



The Discoverer

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, May 6, 2012

MARKINGS

Rev. Mark Belletini

And so, I hear rumors. I'm not fond of rumors, I am fond of direct communication. I have heard that I am retiring in two months, I am retiring in a year, I am never retiring and will work here till Rip Van Winkle and I are neck and neck.

Better to ask me directly than make assumptions or listen to rumors. Yes, I will retire. I told the Board that. I have not given them a date, but I have told them I will give them at least two years' notice, since my ministry here has been longer than any other ministry in our congregational history, and such a transition will have to be handled with care and planning, both for my sake and the sake of this great congregation.

So please, no more time schedules out of thin air. I promise, I will let you know the exact date when I make it. But I am also aware that this will be an emotional transition both for you and for me, so it's important that I let you know that it's going to happen eventually. My emotions are weighing the idea already, and it will take time for me to imagine myself without Sunday deadlines.

But I am older now. And I feel my age. And it's not particular healthy for congregations when a called minister stays for decades either.

On another topic, I had mentioned that I would like to offer a chance to converse with folks who saw the play I recommended, *Next Fall*, at CATCO. A play at the intersection of family, religion and same gender love. Only two folks expressed an interest when I lifted that in the newsletter, so I went with the date that was best for them, which is **Sunday May 13, Mother's Day at 1 pm** after the service. I hope others are able to make it.

The minister at our partner congregation in Bolon in Transylvania, Kozma Albert, sends his greetings to our whole congregation, and he hopes that either this summer, or, more likely, next summer, some folks from our congregation might visit his congregation which I assure you would host us beautifully. I think it's a great idea, and I hope there are folks who might find this a compelling idea. I will certainly offer a partner church service next fall to lift up the idea most certainly for the following summer.

And, as I said in my sermon this morning, since we voted as a congregation to address the issues of poverty alleviation and women's health issues, I want to work with our Justice Action Ministry to get together some common reads that we can share, to get us on the same, or almost the same, page on these significant, but complex issues. Stay Tuned.

AND REMEMBER WE DOWNSHIFT TO A SINGLE TEN O'CLOCK CELEBRATION UNTIL THE SECOND SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER. STARTING MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!



The Inner Flame

A reflection taken from Gary Snyder 1974, found as I get ready to hear our Chalice Choir sing their Spring Concert...

The silence of nature within
the power within.
the power without.
the path is whatever passes...
no end in itself.
the end is grace
ease
healing not saving
singing the proof
the proof of the power within.

Where to Find It!

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CHURCH NEWS

SPECIAL EVENT The Leadership Development Committee invites the congregation to a special event on Saturday, **May 19, 5-9 pm**. This will be offered to introduce us to the **Art of Developing Meaningful Conversations** (ADMC); to help members of the congregation connect to their purpose, engage with community, and thrive; and to transform the way we work together by honoring our diverse gifts. **Come and enjoy food, wine, and meaningful conversation. Child care will be provided.** Whether you've been deeply involved with the church for years or haven't yet found your niche, this evening promises a place for you. For more information, see <http://www.firstuucolumbus.org/our-community/admc-conversations>. Contact Amy Watson (614-519-0737 or amykaywat@gmail.com) with questions. Please *register/RSVP by emailing Allie Bonsteel* at bonsteam@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY Wednesdays, 7:30pm

We explore Memory and Remembrance:

May 9 - We Remember Mama - All

May 16 - Memories, Part 1 - All

May 23 - Memories to Share - All

May 30 - Remembrance of those gone - All

Also, Ladies and Gents: Mother's Day is May 13.

Let's Wear our Hats. -- Jeanni Ray, 985-6176 or jeanniray@gmail.com

BOOKBITES May 15, 7 to 9 pm in Slowter Lounge. Topic for May - **Latin America** – authors, or about a country. Call Kathleen Boston with questions, 262-4025.

