



**Made for Joy with Rev. Kim Mason
March 19th, 2023
Order of Service**

Ringing of the Bowl

Judi Crouch

Welcome and Announcements

Judi Crouch

Prelude

Prelude on a Swedish Folk Tune by Alice Jordan

Earl Naylor, Organist

Call to Worship

Rev. Kim Mason

Hymn #323 Break Not the Circle

*Break not the circle of enabling love
where people grow, forgiven and forgiving;
break not that circle, make it wider still,
till it includes, embraces all the living.*

*Come, wonder at this love that comes to life,
where words of freedom are with humor spoken,
and people keep no score of wrong and guilt,
but will that human bonds remain unbroken.*

*Join then the movement of the love that frees,
till people of whatever race or nation
will truly be themselves, stand on their feet,
see eye to eye with laughter and elation.*

Lighting the Chalice

Judi Crouch

Sung Response

*There is always a light
When we are ready to see it
There is always a light
When we are ready to be it
To see the light, to be the light*

*To raise our eyes in the dark of night
To climb this hill
Together, we will - Be the light*
Words by Amanda Gorman, Music by Lea Morris

Story for All Ages *Antoinette Brown & Olympia Brown* by Jessica York

Danielle Kozemczak

Children's Recessional #118 This Little Light of Mine

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

Canvass Affirmation

Sam Rezansoff

Canvass Update

Emily Jaycox

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Kim Mason

Submit Joys and Concerns online at <https://forms.gle/WiHevqVTkCc3dWmC7>

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Kim Mason

Sung Response #123 Spirit of Life

*Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.*

Readings

The Laughter of Women by Lisel Mueller

Judi Crouch

Call for the Offering

Rev. Kim Mason

Text the dollar amount you wish to give to this number: 833-649-0088

Offertory Music

This Joy by Shirley Caesar Williams

First Unitarian Choir

This Joy That I Have, the world didn't give it to me.
This Joy That I Have, the world didn't give it to me.
This Joy That I Have, the world didn't give it to me.
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.
Following verses: Strength, Love, Pride, Peace, and Joy.

Sermon

Made for Joy

Rev. Kim Mason

Closing Hymn #1026 If Every Woman in the World

*If ev'ry woman in the world had her mind set on freedom,
if ev'ry woman in the world dreamed a sweet dream of peace,
if ev'ry woman of ev'ry nation,
young and old, each generation,
held her hands out in the name of love,
there would be no more war.*

*If ev'ry man in the world had his mind set on freedom,
if ev'ry man in the world dreamed a sweet dream of peace,
if ev'ry man of ev'ry nation,
young and old, each generation,
held his hands out in the name of love,
there would be no more war.*

*If ev'ry leader in the world shared a vision,
if ev'ry leader in the world shared a sweet dream of peace,
if ev'ry leader of ev'ry nation,
young and old, each generation,
worked for justice and liberation,
holding hands out in the name of love,
there would be no more war.*

*If ev'ry nation in the world set a true course for freedom,
if ev'ry nation raised its children in a culture of peace,
if all our sons and all our daughters
reached in friendship across the waters,
refusing to be enemies,
there would be no more war.*

Closing Words

Rev. Kim Mason

Extinguish the Chalice

Judi Crouch

Postlude

Prelude on "Azmon" by Alice Jordan

Earl Naylor, Organist

Serving Us This Morning
Ushers: Susan Lammert and Sherry Bassi
Greeters: Kathy Wire and Lisa Ross
AV Assistant: Tom Finan

*This morning's flowers are donated by Lynn Hunt in loving memory of her dear sister,
Beth Yarrington.*

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MUSIC NOTE

Alice Yost Jordan, 1916-2012, pursued graduate studies at Drake, Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary. Drake honored her during their centennial year as "One in a Hundred." Grand View University, in 1986, conferred the honorary degree, Doctor of Letters upon her, and in 2006 Drake bestowed the honorary degree Doctor of Fine Arts. Mrs. Jordan was listed in the first edition of Who's Who in American Women, and in Women in American Music.

