

The
DISCOVERER
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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Of COLUMBUS
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WORSHIP SERVICES

March Theme: Diversity and Difference

March 6, 2011 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Kelly Flood & Rev. Mark Belletini

"What I've Learned About Liberal Religious Values While Serving as an Elected Representative in Kentucky"
Rev. Flood, some of you may remember, spoke at Mark Belletini's Tenth Anniversary Celebration. She became a UU at the Hayward Church, where Mark served before coming here. She served as minister at our church in Lexington for many years before serving as the Vice President for Finance at Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley CA, alma mater of both Mark and Eric. She and her husband Neil once led a Marriage Workshop here.
Mark fully believes that their son Evan will one day win either a Tony or an Oscar!

March 13, 2011 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

"Invisible, Inevitable Diversity"

7:00pm: Racial Unity Service: Fixing a Broken World See page 9 for details

March 20, 2011, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00A.M.

Rev. Suzan McCrystal

"Reflections on A House for Hope"

Social Justice Offering; Spring Equinox

► "Getting to Know UU" meets Sunday mornings in Slowter Lounge, following each service. Anyone interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and about the First UU Church of Columbus is welcome.

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

1:00p Archives Organizing
 1:30p Library Team
 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
 6:00p Movement (formerly Dance) Choir Group
 6:30p Gay-Straight Alliance
 7:00p Sunday School Com.; Settlers 30-Something
 7:30p Men's Spirituality; Yoga
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, March 3, 2011

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 7:00p Artist's Way (co-ed); Intro to Mindfulness
 7:30p Chalice Choir; A House for Hope

Friday, March 4, 2011

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission
 6:30p First Friday Potluck; Harry Potter Event
 7:30p Community Leaders Forum; Drumming
 7:30p Women's History Project

Saturday, March 5, 2011

8:30a Zen Meditation
 11:00a GSA Phone Bank

Sunday, March 6, 2011

8:45a Breakfast
 9:15/11:00a Worship Service; Sunday School
 10:15a Choir Warm-up
 10:30a/12:15p Getting to Know UU
 11:00a Coming of Age
 1:00p Caring Committee Workshop
 1:00p Committee on Shared Ministry
 1:30p Wellspring

Monday, March 7, 2011

7:00p UU Dance Fellowship; Program Council

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

9:30a Archives Organizing
 10:00a Artist's Way for Women
 10:30a Menu for the Future
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups
 5:45p Tuesday Supper (until 7:00p)
 6:00p Path to Membership
 6:30p Peace Pals Choir
 7:00p Zen Meditation; Rising Voices Choir
 7:00p Social Committee; UU Bible School
 7:30p Men's Spirituality
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

1:00p Archives Organizing
 6:00p Movement Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p BREAD Network; Covenant Grp. Steering
 7:00p Community & Questing; Memoir Writing
 7:30p Yoga; Men's Spirituality; Personnel Com.
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, March 10, 2011

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 10:30a BREAD Executive Committee
 7:00p Expressive Collage; Artist's Way (co-ed)
 7:00p Building & Grounds Com.; RE Council
 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal; A House for Hope

Friday, March 11, 2011

7:00p Origins of Religious Thought
 7:30p All Soles Contra Dance

Saturday, March 12, 2011

8:30a Zen Meditation
 9:00a Path to Membership
 11:00a Parents of Infants & Toddlers; Improv Dance II
 1:00p Yoga Workshop
 7:00p Women's History Month film: *Agora*

Sunday, March 13, 2011

8:45a Breakfast; Leadership Development
 9:15/11:00a Worship Service; Sunday School
 10:15a Choir Warmup
 10:30a/12:15p Getting to Know UU
 11:00a Coming of Age
 12:30p Sunday Forum; Leadership Develop. Training
 12:45p Mindfulness Group
 1:00p Youth Group; Green Team
 1:00p Racial Diversity Task Force
 7:00p Racial Unity Service; Big History

Monday, March 14, 2011

7:00p UU Dance Fellowship; Executive Com.
 7:00p Adult Enrichment Programs; G-S Alliance

