

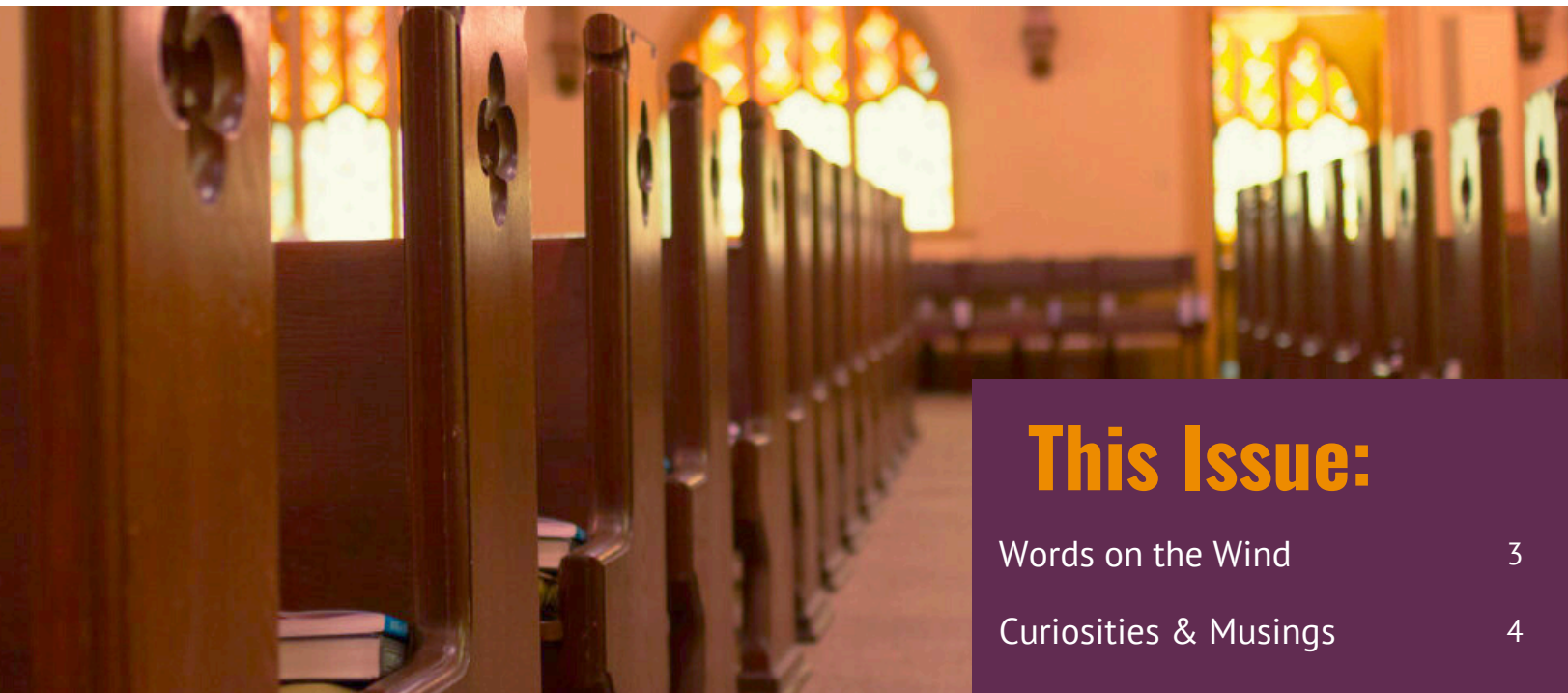
OCTOBER 2026



THE CHANTICLEER

The First Unitarian Society
of Milwaukee

nurture. engage. inspire.



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Monthly Theme

*What does it mean
to be a people*

Courage

Inside News

by the *Chanticleer* Editors

A feeling of trepidation appears throughout our community, but at First Church, we work together through partnerships and our social justice groups to make a meaningful difference in today’s current affairs. Below is a list of opportunities for everyone to get involved and inspire action as we approach the November elections. More information is found in this Chanticleer.

