

The
DISCOVERER
January 15, 2012

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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
OF COLUMBUS

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WORSHIP SERVICES

January Theme: Resistance

January 22, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Eric Meter

“Resisting Our Power”

January 29, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“Resisting Being Authentic”

February Theme: Love

February 5, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Jay Leach

See Markings on page 7 for information about Rev. Leach, our guest minister.

Don't miss the Mid-Year Congregational Meeting following the 11:00A.M. Service. See the Board Chair's Column on page 3 for information about the agenda..

▶ "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, January 18, 2012

8:00a UU Food Co-op
 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
 7:00p Membership Team
 7:00p Gay Straight Alliance
 7:15p Men's Spirituality
 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

Thursday, January 19, 2012

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 6:00p Multicultural Families
 7:00p Communications Committee
 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 20, 2012

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission

Saturday, January 21, 2012

8:30a Zen Meditation
 9:00a Path to Membership
 11:00a Sound Team

Sunday, January 22, 2012

8:30a Leadership Development Team
 8:45a Breakfast
 9:15 & 11:00a Worship Service
 10:30a & 12:15p Getting to Know UU
 12:30p Youth Group
 12:45p Auction Committee
 1:00p Covenant Group Fireside Chat (Leaders)
 1:00p UU Visual Artists
 1:00p Wellspring (off site)
 2:00p PFLAG
 4:00p Community Drumming Circle
 6:00p Bridge Group (call 499-2434)

Monday, January 23, 2012

7:00p Funeral Consumers Alliance
 7:00p UU Dance Fellowship

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

9:30p Archives Organizing
 1:00p Cancer Support Group
 6:30p Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p Zen Meditation
 7:00p Goddesses in Training
 7:00p Being an Atheist or Agnostic
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

1:00p Archives Organizing
 7:00p Board of Trustees
 7:15p Men's Spirituality
 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

Thursday, January 26, 2012

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 7:00p Expressive Collage
 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, January 28, 2012

8:30a Zen Meditation
 11:00a Easy Movement Class
 12:00p Move to Amend Potluck/Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 2012

8:45a Breakfast
 9:15 & 11:00a Worship Service
 10:30 & 12:15a Getting to Know UU
 12:45p Auction Committee
 5:30p Soulful Sundown Service

Monday, January 30, 2012

7:00p UU Dance Fellowship

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

9:30a Archives Organizing
 9:30a Newsletter Folding
 6:30p Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
 7:00p Zen Meditation;
 7:00p Wellspring (off site)
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 1, 2012

1:00p Archives organizing
 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
 7:15p Men's Spirituality
 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

COVENANT GROUPS - Rev. Meter, 267-4946 ext.23
FOCUUS (ages 18-35) meets Tuesdays at OSU, 7:30p
ESOL meets MWF at 9:30a (F: Conversation Class)

The Discoverer - Next issue - Sunday, January 29
Deadline: 1:00p - Hard copy in yellow folder (office)
6:00p - e-mail articles to olwfire@yahoo.com

\$\$\$ FINANCIAL STATEMENTS This year the 2011 First UU Church Donation Statements were sent via email on Friday, January 13. They were sent via U.S. mail, to those who have no email address in church records. Please let us know if you didn't receive this, or if you have any questions. Contact Marian Garcia, Office Administrator, 267-4946, ext. 21, or marian@firstuucolumbus.org .

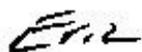
LINKS

A couple things this time around:

First, a heartfelt *Thank You* to Karen Erickson. For years now, Karen has single-handedly staffed one of our coffee hour tables during the fall and early winter to sell Entertainment coupon books in support of the congregation's Coming of Age program. As far as I know, no one ever asked her to do so, or asked if she would be interested in continuing to do so (although I should certainly do just that). Karen has simply taken on this project to help out our youth. Karen, you've been an unsung angel for far too long.

Coming of Age is an intense program, both for the youth involved in it, and the resources it takes to provide the experience in terms of volunteer time and the financial commitment required to make two weekend retreats possible. All of which makes what Karen does all the more important, all the more welcome. On behalf of our COA youth — past, present and those to come — Karen, thank you.

I also want to make sure everyone knows about an opportunity that exists in our Covenant Groups. One of the groups this year, which meets on the first and third Saturday of each month, has a couple of spots open, as folks have needed to drop out for various reasons. Covenant Groups are a form of small group ministry in which a group of ten or so gather to practice deep listening as they share their stories and reflections of various facets of what it means to be human and aware in our day and age. If this sounds like it might interest you, please let me know. If you have questions, just ask, and if it feels like this may be a match for you, I'll pass your name on to the facilitators who are leading the group.