SUNDAY FORUM May 13, 12:30pm. Redistricting Reform in Ohio: The Voters First Constitutional Initiative Dr. Richard Gunther, Presenter

Non-partisan good-government groups, including Common Cause and the League of Women Voters, have proposed a constitutional initiative that would reform Ohio's legislative redistricting process and eliminate gerrymandering once and for all.

Richard Gunther is Emeritus Professor of Political Science at OSU. He has been working on redistricting reform in Ohio for seven years, and is one of the principal authors of the proposed constitutional initiative.

IRANIAN-AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES will be offered in a forum on Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00pm. **"Perspectives on Being Iranian-American"** The presenters will be six local Iranian-Americans, who will discuss with us the precarious nature of being an Iranian

in America, including explaining to us how many Iranians see the world today.

BOOK EXCHANGE The Buukstore is hosting the Free Book Exchange in Fellowship Hall between and after services on **May 13**. This used to be called the "Bring One, Take One" but that was a bit confusing. You don't have to bring any to take any, and you can bring any you like, under no obligation to take any! So please bring your extra books on the 13th and leave them at the Buukstore table for the exchange. – Jim Davenport

MEMBER EXHIBIT "What's New in UU Art?" Find out by viewing the newest all-member exhibition in the church's Gallery and Worship Center. Twenty-seven artists and 47 works comprise this event, filled with imaginative works and lots of color. Join the artists on Sunday June 3, at 11:30 -1:30 for an art reception with food and conversation.

For purchase information, contact Deb Baillieul debbsyc@yahoo.com. 10% of all sales go to the church.

LEARN MORE ABOUT COVENANT GROUPS

Would you like to feel more connected to this church? Would you like some fellow travelers on your spiritual journey? Have you considered joining a **Covenant**

Group? Meeting regularly in a small group helps to create an intimate setting in which equal participation and open communication are honored. Registration for next year's Covenant Groups will be in September, but now we want you to begin thinking about joining one! There will be an information table in Fellowship Hall after both services on **May 13 and May 20**.

Please stop by the table, pick up some more information, and talk with previous Covenant Group members who will be staffing the table

PARENTS OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS The next meeting is on Saturday, May 12, from 11AM to 1PM Contact Nancy Powlick for more information at lpowlick@columbus.rr.com

THANKS to all who brought plants, soil, pots and other gardening items to the Garden Club's free Garden Swap held on May 6. Some of the items that were offered were: heirloom tomatoes, okra, chocolate mint, opal basil and cabbage plants; evening primrose and Rose of Sharon bushes; Mother-in-Law's Tongue and Peace Lily indoor plants; seed packets, terracotta and glazed pots, organic peat moss, and tomato cages.

We'll plan to conduct similar Garden Shares from June through October on the first Sundays of the month

- Chris Hardin

JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY

SINGLE PAYER ACTION NETWORK sponsors a monthly web radio program on www.wcanradio.com. Tune in to *Health Care for All* at **8:30 pm on May 17** to hear host Deb Silverstein and guest Dr. Alice Faryna, talk about *Lessons from Medicare*. To listen to the program at WCAN's web site, click the icon captioned "Click Here to Listen." Join the discussion by calling in your questions or comments to 1-800-921-2204.

GSA NEWS Start planning for Pride 2012! The parade is June 16. The GSA potluck and sign-making event are Friday night, June 15. Mark your calendars!!

Standing on the Side of Love T-shirts are again on sale at the GSA table after each service until June 10. Be ready for the next "yellow shirt event" at First UU.



CARE & SHARE Our Time Bank's next potluck is Sunday May 20 at the church, rooms A and B. Aynn and Doug Titchenal will present a program on

Improving Your Writing Skills. Bring a "white elephant" item to exchange. Earn time credits for your account.

YWCA FAMILY CENTER Our 4th Friday Taco and Brownie Dinner in April went so smoothly. We had a great crew and the families were so-o-o considerate. Sherri Stubbs mentioned how each month the families differ so much in personalities. She is absolutely right.