October 4	Post Card Writing	At Church
October 11	Non Violent Resistance Training	At Church
October 11, 19 & 26	MICAH Canvassing and Cookout	Friendship Baptist Church
October 20	Vote Early & Rally	Zeidler Municipal Building
November 3	Election Day & Be a Poll Protector	Various locations in Milwaukee
November 4	Post Election Day Reflection Space	At Church

Subscribe to Weekly Announcements.

First Church Facebook Group

Share the Plate

Lynde Uihlein
Share the Plate Chair

Courage+ is an LGBTQ+ affirming organization dedicated to providing safe and inclusive housing, supportive programming, and community-centered care for youth and young adults both in and out of out-of-home care. They provide trauma-informed care catering to the LGBTQ+ community, education, and reliable data-supported thought leadership, giving LGBTQ+ youth a sense of community centered around care, safety, and acceptance while bringing about real systemic change.

Among their programs is Courage House, a licensed, trauma-informed group home for LGBTQ+ youth ages 12 to 18. Young people often arrive after experiencing circumstances no child should have to navigate alone. Many have endured rejection, disrupted foster-care placements, trauma, and systems that failed to affirm who they are. Some have learned that being honest about their identities can put their housing, relationships, or personal safety at risk. Courage House is the only licensed group home in Wisconsin created specifically for LGBTQ+ youth in foster care.

The scope of the need is astounding, as it is estimated there are currently over 2,000 LGBTQ+ kids in foster care in Wisconsin alone. Courage+ also offers a Bridge to Independence, apartments that provide transitional living arrangements for LGBTQ+ youth post Foster Care.

Donate to this STP Partner



Words on the Wind

by Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

Dear First Church,

Courage, our theme for October, is contagious. Our bodies respond to other bodies around us, so when one person has the courage to rise and resist oppression, it helps others do so as well. Courage can even be contagious within your own mind. If there is just one part of you that feels courageous, you can feed that courage, turning your attention to the part that knows your worth and your power, and let that courage spread within your own system.

How can you feed courage today, within yourself, or in the community around you? What calls for courage from you right now?

Our First Church community is doing some courageous things together this month:

- Non-Violent Resistance Training for People of Faith on October 11 from 1- 4 p.m. at First Church.
- Vote Early Rally and Press Conference on October 20. Meet at 12:00 p.m. at the Zeidler Municipal Building. [More info HERE.](#)

- Protect the Polls Poll Chaplains with the Wisconsin Council of Churches and Voces de la Frontera on Election Day, Nov 3. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/UUPollProtector>.

Join in doing something courageous this month. Feed the courage within, and live with courage in your own heart, life, and community! We'll see you in church.

Love,

Rev. Jennifer

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister



Kimberlee's Contemplations

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson



Courage is not a virtue I am drawn to. The word carries cultural baggage for me. When I hear courage, I picture firefighters entering a burning building, or people facing physical danger. These examples leave most of us on the sidelines. They make courage seem exceptional, something possessed by heroes rather than ordinary people.

I had to work to embrace the spiritual dimensions of courage, by looking at the word itself and listening to voices that challenge my understanding. The word courage comes from the Latin root *cor*, meaning “heart.” This shifts the focus. Courage is not simply fearlessness; it is acting from the heart.

Maya Angelo captures this when she stated, “Courage is the most important of all the virtues, because without courage you can’t practice any other virtue consistently. You can practice any virtue erratically, but nothing consistently without courage.”

Her words invite us to reconsider courage. Compassion, justice, and love require courage. Honesty and humility require courage when they call us beyond what is comfortable. It takes courage to love when there is no guarantee that love will be returned. It takes courage to tell the truth when a lie is easier. It takes courage to stand for justice when silence would be safer. It takes courage to remain open-hearted in a world that gives us plenty of reasons to close ourselves off.

True courage is the choice to act in service of deeply held value despite fear, uncertainty, or doubt. Courage asks us to remain faithful to what matters most. It is acting from the heart even when fear is present. This is the kind of courage I witness in our faith community.

Living a courageous life means recognizing that fear and refusing to let it determine our path. We cannot outwit fear, outrun it, or wait for it to disappear. Instead, we are called to move forward with it, guided by the values that give life purpose and meaning. Courage is the quiet, daily practice of following the heart where it leads.

