



## Looking Ahead . . .

- May 29th: One service only at 10 am.
- June 5th: We will have a “short and sweet” Sunday service at 9 am so that congregants can participate in the Pride Parade.
- June 12th: One service at 10 am, closing out our church year. Followed by our annual picnic at Sugarhouse Park.
- June 19th: Summer Forum begins (see page 7).

## UPCOMING SUNDAYS

**MAY 15TH, 2016**

**9:00 AND 11:00 AM**

Religious Education at 11 am only

**“Does the Liberal Church Hold  
Meaning for Today and Tomorrow?”**

**-Rev. Tom Goldsmith**

**Congregational Meeting follows at 12:30**

**MAY 22, 2016**

**9:00 AND 11:00 AM**

Religious Education at 11 am only

**The Zabriskie Requiem**

A repeat of this phenomenal musical composition to honor the losses of dear family members and friends. The choir chose this beautiful requiem as a means of celebrating of the church’s 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Full instrumentation will fill the chapel as the choir performs one of its greatest selections in its vast repertoire.

**MAY 29TH, 2016**

**ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:00 AM**

**“Poetry and Prayer: Honoring the Life  
of a Pacifist”**

**-Rev. Tom Goldsmith**

## **First Unitarian Church Annual Meeting Agenda May 15, 2016 12:30 pm**

- Call meeting to order
- Review of governance process
- Strategic Plan focus
- Election of new Nominating Committee members
- Election of new Board of Trustees members
- Operations Report
  - Ministry
  - Programs
  - Financials
- Approve 2016-17 church year budget
- Closing

### **Congregational Meeting Lunch:**

As you plan to attend the congregational meeting on May 15, please also plan to support the Coming of Age youth by buying your lunch from them before the meeting! They will be busily making fresh sandwiches for you that morning and will have lunches available at \$10 per adult or \$5 per child. Proceeds will support their trip to Boston in June.

# Congregational Briefs

## First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City

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## Board of Trustees

Christine Ashworth  
Board President

Colleen Bliss

Peter Esko

Sue Geary

Rebecca Heal

Erin Phinney Johnson

Don Walton

The Torch is published approximately 23 times per year, every other week during the regular church year & once per month during the summer.

## Next Publication Date

May 30, 2016

## Submission Deadline

May 23, 2016 (Monday)  
by 10:00 a.m.

Events to be listed should occur after May 31st to ensure timeliness.

## Editor

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## Meditation Group Changes

We will be meeting on Sundays in the Parlor at 12:15 (11:15 when we go to one service beginning May 29th). We will not meet on May 15th or June 5th.

## Spring Highway Cleanup

Please set aside a couple of hours on Saturday morning, May 21, to keep Utah beautiful by joining our group of volunteers to remove litter along a 4-mile stretch of State Road 65 extending from Mountain Dell towards East Canyon. Remember, you get to keep any treasures you find (\$,\$\$\$,\$\$\$-?). Meet at THE church at 9:00 AM to carpool, or at 9:30 AM at the Parleys Canyon UDOT maintenance facility adjacent to the Mountain Dell golf course. The state requires that participants be eleven years of age or older.....BUT, there is no upper limit. Bring gloves and a positive attitude. We should be finished by 11:30 AM. For any questions, or to sign up, please contact Frank Steffey at 801-277-2509. Anybody interested in taking over the leadership of this beneficial activity should contact Frank Steffey. This will be the last rodeo unless some volunteer steps forward to take this over. This may mark the end of a 15-year tradition.

**Interfaith GLBT Pride Worship** - June 2, 7 p.m., First Baptist Church - Join Rev. Matthew Cockrum and other religious liberals at First Baptist Church for the annual Pride Worship Service, presented by the Pride Interfaith Coalition of Utah.

## Open Minds Book Group

The Open Minds Book Group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 in the Haven Room at the church. The book for May 26 is "Three Farmers on Their Way to a Dance," by Richard Powers. All are welcome.

## Dinner and Dialogue

Please take a minute to sign up at the Welcome Table for a future Dinner and Dialogue, either as a host or guest. Hosts set the date, menu and number of guests they can accommodate, and guests contribute by bringing a dish to share. It's a great way to get acquainted with other like-minded people in our church. Questions?? Contact Darlene Thayne at 801-455-6553 or [suppers@slcuu.org](mailto:suppers@slcuu.org).