Tuesday, March 15, 2011

9:30p Archives; Newsletter Folding
 10:00a Laughter & Lunch
 10:30a Menu for the Future
 1:00p Cancer Support Group
 5:45p Tuesday Supper (until 7:00p)
 6:30p Peace Pals Choir
 7:00p Zen Meditation; Sound Techs; Book Bites
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir; Stewardship Committee
 7:00p Finance Committee
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

8:00A UU Food Co-op
 1:00p Archives organizing
 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
 6:00p Movement Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p Membership Com.; UU Humanists
 7:00p Covenant Group Steering Team
 7:30p YOGA; Men's Spirituality
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

ESOL meets MWF at 9:30a; FOCUS (ages 18-35) meets on Mondays at OSU, 7:30p; 513-910-0449

The Discoverer - Next Issue - Sunday, March 13

Deadline: 1:00p hard copy in yellow folder

6:00p e-mail copy to olwfire@yahoo.com

LINKS

Our annual pledge drive is just around the corner. Rev. Kelly Flood will be our guest preacher next Sunday to kick off the campaign. After serving as minister of the UU Church of Lexington, Kentucky, she now divides her time between her seat in the Kentucky state legislature and being VP for Advancement at Starr King School for the Ministry.

Our Stewardship Team, including Patricia Boughton, Carey McDonald, Gretchen Faulstich, Dan Hronek and others, have been working hard gearing up for this year's campaign. The last two years many people participated in the pledge drive during their regular church activities, as church groups were asked to set some time aside for discussion on how the church is making a difference in the life of their family. This year a good number of you will be contacted directly by our trained stewards to respond to similar questions. However you go about making your pledge this year, I hope you will take the time to think over the importance of the congregation in the life of you and your family, and be as generous as you can be when it comes time to fill out the form.

All of us know that this remains a time of economic uncertainty. We simply ask you to do what you can. On a Sunday during our drive last year, I mentioned that I have several colleagues who tithe to the congregation's they serve, that is give 10% of their income. Here in Columbus, the Board has asked that we consider giving 5% of our adjusted gross income. Last year I let folks know that while 10% seemed like more of a stretch than I could make, that I would try, as an experiment, giving 7% and that is what I have done. What I can tell you is that I noticed the difference. At first I noticed it as a reduction in what I had available for incidentals. However, after the first month, I noticed it in other ways, namely how much more vested I felt in this place, how much more pride I felt in all the great things I saw happening here. That's a return on an investment I am happy to continue making.

Shifting gears slightly, I want to make sure you know about the best dinnertime bargain in town. For over two years, we've been serving up family dinners once a week. Bob Letcher is currently the chef for our Tuesday Night Dinners which begin at 5:45 pm. \$4 for adults, \$2.50 per child for a main course, salad and drink, and some of the best company around. I look forward to seeing you there.

in peace,



Rev. Eric Meter

IT'S BUDGET TIME! All budget requests for next year's budget need to be turned in by March 10, 2011. Please place them in the Finance Committee mailbox in the Volunteer Workroom next to the office, or e-mail them to david.douglass@hotmail.com. Questions? Call David Douglass at 614.214.4267

BUDGET DRIVE Face-to-Face Stewardship Visits This Year Many UU churches have annual face-to-face conversations with their members every year during the annual budget drive. We have some wonderful members who volunteered to conduct these visits.

One of the goals of these visits is to enhance people's relationship and connections with the church. Also, Stewardship will be working to capture information to relay back to the newly reformed Strategic Planning Committee to discuss dreams and visions for the church.

Though we do not have the resources to speak to the entire congregation this year, we will be inviting some members and friends to meet with a steward during March. If you would like to have a face-to-face discussion with a steward, please let us know.

-- Stewardship Committee. - Patricia Boughton, chair

WORSHIP COMMITTEE Training for new Sunday service Coordinators will take place after church on **Sunday, March 27**. Anyone interested may contact Judith McDowell at 814-933-6112 -- or just show up! The training session will last about two hours.