Rev. Eric Meter

CHURCH NEWS

Happy New Year Everyone! Throw out the old and bring in the new, let go of the past, welcome the new. In a way, that is what the Board of Trustees is considering for our January meeting. In lieu of our regular meeting format, we are meeting in the Worship Center, and convening a **Financial Summit**. From a financial perspective, we have some room to grow. We struggle with raising funds, we ask for contributions often. Maybe it is time to reconsider how we operate. This meeting will be held **Wednesday, January 25** at 7:00pm. This Board meeting, as all of our Board meetings, usually held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, is open to all church members.

***** Please join and participate in the Mid Year Congregational Meeting following the 11 AM service on February 5.** We will be voting on the updated constitution (posted on our website firstuucolumbus.org and on the bulletin board in the Window Hallway. Or ask for a hard copy from Marian in the office.) More importantly, we will vote on the JAM themes we intend to focus on over the next two years. **Your participation is vital! To vote, it is necessary that we have a quorum of members taking part.**

To keep stomach grumbling to a minimum near the lunch hour, bring a little something to share in Fellowship Hall between the service and the meeting. We will provide some sandwiches too. See you there!***

-- **Tim Hooks, Board Chair**

SOULFUL SUNDOWN A dynamic, interactive progressing worship service led by our young adults and members of FOCUUS, the UU campus ministry at OSU 5:30pm **Sunday, January 29 and February 26** in the First UU Worship Center Drinks and snacks in Fellowship Hall will follow each service.

BOOK EXCHANGE It is time for another **Bring One Take One** adventure at the Buukstore. On **February 12**, bring those books you have read and exchange them for other titles that intrigue you. (No money involved). All left over books find a home at either the Marysville Women's Reformatory or the OSU Thrift Shop where income from items sold provides Student Tuition assistance. – Kathleen Boston

HEALING JOURNEY Are you experiencing grief due to the loss of a family member or other loved one, a job loss, or the pain of another unwelcome life transition? If so, the Healing Journey may be for you. We share our stories, and learn how much we have in common with others who also know the experience of loss. The group will meet from **7:30 to 9pm on Monday nights, February 6 through March 12**. For further information and to register, please call Rev. Eric at 267-4946 x23.

NEW ART SHOW- Children's Art: Now and Then. Our annual children's art show highlights some spectacular works by our youth. In the Gallery, are photography, portraits, collage, all colorful and all fun, done by our youth. In the back of the Worship Center are artworks from "former" children of our current community. A little chuckle as you view works by current artists *when they were kids!* You can see consistent themes between the youth of now and then!

South Pacific

2012 AUCTION February 18

*“South Pacific
– Some Enchanted Auction”*



Be thinking what to donate. Please go online to enter your items. If you have questions about suitability/value, stop by the Auction Table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday or see <http://togetherauction.com/firstuu>

Ticket sales continue on Sundays. Advance tickets are only \$12; tickets are \$15 at the door. --

Jo Anne St. Clair, Co-Chair. 268-1923, joastclare@aol.com

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY meets Wednesdays at 7:30pm. For information, call Jeanni Ray, 985-6176
January 18 *Beginnings* with Joanne Wiggins
January 25 We talk of new beginnings and plans - all

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS Thanks to everyone who helped to support our Coming of Age youth by purchasing an Entertainment Book for 2012. Thirty-eight books were sold. Each book gave a \$7.50 contribution to the group. By continuing this fund-raising effort, an additional \$50 bonus was also made to the group. Total contributions: \$335.00.
-- Karin Erickson

THANKS On a quiet Thursday afternoon in early January, four “elves” dismantled holiday decorations and stored them neatly away for another year. Thanks to Eve Catus, Olwen Firestone, Cathy Elkins and Paula Hook for dedicating an hour on our behalf!

CHARTRES LABYRINTH A “Hit” over the Christmas-New Year Break! Thanks to the many of you who “walked the labyrinth” this season. From all reports, there were more than ever before. Comments in the “Journal” focused on appreciation for the fine live music that was offered each evening. So, our thanks to Louis Biel, David MacDonald, Cathy and Kevin O’Neil, and particularly to Tina Thonnings who not only played and spoke to participants about the labyrinth, but scheduled all the musicians and “watched over it.” Thanks also to Elaine Fujimura, Tony Skrabak, Sandy Coen and Florence Jain, as well as Brian Hagemann and Don Hippensteel for helping with set-up and take-down. I know I’m missing a couple of others – thanks to you too!