One of the gifts of our faith community is that we do not practice courage alone. We encourage one another, challenge one another, and lend one another strength when our own courage feels thin. This month, our First Church community offers many opportunities to practice courage together:

October 4: Faith Formation Volunteer Orientation
October 7: Big Questions with Little People
October 11: Non-Violent Resistance Training
October 20: Vote Early and In Person Coalition

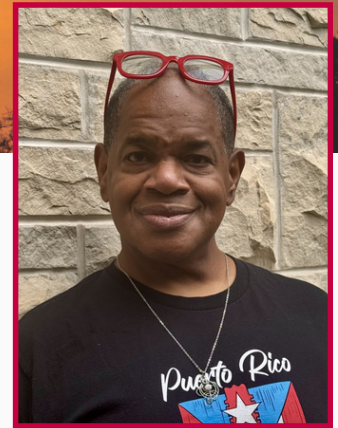
I know I will see you many of you there brave ones!
May we continue together in love and good company on the journey,

Kimberlee
Minister of Faith Formation



Curiosities & Musings

by Rev. Chris Long



“Courage”

When thinking of the October 2026 Soul Matters theme of “courage”, one song sprang to mind from The Wizard of Oz, the old classic film that some still watch annually, if not more often. “If I Only Had a Heart”. Some of the lyrics of the song read, “The Tinsman forgot to give me a heart!” as stated by one of the main characters, The Tinman. Two of the other main characters, Dorothy and the Scarecrow, who were listening to the Tinman and they responded curiously, “No Heart?”. The Tinman continues to sing

“When a man's an empty kettle he should be on his mettle, And yet I'm torn apart. Just because I'm presumin' that I could be kind-a-human, If I only had a heart I'd be tender - I'd be gentle and awful sentimental Regarding love and art. I'd be friends with the sparrows ... and the boys who shoots the arrows If I only had a heart....”

The word mettle had me rushing off to the online Merriam Webster's dictionary to learn what this word means. An adjective, mettle means “a: vigor and strength of spirit or temperament.” Mettle is also a synonym for “courage”. Also, from Merriam Webster's online: courage - “mental or moral strength to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty”.

I am nearly certain each of us has faced a multitude of challenges in our lives. How have you mustered

the courage, resources and relationships to move into and through such challenges. As important, as a Unitarian Universalist, or someone who is new to Unitarian Universalism, have there been spiritual or moral resources that you have depended on in such times? Have there been people of our First Church community that have been of support for you as you engaged in such times?

On October 11, 2026, the title and theme of that Service will be, “Meaning Making: Overcoming Shame, together”. The music for this service, and as always, just might be a source that continues to pull us through almost anything.

Rev. Chris Long
Acting Assistant Minister

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The Courage to Open Your Heart

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister

Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director, and the Chancel Choir

Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson, Minister of Faith Formation

Nick Rummler, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service.](#)

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Meaning Making: Overcoming Shame Together

Rev. Chris Long, Acting Assistant Minister

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Dave Hoover, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

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I'm a Unicorn and I Can Fight!

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister

Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Chris Larson, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

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We Write the Story

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom, Senior Minister

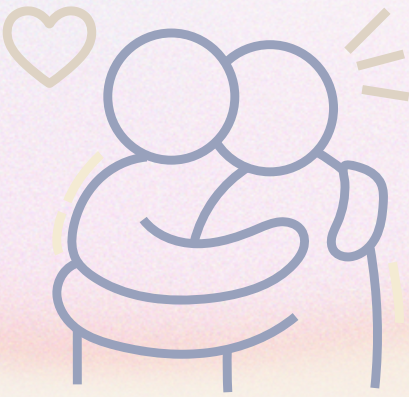
Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director, and the Chancel Choir

Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson, Minister of Faith Formation

Evan Marazewski, Worship Associate

[Click for info about this service](#)

Sunday Services at 9 and 11 a.m.



All in the Family

*Life is hard sometimes.
We experience sickness,
job loss, broken hearts, and broken bodies.
We want to support you through
those difficult times.*

We send our love and care to **Val Wright**.
Pammela Wright passed away on September 26,
2026. Pammela was 98 years old, and a member
of First Church for three years.

