



The Discoverer

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, September 23, 2012

MARKINGS

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

You know, it's funny. I've never been one much to make my bed, and I am able to leave dishes unattended in the sink for two days before I worry.

But since I bought new furniture and had a new floor put in, and redid my kitchen, I find myself making my bed, cleaning my dishes, and dusting my floors with such passion that I am flabbergasted. It appears that something has changed in my soul because of some exterior re-arranging of my life. My friend Jesse visited from Florida for two days on his way to another city, and when he left something in the sink, or dropped his shirt over the couch while on his way to the shower, I found I was cranky immediately. It never bothered me before. It's almost like I had a personality transplant.

It took me a while to reflect on my feelings and to figure out what had changed in me. A certain respect for new things, I suppose, which I expected from him even though he was not the one who had done the remodeling. But I also began to think of Plato's old prayer found in the *Phaedrus*: (c. 370 BCE)

"Dear Pan, and all you other divinities who haunt this place, give me beauty in the inward soul; and may the outward and inward be at one. May I reckon the wise to be the wealthy, and may I only have such a quantity of gold as but someone without greed would carry."

The phrase "May the outward and inward be at one" has always struck me, and I think in some way, that is what happened to me. The order of the new floor and new straight lines of the simple furniture entered my soul, and suddenly, the outward and inward seemed to be at one.

I wonder how long it will last?

See you around! *Mark*

(I am conducting a retreat for my colleagues in the Prairie Star district on the first two days of October.)

THE INNER FLAME

The truth is not simply what you think it is. It is also the circumstances in which it was said, and to whom, why, and how it is said." *Vaclav Havel, 1986*

CHURCH NEWS

Building our Mission - Listening Sessions

One of the main concerns of the congregation identified in last year's Strategic Planning survey was our long-term fiscal health.

As we move forward in our long-term planning, the congregation needs to determine the best choice of many options suggested by the survey. To this end, the Board, Stewardship, and JAM have formed the Fiscal Sustainability Task Force. The Task Force seeks input from the entire congregation to determine our path to the future.

There will be three listening sessions to provide members and friends an opportunity to help shape and build our greater mission and design fiscal strategies to enhance our mission and growth as a healthy congregation. These will be held Wednesday, October 3, from 7-9 pm, Sunday, October 7 from 1-3 pm, and Tuesday, October 9 from 7-9 PM. Please plan to join us. We are eager for your thoughts and input.

Listening Sessions for DRE Search Please join us as we move forward in our effort to find our next Director of Religious Education, after Jolinda leaves for retirement. On Sunday, September 30, after each morning service, there will be a "Come and Chat a Moment" opportunity, for families with children to stop into express their ideas and thoughts on a DRE candidate for our church. All are welcome.

Entertainment Books are available in Fellowship Hall Sundays after services. Karin Erickson, 614-834-3988.

Autumn First UU Work Day Saturday morning, October 27. We'll be working both outside and inside to make the church a nicer place. Sign up on Sundays October 13 & 20 in Fellowship Hall, or online with Dave Richter (drichter@sciotangy.com) or Brian Hagemann (brianh@firstuucolumbus.org).

Mark's Books for a Rainy Day Hundreds of books from Rev. Mark Belletini's libraries will be sold through the First UU Bookstore Sunday, September 30, in Fellowship Hall, to benefit our Rainy Day Fund. Most of the books will be \$1; some notable ones will be \$5. Contact Kathleen Boston, 614-262-4025, for information.

Healthy Congregations The Leadership Development Committee and the Board are offering training, through Central East Regional Group (CERG) and facilitated by our own Debra Boyd and Amy Watson, in the ecumenical Healthy Congregations curriculum by Peter Steinke.

This training will help leaders learn how to effectively: accept differences, focus on mission rather than just "getting along," focus on strengths, respond to anxiety and change, respond to conflict, act flexibly and creatively, and more. It will be offered the first Saturday morning of every month, October-April (skipping January). Workshops will be 9am-2pm. Breakfast offered at 8:30am. Register at the LDC table in Fellowship Hall or by emailing Amy Watson, amykaywat@gmail.com. **Registration deadline October 4.**

2013 Auction Planning Have a creative/artistic side needing an outlet? Want to help transform the Worship Center, the Gallery and Fellowship Hall into a "Winter Fantasy" come February 16, 2013?

If so, the Church Auction Committee needs you! Some ideas for decor are already ruminating, but the fun for the final look comes when new members join the seasoned gang and the look takes on fresh new dimensions. (Bottom line: Seasoned gang needs reinforcements.)