Our wonderful volunteers this month were Jim Conlan, Susie Gilbert, Cariann and Sherri Stubbs, Candyce Walchesky. I need to mention, also, that Cariann came and volunteered even with her prom being the very next night. That is dedication!

If you would like to join our fantastic team please send me an email at mccutcheoncathy@yahoo.com. We would love to have you!

Very Gratefully Yours, Cathy McCutcheon



The **Feed My Sheep food pantry** in Athens County needs help. Please bring peanut butter and six-pack small raisin boxes to the Social Justice Table.

Please bring in your clean aluminum cans. Proceeds from their sale are used to support the food pantry project in Mineral, Ohio.

-- Jacques Angelino

DENOMINATIONAL CONCERNS

SUMMER INSTITUTE Don't miss this year's S.I. The theme is **Reboot Your Theology: Exploring Our Connections** with theme speaker Rev. Meg Riley. July 8-14, 2012 at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH. Brochures are now available in your congregation (in the Volunteer Room), or you can download it as a pdf at omdsi.org. Registration is NOW OPEN!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2012

The UUA's Justice General Assembly in Phoenix, AZ is just around the corner. The UUA has several web pages devoted to the agenda, schedule, registration and housing for GA. Find it all at www.uua.org/ga.



First UU's **Annual Pledge Drive** is in full swing. If you have not made your pledge, **please** do so at the table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, or online at www.firstuucolumbus.org/giving.

Pledging now helps the church to budget wisely and supports the worship, programming and social justice outreach that make up our shared community.

Thank you!

CARING CORNER

Happy Birthday to **Jean Werts** who was 91 on Sunday, May 6.

Thursday, May 10 marks the date of **Rev. Belletini's** call, in 1998, to be Senior Minister at First UU Church. We thank him for his service to us.

Congratulations to **Rachel Reeder**. Rachel passed "Nationwide's Continuous Improvement Lean & Black Belt Exam," a customer satisfaction training program at Nationwide.

Happy Anniversary to **Rev. Kathleen Fowler** and her husband **Joe Fowler** who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, May 1.

Best wishes to **Sarah and Peter Case** who are finalizing adoption of a 7-year-old girl, Areonna -- a sister for 7-year-old Ian. In July, they all are moving to India to teach music for three years.

We send healing thoughts to: **John Friedman** who had a bicycle accident recently and suffered a broken hip; **Jan Fleming** who donated much of her liver to her brother, Jim, at the Mayo Clinic; and **Charity Fox** who had surgery for breast cancer and is now recovering at home. Charity is the wife of Seth Wolf.

THANKS Along with family members of Gertrude McAndrew Gnann, the following members assisted with her memorial service and reception on April 27: Eve Catus, Jo-E. Miller, Paula Egbert, Sue Vierow, Olwen Firestone, Karen Keenan, Phyllis South, Karen Thimmes, Michael Greenman and Steven Davis. Gertrude was the mother of Deborah Miller-Gnann. -- Carole Wilhelm, co-coordinator.

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. Together 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 7:30 to 9 pm on Thursdays, May 10 through June 14. Further information and to register, please call Rev. Eric at 267-4946 x23.

LINKS

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

Whenever I submit a column for *The Discoverer* from out-of-town, I cannot shake the sense that I am some junior league reporter filing a story from afar.

Yes, I know how silly that sounds, but I'm sorry to say it doesn't make it any less true.

Last summer it became clear to me that with church programs to restart while being responsible for the first two worship services in August, being away a good portion of July is considerably less than wise. So this year, while still hoping to take most of the vacation time you've granted me, I'm seeing how it works to take some time off at the start of July as well as a couple short trips at other times. Which is why I'm not writing now from my desk in Columbus.

Ann and I have found a room sufficiently off the beaten path that the light of the full moon is the brightest thing coming through the window.

And so, while she sleeps, I've been up watching the moon cross the night sky. It occurs to me how strange it is that taking in such an example of the natural beauty available to us feels like an extravagant luxury. But instead of pondering the question, tonight, before I fall back asleep, I'd rather just simply watch the moon for these last few minutes before clouds once again obscure the view.