We send our comfort and care to **Nancy Cross
Dunham**, whose grandson, Archer was in a
swimming accident in Chicago. While doctors
expect Archer to make a full recovery, we send
our healing thoughts to Archer on the long
journey of healing ahead of him.

We send our comfort and care to **Jeanne Durnford**,
whose sister, Paula, died on August 18.

We send our healing and strength to **Meighan
Bentz**, and the entire Murray-Bentz family, as
Meighan continues to fight infections and
complications related to her cancer.

We send healing to **Jane Collis-Greers**, who broke
her knee cap in late August.

In Memoriam

Chris Zapf

April 7, 1958 - August 24, 2026

Chris Zapf died on Monday, August 24, 2026, at
Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee, with her
husband Steve Schutz by her side. Chris died
from injuries sustained from having a stroke
while on a bike ride on Tuesday, August 12,
2026.

Chris was 68 years old and a member of First
Church for thirty-five years.

The Memorial Service for Chris will be held on
October 17 at 11:00 a.m. at First Unitarian
Society of Milwaukee. A reception will follow
the service.

May we continue to hold Chris's memory, and
her family in the loving embrace of our First
Church community.

Be a Poll Protector

by Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom

In partnership with Voces de la Frontera, the Wisconsin Council of Churches (WCC), and WI Faith Voices, First Church is going to protect vulnerable polling locations on the South Side of Milwaukee as Poll Chaplains and Poll Chaplain Assistants. Our poll chaplain + assistant teams will serve as a grounding non-violent presence to encourage voters and help keep voting safe. We will also have a grounding faith presence at Central Count.

This is a great entry-level opportunity for people who want to get involved on election day. First Church members who want to join a team will attend one of the two WCC 90 minute virtual training sessions, either on October 6 at 10:00 a.m. or on October 8 at 6:00 p.m. All First Church folks will then you will be assigned an election day polling location and a shift with other First Church folks. To join a First Church team, register at <https://form.jotform.com/262524848345060>.

Post Election Processing Space at Church

Our First Church sanctuary will be open and staffed with a minister from 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 4, as a haven for you to be with your heart and spirit. A Pastoral Care Associate will join one of our ministers and be available to help you process your feelings.

If you are wrecked or joyful, confused or scared, we are here for you. You can drop by the church any time

between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. the day after the election and receive spiritual support or just sit in the sacred space of the sanctuary to integrate whatever has happened.

If it becomes clear we need a vespers to hold the community, we will announce that on November 4 via email to all our members and on our social media accounts. If we decide a vespers service is needed, we will likely it that day at 6:00 p.m.

Vote Early and In Person

by Michael Pointer Mace

This election year, the stakes are high. On the ballot are more than candidates and political parties. This year, voting itself is on the ballot. Join a coalition of faith-based leaders to encourage citizens to vote early and in person!

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee will be leading a press conference and rally on the first day of early, in-person voting on October 20 at 12:00 pm in front of the Zeidler Municipal Building, 841 N. Broadway. Let's keep it safe and simple! Bring baked goods for poll workers! Bring nonpartisan signs supporting the integrity of Milwaukee's election system! For up-to-date information, email michaelpointermace@gmail.com

Canvassing & Cookout: MICAH, First Church & Friendship Baptist Church

by Juanita Mast
Social Justice Committee

You are invited to join our MICAH team and our Partner church, Friendship Baptist, team for canvassing and a cookout celebration. We will canvass in the neighborhood near the Church at North and 9th Street to meet the neighbors, learn of their concerns, give voting information, and to invite them to a cookout at Friendship Baptist Church, 905 W. North Ave. Here are the details:

- Sunday, October 11 Meet at Friendship Baptist and canvass in the neighborhood from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 19 Canvass from Friendship Baptist - 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 24 Community Cookout at Friendship Baptist 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Food donations will be welcome.

We need at least 10 FUSM members for each event and will canvass with partners from the Friendship team. You are welcome to one or to all 3 events. If you are friendly, like to meet people, can walk a few blocks or can help with a cookout you are welcome. Training and conversation scripts will be provided.