FIRST FRIDAY *March 4, Potluck at 6:30pm; Programs at 7:30pm.* There will be multiple activities for all ages: 1) **Harry Potter activities** - Potions, Quidditch, Spells and more. Dress up if you like! 2) Women's History Month program: **Ordinary Women Living Extraordinary Lives**. Collage making. Bring photo and small statement in person. After March 4, supplies will remain in the Volunteer Workroom.

BIG HISTORY The History of the Universe from the Big Bang to DNA: Join Wanda Hambrick and Pat Marida at this ongoing series of two half-hour video lectures by Professor David Christian, San Diego State University. *Big History*, weaves a single story from a variety of scholarly disciplines. **Sunday March 13, 7pm #44 The World that the Modern Revolution Made and #45 Human History and the Biosphere. Sunday, March 27 at 7pm** Finale! Wanda and Pat will show the final three half-hour video lectures: #46 *The Next 100 Years*, #47 *The Next Millennium and the Remote Future* and #48 *Big History—Humans and the Cosmos*. Come to any or all!

BOOKBITES *March 15* in Slowter Lounge, 7 to 9pm.
New and timely topic: read a book, fiction or non, about a country in the Middle East.
-- Kathleen Boston, 262-4025.

PARENTS OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS

The next meeting is on *Saturday, March 12*, from 11am to 1pm. We gather in Room 1 for socializing and play. Contact Nancy Powlick for more information.
451-4045 lpowlick@columbus.rr.com

CHAKRA YOGA WORKSHOP with Terry LeMaster *Saturday, March 12, 2011, 1:00 – 5:00pm* in Fellowship Hall \$10.00 Have you heard about the chakras and wondered what they are, or do you want to explore/enhance your awareness? This workshop will share teachings from the classic masters as well as contemporary thinking on the yoga philosophy of the human energy system. Participants will practice asanas, guided visualization, chanting (mantras), and meditation focused on chakra awareness. We will work together as a group to develop understanding of our energy systems.

Wear comfortable clothes; bring a mat, blanket and sitting cushion if you have one. Bring water to drink and a writing journal.

Terry is a Certified Advance Kripalu Yoga teacher with over 30 years of teaching experience and currently teaches yoga at First UU on Wednesday evenings. This workshop is a service to First UU members, friends and any yoga practitioner who desires to learn, and the cost is kept low for this reason.

The workshop is for those who've practiced hatha yoga for at least 6 months, or by permission of instructor. Pre-register or call with questions: Terry at 614-218-2855 after 5:00 p.m.

GARDENING CLUB Next meeting at the church: *Sunday, March 27, 12:30-2:00pm*. Bring a brown bag lunch and we will firm up plans for an upcoming seedling/extra seed swap, our road trip to Schnormeier Gardens in June, and other items. All levels of gardeners are welcome. Contacts: Pam Hussein and Chris Hardin.

GLBTQ & ALLIES BOOK GROUP The next meeting of the group will take place on *Monday, March 28, 7:30-9:30*. We'll discuss Joan Roughgarden's thought-provoking book *Evolution's Rainbow: Diversity, Gender, and Sexuality in Nature and People*.

The book group is open to all, regardless of orientation or gender expression. Also, as each book stands alone, participants may attend this session, regardless of whether they attended previous ones. Contact Caroline Rayner (crayner@columbus.rr.com or 447-1167).



Did you know?...**One in 100 adults (one in 15 black men) in America is behind bars.** What happens to those people when they leave prison? The re-offense rate is almost 70%. BREAD's Crime and Violence Research Committee has discovered several proven interventions to at least alleviate this problem. But without the power of many to convince authorities to implement one or more of them, little will happen.

The BREAD congregations are working toward turning out at least 3,000 to the BREAD **Nehemiah Action Meeting on May 2** this year, with First UU providing 300 members and friends, their families, friends, neighbors, and colleagues. The larger the numbers, the greater the power to get proven solutions implemented. Help us meet this goal by becoming a member of First UU's Justice Network?

