



Religious Education Sunday

Rev. Kim Mason

June 1st, 2025

Order of Service

Ringling of the Bowl & Welcome

Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant

Prelude *On "Sanctus" (Mass V)* by John Lee

Allen Hoffman, organ

Call to Worship

Rev. Kim Mason

Opening Hymn #361 Enter, Rejoice and Come In (three verses)

Allen Hoffman

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Today will be a joyful day;

enter, rejoice, and come in.

Open your ears to the song...

Open your hearts ev'ryone...

Chalice Lighting

Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant

Sung Response

Allen Hoffman

Come as we light this candle of memory.

Come as we light this candle of hope.

Come as we light this candle of reverence.

Come into the flame. Come into the flame.

Words and Music by Tony Fathman

Time for All Ages

The Ugly Vegetables by Grace Lin

First Unitarian Youth Group

Teacher Recognition

RE Committee

Hymn #301 Touch the Earth, Reach the Sky

Touch the earth, reach the sky!

Walk on shores while spirits fly

over the ocean, over the land,

our faith a quest to understand.

Touch the earth, reach the sky!

Children ask the reasons why.

In our lives the answers show,

and by our love they learn and grow.

*Touch the earth, reach the sky!
All are born and all shall die;
life's the time left in between,
to follow a star, to build a dream.*

*Touch the earth, reach the sky!
Hug the laughter, feel the cry.
May we see where we can give,
for this is what it means to live.*

*Touch the earth, reach the sky!
Soar with courage ever high;
spirits joining as we fly,
to touch the earth, to reach the sky.*

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Kim Mason

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Kim Mason

Sung Response #123 Spirit of Life

Allen Hoffman

*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.*

Reading

What Do You Do With an Idea?
By Kobi Yamada

Rev. Kim Mason

Reflection

Living Into These Liminal Times

Dr. Michele Grove

Call for the Offering

Rev. Kim Mason

Offertory

A Million Dreams
By Benj Pasek and Justin Paul

Caitlin Hill

Gratitude

Rev. Kim Mason

Reflection

Imagining Our Future

Rev. Kim Mason

Bridging

Rev. Kim Mason, Deborah Cavanaugh Grant, Caitlin Hill

Hymn #352 We Laugh, We Cry

Allen Hoffman

*We laugh, we cry, we live, we die; we dance, we sing our song.
We need to feel there's something here to which we can belong.*

*We need to feel the freedom just to have some time alone.
But most of all we need close friends we can call our very own.*

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;

and we have found a need to be together.

*We have our hearts to give, we have our thoughts to receive;
and we believe that sharing is an answer.*

Closing Words

Rev. Kim Mason

Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary by Stanley Sexton

Allen Hoffman, organ

With this morning's flowers, the Religious Education Committee would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all teachers and volunteers for their dedication to our RE program. We appreciate your time, energy, and love for our children and youth.

We also thank parents, grandparents, children, and youth for participating in classes, youth groups, and social events. Our program wouldn't exist without your support.

Serving Us This Morning

Ushers: Sheryll Coulter and Nadine Vlietstra

Greeters: Sherry & Carl Bassi

A/V Assistant:

Music Notes

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**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

(314) 361-0595 5007 Waterman Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63108 <https://www.firstuustlouis.org/>

Weekly E-News from First Unitarian Church of St. Louis

Worship Service

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

Religious Education Sunday - Rev. Kim Mason

This Sunday we recognize our children, families, and religious education leaders after a year of learning and growing together. We will also honor our High School Graduates! It promises to be a wonderful day of much-needed celebration.

Watch this Service on YouTube!

<https://youtube.com/live/AdxzTAPEjSA>

Join Virtual Coffee Hour After the Service!