The fun continues closer to February, with the production and installation of some awesome decorations (although the cutting out of snowflakes can begin now). Call or email Danya Furda, (614-471-3786), dfurda@gmail.com or Marylou MacDonald (614-433-7273), lulu42@columbus.rr.com to help brainstorm and set the magical backdrop for another awesome party- turned- fund-raiser!

Lots of other opportunities exist to help make First UU's Auction a success, if decorations aren't your thing, so give us a shout.

Coffee hour volunteers needed! Have you ever wondered what it would be like to walk into Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning and see a sign saying:

**Today's coffee hour will not occur
due to lack of volunteers**

Help make sure this sign never has to be placed at our coffee hour table. If you like coffee, enjoy fellowship, make a great cuppa, or just would like an excellent volunteer opportunity, please give Denni a shout. **Coffee hour is special...please help make it happen!** Contact Denni Hale, 614-733-8082, rayneblueoh@gmail.com



UU Animal Ministry meets every second Tuesday of the month, 7pm, Room 8. The next scheduled meeting is October 9.

First Friday Dinner and Movie. October 5. Please join us! The potluck begins at 6:30pm. Various activities begin at 7:30, including:



- a family movie, *Toy Story 2*
- a documentary, *Forks Over Knives*
- the Multicultural Family Group meeting
- UU Artists and Poets UUnite! featuring poetry about pieces in the art show *Still/Life* in the Gallery. Poets: contact Jeanni Ray, jeanniray@gmail.com, 614-985-6176, by Monday, October 1, with: your name, art piece or pieces, and artist/artists. Please, just one poem. Open mic, if time permits. Bring a copy of your poem, to hang next to the art piece.

Childcare is provided for those too young to enjoy the activities. For more information, contact Margaret Allen, allenhoyt@gmail.com.

Bookbites will meet October 16 in Slowter Lounge 7pm to 9 pm. October's topic: Poetry or a book about a poet. Questions? Call Kathleen Boston, 262-4025.

Women's Spirituality meets Wednesdays, 7:30 – 9pm.

- October 3 Birthdays and poetry and sharing
- October 10 Ghost Stories
- October 17 Great Witches
- October 24 Talking Circle (What do we Harvest)
- October 31 Samhain Celebrations

This month's theme is "Samhain and Other Stories." Contact Jeanni Ray, 985-6176, jeanniray@gmail.com.

Elevator speeches: Many of us have read the UUA brochure *15 Elevator Speeches* in our literature rack, which addresses the question of what to say when someone asks you "What's Unitarian Universalism?" during a time as brief as an elevator ride. Do you have your own elevator speech? Rick Kritzer is collecting these, to be printed in *The Discoverer*, particularly ones that are clear and concrete, refer directly to UUism, and are inclusive of UUs who do not believe in God. They should be a maximum of 80 words. Set your own due date, and let him know what it is, so he can remind you, if necessary. November 29 is the latest deadline. Contact Rick Kritzer, rick94037@yahoo.com.

The **Free Plant Exchange** by the Garden Club. Sunday morning, October 7. Plan on bringing any plants, seedlings, no-longer-wanted tools, extra flower pots etc. to Fellowship Hall. No need to bring something in order to take something. Chris Hardin, chardin123@att.net.

FIRST UU MUSIC

Tony McDonald, Music Director

New Title Greetings All. There have been many new changes in The Discoverer and this is a small one. The title of my occasional column will now be “First UU Music.” I think it is more descriptive, and it more closely matches our music Facebook page “First UU Music and Concerts,” which I encourage you to check out and “like.” Look for me on a fairly regular basis to apprise you of musical activities either here at First UU or associated with us.

Musical Events Below is the preliminary season of special musical activities at First UU. More events may be added later, but please mark you calendar for these:

- November 10, 2012, 7:30 pm – Youth Talent Show
- December 16, 2012, 4:00 pm – Holiday Concert of the Choirs
- February 1, 2013, 7:30 pm – Chamber Music with Mark Rudoff and friends
- March 2, 2013, 7:30 pm – Folk Music Sing-Along with Bill Cohen
- April 13, 2013, 7:30 pm – Adult Talent Show
- May 19, 2013, 4:00 pm – Spring Concert of the Choirs

Sunday Music Many people have asked about the music performed for services on Sunday mornings. Since there is no more room in the Order of Celebration to add this information, I will start including “program notes” on some of the pieces in my column, because the music is always so interesting, for example:

- ▲ September 30 – I will be performing the first movement of the “Sonata for Trombone” by Thomas Zuger. Mr. Zuger is a local composer and Professor of Trombone at Capital University.
- ▲ October 7 – Chalice Choir will sing “The Best of All Possible Worlds” from the musical *Candide* by Leonard Bernstein. The musical, and this song in particular, follows Voltaire's famous novel that takes an ironic, tongue-in-cheek look at the absurdity of many beliefs.

JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY (JAM)

Why Do We Have Citizens United Today? In 1886, a Supreme Court decision, *Santa Clara v. Southern Pacific Railroad*, gave corporations their first “rights” as persons. From that decision, all rights and powers they exert are derived!

Learn the facts: The play *The Prosecution of Judge Waite*, by James Allison, will be presented in Fellowship Hall on Friday, September 28, 7:00. No admission fee. Refreshments served. Discussion and Q&A afterward.

Issues Forum and Candidates Night at First UU. Thursday, October 11, 6:30pm. Fellowship Hall. Issues include Redistricting Statewide Constitutional Convention and the Franklin County Senior Services Levy. The candidates are for Franklin County Sheriff and 24th Ohio House District. Call Cathy Elkins, 614-267-5884, to help and to be involved in this event.

Please help the **Feed My Sheep Food Pantry** in Athens County. Bring items to the Social Justice Table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning.



CONGRATULATIONS! First UU was one of two BREAD congregations honored recently for collecting more than \$8,000 from individual investors to support BREAD's work to make systemic change in central Ohio! In fact, we have now met our \$10,000 goal, thanks to recent investors Rev. Mark Belletini, Debra Boyd and Mark Merchant, Rev. Carol and Paul Brody, Karen and Dick Dawson, Denise Deschenes and Helene Roussi, Charity Fox and Seth Wolfe, Joanne Frantz, Linda Halleran, Paula Hook, Susan Musick, Cathy and Kevin O-Neil, Tom and Evelyn Stephens, Gleb Tsipursky and Agnes Vishnevkin, and Jean Werts.

BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity, www.breadcolumbus.org) is First UU's local interfaith social justice organization. As the number of BREAD congregations grows, so does the need for additional staff to help build the power needed to hold elected officials accountable for problems in our community. To help support the BREAD budget, make out your generous, tax-deductible check to BREAD (not First UU) and send/take it to the church in an envelope marked BREAD.

BREAD's **listening process** is underway. All BREAD congregations are holding house meetings or conducting **1-to-1 conversations** (instead of the usual house meetings) to begin BREAD'S annual democratic process to choose a local community problem for research and action. If you haven't yet been asked to participate in one of these 45-minute conversations, contact Alice Rathburn, eulala1905@me.com, 895-2109.

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to:

Donna Adassa, who retired on August 31, after 31 years of public service with the State of Ohio.

Rev. Mark Belletini, who celebrated his ordination into the ministry of Unitarian Universalism on September 22. He was ordained in 1979.

Steven Davis, who received the Volunteer of the Year award for "Get Behind the Badge", a support organization for the families of fallen police officers and firefighters.

Julia Boortz, daughter of **Wendy Boortz**, who graduated from MIT with a double major in Computer Science and Engineering, and Political Science. Julia has accepted a position with Palantir Technologies in Palo Alto, California.

We send condolences to:

Tom Tucker, whose father died in a nursing home near Akron on September 14.

Ben Sostrom, whose step-brother, Jordan Russell, died on September 13.

Donna Papps, whose 96-year-old father died on September 8 after a brief illness.

Kay Gaskill, whose father died September 16.

Chas Williams, whose' cousin died September 20.

Wolfgang Salazar, whose father died September 21.

Dear church family,

How warm and compassionate you are! I deeply appreciate the calls, flowers, and cards I have received from all of you. This experience has been overwhelming to me and I feel loved and cared for by all of you. It is my hope and prayer that the connections we have with each other will continue to grow and will extend to our new members as well. I know that Greg would want that. Thanks to all for the beautiful memorial service and the reception. You created a special day for Greg.

Much love, Judy Houston

David Krohn directs the dance choir at First UU. His new quartet premieres October 5, at the King Arts Complex. It will also perform on October 27, at the McConnell Arts Center.

SYC (School for Young Children) HISTORY

Jan Waters, former SYC Director

In 1969, two pioneer-spirited women, Lee Row and Janet Stocker, set out to develop a preschool which met the developmental needs of young children. Janet, a church member, wrote to the Unitarian board of trustees requesting sponsorship of the school. The school was set up as a social outreach program of the church to the community.