Sign up at the Social Justice Table or call or email one of the team leads, Juanita Mast, at 414-748-2244 or juanita.mast@gmail.com, Ann Ritchey, 708-715-1588 or annkrans@gmail.com, or Pete Koneazny, pkonez@ameritech.net, 414-331-1029.



Educate and Engage Voters by Sending Postcards

by Juanita Mast
Social Justice Committee

Join with the Defend Democracy Team to Sunday October 4 to help educate voters and remind them to vote on November 3rd. We will write messages on postcards provided by WUUSAN. The messages will include reasons to reject the Constitutional Amendments on the ballot in November.

Meet in the Common Room after each service during Coffee Hours on Sunday, October 4. Postcards, names and addresses, sample messages and stamps will be provided. In a few minutes you can write messages that will help voters understand the importance of their votes.

BIG QUESTIONS WITH LITTLE PEOPLE

When it comes to the big questions that shape our lives, Unitarian Universalists understand that we cannot give our children certainty, but we can give them beauty.

Join Rev. Dr. Molly Housh Gordon for a reading of her new picture book *Dance Together, Spin Apart*, followed by a conversation with parents and caregivers. When we do the work to develop our own beautiful imagery and imaginings, we can talk with children about mortality and other existential issues both honestly and beautifully, giving them a sense of mystery and comfort alike.



OCTOBER 7, 6PM

6pm Pizza in Common Room

6:30pm-7:30pm

Rev. Molly in Max Otto Hall

Limited
Childcare
Available
with RSVP



Non-Violent Resistance Training

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

First Church will host a Nonviolence Training for People of Faith from across Milwaukee and Wisconsin. As we gather for the important work of strengthening democracy and building a more just and compassionate world, we'd like to offer a warm welcome and nourishing hospitality to all who attend. No RSVP is required, drop ins are welcome.

Finger Food Wanted for this Event

You can help by contributing a finger food to share during the training. Sweet treats, savory snacks, drinks and other easy-to-share items are all appreciated. Together, we can create a table of abundance that nourishes both body and spirit as participants engage in this meaningful work.

Thank you for helping First Church offer a welcoming and caring space for this important day.

FOOD SIGN UP HERE.

We welcome all who want to defend democracy through disciplined non-violence as an expression of faith. Clergy are especially encouraged to attend, with time set aside for a clergy caucus.

OCTOBER 11
1-4PM

HOSTED BY MICAHA & FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY



Guest House Sandwich Making Day Nov. 8

by Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson

Sliced bread, meat and cheese are needed for our big sandwich making day! To make 300+ sandwiches, we will need approximately 36 lbs. of sliced deli meat, 40 regular size loaves of sandwich bread, 300 slices of unwrapped cheese, and 300 zip-top bags. We hope you will consider donating sliced: bread, cheese or meat for our sandwich making day.

On Sunday, November 8th, our Faith Formation program is partnering with Guest House to learn about homelessness in Milwaukee and help feed people in need. Guest House provides approximately 300 sandwiches every day to people in our community. Our goal is to make enough sandwiches for one day. Everyone is welcome to join us after the first service to make sandwiches and help feed the hungry from 10-10:45 am.

Donations can be dropped off at church in the downstairs refrigerator. The church is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. All donations need to be at church by Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on November 8. Let us know what you can donate by signing up-THANK YOU!

SIGN UP FOR SANDWICH SUPPLY DONATIONS HERE!

Friends of Jack Forbes Wilson Fund

Tristan Strelitzer
Choral director

Our church community marked the one-year anniversary of the unexpected passing of our beloved former music director, Jack Forbes Wilson, at our September 27 Sunday Services. Jack passed away unexpectedly from Pancreatic Cancer on September 29, 2025, shortly after returning to Milwaukee from Lincoln, Nebraska to perform Milwaukee Chamber Theatre's production of Old Wicked Songs. We honored Jack with memorial flowers for the service and asked folks to light a candle in his memory.

Friend of Jack and church member, Juliet Hills, brought the idea to our music ministry team of establishing a fund in his memory. Your donations will be used to help fund our Choral Scholar program that we established back in 2019, a program Jack loved and supported wholeheartedly. The Choral Scholar program provides a paid internship for section leaders in our Chancel Choir.