Your responsibilities would be to attend an organizing meeting, the **BREAD Rally on April 4**, and both attend and bring three others (or send four if ill or out of town) to the **BREAD Nehemiah Action Meeting on Monday May 2, 6:45 p.m.**

Come to the **First UU Justice Network Organizing Meeting** to learn what you can do and how: **Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 pm, First UU Worship Center**. Contact Alice Rathburn, 895-2109, 563-0536, or alice37@insight.rr.com. For general information, go to www.breadcolumbus.org.

The time is always right to do the right thing.
(M.L. King Jr., 1967)

FOOD PANTRY Thanks to all the knitters who participated in the Afghan for Athens County project -- and especially to Gretchen S. Curtis and her mother Gretchen A. Curtis! I handed the afghans out to a number of women for their daughters. These were the women who are working off their food stamps at the pantry. I call these "Afghans of Hope For a Better Life." And I handed out some of the afghans to some of the senior women who attend the pantry. (One of these women is going to be 87 years old on March 9. Her daughter said that she has had a tough year healthwise. The afghan made a perfect early birthday present of caring.) There will be pictures of the afghan recipients of the last three years at the Caring Table.

Yes, we are still collecting winter clothing and blankets. And don't forget the children-friendly non perishables food items...and the empty aluminum cans.

Special thanks to Russ Hippensteel for his generous

continued on next page

donation of five cases of dried pinto beans - and for his help in the pantry. Also special thanks to Russell Evans and his father, Mark, for making trips to Mineral to help haul donations, and then to help in the pantry. Two Russells helping in the pantry at the same time!

And finally, special thanks to Paul Evans for his frequent help at the pantry whenever he gets a holiday.

*** We are starting to collect vegetable seeds - tomatoes, green beans, kale, corn, bell peppers, yellow squash, zucchini, watermelon, and radish - for those able to grow their own.

Please stop by and talk with me about donating if you have concerns. I am presently helping a Girl Scout troop and another youth group with community service requirements. Remember what Emerson said, "You can't help someone else without helping yourself."

-- Jacques Angelino

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to: **Steve Abbott and Melanie Boyd**, who were recently engaged; **Marc Pinsonneault**, a Professor of Astronomy at The Ohio State University, who was recently elected a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science; **David Maywhoor and Beth Abramovitz** who were married earlier this year; Brad Closson, a Worthington

High School senior, who has been given a President's Scholarship from Mt. Carmel School of Nursing; **Nancy and Curt Greene** who celebrated 60 years. of marriage on February 7; and **Caroline Balderston Parry** our former Interim Religious Education Director, whose son, Richard Reed Parry, is a member of the band, *Arcade Fire*, winner of the 2011 Grammy Award for Best Album of the Year.

We thank **Gretchen Curtis** who organized the knitting project and her mother who assembled knitted the blocks, made by First UU volunteers, into over 40 afghans and made borders for each afghan.

Our healing thoughts are sent to **Jeanne Hammond**, who fell in her apartment recently. She is doing fine -- sore, but nothing was broken.

Our thoughts are with **Teri Li and family**. Teri, former First UU member who sat on the search committee that brought Mark here, had a bone marrow transplant this week from two sources, including her son.

Our condolences to the **Yoho Family**, whose mother and grandmother, Marie Yoho, died recently.

Words on Music



by Tony McDonald, Music Director

After a lull in the action, activities in the First UU Music Program are about to pick up. So pull out your iPhone, Blackberry or desk calendar (like me) and please note down the following:

Friday, March 25, 7:30 pm: *Beatles Sing-along*. This year's sing-along will feature all your favorites from the Fab Four. We'll sing along to the actual songs, with words on the big screen, of course.

...**Saturday, April 16, 7:30 pm:** *Youth Talent Nite II*. Last year's evening showing off the many abilities of our talented young people was such a hit, it's back. Drama, poetry, and all kinds of music will be on display.

Sunday, May 1, 3:00 pm: *Chamber Music Concert*. Lea Pearson and Nancy Nehring will present chamber music for flute and viola, accompanied by Nathan Hamm and friends. Program not available yet, but with these performers, we know it will be professional quality music making.

Sunday, May 22, 4:00 pm: *Spring Choirs Concert*. The concert is entitled "Make Love, Not War – Music of the 60s and 70s." More great music from that amazing era (see Sing-along above), with all four choirs performing: Peace Pals, Rising Voices, Spirit of Life and Chalice.