Both women had previous teaching experience and were eager to put their creative energies to building a school where large amounts of time were allotted to free play, and art materials were available all the time. They wanted to encourage creative thinking and problem solving in young children.

The founders and their teachers developed ideas for the program by imagining they were children and imagining what kind of preschool they would like. Janet and Lee noticed that the first step to becoming an autonomous, playing child was for that child to separate successfully from parents. Strategies for dealing with feelings surrounding separation were developed to smooth the entrance from home to school.

SYC has grown from one class of 18 students in 1969, to nine classes of 147 children (ages 2-5), and maintains the philosophy of the founders. Over the years, much has been discovered about how young children learn, all of which validates the play program of the school.

To enter SYC's doors is to enter the world of the child, to see what children are capable of doing, to watch them grow and develop, and to experience the excitement and warmth of being part of an early childhood community that keeps children at the center of the program.



Soulful Sundown

Sunday, September 30, 5:30pm.

Join us for a dynamic, interactive, contemporary service in the Worship Center. Drinks and snacks will follow.

Contact Ben Iten, theitens@gmail.com,

614-329-2915, with questions.

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister
Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister
Rev. Carol Brody, Minister Emerita
Rev. Wendy Fish, Minister Emerita
Rev. Kathleen Fowler, Minister Affiliated
Rev. Suzan McCrystal, Minister Affiliated
Dick Dawson, Chaplain
Ben Iten, Campus Chaplain

Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education
Deb McGuire, RE Assistant/Staff Secretary
Jenifer Bojanowski, Lead Toddler Room Teacher
Stephanie Rottmayer, SYC Director
Tony McDonald, Music Director
Brandon Moss, Chalice Choir Director
Cheridy Keller, Choir Director
Nathan Hamm, Accompanist/Pianist

Brian Hagemann, Church Administrator
Marian Garcia, Office Manager
Joe Voltolini, Bookkeeper
Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant
Cathy Hausmann, Facilities Assistant
Don Hippensteel, Sexton
Beth Jewell, Chair, Board of Trustees

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

A HUGE Thanks to All Our Sunday School Leaders

We have had two great Sunday School weeks and I want to thank our Sunday School Leaders. I want to thank those who stepped forward for the first time with a great deal of trepidation. We had to put together our teams so late that some will not get their orientation until next Sunday. Some teams had just a day or two to prepare. And, yet they acknowledged their fears, dealt with the time crunch and frustrations and showed up. They coped with such challenges as 15 middle schoolers showing up for a class with space for the three kids who had registered. And, they left their groups smiling. We ironed out some bumps during the week and they were smiling at the end of this Sunday even more. Thank you so much for your love, commitment and courage.

And much gratitude to our irreplaceable experienced Sunday School Leaders. Those who consistently volunteer and those who balance their participation in Sunday School with their love of choir and desire to serve other parts of our congregation. One of the great things about the Sunday School leadership this year is the number of new people we have have volunteering. And yet, there is no way we could do it without your experience leading the way.

Finally, particular thanks to our two youth who are volunteering as Sunday School Leaders. One is responsible in a 9:15 group and then attends her own Sunday School group at 11:00. The other volunteers in Sunday School as her way of being in Unitarian Universalist community.

We Need Just Six More Outstanding People for Sunday School

That could be you, whether you're new to Sunday School or an experienced Sunday School pro, or a youth wanting something more in your church experience. We do important, life changing work. If we can fill out our teams we can share the joys and the responsibilities. We need:

- Two preschool leaders at 9:15 and one at 11:00. Preschool groups share an active song that draws them together, a chalice lighting, followed by sharing time, a story and one activity. Then it's play time.
- Two adults at 9:15 to explore justice with our 5th through 7th graders.
- One adult at 11:00 to explore the Great Questions with our 5th graders

Greetings from the AEP (Adult Enrichment Programs) Committee

Our Fall class catalog has just come out. Here are the highlights of the new season:

- Folding a Moravian Star – Thursday November 15 at 7 p.m.
- Menu for the Future – Sundays at 7 p.m., starting September 30
- Mormonism: What Is It All About? – Sunday October 7 at 1 p.m.
- Facing Up To Facebook: An Introduction to the World of Social Media – Tuesday October 16 at 5:30 p.m.
- Tae Kwon Do for Youth – Tuesdays & Thursdays at 3:30 starting September 4
- TED Tuesdays – Tuesdays at 7 p.m. starting October 18
- Educational Policies – Sunday October 14 at 12:45

For more information stop by the Greeters Table near the front door and pick up our flyer on the Fall Classes, check out the church's Facebook and website pages, or visit us at our table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays. Registration can be done either in person at our table or online through the church's website.

