vocal Ensemble, Joe Mish, Director
Connie Schuelka, keyboards

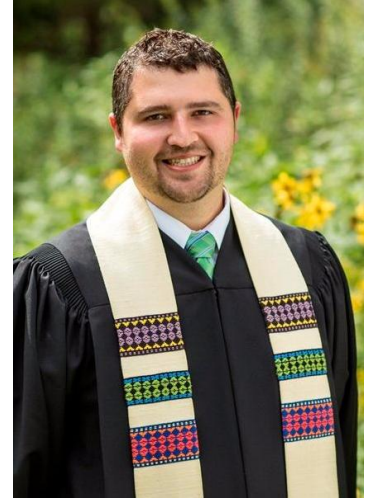
Installation of Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer

4:30 pm Sunday, October 15
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Rochester, MN



"Life has in it a re-creating force.
Our destinies are in our own hands.
What thou lovest, thou becomest."

- Rev. Eliza Tupper Wilkes, Minister
First Universalist Church, Rochester, Minnesota, 1869-1873



**Rev. Luke
Stevens-Royer**

Volunteers for the Installation

The installation of Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer on October 15 is an exciting day in the life of our church, and we need many volunteers to help it run smoothly. To choose the volunteer opportunities that are right for you, please go to [Signup Genius for Oct 15 Installation](#), or contact Jamie Crawford (250-0862) or Barb Foss (269-4189) for signup assistance.

Parking for the Installation

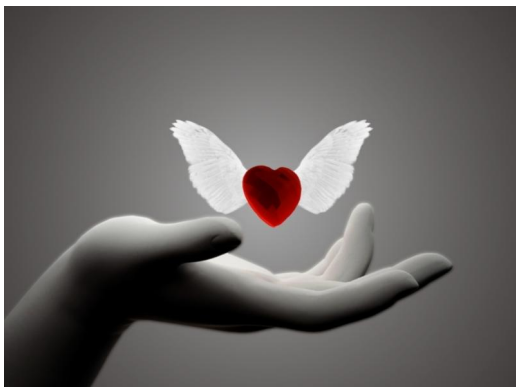
Overflow parking will be available at the Congregational Church UCC at 974 Skyline Dr. (down the hill from us). If you are able to come early to park there and enjoy a brief walk to our church, your cooperation would be greatly appreciated. Valet Parking will be available for those who need it from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

From the Minister

Theme for October: Forgiveness

Saying "I'm sorry" is the first step - then, "how can I help?"

These words from Daniel Tiger's neighborhood, the modern cartoon version of Mr. Roger's neighborhood, captures in simple language a deep truth. Forgiveness, our theme for October, is so much more than simple apologies.



As we begin this year by learning from the wisdom of the Jewish traditions of Yom Kippur, we're reminded that forgiveness, at its deepest sense, is about right relationship. And relationships are hard work. Sometimes forgiveness makes sense, sometimes it takes time, sometimes it doesn't come. The practice of forgiveness does not necessarily mean the removal of guilt for wrongs committed, or the removal of pain from suffering endured - but it does mean naming that the power to forgive another, or the power of being forgiven, can come with great liberation. And that is when the hard work, of making amends, making things right, begins.

When have you forgiven another person, and how did it feel?

When have you been forgiven, and how did it feel?

When has forgiveness not come, whether you were giving or receiving, and how do you hold the burden of it?

Forgiveness is a powerful thing - for the giver or the receiver. And it is a hard thing and messy thing. In this turning of the year, as leaves let go of branches, may you find liberation from grievance if you are moved to forgive; may you find the invitation to make amends if you are forgiven by another; and may you find a way to hold the burden of uncertainty when relationships are broken, and keep living toward your best self - broken, and beloved, all at once.

I leave you with these words from Marge Piercy, reflecting on beginning again, in love, for a new year.

The Head of the Year, by Marge Piercy

The moon is dark tonight, a new
moon for a new year. It is
hollow and hungers to be full.
It is the black zero of beginning.

