

The **DISCOVERER**  
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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
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## WORSHIP SERVICES

*May Theme: Community*

**May 29, 2011 10:00 A.M. (one service only until September 11)**

**Rev. Kathleen Fowler**

**“ General Assembly: Becoming Progressive and Prophetic in our Faith”**

**June 5, 2011 10:00 A.M.  
Group**

**.Coming of Age**

**“Coming of Age”**

**June 12, 2011 10:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Mark Belletini**

### **The Story of our Story (GLBTQ Sunday)**

*The service will be followed by a “mini potluck,” First UU Library Open House and **Annual Meeting!***

► "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, May 25, 2011**

1:00p Archives Organizing  
 6:30p Life Stories  
 7:00p Memoir writing; Board of Trustees  
 7:00p Community and Questing  
 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

**Thursday, May 26, 2011**

9:30a Improvisational Dance  
 10:45a Senior Gathering  
 6:45p UU Animal Ministry  
 7:00p Expressive Collage  
 7:30p Chalice Choir; Healing Journey

**Saturday, May 28, 2011**

8:30a Zen Meditation  
 9:30a Improvisational Dance II

**Sunday, May 29, 2011**

8:45a Breakfast  
 10:00a Worship Service; All Ages Sunday School  
 11:30a Getting to Know UU  
 12:00p Pre-GA Meeting

**Monday, May 30, 2011 Office Closed**

7:00p UU Dance Fellowship

**Tuesday, May 31, 2011**

9:30a Archives Organizing  
 1:00p Cancer Support Group  
 7:00p Zen Meditation

**Wednesday, June 1, 2011**

9:30a Library Team  
 1:00p Archives Organizing  
 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys  
 6:30p Life Stories  
 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

**Thursday, June 2, 2011**

9:30a Improvisational Dance  
 7:30p GSA Phone Bank  
 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, June 3, 2011**

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission  
 6:30p First Friday Potluck  
 7:30p Community Leaders Forum

**Saturday, June 4, 2011**

8:30a Zen Meditation  
 9:30p Memorial Garden Workday  
 10:00a Red Cross Blood Drive; GSA Phone Bank  
 6:00p COA Dinner and Program

**Sunday, June 5, 2011**

10:00a Worship Service; All Ages Sunday School  
 11:30a Getting to Know UU  
 11:30a Youth Group  
 1:00p Committee on Shared Ministry  
 1:30p Wellspring

**Monday, June 6, 2011**

7:00p UU Dance Fellowship  
 7:00p Program Council

**Tuesday, June 7, 2011**

9:30a Archives; Newsletter Folding  
 1:00p Cancer Support Group  
 2:00p BREAD  
 7:00p Zen Meditation; Social Justice Committee  
 7:35p Worship Committee

**Wednesday, June 8, 2011**

8:00a UU Food Co-op (447-1608)  
 1:00p Archives Organizing  
 6:00p Zen in the Workplace  
 6:30p Life Stories  
 7:00p Memoir Writing Group  
 7:30p Personnel Committee  
 7:30p Women's Spirituality; American Poetry

*ESOL meets MWF at 9:30a; FOCUUS (ages 18-35) meets on Mondays at OSU, 7:30p*

**The Discoverer - Next issue - Sunday, June 5  
 Deadline: 12:00p - Hard copy in yellow folder  
 6:00p - e-mail articles to olwfire@yahoo.com**

**LINKS**

I've been informed that not everyone reads the congregation's Annual Report cover-to-cover, so let me devote this column to one of the topics I'll be highlighting in my report to the congregation.

Yet as I want to talk to you about the *Wellspring* program, let me begin by once again offering my appreciation and thanks to the five members of our *Wellspring* program this year who joined me in leading the Sunday service on the program earlier this month. I've been hearing well-deserved raves ever since.

