



**The
Discoverer**
March 25, 2012

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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
OF COLUMBUS

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PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Discoverer is prepared by
Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor
Please send items to her at
olwfire@yahoo.com.
The deadline for inclusion
in the next issue is
Sunday, April 8, 6:00pm

TIME DATED MATERIAL – PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

WORSHIP SERVICES

April Theme: Restoration

April 1, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“Jesus of Moscow: Can We Ever Restore What ‘Really Happened?’”

(You might want to read or re-read the Jesus sections of Master and Margarita by the Russian writer Mikhail Bulgakov, or watch the Russian film of the novel on the internet, if you have access to it.)

April 8, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“The Language of Flowers”

Easter/The Fourth Ceremony of the Year: The Flower Ceremony. Please bring a flower for everyone in your family or party to place in the common vases)

April 15, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Eric Meter

“Gifts and Obligations”

JAM offering

April 5 Communion in the Manner of the Socinians Thursday, 6:30 PM

Homily: **“Unpacking a Parable”** with Rev. Mark Belletini

April 7 Seder Shel Pesakh - the Passover Supper - Saturday, 6:30 PM (Reservation needed by April 5.)

► Hearing assisted devices, large print hymnals, and a few copies (in large print) of Sunday's readings and sermons are available at the rear of the Worship Center. Copies of CDs of our worship services will become available again for sale at the bookstore. Audio and text of recent services can also be found on the church website.

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

- 6:30p The Artist's Way
- 7:00p Board of Trustees; Lively Writing
- 7:00p BREAD Justice Network Organizing
- 7:30p Men's Spirituality
- 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

Thursday, March 29, 2012

- 9:30a Improvisational Dance
- 7:00p What's So Dangerous About Art?
- 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 30, 2012

- 4:00p Self Defense for Girls
- 7:30p Zesty All Soles Contra Dance

Saturday, March 31, 2012

- 8:30a Zen Meditation
- 9:30a Ukrainian Egg Decorating

Sunday, April 1, 2012

- 8:30a Leadership Development Committee
- 8:45a Breakfast
- 9:15 & 11:00a Worship Service
- 10:30a & 12:15p Getting to Know UU
- 12:30p Strategic Planning
- 1:00p Wellspring; Youth Group
- 1:00p Committee on Shared Ministry

Monday, April 2, 2012

- 7:00p UU Dance Fellowship; Program Council
- 7:00p Grandchildren/Grandparents

Tuesday, April 3, 2012

- 9:30a Archives Organizing
- 6:30p Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00p Rising Voices Choir; Caring Committee
- 7:00p Zen Meditation
- 7:35p Worship Committee
- 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 4, 2012

- 1:00p Archives Organizing
- 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
- 6:30p The Artist's Way
- 7:30p Men's Spirituality
- 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

Thursday, April 5, 2012

- 9:30a Improvisational Dance
- 6:30p Socinian Communion
- 7:00p Getting the Most from Your Digital Camera
- 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 6, 2012

- 12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission
- 6:30p First Friday Potluck
- 7:30p Forum: Redistricting; Multicultural Families
- 7:30p Popcorn & Movie: "Kiki's Delivery Service"

Saturday, April 7, 2012

- 8:30a Zen Meditation
- 9:30a Memorial Garden Workday
- 6:30p Passover Seder

Sunday, April 8, 2012

- 8:45a Breakfast
- 9:15a & 11:00a Worship Service
- 10:30a & 12:15p Getting to Know UU
- 12:30p Enlightened Hippogriffs
- 1:00p Green Team
- 6:00p Menu for the Future

Monday, April 9, 2012

- 7:00p UU Dance Fellowship; Executive Committee
- 7:00p Adult Enrichment Committee

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

- 9:30a Archives Organizing; Newsletter Folding
- 1:00p Cancer Support Group; Library Team
- 6:30p Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00p Rising Voices Choir; Feminism 3.0
- 7:00p UU Animal Ministry; Zen Meditation
- 7:00p Social Committee; This Month in Science
- 7:00p Wellspring (offsite)
- 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

- 8:00a UU Food Co-op
- 1:00p Archives Organizing
- 6:30p The Artist's Way
- 7:00p Lively Writing; Personnel Committee
- 7:00p Small Group Ministry Steering Team
- 7:00p Memoir Writing
- 7:30p 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, April 8
Deadline: 1:00p - Hard copy in yellow folder (office)
6:00p - e-mail articles to olwfire@yahoo.com

BREAKING NEWS The "New Look" for *The Discoverer* starts with this issue! Watch for more changes to come. Be assured, only the format will be different, there will be **no** changes in **content** (which is up to all of you!) **or deadlines**. Your input is welcome!

