



# THE MEETING HOUSE TIMES

April 14, 2019

## TODAY

**Sunday, April 14**      **What Saves Us?**  
**Getting Past What Dooms Us and Other Adventures**  
**10:30 am**                      **Rev. Liz Lerner Maclay**

In this time full of holidays and stories and weather that all remind us that life goes on and people do get saved sometimes, how does that work for us in the here and now? Our sermon will look at some unlikely saviors - maybe all saviors are unlikely? - and what salvation (such an old-timey word for a timeless need) - looks like in the here and now.

*Young people begin in their small groups in classrooms and worship in Chapel with Emma's Revolution.*

**11:30 am**      **Food Shuttle**  
*Can you help? We have to move stores of food from the Meeting House to the Parish House, in preparation for Community Food Share on Monday. Right after the service, go to the back of the Meeting House to volunteer. Thanks!*

**11:30 am**      **Green Team Sale**  
*\* Purchase re-usable utensil packets and help eliminate throw-away plastic...*  
Newcomers' Café in the Paneled Parlor  
Atrium Bookstore Open  
Women's Alliance Coffee Sale

**\*\* Women's Alliance Spring Cheese Sale - Just in time for spring - everyone's favorite cheddar cheese from Vermont will be for sale at the Women's Alliance Coffee Sales Table on Sundays April 7th and 14th. Cheese is perfect for hostess gifts - but remember to treat yourself!**

**11:30 am**      Ask the PruComm  
**\*\* The Prudential Committee, which is the governing body of this church, invites the congregation to stop by the "Ask PruComm" table in the Atrium at coffee hour today. Representatives of the Prudential Committee will be available during coffee hour one Sunday each month to share information and welcome questions about what is happening at First U. Please stop by to chat about church matters or to ask about church business or events!**

**12:00 pm**      Teacher/Leader Lunch & Program (Aud)

**12:15 pm**      Partner Church Comm. (Haynes room)

**5:00 pm**      Campus UUs

All college-aged individuals are welcome to weekly Sunday evening gatherings. Contact Jacinta (jacinta\_clay@brown.edu) or Cathy Seggel in the church office.

**7:00-9:00pm**      UU Men

All those who identify as male are welcome to join us for an evening of deep, meaningful conversation and connection.

# Welcome!

## A SPECIAL WELCOME TO NEWCOMERS AND VISITORS

We are delighted to have you with us today!

Ours is a Welcoming Congregation – which means we are people of many different religious backgrounds, and cultural and sexual identities. From this rich diversity we build a spiritual home that is open, caring, and respectful. Our programs offer a variety of adult opportunities for spiritual deepening and justice-making. We have a well-staffed and nurturing program for young people, from infants through senior high.

We invite you to read through this weekly Meeting House Times to learn about some of our upcoming services and activities. All are open to everyone. You can also learn more from our web page (firstunitarianprov.org) or our Facebook page (First Unitarian Church of Providence).

To get better acquainted with our congregation, please join us for Coffee Hour, following the worship service, in the Parish House directly behind the pulpit (just follow the crowd!). There, in addition to coffee, tea, and goodies, you will find people who are happy to share information about our many activities and to answer your questions. Our Newcomers' Café (located in the parlor behind the fireplace), offers a more intimate setting for conversation with church members and other newcomers. There you can fill out a Guest Registry form if you would like to stay in touch.

Call 401-421-7970 to speak to Jenn Nardone with specific questions about programs, membership, or meeting with our professional staff.

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### For details on any of our programs

(meeting locations, contact information, etc.),  
see the monthly newsletter on the church website at  
[www.firstunitarianprov.org](http://www.firstunitarianprov.org)

## THE WEEK AHEAD

**Monday, April 15**

**3:30-5:30 pm Community Food Share Pantry**

**7:00pm Benevolent Street Zendo** (Auditorium)

If you have never attended, please arrive at 6:45p for a brief orientation. Call or text Cindy Bapties (401.573.0881) for more information.

**7:15pm Harry Potter and the Sacred Text**

Take a look at the experience of applying the study of sacred texts to one of the most popular book series of our time. New folks are always welcome.

**Tuesday, April 16**

**7:00pm Tai Chi**

Make the connection between mind, body and spirit in a manner that embodies the concepts of Taoist philosophy with the practice of an old internal martial art. First-timers can meet Sean Connor in the Auditorium for some orientation at 6:45.