*Wellspring* is an adult faith development program, and you may have heard me describe it as a "Coming of Age for Adults." Over the course of the church year, participants read from the histories of both Universalism and Unitarianism, several of our foundational theologies, and explore together our experiences of loss, crisis, joy and forgiveness. In addition to our biweekly sessions, each person in *Wellspring* also commits to a daily spiritual practice, and to meeting with a spiritual director monthly.

Just as the Coming of Age program is a high-commitment program for the ninth graders in the congregation, *Wellspring* is a high-commitment enterprise for adults. And while we had one *Wellspring* group this year, we hope to have two next year. If you are interested, please email me at [ericm@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:ericm@firstuucolumbus.org). The program will begin with a day-long retreat on Saturday, September 10.

But that's not all. While *Wellspring* operated more or less independently this year, next year it will have a home as a sibling to our continuing Covenant Groups. To make this possible, the current Covenant Group Steering Team will become the Small Group Ministry Steering Team, and administer both Covenant Groups and *Wellspring*.

And our Covenant Groups will be undergoing some changes as well. As in year's past, some will start in the early fall and continue through the regular church year. What will be new, however, is that other groups will start later, staggered to match the schedule of our *Path to Membership* classes. The goal is for those Covenant Groups to help our newer members form a base for themselves in the life of the congregation.

That's a lot of change in a fairly short order. We know we'll be learning as we go and that, in many ways, next year will be a transitional year. At the same time, we're excited about the new direction for both Covenant Groups and *Wellspring*. Come be a part of the adventure. in peace,



Rev. Eric Meter

## CHURCH NEWS

### ◀ ANNUAL MEETING ▶ and Mini-Potluck Lunch!

Please mark your calendar to attend the Annual Meeting on **Sunday, June 12 at noon**. The meeting will follow the 10:00am service and a mini-potluck to keep stomach grumbling to a minimum. Your presence makes a difference and we want your input. We'll have **elections** for 2011-12 Board of Trustees members, Leadership Development Committee and Moderator; we will approve the **budget**; and we will hear **reports** on the health of your church. Bring a little something tasty to eat and we will see you there.

The **Library Team** invites you to visit the newly renovated First UU Library on June 12, prior to the Annual Meeting. Team members will be present to explain how to use the materials and to answer questions. Please come.

**UUAM SERIES** The UUAM (Unitarian Universalist Animal Ministry) will be offering a summer reading discussion series focused on the bond between human and non-human animals. Please call Lisa Daris at 208-6381 if you are interested in joining our discussion.

**BLOOD DRIVE** Please mark your calendars for a Red Cross Blood Drive to be conducted in Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, June 4, 10am to 2pm**. Information is available at the Caring Table along with a sign-up sheet for volunteers (we need four) and cookies.

**GTBQ & ALLIES BOOK GROUP** Our next regular will be held on **Monday, June 27, 7:30-9:30pm**. We'll discuss the written and movie versions of *Angels in America*.

The book group is open to all, regardless of orientation or gender expression. Contact Caroline Rayner ([crayner@columbus.rr.com](mailto:crayner@columbus.rr.com) or 447-1167)

**SUMMER ART Who am I? Ages 1 to 100.** This will be self portraits of church members. Make your self portrait based on what you like to do/what you believe/what you look like/what you love. It does not have to look like you (although this is welcomed). This art includes 2-D, 3-D, and words (poetry in large print). All works must be framed with a wire for hanging. This is open to adults and children. One to two pieces per artist. The show will be July 1- August 28. **Take-in dates are Sunday, June 26, 11-12 and Monday, June 27, 5-6 pm**. If you wish to participate please email Deb Baillieul, [debbsyc@yahoo.com](mailto:debbsyc@yahoo.com), 614-447-1223

**RAFTING** We will be rafting the Gauley and New River in West Virginia. We will leave the church at **10:00am on May 28** for our 3 1/2 hour drive to the Class VI site for platform tent camping. We will raft on Sunday and return to Columbus on Monday. For more information- check the website [www.classVI.com](http://www.classVI.com), or call Chuck Wolfe, 337-9620, or Pat Larson, 268-7670.