Everyone’s experience is different, but that’s the beauty of this ancient ritual. Some of your comments: “an experience that calms the noises and clamor and releases the pain and grief”; “Time to reflect on life and losses ... and hopes for the coming year”; “...put me in a focused mindset – to complete some critical tasks for peace in the coming year”; “...the motion, the walk, the silence is my prayer, my gratefulness”; “it was surprising and new to feel calmness while letting go of responsibility for deciding where to go.”

We have the labyrinth reserved for Christmas/New Year 2012: December 26 through January 1, 2013. Next time – try the walk with a veil covering your head. The difference can be amazing. If you’d like the list of other labyrinths in the Columbus area so as to try it again (or for the first time) before Christmas, call Michael Greenman, (614-898-5825) or Tina (614-436-2902) for the list of area labyrinths

JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY

GSA NEWS The Gay Straight Alliance’s *Freedom to Love, Freedom to Marry* (FLFM).

On **February 12**, couples will be given the opportunity to reaffirm their vows and rededicate their partnership. This ceremony is open to all couples, regardless of the legal status of their relationship. If you would like to volunteer to support this event, come to the GSA Table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning, or contact Bob Rice, bricejr@gmail.com

At the GSA monthly meeting on **Wednesday, January 18**, please join us to help plan the GSA future. There will be no GSA Social Potluck on January 27.

APPALACHIA PANTRY Please help our friends at the Athens County *Feed My Sheep* food pantry in need of peanut butter, chunky soups, stews, and chili. Also blankets and children’s books. – Jacques Angelino

NARAL On Tuesday, January 24, NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio Foundation and the Ohio Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, two organizations funded by our JAM committee, will join other pro-choice organizations in our Freedom of Choice Ohio Coalition, including Planned Parenthood and the Columbus Council of Jewish Women, to honor the 39th anniversary of *Roe v Wade*, the 1973 Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion. The evening program, at The Gateway Film Center, 1550 N High St., begins with a reception at 6pm, and then features Dr. Harley Blank (who has dedicated his life to providing obstetric, gynecologic and abortion services to women in central Ohio) and a screening of *When Abortion Was Illegal: Untold Stories* at 7pm (\$15 general admission, \$10 student admission). To register to attend, call 221-2594 or email FOCOhio@gmail.com.



BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity)—our local interfaith social justice organization

BREAD's Crime and Violence Committee met recently with Justice Yvette McGee Brown and with County Prosecutor Ron O'Brien. Both have agreed to work with BREAD to convene a meeting of stakeholders to consider developing and establishing a restorative justice program for juvenile offenders in Franklin County. Restorative justice emphasizes repairing the harm caused by crime. For more information, go to <http://www.restorativejustice.org/university-classroom>.

Please INK onto your calendar the important justice dates below:

- Sunday, March 18, 12:30 pm or Wednesday, March 28, 6:30 pm. – First UU's BREAD Justice Ministry Network organizing meetings (Attend either one)
- Monday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. – BREAD Rally
- **Monday, May 7, 6:45 p.m. – BREAD Nehemiah Action** (the BIG one)

For additional information go to <http://www.breadcolumbus.org/> and/or contact Alice Rathburn, 895-2109, 563-0536, or alice37@insight.rr.com.

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to our Music Director **Tony McDonald** on the publication of his book *A Catalog of Music Written in Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, 3rd edition, which was released by Scarecrow Press in December.

We celebrate **Rev. Carol Brody** who was welcomed as our Minister Emerita on January 17, 1999.

A speedy recovery to **Laurel Richardson** who underwent surgery on her ankle on January 4 and is now undergoing rehabilitation therapy at the Laurels of Norworth in Worthington.

OMD CHALICE LIGHTERS

Do you find that First UU holds a special place in your heart? Would you like contribute to other congregations who seek to improve themselves in some way? If so, you are hearing the call to become a Chalice Lighter. Chalice Lighters are individuals who help our congregations and clusters with growth related projects through individual support of our members, and you can become one by pledging to respond with a \$10 or more contribution when the call comes to help a congregation in our district, with a maximum of four calls per year..

You possess only a small light, but uncover it, let it shine. Use it in order to bring more light and understanding to the hearts and minds of men and women. Give them not hell, but hope and courage.~ attributed to John Murray ~ Founder of Universalism in America.