Many thanks go to Brian Hagemann, Church Administrator, and Marian Garcia, Office Manager, for their ongoing help.

-- Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor
 -- Sue Vierow, Communications Committee Chair

LINKS

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

First off, I want to thank Julie Carr Smyth who joined us for last week's Senior Gathering, and gave a short presentation on what her life is like as a Statehouse Reporter for the Associated Press. Julie, the daughter of longtime member Peggy Carr, grew up at First UU and her daughter is now in our Coming of Age class.

We hold our Senior Gatherings four times a year; each begins with a short worship service, and then we usually have a short presentation by a staff member before everyone moves from the Worship Center into Fellowship Hall for a lunch made with love by members. Over the last year or so, members of a church men's lunch group have helped serve the meals. The goal is to provide focused attention on our most sage members of our community. We make sure to provide rides so that everyone who wants to be there can be.

Instead of including a presentation by a staff member this time around, we thought we would widen our horizons a bit by inviting members of our community with interesting stories to tell about the work they do. (Which, if you think about it, is pretty much an inexhaustible theme.) Julie was a perfect choice to kick this off. The depth of talent in our community continues to amaze me.

Moving on, though I can't say just why, March seems to be conference month. The Ohio Meadville District's annual District Assembly was last weekend, and the weekend before that Rev Mark and I participated in the Kirwan Institute's conference on *Transforming Race*. And next Saturday, I'll be taking part in BREAD's *Youth Summit on Restorative Justice*. Next month? Well, I don't see any more conferences. Instead I'm looking forward to our Socinian Communion, Passover Seder and the Coming of Age Spring Retreat. An embarrassment of riches? Absolutely

in peace, *Eric*

CHURCH NEWS

DEEPENING OUR CONNECTIONS Our goal for the Annual Budget Drive is **\$725,000**. This goal includes a new line item for social justice in the church budget. Two per cent of the total will provide a steady income stream to fund this essential part of our mission. (Previously, funding for social justice activities came from a special collection on the third Sunday of each month. This collection will be discontinued after May 2012.) As you determine your gift, please consider that your pledge for 2012-13 will support both your general commitment to sustaining the church, as well as your support for the congregation's social justice work.

Our ambitious goal has so far been met by an enthusiastic response and increased levels of giving. We hope to celebrate our success on Sunday, April 22.

Please make your pledge by April 15. You can mail your form, drop it into the collection basket, or give online at firstuucolumbus.org/giving/online-pledge. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie Boyd at 268-5006 or melaniemail64@gmail.com.

Gratefully, The Stewardship Team

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR... Spring Greetings from the Board! I want to thank all the church members and the Board members who have participated in the Constitutional Update forums. They have been very productive for everyone. We will likely be incorporating some of the recommended changes – look for the final draft to be published very soon. Again, thank you all for your input and patience as we continue to update and improve the governance documents.

Work on the budget has begun again for the coming year and the Board will be involved more with that in the coming months. This, of course, is tightly intertwined with the annual budget drive; basically the budget is determined by your generosity. I personally encourage you to complete your pledge form soon, as it greatly improves the accuracy of budget planning for the team of volunteers charged with that task.

I hope you saw the message today in the Order of Celebration regarding the Pledge Drive. It is more than just salaries and electric bills; your generosity supports this community (both micro and macro). It supports our shared mission, it supports social justice. I know we all give in other ways too, both time and talent; we also need financial support. Support for JAM is a percentage of your pledge in the coming year, and we are trying to go above and beyond in the coming year. Please consider increasing your pledge this year and helping us reach our goals. If you have specific questions about pledging please contact me at hookstj@gmail.com.

Again, thank you for your support; you are a part of what makes this such a wonderful community.

-- Tim Hooks, Board Chair

SUMMER SERVICES First UU has a commitment to lay-led summer services, and the Worship Committee would like to invite you to consider being a part. **The Worship Committee is now soliciting proposals from anyone who would like to lead a service this summer**, including delivering the sermon. Proposals are due May 1. To obtain a proposal form, or for any questions, call Judith McDowell, 261-0043.

ART SHOWS Calling UU members Plan to enter our annual All Members Show in May and June. All media; your more recent works. This show is for adults. More info coming. Debbsyc@yahoo.com for questions.

FIRST FRIDAY Potluck at 6:30pm; programs at 7:30pm. This month's programs include: 1) "Movies and Popcorn" showing *Kiki's Delivery Service*; 2) a poetry sharing presented by the Social Committee. Bring a favorite poem or two...yours or others. We will meet in Slowter Lounge. We will have some poetry books on hand also. Questions? Contact jeanni ray at jeanniray@gmail.com or 985-6176. (April is National Poetry Month.)