**CAMPING** at Delaware State Park , **Friday, June 17-Sunday, June 19** - Join other UU families and friends for weekend of camping - tent or trailer. Enjoy communal meals, hiking, swimming or just relaxing. About \$32 if you share a site. Find us on Facebook: First UU Columbus Camping, or contact Patricia Boughton, [patkap@wowway.com](mailto:patkap@wowway.com) or 860-1164.

**BOOKBITES** meets on **June 21** in Slowter Lounge from **7 to 9pm**. Continuing our reading "Around the World," the new topic is **Any country in Central Asia**. Kathleen Boston, 262-4025.

**WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY** Wednesday at 7:30pm  
May 25 - Talking Circle -- Jeanni Ray, 985-6176

**RAIN GARDEN** A new rain garden has been proposed for First UU as part of the West Weisheimer Road Storm Water System. The rain garden would be located between the two driveways along Weisheimer Road. It's part of the long-sought storm water drainage system to be built here by the City of Columbus.

The city would pay for construction costs. However, maintenance of the rain garden, like the current one near the Memorial Garden, would be the responsibility of the church. The garden would be owned by the church. Construction would take place in 2012.

The rain garden would take water runoff from the road east of the church. This allows water to percolate into the ground water, removes pollutants, and keeps heavy runoff from flowing into the Olentangy River. Excess water flows back into the storm water system. The church Green Team and the Building and Grounds Committee have given tentative approval to the plans.

Some medium-sized trees would be removed. The city has offered to replace them elsewhere on the property. The church sign would be removed and placed nearer the main entrance at our expense. Please take a look at a copy of the plans and additional details on an easel in the Gallery. Comments would be appreciated.

- David Richter, Chair, Building & Grounds

### ***SOCIAL JUSTICE***

**PARADE "March with Pride in Pride!"** The annual Columbus Pride parade is **Saturday, June 18**. The First UU GLBTQs and their allies have a tradition of marching in the parade. This year, the GSA will have a booth in Goodale Park. On Friday evening, June 17, the GSA will host a potluck in Fellowship Hall starting at 6:30pm. In addition to food and fellowship, we will make signs for the parade and welcome UU youth from across the state who are coming to Columbus for the parade. Please sign up to march and volunteer at the GSA table in Fellowship Hall after the service or contact Bob Rice, [bricejr@gmail.com](mailto:bricejr@gmail.com).

**FOOD PANTRY NEWS** Summer is almost upon us! The children will be at home and not getting breakfast and lunch at school. Fewer people will be coming to church. As you see, this creates a double whammy: less food donations and a greater need! Please consider donating by sending a check to Jacques Angelino, 617 Woodsfield Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43214, made out to **Feed My Sheep**. "You'll be glad you did!"

There is a great need for peanut butter at the pantry. And, don't forget, we also need your empty aluminum beverage cans. These are sold and the money is used to

purchase food for the pantry. (And Mother Earth will be glad you kept the cans out of her landfill!)

Donations of children's books are needed to enable us to put two books in every food box. Summer is a perfect time for reading!

Summer is also a great time to bring your kids to Southeast Ohio to do some age-appropriate, hands-on Social Justice work. A large group is already booked for June 13. Call me at 888-8052. Remember, your donations and considerations are greatly appreciated in this, the poorest county in the state.



**BREAD** (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity), First UU's multi-faith, multi-ethnic social justice organization, is working to make change in the areas of crime and violence, health care, at-risk youth, and neighborhood blight. Read the May, 2011 BREAD newsletter on the Publications tab at [www.breadcolumbus.org](http://www.breadcolumbus.org) or pick one up from the BREAD section of the bulletin board in the Window Hallway. For further information, call or e-mail Alice Rathburn, 895-2109, [alice37@insight.rr.com](mailto:alice37@insight.rr.com), or ask another member of First UU's BREAD team.