Perhaps you don't know that our very own First UU Church of Columbus recently received a Chalice Lighter's grant to support a part time UU chaplain at The Ohio State University. And perhaps you don't know, too, that only about 6% of our Columbus congregation has committed to this contribution of \$40 a year. Help us to let our light shine! To support this valuable resource, visit www.ohiomeadville.org/donate/challight and pledge to become a Chalice Lighter today --Rev. Kathleen Fowler



Words on Music

by Tony McDonald, Music Director

The Music Committee is sponsoring a new event this year. Since the Youth Talent Show has been such a success the last two years, we decided to see if big people were also interested in showing off their abilities. Thus, we are going to have an **Adult Talent Show on Saturday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 pm.** (The Youth Talent Show will be happening in April, 2012.)

We are looking for all types of talent: singing and/or playing instruments (any kind of music), dance, poetry and dramatic readings, stand up...you name it. We especially want lots of variety. There is no audition, but the committee does reserve the right to screen acts for appropriateness.

The show cannot be an open mic as we need to have a set program, so let Tony McDonald know if you would like to participate at: musicdirector@firstuucolumbus.org. And start practicing!

Other musical activities to put on your calendar and look forward to in the near future include:

- **Illuminati**, the sacred ensemble of the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus that performs at religious institutions all over central Ohio, will sing for the 11:00 am service on **March 4**.
- The **Mostly Motown Sing-along**, this year's group-singing event, will be on **Saturday, March 24 at 7:30 pm**. Belt it out with all your favorite Motown groups and stars plus other loved R&B singers. Open to *everyone*.



Open the Door Wider

I've just returned from a dinner at the Hilltonia United Methodist Church for some of the DREAMers who will be speaking at the Martin Luther King Event at Capital University. DREAMers are those youth and young adults who are technically citizens of another country who were brought to this country by their parents when they were young, often not even school-aged. They have grown up Americans, even though they lack paperwork. They can't get drivers' licenses or government loans for college, and good jobs are almost impossible.

When the minister welcomed us, she talked about the decision of the congregation, a struggling congregation, to open their doors wide and become a center for the struggling Hilltop community around them. She said that next week

they would have that conversation again and she hoped that they would open their doors even wider and expressly engage in support of immigrants and immigration reform.

Last week I received an email from Ka Wa Berman who organizes the Multi-cultural Families group. She wanted to invite more people into our space to participate in the group. She wanted to put notices in local newsletters and magazines about the group. Did I think that was something the congregation would okay. I told her being more inclusive, inviting people in, is a core part of our mission.

And earlier today in the 2nd & 3rd grade Sunday School group we talked about the form of resistance our congregation would be doing in February as we resist homophobic laws on same sex marriage, and invite all couples who want to publicly commit to one another to a ceremony to bless those commitments.

Inviting more and more in is essential to our mission at First UU. It's important to remember that sometimes inviting people in means meeting people in their own space.

May all be well, Jolinda

Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education, 267-4946 ext 28

Religious Education Activities

Opportunity to explore our February worship theme. Each month we use the same theme as the ministers use in worship for our elementary Sunday School groups. Adults from the congregation take turns leading workshops that help children experience and reflect on the theme, the questions it raises, and our UU traditions of Principles and Sources. Join the fun. Sign up at the Sunday School Table (or e-mail jolinda@firstuucolumbus.org) to explore February's theme of "Love," or the theme for March, "Brokenness" - through dance, drama, science, arts and crafts and games.

Interfaith Leadership for High School. This class, which begins on February 5, was developed by Eboo Patel's Interfaith Youth Core and the UUA. The goal is to develop UU youth as interfaith leaders. Youth explore values of service in our community, and religious pluralism through stories from our Sources and personal storytelling, and coordinate an interfaith service project. The program engages youth to explore religious pluralism, learn why it matters to Unitarian Universalists, and develop the understandings and skills to do interfaith work. Please register at <http://bit.ly/znZank>, or call the RE office at church, 267-4946, ext. 28 for more information.

Youth Justice Trip: New deadline is February 23. Contact Jolinda Stephens or Rev. Meter with your questions. If you have a high schooler in your family and aren't receiving the Justice Trip newsletter, email jolindas@firstuucolumbus.org

Adult and Multi-Age Programming

Multi-Cultural Families meets **Thursday, January 19, 7:00p** for potluck and program. All families are welcome.

Sign up now at <http://bit.ly/vNGUUC> or the RE Office at 267-4946, ext.28 for:

Community and Questioning: *Thursdays, February 2 and 16; March 1 and 15, 7:00pm.* Open to everyone, the group is especially designed for those new to First UU. Meet new folks as you discuss basic existential questions.

Immigration as a Moral Issue: *Saturdays, February 3 to March 10, 1:00pm.* Join a short study group to explore various aspects of immigration, including history, policy, geopolitical and economic drivers, and the lived reality of immigrants.

