

# *THIS WEEK AT EMERSON – NOVEMBER 20, 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 – November 23**

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

**10:00 AM - Worship Service – Rev. Krista Taves**

**Bread Communion**

On this Sunday, you are warmly invited to bring bread that represents the tradition(s) you grew up with.

The bread can be homemade or something you picked up from your favorite bakery!

You will have the opportunity during the service to briefly speak of the significance of your bread, and to share it with the community.

**Special Music: Barb Brown, vocalist**

**No Children's Chapel**

**11:20 AM**

**All Ages Service Project during RE Hour**

**\*Plan to share in this outreach project to Gateway 180: Homelessness Reversed**



**\*The Visioning Team will be hosting an informal activity during sandwich-making from 11:20 to 12:20.**

**\*Pathways to Membership – Session 1 with Rev. Taves**

Our Outreach Partner is: **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee**

UUSC advances human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world. [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)

**Serving this Sunday:**

**Liturgist: Susan Stafford**

**Greeters: Dan & Kathy Ryan**

**Song Leaders: Megan Demsky, Lauren Mackey**

**Board Members: Charles Landauer, Mary Murphy**

## Our Minister's Message

I am one of those people who is fortunate to have a mother who bakes bread. When I was growing up, every Saturday morning my mother would get out her massive bread bowl and her massive bread board and bake 8 loaves of bread, which is about how much our family of six went through in a week. The smell of her baking bread wafting through the house is one of my favorite memories. When I now get a slight whiff of baking bread at the grocery store, which of course can't even come close to my mother's, I am immediately transported back to my mother's kitchen. I can remember sitting by the freshly baked bread, waiting for it to cool enough to cut a thick warm slice and drench it in butter.

She baked the same bread that her mother and grandmother and great-grandmother baked, a very fine white bread particular to Russian Mennonite culture. Every country and every culture has a tradition of bread. Pita, matzos, conchas, french bread, guagas de pan, braided bread, zwiebach, egg bread, pumpernickel, sour dough, flat bread, limp, stollen, gugelhopf, injera, barmbrack, panetone, Swiss Zopf, and more.

America is often called a melting pot of nations. This is a great blessing and what makes this country so unique. Thanksgiving holds the founding story of this nation, a story of abundance from scarcity, and the coming together of different cultures. It is right and it is good to give thanks for the tremendous diversity of people that gives this nation its identity. This means that your culture and your background is an integral part of what makes this nation what it is.

This Sunday, our Thanksgiving Bread Communion will hold up the beauty of the diverse traditions from which we come. You are invited to bring bread from your own tradition. It could be a bread that you grew up with, a bread that you bake, a bread that you remember. It could be a bread associated with a particular culture, or it could be a bread you associate with your own family. You could make that bread or buy it.

During the service, you will be invited to bring your bread forward and briefly share what makes this bread so special to you. Then we will break bread together and enjoy the bounty of our precious people.

This is an all-ages service. If you have children, you may want to take some time before Sunday to talk about the breads that mean so much to you, and decide together what you will bring to share with the congregation.

Yours in faith and abundance,

Rev. Krista



Office Hours Nov 17 – 23 – Wed, Thurs, Sat.; Nov 24 – 30 – Study Leave

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)).

**“Black Lives Matter” Vigil**  
***Living the Message in West St. Louis County***

When: Every Saturday until Christmas, plus Black Friday.  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Where: Boones Crossing and Chesterfield Airport Road, Chesterfield MO  
Bring: Signs saying “Black Lives Matter” or “We Stand With Ferguson”  
Hosted by: Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel

[www.emersonuuchapel.org](http://www.emersonuuchapel.org)



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## VISIONING UPDATE

The Visioning Team is hard at work developing a strategic plan for Emerson. The process begins with collecting input from as many of Emerson's members and friends as possible. Please help! Over the next few weeks, there will be many different opportunities to share your thoughts, hopes, and dreams with the Visioning Team.

One upcoming opportunity will be this Sunday, when the Visioning Team will be hosting an informal activity during sandwich-making from 11:20 to 12:20.



## Emerson Singers! NO Rehearsal this Sunday!

Choir will practice on Sunday mornings at Barat from 12-1.

Dates: November 16, November 30, December 7, December 14. **NO rehearsal November 23.**

The Emerson Singers (a.k.a. The Choir) has been invited to sing for the December 21st service. We will sing 2 songs: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and a round "Shalom Havayreem." The choir is open to anyone over the age of 14 who likes to sing - no training necessary. If you would like to sing or have any questions, please contact me. (See directory)

Musically yours, Camille Herman, Director

## Stories of Hope from our November Outreach Partner – UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee)

Chrisantus Mwandih, a veteran human rights defender of the Kakamega Rain Forest in Kenya leads the charge with UUSC working to save their forest, water sources, and ultimately the climate. Chrisantus founded the SoilFarm Multi-Culture Group (SFMG). They offer education about environmentally friendly agricultural techniques and indigenous food crops. SFMG made it possible for community members to sustainably grow enough food to use and sell –while preserving the rain forest and protecting their water supply too. Christantus explained: “We have these streams, but they are no longer safe. The water is contaminated because the fertilizer used in the farms finds its way into the streams as water flows downstream.” The techniques that SFMG uses ensure the health of their water sources.