My best wishes to you all. See you again soon.

In peace,

Eric



WORDS ON MUSIC

Tony McDonald, First UU Music Director



The choir concert is over. The choir concert is coming!

The Chalice Choir had its concert May 6, and what an outstanding performance it was! Now, the concert of the church's other choirs: **Spirit of Life**, **Rising Voices** and **Peace Pals**, all directed by Dee Keller, is coming - on **Sunday, May 20 at 3:00 pm**. The show is entitled *Thoroughly Modern Broadway*.

The various groups will be performing songs from more current Broadway musicals. **Peace Pals** will sing songs from *Les Miserables*, *Seussical* and *Little Mermaid*. They will combine with **Rising Voices** to sing "Happiness" from *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. *Rising Voices* will go on to present songs from *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Hairspray*; they will team up with the women from **Spirit of Life** to do "Children Will Listen" from *Into the Wood*. The men of *Spirit of Life* will render the "Theme from Spiderman," and the full ensemble will sing songs from *The Color Purple*, *Spring Awakening*, *Wicked* and *Sweeney Todd*.

In addition, there will be a few solos and duets, and a special guest appearance by *The Keynotes*, an all-male show choir that Dee directs at Olenangy High School. "This concert will be an excellent showcase for the talents of all age groups in the choirs at First UU," said director Keller. "It's a celebration of the revival and flourishing of Broadway in recent times, and also a chance for First UU members and friends to hear familiar songs they can sing along to, and maybe some less familiar as well." The concert promises to be great fun for the whole family.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Linda Thompson, First UU Historian

The 40th Anniversary Celebration: Part V *First UU history as presented by Historian Margaret Bausch at the 40th Anniversary Celebration*.

In March of 1956, Rev. John Evans came to the church. Other sites were investigated and another small amount of land was purchased adjacent to the Weisheimer lot. In May of 1959 a building committee was appointed with William Gillie as chairman. Preliminary plans for the church and religious education center were approved with kitchen, church office, minister's study, choir room, two lounges, interior and exterior courts and parking for eighty cars. Architects Brubaker and Brandt were chosen and on Sunday, May 16, 1960, ground was broken for the present chapel. Dedication was set for 8 o'clock Sunday evening, October 15, 1961, with the principal speaker, Rev. Mr. Dana McLean Greeley.

When John Evans left in June of 1963, Rev. Arthur Tripp came to us. Serving our church a very short time, we were saddened by his untimely death in 1964. Then Rev. Jay Franklin Chidsey came in January of 1965.

When he left us the Rev. George Whitney came to Columbus in September of 1968 and served the church for seven years. He then decided in the fall of 1965 to retire as full-time minister. On January 10, 1976, a retirement dinner was held for Doris and George Whitney. In August of 1976 the Rev. Carl H. Whittier came to us from a four-year ministry in Springfield, Missouri, and was installed October 17.

The Columbus Memorial Society was a direct outgrowth of the thinking of the members of our congregation. Other members have belonged and worked for many organizations - with mental health groups, Franklin Village, labor groups, Civil Rights groups, League of Women Voters, and they have sponsored a boy from another country. The Alliances have sent school supplies to underprivileged schools in Kentucky. We have taken part in Fellowship Church, have affiliated with U.S.F.J. Some of our members have taken part in marches, and others have taken part in many of the live issues of our day.

Three minister, that I know of, have come from our congregation, Rev. Carol Hyde (now deceased), who was ordained in our church in 1962, Greta Worstell Crosby and Sylvia Ford, the most recent.

Many organizations have grown up in our church lately, many discussion groups have kept the groups alive. Many groups that are now out of existence worked hard to help the church, such as the two Alliances, Childhood Unit and the Laymen's League.