Now you must void yourself
of injuries, insults, incursions.
Go with empty hands to those
you have hurt and make amends.

It is not too late. It is early

and about to grow. Now
is the time to do what you
know you must and have feared
to begin. Your face is dark
too as you turn inward to face
yourself, the hidden twin of
all you must grow to be.

Forgive the dead year. Forgive
yourself. What will be wants
to push through your fingers.
The light you seek hides
in your belly. The light you
crave longs to stream from
your eyes. You are the moon
that will wax in new goodness.

Monthly Themes for this Year

Monthly themes provide a framework to guide the life of our church in worship, learning, and service. Through the themes, we draw on wisdom from several traditions, and engage religious language that is both traditional and contemporary. The themes expand spiritual vocabulary, clarify ethical action, and help nurture lives of meaning and purpose.

October	Forgiveness
November	Grace
December	Simplicity
January	Revelation
February	Courage
March	Mortality
April	Creativity
May	Humility
June-August	Sabbath

Fall 2017 Pathway to Membership

Join us as we explore how wonderful being a member of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Rochester can be!

Welcome to First Unitarian Universalist of Rochester: A Class for Newcomers!

Sunday, November 5th

12:15 pm - Lunch in Commons

12:45 - 3:30 pm Class in Sanctuary

If you have been visiting First Unitarian Universalist Church and would like to explore more about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation, we invite you to join us for this enlightening time of discussion. You will meet others who are exploring our church as their spiritual home and together we will have an opportunity to share our religious journey. We will explore the principles, mission and vision of this church, as well as historical and contemporary Unitarian Universalism.

We will view a video on the rich history of the First UU Church in Rochester, MN and you will become acquainted with the programs and ministries of the congregation, explore the deeper meanings and expectations of membership and shared ministry and find out if our spiritual home is the right fit to be YOURS!

If you would like to attend, either sign up on the clipboard on the Guest Table or contact Melissa Egler, Coordinator of Congregational Life, at 282-5209 or congregationlife@uurochmn.org.

With at least one week advance request, childcare will be provided.





ARTICULATING YOUR UU FAITH

October 8, 22 & Nov 5th, 2017

Adult Religious Education Class

The Articulating Your Faith series is designed to assist you in responding to the question,

"Oh, you're a Unitarian Universalist? What's that?"

It's a simple question, but there is no one answer. In this series, you'll define what your faith means to you personally, so you in turn can articulate that meaning to others.

Sundays, Oct. 8, Oct. 22, and Nov. 5 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Commons

Presented by Maggie O'Connell Nolte & Leslie Redinger

Please sign up here, or in the Commons providing your email address. We will send PDF of handouts before the sessions begins.



You are invited to the

2017 UU Women's Retreat!

October 27-29, 2017

What you will find:

Thoughtfully prepared meals by Nicci Sylvester of Tonic

Key Note Speaker

Belly Dancing Hafla (Introduction to Moves and Dance-In)

Breakout Gatherings

(Needle Felting, Photo Scavenger Hunt, Renew with Essential Oils, Spiritual Journey Chalice Circle)

Rituals for Journey

Massage/ Reiki

Space to breathe and free time to talk, hike, knit, read ...

Join us at a retreat for the women of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Rochester, October 27-29th. Less than an hour's drive southeast of Rochester you will find a welcoming community and a weekend of fun, reflection, and activities to nurture, nourish and renew you on your spiritual journey.