### ***CARING CORNER***

We send best wishes to three members who are retiring: **Jan Waters**, Director, School for Young Children; **Jack Wisniewski**, who is taking early retirement from Columbus City Schools where he has been a psychologist; and **Garlena Bauer** who is retiring, as a tenured full professor, after 22 years at Otterbein University in the Department of Sociology.

We send congratulations to **Joan Matyskella**, who will give a presentation at Guangxi Medical University in China on "Shared Governance in Hospital Nursing"; **Eva Della Lana**, who graduated from Ohio Wesleyan, magnum com laude; **Carol Fleming** who received a scholarship from the Central Ohio Health Information Management Systems Society; and **Faith Van Horne** who earned her first degree black belt in Matsubayashi Ryu karate.

We send caring thoughts to: **Deborah Miller Gnann** whose mother, broke her hip; and to **Teri Li** still facing challenges following her bone marrow transplant three months ago for acute myeloid leukemia.

We send our sympathy to Sarah **Weigand** whose grandfather recently at the age of 90.

**GRADUATING?** Please tell us if someone in your family is graduating this year. Either fill out a *Joys and Sorrows* form found on First UU web site at

firstuucolumbus.org) or contact Jane Reisman at [jnreisman@aol.com](mailto:jnreisman@aol.com).



## JAM

At First UU, justice work is undergoing a major transformation with the proposed **Justice Action Ministry (JAM)**, a multi-generational, multi-racial, and often musical, celebration of the work of justice. We're jammin'!

We are starting with proposed changes to the church Standing Rules. These are available on the church website ([firstuucolumbus.org](http://firstuucolumbus.org)), and will be posted on the bulletin board in the Window Hallway in addition to the printing below. Please provide your feedback on these changes, or the JAM effort, to any of the *Jam Transformation Team* (David Maywhoor, Rich Humenick, Tim Hooks and Ray Nandyal). The changes will be voted on by the Board of Trustees.

*We attract others to our faith movement by actively and publicly modeling our principles and Mission Statement. Our spiritual lives are inseparable from the struggle for equal access to food, clean air and water; housing, education, employment, health care, and legal defense as well as respect for the rights of women, people of color, immigrants, religious minorities and lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgendered humanity. This is based on our belief in inherent worth and dignity of every human being and in the interdependent web of life.*

*Toward this end, the Justice Action Ministry (JAM) is organized to be a ministry of the entire church body. For purposes of church governance, it will be treated as a committee.*

### JAM

- *is the unified work of the Board of Trustees, committees, youth, choir members and musicians, covenant groups and staff of First UU, and*
- *will boldly engage the justice issues of the day and will provide church members ample opportunities for public witness of their faith.*

### **Responsibilities. The responsibilities of JAM include:**

1. *At the Annual Meeting every other year, present a slate of six justice areas (for example, anti-poverty, immigration reform, women's rights including reproductive choice, criminal justice system reform, and so on) out of which the congregation will select four to focus on during the following two years. The focus will allow us to pool our resources better and is not intended to affect church members' support for justice issues that fall outside these four justice areas.*
2. *JAM leadership will consist of two co-chairs and four JAM coordinators, each representing the four justice areas selected by the congregation.*
3. *Create and maintain a JAM volunteer database that will allow us to contact church members interested in congregation-selected justice areas.*
4. *Review proposals and select social justice projects proposed by church members or friends that require financial resources or volunteer support.*
5. *Disburse funds contributed by church members and from other sources to support social justice projects of the church. Funds received in support of JAM will be accepted through the normal approved receipt process.*

**Unitarian Universalist Service Committee:** *JAM is charged with promoting and publicizing the work of the UUSC. It has the responsibility of raising funds for the UUSC, using materials as the UUSC may offer. It shall not conduct any sort of general solicitation within the congregation without specific approval of the Board of Trustees.*

### Living Up To Our Reputation

“The religions say you can experience eternity in this life, here and now, by getting those moments of ecstasy where time ceases to be a constraint. And you do it by the exercise of the Golden Rule and by compassion.” - Karen Armstrong

Did you see the story about First UU and our interfaith work in the latest edition of the UU World? It makes us sound amazing. And, we do some amazing things here. The story featured our interfaith worship services, the Columbus Interfaith Youth and BREAD. Each is an example of the Golden Rule and compassion in action. And each has been given form in and through our congregation by an incredible amount of hard work of just a handful of people. The Nandyals, Allegra and Susan Roscigno and Alice Rathburn are at the center of this important work that we do here.