From the eighteen members in 1940 to the ____* members and ____* in the church school we are now well on the way to our fiftieth anniversary. (*The Archives Team will try to find these numbers.*)

FAITH DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL AGES

Jolinda Stephens, Religious Education Director

I'm excited about our summer programming.

In just three more weeks, Sundays at First UU go into summer mode with one service/Sunday School at 10 am. Our curriculum for kids 3 years old through elementary school will focus on the wonder of evolution. It's called "Out of the Stars: Celebrating Our Evolutionary Roots" and brings together elements from our 1st and 5th sources. The First Source is: "direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life." And the Fifth Source is "Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit." So we're bringing together mystery, wonder and the scientific method. And we're infusing it with yet to be named 7th Source: fun!



There will be beautifully illustrated stories of the universe, experiments, water play (remember, we all started in water), ritual, music, and crafts. We have hired a new Summer Sunday School Coordinator. She is familiar to many of you. Jen Bojanowski is already the Toddler Room Lead Teacher on Sundays, an SYC teacher during the week, as well as our childcare provider. She will give up her duties in the Toddler Room for the summer. She will, of course, need helpers. Please email Jen at greenness.com@prodigy.net to volunteer or sign up at the Sunday School Table. She is also looking for the loan of microscopes from time to time.

Meet Noel Williams, the new PeaceCamp Director, First Friday, June 1 at 7:30pm. Noel, who for more than a decade has headed up the Columbus branch of the NAACP, will give a brief presentation of what you can expect in PeaceCamp. PeaceCamp for kids entering grades 1 through 4 is offered from 9 to noon, August 6 through 10. The second camp starting August 13 is for 5 through 7th graders. Please register now to ensure a spot. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6L59H9P>. The sliding scale fees are \$25-\$50 per week. To the excellent foundation in personal peace-making that we've always offered, we are now adding justice-making, including exploring some of the many cultures in Columbus, looking at the ways that kids of different cultures interact (or don't) and exploring ways to create and be a part of Beloved Community. While the goals are serious, PeaceKids can expect lots of games, art, dance, skits and hanging out.

Have a great summer both in your travels and here at First UU.

May all be well,
Jolinda

Religious Education --- Upcoming Events and Classes

Elementary Programming

Parents Please Note Please talk with your children in the week leading up to May 13 about your family's ethnic and religious heritages. We continue the theme of family by looking at where our ancestors came to America from. Most of us can claim a number of countries of origin. Among other activities we will put our unique push pins in the map to represent the countries of our ancestors. We'll also compare notes and represent the religions of our ancestors. We all have differing knowledge of our ancestors. Some families are new to America; some families have been here for several generations. If you know stories from the "old country" or have photos or mementos your child can share, that would add immeasurably to the experience.

Multi-Age and Adult Programming

Saying Thank You and Farewell to Cindy Dillard on Sunday, June 17, following service Cindy has been a very important part of First UU for many years. She has served on the Religious Education Staff, led the teaching team for 8th grade OWL, developed and led the PeaceCamp and coordinated the Summer Sunday School for several years. She also found time to organize the annual Passover Seder. She will be missed. This is your chance to honor her and send her to her next adventure with your best wishes. Donna Greenman is organizing the event. Please contact her to assist.

Save These Dates!!

Thursday, June 7, 7 pm – Rev. Susan Ritchie and the Doctrine of Discovery

Friday, June 15, 7:30 pm – Best-selling author Imran Ahman, Islam and the West: A Personal Journey

Wednesday, June 20 – Solstice Earth Healing Ritual with Rev. Elizabeth Reed

Hear from Immokalee Workers Saturday, May 19, 2:00 pm (Note new time)

For decades, Florida's farmworkers faced poverty wages and daily violations of their basic rights – including modern-day slavery in the most extreme cases – in order to harvest the food on our plates. Their Anti-Slavery Campaign has earned national and international recognition, based on its innovative program of worker-led investigation and human rights education, and a track record of real success. Best of all there are simple successful techniques each of us can use as consumers to support respect and dignity and living wages. Consumer organizing has recently won victories with Trader Joe's and Whole Foods that puts the power of the supermarkets on the side of the workers.