One more note about music this spring. The UUNIVERSE! Concerts, a pillar of our series here, will be taking a temporary hiatus. Lea Pearson, founder and artistic director of the series, notes that some retooling is needed for the series to carry on and she is looking for someone to help manage the organizational and development ends of the operation. She hopes to have the series running again by this fall. So do we all.



Is Shared Housing for You?

Shared Housing Panel and Discussion, Wednesday, March 30, 7:00PM. Have you thought about sharing your home? Are you seeking shared housing? This panel discussion will offer lots of information on how to undertake shared housing, how to screen potential house or apartment-mates, experience with purchasing a residence together, and much more. Please join us. Questions or to get involved in planning, Deb McGuire, HomesColumbus@gmail.com



On February 13, in our two worship services, the congregation entered into covenant with our first three Faith Development Associates. You may wonder what Faith Development Associates (FDA) are. It's been about a year since I wrote to you about a plan to use the commitment, passion, skills and time of our most dedicated volunteers more productively...a plan to offer these volunteers satisfying opportunities to provide ministry to children, teens, adults, other volunteers, and whole families.

FDAs commit to three years, to take at least one class in their area of ministry and an anti-racism class. They come together monthly to share their personal joys and concerns and what's going on with their ministry.

Carolee Noonan was the first to volunteer. She supports our teachers in the 9:15am Sunday School program. She gets to know the children and their families. If you attend at 9:15, make it a point to get to know Carolee. She has an extensive background in UU Sunday School. She taught in other UU churches prior to coming to First UU. She was instrumental in getting our 9:15 Sunday School program started and she has served as the chair of the RE Council for two years. Carolee and husband Dan have two children in Sunday School, Ben and Cordelia.

Deb Baillieu has been the coordinator for Our Whole Lives (OWL) for several years. So becoming the Faith Development Associate for OWL was just a matter of formalizing it. Deb has taught every level of OWL, our values-based sexuality education, and she recently completed a rewrite of the first grade curriculum. Deb has a masters degree in early childhood education and teaches at SYC.

I'd love to talk with you about the overall plan for restructuring our religious education, to move from meetings to ministry. I'm in my office from 1 to 6, Monday through Thursday. My extension is 28, my email dre@firstuucolumbus.org.

Jolinda

Religious Education News

SAVE PEACE CAMP DATES - STARTING AUGUST 1 AND AUGUST 8 ... Peace Camp will have two week-long sessions starting August 1. We will not have age segregation, so block out one of those weeks in your busy summer calendar. Peace Camp is for those who have completed 1st grade through 6th grade. Look for registration in March. There is a very reasonable sliding scale fee, and we always welcome donations to help make the camp available for everyone. Talk to leader Cindy Dillard cynthia.dillard6@gmail.com for details about this exciting experience.

The Month of March in Sunday School...

PreSchoolers: Wild Experiences. Continuing to explore water creatures.

Elementary : Questions about **differences and diversity** (adult worship topic for March also). They'll be using science to discover how important diversity is in the universe. They'll learn about diversity in human society. And, they'll look at diversity through art activities.

Race To Justice group: Presentation the *Ingathering* story on March 13 and beginning work on a video.

Coming of Age youth: working with their mentors.

High School youth: working with some of our basic UU values - freedom, reason, hope and the spirit.

Diversity & Difference Workshop Leaders Needed

We are looking for several workshop leaders for the elementary groups at both 11 and 9:15 for March. We have specifically asked biologists and ecologists to work with kids on the importance of diversity from a science standpoint. We've also asked a few people who work with human diversity and anti-racism to be workshop leaders. You don't have to be specialists to lead great workshops, however. Check out the workshop leader's blog - 1stuuworkshopleaders.blogspot.com - for ideas, and then check with Jolinda or Deb. They are at ext 28 at the church (267-4946) or email dre@firstuucolumbus.org.