Sustaining this work takes all of us. Each of these people needs other dedicated people who shoulder the load beside them, who take on major responsibilities, who see the goal of a pluralist world where justice reigns as essential to their experience of the eternal. It also takes those of us who have that vision who can take on a smaller piece of the work, but who step forward willingly, eagerly and make the vision of First UU, the champion of pluralism and inclusion, a daily reality.

Today was the last Sunday of regular Sunday School programming. Sunday School programming has contributed its own small bit to our vision as a congregation that works toward justice. Today Gus Roussi, Jackson Rudoff and Sam Roscigno took Know Your Rights pamphlets that the youth folded in Sunday School last week to La Michoacana Grocery on Morse Road and distributed them to shoppers, often struggling to communicate with those who spoke only Spanish. They really impressed me. They acknowledged that they found it hard to do and yet they persisted. We left hundreds of the pamphlets for them. The manager was so impressed that he is copying the pamphlet for distribution to the nine other stores.

Cindy Dillard is the coordinator for the summer program. My focus now turns exclusively toward preparation for the fall and the new church year. I will be around on Sundays until the end of June. Several people have come forward with exciting ideas for children, youth and adults and with the commitment to making them happen. I welcome your idea.

Jolinda

Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education, [dre@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:dre@firstuucolumbus.org), office hours Monday-Thursday afternoons and by appointment

### Religious Education

**Summer Sunday School begins next week at 10am.** Next week all children, ages 3 through grade 5 gather together each Sunday throughout the summer. The curriculum is based on the book, *Keepers of the Earth*, and includes Native American stories and nature activities, including lots of outside time. Cindy Dillard is the Summer Sunday Coordinator. She is seeking helpers for the group.

**Great Opportunities in Sunday School Next Fall:** Have fun with our youngest - hug babies, play with toddlers and explore the world with preschoolers. Work on month-long projects with elementary kids.

The **end of year Sunday School schedule** and complete calendars are at the Sunday School Information Table or on the **Parents' Blog** at [www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com](http://www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com).

## Adult Education Programs

### **Zen in the Workplace Wednesdays, June 8, 15, 22, 6pm**

We're spiritual at First Unitarian Universalist services, and we're spiritual in our quiet spots in our homes, or in nature. But what about at work? *Yeah, right*, you might be thinking, *my work environment is about as spiritual as a can of butter beans*. But Marica Menter, the author of *Office Sutras*, proposes that it's exactly because of the imperfections and frustrations that your job may have that it is a holy place. In this four-week course we'll look for ways to observe our divinity in the workplace. We'll read her very accessible and fun chapters outside of class and in meetings discuss questions she presents in her text. You can order the book on the internet from anywhere between 75 cents and \$15. Register on line at our home page - [www.firstuucolumbus.org](http://www.firstuucolumbus.org) - or on Sundays at the AEP Table.

Facilitator: **Julie Grawemeyer**

### **American Contemporary Poetry Wednesdays, June 8, 15 and 22, 7:30 pm**

In the reprise of last year's popular class, facilitator Julie Grawemeyer offers a look at contemporary American poets. The study will debunk stereotypes, challenge us to read good writing, and will include internet resources. Julie is currently working on a translation of a book about the French playwright Jean Genet. Register online at our home page - [www.firstuucolumbus.org](http://www.firstuucolumbus.org) - or at the AEP Table.

### **Summer Solstice Celebration: Elemental Peace Ritual for Healing of the Earth June 21, 5:45pm**

Gather for meditation, movement, and chants from the many cultures of the earth to honor the indigenous wisdom that has sprung from the earth, water, fire and air across the planet over the ages. No experience is necessary.