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY Wednesdays, 7:30pm

March 28 - Talking Circle - All

April 4 - Birthday's and Poetry and Sharing - All

April 11 - Poetry and Spirituality - Lori Jones

April 18 - My Favorite Female Poet - Jeanni and all

April 25 - Talking Circle - All

We celebrate National Poetry Month

-- Jeanni Ray, 985-6176 or jeanniray@gmail.com

FORKS OVER KNIVES - This film could save your life. It film examines the profound claim that most, if not all, of the degenerative diseases that afflict us (diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and stroke) can be controlled, or even reversed, by rejecting animal-based and processed foods. Monday, April 30 at 7:00pm. Please join us.

BOOKBITES Next meeting: **April 17, 7-9pm** in Slowter Lounge. The topic is *Poets/Poetry Around the World*, in honor of Poetry Month.

-- Kathleen Boston, 262-40225

SENIOR GATHERING An interesting presentation by Julie Carr Smythe, First UU member and AP reporter, preceded a lunch for seniors on March 22. Thanks go out to those who prepared, served and cleaned up after the meal and to Pastoral Team members who provided rides. They are: Josette Bodonyi, Eve Catus, Sandy Coen, Dick Dawson, Olwen Firestone, Paula Hook, Greg Houston, Florence Jain, Suzanne Koebel, Oliver Jones, Bob Mills, Sharon Oliver, and Carole Wilhelm. Dave MacDonald entertained with his flutes.

Register for GA now at:



<http://www.uua.org/ga/registration/index.shtml> for this year's UUA General Assembly in Phoenix,

Arizona on June 20-24, 2012.

JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY

JAM (Justice Action Ministry) is seeking a new co-chairperson to help lead the next phase of social justice work at First UU. Over the past several years, Ray Nandyal helped to lead JAM into exciting new areas of public witness and interfaith action. Ray will be moving to Cincinnati soon, and we need new leadership to fill his shoes. If you have a passion for social justice, coalition-building, and organizing public witness, especially in the areas of women's health and poverty alleviation, please contact Steve Palm-Houser at (614) 397-3051 or steve.palmhouser@gmail.com

SUMMER LUNCHESES FOR KIDS Each summer the Clintonville-Beechwood Community Resources Center, which our church supports, enlists area churches to serve lunch to children who are eligible for free lunches during the school year. Members of our church served last year, and we will be serving again this year, for one week, June 11-15, at Broadmeadows Apts, a subsidized housing complex on North High St. If you are interested in helping out for a couple of hours on one or more of those days, please contact Marge Lynd at lynd.1@osu.edu or 614-262-2730

FOOD PANTRY We are now collecting for our Easter/Spring food boxes with ham and fixings for the families. You may bring your donations to the Social Justice Table: vegetables, dressing, yams and anything else you might want to donate!

Please continue to bring in peanut butter, chunky soups, stews, raisins (six pack), dried pinto beans, cornmeal and rice. Clean aluminum pop and beer cans help raise funds. - Jacques Angelino

JAM PETITION Do you believe in "Personhood at Conception"? If NOT, please help us fight against such an amendment to our Ohio Constitution or a bill in our Ohio Legislature. Come to our JAM (Justice Action Ministry) table in Fellowship Hall to add your name to our ANTI-personhood petition from "Healthy Families Ohio" (new 501c3 organization). We do not want "personhood" because that would give legal rights and constitutional protections to all fertilized eggs, including those prepared for in-vitro fertilization, and would ban all abortions, even for victims of rape and incest, or when a woman's life is at risk!



BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity)–First UU’s local interfaith social justice organization invites you to attend the following important meetings:

- **Wednesday, March 28, 6:45 -8:15 pm, First UU Worship Center** – Become a small or large part of our church’s contribution to BREAD’s efforts to get implemented well-researched (partial) solutions to the following problems in Franklin County: Lack of Jobs, Crime and Violence, Inadequate Access to Health Care, Neighborhood Blight, Truancy, and Out-of-School Suspensions for Truancy.
- **Saturday, March 31, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Rhema Christian Center, 2100 Agler Rd. – *The Franklin County Restorative Justice Community Summit*** to investigate a possible juvenile diversion program for some of the youth accused of crimes in Franklin County. Sponsored by BREAD, Columbus NAACP, Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown, Lead Juvenile Judge Elizabeth Gill, County Prosecutor Ron O’Brien, County Defender Yeura Venters, and nationally known speakers. (Lunch provided)
- **Neighborhood Blight** – Nominate an abandoned structure in your neighborhood for rehabilitation or razing by sending a **photo(s)** to alexanderholtzman@gmail.com, BREAD organizer, Neighborhood Blight Committee. Include a description of the property(ies), i.e., **address, years vacant** (if known), and the **impact on the neighborhood**. BREAD will call for action on these properties at the Monday, April 16 BREAD Rally.
- **Monday, May 7, 6:45 p.m. – BREAD Nehemiah Action, the BIG one, Celeste Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds - First UU goal – 300 attendees, including children; BREAD goal – 3,500**

Questions: Contact Alice Rathburn, 895-2109, alice37@insight.rr.com or the BREAD Org., 220-9363.