If you would like to donate in Jack's memory, you can either write a check to "FUSM" and in the memo write "Friends of Jack Forbes Wilson" or give at the following link by selecting "Non-Pledge Gift" from the drop-down menu and writing "Friends of Jack Forbes Wilson" in the memo space: <https://onrealm.org/FUSM/give/FirstChurch>

May we remember and honor Jack as a wonderful, kind, and talented man, along with the amazing contributions he made to our First Church community.

Feast for Funds is Back! Silent Auction in November

by JoAnn Bishop and Scot Henry
Feast for Funds Committee

One of the most fun things about Feast for Funds is that you get to create the experience! Start thinking about something you love to cook, make, teach, share, or do—and imagine inviting others into it.

Maybe you've always wanted to host an international dinner featuring the foods and traditions of a favorite country. Maybe you have a unique skill, hobby, talent, or passion that you could share with others. Or perhaps you and a few friends could collaborate on an unforgettable evening that none of us could create alone.

The possibilities are endless—and the best part is that these gatherings are about so much more than raising funds. They're about bringing people together, sharing what makes us unique, making new connections, and having a whole lot of fun along the way.

So grab a friend, start brainstorming, and let your imagination run wild. What could you host? Who could you partner with? What would make people say, "I definitely want to be there!"?

We can't wait to see what you come up with! Let the dreaming—and the feasting—begin! 🎉

FUSM Shirts or Sweatshirts

by Alexis Felix

Looking for a new way to celebrate your connection to First Unitarian Society? Check out our new collection of Society gear! From comfortable T-shirts and tank tops to cozy sweatshirts and hoodies, there's something for every season and every style.

Whether you're strolling through a Milwaukee neighborhood festival, volunteering in the community, heading to the gym, meeting friends for coffee, or traveling beyond Wisconsin, our gear is a fun and easy way to represent First Unitarian Society wherever life takes you.

Be a visible reminder of the welcoming, inclusive, and vibrant community we're building together. It can spark conversations, create connections, and help others learn more about our congregation and values.

Order [HERE](#) by
October 30



Splinters from the Board

by Kathy Donius
BOT member

The Board of Trustees met on September 22, 2026, and capital projects were a focus of our meeting. The congregation had identified air conditioning the sanctuary and common room as a priority and past Boards had designated funds from the Kading bequest to meet this need. After more than a year of investigation, the Board approved a proposal to air condition the sanctuary and we expect that the work will be completed before next summer. The Board concluded that we could forgo central air in the common room and realize substantial cost savings by utilizing the portable air conditioners that were purchased for the AAUUMM conference when we need cooling in the common room or Max Otto Hall.

We owe a special debt of gratitude to our Building and Grounds Committee, Manni Marquez, Russ Drewry and Ben Trubach, along with Board members Trudy Watt and Deborah Conta for their hard work and diligence in evaluating the options and leading us to a cost-effective solution that meets the full design load without architectural compromise.

The Board also received an update on the installation of our fire and safety system, discussed needed repairs to the roof and approved a proposal to remediate mold that was recently discovered in the Young Room. Recognizing our ongoing and anticipated capital maintenance needs, the Board asked the Building and Grounds

Committee to work with the Board's capital projects team to consider whether we should undertake a facilities assessment, energy efficiency audit and/or capital reserve study and to share their recommendations with the full board at a future meeting later this year.

Faithful, Fearless, Focused 2026 MICAH Public Meeting

by Bob Monahan
MICAH liaison at FUSM

It's not too late to register for MICAH's 2026 Public Meeting on Thursday October 22, a time for connection and collective power. Join us as we share important voter information, delve into how MICAH is organizing for a more just Milwaukee, and take action together. A celebratory reception will follow the main program.

Doors open October 22 at 5:00 p.m. Main program is 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Participation is FREE. Come early for easy parking and to visit tables where you'll find more information on voting and community issues.

Register [HERE](#) to get the event address.

New First Church ENDS

by Sarah Fowles
BOT member

This fall, First Church will share its new “Ends,” which are the impacts our church seeks to make for our members and the world.