## Progress on Investment Decisions

If you've been wondering what progress has been made in deciding how to invest net proceeds of Emerson's sale of 73 Strecker Road long-term, I have good news!

Thanks to arduous work by the Reserve-fund Team, a subset of the Finance Team, and the Board's approval of their recommendations at the November Board meeting, we're now working with a professional financial advisor—Brock Ayers, of Wells Fargo. Brock was one of three candidates interviewed by the Reserve-fund Team. He manages Eliot Unitarian Chapel's investments and was chosen for his greater experience, knowledge of working with nonprofits, ability to communicate well, and cost-effectiveness.

The Board also approved the team's recommendation of a process for investing, which includes steps, as follows:

1. Identify our investment goal(s) and process for allocating our funds.
2. Create a cost-effective investment portfolio that fits goals, tolerance for volatility, and time frames.
3. Get consistent updates on results.

In addition, the Board has approved keeping at least \$25,000 total in Commerce Bank accounts as a liquid cushion and in order to remain fee-free at Commerce. This decision will be reconsidered at the end of Emerson's visioning process, in order to evaluate fees saved compared to possible lost return.

Next steps will be to meet with our financial advisor on Nov. 21 to discuss risk-tolerance and either then, or soon thereafter, to hear his specific investment recommendations. Then ask the Board, at its Dec. 10th meeting, to approve investment recommendations and authorize both the opening of the account at Wells Fargo and two Finance-team members as signatories. They will transfer funds from our money-market account at Commerce Bank into investment funds as approved. This is expected to happen in December.

More detail will be provided at a "Linger Longer" discussion after the worship service on Sunday, November 30. Hope to see you there.

Nancy Belt, President, Board of Trustees

[Did you receive your Winter 2014 copy of "UU WORLD" ?](#) It features an article on UU Vigils for Ferguson, including a photo of our own Rev. Julie. Every member of Emerson should be receiving UU WORLD. If you did not receive a copy, please contact the office: [office@emersonuuchapel.org](mailto:office@emersonuuchapel.org)



## CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Thank you for your support of the food pantry throughout the year! Please place your donated items in the red wheelbarrow in the entry.

Circle of Concern will be the recipient of our "Mitten Tree" collection this year – Beginning November 30<sup>th</sup>, we will be collecting mittens, hats, and kid undies for distribution among the 700-800 families that Circle serves.



REad all about RE!



Remember to save these dates!

November 23<sup>rd</sup> during the RE hour inter-generational event – Sandwich Making  
We will need bread, apples, cookies, peanut butter!

November 30<sup>th</sup> – Mitten Tree appears – Bring your winter hats, mittens, and “kid undies” for  
Circle of Concern, which serves about 2,000 persons each month, more than one-third of  
those are children.

Circle of Concern is first and foremost, a food pantry. In 2013, C of C fed 27,382 individuals with 44,927 bags of groceries – enough to put a bag on every seat in Busch Stadium, with a few thousand to spare. At Circle, feeding families is just the beginning, though. There is also financial support, scholarships, job mentoring, children’s programs and holiday events.

December 7<sup>th</sup> – Our middle-schoolers party with Rev. Krista  
4:00 to 6:00 PM  
Hosted by Becky Langrall

December 17<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 PM - RE Team Mtg

February 8<sup>th</sup> – RE Service

[Pathways to Membership Class Begins Sunday](#)

**November 23, December 7 and December 14**

If you are new to Unitarian Universalism or this Chapel, or if you are considering membership, you are welcomed and encouraged to take this class. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Unitarian Universalism and to meet others new to Emerson or to UUism. The three-session series will be held following the regular Sunday service on November 23, December 7 and December 14, during the Religious Education Hour at 11:20 AM. The three sessions will cover the history of North American Unitarian Universalism; Unitarian Universalist theology; finding your place: Social Justice, Religious Education, fellowship and how things get done. Each session includes interaction time and teaching time and there is much opportunity for discussion.

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.



***Universalist Unitarian Church of Haverhill***  
***16 Ashland Street, Haverhill, MA 01830***  
[www.uuhaverhill.org](http://www.uuhaverhill.org)

Dear Rev. Krista and People of the congregation,

I am writing on behalf of the UU Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts, to congratulate you all on your congregation's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I hope you had a wonderful celebration of the good ministry Emerson Chapel has brought to your part of Missouri for the past thirty years!

Your minister and I have been engaged in the same continuing education program, sponsored by the UU Minister's Association, for the past two years. From her I have heard about the different ways you all are moving forward and making our liberal faith more relevant to these interesting times we live in. I want to thank you and applaud you for your vision and courage in making these changes. Please know that others in our Association notice the kinds of bold leadership you have shown, and we support you and are grateful to be connected to you.