Mothers' Day Bake Sale and Memorial Weekend Car Wash

Here are two opportunities to get things you need - cookies for mom and a clean car - and contribute to the High School Justice Trip Fund.

1. The group will sell baked goods after both services on May 13. (If you can donate baked goods, email Katie at katie@solcore.net.)

2. On May 27, there will be a team of youth prepared to wash your car while you are in the worship service. Put it on your calendar. Kids, this is a great pre-finals stress buster. Email Amelia to be a part of the fun - thirsty_fan@yahoo.com.

Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education,
www.firstuucolumbus.org; JolindaS@firstuucolumbus.org, 614-267-4946, ext 28



Summer Institute is a family friendly Unitarian Universalist camp of more than 600 UUs from around the district and beyond which takes place at Kenyon College, in Gambier, OH each year for a week in July.

For 2012, the dates are July 8-14.

Registration for 2012 is now open. To learn more about Summer Institute please visit the website at <http://www.omdsi.org>. You can join their Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/21188564995/>

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION

Annual Meeting, June 10, 2012

MODERATOR (one year term; one to be elected))

Michael Greenman A UU since 1974 and member of First UU since 1999, I have held a number of responsible positions in the four churches I have joined: Membership, Social Justice, Denominational Connections Chair, and Board Member (Vice-Chair and Chair). I had a three-year term as a member of the Board of the *UU's for a Just Economic Community* and am an active member in a number of other committees. I will continue to devote the same level of competence and dedication to the responsibilities of Moderator as in my 2011-12 term.

FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES (3 year term, 4 to be elected)

David C. Douglass I currently am the chair of the Finance Committee and have been the last two years. I have served on the Finance Committee since 2008. I have also served coffee for the Coffee Committee and in the past, I have been a Sunday school teacher, too. My background is in finance and business. My profession is Financial Advisor and Retirement Planner. My wife, Elizabeth and I have three children ages 8, 6, and 4. In serving on the Board, I look forward to contributing to the First UU family focus and utilizing my Finance Committee and professional experience as we steer through our fiscal concerns. First UU is our family's spiritual home and I look forward to giving my time and energy.

John McCrystal In 1985 I joined our church and I joined my partner Suzan in marriage. Both of my children, Lauren and Connor, have had the benefit of growing up in our community including SYC (our preschool) and all our wonderful programming for children and youth. I have welcomed the opportunity to work on committees including: Ministerial Search Committees for Eric and Wendy, Nominating, RE (e.g., teacher, youth leader, Coming of Age mentor, Youth Revitalization and Youth Adult Steering Committees), IT, Social Justice and Committee on Ministry. I have also been very involved in Youth Programming at the Ohio Meadville District level, specifically Summer Institute.

Dennis Rankin I serve as chair of the Strategic Planning Committee; have volunteered to cook breakfast for Sunday services, participated on Work Days, and helped with the Auction. My partner Wolfgang Salazar and I have been members of the church since 2009. I work as a manager of Regulatory Affairs for a pharmaceutical company. I have previously served as a board member for BRAVO (Buckeye Regional Anti-violence Organization), a non-profit organization, for the GLTB community for 11 years. I enjoy travelling, friends, and cooking. I look forward to continuing service to this church and congregation as a Board member.

Jo Anne St. Clair I have been a member of First UU for 20+ years and have served as Board Chair and Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Fall Harvest Chair, Co-Chair of the Annual Giving Campaign and served on the First UU Auction Committee for 12 years, serving nine years as Chair and/or Co-Chair. I look forward to serving in this critical position. I am a Licensed Independent Social Worker and am employed by the City of Columbus Department of Development as the Neighborhood Liaison for the Southside and the Manager of the South Side Neighborhood Pride Center.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (2 year term; 4 to be elected)

Debra Boyd While I have only been a member for eight years, I strongly identify as a Unitarian Universalist and have been blessed to contribute at a number of levels. I have served on our congregation's board and served two different times as Treasurer. I have been involved in a number of projects including the drafting of our mission, the introduction of Wellspring to the congregation, and Rev Eric Meter's installation. I have served our Ohio Meadville District as the Compensation Consultant, Secretary to the Board and Vice President of the Board. I am currently serving on the General Assembly Planning Committee.