These Ends grew from the question: With the world on fire, how do we both nurture spiritual flourishing within our congregation and inspire action centered on love and justice beyond?

Over the past year, congregants have shared stories of FUSM at its best, named hopes for the future, and created imagined “future magazine covers” showing what we hope will be said about us years from now. Congregants responded to draft Ends and helped the Board see what mattered and what needed more attention.

The final Ends are:

To meet the moment, we will grow Unitarian Universalism in ourselves and the world by:

- **Deepening lifelong spirituality and faith formation within our First Church community.**
- **Cultivating a multigenerational community of belonging, joy, and care, including by leaning into anti-racism, anti-oppression, and multicultural work.**

- **Building capacity in our congregation for love-centered action through practicing moral leadership and followership, guided by those most impacted by social, economic, and environmental injustice.**

Taken together, the Ends move in widening circles—from deepening faith within ourselves, to strengthening our community, to building our capacity to act with love and justice in the wider world.

An End is not a program list, a committee assignment, or a one-year plan. The Ends give us a shared direction for the next several years. This fall and winter, Rev. Jennifer and staff will identify the concrete programs and actions that make these Ends real in the life of the church.

The Board is grateful to everyone who contributed stories, hopes, questions, and feedback. We look forward to continuing this work together as the Ends move from words on a page into the lived ministry of the congregation.



Finding the right faith community is about more than beliefs. It's about being seen, understood, and connected.

Our Seeker Sessions are a welcoming space to ask questions, meet new people, and learn what it means to be part of community at First Unitarian Society.

Join our drop-in sessions to connect with others who are seeking meaning and purpose, learn about Unitarian Universalism and opportunities to find a sense of belonging beyond Sunday worship. Sessions are held Sundays between services in the Parlor.

SEEKER SESSIONS



OCT. 4

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

REV. KIMBERLEE TOMCZAK CARLSON

OCT. 11

MAKING MEANING

REV. JENNIFER NORDSTROM

OCT. 18

FINDING YOUR PEOPLE ONLINE

FIONA HIGGINS, FAITH FORMATION ASSISTANT

OCT. 25

WORKING BELIEFS*

REV. CHRIS LONG & FIONA HIGGINS

NOV. 8

FINDING YOUR PEOPLE AT CHURCH*

REV. KIMBERLEE, REV. CHRIS LONG & FIONA HIGGINS

NOV. 22

HOW WE BUILD COMMUNITY *

REV. JENNIFER NORDSTROM & FIONA HIGGINS

**DEC. 1,
6PM**

MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION

* SESSIONS REQUIRED BEFORE JOINING FIRST CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY IS DEC. 6, 2026 BOTH SERVICES



Buddhist Study Group

Wednesday, Oct 7 & 21, 6:30 pm
At Church

Join us as we meet to share our thoughts and interpretations of Buddhist teachings and ideas. Then we meditate as a group for a short while and have fellowship. Contact is Mark Miller at gatheringwaterssangha@gmail.com.

Book Discussion Group Online

Sunday, October 11, 1:00 pm
[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us as we discuss October's read, *A journey into the science of mind over body* by Jo Marchant. Contact Eileen Teska or more information at eileenteska@gmail.com.

The Shawl Ministry Group

Sunday, Oct. 4 at 10:00 am, At Church

The shawl ministry group plans to meet after the first church service on October 4 in the Common Room. Hoping to see you soon, Juliet Hills.

Silence Together

Mondays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm, At Church

Beginning October 12 join this drop-in time together as we will sit in silence, listening to our deeper selves in the beauty of our Sanctuary and the beauty of each other.

Chancel Choir

Thursday or Wednesday, 7:00-8:30 pm
At Church

Join us on Oct. 1, 7, 15, 22, 28 at Church in singing as we prepare to perform at Sunday services. Open to all singers high school age and up (no previous experience required). Contact Tristan Strelitzer for more information or to join at tristan.strelitzer@uumilwaukee.org.

The Chronologically Gifted Potluck

Sunday, Oct. 25 at 12:15 pm
At Church

Reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. Bring a dish and join your contemporaries for a potluck after the Sunday service in Otto Hall. We may even have some entertainment! Plan ahead! Show up! Enjoy!