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

This Week at First UU STL

Sunday, June 1st, 2025

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Worship Service (in person and online)

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - Love at the Center Book Club (online)

Monday, June 2nd, 2025

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Social Justice Group (online)

Tuesday, June 3rd, 2025

11:00 am - 12:00 pm - Women's Alliance (online)

Thursday, June 5th, 2025

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - Herzog Covenant Group

Saturday, June 7th, 2025

9:00 am - 10:00 am - Human Rights Social Witnessing (Kingshighway)

Sunday, June 8th 2025

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Worship Service (in person and online)

12:00 am - 2:30 pm - Church Picnic (Turkish Pavilion - Tower Grove Park)

Upcoming Services

June 2025 Theme - Freedom

June 8th - From the Arctic Circle to the Caribbean - Rev. Mason

June 15th - Thick and Thin - Rev. Mason

June 22nd - Summer Solstice - ERDE

June 29th - tbd

Are you resilient?

Do you want to be?

During the Sunday service August 17th, we will be celebrating resilience.

We are looking for members and friends to be a part of this service by sharing a reflection, story, poem, or music on the theme of resilience.

We can work with you on development and presentation of your offering if you wish.

Please contact Tom Finan, Annette Peterson, or Lynn Hunt if you are interested in participating.

Joys and Concerns

Joys

Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors: **Charlie Haegele, Martina Munie, Avery O’Laughlin, Conal Deason and Aerin Wilke.**

Laura and John Zacher recently celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary – Congrats!

Gwenne and Joel Hickman are delighted to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Hailey Nicole, born on May 14, in Wilmington, Delaware.

Concerns

Healing thoughts to **Jeannie Robertson** who is home recuperating after a recent hospitalization due to pneumonia.

Wishing a speedy recovery to **Joel Knapp** is home recovering after a recent ankle surgery.

Thoughts of compassion and support to our **members** who are dealing with damage and continued power outage due to the tornado. We also hold in our hearts everyone in the **wider community** who is coping with catastrophic loss at this time.

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

Submit Joy or Concern Online

(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdeSrftkA6h7HR77ZJfDI4K3Xr8lF17IBeY9tZgdzU_bjKT_Vw/viewform)

Religious Education for Children

This Sunday 6/1 10am-11am

Children will be in the service with their families for Religious Education Sunday.

Nursery is open for younger children.

Church News & Events

UU Picnic!

Tower Grove Park, Turkish Pavilion

Sunday, June 8th, 12 pm

Join us for a gathering of UUs! There will be a Potluck lunch with games for all ages. If your last name starts with A-F please bring a salad. G-L a main dish or casserole. M-Q a dessert. R-Z a side dish.

PLEASE LABEL INGREDIENTS FOR ALLERGENS, VEGETARIAN, VEGAN. Plan to take your dish when you leave - even if it's disposable. Help with clean-up will be greatly appreciated.

Cups, plates, silverware, ice and water provided.

Love at the Center Book Club. Next meeting time is Sunday June 1 at 7PM (Zoom). We will be exploring the theme of transformation and discussing *Tattoos on the Heart* by Greg Boyle.

Exciting volunteer opportunities with Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom School this Summer!

This is a volunteer opportunity that fits perfectly with our congregation's lifelong history of supporting education and youth, as well as our mission and vision of becoming more involved with our community.

Beyond Housing coordinates 4 CDF Freedom Schools in St. Louis, for grades K-5. CDF Freedom Schools are an amazing summer experience for young scholars, focusing on literacy. The emphasis is on developing a love of reading while interweaving literacy with creating community, empowerment and social action. Children, parents, and staff are introduced to a superb collection of books that reinforce the CDF Freedom Schools' theme "I Can Make a Difference". This collection is part of an Integrated Reading Curriculum (IRC) in which books, activities, field trips, and games all relate to and reinforce each other. The literacy program and books, meals, afternoon activities, field trips and celebrations are all at no cost to students (called "scholars"). Literacy testing is done at the beginning and end of the program, and scholars frequently improve by as much as several reading levels. Here is a link to more information and a short video: <https://deaconess.org/cdf-freedom-schools/>.

