



The Discoverer

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, June 17, 2012

SPECIAL NOTICE

Rev. Mark Belletini, our Senior Minister, is on study leave, and Rev. Eric Meter, our Associate Minister, is on vacation. They will return to the pulpit in August, but will be in and out of the office for most of July. For more information, see **LINKS** on page 2.

CHURCH NEWS

UU Animal Ministry meets every second Tuesday of each month at 7pm in Room 8. The next meeting will be July 10.

June Soulful Sundown Want to come to church Sunday the 24th, but want to sleep in after ComFest? Not really a morning person? Curious about different types of worship? Interested in generation in an inter-generational, interactive worship? Please come join us at 5:30 for the Soulful Sundown Service! UUs and friends of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend, including Youth and Young Adults. (*See ad on page 6.*)

Join in the **First UU art exhibit** for summer 2012! At two locations – on Facebook and in the Gallery at the main entrance of the church.

It's all about "*are UU having fun yet?*" Post your photo of summer fun – of you (UU), the kids, travels and tours, adventures and antics, or just lazy fun days. So whip out your cell phones and click away.

Post on the Facebook group page, *First UU Summer Art 2012*. Post as many fun-making pictures as you like, now through August. Artistic criteria? The quirkier the better (all in fun, right?).

Absolutely everyone invited – kids, adults, friends here, friends there. And for those who don't do Facebook, fun photos can be printed and posted in the Gallery (display space coming soon!).

The **Free Plant Exchange** by the Garden Club continues on the first Sunday of each month through October. Plan on bringing any plants, seedlings, no-longer-wanted tools, extra flower pots etc. to Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 8. No need to bring something in order to take something. Questions? Contact Chris Hardin (chardin123@att.net).

JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY

YWCA Family Center 4th Friday Taco and Brownie Dinner The dinner in May went nicely. Our volunteers were faithful, hard workers, and the food was appreciated. One of the YWCA employees says she always likes it when she knows we are cooking, because she just loves our tacos!

Please show your appreciation for Candyce Walchesky for doing the shopping, Jim Conlan, Christine Smithies, Jan Voelker for prepping, cooking, serving, and washing up after about 100 people! These volunteers are cheerful, capable and dedicated!

If you are interested in being part of our crew please do not hesitate to contact Cathy McCutcheon at mccutcheoncathy@yahoo.com.

DENOMINATIONAL CONCERNS

SUMMER INSTITUTE “Reboot Your Theology: Exploring Our Connections” with Rev. Meg Riley. July 8-14, 2012 at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH. Brochures are now available in the Volunteer Room, or you can download it as a pdf at omdsi.org.

From the Ohio Meadville District (OMD) office:

- **Summer Spirituality Conference** Looking for a way to develop and deepen your spiritual exploration? Join UUs from the region at the Summer Spirituality Conference July 29-August 1, 2012 at Notre Dame Retreat House in New York. Learn more at <http://cerguua.org/cergevents/254-spiritconf2012.html>
- Interested in leadership development? The Central East Regional Group is seeking leaders who would like to be trained as **facilitators of the Harvest the Power curricula**. Facilitators would train congregational representatives to lead the program. The training will take place August 17-19, 2012. For details, see <http://cerguua.org/cergevents/179-harvestpower12.html>
- **Leadership Day 2012** All congregational leaders are invited to join the OMD for our annual Leadership Day, Saturday, October 13, 2012 at First Unitarian Church of Cleveland in Shaker Heights, OH. Details will be available later this summer.

CARING CORNER

Kittie Palm-Houser retired on June 8 from Bishop Hartley High School after teaching art for 28 years.

Jerry Schardt retired from professional accounting on June 1.

Vinnie Roscigno recently received a Distinguished Scholar Award from the Ohio State University.

Alison Easter's artwork has been selected for showing at the 2012 High School Juried Exhibition, which recognizes outstanding Ohio high school artists. Information is at the Caring Table about dates and location.

Best wishes to **Cindy Dillard** and her husband, Tom Dowling. Their new home is Winston-Salem, North Carolina. We thank her for the many ways she served our church community. In addition, congratulations to Cindy, as she also recently earned her Child Development Associate credential.

Happy Birthday to **Rev. Mark Belletini**, who celebrated his birthday on Saturday, June 16.

We send healing thoughts to **Al South**, who had a heart attack on June 2, and has been recovering at home.

Our caring thoughts go out to **Jim Bailey** and **Ken Treadway**. Jim's nephew died on June 2, after an automobile accident.

Appreciation to **Cindy Kerkhoff** for her many years of baking and cooking for Faith Mission.