**7:00pm Knitting for a Better World** (Res. Rm)

Not limited to knitting !! Drop-ins welcome! Contact: katherine.ahlquist@gmail.com

**Wednesday, April 17**

**7:00 pm Meditation**

A weekly drop-in guided meditation adapted from Tibetan Buddhism. Contact: Ken Bent: kenbent@cox.net

**Saturday, April 20**

**6:00 pm Sr. High Youth Pizza Night**

### NEXT SUNDAY

**Sunday, April 21 Easter Sunday**

**10:30 am**

**Rev. Liz Lerner Maclay,**

**Cathy Seggel DRE, Fred Jodry**

Just when we need to remind ourselves of how much there is in the world and life to renew us, Spring comes, bearing Easter with it. Our multigenerational service will explore the Easter's theme of hope amidst the harshest circumstances, and the most essential blessings that are here for us - when we are here for them.

*Childcare open for infants to three-year-olds in the Parish House, second floor.*

*Joyful Noise rehearsals begin today at 12:15pm!*

### Sermon audio and text now on church website

Wish that you could hear a sermon you missed, or hear one all over again? Now you can. The audio of each sermon is posted on our church website.

From the homepage, go to 'Worship,' pull down to 'Past Worship Services,' and click on the sermon you would like to hear. You can listen to it on your smart phone, tablet, laptop, or desktop computer.

If you prefer to read the sermon, the text also appears on the same website page. Additionally, you can find a printed copy on the hallway bulletin board in the Parish House.

First Unitarian's website can be found at [www.firstunitarianprov.org](http://www.firstunitarianprov.org).

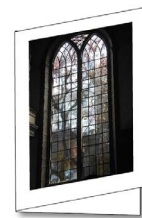


### Help!!!

If you have brought any kind of food to the church for an event this year, is it possible you left a pot, pan, plate, or storage container behind? Please check the kitchen, and take home anything that is yours. If any items are left by the time of the Alliance Indoor Sale, you can buy them back then!

### History Committee Information Table

The History Committee will have a table of booklets, books, note cards and photos available for sale Sundays April 14, and 21. Come talk to us about church history and learn how you can be part of the planning for the 300th Anniversary Celebration next year. Meghan Smith will be recruiting interested folks for this special ad hoc committee.



### Call for Artists: Art in the Atrium, 2019-2020 Season

The First U Art Collective is accepting proposals for artists to exhibit work in the Atrium for the Fall 2019 through Spring 2020 season/church year.

Please submit proposals by Sunday, April 28. Email your proposal to Amy Webb, amy.webb7@gmail.com and Chiara Romano Van Erp, romano-vanerp-design@cox.net Please include two images, and a brief description and/or theme of your work.

We welcome all submissions! The proposals will be reviewed and the season confirmed by Sunday, May 26.

All Collective members and church community are welcome to submit. Priority will be given to members of the Collective, and members who have not shown the previous year. Artists from the community at large can participate for solo or shared exhibits. We request that anyone who exhibits in the space to pay the Collective dues of \$10.

### Antiques & Uniques: Women's Annual Indoor Yard Sale

*Saturday, April 27, 10:00a-2:00p*

The First Unitarian Women's Alliance is once again sponsoring

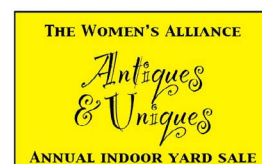
its now-famous Indoor Yard Sale,

featuring some antiques, lots of "uniques," books, jewelry, and hundreds of useful and decorative items at spectacularly low prices.

All items are donated by church members and friends. So put aside things now for donating to the Yard Sale. Give us those items you don't use or need anymore but are too good to give away. Donating them to the Alliance ensures that they will find a good home and provide the financial donations we give to those local charitable organizations that support women and families.

Suggestions for donations: home goods, small working appliances, toys, furniture, tools, books, art, etc. Better items will be sold separately in the Paneled Parlor.