Thom Pegan I joined First UU of Columbus around 1990, I quickly became immersed with committees including Worship, Communications, Church Council, Covenant, and Interweave, and was a Trustee for a brief stint. I crashed and burned, spent 40 days in the desert, and now I am back. When I re-enlisted earlier this year, I vowed that I would not just "join again," but also would be more purposeful in the giving of my talents, treasure and time in helping this church accomplish its missions and visions. Being a member of the Leadership Development Committee feels like a perfect fit and calling.

Mia Hall (LDC) I have only recently become an official member of First UU, having been a warm friend since 2009. I am currently a member of the Chalice Choir, and serve on the Adult Enrichment Program committee. Previously, I've been a member of the UU Church in Corpus Christi, active in their choir, and helped establish a covenant group. I am a newly licensed Professional Counselor, an educator, and am working to complete my doctorate in Counselor Education and Supervision. My husband, son (who is in the Peace Pals children's choir) and I enjoy being a part of First UU; and I look forward to extending my service-orientation to our community.

Paula Hook As a lifetime UU, First UU Columbus is my fourth stop along the spiritual journey. During 20+ years of membership in Columbus, I have been elected to the Board and as Moderator. I've also served on many groups (Governance, Finance, Ministry, Councils) and assisted with various takes (Auction, receptions, senior lunches, Order of Service and the library). At the District level, I've learned at several OMD conferences and chaired the Personnel Committee. In addition, one Large Church Conference and two General Assemblies have provided much inspiration and knowledge. Besides serving in other community organizations, I also enjoy sewing, crafts, music and travel.

Tony L. Rice (LDC) I have been a member of First UU for several years. I'm in the choir, have served on the Gay Straight Alliance, and have been a co-facilitator and am a current facilitator for a covenant group. Also I am a member of the Covenant Group Steering Committee. Volunteer work includes having served on a variety of community and organizational boards and committees both in Columbus and Springfield. Professionally, I am in Information Technology as part of the team managing a Data Center for a major banking concern. I have also been a Leadership Development Training Facilitator.

Jeannie Sperling I was a member of a Unitarian Church in New York as a child. My spiritual path took many twists and turns until I joined First UU five years ago. I served on Membership Committee and have been part of Neighborhood Network since then. I served on the Covenant Group Steering Team representing our group at Program Council and assumed the position of chair for one year. I also chaired a committee to plan the farewell celebration for our past Associate Minister, Wendy Fish. I have enjoyed helping with our Annual Auction in food preparation, serving, decorations and check-in. Professionally I was a primary classroom teacher for 28 years.

Amy Kay Watson I have been a member of First UU since January 2011. I am a professional leadership trainer and change facilitator. I attended two of the *Harvest the Power* workshops at First UU and participated in Community and Questing in early 2011 as well as a covenant group since last fall. I joined BREAD this spring to support JAM and the systemic health of our community. I've been working under the LDC since the fall to develop the start of a leadership training series called the *Art of Developing Meaningful Conversation* and will host the May 19 workshop at church.

Susan Williams First UU has been part of my life for 35 years. Early on I was involved in Religious Education, teaching and working on curriculum. For seven years I was on staff as a religious educator recruiting and training volunteers while observing leadership in action. More recent service includes *Stewardship* and *Membership* as Path to Membership Coordinator. I have attended Large Church Conferences, General Assemblies, Leadership School and read church "how-to" books for enjoyment. I wish to support First UU's transition from recruiting leaders with talents and skills to helping all lay members develop skills to support our mission.