First Unitarian's Social Justice team is excited about the possibility of hosting a Freedom School ourselves next summer, and we need your help this summer to volunteer at one of the current sites! The site locations in need of volunteers are The Deaconess Foundation, The Legacy Foundation and Christ the King UCC. This year's session will be June 16-July 25.

There are many volunteer opportunities with a variety of time commitments – helping to serve breakfast or lunch, sitting and conversing with the kids during meals, reading aloud, assisting with or leading afternoon activities, and chaperoning field trips. Here is a link to volunteer for those at various sites (you have to scroll down a little): <https://beyondhousing.org/volunteer-opportunities/>.

We hope that you are as excited as we are about the opportunity to support children in this amazing literacy and empowerment program!

The Social Justice Committee is launching a task force to work on immigrants' rights.

In this time of stepped-up attacks on immigrants, particularly immigrants of color, our call to stand with people who are under attack is more important than ever. As these people have been singled out as scapegoats for the ills of America, the moral and ethical foundation of our own religious beliefs tell us we must help, shelter, and defend humans, from both the governmental and nongovernmental attacks they are experiencing.

The task force will work on education, social relief programs, collaborating with other existing organizations that are already doing this work, and where appropriate taking direct action. If you are interested in working on any of these projects, sign-up below or Fellowship Hall. Also, you can speak with Kevin Kellogg at the back of the church after service.

Women's Alliance Scholarship

The Women's Alliance of the First Unitarian Church of St. Louis Announces its Scholarship Competition for the academic year 2025-2026

Materials due by July 31st, 2025

Initiated by a generous bequest from the estate of Edna Landzettel, a lifelong teacher and proponent of the importance of education in a woman's life, the scholarship will be given to a woman who is 21 years or older, responsible financially for continuing her education, a member or active friend of a Unitarian Universalist church or fellowship in the region and a registered student.

The award of \$5,000 will be made on the basis of scholarship, character and need.

[To apply you can download a full packet of information \(including printable application and reference form\).](#)

Or [Apply Online](#) and submit the [Online Reference Form](#).

Social Justice Opportunities Facebook Page

The social justice committee has created a Facebook group page for sharing of information about social action opportunities in a timely fashion. The page is called First Unitarian St. Louis Social Action Opportunities

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/910632344477376/>

It Is a closed group, so you have to request membership, but membership is open to all members and friends of First Unitarian Church of St. Louis.

Margaret Weck for the Social Justice Committee

Online Giving is Easier than Ever Before!

Our online giving platform, Vanco, is now easier to use than ever before. You can easily set up regular pledge payments, donate to specific funds or purchase tickets to church events on our new web based site (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZCVK/home>) or you can install the app on your phone (this is ideal for Sunday morning offering). Use the QR code below to download the app. Any questions – contact Administrator, Lynn Hunt.



Pastoral Appointments

To set-up an appointment with Rev. Kim, please use this link: <https://calendly.com/kmason-7>

Our Mission

We strive to be a welcoming congregation, inspiring lives of loving kindness and integrity by nurturing spirituality, building community, and advancing justice

** Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FirstUnitarianSTL>)

** https://www.instagram.com/first_unitarian_stl/ (https://www.instagram.com/first_unitarian_stl/)**

Website (<https://www.firstuustlouis.org/>)

** YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@FirstUnitarianSTL>)

** TikTok (<https://www.tiktok.com/t/ZT84oXuQM/>)

Our mailing address is:
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(314) 361-0595

Staff

Rev. Kim Mason, Minister
Michele Grove, Interim Remote Director of Religious Education (mgrove@firstuustlouis.org)
Lynn Hunt, Administration & Programs (lhunt@firstuustlouis.org)
Augustine Underwood, Office Asst. (aunderwood@firstuustlouis.org)
Allen Hoffman, Organist
Joel Knapp, Choir Director
Moe Hurst, A/V Technician (mhurst@firstuustlouis.org)

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Erin Milligan, Outreach & Engagement
Grace Munie, Programming Cluster