Other quick ways to make Sunday School spectacular:

1. Make **Holi** even greater this year. Kids are already asking for it. Holi, sometimes called the Holiday of Colors, is an Indian spring holiday celebrated by all the major religions in India. We celebrate it more than a month late to correspond more closely to the reality of spring here. Last year we had body smearing with fingerpaints, face painting, dancing to Indian music with scarves ankle deep in flower petals and storytelling. Had the weather been better we would have had squirt guns with children's water paint. We need people to lead all of these activities. You can volunteer through the comments link below or by calling the RE Office.
2. Lead the PreK/K groups in **Justice Sunday**. The suggestion is that they visit the bison at Battelle Darby Creek and go "creeking" there the next week. If we reserve now for the two May Sundays, we can likely get a park naturalist to develop a program for us.
3. Work with our Justice Sunday Coordinators for Children and Youth and a Spanish-speaking Catholic Parish. On those two Sundays in May we would like to join with a Catholic Parish that we met at the Feast Day of the Virgin of Guadalupe. We will need adults, as well as youth, to plan the events. Particularly consider this if you speak Spanish, but don't rule it out if it interests you.

Two other groups...

CIFY is looking for interfaith bridge-building **UU Youth ages 13-19!** *We know you are out there!* Columbus InterFaith Youth are busy with preparations for work projects around town focusing on their chosen theme for 2011--**Hunger**. We have Muslim, Jewish, UU, Christian, Hindu and Questioning youth coming together on the **2nd** and **4th** Sunday afternoons throughout the year between **2** and **4pm**. We often meet in the Upper Arlington Library but location changes depending on the project. One Sunday each month is for interactive work and dialogue events, the other is for planning the chosen projects. **March 13** is dedicated to the YES!(Youth Empowerment & Skills) training with our mentor Nina from *Art of Living*. On **March 27**, Bob E. from Hungernet.org is planning to enlighten the youth about hunger in Ohio. We're planning a Lunch Sack Packing (175 lunches) for the Open Shelter on **April 10**. And, our second annual "*Spruce Up the Near-East Side*" is slated for Sunday, **May 1, 1-4**. If you been looking for a way to **wage peace and build bridges of justice**, come work with youth of other faiths to make that dream a reality! You can join us on Facebook at *Columbus Interfaith Youth*. Or, call UU mentors Susan Roscigno or Lauri Nandyal, 471-6171; email cifygroup@gmail.com.

Anti-bullying work group forming

We have long needed a bullying curriculum at First UU that deals with bullying in age appropriate ways every year in every class. Bob Rice and Shilah Griffith would like you to join them and the DRE to pull together this curriculum from existing materials.

At the panel discussion following the movie *Bullied*. Jolinda Stephens, our DRE made the following points.

1. Many UU kids are bullied.
2. Many more UU kids witness bullying and are distressed because they don't know how to make it stop.

3. Some studies indicate that these witnesses are the key to ending bullying.
4. Learning to be allies and stand up against bullying is a great first step to becoming allies against racism and other oppressions.

There are many excellent resources that address bullying. The purpose of this work group is to bring these resources together, tie them to our UU values and design a three-session unit appropriate for each age that can be woven into every curriculum every year.

If you would like to be a part of this group contact Bob Rice (bricejr@gmail.com) or Jolinda Stephens (dre@firstuucolumbus.org).

Adult Religious Education Program

Zen Columbus Sangha Presents a Retreat with Edward Espe Brown

Please join us for traditional meditation and an opportunity to take meditation off the cushion, into the kitchen, and into our ordinary lives.

Priest, author and chef Brown leads a retreat at the Franklin Park Conservatory and First UU, **April 1-3**. *Registration deadline is March 15*. Information and registration forms are available at <http://www.zencolumbus.com/>

This will be Ed's second visit to Columbus. His first weekend workshop in 2009 was well received with a diverse audience. A number of those attendees, as well as persons who could not attend because available spaces were filled, have been asking for another visit. This year's cooking workshop with Edward (*Cooking From The Heart*) will be taking place at the new Community Education Classroom Kitchen at the Franklin Park Conservatory, and the all-day Meditation Workshop is returning to the church (Fellowship Hall).