She was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 2002. A widely-known composer, she was best known for more than 250 published choral and organ works and one of her best-known arrangements, "America the Beautiful," was sung many times by the Iowa All-state Chorus. Sherrill Milnes of Metropolitan Opera fame, and Jon Spong, his accompanist, chose her "Take Joy Home", as a closing work on many of their world-wide concerts, including a White House Concert. Over 40 of her works had been commissioned by churches, universities and other organizations across the United States.

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676 –1749) was a French musician, best known as an organist and composer. He began as the organist at the church of the Grands-Augustin's and entered the service of Madame de Maintenon. After the death of Louis XIV and Guillaume-Gabriel Nivers, he succeeded the latter at the organ of the church of Saint-Sulpice and the royal house of Saint-Cyr, an institution for young girls from the poor nobility. In 1719 he succeeded his teacher André Raison at the organs of the church of the Grands-Jacobins.

Shirley Ann Caesar-Williams (1938 -), is an American gospel singer. Her career began in 1951, when she signed to Federal Records at the age of 12. Throughout her seven decade career, Caesar has often been referred to as the "First Lady of Gospel Music", and "The Queen of Gospel Music".^[3] Additionally, she has won eleven Grammy Awards, fifteen Dove Awards, and fourteen Stellar Awards. Caesar has released over forty albums. She has participated in over 16 compilations and three gospel musicals. She has sold 2.2 million albums since 1991.

This Joy by Shirley Caesar Williams

This joy that I have

The world didn't give it to me (oh, oh, oh)

This joy that I have

The world didn't give it to me (don't you know that)

This joy that I have

The world didn't give it to me

Ooh I said, the world didn't give it

The world can't take it away

All this strength...

All this love...

All this pride...

All this peace...

All this joy...

**Welcome to this religious community
where we affirm the dignity, worth, and freedom
of all who enter our doors.**

Here we seek to live together in relationship and respect so that we may embrace and celebrate our differences. Understanding that we need not think alike to love alike, our religious values invite us to a shared journey of truth and meaning. Sincerity and connection guide our religious community, and call us into deeper association with ourselves and our world.

We welcome people of all ages, races, classes, ethnicities, abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities. First Unitarian Church of St. Louis is a *Welcoming Congregation* committed to the inclusion

of LGBTQIAA+ individuals, families and communities in the life of our congregation. We are a *Green Sanctuary Church*, committed to sustainable practices and ethical consumption on our building and grounds.

First Unitarian Church of St. Louis Yellow Pages

Weekly News from First Unitarian Church of St. Louis

Sunday March 19th 2023

Due to Cold Weather, outside events for Saturday March 18th have been rescheduled!

- Gardening Day Rescheduled for Saturday April 1st, 9:30am
- Black Lives Matter Restart Rescheduled for Saturday March 25th 10am

Worship Service

This Sunday March 19th, 2023

Made for Joy with Rev. Kim Mason

What better time than Women's History month to consider this question: "How much the world adapted to women in power over last 35ish years, and how far we might have to go? Join Rev. Kim as we explore this auction sermon topic.

Read this Sunday's Order of Service (<https://tinyurl.com/325aapyw>)

Sunday's flowers are donated by Lynn Hunt in loving memory of her dear sister, Beth Yarrington.

Watch This Service on YouTube! (<https://youtube.com/live/PLIX9Qzzqxs>)

Join Virtual Coffee Hour After Service!

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81842582434?pwd=dThVUXR1clhTMVBFbmRYa0l3OVlKZz09>)

Joys and Concerns

Joys

Many thanks to all that helped make the Unfish Fry a huge success!

Concerns

Sending healing thoughts to...

*long time member **Jim Voigt**, who is in the hospital after a recent surgery.*

***Donald Jeffries**, who is recovering from a recent injury*

As a church community, each of us is an integral part of the care and concerns network. SHARE a Joy or Concern with us by clicking the button below or email your joy or concern to careandconcern@firstuustlouis.org

(<mailto:careandconcern@firstuustlouis.org?subject=Joy%20and%20Concern>)

Share a Joy or Concern (<https://forms.gle/c4VnpozjVLhQoJff7>)

Religious Education This Sunday

Story for All Ages - Antoinette Brown and Olympia Brown

Children and Youth are encouraged to attend service with their families. After the Story For All Ages Children and youth will exit the sanctuary and head to their classrooms. The Nursery will be open for childcare.