ECO FILM SHOWING Kick off *Earth Day Weekend* with a viewing of "The Economics Of Happiness" on **Friday, April 20, 7pm** at the church. This new documentary film finds local solutions to global problems. It is produced by the International Society for Ecology & Culture (ISEC) and is about the worldwide movement for economic localization. The film features a chorus of voices calling for systemic economic change, including Vandana Shiva, David Korten, Michael Shuman, Richard Heinberg, Rob Hopkins, Juliet Schor, Zac Goldsmith, Bill McKibben, and Samdhong Rinpoche, the Prime Minister of Tibets government in exile. A discussion will follow immediately after the screening

POVERTY ALLEVIATION is a Justice Focus Area voted on by the First UU membership in 2012. You are invited to hear New York Times bestselling author, activist and journalist Barbara Ehrenreich speak at 7 pm Tuesday, April 17, in Mees Hall at Capital University. The lecture is free and open to the public. Ehrenreich will discuss issues she raised in *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*, a book in which she chronicles her experience living as one of millions of Americans who work for poverty-level wages. In Florida, Maine and Minnesota, Ehrenreich worked as a waitress, hotel maid, house cleaner, nursing-home aide, and Wal-Mart salesperson while investigating the call for welfare reform and discovering the tenacity, generosity and survival savvy of low-wage America.

YWCA FAMILY CENTER TACOS & BROWNIES DINNER WOW!!! That is the word that I think of when I think of the volunteers for this month's dinner. In addition to Jim Conlan, Susie Gilbert, Jan Voelker and Candyce Walchesky, our tried and true experts, we had the First UU Middle School Class.

These young people really stepped up. If you see the following young women and men at church, please congratulate them on a job very well done: Shane Roussi, Gus Roussi, Susie Mesler-Evans, Erin Rothert, Eliza Steffen, Rowan Henderson-Bernard, Sam Roscigno.

. Their fearless Sunday School teachers - Heather Myers-Pierson, Julie Henderson, and Kaitlyn Maywhoor - need to be commended, also. The class did everything from making brownies, to spooning sour cream, to getting soaked while washing lots and lots of dishes.

Please think about joining our regular volunteer crew. Eating is a fundamental need. Serving these families in need IS doing something to help our society.

-- Very Gratefully Yours, Cathy McCutcheon
mccutcheoncathy@yahoo.com

CARING CORNER

Jeanni Ray writes: Ladies and Gents, let's wear our hats for Easter Sunday, April 8!

Rev Eric Meter was ordained into the Unitarian Universalist ministry on March 28, 1998. We honor him on this anniversary.

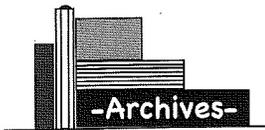
We send our caring thoughts to **Pam Argus** who is at OSU Medical Center for observation and testing. No visitors at this point, please.

We hold **Juanita McDade** in our thoughts. She is having Gastric Bypass surgery on April 26 at OSU Hospital.

Our sympathy to **Patty Monroe** whose sister died March 15 after a prolonged illness; to **Edie Driskill** and **Lydia** and **Will Delphia** whose father (grandfather) died March 3; and to **Sam Pollock** and other friends of Patty Kuun, who died suddenly on March 17.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Linda Thompson, First UU Historian



The 40th Anniversary Celebration: Part II (written by charter member Margaret Bausch, former First UU Historian, and presented at our 40th anniversary celebration in 1980)

On July 14, 1940, the church began its regular Sunday services, some in the Universalist church, on Sunday evenings. For about three months, Herman Newman was sent to us as minister. As you may know he is now the husband of Ruth Lyons, former television star in Cincinnati.

When he left, Rev. Call came again to help and supply the pulpit. Under his leadership, the house at 1957 Indianola Ave. was first rented and then purchased for our permanent home.

On July 6, 1941, Rev. Clyde D. Williams was called to be minister of the church. A program for university students (*Town and Gown* and later *Channing Club*) was formed during his stay. A church school was organized in 1942 under the direction of Norma Sanger and Mrs. Irene Slattery. When we acquired the house we had no musical instrument so Norma Sanger and I rushed down to Lazarus and bought a fairly good second-hand player piano for \$25 which was still being used in the church school not too long ago. We had it moved up and tuned for Sunday service. We had our pianist ready-made, since my sister Norma (now Mrs. Kettrey), was an accomplished pianist, and we could have our hymns and offertory music. Two women's groups were also organized around 1942 - the General Alliance and the Evening Alliance.