Poetry Contemplation Online

Every Wednesday, 9:00 am
[Join Us Online Here](#)

Join us online as we listen, respond, and rest with the words of selected poets. Come listen for what resonates and illuminates. Members, guests, and visitors are welcome to join this open, weekly, drop-in practice.



Sunday Morning Forum

10:00 AM IN-PERSON & ON YOUTUBE

OCTOBER 4

Patrick Cudahy

Juliet Hills and Cheryl Orlando, Cudahy Historical Society

At the height of the Irish potato famine, Patrick Cudahy's parents brought him as a baby to Milwaukee, a growing town, only a few years after the railroad came through the city and linked us with Chicago. A factory, a busy village and a small historical rail depot now mark the history of his career and influence. From his birth in 1849 to his passing in 1919 he and his family left their mark on our surroundings, in street names and charitable works. His grandchildren still flourish here, where their proud name marks some city buildings.

OCTOBER 11

Reasonable Ways to Talk about God: Perspectives from World Religions

Daniel L. Leister, Ph.D., Religious Studies, Professor Emeritus

Alverno College Division of Humanities

This talk is about belief in the existence of gods in various world religions, such as Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and Native American. The speaker will share how these traditions might help people think reasonably about God(s) as a reality, rather than as superstition. The presentation will touch on the function of scriptures, storytelling, rituals, and meditations as they relate to the idea of the divine. The talk will address belief in gods as cultural survival, as experiential and as ever-changing and evolving. Personal insights and reflections of the attendees are a key part of the conversation.

OCTOBER 18

First Church Anti-Racism Team

Anti-Racism isn't a trend—it's a calling. Our faith demands we see every person as fully human and act like it. Silence has a cost. When we don't speak or act, the status quo wins by default. Our congregation has a history of showing up. This team keeps that tradition alive. Please come and join members of the Anti-Racism Team at the Sunday Morning Forum and explore with us why this work matters. We also want to share with you what we've actually done. We welcome any questions or suggestions that you may have.

OCTOBER 18

Anarchy in Bay View's Little Italy and The Shocking Aftermath

Anna Passante, Author. In 1917, a group of Italian men were charged with injuring 2 police officers in a riot in Bay View. Later, they were charged with setting off a bomb in Milwaukee's central police station killing nine officers and one civilian. The book *Anarchy in Bay View's Little Italy*, explores the events, especially the murder trial.

Staff Directory

SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Jennifer Nordstrom
jennifer.nordstrom@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 201

MINISTER OF FAITH FORMATION

Rev. Kimberlee Carlson
kimberlee.carlson@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 204

ACTING ASSISTANT MINISTER

Rev. Chris Long
revchris.long@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 202

MINISTER EMERITA

Rev. Dena McPhetres

MINISTER EMERITUS

Rev. Andrew C. Kennedy, D.Min.

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Manni Marquez
manni.marquez@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 203

OFFICE MANAGER

Shari Wright
shari.wright@uumilwaukee.org, ext. 207

FAITH FORMATION & MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANT

Fiona Higgins
fiona.higgins@uumilwaukee.org ext. 210

ADMIN AND TECH ASSISTANT

Azaria Holliday
azaria.holliday@uumilwaukee.org

FACILITIES ASSISTANT

Hunter Raley
hunter.raleigh@uumilwaukee.org

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

Yia Xiong

LEAD MUSIC DIRECTOR

Alissa Rhode
alissa.rhode@uumilwaukee.org

CHORAL DIRECTOR

Tristan Strelitzer
tristan.strelitzer@uumilwaukee.org

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

Teresa Drews
teresa.drews@uumilwaukee.org

Staff members have varying hours.
Please contact them directly to set up an appointment.

Board of Trustees Officers

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How to Reach Us

414.273.5257

first.church.office@uumilwaukee.org

1342 N. Astor St. Milwaukee, WI 53202



uumilwaukee.org

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Church Building Hours

Sundays: 8:00 am - 2:30 pm
Saturdays: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm
Monday - Wednesdays: 5:00 - 8:30 pm

If you are attending a scheduled group, ring the bell. If you need access to the building at other times, please make an appointment at first.church.office@uumilwaukee.org.

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