



The Discoverer

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, April 17 - 30, 2013

MARKINGS

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

It was so good to see Joel Miller here at church this morning. Joel is Jo-E. and Gordon Miller's son, and once served as my intern back in Hayward, California. One of my best interns. He is serving an interim position in Corvallis, Oregon right now. He was out visiting his folks.

I almost included a story about him and me in my sermon on grief this morning, and will do so now. In response to this month's theme, Life and Death, I remember a time when Joel was working with me, when a man in the church called me up and asked me to perform "last rites" with him. He'd been suffering from a syndrome that no one in the hospital had ever heard of before, a syndrome that acted a lot like HIV in that it invited opportunistic infections into the body in droves. He fought them all off until he could not any longer, and decided that it was time to let go and let nature take its course. Joel and I had been visiting him that summer almost every day as he was in the unit at the Stanford University Hospital, and he wanted the ceremony to take place here. I had questioned him at first when he asked, since he had always made clear that he had been raised in a Baptist tradition that was wary of such rituals. But what he asked those who loved him to do was beautiful indeed, and I was blessed to have been asked.

We met in the hospital garden the day after he asked, about 15 people from the church and his family, and he asked me to preach a homily to us all on the scripture text "Love is stronger than death" from *Shir ha Shirim*, or the Song of Songs in the Hebrew Scriptures. Then he wanted me to anoint everyone's hands for the hard work of grieving ahead. Then he offered, from his hospital bed there in the midst of the garden, a personal goodbye to each of us, including his amazing wife. Joel participated in this moving ceremony, an undeniably rare and unexpected event for an intern at the beginning of his ministerial career. The man died the next morning.

That story is one of the cornerstones of my pastoral memory, and it moves me still, as I have to imagine it moves through Joel's ministry.

When Lane Campbell was here being interviewed by the Search Committee as a candidate for our Religious Education Director position, open when our wonderful Jolinda begins her retirement, I was delighted to spend an evening showing her Columbus and its wonders

(including a visit to Jeni's Ice Cream, of course. You had to ask?). Our conversation flowed freely and honestly and with joy, and I am happy that she responded to our call with her Yes. You will get to meet her, hopefully not long from now, but I am very much looking forward to working with her when she starts in the new church year. As you might imagine, Jolinda is doing everything she can to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Enjoy the blessings of the spring! Finally! 70 degrees F. And the forsythias are out!



(see *THE INNER FLAME* on page 6)

CHURCH NEWS

Building & Grounds Work Day Get out your work clothes and gloves. **Saturday May 4, 9:00am**, is the first 2013 First UU Work Day. Starting at 8:30am, we will have a continental breakfast from Panera, with plenty of coffee, bagels, pastries, fruits and juices. Work on church projects starts around 9am and lasts until about noon. Projects include painting, gardening, weeding, pruning and brush clearing. Children under age 12 must be supervised by parents. Let us know if you need childcare. Come even if you can't stay until noon. Care Share Time Bank credits offered. Sign up in Fellowship Hall between and after services on Sundays. Or you can sign up online with Brian Hagemann at brianh@firstuucolumbus.org, or with David Richter at drichter@sciotangy.com.

UU General Assembly (GA)

Information on General Assembly (GA) is available at <http://www.uua.org/ga/>. Registration started March 1.

Where: Louisville, KY

When: June 19 - June 23, 2013

Cost: Early registration March 1 – April 30
adults \$ 330, youth grades 9 – 12 \$190
Late registration: after April 30
adults \$380, youth \$225

CHURCH NEWS continues on page 3

LINKS

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

I've often said that about this time of year in my first year of professional parish ministry, I was startled to realize just how often I was picking up the phone to ask someone to do something. Since then, I've tried to say Thank You at least as often as I make requests on others' time.

So I want to begin this column by offering another Thank You, in this case to our own Elliott Cennamo, who won last year's Standing on the Side of Love video contest. (You can find a link to his video, made in anticipation of last year's general election, through a link at the First UU web site or at www.youtube.com/watch?v=61mOMZJvFG8).

Elliott's work was the perfect way to introduce UUism to the students of Harvey Wasserman's Cultural and Ethnic Diversity classes at Capital University last week. For several years now, Harvey has been inviting Rev. Mark, and now myself, to speak to his students about the UU faith and the impact we've had over the years.

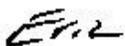
When I was a recent college graduate, I did a short stint on the board of the UU campus ministry program at the University of Minnesota. At the time, a survey indicated that most people who would come to our congregations first heard of us during their college years, and that little nugget has stayed with me ever since.

I can't say whether or not the same is true today, but it underlies the importance I continue to place on our outreach to college age people.

Elliott's video is as good an introduction to what we stand for, and how we approach the world, as any I've come across. At just over three minutes long, it is a poem in video format: concise, dynamic and hopeful. And the students at Capital last Tuesday got it. Not that all of them are going to flock to our doors, however. My guess is that many of them are happily unchurched, and others are content in their current faith traditions. But few of them had even heard of Unitarian Universalism before, so simply getting any of our message across to them is a win.

Thanks, Elliott, for helping us show ourselves in such a positive light. Long may you run.

In peace,



FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Beth Jewell

Capital Campaign: Going Green for a Sustainable Future— Presentation dates announced!

