

# THIS WEEK AT EMERSON – OCTOBER 9, 2014

Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel -- A welcoming congregation of the UUA

If you've missed something - this week and last week editions are on the website: [www.emersonuuchapel.org](http://www.emersonuuchapel.org)  
Emerson Chapel is on Facebook and Twitter

**..Celebrating 30 years of transforming ourselves, our community, our world..**

**Sunday – October 12**

**17815 Wild Horse Creek Road (Barat Academy)**

**10:00 AM - Worship Service**

**“Embracing Diversity to Save Our Lives”**

**Rev. Krista Taves, Christine Bastian, Sarahn Bastian, Romona Williams, and Jake Lyonfields & Christopher Sims**, member of the UU Congregation of Rockford IL.

This weekend thousands of people, including Unitarian Universalist clergy and lay people, will descend onto St. Louis to stand for full equality for all people, especially people of color. Join us as we continue our reflection on the diversity of ways we are experiencing this time and the diverse responses it asks of us.

**Special Music: Todd Painter & Chris Wilson**

**11:20 AM - Religious Education for all Ages**

Our Outreach Partner is: **UU Trauma Ministry**

Unitarian Universalist Trauma Response Ministry provides culturally sensitive spiritual care to survivors of mass disasters and other significant trauma. [www.traumaministry.org](http://www.traumaministry.org)

**Serving this Sunday:**

**Liturgist: Susan Stafford**

**Greeters: Karyl Howard, Jake Lyonfields**

**Song Leaders: Kylie Kirkpatrick, Phyllis MacLaren**

**Board Members: Mark Fish, Charles Landauer**

**Children's Chapel: Becky Langrall, Kirsten Wheeler**

**Hospitality: Marilyn Ortinau, Dorothy Newell**

**Team: James Lyerla, Mark Fish, Stan Herman, Sharon McCarron**

## [Our Minister's Message - Unitarian Universalists Gather for Ferguson October](#)

The weekend of October 10-13 Unitarian Universalists from Metro St. Louis and beyond will participate in "Ferguson October". Below is a list of things that we as a congregation are organizing:

Friday, October 10th [Rally and Gathering of UUs](#)

All congregations and out of town Unitarian Universalists will gather for a time of inspiration and preparation for our public witness. 7:00 PM at Eliot Unitarian Chapel.

Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> [Call to Action March](#)

10:00 AM Scottrade Center, Downtown St. Louis

Let's make a big splash of yellow as Unitarian Universalists march with our banners in the march for racial justice.

Watch our website for details of where and when to gather.

For information about related events that weekend, or to open your home to out of town participants, go to [prayingwithourfeet.org](http://prayingwithourfeet.org).

Check out the [St. Louis Standing on the Side of Love page](#) for more details

You may consider joining any of these actions, or opening your home to Unitarian Universalists and other people of faith who are coming to the city to participate and have asked for home hospitality. If you wish to offer home hospitality, please be in touch with Rev. Rebecca Turner of Faith Aloud, an organization we have partnered with for years.

Contact [execdiretor@faithaloud.org](mailto:execdiretor@faithaloud.org)

Yours in faith, Rev. Krista.

Office Hours

Oct 6-12: Oct 6-9 District Ministers Meeting, Racine WI; Oct 9-12 – Ferguson October

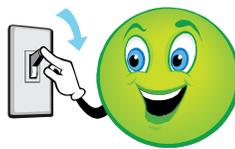
October 13 – 19 – Wed, Thurs, Sat.

October 20 – 27 – Wed, Thurs, Sat.

Rev. Krista Taves is available for regular pastoral care on Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday afternoon. She is available for emergency pastoral care 24/7. If you have a pastoral care emergency, please leave a voice mail at 417-343-8657, 636-256-7393 and [pastoralcare@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:pastoralcare@emersonuuchapel.org). Someone should be in touch with you shortly. A pastoral care emergency includes death, the proximity of death, or a life-threatening emergency. If Rev. Krista Taves is on her weekend, vacation or study leave, please contact either the Office Administrator ([office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)), Pastoral Care Team Leader Karyl Howard ([pastoralcare@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:pastoralcare@emersonuuchapel.org)) or President of the Board Nancy Belt ([president@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:president@emersonuuchapel.org)).