During Rev. Williams' pastorate the house was used both as a church and parsonage. And at one time we were fortunate to have three who came to Columbus for some study and lived on the third floor. Rev. Williams, being interested in radio, also became an announcer and news commentator for WCOL using the name Clyde Barr. Later in 1942 a Hammond electric organ was given to the church by two of its members, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fetsch. They not only gave us the organ, but arranged for two of our members to take lessons on it, Norma Kettrey and another university girl.

In 1943 Rev. Williams resigned from the church to become a chaplain in the U.S. Army. He received a citation for his work during the Battle of the Bulge, a copy of which was sent to the church.

Again Rev. Call came to help. In April 1944 Rev. Francis G. Ricker began serving our congregation. He came to us from Waltham, Massachusetts and his first sermon topic was "Let Us Disagree together." In the days when we were getting started we were too busy organizing to do much in the way of service. When we needed money we would have a congregational meeting and literally pass the hat and usually came up with what we needed. In the Alliance we donated the material, made the stuff, and usually sold a great deal of it back to ourselves. One June we had a strawberry festival set up outside to attract the public. Before it came time for the social it got so cold we had to take everything inside and eat much of the dessert ourselves. The church began to be service-conscious at this time. We became a center for collection of food and clothing for European relief. The minister became president of the Council for Democracy and we, as a congregation began to study movements like the San Francisco charter for the U.N.

....to be continued

FAITH DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL AGES

Jolinda Stephens, Religious Education Director

Missional Church? What's That? I've been reading about this concept lately. All of it the work of Christian authors. At our District Assembly last weekend, the theme speaker was a UU minister who not only writes about missional churches, he started a missional church.

So what the *%^&^ is a missional church? Sounds like proselytizing, doesn't it? Actually, it's more about joining with people where they are – in their joys, fun, struggles and defeats – and bringing the healing of companionship, of connection, of sharing. Often it means going out into the community. Missional churches also invite people in to join the congregation in worship, learning, and laughing together, sharing spirit. (Notice I haven't said one word about your elevator speech.)

We have three examples of missional thinking in our programming for children, teens and families. Recently, you may have seen children at Coffee Hour in their Campfire uniforms, selling candy. They are a part of First UU's Campfire Troupe for Girls and Boys, started by **Mary McMichael Liston**. She wanted to create a scout experience for her own children that is free from the homophobia that mars some scouting organizations. She has invited both UU and non-UU kids to this inclusive club; membership is about 50-50.

The Multi-Cultural Families group, organized by **Ka Wa Berman**, has begun putting meeting notices in local parenting publications and looking for opportunities to meet with similar groups for fun and education.

Recently, these on-going groups have been joined by a class in Self-Defense for Girls, led by **Helene Roussi**. The class, which works on body image, as well self-defense, is more than two-thirds non-UU teens because Helene actively got the word out in the general community.

RE is proud to sponsor all of these groups but I want you to know that they are growing to serve the greater community through the broad and inclusive vision of their initiators. Mary, Ka Wa and Helene, you are shining examples of the change we want to be. Thank you.

May all be well, Jolinda

Religious Education Program News

Sunday School Schedule

April 1 – The Second Annual Chocolate Passover Seder. The elementary groups will gather in Fellowship Hall.

April 8 – Easter/Flower Ceremony/Easter Egg Hunt. All groups meet in the Worship Center. The younger children leave during the middle of the service for an Easter Egg Hunt and return to help lead the traditional Flower Ceremony.

April 22 – Elementary Justice Sunday. Another trip to Hogwarts at both 9:15 and 11

April 29, 9:15 & 11 - Youth-led Worship with all youth classes in the Worship Center.

April 29, 9:15 & 11 - Holi celebrated by all other groups.

May 4, 7:30pm - OWL Information Meeting. If you have children going into the 1st, 5th, 6th, 8th or 10-12th grades and you don't know about our amazing sexuality religious education, you'll want to be there.

May 20 – Elementary Harry Potter Justice Sunday and a Last Day of Regular Sunday School Party!!

May 27 – First day of Summer Sundays. One group only which meets at 10:00am.

June 3 – Coming of Age Worship Service

Make the Easter Egg Hunt & Holi Fun

For Easter we need:

- Egg hiders to arrive by 9:00am and 10:45am
 - Hunt supervisors
- Bunny costumes are appreciated but optional.