You can drop items off at the church Monday through Thursday the week of the sale (April 22-25). Please do not bring any items (unless previously arranged) on Friday or Saturday. Questions? Contact Janet Downing Taylor: [jdtaylor39@verizon.net](mailto:jdtaylor39@verizon.net)



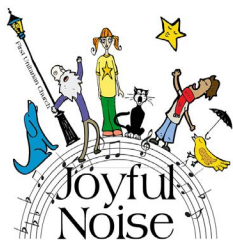
## Side with Love

Stop by the SwL table in the atrium today to sign a postcard for Senate President Ruggiero, asking that he bring the Reproductive Health Care Act to the floor of the Senate for a vote. Our last effort sending cards to the House of Representatives resulted in 70 postcards. It was voted on and passed out of the House, and our postcards surely made an impact. Let's keep the pressure on until the Senate votes! If you have time and want to do more, we have postcards to send to individuals in areas where their senators need to hear from them. All you need to do is write a short, personal note of encouragement, asking them to contact their senator, and we will do the rest!

Time is of the essence, please stop by and fill out a postcard today!

## Save the date!

On June 15, Side with Love will be representing for First U during PRIDE. Mark your calendars! We will be looking for folks who want to be at our table during the festival and folks who would like to march in the Illuminated Parade that evening. Interested? Sign up at the Side with Love table, or email [Katherine.ahlquist@gmail.com](mailto:Katherine.ahlquist@gmail.com) for more info.



## Joyful Noise is Back!

Come join us - this is a singing opportunity for people of all ages. Bring yourself, and if you have other people in your family you can bring them, too.

Rehearsals begin Sunday, April 21 at 12:15 and run for 5 weeks - learn some fun music which will be shared during worship on May 19. Contact

Marcia Taylor, [mdt.renn@gmail.org](mailto:mdt.renn@gmail.org) or Cathy Seggel, [dre@firstunitarianprov.org](mailto:dre@firstunitarianprov.org) with questions or to sign up.

## Community Collections

Applications are being accepted for the 2019 - 2020 Community Collections. On certain Sundays through the year, non-pledge gifts in the Sunday offering are donated to designated organizations. Organizations must be nominated by a church committee or by a group of at least three church members. Contact Administrator Nancy Forsstrom, [admin@firstunitarianprov.org](mailto:admin@firstunitarianprov.org), for an application. They are due in the church office April 29. See Social Justice Liaison Nancy Weiss-Fried if you have any questions.

## Sanctuary

In collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Church of South County, we are happy to announce that Aviva Chomski will be speaking at First Unitarian on Friday Night, May 10, 7pm. Mark your calendar!

Ms. Chomski is a professor of history and the coordinator to Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Studies at Salem State University in Salem Ma. She has written several books, including *Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal* and *They Take Our Jobs and 20 Other Myths About Immigration*.

## Did You Know...???

You can give financial gifts to First Unitarian electronically, through our website - look for the 'give online' space on our homepage. Or... There's an App for that! For your smart phone or tablet, you can download the GivePlus+ App and make your gifts easily.

## Will You Consider GA?

UUA General Assembly this year is in Spokane, Washington, June 19-23. If you are thinking about attending, perhaps you would like to serve as a Delegate from First U. There are also ways you can 'attend' virtually, and still be a Delegate. Please contact President John Simmonds for more info, or to volunteer. [pres@firstunitarianprov.org](mailto:pres@firstunitarianprov.org)

## Saturday Social Supper - Note New Date!

Karen Kemp and Katy Killilea are hosting a Saturday Social Supper at Karen's house in Barrington on April 27th at 6pm. This is a cooperative event and people of all ages are welcome! We are limiting this one to 20 participants. Please RSVP to Katy ([katykillilea@icloud.com](mailto:katykillilea@icloud.com)) to reserve your spot and for meal planning. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Painting

As we have seen in the notes in the newsletter, the last phase of our building improvements for this year is the painting of the Benefit St. entryway. This project has begun and the lower level will be complete by Easter. Thanks for your patience with a few obstacles in the stairwell while the painting is under way.

Also, thanks to your generosity and good stewardship of resources, the Capital Campaign funds, originally meant only for last summer's outside project, are also paying for this painting project. We are grateful to those who faithfully oversee our resources.

## It's Spring! and there's a lot happening at First U... Keep an eye out for details about events and activities:

- Sr. High Youth Worship Service
- Trans and Non-Binary 101
  - May Breakfast
- Congregational Conversations about the Budget
  - Coming of Age Service
  - Memorial Day Weekend away
    - Annual Meeting
    - Flower Communion
    - Volunteer Recognition