RE Classes This Sunday!

- Nursery - Loving childcare for 0-3 years old
- Preschoolers - Chalice Children - THE WONDER OF WEATHER
- K-2 Wonderful Welcome - THE GIFT OF INVITATION
- 3-6th History of Religion - Judaism #2
- 7-9th Our Whole Lives - **CANCELED**
- 10/11/12th Youth Group - Game Day

Check out RE This Week! (https://mailchi.mp/firstuustlouis.org/re-this-week-sunday-03_19_23)

Events After Service

Sunday March 19th 11:15am - 12:15am

Newcomer Chat (Dodson Room)

Are you new to the church? Join Rev. Kim and members of the Memberships Committee for a casual chat about our congregation, UUism, and any questions you bring!

Spring Equinox Celebration

Sunday March 19th 11:30am in Hope Chapel

Please join the ERDE group for a Spring Equinox Ritual!

We will offer the opportunity to celebrate, remember and share about this seasonal change and what it means to us.

Young Adult Group Monthly Meeting

Sunday March 19th 12:30pm Kaldi's Coffee (700 De Mun Ave)

It's that time again! The Young Adult Group will be meeting at either Forest Park or at Kaldi's on De Mun this Sunday. The weather will ultimately decide our meeting place & due to the activities, this month's meeting won't be available via Zoom.

This Week at First UU STL

Monday March 20th

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Crouch/Feinberg Covenant Group (Dodson Room)

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Canvass Committee (online)

Tuesday March 21st

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Yokota/Franklin Covenant Group

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm UUA Common Read Discussion Group (C1 & online)

Wednesday March 22nd

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Worship Committee (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Saturday March 25th

10:00 am - 11:00 am Black Lives Matter Social Witness

Sunday March 26th

10:00 am - 11:00 am Worship Service (Sanctuary & Online)

11:30 am - 12:30 pm Building Update Meeting (Sanctuary)

11:30 am - 12:30 pm Maker's Ministry (C7)

Next Sunday Worship Service

Sunday March 26th 10am - The Ministry of Both/And Redux with Rev. Kim Mason

What better time than Women's History month to consider this question: "How much the world adapted to women in power over last 35ish years, and how far we might have to go? Join Rev. Kim as we explore this auction sermon topic.

Designated Collection Next Sunday

St. Martha's Hall

St. Martha's Hall provides emergency shelter services for women and children as well as education and counseling to break the cycle of abuse. Nominated by Kimberly Perry

Upcoming Church Events

First UU STL Litter Pick-up

Saturday, March 25th 9:30 AM

First U. is responsible for doing litter pick-ups along Forest Parkway between Big Bend and Skinker Boulevards four times a year. You may have noticed the roadway "adoption" signs with our name on them along that segment! We will gather in the parking lot north of Snarf's (360 N. Skinker Blvd.), where the sign specifies parking for Grace Methodist Church and Snarf's. Those interested can enjoy lunch together after our work is complete. For liability reasons, this activity is limited to adults only. Please let Tom Crouch know by Friday, March 24, if you can help.

Black Lives Matter Restart

Saturday March 25th, 10:00am

Gather on Kingshighway alongside our church building. Bring signs and appropriate gear for the weather. This event is coordinated by the Toward Justice Group and Kevin Kellogg is the coordinator.

Congregational Building Update Meeting (Sanctuary & Online)

Sunday 3/26 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

The RE wing roof needs to be replaced! This presentation will explain the plan to repair the roof in anticipation of an upcoming congregational vote on funding. Please attend so you can be an informed voter! For more details, please see the President's Corner below.

Lecanemab- the New Alzheimer's Treatment with Dr. Stan Birge

March 28th at 1:00PM (Fellowship Hall and on Zoom)

On January 6, 2023, Lecanemab, gained accelerated approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of patients with early Alzheimer disease. Dr. Stanley Birge, a noted physician will be presenting a program on this timely topic.