## ► Leadership Development Committee Report

The following names have been placed in nomination for the positions of Moderator, Board of Trustees and Leadership Development Committee. Voting will take place at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 12, 12 noon.

### **MODERATOR (one to be elected)**

**Michael Greenman** A UU since 1974 and member of First UU since 1999, I have held a number of responsible positions in the four churches I have joined: Membership, Social Justice, Denominational Connections Chair, and Board Member (Vice-Chair and Chair). I had a three-year term as a member of the Board of the *UU's for a Just Economic Community* and am an active member in a number of other committees. I've initiated many community-building programs in each capacity. I retired at the end of 2010 after an international career in business and third world development organizations, living in 10 countries and learning several languages. If chosen, I will devote the same level of competence and dedication to the responsibilities of Moderator.

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES (four to be elected for three year terms)**

**Daniel Baer** I am retired. I worked for Liebert Corporation for twenty-nine years, my last position being Vice President of Technical Marketing. I have been a member of First UU since 1996, and a resident of the central Ohio area since 1969. Over the years, I have served on the Board of Directors of several non-profit organizations: Simply Living (as treasurer), St. Andrew Presbyterian Church (as treasurer), and Ohio Central Savings and Loan (which was a credit union when I joined the Board). First UU means so much to me. It has given, and continues to give, a richness to my life. My reason for applying for a position on the First UU Board of Trustees, is that I'd like to give something back.

**Bob Parks** I've been a member of First UU since 2000. I'm a former Lutheran pastor (ELCA) who found in Unitarian Universalism an inclusiveness unlike anything I've observed elsewhere! I'm married to Susan and between us we have five children and seven grandchildren. In my 'former life' as a Lutheran, I had experience in various areas of lay leadership and attended seminary in my forties, receiving a Master of Divinity degree. I've been a parish pastor, a hospital chaplain, and am currently working in the mental health field at Netcare. At First UU, I have served on the Committee on Church Ministry and the Racial Diversity Task Force. I have preached and led worship here and would like to be on the Board of First UU to further my service to the church.

**William (Bill) Keating** I currently serve on the Pastoral Team, have volunteered at the Auction by tending bar, and continue to help with housing and legal issues at CommUUnity Fairs. In the past, I have served on several charity and church boards and committees throughout the Midwest. I am a semi-retired attorney having practiced corporate and telecommunications law as well as litigation. I am married to Nancy McDonald-Kenworthy, a long time church member. My interests include cycling and writing (including fiction, nonfiction and poetry). I hope to continue to serve our church by contributing my time and experience as a Board member.

**Chuck Wolfe** I have been a member of First UU since 1989 and have served as Pledge chair, BUUkstore manager, co-chair of the original First UU Auction, co-chair of the committee that developed our present endowment program, a Coming of Age Mentor, and organizer of raft/canoe trips. I currently serve on the Caring Committee. I have an extensive professional background in non-profit management, fund raising, volunteering and leadership. Using these skills, I want to continue to serve First UU in any way I can. I ask that you consider me as a candidate for the Board of Trustees as someone who cares deeply about this church and who will work toward building an even more sacred place for all.

**Phyllis Byard** My husband, Paul, and I have been Unitarian-(Universalists) for over 40 years. We recommitted our membership about 10 years ago and have been singing in the Chalice Choir since. I was on search committees for Choir Directors and Music Director positions. First UU is my home away from home and my extended family. My formal education was in Music and Secondary Ed. I have taught piano and voice privately. My volunteer work includes music organizations, the Funeral Consumers Alliance (part of the Caring Committee), and the annual Fund Raising Committee this year. I look forward to working with the dedicated and like-minded people who surround me at First UU to continue the forward movement and growth of this church community.

#### **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (four to be elected for two year terms)**

**Linda Hart Mishler** I came to Columbus from the Kent UU Church and have been a member at First UU Church for a little over a year. In Kent, I was active in many areas, Right Relations, Stewardship, Membership, Worship, Small Group Ministry, Fund Raising, Theology, and many social activities. My background is in business, managing a CPA firm until 1996. Since then, I have been privileged to devote my time to being a water exercise instructor for adults with arthritis, and teaching Red Cross swimming lessons. Here at First UU, I have come to the Harvest the Power Leadership Workshops, Covenant Groups, and have dipped my toes into a few other committees. It is time for me to start giving back.

**Eric Conrad** My wife, Anne Gilliland, and I have been members of First UU for two years and currently help with the Caring Cards table. From the 1970s until the early 1990s, I was actively involved in the First Unitarian Church of Dayton, Ohio. There, I served at various times as its newsletter editor and the Board of Trustees, Sunday Services chairman and Board President. I was one of the charter members of their small choir. I have been a delegate to the UUA GA and attended Ohio Valley District assemblies. I moved to Columbus in 1993 to pursue my PhD in mathematics at OSU and became a lecturer. In my spare time, I am secretary for the Columbus Sacred Harp Singers, a shape note singing group.

**Laurie Weltlin** I have been a member of First UU for seven years. I have three years of involvement with the Coming of Age class as a mentor and a teacher. I have been involved with the Membership Committee in the past, and currently am a mentor to 2011 Path to Membership participants. I have enjoyed "behind the scenes" work including Stewardship, Auction and other church events. Professionally, for the last 16 years I have been an advocate, meeting the nutritional needs for people living with HIV/AIDS in the community through Project Open Hand program with Life Care Alliance. I would welcome the chance to serve on this committee, giving of my time to this special spiritual community.

**Peggy McKee** I attended UU Churches in NYC and Ithaca, NY, but it wasn't until January, 2009, that I found the fit I couldn't refuse at First UU of Columbus, and happily became involved right away. I have been singing in the Chalice Choir, volunteering at the Annual Auction, and co-sponsoring an Auction "Murder Mystery Dinner." My experience includes over 20 years in higher-education administration at NYU Law School and Cornell University, where I was also on the Cornell Joint Assembly. I have been associate director of the Ithaca Breast Cancer Alliance and I attended "Leadership Tompkins," a year-long leadership development program. I have volunteered in many capacities, including four boards. I would be honored to bring my energy and experience to the Leadership Development Committee.

**MaryLou MacDonald** With over 30 years in the business of finding and matching folks up with either their known interests, or selling them on a new and different volunteer opportunity, I believe I could be of some help on the Leadership Development Committee. Sharing talent/skill is a win-win situation in my book and First UU is a great place to be involved. My professional background includes that of volunteer coordinator for a 1500 member church as well as WOSU-TV's Auction fund-raiser and membership director of a trade association. As a member of First UU with husband Dave since 1990, I have worked on various events and committees including the Auction, Stewardship/Development, Nominating, and the Ad Hoc Committee for Sponsorship of Suzan McCrystal for the ministry.

**Pat Larson** I have been a member of First UU since the summer of 1971. I have taught Sunday School in the K/1 program and currently help in the preschool room. I serve on the Greeting Committee, Caring Committee, and am also a Pastoral Team member. I have previously served a term on the Nominating Committee. I am a participant in the Movement Choir, Improvisational Dance I & II classes, Circle Suppers and help prepare food for many church events. My profession is Speech Pathology and I have worked for the Columbus City Schools for 36 years.

**Gretchen Curtis** As a member of First UU since moving to Columbus in 2005, I have served on the Adult Education Committee, coordinated the children's Sunday story time for several years, and provided leadership for the Social Justice Committee's Appalachian afghan/blanket project for three years. I have participated in First UU Art Shows and my partner, Ben Blee, and I have donated dinners for the Annual Auction. Prior to 2005, I was a UU in Denver, Colorado for 26 years. I served as the Director of Education at the Children's Hospital of Denver for 25 years. For the past four years I was the Director of Education at Lakeside, the historic Chautauqua on Lake Erie, coordinating 200 seminars each summer.

**Jay Poroda** I moved to Columbus in 2004 and immediately found a religious home at First UU. I have a M.Ed. in Instructional Leadership from California University of PA. I am a high school administrator and also work as a diversity trainer where I provide staff development on diversity issues for schools and public safety organizations across the State. Since 2006 I have served on the Board of Trustees of Stonewall Columbus, Central Ohio's only LGBT Community Center.

## MARKINGS

My sister called three times after the service this morning to tell me that our brother is sliding down the alcoholism chute into another deep hell. It's so aggravating... following the well-established course of typical alcoholic behavior, he drinks "because he has trouble sleeping," "doesn't like where he lives" etc., always twisting everything people are saying to him so he can blame them for his 30 year addiction to alcohol. It's very sad. My sister Lynne and I would be more than glad to pay for him to go to Brighton Hospital, one of the best addiction treatment centers in the country, but of course, we cannot twist his arm, and so far, no matter what, he refuses to go, offering every variety of excuse as to why it won't "work."

So many in this congregation have had to deal with these issues in their own families, as well as in their friendship and work communities. Right now, that knowledge, and the comfort of my UU colleagues whom I have been reaching out to, have been supporting me as I deal with this. I remember one Alanon meeting I attended with my sister, and how women at that meeting had lost two, three and even four people in their families to the ravages of the disease, yet still were able to live rich lives, despite the sure reality of their grief. It was an amazing meeting. We know we are not alone. But coping with thi dominates one's heart, that's for sure. I hope the summer will find our brother ready for Brighton. In any case, I may have to leave at any time during my time off to help my sister cope with this. I'll let the office know.

Be aware that Marian is on vacation, by the way, and that there will be volunteers in the office for the next two weeks.



Rev. Mark Belletini

**The Inner Flame** (from various Native American writings)

*Grandfather, the good road and the road of difficulties you have made me cross... and where they cross, the place is holy.*  
Black Elk 1932

*In all of your official acts, cast self-interest aside.*

*You shall look and listen to the welfare of the whole people, and have always in view not the present but the coming generations.* Dekawidah 1720

# 2011 Annual 1<sup>st</sup> UU All-Church Labor Day Weekend Retreat at Camp Oty'Okwa

Saturday September 3 (11 AM)  
through Monday September 5 (11 AM)

COST (Includes 6 meals and all accommodations): Adults (25 and up): \$85

Young Adults (19-24): \$60

Kids (5 - 18): \$60

Registration: 4 and under: No charge

Name(s) (please list ages of kids):

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# of adults \_\_\_\_\_ # of kids 4 and under \_\_\_\_\_

# of young adults \_\_\_\_\_ # of kids 5 and up \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount included: \_\_\_\_\_ Checks to First UU Church of Columbus

Do you eat meat?  Yes  No

Do you need a ride?  Yes  No

Can you give a ride?  Yes  No

Accommodations: Lodge \_\_\_\_\_ Cabin \_\_\_\_\_ Tent cabin \_\_\_\_\_ BYO tent \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else we need to know? \_\_\_\_\_

**As much as we love your pets, there are no dogs allowed at camp.**

I agree to allow photos of my family members to be posted on the First UU website or related church publications.  Yes  No

Will you run a workshop? (On what?) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to help? Call or email: Deb McGuire: 799-8625 ([homescolumbus@gmail.com](mailto:homescolumbus@gmail.com))  
or Julie Pinsonneault: 447-8407 ([pinsonneault.2@osu.edu](mailto:pinsonneault.2@osu.edu))

⇒ **Sign up by Sunday August 21** ⇐

Send completed forms and payment to: Beth Jewell, Registrar  
238 Longfellow Ave.

Worthington, OH 43085

Beth's phone: 847-6141 email: [jewel1\\_beth@att.net](mailto:jewel1_beth@att.net)

Please don't leave yourself out because of the cost! We have camperships available.  
Contact Beth, Julie or Deb for more info.