For Holi we need:

- Story readers
- Flower petal dance leaders
- Paint smearing room supervisors
- face paint artists
- Colored water gun supervisors

Please sign up at the Sunday School Table.



Don't Miss These Great Opportunities for Young Musicians

♪ Youth Talent Show – Saturday, April 28, 7:30 pm

♪ Youth-led service – Sunday morning, April 29 (both services)

♪ Youth choir for the Nehemiah Action BREAD meeting, Monday, May 7, 7:00 pm

Contact Tony McDonald, our music director, at musicdirector@firstuucolumbus.org for more information.

Soulful Sundown is also looking for musicians for a pickup band. Contact Ben Iten, Campus Chaplain theitens@gmail.com.

Still time to donate to the High School Justice Trip. The youth who are attending the Justice General Assembly in June have purchased their airplane tickets, and reserved their rooms in a nearby dorm. **Now they need to decide on what workshops to take.** These are hard choices. Should they choose “Transforming Congregations on Race and Ethnicity”; or “Immigration and Modern Slavery”? How about “What Does Beloved Community Mean”? or “Music and Justice” or “Speak Prophetically to the Press”? Help bring this new energy and ideas back to the congregation. Please write your check today to First UU Columbus and put "Justice Trip donation" on the memo line. Mail or bring it to the church.

Parents of Infants and Toddlers Meet Saturday, April 14 at 11am All young families are welcome. Children play together while you get to know other parents, share the joys and trials of parenting, make connections and develop community. Contact Nancy Powlick, 451-4045; lpowlick@columbus.rr.com

Multicultural Families Meet Friday, April 7 at 7:30 This group of parents and children explore issues of multiculturalism and diversity through discussions; group activities that share ethnic traditions, such a cooking and crafts; and visits to special events. The ideas are adaptable to anyone who wants to join. You do not need to identify yourself as non-mainstream, or be part of more than one cultural group. -- Ka Wa Berman, ka_wa_berman@yahoo.com

Multi-Age and Adult Programs

One Session Left for Popular Philosophy of Art Series, Thursday, March 29, 7pm *What's So Dangerous About Art; What's So Sacred About Art.* Should we live our lives as works of art? Classical Japanese art theory teaches that art expresses principles of Zen Buddhism. Zen art shocks the viewer into a moment of calm where thinking stops and knowing fills the gap, thus helping us transcend ego, and promoting mindfulness. Dr. Susan Josephson was a professor of philosophy at the Columbus College of Art and Design for 39 years, teaching classes in the philosophy of visual art and the philosophy of media.

Intro to Paganism - April 12, 19, 26 Thursdays from 7-9pm. Sign up on line, or at the AEP table in Fellowship Hall. The class will give basics of paganism: who practices, basic beliefs, ritual and magic. The last class will include time for short rituals. Contact Michele Griffin, co founder and High Priestess of Church of Living Earth.. www.firstuucolumbus.org/adult-enrichment-class-registration-form.

Getting the Most From Your Digital Camera, every other Thursday, beginning March 22

Tom Pegan provides valuable guidance to help develop an understanding of the basics of digital photography so you will be able to take photographs you will be proud of. Sessions will cover digital photography basics; photographing places, people and pets; and how to process your photos on the computer for maximum effect. The final session will be a "gallery night" to showcase each participant's hard work.

-- Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education,

www.firstuucolumbus.org; JolindaS@firstuucolumbus.org, 614-267-4946, ext 28

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister
Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister
Rev. Carol Brody, Minister Emerita
Rev. Wendy Fish, Minister Emerita
Dick Dawson, Chaplain
Ben Iten, Campus Chaplain
Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education
Tony McDonald, Music Director
Brandon Moss, Chalice Choir Director
Cheridy Keller, Choir Director
Nathan Hamm, Pianist

Marian Garcia, Office Manager
Stephanie Rottmayer, SYC Director
Brian Hagemann, Church Administrator
Joe Voltolini, Bookkeeper
Deb McGuire, Staff Secretary/RE Assistant
Jenifer Bojanowski, Lead Toddler Room Teacher
Don Hippensteel, Church Sexton
Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant
Cathy Hausmann, Facilities Assistant
Tim Hooks, Chair, Board of Trustees
Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor

First UU Church of Columbus is not responsible for the use, by others, of personal information published in the *Discoverer*

AUCTION NEWS Final Wrapup

Jo Anne St. Clair, Auction Co-Chair

Great Excursions, Services, Items Still Available - If interested please contact me and we will make arrangement for payment/pick-up. Remember every dollar raised goes to support the church and meet the church's goal for the Auction. Your support is appreciated!!!