Do you have an idea for a class? Stop by our table and let us know about it. Plans are still in the works for:

- Ecology as a Spiritual Practice
- Beyond the Artist's Way
- Square Dancing
- Planning for our Future
- Paper Beads and Jewelry

Our ongoing classes are:

- Tuesdays – Book Bites; Atheists/Agnostics/Skeptics; This Month in Science; Men's Spirituality; Zen Meditation
- Wednesdays – Memoir Groups; UU Humanists; Men's Spirituality; Women's Spirituality; Yoga
- Thursdays – Expressive Collage; Improvisation Dance; Men's Spirituality
- Saturdays – Dance Your Way; Parents of Infant & Toddlers; Zen Meditation
- Sundays – Green Team

If you would like to be a member of our team, please stop by our table and chat. We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

CALENDAR September 26 – October 10, 2012

Wednesday, September 26

- 8:00am UU Food Co-op
- 1:00pm Archives Organizing
- 7:00pm Board of Trustees
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Yoga (Fall Session)
- 7:30pm Men's Spirituality

Thursday, September 27

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 11:00am Senior Gathering
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 7:00pm Expressive Collage
- 7:30pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 28

- 7:00pm Play: "The Prosecution of Judge Waite"

Saturday, September 29

- 8:30am Zen Meditation
- 9:00am ADMC Core Host Team

Sunday, September 30

- 9:15am & 11:00am Worship Service
- 10:15am & 12:15pm Listening Session
- 10:30am & 12:30pm Getting to Know UU
- 12:30pm Teacher Orientation
- 12:30pm COA Teaching Team Planning
- 5:30pm Soulful Sundown Worship Service
- 7:00pm Menu for the Future; FOCUUS (OSU area)

Monday, October 1

- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship

Tuesday, October 2

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 6:30pm Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Caring Committee
- 7:00pm Zen Meditation; TED Talks and UU
- 7:00pm Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
- 7:35pm Worship Committee
- 7:45pm Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 3

- 1:00pm Archives Organizing
- 5:00pm Campfire Girls & Boys
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Yoga (Fall Session)
- 7:30pm Men's Spirituality

Thursday, October 4

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 7:30pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 5

- 12:00pm Cooking for Faith Mission
- 6:30pm First Friday Potluck
- 7:30pm Multicultural Families Meeting
- 7:30pm UU Artists & Poets

Saturday, October 6

- 8:30am Healthy Congregations Breakfast Workshop
- 8:30am Zen Meditation
- 11:30am Dance Your Way

Sunday, October 7

- 9:15am & 11:00am Worship Service
- 10:30am & 12:30pm Getting to Know UU
- 11:00am Worship Service
- 12:15pm Free Plant Exchange
- 1:00pm Mormonism, What's It All About?
- 1:00pm Youth Group
- 6:30pm Young Adult Covenant Group
- 7:00pm Menu for the Future; FOCUUS (OSU area)

Monday, October 8

- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship
- 7:00pm Adult Enrichment Committee

Tuesday, October 9

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 9:30am Newsletter Folding
- 1:00pm Cancer Support Group
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 6:30pm Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Feminism 3.0; This Month in Science
- 7:00pm UU Animal Ministry; Social Committee
- 7:00pm Zen Meditation; TED Talks and UU
- 7:00pm Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
- 7:45pm Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 10

- 7:00pm Personnel Committee; Memoir Writing
- 7:00pm Small Group Ministry Steering Team
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Yoga (Fall Session)
- 7:30pm Men's Spirituality

For information on COVENANT GROUPS, contact Judy Fettman at judyfet375@gmail.com.

The deadline for the next issue of *The Discoverer* is Sunday, October 7. Please send articles to office@firstuucolumbus.org, or drop them off in the front office.



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DISCOVERER
September 23, 2012

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Theme for September: At-One-Ment/Unity

September 30, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“Recognizing Underlying Unities in the Tangle of Things”

5:30 pm **Soulful Sundown Service.** All are invited. *(See page 4.)* **Chaplain Ben Iten**

Theme for October: Faith/Trust/Belief

October 7, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Chaplain Dick Dawson

“Being Awake: Some Reflections on my Spiritual Meandering”

October 14, 2012, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

“Are Experience and Faith Opposites?”

► 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 for sale at the bookstore. Audio and text of recent services can also be found on the church website.