Farewell to **Ray and Lauri Nandyal**, who are in the process of moving to Cincinnati. Lauri and Ray were recently named "Bridge Builders of the month" by our Justice Action Ministry.

Thank you to the teachers for our Coming of Age program (our rite of passage program for 9th graders): **Sherri Stubbs, Casey Best, Niki Hanselman, John Grinstead.**

LINKS

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

Before I head off to our denomination's Justice General Assembly in Phoenix, I want to leave you with some words about pastoral coverage this summer.

While both Mark and I will be at GA, the congregation's associated ministers, Revs Kathleen Fowler and Suzan McCrystal, will both be here in Columbus. Afterwards, Rev Mark will be in town through the middle of July should there be an emergency. And while I'll be heading to Washington State for my vacation shortly after GA, I'll be back on July 15. I should probably add that I'll also be away from June 19 – 21 for a BREAD training. But no matter, should you need to speak to a minister, there will be someone available for you.

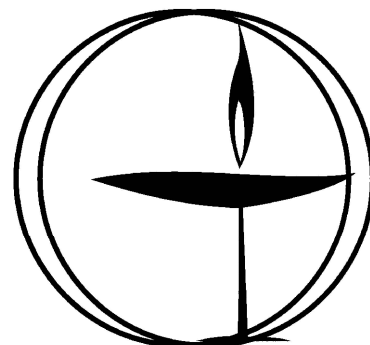
Furthermore, while our chaplain Dick Dawson technically remains on sabbatical until the middle of August, I would not be too surprised if he makes a brief appearance or two at church before then. And as we usually do, I'll be leading the first two Sunday worship celebrations in August, and Mark will be back in the pulpit on August 19.

I'll be flying to Phoenix with Jolinda Stephens and two of our four youth who will be part of our youth justice trip there, Leigh Duckworth and Katie Carey. Seminarian and father of two teenage girls himself, Ben Iten will be traveling with Amelia Koontz and Allegra Roscigno. We have every expectation that this GA will be different from any other. I'm looking forward to finding out exactly how that will be true, and I expect that on August 12, the rest of those on the trip will be joining me to tell you all about it.

Until then,

Eric

Rev. Eric



Summary Report of May 19 World Café

by Amy Watson

The Leadership Development Committee's World Café on May 19 was hosted as part of the church's new series on the Art of Developing Meaningful Conversations.

The event was organized around five questions. The first and last were asked of individuals, and their responses were collected on post-it notes. The middle three questions were discussion questions asked at tables of four people each. And for each new question, we all got up and scrambled around so we could sit with new people! Lots of new relationships were begun, friendships deepened, and very interesting topics explored. And, everyone participating was asked to follow the Café Etiquette: focus on what matters; contribute your thinking; speak your mind and heart; listen to understand; link and connect ideas; listen together for insights and deeper questions; play, doodle, and draw! These etiquette guidelines can help us make any conversation more meaningful, and we invite you to consider the questions.

This summary offers the themes in the answers, but if you'd like a more in-depth report of how individuals and groups responded to the questions, just contact Amy Watson at amykaywat@gmail.com.

What is the hunger that brings you here tonight?

- A hunger for conversation
- A commitment to the church's mission
- A hunger for connection
- A commitment to church activity
- A hunger for intellectual learning

How does our church community nourish you?

- By providing experiences of community and authenticity
- By providing opportunities for growth and transformation and to engage in service
- Through experiences of worship
- But--sometimes we are *not* nourished!

What else could our church be if we all brought our best selves?

- Even more welcoming, authentic, unified, committed, and nourishing
- Making a more visible impact
- A place where we cultivate and encourage each person's gift
- Growing financially

What support do we need in order to bring our best selves to the church?

- People to listen and connect with you
- Clarity around priorities
- Opportunities to share our best selves in continued safety, with lack of judgment (even when we're not at our best)
- Personal invitations to serve
- A balance in all aspects of our lives
- Practical support with and/or information about child care, dishwashing etc.

What seems possible now?

- "Hello" as a spiritual practice
- Respect for the capacity, power, and responsibility to contribute
- Deeper conversations
- Working towards change as a conscious, intentional organization
- Growth
- A deeper expression of who we are as UUs

FAITH DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL AGES

Jolinda Stephens, Religious Education Director

Justice-making with Children and Youth with a Clarification

Let's start with the clarification. In the Order of Celebration for June 17, there is a short note I wrote titled: "Obama Responds to First UU Demands." The title was totally tongue in cheek. The quick story is that on Thursday night two youth (who will attend General Assembly) and I went to protest outside of the Obama campaign offices in Cincinnati, demanding an executive order to help those young adults who were brought to the U.S. as children and who have no residency status. The next day the President announced that those young adults, some one million, will be allowed to remain and to get work permits for the next two years.