**UU Lunch Bunch** A family-friendly group for anyone and everyone who would like to get together for lunch and chat with like-minded people. Meet at the Restaurant on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact Sonia Carnell at (801) 262-1151 or [lunchbunch@slcuu.org](mailto:lunchbunch@slcuu.org).

- May 15: No Lunch Bunch. Please attend our annual congregational meeting following services. The youth will be selling sandwiches in Eliot Hall.
- May 22: Café Trio Holladay (6405 S. 3000 E.)
- May 29: La Frontera Millcreek (1250 East 3300 South)

# Reverendly Yours

I contemplate this proposition quite often as an antidote to the present-day condition of the world. Women would build trusting relationships among each other as world leaders, eliminating the need for a military. Peace would be at hand.

This dream is not pure fantasy, but based on the Minoan culture (ancient Crete). Women were most prominent there once upon a time, as revealed by archeological findings in their artwork: pottery, frescoes, and small stone statues. Minoans apparently worshipped a goddess, as Crete was clearly a matriarchal society making life there both peaceful and egalitarian.

The art revealed vibrant images of flowers, birds, fish; no weapon ever graced a pot. They had no interest in war. This idyllic life lasted for a few hundred years until 1500 BCE when warriors from the mainland invaded Crete. In the blink of an eye, the artwork transformed from natural images to the ugly face of warfare.

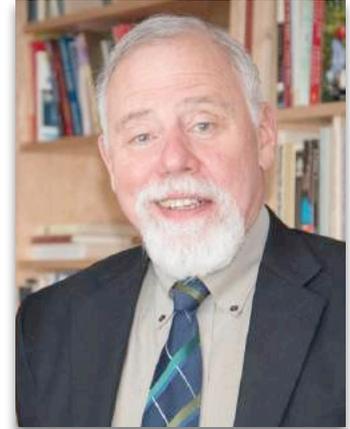
Last week Seattle received a taste of "if women ruled the world..." The new city council, underway since last January, has a 5-4 majority of women. This new majority worked together for the first time –rejecting along gender lines (5-4), a land-use deal that would have paved the way for a sports arena intended to help lure professional basketball back to Seattle.

Professional sports equate to modern-day warfare. Men throughout Seattle felt their testosterone thwarted by women who simply do not understand. The men raged and exposed their innate sexism with slurs aimed at the five city council women that would make the ears curl of any sergeant in the marines. Although the five women offered a perfectly legitimate reason for rejecting the proposal, namely that there was no interest expressed by any professional basketball team to move to Seattle, the male passion for

## Rev. Tom Goldsmith

sports warfare superseded their ability to reason.

To make matters worse, Seattle's male mayor and the male businessman who had been seeking the deal, offered an unsolicited patronizing defense of the women. The women on the city council blasted these guys; the "little ladies" didn't need any men to defend them.



We still have a long way to go before women rule the world. They're having a tough time in one of our nation's most progressive cities. But the proposition remains alive as more women than ever, begin bankrolling political campaigns for this upcoming election. Women have muscled themselves into position as ultra-wealthy donors who fund "Super PACS."

It's not quite like the way it was in Crete 3500 years ago, a culture, I think, preferable to ours. But we're taking baby steps towards a more egalitarian society, which (as we all know) needs the influence of women.

If women ruled the world....a nice thought to occupy our minds in these turbulent and unjust times. TRG

## In the Life

What does not change? Is there anything - any object, that is - that does not change in this life? There's the old joke that the only things you can count on in life are Death and Taxes. For some, God is a representation of an unchanging Presence, Process or Entity. Some will affirm that Change is the only Constant. Even amidst this we seek patterns and predictability. We decry how we are not learning from history. We worry about how we are repeating past mistakes - politically or personally. We long for power, control, constancy. Yet as our lay-led service last month reminded us, conflict is an inherent part of Life. Humanity is, itself, a manifestation of evolutionary conflict and a momentary conscious survival.

I had the recent pleasure of hosting my mother and sister here in Salt Lake City. They came to visit over Mother's Day weekend on a road trip with a cousin who also has family here. Now I don't know about you but my family interactions can often seem repetitive and predictable - full of safe conversations and/or unsettled (and unseetable) conflicts and disagreements that get rehashed or avoided over and over. This time, though, seemed a bit different. Perhaps it was the addition of new extended family I'd not met. Perhaps it had to do with other life changes or efforts at personal growth. Whatever the cause, something was different. Something had changed. There was a different quality of ease...willingness to engage across difference...capacity to hear and be heard.