This program is sponsored by the First U of STL Women's Alliance. All are welcome to attend this free program. If you are not a member of the Women's Alliance and would like the Zoom link or a copy of Dr. Birge's handout before the presentation, please contact lhunt@firstuustlouis.org (mailto:lhunt@firstuustlouis.org)

Gardening Day

Saturday April 1st, 9:30am

It is spring and the Landscaping Committee needs your help! Please meet in front of the church at 9:30am. Bring gloves, a water bottle, and any tools you have.

Canvass Brunch (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, April 2nd 11:30 am

On Sunday, April 2nd we will celebrate the conclusion of our annual pledge canvass with an all church brunch! This brunch will be in Fellowship Hall after worship service.

Help Needed!

Just as Canvass requires all of us, so too will this brunch.

Baked Goods and Fruit Salad

Sign up Here: <https://forms.gle/iZbTwY3heEq4pwzZ9>

Set Up & Take Down

Sign up Here: <https://forms.gle/AmAyeFr7iG5RfUoo8>

Saturday April 15th 6pm: Trivia Thru the Decades!

First UU of St. Louis 2023 Trivia Night

Test your knowledge and have fun with your friends, all while supporting our religious education program. A table of 8 is \$200 or individual tickets are \$25. Click the button below to register and pay for a table or individual ticket.

Register for Trivia Night 2023! (<https://first-unitarian-church-of-st-louis.square.site/>)

ARREST III: Economic Justice

April 20th, 27th, May 4th and 11th 7-9pm

In this workshop series we will examine the structure of our current economic systems and unpack some of the underlying assumptions that create or widen the economic disparities. Understanding the causes of the economic disparity along racial, ethnic, and sexual lines can help us address these disparities in more productive ways. All sessions are currently scheduled to be held via Zoom.

Register for ARREST III: Economic Justice

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScgvqY_RC2kv8Wo2OAAM3-PtzjLxeHCr25YpJolznXBxwNAsw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Church News

Canvass 2023-2024 - Sustain the Flame

Our canvass theme for 2023 is 'Sustain the Flame'. In the spirit of good stewardship, we are all asked to make a responsible annual pledge to keep our church open and thriving. Pledges are essential in operating and maintaining our building in good repair, fairly compensating staff, and maintaining and providing quality worship experiences and programming.

Pledge Now! (<https://lyhunt56.wufoo.com/forms/z10ghj1r05ra81k/>)

Women's Alliance Opportunity Shop

The OP Shop is having a big sale on artwork. Take a look around Fellowship Hall to view the great deals.

Urgently hiring Nursery Childcare Worker

Part Time Sunday 9:30am-12:30am

Must be 18 years old or older. \$15/hour

Please send resume to dkozem@firstuustlouis.org (<mailto:dkozem@firstuustlouis.org>)

View Job Description

(<https://www.firstuustlouis.org/sites/default/files/Nursery%20and%20Child%20Care%20Provider%202022.docx.pdf>)

Minister's Column - Generosity

by Rev. Kim Mason

Confession time. When I first saw the proposed Article II values, I wasn't sure I liked them. Initially, all I received was the diagram and I immediately thought, "How am I going to explain that?" Then when I read the full report and understood the new Article II to be an articulation of our values, I really got on board. Just as we had a discussion in January about the values of First Unitarian STL, this is a statement of our explicit values as Unitarian Universalists. LOVE it.

I could write a whole piece on each value, but the one that is timely is Generosity. Here is how Generosity is explained as a value in the Article II Study Commission report: "Generosity. We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope. We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality."

Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality. If that's not a definition of church, then I'm in the wrong field. I remember during the pandemic when neighbors checked on each other, when friends ran errands for folks with COVID, when membership called each person in the congregation. We realized in those first months that we needed each other - that it was only by our communal efforts to keep each other safe that we would make it through. That is interdependence.

I see it here at church all the time. The same people who provide rides to appointments one month need a ride the next month. We may assist with a memorial service reception one year and need help for a memorial service reception the next year. Interdependence is both giving and receiving - it is a relationship of reciprocity. When our efforts support our common thriving, then we are in a relationship of mutuality.