It was such a great experience for our two youth to participate in a successful action. Of course, neither they nor I imagine that it was our support that made the difference. This particular action, built around the courage of undocumented young adults and youth, was only a week old, and we were a part of the spread from Denver to just a few other cities that day. We are, however, aware that the DREAM act was first introduced in Congress about ten years ago and the Undocumented and Unafraid movement has been strategic in its use of the courage of those willing to risk deportation for two years now.

Thank you for your support

Rev. Mark and I are offering a workshop at General Assembly with a couple of UUA staff members entitled *Justice as a Family Value*. One of the points in the section I've been assigned is "Social Justice Work with Children May Seem Risky." As I've thought of this statement I've realized how many thanks I owe the congregation in general, as well as the families. So many of our children arrive in Sunday School already knowing a lot about how to think about social issues, because their parents take the time and care to talk with their children about difficult issues. We are often able to add experiences — with education, advocacy and public witness — to that foundation. And, it is a parent who organized the Enlightened Hippogriffs, who just marched in the Pride Parade to great applause. People were astounded to see children so young with such a good grasp of what needs to happen.

And the whole congregation supports these activities. Too often, in other congregations there was pushback against social action for children and youth from non-parent adults in the congregation. I remember one grandfather who had no grandchildren at the church who objected stringently every time I talked with children about war (children should only know that their parents will keep them safe). Another example is a project we did that was thought up by one of our eight-year-olds. The kids asked adults to bring water and canned goods, and placed them in sacks they had decorated. They kept the sack lunches in the car to give out to people on corners pleading for help. The president of the congregation believed that the church had no place encouraging parents to drive up to "dangerous" street people so the child could help them out by handing them a lunch.

Finally, it seems that we are becoming more multi-age in our social justice activities. For that I want to thank the leadership of JAM [First UU's Justice Action Ministry].

May all be well, Jolinda

I will leave for General Assembly with a small but mighty group of youth on June 20. I return to the office on June 27 for three days. Then I will be on vacation until August 1. Deb McGuire will be in the office all day on most Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. You can reach her at the same extension as you use for me. For summer questions, write to Jen Bojanowski at greenness.com@prodigy.net.

New Brochures for Sunday School and Family Activities

Find out what's planned for next year in Sunday School. Don't miss the new "love" classes for elementary kids or the Justice-maker class for middle school. Discover the new dinner events for high school seniors in the Activity Brochure. Don't miss the brochure on how you can be a part of the exciting new year.

Sunday School Re-registration Is Just Four Questions

If your children were registered for 2011-12 and you don't have major information changes, check out (and complete) the "Very Short Registration" card at the Sunday School Table. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WD5GWGB>

Register NOW for PeaceCamp

Using role play games and other fun techniques, we'll explore bullying, something many PeaceKids have difficulty with, and work on ways to protect and support one another and create a peaceful school. While the goals are serious, PeaceKids can expect lots of games, art, dance, skits and hanging out.

Registration is down this year due to the late start we got when we changed directors. We are working hard to recruit a much more diverse group of PeaceKids to work on peace and justice together. To support the diversity we must have a strong financial position, to be able to offer scholarships. PeaceCamp is designed to be self-sustaining. Inviting our neighbors in is a bold initiative that can reap benefits for many years to come. Please reconsider your plans for the summer to include PeaceCamp.

Teaching Teams Return to Elementary Sunday School and New Curricula That Feature Projects Debuts

- First Graders offer a Flower Celebration for First UU elderly who have difficulty getting to church
- Second to Fourth Graders host a Gratitude Table in Fellowship Hall
- Fourth and Fifth Graders interview adults and teens about their search for truth and produce a video

These are but a few of the possible projects our children will be doing with the new UUA Tapestry of Faith curricula. Sign up today for a teaching team to be a part of this exciting new year.



Summer Solstice Elemental Peace Ritual, Wednesday, June 20, 7pm in Fellowship Hall.
As the sun reaches its zenith, gather for meditation, movement and chants from the many cultures of the earth, honoring indigenous wisdom that has sprung from the earth, water, fire and air over the ages.

No previous experience needed. The ritual was created by senior Sufi teacher Murshid Saadi Neil Douglas-Klotz, led by Sheikha Munira Elizabeth Reed. Co-sponsored by First UU Faith Development and The Shalem Center.

Cooking Classes Coordinator Needed

Next year, we will have cooking classes offered by recent immigrants. The classes will include instruction in making a meal from the leader's home country followed by enjoying the meal together. Please contact Jolinda Stephens, jolindas@firstuucolumbus.org, if you have experience with catering and working with diverse cultures. The coordinator will manage the marketing of the classes, including determining a price point that covers the costs.