## You Oughta Be in Pictures!

All you members and friends who'd like to show your face alongside your listing in the directory on the new Emerson website, here's your chance. As a recent e-mail to you said, you can e-mail an image showing faces of those in your listing, as you prefer, to Designer Aja Lyonfields. Photo requirements and other specifics are in the e-mail. For more information, please contact the church office.



## Lights on? Lights off? How about both?

Since Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel has moved into its new worshipping space at Barat Academy, we have been making improvements every week to the worshipping experience. One area that has been given much thought and care is the lighting in our sanctuary. Quite honestly, it is not optimal. The fluorescent lighting is extremely bright. First, we tried turning the lights off and using our own lighting, but this left the sanctuary much too dark. So the lights came back on, and it was nice and bright but also made the multimedia much too dim! In the end, we tried doing both at once, with the bank of lights over half the sanctuary on, and the bank of lights on the screen-side off. Finally, we have found what works! Only in a Unitarian Universalist congregation would the lighting itself reflect our diversity! If you like light, sit on the light side of the sanctuary. If you enjoy the dimness and find it comforting, sit on the darker side of the sanctuary! Issue resolved!



## Bring a Friend Sunday, October 19, 2014

Did you know that 85% of the people in Unitarian Universalist congregations found Unitarian Universalism as adults? More than half of them first came to a Unitarian Universalist congregation because they were invited. People who visit a congregation because they are invited are 50% more likely to return than people who visit because they found the church on the website. The reason is simple: they already know people, the people who invited them, who will introduce them to all their friends. Those invited will leave their first service having made many connections, which is exactly why most people search for churches in the first place. We are looking for a place to feel connected, a place where we matter and can grow in our spiritual selves.

So, how do you go about inviting someone to come to worship with you? This can be scary for a lot of Unitarian Universalists because many of us have such a negative reaction to the concept of “evangelizing.” Aren’t we supposed to be different?

We are different from most other churches because of our emphasis on freedom and the individual right of conscience, and that’s exactly why we are worth finding out about. How many times have you heard people say, “I wish I’d found this church years ago. I feel like I missed out on so much,” or, “I’ve always been Unitarian Universalist and didn’t know it.” Too many people never find out about us because we are too shy to share what we have found.

Each of us became a Unitarian Universalist because it spoke to who we are. Now, we have the chance to offer that gift that to someone else. It is a vulnerable thing to do? Sure it is. That’s why it helps to prepare.

Here are some tips on how to build up your courage to invite a friend to come to worship with you:

- 1) Spend some time reflecting on what brought you to visit a Unitarian Universalist congregation for the first time. What were you looking for? And, why did you choose to come back?
- 2) How has being a Unitarian Universalist shaped who you are? How have you changed? If you have a family, how has it benefitted your family?
- 3) Who do you know in your life who shares your values?
- 4) Who do you know that is going through a transition, like moving or divorce, getting married, having a child, or experiencing a death? Transitions are when we most need to make connections with others. Those connections can be lifesavers, metaphorically and sometimes literally.

When you invite a friend, you have the chance to share something important of yourself. Share your story. Share your gift. You can also share with them the website of the church, [www.emersonuuchapel.org](http://www.emersonuuchapel.org). Invite them to browse our website, especially the sermons. Invite them to ask any questions they have, and invite them to join you on October 19<sup>th</sup>.



## FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 18th 4-7 PM – Cochran (large) Pavilion, Babler State Park  
Bring hot dogs to roast. Bring your own beverages. S'mores are provided.

There will be a Chili Cook-off judged by Vince Seyer and a pumpkin decorating contest.

## Eliot Vigil - 09/30/14

On Tuesday, September 30th, 2014, my wife (Connie) and I attended the vigil at Eliot UU Chapel to show our support for the people of Ferguson, MO.