Contact Melissa Egger, Coordinator of Congregational Life, for registration and more information

Price per person Friday-Sunday \$175 ~ Saturday only (no lodging) \$50

We want everyone interested to attend, a registration fee waiver is available thanks to the generosity of the Clara Barton Guild

Cedar Valley Resort
Wahlen, Minnesota
cedarvalleyresort.com



Shared Plate Recipient - Sunday, October 15

Our Social Justice Council has chosen **Community Health Service, Inc.** as the recipient of our October Shared Plate. We share one-half of our collected plate with the organization. *Through the generosity of an anonymous member of our congregation, that half will be matched.*



Since its start in 1973, Community Health Service, Inc. (CHSI) has catered to the health care needs of agricultural workers (migrant and seasonal workers) throughout Minnesota and North Dakota. CHSI is a private, non-profit organization that receives federal, state, and foundation grants. The mission for CHSI is to serve targeted populations living in Minnesota and North Dakota in an effective, dignified and culturally sensitive manner regardless of: ability to pay, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or status with regard to public assistance. This is a year-round program which is headed by nurse practitioners and physicians assistants.

CHSI clients often have multiple health conditions; more specifically diabetes, cardiovascular disease, obesity, mental health concerns, or are in need of vision and/or dental care. Clients are charged based on their ability to pay which covers lab tests, medications, and x-rays. CHSI also sees clients in regards to prenatal and women's health issues. A domestic violence advocacy program operates under the auspices of CHSI and serves men, women, and children throughout the service area. They target a very under-served population in our area.

Social Justice

Family Promise

A big **THANK YOU** to our UU volunteers who helped with the hosting of 16 people (9 children & 7 adults) September 3-9. It was a crazy week requiring us to be flexible but we got the job done. I know it is difficult to squeeze another activity into your already busy lives but seems the least we can do when we are so blessed to have homes where we can sleep in our own beds, cook the meals we want and come and go as we please. This is indeed one way we can live our UU values. Another is to work for more affordable housing in Rochester.

We are up again the end of the month-it seems so soon. Our next week hosting for Family Promise at **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church** will be **October 29-November 5**. Check your calendars now. We are hoping some of you who weren't able to help this last time will be available. As we know, it takes a village so we will be asking for your help soon. Stay tuned. Want to know more? Check out the church [website](#) or contact one of us: Joyce Wood or Lynne Kirklin.

Hawthorne Helps: A homegrown UU Social Justice Outreach

Our *September Shared Plate* raised **\$1,214 for Hawthorne Helps**, and will provide 3 months of store inventory. For more information about helping with Hawthorne Helps, contact coordinators Sandy MacLaughlin or Sandy Ramage

Blue Barrel Fall 2017 collection: Body Wash, Band-aids, Deodorant & Toothpaste

Riverside Central Elementary School Needs Volunteers Like YOU

Looking for a way to make a difference in a child's life? Do you have 30-60 minutes a week to support a child in his/her reading development? Volunteers at Riverside listen to students read books and talk with the students about their books. Students are expected to read 30 minutes at home; however, some students need to do their 30 minutes of home reading at school because of circumstances beyond their control. The goal is to pair volunteers with the same students in order to build relationships.

Look for the "Riverside Central Elementary School Needs Volunteers Like YOU" materials in the Commons. Select a day and time that works best for you. Your information will be forwarded to Jody Peterson, Riverside's Volunteer Coordinator, who will set up a time to meet with you, give you a tour of the building, and introduce you to staff before you begin. If you prefer to contact her directly, she can be reached at jopeterson@rochester.k12.mn.us.

The following Monday-Thursday time slots are available at this time. Please check the materials in the Commons for updates as teachers submit their requests.

Newcomer Center (students new to the United States, some from refugee camps):
9:30-11:30 am, 12:30-1:30 pm, 1:30-3:00 pm
2nd-grade: 9:30-10:30 am, 1:00-1:30 pm, 1:30-2:00 pm
4th-grade: 1:40-2:15 pm
5th-grade: 12:00-12:30 pm

Monday-Friday opportunity: 8:50-9:20 am - Read with kids from during their 'Books and Breakfast'

program for Kindergarten to 2nd-grade students who do not get reading support at home. Students grab their breakfasts and go to the cafeteria to read before school. Volunteers will not be assigned the same student; they will read with students who show up.

