

# FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF DES MOINES

Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

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Sounding the Rin Gong

Centering Music     *Contrast* by Ron Mallory  
  Bell Ave. Ringers

Welcome

Spotlight:            Sue Huber          Faith in Action

Chalice Lighting             Dominic Ortiz-Berardi

Henry Stamper Faith Statement  
  *with mentor Dylan Cue*

Gustav Ålg Faith Statement  
  *with mentor Kent Newman*

Story for All Ages             *The Little Yellow Leaf*  
by Carin Berger

Offering Words and Offertory

Meditation and sung response  
*Comfort me (3x) ... O my soul*  
*Sing with me (3x) ... O my soul*

Dominic Ortiz-Berardi Faith Statement  
  *with mentor Eric Hayes*

Special Music             *Sakura* arr. by M. Lichlyter

Jaida Evans Faith Statement  
  *with mentor Eileen Jackson*

Laila Evans Faith Statement  
  *with mentor Denise Rathman*

\*Song     Blue Boat Home #1064 Gray Hymnal

Closing Words

\*Benediction

\*Postlude     Hymn of Valor

\*Extinguishing the Chalice

## **Hymn of Valor**

*Soul of Truth, Eternal Goodness,  
Sojourn with us as we part;  
Fill our minds with high endeavor,  
Keep us just and pure in heart.*

*Strengthen us for daily duty,  
Guide us by the inner light;  
Hallowed be each coming morning,  
Calm and peaceful be each night.  
Amen*

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

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## **Gratitude for Today's Participants**

Celebrants:    COA Youth  
Chalice Lighter:    Dominic Ortiz-Berardi  
Pianist:    Bruce Martin  
Music:    Bell Ave. Ringers  
Director of Choirs:    Karen Kraemer  
Song Leader:    Barb Martin  
A/V volunteer:    Rob Malcomson  
Pastoral Care:    Barb Glass  
Hospitality Coordinator:    Terry Meek

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## **WELCOME!**

We are glad you're here.

To learn more about our congregation,  
please speak with any of today's service  
participants, our Greeters, or our Minister,  
or find us online at [www.ucdsm.org](http://www.ucdsm.org)

Rev. Victoria Safford             [vsafford@ucdsm.org](mailto:vsafford@ucdsm.org)  
Birch Spick,    [bspick@ucdsm.org](mailto:bspick@ucdsm.org)  
Coordinator of Faith Formation and Membership

## **Our Mission**

*Grow ethically and spiritually. Serve justly.  
Love radically.*

# WELCOME!

## Accessibility at First Unitarian

- **Assistive Listening Devices, full-page magnifiers, large-print hymnals and hymnals in Braille:** These are available just inside the Auditorium doors, on the shelves in your left.
- **Disability placards/license plates:** Parking is available outside the west doors just past the drop-off lane in the right lane, or in the lot just south of the church on Casady Drive.
- **Push Button Electric Entrance/Exit Door:** Main floor, south and west sides of the building
- **Lift to all building levels:** Main floor on the east side of the coatroom.

## Faith Formation for children and Youth: Summer 2023

Faith Formation is on summer vacation!

Check back in September for our regularly scheduled classes and programs.

## **No Forum Today!**

It's going to be a beautiful day in the park. We will be gathering from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in Pete Crivaro Park. Burgers and hotdogs (meatless options too) will be served around noon. Beverages provided. Bring a dish to share, your table service (we will have extra), and something to take home leftovers if you like. There is always so much amazing food when we get together!

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## **TODAY'S OFFERING**

Every week, half of our offering goes to support our Faith in Action partners in the wider community. This year's partners are Hawthorn Hill, helping unhoused families obtain permanent homes, and Let's Talk, collaborating with the Des Moines public schools to help young people resolve conflict peacefully. You may give through the plate, or use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/bddtz9wm>.



## **PLEDGE THROUGH REALM!**

Pledge and pay, connect with your groups, and check for schedule changes all in one place!

Open your phone's camera app and scan the QR code below to pledge for the 2023-2024 church year!

Email [OfficeStaff@ucdsm.org](mailto:OfficeStaff@ucdsm.org) to request an invitation to Realm.