- 1) EX1 - **Camping Trip to Antique Alley** (Richmond Indiana - Western Ohio) 9/28/12 - 9/30/12 - We'll camp at Summit Lake State Park - transportation, accommodations and 3 meals provided - \$150.00 Value - only \$30.00 - 2 slots
- 2) EX3 - **Eco-Safari and Ohio Foods Lunch** - Back by popular demand - Carpool to local thrift stores, antique shops, bookstores, etc followed by a gourmet lunch. \$25.00 Value - only \$15.00 - 8 slots available
- 3) EX4 - **Group Nature Hike** - you supply the group (10 - 12 persons), time and place and Steve Molk, geologist, will lead - \$50.00 Value - only \$20.00
- 4) EX5 - **Annual Fossil Hike** - to Miamisburg and John Bryant State Park - 6/23/12 \$10.00 - 8 Slots still left
- 5) EX6 - **Annual Summer Nature Hike/Mound Excursion** - 8/11/12 - \$10.00 - 14 spaces available
- 6) EX11 - **Water Skiing Outing** - Lessons Included - 6/5/12 Value \$50.00 - only \$20.00 for up to 4
- 7) EX 12 - **Water Skiing Outing** - 6/9/12- Value \$70.00 - only \$20.00 - only 1 spot left
- 8) EX13 - **Beginning Sailing Lesson & an hour on the water** - 6/10/12 - \$40.00 value - only \$15.00 - only one spot left
- 9) EX14 **Beginning Sailing Lesson & outing** - 6/7/12 - \$40 value - only \$15 - 1 spot available
- 10) SE21 - **Babysitting Services** - (2) Three hour sessions by experienced sitter - children under 12 - Dates & Times TBA \$30 Value - only \$20
- 11) **Life Coaching Session- Explore Your Dreams** - w an Experienced Life Coach (Donna Greenman)- \$75 value - now \$45 Date and Time TBA
- 12) SE28 - **Balloon Sculpting** at your party or community event - 1 hour - \$100 value - now \$35 - Offered twice
- 13) ED2 - **Create Your Own Hand-Made Clay Pot** offered at the Cultural Arts Center with ceramicist Kathy Grace, plus a yummy dessert treat and a tour of the center - \$50 Value - only \$20 - 15 slots available on 5/5/12
- 14) ED3 - **Self-Discovery through Soul Collage (R)** w Julie Henderson, MS, LMT- 3.5 hour workshop at First UU - date and time tba -\$20 - 7 slots available
- 15) **Basic Self Defense for Women & Girls** (12 + up) - taught by Black Belt mixed martial artists H. Roussi & D. Deschenes - 2 hr wkshop - \$15 value - only \$10 - 8 slots left
- 16) FA6 - **Shopping in the Village of Powell** and gourmet breakfast at C. Wilhelm's home on 8/18/12 - \$15 - 5 available
- 17) FA9 - **Appetizers/Beverages & Game Night** with Melanie Boyd and Debra Boyd on 9/22/12 - \$35 value - only \$15 - 10 slots available
- 18) FA13 - **Pizza/Snacks & Game Night** w Fujio & Susan Hayashi on 11/17/12 \$15 - 2 slots available
- 19) EN7 - **Wii Games & Pizza @ M & D.** Greenmans -Date & Time TBA - \$15 Adult/\$10 Child under 10 - 2 slots left
- 20) EN16 - "Tales of the South Pacific," the famous **Miss Sadie Thompson film** w Jose Ferrer & Rita Hayworth on 7/13/12 w snacks @ Laura Adams' - only \$3 - 4 slots available
- 21) EN18 - Tales of the South Pacific - "**Teahouse of the August Moon**" on 7/27/12 only \$3 - 2 slots available
- 22) MM40 - **Swedish Meatballs & Gravy Dinner** at Judith McDowell's on 4/15/12 -\$12 - 2 slots available
- 23) FO2 - **Hello Dolly Cookies** delivered to you at church - 36 delicious morsels - only \$10 - 11 left
- 24) FO3 - **Pecan Balls** (Mexican Wedding Cakes) \$10 - 3 left - delivered to church
- 25) MI31 - **Brass Drawer & Door Handles** shaped like carrots -Value \$80 - only \$8
- 26) CO - Three Medium **Summer Institute T- shirts** - \$8 value - \$2 each
- 27) JE14 - **Shell Necklace** on 22 in. gold chain \$10 value - only \$2
- 28) CH22 - 6 **Cocktail Glasses** in a basket - Value \$25 - only \$3
- 29) AR14 - **Framed Print of Golden Pheasant** by Johanna Beckman - \$30 value - only \$12
- 30) AR16 - Mt. Etna, Sicily Matted and **Framed Photograph by Martha Saenger** -\$10 value - only \$3
- 31) AR35 - Beautifully Matted & **Framed Yellow Daffodil** from Ohio Designer Craftsman - \$30 Value - only \$5
- 32) AR38 - 2 **Framed Tapestries** from Ohio Designer Craftsman - \$60 value - only \$8
- 33) AR41 - Framed **Print of Pop Art Succulent Tomato** - \$20 Value - only \$3
- 34) AR42 - Large Framed **Poster: Steinhart Aquarium** - \$20 Value - only \$3
- 35) AR48 - United Nations High Commissioner for **Refugees Poster** - Value \$4 - only \$1
- 36) VA4 - Timeshare at **Windjammer Villas Resort** in New Bern, NC for the third week of January, 2013 - sleeps 8 - lots of resort amenities. May negotiate another date w owner - \$2,200.00 value minimum \$400.00