Having grown up in Florissant, MO (the town next door to Ferguson) until the age of eight, I have extremely happy memories of my life there. How heartbroken I was to see the events unfold on national TV, following the death of Michael Brown. A young man, who was the same age as several of my beloved nephews.

Reverend Krista has asked me to explain why we chose to attend this vigil, what the experience was like and what did it mean for me.

Our reasons for attending are multifaceted. Perhaps it starts by living with the guilt of knowing that my parents chose to move out of North St. Louis County because African-American families were beginning to move there in the late 1960's. Perhaps it's because as a gay woman, I have experienced police brutality in my own life and have complex feelings towards law enforcement. Of course, as a social worker, I understand and work with individuals daily, who suffer because of poverty and injustice. For Connie and myself both, perhaps we're just tired of seeing people treated like second class citizens in this supposedly "civilized world" that we live in.

We had been trying to attend this vigil for the past few weeks, but work and life had been a challenge. After hearing about our Emerson Board President's (Nancy Belt) moving experience last week though, we decided that we must go and show our support. When we arrived, it was good to see Reverend Krista and so many of our Emerson members already there. It was strange to feel a mixture of sadness and anger for the events in Ferguson, along with the positive emotion of being with those who support the same cause. Then, there is always my concern that some crazed lunatic with a gun is going to drive by. Well, finally I calmed down and just allowed myself to be grateful for the ability to participate in supporting my fellow human beings.

Having marched in numerous gay pride parades over the past thirty years, I realized that this was the first time that I had protested for someone other than myself. Of course, I've supported numerous causes and participated in many fund raisers over the years, but they were mostly health related (for example - the American Heart Walk, Susan B. Koman Breast Cancer Walk, etc). I felt that this was a paradigm shift in my life. I've always wanted to be more involved politically, but have made excuses not to do things that I felt passionately about. I would say things, like "I can't do that because I'm a mother" or "my employer won't like it". Perhaps I was worried that people would ridicule me. Well, fortunately, I'm a stronger woman now and I've faced fear so many times, that I hardly recognize it anymore!

Lisa A. Parnell, MSW, LCSW

## Emerson Chapel joins the Eliot Unitarian Chapel Vigil on Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 6 PM to 7 PM

Eliot Chapel has held this vigil since the shooting of Michael Brown. They are holding vigil to stand in solidarity with people of color in our city and will hold vigil until the Grand Jury makes a decision regarding the indictment of Officer Darren Wilson. The Vigil is growing larger and gaining wider media coverage. Here is an article from last week's St. Louis Post Dispatch: [http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/kirkwood-s-tragedy-six-years-ago-brought-to-forefront-with/article\\_3d15b296-51ba-52e6-880c-3ecbb78e8839.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/metro/kirkwood-s-tragedy-six-years-ago-brought-to-forefront-with/article_3d15b296-51ba-52e6-880c-3ecbb78e8839.html)

The Vigil is peaceful and for all ages. It takes place outside in front of Eliot Unitarian Chapel, which is located at 100 Taylor St. Kirkwood MO. If you wish to carpool, email Rev. Krista at [minister@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:minister@emersonuuchapel.org) or check in at the Emerson facebook page to see who else is going. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/119879484463/>

For more information and to see pictures of the Vigils, go here: <https://www.facebook.com/stlstandingonthesideoflove>

## A New Opportunity

A Women's Spirituality Circle is beginning at Emerson UU Chapel. This would be different from Womyn's Web, although there will likely be some overlap. The focus is on the feminine divine as we honor our lives as women.

We will follow the Wheel of the Year (essentially seasons) in ritual. The calling of the four directions begins each ritual as we move around the wheel to invoke the energy and sacred element each direction represents. Discussion and sharing follows.

The first meeting is Friday, October 24 at 7:30 pm in O'Fallon. It will include a ritual to celebrate Samhain (Halloween). At that time we will also determine a schedule for upcoming gatherings. Leadership would be shared, and we will probably meet in members' homes. Contact Phyllis Guberman for additional information (info in Directory) or send an e-mail to [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)



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## Second Sunday MESH (Making Each Sunday Happen) team this Sunday.