# Faith In Action Nominees

## **Al Éxito**

*Champion: Dave Witke, Gene McCracken*

Al Éxito serves 6th grade - college-aged youth in over 18 communities across Iowa. Facilitators are contracted, trained, and paid to run the programs at each site. Parent programs, entitled Padres Unidos, were developed to better inform and equip Spanish-speaking partners to help their students succeed in school. Al Éxito advances the success of Latinx youth through programs that focus on college preparation, career development, civic engagement, family support, and celebration of culture. By gaining knowledge, skills, opportunities, and support, our young leaders achieve higher education and career goals, engage in leadership and civic activities that build equitable Latinx representation in our communities and nurture well-being through cultural identity development. First Unitarian Church has had been active in supporting Al Exito in the past and would like to support them again this year. <https://www.alexitoiowa.org>

## **Clive Community Services**

*Champion: Jack Hackett*

Clive Community Services (CCS) offers a Food Pantry, a Clothing Closet, a Free Medical Clinic and Educational Services. We began operation in 2016 through the leadership of local citizens who were concerned about the growing level of need in the neighborhood near Crestview School of Inquiry. Our offices are located within walking distance of many apartments and the Crestview School of Inquiry which provides convenience and familiarity to those seeking services. In addition to serving immigrant populations, it should be noted that CCS maintains a commitment to all low-income families in the area who are seeking food, other support services, and stability in their lives. Besides a paid director, we are entirely volunteer-run. Volunteer opportunities of all types are available. Donations of all kinds accepted. [www.clivecommunityservices.com](http://www.clivecommunityservices.com)

## **Family Promise**

*Champion: Elaine Imlau*

Family Promise of Greater Des Moines strives to create a safe, stable and nurturing environment for the children as well as to support the efforts of their parents in securing employment and housing. We partner with 14 host congregations, volunteers and donors to help homeless families with children find steady income and stable housing. At First Unitarian, as a host congregation, we flip classrooms into bedrooms and offer overnight shelter, evening meals and transportation for up to 3 families for one week every season. <https://www.familypromisedm.org/welcome.html>

## **FreeStore**

*Champion: Mike Smith*

The FreeStore is an all-volunteer organization supporting children and families who have escaped domestic violence and those suffering from other forms of trauma including natural disasters and criminal assault. We provide donated furniture and household goods as these families begin new lives in a safe environment. FreeStore volunteers collect gently used furniture and furnishings from homes in the Des Moines metro area. We collaborate with other non-profits and social-service agencies. Their advocates make appointments for their clients to select furniture and furnishings from our warehouse and we deliver it to their new home. <https://thefreestore.org>

## **Iowa Trans Mutual Aid Fund**

*Champion: Doug Aupperle*

The Iowa Trans Mutual Aid Fund's goal is to provide financial assistance to transgender, non-binary and other gender diverse individuals in the state of Iowa to assist in accessing gender-affirming healthcare. This includes trans minors and their families now forced to seek gender-affirming healthcare out of state due to recent changes in Iowa law. <https://iowamutualaid.org/iowa-trans-mutual-aid>

## **Just Voices**

*Champion: Harvey Harrison*

Just Voices mission is to work to build a platform that educates, advocates, and collaborates to end racially biased policing in Iowa. Just Voices envisions a society free from racial oppression. It is the hope that a partnership with First UU will continue the growth and impact of our programs. That this partnership will offer opportunities for education in our congregation, communicate our values to the greater community and create a forum for face-to-face engagement. We will also seek to reach out to other local churches in an effort to broaden the base for our work. <https://justvoicesia.org>



***Save The Date!***

**First Unitarian Church of Des Moines**

**Annual Meeting 2023**

**Sunday, June 4, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. in the Auditorium**

***Also available via Zoom!***

All are welcome to attend this year's Annual Meeting and to participate in lively discussion! *Members of the church* are especially encouraged to attend, participate, and vote. Come elect new members of the Board of Trustees and Endowment Committee, approve the Operating Budget for 2023-2024, choose our *Faith in Action* partners for the coming year, celebrate this year's "Unsung UU," and more.

*Documentation & Agenda to be posted on Realm by May 19.*

*Email [officestaff@ucdsm.org](mailto:officestaff@ucdsm.org) to request an Invitation to Realm, or for help logging in.*

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Use this link or QR code  
to join the meeting via Zoom!

Passcode: *Griffin*

<https://tinyurl.com/hnb2fy65>

