

Room Names at St. John's UU Church

Ground Floor Rooms

Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) was an Indian lawyer who led his country to freedom from British colonial rule in 1947. He was assassinated in 1948. Gandhi is most famous for his philosophy of nonviolence that has inspired civil rights leaders around the world.

Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was a Founding Father who served as the third president of the United States. He was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson never joined a Unitarian church, but he attended Unitarian services in Philadelphia where his friend Joseph Priestley was minister.

Nightingale

Florence Nightingale (1820-1920) was a British nurse, statistician, and social reformer. Nightingale's greatest achievements were to create social reform in health care and nursing. She came from a Unitarian family.

Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) was the 16th president of the United States marked by the Civil War from 1861 to 1865. In 1863, he issued the Emancipation Proclamation that freed enslaved people within the Confederacy. Lincoln grew up in a Baptist family and attended Protestant churches with his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln.

Darwin

Charles Darwin (1809–1882) is primarily known for his theory of evolution by natural selection, outlined in *On the Origin of Species*, published in 1859. Darwin's parents attended a Unitarian chapel throughout his childhood, but he was christened in the Church of England. He considered himself an agnostic.

Eisenlohr Library

The Rev. Hugo Eisenlohr was St. John's minister from 1884 until 1931. Rev. Eisenlohr's ministerial training was at the Meadville Theological School established by a Unitarian. After a lengthy illness which included a variety of guest ministers, Rev. Eisenlohr suggested to the congregation that they affiliate with the American Unitarian Association. St. John's became a Unitarian church in April 1924.

Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks (1913-2005) energized the struggle for racial equality when she refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama. Her arrest in 1955 launched the Montgomery bus boycott which lasted 381 days. The United States Congress has honored her as "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the freedom movement." She was a member of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church.

First-floor Rooms

Krolfifer Fellowship Hall

The Rev. Julius Krolfifer was minister from 1931 until 1955. Rev. Krolfifer's time at St. John's was a period of transition. His ministry began at the church on 12th and Elm Streets. In 1946 the congregation moved to Hanselmann [Masonic] Temple on Clifton Avenue, a temporary location. In 1952 the first service was held at Resor Avenue in what is now Krolfifer Fellowship Hall. Rev. Krolfifer died before the completion of the sanctuary in 1960.

Haehnle (Lobby and Art Gallery)

In 1949, the Resor Avenue property was purchased after a \$21,000 gift was received from member Jacob Haehnle.

Second-floor Rooms

Wells

The Rev. Clarke Wells was the minister of St. John's from 1956 until 1965. The sanctuary was built during his ministry and its design is due to the inspiration of Rev. Wells. According to Dick Reiman, former historian and a member of St. John's at the time, Rev. Wells "charged the architects to design a sanctuary to represent the holy and be a statement that there is more to life than the limits of our horizon, and that we are part of the cosmos."

Susan B. Anthony (See the entrance to the RE and music office.)

Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) was an American social reformer and women's rights activist who played a pivotal role in the women's suffrage movement. She was born into a Quaker family.

This information is from a variety of online sources such as Britannica and Wikipedia or from St. John's historical records.