Two candidates for Leadership Development Committee were added since the April 22 issue of the Discoverer. Please be sure to read the biographies of Paula Hook and Mia Hall included in this issue's list. The other candidates' bios have been edited somewhat for space reasons. Please refer to the April 22 issue for the original bios.

FIRST UU ANNUAL MEETING

JUNE 10, 2012 at Noon

Vote on:

**Amended Constitution
Budget**

Elect:

**Board of Trustees Members
Leadership Development Committee Members
Moderator**

Childcare Available

First UU Ministers & Staff

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

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CALENDAR, May 9, 2012 – May 23, 2012

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

- 8:00a UU Food Co-op
- 1:00p Archives Organizing
- 6:30p The Artist's Way
- 7:00p Board Meeting; Caring Committee
- 7:00p Lively Writing; Memoir Writing
- 7:00p Small Group Ministry Steering Team
- 7:30p Men's Spirituality
- 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

Thursday, May 10, 2012

- 9:30a Improvisational Dance
- 7:00p Building & Grounds
- 7:00p Expressive Collage; Personnel Committee
- 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal; Healing Journey

Friday, May 11, 2012

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

Saturday, May 12, 2012

- 8:30a Zen Meditation
- 9:45a Zen Meditation Orientation
- 11:00a Parents of Infants & Toddlers

Sunday, May 13, 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 Enlightened Hippogriffs; Sunday Forum
- 1:00p Discussion of CATCO play: "Next Fall"
- 1:00p Committee on Shared Ministry
- 1:00p Wellspring; Green Team

Monday, May 13, 2012

- 7:00p UU Dance Fellowship; Executive Committee
- 7:00p Adult Enrichment Committee
- 7:00p Program Council
- 7:00p Poverty Alleviation & Women's Health

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

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

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

- 5:00p Campfire Girls and Boys
- 7:00p Iranian-Americans; Gay/Straight Alliance
- 7:00p Membership Team
- 7:00p Path to Membership Part I
- 7:30p Men's Spirituality

- 7:30p Women's Spirituality; Yoga

Thursday, May 17, 2012

- 9:30a Improvisational Dance
- 7:00p Communications Committee
- 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal; Healing Journey

Friday, May 18, 2012

- 12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission
- 4:00p Self Defense for Girls

Saturday, May 19, 2012

- 8:30a Zen Meditation
- 9:00a Path to Membership
- 11:00a Easy Movement Class; Sound Team
- 2:00p Immokalee Workers
- 4:00p Leadership Development Com. Training

Sunday, May 20, 2012

- 8:30p Leadership Development Committee
- 8:45a Breakfast
- 9:15a & 11:00a Worship Service
- 10:30a & 12:15p Getting to Know UU
- 12:30p Pastoral Team Meeting; Strategic Planning
- 12:45 Garden Club
- 1:00p Path to Membership Part 2; Youth Group
- 3:00p Choirs Concert
- 6:30p Time Bank Meeting

Monday, May 21, 2012

- 7:00p BREAD Team; UU Dance Fellowship

Tuesday, May 22, 2012

- 9:30a Archives Organizing; Newsletter Folding
- 1:00p Cancer Support Group
- 7:00p Atheist/Agnostic
- 7:00p Wellspring; Zen Meditation
- 7:00p BREAD Team; Goddesses in Training
- 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, May 23, 2012

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

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*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, May 20
Deadline: 1:00p – Hard copy in office, yellow folder
6:00p – e-mail articles to olwfire@yahoo.com**



*The
DISCOVERER
May 6, 2012*

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WORSHIP SERVICES

May Theme: Family

May 13, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Eric Meter

“Voices From the Wellspring”
JAM Offering

May 20, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“Family Squabbles”

May 27, 2012, 10:00 A.M. ONLY

Rev. Mark Belletini

“Religions, Families and War”

One Service only until the Second Sunday in September, 2012.

► Hearing assisted devices, large print hymnals, and a few copies (in large print) of the Sunday readings and sermon 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.

► ***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.