Are you on Susan's team? Find out here: Click on the link:  
[http://www.emersonuuchapel.org/documents/mesh\\_teams\\_for\\_email.pdf](http://www.emersonuuchapel.org/documents/mesh_teams_for_email.pdf)



## Circle of Concern – Our community's food pantry

Holiday Food Drive: In addition to the regular groceries we provide to our client families each month, Circle of Concern provides a Thanksgiving Basket to all of our clients and their families. Your gifts of food will help us offer Thanksgiving dinner to as many as 700 families plus supply more than 2,000 people with food each month.

Thanksgiving Items: Cornbread Mix/Biscuit Mix; Stuffing, Canned Fruit, Boxed Rice Mix, Canned Vegetables, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Milk (evaporated or condensed).

Thank you for your ongoing support. Please place your items in the red wheelbarrow on Sunday Morning!

In honor of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, congregations across the continent are sending us greetings and congratulations. These are wonderful expressions of care, gratitude, and support.



Unitarian Church North

*Providing the light of religious freedom in the warmth of a caring community*

Dear Members of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel,

Wow! Congratulations on reaching your 30<sup>th</sup> year as congregation. You have much to celebrate and I'm guessing many stories of both triumph and sorrow as your congregation has grown and shifted over the years. From what I hear you have handled the challenges that have come your way with grace, compassion and integrity.

All transitions, even those from changes that we choose are uncomfortable and I applaud your commitment as you make your way through the selling of your building and the reimagining of your mission and vision. With this kind of commitment to both the current and future members of our faith, as well as the love of your minister, (she brags about you all the time), I see many blessings coming your way, for you and the community you serve.

Faith regards,

The Rev. Julie Forest  
Unitarian Church North  
13800 N. Port Washington Rd.  
Mequon, WI 53097

## This Week's Calendar of Events

October 10-13	Ferguson October
SUN, Oct 12	10:00 AM - Worship - 17815 Wild Horse Creek Road, Chesterfield (Barat Academy) 11:20 AM – RE for all Ages
WED, Oct 15	7:00 PM – Board Mtg
THUR, Oct 16	7:00 PM – Love First
FRI, Oct 17	6:30 PM - **Java Soul
SAT, Oct 18	4 to 7 PM - ** Fall Festival

Meetings are held at the Chapel Office, 16233 Westwoods Business Park in Ellisville unless indicated \*\* as offsite.

### LOOKING AHEAD: M-SLICE WORK DAY – Saturday, November 8th

#### Notices & Invitations from our Outreach Partners, our Wider UU Community & Sister Congregations

**Eliot Chapel Invites you to a “Friday Night Film Series” – *Remembering Rev. James Reeb, A Witness to the Truth***

All Films will be shown at 7:00 PM in Adams Hall at Eliot Chapel in Kirkwood

November 14<sup>th</sup> – “Inequality for All”

January 9<sup>th</sup> – “Traces of the Trade: A Story from the Deep North”

March 13<sup>th</sup> – “Citizen Koch”

May 8<sup>th</sup> – “Stolen Ground”



#### How/Where/When to find us:

Sunday Morning 10:00 AM

17815 Wild Horse Creek Road, Chesterfield, MO 63005  
(Barat Academy)

#### Mailing & Meeting Address:

16233 Westwoods Business Park Drive, Ellisville, MO 63021

The office is staffed

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9 AM to 2 PM; Friday from 9 to Noon

Phone: 636-256-7393

e-mail:

[minister@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:minister@emersonuuchapel.org)

[office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)

## **Emerson UU Chapel 2014-2015 - Board Members**

President: Nancy Belt

President Elect: Mary Murphy

Vice-President: Jake Lyonfields

Vice President Elect/Secretary: Mark Fish

Members-At-Large: Debbie Baumuel; Jeff Gidday; Charles Landauer

Treasurer:

Assistant Treasurer: Melissa Grizzle

Minister: Rev. Krista Taves