Lively Writing This class will offer some work in the personal essay. Its aims are clarity, simplicity, and wit in writing. Along with the personal essay we will examine some traditional forms of the familiar letter and also keep a journal that will serve as a place to develop material for the essay. Led by professor of English, John Friedman; every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7 PM, starting February 8. Six class sessions are planned, but the sessions can be extended if interest dictates. Contact Prof. Friedman at johannes@raex.com.

Of Note: First UU Howler Opposes Slave-Produced Chocolate and the Yule Ball becomes a new tradition. In the Harry Potter world when you are very angry with someone, you send a Howler. It arrives in a red envelop, yells when you open it and explodes if you don't. Check out the Howler created at the November Justice Sunday and the December Yule Ball. <http://bit.ly/w1LYPI>.

Keep Up with What's Happening on FaceBook "Like" First Unitarian Universalist of Columbus. You'll get short reminders of events and links to interesting UU news. A link to the *Family Newsletter* is also posted to the FaceBook page.

Jolinda Stephens, jolindast@gmail.com

Markings

My friend Jay Leach, lead minister of our congregation in Charlotte, will be preaching on the first Sunday in February, the 5th. He and I have been good friends since he was a Baptist minister in Houston. We met in a classroom at Pacific School of Religion when I was teaching a summer course in *Spirituality and Modern Art*. We've been good friends ever since, and it was very moving for me to watch him go through the process of becoming a UU minister, something that made me so happy, since his smarts, wit and analytical abilities are unparalleled. I solemnized his marriage to his extraordinary wife Melissa Mummert, also a minister (and film-maker) down in Asheville. And this summer I introduced their wonderful daughter Annie to the joys of sketching with her finger on my iPhone. Jay's sermons always get to me...you should have seen me bawling at General Assembly this year while I was listening to one of them...in Charlotte...and so I am especially glad we are colleagues as well as friends. Please come that Sunday and join me in honoring my good friend Jay. I'll announce his title in the Order of Celebration on the last Sunday of the month. He is following a grand tradition of winter preachers like Kelly Flood, and Gail Geisenhainer.

Eric and I will be away Monday, January 23 until Wednesday afternoon, January 25. But I am going up to Detroit a few days this week...Friday, Saturday and Sunday...to work on my financial planning having to do with what our mother left us. And, to visit my poor sister, whose mother-in-law died this week. She's been through it this year!

Blessings,



Rev. Mark Belletini

The Inner Flame

Prayer by Galway Kinnell
from *A New Selected Poems 2000*

Whatever happens. Whatever.

what is

is what I want.

Only that.

But that.

CIRCLE SUPPERS 2012

Do you like good food and good conversation? Do you get cabin fever during the winter months? Do you wish you could meet more First UU members and friends?

Circle Suppers is a series of informal adult dinner parties hosted by fellow UU members or friends in their homes. The host(s) provide(s) the main course with guests providing the rest of the meal. This year's dinners are scheduled for Saturdays, February 25, March 31 & April 28 2012. All begin at 7:15 pm.

To participate:

- complete the registration form below including your email address (if you have one)
- leave the form at the **Circle Suppers** table in Fellowship Hall after Sunday services on January 22, 29 or February 5; OR mail it to Cathy O'Neil, 432 Acton Road, Columbus, OH 43214.

DEADLINE: February 6, 2012

A list of participants, alternates and dinner assignments will be emailed or mailed by February 13. If you have any questions, contact Cathy O'Neil at 614-267-4975 or croneil@columbus.rr.com

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CIRCLE SUPPERS 2012 REGISTRATION

Name and Address (**please print clearly**) _____

Home phone number _____ Email address _____

1. Please register me (**check one**):

- (a) _____ individually;
- (b) _____ together with (your spouse, partner or friend; give the person's name and also their address and phone number if different from yours)

(c) _____ as an alternate (you will not be scheduled for any dinners but will be put on a list of alternates to be called by the hostess/host in case of cancellations).

2. Please indicate your hosting preference (**check (a) or (b)**):

- (a) _____ I/we CAN host a dinner for up to (**check one**) _____ 6 or _____ 8 or _____ 10 people, but CANNOT host on (**check all that apply**) _____ 2/25/11; _____ 3/31/11; _____ 4/28/11.
- (b) _____ I/we cannot host a dinner at all but would like to participate.

Please note: We will make every effort to accommodate those who are unable to host a dinner but if we do not have enough hosts, those who are unable to host may be put on the list of alternates.

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
 Jenifer Bojanowski, Lead Toddler Room Teacher
 Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor
 Ben Iten, Campus Chaplain

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