MARKINGS

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

The Spring Holidays and Celebrations

Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, Solstice, Yule, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa anchor the beginning of winter in our inherited calendars. In Spring, the week of Passover, Easter, and its memorials of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, Ostara, and even Spring Break, anchor the holidays. The Jewish and Christian traditions, which, with the Hellenistic philosophers, historically grounded both our own tradition and the various humanisms, are rich, and have little to do with the modern mutations of these traditions crafted by television Prosperity Preachers, or fanatics like the late Meir Kehane.

The Socinian Communion is a devotional practice of our ancestors in Poland, Ukraine and Lithuania. They were "rational unitarian Anabaptists," according to George Williams, the late great UU historian at Harvard. They were called Socinians after their theologian, Fausto Paolo Sozzini (Socinus in Latin). They thought of themselves simply as Christians. They called their communion "the eucharist," unlike the other reformers, because for them it was a way of giving thanks (eu-charis is the Greek word for thanks) for the radical and pacific teachings of the prophet Jesus. They tried to harmonize science and the bible back in the 16th and 17th centuries, and called some stories, still accepted by 50% of modern Americans, fables. We will celebrate in their style on Thursday, April 5, 6:30 to 7:30pm. All are welcome. Juice and gluten free bread are served. Remember that community has the power to transcend both belief and unbelief.

The Passover Seder is on Saturday, April 7 at 6:30pm. It's called the *Passover* Seder because there are other seders ("seder" only means "structured teaching supper") and the Fruit Seder celebrated at Tu B'shevat -the New Year for the Trees - is a wonderfully sweet version (it was February 8 this year). The meal is for everyone, including children, although child care for the very young will be available if you ask for it. Two relatively new among us, Carolynn Aurnou (AR-no) and Farrell Brody will be helping me cook and arrange things this year. We will need a set-up crew and a clean-up crew afterward. The Passover Seder is about an ancient story which still offers profound insights over 2500 years after it was edited into the version we now may read. There will be vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. If you have never been to one, you are welcome. I have never let a spring go by without a seder, even though I was not raised Jewish. My Catholic school always did one, and my UU congregations always did one, each in their great variety.

On Easter Sunday we do the Flower Ceremony, an entirely UU custom developed in Prague in the 1920s and brought to the U.S. in 1942. Each person in your party brings a flower for the common vases. Then all the flowers are shared at the end of the service.

The Communion Ceremony does not require a sign up, but the Seder, which is a full meal, most certainly does, since shopping and prep have to take place for a real number. Please call Marian at the office, 614-267-4946 ex 21 to reserve a place, or talk to Carolynn and Farrell on Sunday, April 1. There will be a table in Fellowship Hall; PLEASE register to come by Wednesday, April 4, at 5pm.

You will see some changes in the newsletter, which I am excited about. I recently overheard a conversation in the hall where anxiety was expressed that the newsletter would now be all electric, and no paper version would be available. I assure you the anxiety is unfounded. As a genuine luddite who still feels he HAS to use computers for *more* than glorified typewriters, I still prefer my paper copy.



The Inner Flame (words for meditation as we build up the BREAD Nehemiah Action on Monday evening May 7 at the Celeste Center on the Fairgrounds (note: NOT VETS Memorial; we've outgrown it!))

"So a new kind of spiritual exercise is emerging. It involves not withdrawal but engagement, not shutting one's eyes to evil, but opening one's eyes to both the individual and systemic reasons for that evil; not emptying the mind so that the Spirit can flood into the emptiness, but filling the mind with statistics about who doesn't eat and why not, about indignities suffered by powerless people, so that (we) can be well informed in subsequent assaults on centers of exploitation and unjust privilege.

1988 Robert McAfee Brown, Presbyterian minister

If the word "assault" is troubling, please remember the words of Frederick Douglass found in our gray hymnbook: "Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet who deprecate agitation, are people who want crops without plowing the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. The limits of tyrants are prescribed in the endurance of those who they oppress."