Where and how are you sustained by First Unitarian? Where and how are you sustaining the church? How are we thriving together? When we build systems of reciprocity and mutuality we are living into our UU value of generosity. During this pledge Canvass, you're invited to consider the ways in which you give and receive here at First Unitarian and how we live into a UU value of Generosity together.

You can schedule pastoral appointments with Rev. Kim at your convenience. Click the button below and choose the date that works best for you - no account necessary.

Schedule an Appointment with Rev. Kim Mason (<https://calendly.com/kmason-7>)

President's Column- Building Update

by Steve Wilke

Back in May when I was elected President, I announced our yearly focus was renewal. I had imagined our focus would be renewal in a spiritual, emotional sense. Real life issues made it clear that the physical church building is now also a primary concern.

As many of you know, the flat roof in our RE wing has been failing for quite some time. It is now more than 40 years old and well past his expected life span. The Facilities committee spent the year investigating the best way to resolve our roofing issues. With the approval of the Board, they had experts examine the roof to come up with a solution. It became clear the roof needed to be replaced. With the blessing of the Board, Facilities obtained several bids to repair or replace the roof. After thorough discussion, Facilities recommended we replace the roof so that it would not be an ongoing problem.

This past Monday, March 13, the board unanimously approved a contract with Bartch Roofing, a well respected contractor specializing in commercial roofs. (Please click here to read references for Bartch Roofing). I signed the contract March 14, and we will learn soon when our church will get on their schedule.

The Board held a lengthy discussion on the right course of action. Ultimately, the Board felt comfortable approving the bid because it was approved both by the Facilities and Finance Committees.

The bid we approved was for \$95,000, which is a significant amount of money. Now that the contract has been signed, we as a congregation need to decide how to fulfill our duties under the contract. Put another way, we need to determine how we should pay for the new roof.

In our discussions with the Finance Committee, we determined we had three choices:

- * Obtain a loan from a bank at a time when interest rates are high and unattractive
- * Take the money from the general fund and deplete it to a dangerous level
- * Take the money from the Endowment

While none of the options are easy, it is the Board and Finance Committee's recommendation to take the money from the Endowment. Our bylaws require us to have a Congregational vote to take such a large amount from the endowment. So now I am calling on our members to help finish the job.

Rev. Kim, the Board, Finance, and Facilities are planning informational meetings in the weeks ahead to explain the issue and our actions. We hope to answer many questions and take comments from our members. We will have a meeting March 26 after church (in person and online), and a virtual meeting April 2, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Our plan is to call a congregational meeting on April 23, 2023 to vote on the issue of funding this project.

Thank you all!

Steve Wilke, Policy Board President

**Chartreuse Spring,
by Tony Fathman**

Chartreuse Spring coiled tightly still, pale green wrap, 'gainst winter's chill,
budding promise unfulfilled. Each cool night a test of will.
Fragile, timid Chartreuse Spring, young voice piping out to sing
against the howling white wolf king whose snow frocked mantle chokes and clings.
But frozen fangs must loose their grip, and julip summer soon will sip
sweet nectar from the life that fits quite nicely in a Chartreuse crypt.
Yes life, not death, is buried there, you hear it stirring in the air.
A pale green voice so soft and rare the listener must STOP, and stare
in wonder at the sound of life, the green spring lute , the silver fife,
where warm earth yearns the ploughman's knife , where sun and soil are man and wife,
where seed in soil once more will bring forth fruit to bear, bells will ring
the sound of life, we all must sing, playing now in Chartreuse Spring.

UUA News

Register Now for the 2023 Spring Seminar!

The UU Office at the United Nations, UU College of Social Justice, UU Service Committee, and Side With Love are excited to announce that the 2023 Intergenerational Spring Seminar will take place April 1-3, 2023. The event will be in-person in Minneapolis, MN, with online participation options. Register Now For UU@UN Spring Seminar (<https://www.uua.org/international-justice/un/spring-seminar/register>)

Staff

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