Edward Espe Brown began cooking and practicing Zen in 1965. He was the first head resident cook at Tassajara Zen Mountain Center. Edward helped found the celebrated Greens Restaurant in San Francisco and worked with Deborah Madison in writing *The Greens Cookbook*. Ordained a priest by Shunryu Suzuki Roshi, he has taught meditation retreats and cooking classes throughout North America and Europe. Edward's other books include *The Tassajara Bread Book*, *Tassajara Cooking*, *The Tassajara Recipe Book*, and *Tomato Blessings and Radish Teachings*.. (These, plus other writing from Edward will be available for purchase as autographed copies, at the workshop.)

In 2007, Edward appeared in *How to Cook Your Life*, a critically acclaimed feature-length documentary film on his life directed by Doris Dörrie. A two-minute trailer clip from this film is featured at our link for registration, and offers a joyful and genuine glimpse of Ed, as he is in his workshops.

Ed has been speaking to the concerns of our connections with food, sustainability, community-building, and transformation with humor and heart, for a long time.

"A House for Hope" Join Rev. Susan McCrystal and Rev. Eric Meter in an exploration of our theological and spiritual heritage, *Thursdays (beginning March 3) at 7:00pm*.

AEP continued on page 8

Introduction to Mindfulness -- In this workshop you will learn about the core concepts of mindfulness and how to pay attention to the present moment in a non-judgmental fashion. Experiential exercises and techniques will be introduced. Presented by Matthew Fleming. *Thursday, March 3, 7:00pm*.

Origins of Religious Thought -- What is this phenomenon called religion that finds expression in only one species on our planet? How did it come to be? And why does religion continue to be such a dominant force in the 21st Century? *Fridays, March 11, 18, and 25, 7:00pm*.

Laughter and Lunch -- This week Len Powlick has chosen two classic "I Love Lucy" shows with Lucille Ball. After the film, stay for a simple lunch. *Tuesday, March 15, 10:00 am*.

Prehistoric Goddess -- March 20. Please read and come prepared to discuss *The Chalice and the Blade* by Riane Eisler.

-- Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus
267-4946, Ext 28 Families - firstuuparents-dot-blogspot-dot-com Sunday School leaders - 1stuuSundaySchool-dot-blogspot-dot-com Workshop leaders - 1stuuworkshopleaders-dot-blogspot-dot-com

First UU Auction, 2011: An Evening in Paris Update

Over 270 persons were transported to Paris for a memorable evening 2/19/11. Our great dinner was created by, Ellin Ray, chef, and Becky Wolfe, sous chef, with wonderful side dishes provided by attendees (yes, if you didn't bring a side dish, please plan to do that in 2012...it helps us keep the ticket prices for the event low.)

FYI, the ticket doesn't just cover the dinner - we have approximately \$2,300.00 in expenses for the total event. The decorations were coordinated by MaryLou MacDonald. Bar Maven Cathy Elkins, Silent Auction Queen Cathy O'Neil and her Lady-in Waiting, Paula Hook, and Patisserie Coordinators Kitty and Oliver Jones all created the ambiance for the evening. Our amazing technology guru Jim Pinkham and co-conspirator Carl Faulstich facilitated our website, registration, and checkout. Danya Furda was responsible for proofing the brochure and layout with Jim, as well as running the slide show and arranging the music. Our own Paul Delphia was our able Auctioneer. I will do a shout out to all of our wonderful volunteers in the next newsletter.

Everyone has been asking how we did - we are off slightly from projections - but you have two more weeks to purchase - so get buying! Our net after expenses is \$26,369.07 - we still have sales to record - so we are close to our net goal of \$27,500.00

Thanks to all who attended, volunteered, baked, etc. to make it a wonderful evening. Put February 18, 2012 on your calendar now!! --Jo Anne St. Clair, Auction Co-Chair



On **Sunday, March 13, 7pm** at First UU, we will have an interfaith Racial Unity Service -- co-sponsored by Columbus Metropolitan Area Church Council. The service will focus on immigration, religious tolerance and social justice in general. Guest speakers include Senator Charleta B. Tavares, Rev. Jeffrey Kee, Rev. Gini Bauman, and Rev. Eric Brown. Please spread the word among friends including non-UUs. After the service, we will have a "Justice Fair" and a reception in Fellowship Hall with tables set up for various anti-poverty, immigration and religious tolerance organizations. Please plan to attend - if possible wearing your "Standing on the Side of Love" t-shirt - and bring a friend.