Our congregation in Haverhill participated last year in New England Leap of Faith, a congregation to congregation mentoring program, and we are trying to take our own bold steps in order to be a healthy and thriving congregation for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I have told our Leap of Faith team about some of the things the folks at Emerson Chapel are doing, such as transforming your worship to better meet the needs of people today. Please know that you inspire and encourage us, and we are grateful for you.

Blessings on you all as you celebrate your 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary...and in the days and years to come!

Yours in faith, Rev. Frank Clarkson

- NOTE: FYI – There have been some inquiries re our participation in the Amazon Smile program. We have just received this notification.

*This email is to notify you that Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel will be receiving a **\$12.04** donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between **July 1 and September 30, 2014**. The donation will be deposited to your organization's bank account on or before Nov 15, 2014. It may take several days for the donation to appear in the account.*

*As you know, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible AmazonSmile items and there's no cap on how much we will donate.*

*The holidays are coming, and you can increase your organization's donation potential by spreading the word about AmazonSmile. Sign in to <http://org.amazon.com> and click on Marketing Tools to access customized online tools to let your supporters know that they can support your organization when they shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). When you send an email or post to social media promoting your participation in AmazonSmile, make sure you use your charity-specific link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/43-1364860>. This bypasses the charity selection page and makes it easier for customers to select and support Emerson Unitarian Universalist Chapel through AmazonSmile.*

## This Week's Calendar of Events

FRI, Nov 21	**6:30 PM – Java Soul
SAT, Nov 22	**11:30 AM – Vigil at Chesterfield Commons
SUN, Nov 23	10:00 AM - Worship - 17815 Wild Horse Creek Road, Chesterfield (Barat Academy) 11:20 AM – RE Hour – Service Project/Pathways class Session 1/Visioning Activity
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday MESH (Making Each Sunday Happen) team this Sunday Are you on Barb's team? Find out here: Click on the link: <a href="http://www.emersonuuchapel.org/documents/mesh_teams_for_email.pdf">http://www.emersonuuchapel.org/documents/mesh_teams_for_email.pdf</a>
Thur Nov 27/Fri Nov 28	THANKSGIVING! – Office closed Thursday and Friday
SUN, Nov 30	10:00 AM – Worship – 11:20 AM Linger Longer - Everyone Welcome Bring finger foods to share and join in fellowship Noon – Choir Rehearsal

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

### LOOKING AHEAD:

**Congregational Meeting - January 25<sup>th</sup>**

**RE SERVICE – February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**On Saturday, March 14**, from 10am to 5pm, Dr. Ysaye Barnwell and St. Louis men, women and children will circle within the nave of Christ Church Cathedral and build vocal community by singing in the African-American tradition. You are invited to join us for this amazing experience. Africans and African-Americans have raised their voices in song for hundreds of years in order to remain connected to their heritage, to tell stories, to protest, to boost morale,.....to build community. Through this workshop, we will learn to do the same. True to tradition, all songs will be taught and learned by rote.

Dr. Barnwell is an amazing woman and a masterful facilitator. Her heart shines forth with faith and joy and her deep voice soars with the angels. Her wisdom and strength come from over 70 years of living, singing, composing, marching, teaching and leading. Dr. Barnwell holds degrees in speech pathology, craniofacial studies and public health. She recently retired after 30 years of singing with **Sweet Honey in the Rock** to focus on building community.

All are welcome - all that is required is a willingness to sing! This event is sponsored by the St. Louis Women's Hope Chorale. Online registration is available at [stlwomenshopechorale.org](http://stlwomenshopechorale.org). You may also register by calling **(314) 727-3587** Tickets are **\$20/person** for the full-day event. I hope that you will help us spread the word about this amazing workshop, as well as join us on March 14 for an incredible experience of singing and building community.

-- Camille Herman

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

WinterWomanSpirit 2015 – February 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>: Hosted by Lake Country UU church in Hartland, WI 53029  
“Healing Words: Called to Consciousness” – Keynote Speaker: Mary Pierce Brosmer  
Registration thru Dec 31, 2014 is \$175 - Visit [www.womenandreligion.org](http://www.womenandreligion.org) for more info

Eliot Chapel Invites You to

Join Queen Elizabeth I and the Lords & Ladies of the Court for Hors D'Oeuvres, Drinks & Dessert in an Evening of Merriment & Song.

Be Royally Entertained by ye Greenleaf Singers, Royal Actors of the Not-Ready-for-Reformation Players, and Recorders of the St. Louis Madrigal Consort, all assembled for the 39th Annual Renaissance Madrigal and Christmas Rout.

December 4, 5, & 6, 2014

Doors open at 7:00 pm/Festivities begin at 7:30

Prices are \$30 for Thursday night, \$35 for Friday and Saturday night.  
(one table of 8 remains for Saturday night)

Registration closes November 30th.

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 and Friday from 9 AM to 2 PM

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 Baumoe; Jeff Gidday; Charles Landauer

Treasurer:

Assistant Treasurer: Melissa Grizzle

Minister: Rev. Krista Taves