I call that maturation. And I am grateful for it.

As someone who first spent years studying human development and family studies, then working in the field of social service, I look through a developmental lens. As one trained as a spiritual director I see and hear individuals and groups as striving for optimal relationship, encounter and integrity. Both of these viewpoints provide the expectation that not all movement and development will be consistently and progressively positive. Life includes an apparently inescapable dance

## Rev. Matthew Cockrum

between growth and decline, progress and regress, creation and destruction, presence and absence.

Where and how do you see these patterns in your own life?

Where and how do you see these patterns in the life of this congregation and its ministries?

How will you engage the change that is afoot in your world?

Here's to The Work, Friends!  
Peace, Faith & Passion,  
*Mathew*

### Thank You

Unitarian Universalist religious community is a unique blend of volunteerism and paid staff. We are interdependent and the embodiment of our ministry relies upon each other. Thank you to all those who have made possible the Congregational Life this program year. The Rev. Tom Goldsmith joked last fall that "If it breathes...it's Congregational Life!" To some degree that's true, though not all programs of the church fall under the official umbrella of my Congregational Life portfolio.

So...a special thanks to those of you who have led, served, participated in, lived into and made real the ministries of First Unitarian Church of Salt Lake City this year. I know I'll miss someone if I try to list individuals, and I'm likely to miss even a group, but here goes:

Anti-Racism Group  
Book Groups  
Lunch Bunch  
Mindfulness Meditation  
Highway Clean-up  
Refugee Resettlement



## In the Life (continued)

High School Religious Education  
 Coming of Age  
 Environmental Ministry  
 Chancel Choir  
 Junior/Children's Choir  
 Garden Committee  
 Coffee Crew  
 Ushers  
 Welcome Table  
 Information Session  
 Adult Religious Education  
 Board of Trustees  
 Family Fun Nights  
 Office Volunteers  
 Auction Committee  
 Lay Services Committee  
 Jazz Vespers  
 Women's Sacred Circle  
 Social Justice Council  
 Small Group Ministry

Dinner & Dialogue  
 Young Adult Group  
 Endowment Committee  
 Religious Education Council  
 Art Fair  
 Children's Religious Education  
 Caring Network  
 Theater Group  
 Movie Group  
 Nominating Committee  
 ...for who we missed...  
 ...for what you've yet to do!  
 ?

Thank you! Because of you, we are. Because of your time, talent and treasure, First Church is. You have been good stewards of this place and its ministries. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!

**The Gospel According to RuPaul** - Rev. Matthew Cockrum preaching, Sunday, June 5. **ONE SERVICE at 9:00 a.m.** so folks can head downtown to the Utah Pride Festival parade (#WeArePride). Cheer on (or join) the First Church Float and marchers or just join in the fun and support of local and regional LGBT communities.

**Wellness Ministry Exploration** - Interested in exploring the possibilities of a Wellness Ministry at First Church? Join Sunita Shankara, Rev.

Matthew Cockrum and others in room 201 on Sunday, May 22, 12:15-1:15 p.m.

**Info Session** - Join Revs. Tom Goldsmith and Matthew Cockrum on Thursday, May 19, 7-9 p.m. in room 208 for the last Information Session until September! RSVP helpful for childcare needs ([clminister@slcuu.org](mailto:clminister@slcuu.org)). Light refreshments provided. Bring your questions about First Church and Unitarian Universalism!

## Social Justice News

-submitted by Barbara Taylor

The Social Justice Committee is proud to support an event, "Countering Zionism- the Nakba Tour," in our chapel, Sunday, May 22, 2016, at 2 pm.

On May 14, 1948, Zionist leader, David Ben Gurion, proclaimed a Jewish state in Palestine, and his heavily armed troops drove out Palestinians, its inhabitants. Many were forced to Lebanon where they have spent their lives in refugee camps.

Mariam, now 86, also known as Umm Akram (mother of Akram) has raised three generations of the same camps, while waiting to return to her Palestinian home. She has lived through five Israeli invasions of Lebanon as well as the 1976 Tel al-Zaatar camp massacre that killed more than 2000 refugees. Mariam will be a guest at our podium. Please come and hear what she has to say.