We need volunteers in the following areas:

- greeter/usher • host/hostess for reception • photographer • publicity • parking lot monitor, or
- join other UU choir members in a blended choir with New Faith Baptist Church.

Please RSVP to Lauri at lnandyal@yahoo.com or 614-471-6171

Gift

of

Life

Sunday, March 6

Worship Center, 1pm



This year's Caring Committee workshop will look at organ, tissue and blood donations – the "Gift of Life." A panel forum will include a representative from *Lifeline of Ohio* and the *Red Cross* plus church members Jeanne Desy (an organ recipient) and Laurie Brown (Jeanne's organ donor). A light lunch will be available prior to the program. Please put **March 6, 1:00pm** on your calendar now and plan to join us.

I am writing this at 2am before I leave for California to attend the Senior Ministers of Large UU Congregations conference in Santa Barbara. I will have a day with my cousin Sergio Belletini and Los Angeles family before I go up the coast.

Recently, I've heard folks around the church saying that they fear that our social justice concerns are fragmented, and that everyone has their own axe to grind, which means nothing much gets done.

I'd like folks that feel that way to research further. Please. And reconsider their pessimistic critique.

The folks on the social justice team that I know are well aware that every issue is connected to every other issue, but that they are all working together for the same end...justice. Justice is not competitive. For instance, this business about the denial of the collective bargaining process is not just about the power of people to engage with each other democratically. The bill in question deviously, almost devilishly...also links anti-GLBT legislation to the process, to spread the bullying around, and get people to break ranks and be competitive.

The recent attempt in Congress to redefine the meaning of the word "rape" is another case in point. It's bold, like the Hebrew crown prince Amnon was bold when he raped his half-sister Tamar "because he could, being stronger than she was." That's what the text says, brilliantly, in the Second Book of Samuel, 13: 14. This reveals the plain truth as far as I am concerned...that those who undo social justice are about power "over," while those who insist that justice on earth is possible speak of power "with."

The BREAD organization speaks of power "with," but so do so many other progressive organizations, including those working hard to keep Roe vs Wade from being completely undone in the next few weeks. It's almost undone now. But those who want power over women want to deny not only that she has been raped, but that, if she makes a decision about the consequences of that cruelty, she is no different than Jeffrey Dahmer.

It's all connected. Poverty to sexual repression and violence. Democracy to freedom. Justice to spiritual affirmations. That makes it seem pretty overwhelming, perhaps. But power with others is able to bear the weight of the overwhelm and actually accomplish a great deal, which indeed, our social justice teams have done, if you would look at the record.

What do you imagine your entrée might be into the justice practice of this congregation? With whom will you share your power?

Ah, at last, spring is on the way!



Rev. Mark Belletini

The Inner Flame Rev. Alexia Salvatierra 2010

In the religious community, we think in generations, and that's the way to think because that's how real change happens. Legislation is just the tip of the iceberg...there are deeper things going on under the surface.

March 13' 2011, is the hour change this year. Don't forget to put your clocks ahead one hour that weekend.

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister
Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister
Rev. Carol Brody, Minister Emerita
Rev. Wendy Fish, Minister Emerita
Dick Dawson, Chaplain
Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education
Deb McGuire, Staff Secretary/RE Assistant
Tony McDonald, Music Director
Brandon Moss, Chalice Choir Director
Cheridy Keller, Choir Director
Nathan Hamm, Pianist

Marian Garcia, Office Administrator
Stephanie Rottmayer, SYC Director
Joe Voltolini, Bookkeeper
Don Hippensteel, Events Coordinator
Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant
Cathy Hausmann, Facilities Assistant
Rich Humenick, Chair, Board of Trustees
Brian Hagemann, Church Administrator
Jessica Winters, Lead Toddler Room Teacher
Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor
