

The
DISCOVERER
Volume 73, #45, July 31, 2011

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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Of COLUMBUS
93 West Weisheimer Rd. Columbus OH 43214
phone: 614-267-4946; fax: 614-267-4924
email: Office@FirstUUColumbus.org
web <http://www.FirstUUColumbus.org>

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WORSHIP SERVICES

August 7, 2011, 10:00 A.M.

Hal Walker

“The Place Where Music Begins”

See page 5 for information about Hal Walker.

August 14, 2011, 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Eric Meter

“Reality is Broken?”

August 21, 2011, 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“This is The Dream: Invincible Summer”

Remember to gather your vial of water for the Water Ceremony on September 11 (two services at 9:15 and 11am.) Please let me know by email ONE place you have brought water from, and if you know the geography, what direction the source is from Columbus: North, South, East, West only. You may decide which cardinal direction it's closest to, or you can leave it up to me. Mark

► "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, August 3, 2011

- 8:00a UU Food Co-op
(mary.boyd-brown@cvm.osu.edu)
5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
6:30p Life Stories
7:00p GA Meeting
7:15p Men's Spirituality
7:30p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, August 4, 2011

- 9:30a Improvisational Dance

Friday, August 5, 2011

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

Saturday, August 6, 2011

- 8:30a Zen Meditation
9:30a Memorial Garden Workday
7:30p Hal Walker Concert

Sunday, August 7, 2011

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

Monday, August 8, 2011

- 7:00p Executive Committee
7:00p Gay Straight Alliance
7:00p Adult Enrichment Programs
7:00p UU Dance Fellowship

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

- 9:30a Archives Organizing
1:00p Cancer Support Group (contact
se.schofield@hotmail.com)
7:00p Social Committee
7:00p Zen Meditation; UU Bible School
7:30p Men's Spirituality

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

- 6:30p Life Stories
7:00p Memoir Writing Group
7:00p Small Group Ministry Steering Team
7:15p Men's Spirituality
7:30p Women's Spirituality; Personnel Committee

Thursday, August 11, 2011

- 9:30a Improvisational Dance
7:00p Expressive Collage; RE Council
7:00p Building and Grounds Committee

Saturday, August 13, 2011

- 8:30a Zen Meditation
11:00a Improvisational Dance II
1:00p Immigration Roundtable

Sunday, August 14, 2011

- 8:45a Leadership Development Committee
10:00a Worship Service; All Ages Sunday School
11:30a Getting to Know UU
12:30p Sunday Forum
1:00p Green Team

Monday, August 15, 2011

- 7:00p UU Dance Fellowship; BREAD Team
7:00p Program Council
7:30p Healing Journey

Tuesday, August 16, 2011

- 9:30a Archives; Newsletter folding
1:00p Cancer Support Group
7:00p Zen Meditation; Sound Techs
7:00p Stewardship Committee; Book Bites
7:30p Finance Committee

Wednesday, August 17, 2011

- 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
5:00p Gay Straight Alliance
6:30p Life Stories
7:00p Membership Committee
7:15p Men's Spirituality
7:30p Women's Spirituality

FOCUUS (ages 18-35) meets on Mondays at OSU, 7:30p

**The Discoverer - Next issue - Sunday, August 14
Deadline: 12:00p - Hard copy in yellow folder
6:00p - e-mail articles to olwfire@yahoo.com**

CHURCH NEWS

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR My own column? Wow, who knew Board Chair came with so many perks! This is great! Luckily, it also comes with a tremendous set of Board members. Please allow me to introduce them: Beth Jewell as Vice Chair, Phyllis Byard as Treasurer, Gina Phillips as Secretary, Richard Humenick as Past Chair, Anita Bucknam, Betsy Duckworth, Bill Keating, Chuck Wolfe, Dan Baer, Doug Rossiter, Judy Kleen and Leslie Armstrong.

So, a little about how I see our role. First, I see our work as a sort of spiritual work, helping our church stay true to its stated mission. Second, we try to keep an eye on the business side of the church, making sure sound decisions are made on everyone's behalf.

In August, we are scheduled for a one-day retreat at the church. There, I plan to take participants through an exercise of developing good questions. Those questions might help determine some of our goals. It is my personal hope in the coming year that the board will be able to continue to edit and improve some of our governance documents so that they are more in line with how we actually operate. As our church has grown over the years, so have the number of committees and teams.

I am hopeful we can visit our committee structure and make it easier for members and friends to navigate and participate. Look for my next column to see what else the Board comes up with!

We are *your* Board. While you have voted us in to make decisions on your behalf, we still need to hear from you. That is why I put everyone's name at the top. Reach out to any of us; let us know how we are doing. When you see in this column some of the items we are working on, feel free to give us your input. It is your church, please be an active participant! --Tim Hooks

PARENTS OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS

There has been a schedule change. The meeting for Saturday, August 13, has been CANCELLED because of maintenance work and floor stripping of the SYC rooms that are used. The group will meet next month on the second Saturday, **September 10 from 11am to 1pm.**

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Contact Jeanni Ray at 985-6176; jeanniray@gmail.com **August 3, Poetry and Birthdays and Sharing.** - All **August 10 and 17 Who is your favorite woman?** We choose our favorite and discuss their lives. - All **August 24 Let's talk** – All. **August 31 TBA**

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.

LIFE STORIES Seniors, do you have a story to tell? Would you like the story of your life or a special memory/event in your life recorded for posterity? First UU Youth Ellie Hall and her mother Gail Hall will film you talking about your life. A copy of this recording will be archived at First UU and the first 12 people to sign up will receive a copy of their own to keep or share with a loved one. After that the cost will be \$5.00 to cover the cost of the DVD and DVD case.

The details: call Gail Hall, 326-0344 or email her at: mintjuleps@gailsporch.com to set up a date for the recording. The recordings will be filmed in Slowter Lounge on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm, and should last for about 30 – 45 minutes. We want to hear stories that real people lived – real people like you. Everyone has a story to tell.

ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC The Social Committee is sponsoring the annual church picnic on **Sunday, August 28** from 12pm-3pm at Upper Arlington Thompson Park at the corner of McCoy and Mountview. The committee will supply plates, utensils, cups and drinks. Please bring a dish to share. There is a

playground there so bring outside games if you wish. No grilling. Come for **Fun and Fellowship**. Location: North Shelter House. Questions? Contact Jeanni Ray at 985-6176 or jeanniray@gmail.com.

ART IN THE FIRST UU GALLERY "Who Are We?" Join us for this exhibit's artists' reception on August 21 at 11:45-1:00 pm. Deb Baillieul 447-1223

BOOKBITES Meets **August 16** in Slowter Lounge from 7 to 9 pm. New topic: **Summer Travels**. Call Kathleen Boston 262-4025.

BOOK EXCHANGE August 14 is **Bring One, Take One Sunday**. Bring one or more books to the Book Table, take as many as you like for your summer reading pleasure. (The Bookstore will be open August 7, 14, 21 and September 11.)

All Soles Contra Dance
Saturday, Aug. 20 / Fellowship Hall
Teaching Session at 7:30
Dancing 8:00-10:30

All are welcome! Folk music and dancing at its finest, featuring warm, friendly people, great live music and contra dancing. No partner needed; all dances are prompted. Old time music by "Three Men Sitting" from Charleston WV, with caller Kate Power. Dance costs \$7 (\$4 for ages 12-24); free childcare starts at 7:30. Following the dance will be an after-party at the home of Kate Power and Andy Shewmon.

THANKS! A hot and humid thank you to all who showed up for the Annual Midsummer Night's Garden (Work) Party Thursday evening, July 28, to weed, clean and improve First UU Church's many gardens. Working in temperatures above 90 degrees, volunteers eliminated weeks of weeds caused by recent rain forest-like weather. We didn't get to all the gardens, so help will still be needed in the future. But thanks to Hans Kohles, Karen Torvik, Dick Bodonyi, Josette Bodonyi, David Krohn, Brian Hagemann, Tim Neild, Michael Bethel, Kristen Figg, John Friedman, Marla McMichael-Liston, Lisa Stromeier, Chris Hardin, Pat Larson, Helene Roussi, Debra Boyd, Emma Merchant, John Boyd, Bill Keating, Don Hippensteel, Jo-E. Miller and Karen Richter, we go into August with a sense of accomplishment.

-- Dave Richter, Chair, B&G Committee

PHOTO DIRECTORIES ARE HERE! If you had your photo taken last fall, please pick up your copy (one per household) and cross your name off the list.

JAM (Justice Action Ministry)

BACKPACKS AND SOCKS! Many of our families are getting ready (can it be that soon?) for “Back to School” and beginning purchases of supplies. If a new book backpack is part of your plan - or if this piece persuades you that it should be – please bring your used packs to the church office to be shipped to Tucson, Arizona. Backpacks are used by volunteers to carry supplies and water into the desert to be left for border crossers at critical risk. (See ***Guest Column*** on page 8.)

There is a great need also for heavy socks which can be a relief to many who arrive barefoot or with serious blistering.

Steve Palm-Houser is coordinating First UU’s Immigration projects and programs, as part of our denomination’s preparations for the “Justice Assembly” next June in Phoenix. Contact Steve at steve.palmhouser@gmail.com or (614) 397-3051 for more information.



So far, **33** First UU families and friends have invested **\$5,770** in the well-being of our local community by making their contribution to the ongoing work of BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity). BREAD is the 54-congregation, multi-faith community organization that our church became a member of, and covenanted to support in 1996. Since that time, we have been a part of BREAD’s many issue accomplishments including:

- * establishment of the first city/county-supported affordable housing trust fund in the nation
- * expansion of primary health care for un-/under-insured city/county residents
- * demolition of 85 abandoned buildings and legislation to enable Franklin County to establish a land bank to deal with other abandoned properties
- * Payday Lending reform, and numerous other successes that have improved the quality of life in central Ohio.

Thanks to Elinor and Chad Alger, Barbara Avery and Courtney Chapman, Bill Fullarton, Pat Hoffman, Marge Lynd, Alice Rathburn, Caroline Rayner and Bernadette Vankeerbergen, and Karen Torvik for their financial support of BREAD's 2011 operations.

Please make out your generous, tax-deductible check to BREAD (**not** First UU) and send/take it to the church in an envelope marked BREAD. If you work for an

organization that will match charitable donations, please make arrangements with it and notify Alice Rathburn (895-2109 or 563-0536, or alice37@insight.rr.com) of the plan. BREAD is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible corporation, tax ID number 31-1467082. Additional information: www.breadcolumbus.org, or contact Alice or another First UU BREAD Team member.

► **School for Young Children** still has a few openings for 3- 4- and younger 5-year-olds in our preschool program that begins this fall.

SYC offers 2½ hour classes, two, three or four mornings or afternoons per week. (Most openings are in afternoon classes.)

We hope you’ll help us spread the word to friends who might be interested in enrolling their children. **For more information: 267-0251;**
www.schoolforyoungchildren.com

CRC SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM Each summer the Clintonville-Beechwood Resource Center (CRC) sponsors a program to serve lunch to children who are eligible for free lunches during the school year. Different area churches take responsibility for one week's service, with the program running from June through most of August. This summer, First UU will join with East North Broadway Methodist to help serve at Broadmeadows apartments on North High Street near Worthington. **Our week is August 1-5**, so if you are interested in helping out one or more days, please contact Marge Lynd at lynd.1@osu.edu or 262-2730.

FOOD PANTRY The children in Mineral need school supplies: #2 pencils; big pink erasers; colored markers, crayons, 70 page spiral notebooks, wide-lined and college; rulers; protractors; compasses; pencil boxes. Backpacks would be great, if your budget has room. Please bring all donations to the Social Justice Table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays. Thanks for all your donations. They are always much appreciated.

The pantry still needs food: peanut butter, spaghetti and sauce, fresh fruit and vegetables...and children’s books for the food boxes.

Don’t forget: aluminum cans help with expenses.

Please bring all items to the Social Justice Table in Fellowship Hall. – Jacques Angelino

MARK YOUR CALENDARS Along with the Franklin County Consortium for Good Government, we will be hosting an ISSUES FORUM at First UU on Thursday, October 6, 2011. The informal meet and greet with refreshments will start at 6:10pm, and the forum itself will begin at 7:00pm. There will be some very interesting issues on the November 8 ballot. If you would like to be involved in this most important community forum, please call Cathy Elkins at 267-5884.

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to **Sarah Weigand** and **Carey McDonald** who were married here at First UU Saturday, July 30, 2011 by Rev. Mark Belletini.

Our congratulations also go to **Peter McDonald** who graduated from Stanford University in June with a major in English.

We send healing thoughts to **Denise Deschenes**, who was hospitalized at University Hospitals with pancreatitis on July 18.

We send caring thoughts to our Chaplain, **Dick Dawson**. Dick is scheduled for surgery at Riverside on Wednesday, August 3

FROM YOUR CHAPLAIN: INFORMATION AND THANKS Many of you know that I have been experiencing significant health challenges over the past two and a half months. This began in May as a feeling of exhaustion, diarrhea and pain on my left side. I went to the hospital for testing in late May. It has been a meandering, sometimes frustrating journey, since then. While there has not been clarity as to what the condition is, there is agreement that I need to have a section of my colon removed.

I am ready to have this done. The past few weeks have been challenging, and it is clear I have been getting worse and not better. The expectation is that I will be in the hospital for five days, followed by six weeks or so of recovery.

I am guessing that I will not be available to return to my pastoral work until the end of September. Rev. Kathleen Fowler, Rev. Suzan McCrystal, and Carole Wilhelm have agreed to fill in for me during this period; especially over the next couple of weeks, while Eric is away and Mark is in and out of town.

The expressions of concern, caring, and support I have received from our community have been overwhelming. They help bring me a sense of peace, connection, and even joy, in these days of distress and uncertainty. I thank you for being here with me in so many different ways.

I look forward to returning to my work with you, work that means so much to me. – Dick Dawson

♪ **HAL WALKER CONCERT Saturday, August 6, 7:30pm** ♪

WORSHIP SERVICE Sunday, August 7, 10:00am

Music for the Whole Family ... Hal Walker has been the choral director at the Ohio Meadville Summer Institute for many years. He is also the music director of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent, Ohio.

Hal's professional highlights are numerous. He says, "Despite all my youthful dreams of becoming an alternative folk star playing for huge crowds of 30 year old hipsters, these days I'm coming to terms with the fact that I'm a regional musician and I play concerts for the whole family. I love it."

Refreshments are needed for Saturday night August 6 for the reception following Hal Walker's concert. Cookies, finger sandwiches, cupcakes, nuts, mints, etc. would be appreciated. If you would like to help with the reception, contact Linda Hart at hartljean@gmail.com or 614-787-7571.



WORDS ON MUSIC

by Tony McDonald, Music Director

The last date to sing with the Summer Choir is August 21. It is open to everyone, whether or not you have been in choir before. We will rehearse on Sunday morning at 9:00am before we sing. No sign-up. Just show up and sing!



FROM THE ARCHIVES

A letter from a former minister on the dedication of the First Unitarian Church in the fall of 1961, somewhat edited for space considerations.

Mrs. Edward Slowter
Dedication Committee
First Unitarian Church

Dear Mrs. Slowter,

Although I am not as far a distance as you thought when you wrote a letter to me in Hawaii, I am still far enough away that it would be impossible for me to attend the dedication of the new church building next week.

I should like to take this opportunity to join with the congregation of the Columbus church in feeling a sense of achievement and satisfaction. I know the labor and effort that this formal dedication will ceremonialize to some degree at least and the people of Columbus are to be congratulated on this significant achievement for liberal religion.

I must confess that it is hard for me to think of the Columbus Unitarian Church outside of the old building at 175 West Eleventh, and hope very much that in the not-too-distant future I can see this new building which, from all accounts, seems to be so wonderfully planned.

Sincerely, Sidney A. Peterman, Minister, The First Unitarian Church, San Jose. California.

-- Linda Thompson, Historian



First UU Labor Day Retreat

September 3-5

Camp Oty'Okwa in the Hocking Hills

Workshops, Swimming, Worship, Fellowship,

Community, Nature, Hiking, Relaxation

Contacts:

Deb McGuire: 799-8625 (homescolumnbus@gmail.com)

Julie Pinsonneault: 447-8407 (pinsonneault.2@osu.edu)

Beth Jewell: 847-6141 (jewell_beth@att.net)

Lifespan Faith Development

Teacher Orientation Meetings – Delicious Panera Sandwich and Soup Lunch will be served. Everyone who works with our children and youth is expected to attend. You'll learn about the upcoming year, receive tips for working with our young people and meet with your team to plan the coming year.

- August 21, 11:30-2:30 – Teachers and Youth Leaders of Jr and Sr High Youth
- August 27, noon-2:00 – OWL Teachers
- August 28, noon-3:00 – Pre-K and K Teachers
- September 11, 12:45-2:45 – Elementary Guides and Workshop Leaders

Let us know which orientation you will attend. RSVP to Deb@FirstUUColumbus.org, or 267-4946, Ext 28.

** Special thanks to Panera Bread for their generous donations to our Sunday School program.**

2011-12 Brochures about Sunday School, sexuality education, activities and youth CONs are at the Sunday School Table. Registration is open. Follow the link on First UU's home page - www.firstuucolumbus.org. It's on the right side under the slide show. Pamphlets for Sunday School and special activities are available at the Sunday School Table on Sundays. Complete calendars are available at the table or on the **Parents' Blog**: www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com

All **Class Proposals** for **Fall AEP** (Adult Enrichment Program) classes need to be in by **August 12, 2011**. Proposal forms are available at the AEP table in Fellowship Hall.

The Adult Enrichment Programs catalog for Summer Offerings is now available.

PEACE CAMP

There is still a spot available in the second session (9am-12 noon), August 8-12. Additionally, we need one more tribal leader for each session, as well as teen helpers, whose time as Peace Camp helpers will count towards any community volunteer requirements they might have at school. To support our children as they learn to "Stand on the side of peace," contact Cindy Dillard at: cynthia.dillard6@gmail.com/614-846-0912.

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
Tim Hooks, Chair, Board of Trustees
Brian Hagemann, Church Administrator
Jessica Winters, Lead Toddler Room Teacher
Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor

Since the 2010 Minneapolis General Assembly, **U.S immigration policies** - practices and abuses - have become the topic of innumerable discussions, workshops, and initiatives within our denomination. The focalizing event was the passage of Arizona's SB1070, a law that imposes draconian conditions on anyone whom law enforcement professionals might decide could be in that state without legal authority. People are regularly being deported along our Southern border. Many are dying. (Even here in Ohio, far removed from any borders, deportations under ICE's Secure Communities Program have been increasing exponentially.)

-UUs wishing to fully engage in the issue should seriously consider attending the June 2012 General Assembly, which is being referred to as the "Justice Assembly," and will be held in Phoenix, Arizona. This event will focus on our national immigration policies and practices and raise awareness of UUs and the nation overall of the injustices that our immigration policies have produced for so many people all around the nation. It will offer the opportunity to work directly for change with migrants. *(The Ohio Meadville District has launched a program "Phoenix Witness Project" that encourages our district churches to raise funds to enable unprecedented numbers of youth and young adults who otherwise would not be able to attend, to participate in this major event. Pledge forms are in our Church Office.)*

-Our First UU DRE, Jolinda Stephens was arrested in Phoenix last July in the "The National Day of Non-Compliance" demonstration against SB1070 along with many others, including UUA President, the Rev. Dr. Peter Morales, and Phoenix UU minister, the Rev. Susan Frederick-Grey.

-The recent 2011 General Assembly featured a number of workshops and lectures about the immigration issue and approved a "Congregational Study Action Issue" on the topic: *Immigration as a Moral Issue*. Our First UU Religious Education and Adult Enrichment Programs will include new offerings this fall related to immigration issues. Steve is coordinating First UU's immigration program and has launched a Facebook page to report on this issue: *First UU Columbus Immigration Justice*.

-Dylan York, a recent graduate of Linworth Alternative High School and a UU, recently spoke to a group at church about her three-month experience working with the humanitarian aid organization "No Mas Muertos" or "No More Deaths," based in Tucson, AZ. Lydia Delphia, another graduate, has been involved with this organization as a volunteer for two years. She spoke to the group also and told us of the urgent need for the following: used (or new) school-type backpacks, heavy socks (for migrants who often arrive barefoot!) and scholarship funds to help support additional volunteers to the Tucson area.

-Michael, beginning at GA, with the *Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community* (UUJEC), is focusing on developing a comprehensive "Immigration Legislative Reform Proposal" to take to Washington that will lead to rational, humane, responsible, inclusive and sustainable immigration policies for the United States of America. The UUJEC is seeking the involvement of other UU congregations, the UUSC, the UUA and many of the associated UU NGOs, as well as social justice groups representing other denominations to develop this proposal as a "grass roots" program that "We The People" can take to Phoenix in 2012, and then to Washington to insist on implementation.

This is just the beginning! If you are interested in learning more about First UU's and our denomination's involvement with the immigration issue – and/or to contribute - contact Steve at stevepalmhouser@gmail.com or (614)3973051.

-- Steve Palm-Houser and Michael Greenman