# Religious Education News

**Julie Miller**

First of all, let me say Thank You to all the volunteers who keep us up and running. As I approach the end of year one in my position as Director of Religious Education, I want to acknowledge and thank all the ushers, greeters, RE educators, coffee makers, special event set-up and take-down people and committee folks for helping out in a hundred ways that many in our Church may not even imagine!

We each have our many different reasons for supporting this congregation. Many of you have belonged to several Unitarian Universalist congregations before coming to First Church, or you may only know this congregation.

Like every religious community and most non-profit organizations, we are largely dependent not only on volunteer service, but also on your financial contributions. Both are the gifts for which we are grateful beyond measure, and both reflect what it means to be a friend of First Church.

We don't hold out the threat of Hell or the promise of Heaven to anyone (thank goodness!), but what we do offer is an accepting, welcoming community that encourages everyone to be your authentic selves.

Within our congregation, we rely on volunteers to strengthen RE programs for our children, youth and adult members. We are almost entirely dependent on the work of our willing volunteers. You bring our church to life when you give us your time! Admittedly, I am stressing this point because the few of us who are paid for our service cannot by ourselves sustain excellence without your help.

We will continue to be challenged in our work, which is why I encourage more of you to consider volunteering. This is not to say our coalition of volunteers needs to do more. *We just need more of you!*



With your new or renewed personal commitment, we will make our congregation stronger and even more appealing to newcomers.

I firmly believe each of us has gained much from First Church, but we all have a responsibility to give back in order to keep our congregation vital. Would you like more information? I'd love to hear from you! Contact me or Reverend Matthew Cockrum. There are rewarding opportunities ahead.

In Service,  
*Julie Miller, DRE*

## **Supplies Needed for YRUU Service Trip:**

Pine Ridge Children's Arts Camp! Please leave any donated items in the box in the Little Chapel throughout May! Due to space in our vehicles, only specifically requested items are being collected: Watercolor paper, Plaster wrap (dickblick.com), Felt, Acrylic paints: Red, Yellow, Blue, Black and White, Brushes, Construction Paper, Hot glue sticks, Sharpies, Yarn, Spray paint, Face paint, Needles and thread, Hides for drum making, Wooden dowels (1/2 inch thick), Ribbons, Pony beads.

# Summer Forum 2016

A diverse and exciting new lineup of speakers awaits you for ten Sundays from June 19 through August 21.

Programs begin at 10 a.m., and feature music and Q&A sessions. Conversations and refreshments continue in Eliot Hall.

Child care is provided.

## **June 19— Medical Marijuana: Who Does the Ban in Utah Continue to Harm?**

Christine Stenquist and Lissa Lander of TRUCE (Together for Responsible Use and Cannabis Education) report on the state of legalization of medical marijuana, locally and nationally, focusing on the harm being done by the ban.

## **June 26—The Future of Independent Journalism in Salt Lake City**

Spokespersons for CITIZENS FOR TWO VOICES--Joan O'Brien, Karra Porter, and Ted McDonough—tell of their efforts to produce local ownership for the Salt Lake Tribune.

## **July 3—How Liberals Can Help Each Other Deal with Their White Privilege**

Local leaders of the national organization SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (SURJ) describe their mission to help white liberals discover how best to support racial justice.

## **July 10—Showcasing African-American Performing Arts**

Performers from the 365 GROUP present poetry, singing, instruments, and dance from among their more than 900 members.

## **July 17—Reversing the Tragic School-to-Prison Laws**

Panelists from the PEOPLE NOT PRISONS Movement (Anna Brower, Jean Hill, and Andrew Riggle) update current their efforts.



## **July 24—Family Members from Sperm Donors**

Bill Cordray describes the national movement of "donor-conceived persons" (he is one) who are seeking—and finding—their adult siblings.

## **July 31—Is Our Politics Experiencing a Meltdown?**

Political Scientist Tim Chambless and Journalist Paul Rolly reflect on the aftermath of the primary season and the just-concluded political conventions.

## **August 7—Inside the Armed Resistance to the Federal Government**

Anthony Rampton of the Utah Attorney General's office describes his involvement in the April 2014 armed standoff in Nevada and the 41-day armed federal land takeover this winter in Oregon.

## **August 14—New Forms of Critical Thinking and the Future of Progressivism**

Rev. Harold Straughn, author, minister, chaplain

## **August 21—Our Annual Environmental Justice Festival**

Bryan and Laurel Vandenheuvel show and tell about building, and living in, their Tiny House. Other presenters will demonstrate lifestyle alternatives to enhance the environment.