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, Sexton
Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant
Cathy Hausmann, Facilities Assistant
Casey Clymer, Summer Sunday School Coordinator
Tim Hooks, Chair, Board of Trustees

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

Go to General Assembly in Phoenix without leaving Columbus! June 20-24

Be a part of this extraordinary event without leaving Columbus!

We will have live streaming set up at the church from June 20 to June 24 for events that end before 10pm, and you are welcome to join us to experience many of the key events at GA.

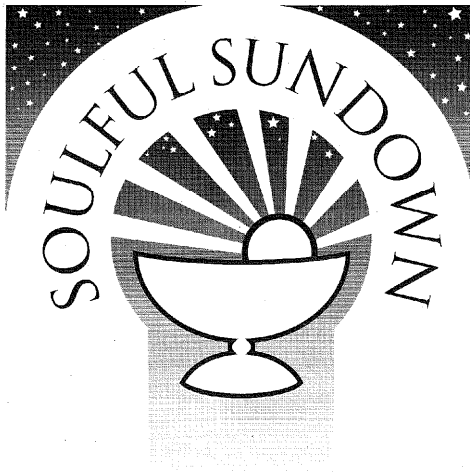
1. Join other First UUsers at the church, bring food and make a party of it.
2. Invite others to join you in your home for some of the events
3. Live stream or connect with these events via the Internet at home.

The brochure with all the details is attached. Sign up to participate at church here.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DB56GRS>

The heart of Justice General Assembly will be the events of public witness for immigration/migration justice, as well as the giant block party with our allies in Arizona.

COME TO
THE FIRST UU COLUMBUS



Sunday, June 24, 5:30 PM

Join us for a dynamic, contemporary service in the Worship Center,
presented by First UU's campus ministry group, FOCUUS.

Refreshments will be served after the service.

Please send newsletter articles to
office@firstuucolumbus.org..
The deadline for inclusion
in the next issue is
Sunday, July 1.

WORSHIP SERVICES

June 24, 2012, 10:00 A.M.

Wesley Thompson

“Commitment in the Face of Uncertain Outcomes”

Wesley is one of First UU's current seminary students.

Also, at 5:30 p.m., all are invited to the **Soulful Sundown Service!** UUs and friends of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend, including Youth and Young Adults.

July 1, 2012, 10:00 A.M.

Mark Gaskill

“Love in the New Millennium”

July 8, 2012, 10:00 A.M.

Matt Meyer

Matt, a UU who presents programs at Summer Institute, will present a musical program to help us learn more about ourselves and each other.

► 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.

CALENDAR June 20 – July 4, 2012

June 20 – 24: General Assembly in Phoenix, AZ

Wednesday, June 20

- 5:00pm Campfire Girls & Boys
- 7:00pm Gay Straight Alliance
- 7:00pm Membership Team
- 7:00pm Solstice Peace Ritual for the Healing of the Earth
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality
- 7:30pm Men's Spirituality

Thursday, June 21

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 6:30pm Joint Task Force (Poverty & Women's Health)
- 7:00pm Communications Committee

Saturday, June 23

- 8:30am Zen Meditation

Sunday, June 24

- 10:00am Worship Service
- 1:00pm UU Visual Artists
- 2:00pm PFLAG
- 4:00pm Community Drumming Circle
- 5:30pm Soulful Sundown Service
- 6:00pm Bridge Group (call 499-2434)

Monday, June 25

- 6:30pm Justice Action Ministry
- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship

Tuesday, June 26

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 1:00pm Cancer Support Group
(contact se.schofield@hotmail.com)
- 7:00pm Goddesses in Training
- 7:00pm Being an Atheist or Agnostic
- 7:00pm Zen Meditation

Wednesday, June 27

- 1:30pm Library Team
- 7:00pm Board of Trustees
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality
- 7:30pm Men's Spirituality

Thursday, June 28

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 7:00pm Expressive Collage

Saturday, June 30

- 8:30am Zen Meditation

Sunday, July 1

- 10:00am Worship Service
- 12:00pm Youth Group
- 1:00pm Committee on Shared Ministry

Monday, July 2

- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship
- 7:00pm Program Council

Tuesday, July 3

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 9:30am Newsletter Folding
- 7:00pm Zen Meditation
- 7:35pm Worship Committee

Wednesday, July 4 (Office Closed)

For information on COVENANT GROUPS, contact Rev. Eric Meter, 267-4946, ext. 23, or ericm@firstuucolumbus.org.

Please Note

The deadline for the next issue of *The Discoverer* is Sunday, July 1.

Please send articles to office@firstuucolumbus.org, or drop them off in the front office.