Saturday Noon Meals

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$724.27 to Saturday Noon Meals for persons in need. Your gift will help us purchase meat and fresh fruit which are rarely available from Channel One. Your continuing support, not just with this gift, but with your willing volunteers. Thank you!

- Peace, Linda, SNM Coordinator

Volunteers needed for Saturday Noon Meals on October 28th

Saturday Noon Meals is Rochester's area soup-kitchen on Saturday, which is a Channel One agency. The mission is "To provide an attractively served nutritious meal in a warm, safe atmosphere for persons in need". Volunteers start preparation to serve 100 hungry guests at 9:00. Social time for the guest starts at 11:00 with appetizers. For the volunteers the information session is give from 11:00 to 11:30 which includes directions for serving the meal. 12 noon the meal is served family style - guest sit at the table and volunteers serve the tables. The meal is hosted at Christ United Methodist Church, 400 5th Avenue SW. Volunteers are needed in two shifts for the meal:

9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - 6 volunteers to cook and prepare the meal

11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - 8-10 volunteers to serve the meal and clean up afterward

Volunteers of all ages are welcome. A signup sheet is available in the Commons, or sign up online: [Saturday Noon Meals](#). Any questions contact Roxanne Schlasner 289-3959 or schlasner@usfamily.net

Happening at First UU

Next Meetings:

Board of Directors

Wednesday, October 18 / 7:00 pm / Conference Room

Program Council

Wednesday, November 1 / 7:15 pm / Commons

Save these Dates!

Saturday, November 11

Annual Service Auction

Friday-Saturday, December 1-2

Handcrafted Bazaar

Information about activities, events, classes and more is in our **Weekly eNews**, on the [HAPPENING AT FIRST UU](#) page on our website, and is available on Sunday morning.

Click either on the [link](#) or on the [image](#) for information about what's going on at church.



Upcoming Newsletters

Issue	Due Date
November	Monday, October 23
December	Monday, November 20



Care Coordinators

October 1-14	Marge Dalen & Jessie Finch
October 15-28	Kay Eberman
October 29-November 11	Paula Horner & Beth Plaetzer

Our Staff

Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer

Role

Minister

Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 9 am-3 pm

Contact

revluke@uurochmn.org

Jody Tharp

Congregational Co-Administrator

Monday thru Friday: 9 am-3 pm

office@uurochmn.org

Connie Schuelka

Congregational Co-Administrator

Monday, Wednesday-Friday

administration@uurochmn.org

9 am - 3 pm

Joyce Rood	Director of Religious Education	Sunday mornings, by appointment	dre@uurochmn.org
Melissa Egger	Congregational Life Coordinator	Wednesday, by appointment	congregationlife@uurochmn.org
Joe Mish & Connie Schuelka	Co-Directors of Music	by appointment	music@uurochmn.org
Derik Robertson	Youth Program Coordinator	by appointment	youthprogram@uurochmn.org
Jadyn Shumaker	Childcare Coordinator	Sunday mornings	childcare@uurochmn.org
Tom Rud	Custodian		through church office
Rev. Dillman Baker Sorrells	Minister Emerita		

Our Board Officers **Members at Large**

Jerry Katzmann, President	Charyssa Cobb
Gail Bishop, Vice-President	Randy Crawford
Ann Hutton, Secretary	Kate Thompson-Jewell
Garth Nelson, Treasurer	Greg Turosak
	Chris Wendt

First Unitarian Universalist Church / (507) 282-5209 / office@uurochmn.org
Office Hours / 9 am - 3 pm Monday through Friday

Prefer Not to Receive the Venture?

If you do not want to receive our monthly newsletter, the Venture, by DO want to remain on the church mailing list, please send an email to administration@uurochmn.org.

Caution: Clicking "SafeUnsubscribe" below puts your name on a DO NOT MAIL list for ALL Constant Contact communications from the Church.