# Environmental Ministry News

**Nature Sings: Spirit of Our National Parks.** Songs, photos & stories by Art Lee, Arts and Nature

**Fri, Jun 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7PM, Location: Eliot Hall**

Grab a seat in front of Art Lee and the big screen, for an inspiring live concert and multimedia tour of our western National Parks. Art's songs and stories come from his adventures as a nature photographer mixed with a little history, science and philosophy. Don't miss this opportunity to experience nature's beauty, wonder and awe through the heart of an artist. With 20 years as a nature photographer and 10 years as a singer-songwriter, Art Lee has photographed all the National Parks of the western United States, and composed over 50 related songs. Nature Sings is his series of CDs/DVDs/shows. He manages a nonprofit, [www.Arts-and-Nature.org](http://www.Arts-and-Nature.org), through which he sings in schools to educate about nature through the arts.

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## Keep It in the Ground

Environmental Ministry invites you to participate in these "Keep It in the Ground" actions:

**Salt Lake City:** The next BLM oil and gas lease sale is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016, at the Salt Lake City Public Library at 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, in Meeting Rooms B & C. Doors open at 9:00AM and the auction begins at 10:00AM. Four parcels of your public land in Utah will be auctioned to the highest bidder for oil and gas development. Plan to arrive at 9:00AM to join the protest. Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1794279940800572/>

On Thursday, May 19, 2016 the BLM wants to hear from you. For the first time in history, the

BLM stopped all new coal leases to study the impact coal mined on public lands is having on our climate – come and share your opinion. The Salt Lake City hearing will be held 10AM-4PM at the Salt Palace Convention Center, 100 W. Temple, Salt Lake City. Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/233368127036843/>

## Globally: May 3-15, 2016

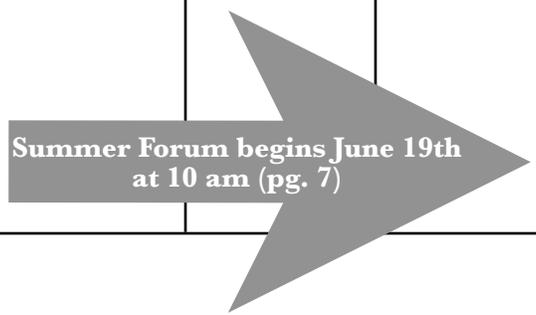
A global wave (<https://breakfree2016.org/>) of non-violent direct action to demand that oil, gas and coal be kept in the ground has begun. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, over 300 activists (<http://reclaimthepower.org.uk/endcoalnow/live/>) occupied the largest open cast coal mine in the United Kingdom for 12 hours, and *no arrests* were made! Many activists in the Break Free movement are contending that they are not law-breakers, but in fact, law-enforcers of the Public Trust Doctrine (<http://www.commondreams.org/views/2016/04/28/using-public-trust-frame-break-free-fossil-fuels-actions>) -- ensuring a livable planet for future generations. In the United States, mass actions are taking place in: Anacortes, WA; Albany, NY; Chicago area (Whiting, IN); Denver area (Lakewood, CO); Los Angeles, CA; and Washington, DC (<https://breakfree2016.org/>).

Break Free organizers have created a system that notifies you when actions first occur and how to follow them online so that you can be a "digital witness" (<https://breakfree2016.org/digital-witness/>) to events as they are taking place and spread the word across the globe.

# May/June 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
15 Sunday Services at 9 & 11 am <b>Congregational Meeting 12:30</b>	16	17	18 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	19 First Church Info Session (pg. 5)	20	21 Spring Highway Clean Up (pg. 2)
22 Sunday Services at 9 & 11 am Requiem Sunday Social Justice program 2 pm (pg. 5)	23 Torch Submissions Due 10 am	24	25 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	26 Open Minds Book Group 7 pm (pg. 8)	27	28
29 Beginning one service schedule. Sunday service at 10 am (pg. 1)	30	31	June 1 Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm	2	3 Env. Min. event 7 pm (pg. 8)	4
5 Pride Sunday one service at 9 am (pg.1)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 One service only at 10 am Church picnic following service at Sugarhouse Park	13 Torch Submissions Due 10 am Board of Trustees meeting 5:30	14	15	16	17	18

**Summer Forum begins June 19th at 10 am (pg. 7)**



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH  
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Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

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