Please plan to attend one or more of the following:

Sunday, May 5, 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Thursday, May 9, 6:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Sunday, May 19, 12:30 – 2:00 pm

By making financial commitments in a Capital Campaign, together we can accomplish many things! Through a Capital Campaign, **we can sustain our church home with green facility upgrades.** Long-imagined restroom renovations will be designed with modern green construction, design and fixtures. Much-needed facility renovations can include a new roof that reduces our heating and cooling, efficient heating and air conditioning system updates, an LED lighting retrofit, insulated doors and windows...and a possible solar installation to harness renewable energy, shrink our carbon footprint and help make First UU a green facility. Through a Capital Campaign, **we can sustain our church finances**, helping to retire our mortgage and to invest in the ongoing care of our facility. Through a Capital Campaign, **we can sustain our actions beyond these walls**, enabling us to strengthen and nurture the broader community through increased investment in JAM, our Justice Action Ministry, and by continuing our commitment to participate as a Fair Share member congregation of the UUA.

Please plan to attend a session. Together, let's explore how we can make a Capital Campaign a signature time in the life of First UU. Your church leaders are working hard to develop a proposal for an exciting and forward-reaching Capital Campaign. The next steps are up to **YOU**. **YOUR** collective desires and priorities will be affirmed in the final proposal. Please come and learn about what the Board is proposing and give your input and feedback as, together, we approach the important congregational vote to proceed, which will be taken at the Annual Meeting on June 9. Look for a sign-up table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, and sign up on sheets in the Gallery, if you are in the church during the week. You may also sign up by emailing me, Beth Jewell, at beth.jewell@att.net.

All presentations will include opportunities for conversation and feedback. Additional presentations can be added to work with your schedules. To sign up, or to request an additional presentation, please contact Beth Jewell at beth.jewell@att.net or 614-209-2936.

Our New Director of Religious Education (DRE)

The DRE Search Committee is pleased to announce the successful candidate selection and acceptance of the Director of Religious Education position, which Jolinda Stephens is leaving to enjoy retirement and her family. [Please watch for announcements of events that will celebrate Jolinda's time, dedication and successes here.] Jolinda leaves big shoes to fill, but we believe we have found the right candidate to carry on Jolinda's work.

Lane Campbell, of Kansas City, Missouri, will be joining us in early July as our new DRE. A lifelong UU, she is a graduate of Antioch College in Yellow Springs, and a 2012 graduate of Starr-King, with a Masters in Divinity.

While studying for her Masters, Lane served as DRE for the local UU church, also called Starr-King. She met regularly with the Religious Education Council to maintain programming and create educational strategies within the mission statement of the congregation. She recruited and trained volunteers to lead programming for nursery, elementary, and middle school/high school ages, created weekly children's worship services, and worked with the ministers to create a monthly multi-generational worship service. Lane also has experience in creating curriculum for adult religious education.

Lane's consistently-stated career goals have focused on religious education. Currently, she is employed as Chaplain at the University of Kansas City Hospital in the Pediatrics Unit, providing pastoral presence for children and families, as well as on the Medical Telemetry Unit and Neurological Intensive Care Unit. Lane participates in two days a week of educational programming focused on building ministerial identity and authentic leadership. She also serves as leader of a local youth group.

As part of the interview process, Lane met with our RE Council, AEP, SYC, Representatives of JAM, the Personnel Committee, Rev. Mark, Rev. Eric, and members of the staff and Board of Trustees, including a one-on-one meeting with Board Chair Beth Jewell. Lane also met with youth ranging from our elementary age children to our active high school youth members. The feedback was all positive. After the DRE Search Committee's presentation to the Board of Trustees at their March 20, 2013 meeting, Lane was unanimously voted into the position, which she accepted.

A full presentation to introduce Lane Campbell to the congregation will be shown at the Annual Meeting. Please come and learn about Lane and welcome her when she comes on board this summer. A more genial welcome is planned for the beginning of the church year this fall with a planned reception in Fellowship Hall.

Art of Developing Meaningful Conversation (ADMC)

We told you last month that there's been a movement as we've gathered to practice leadership, conversation, and listening. A group met on March 30 to use Open Space Technology in meaningful conversations that carried striking themes:

Reaching out and spreading the word

We have a strong interest in sharing and growing the community we've discovered here. Social justice ministries and the arts offer us avenues through which to connect with others in our community, but we have a fear of appearing to proselytize or be dogmatic. How can a faith survive with this fear?

Fostering involvement in the church

We have a strong interest in finding the right fit for ourselves within this church. A "menu" of opportunities with job descriptions and a variety of volunteer roles might help. How can people be involved when committee work is not the right fit for them?

Navigating the Church

We have a strong interest in meeting the needs of members and friends of the church. For a new member, there may be too many things going on at the church. What we do is so diffuse that we give the appearance of standing still. How can we ensure our committees are focused on the areas of greatest need?

Volunteer/Membership Coordinator

We have a strong interest in exploring the possibilities for bringing in a paid volunteer/membership coordinator. Such a staff member could provide the continuity, support, and accountability that may mark our next phase as a congregation. What would it take for us to take steps toward bringing this idea into being?

What's next?

We see ourselves as an evolving, ever changing faith, welcoming questions and new ideas. The group conversing on March 30 wondered if we are questioning the status quo in our own community, adapting as change is needed. These conversations revealed a tremendous willingness within our body to look forward with fearlessness and challenge ourselves to take up those issues that mean the most to us.

If you would like to join with others in seeking a way forward for us, to reach out to others passionate about social justice or the arts, to design a way of simplifying and clarifying how to plug into best-fit activities and groups in the church, contact Amy Watson at amykaywat@gmail.com or 614-519-0737, and she will connect you with the folks who are most interested in developing those ideas further.

Free Book Exchange Please mark your calendars for the next Book Exchange on May 12. These exchanges happen quarterly, on the second Sunday, in May, August, November, and February. —Kathleen Boston

Women's Spirituality meets Wednesdays, 7:30 – 9pm. For more information, contact Jeanni Ray, 985-6176, jeanniray@gmail.com.

Book Bites will meet in Slowter Lounge 7 to 9 pm, Tuesday, May 21. For more information, contact Kathleen Boston, 262-4025.

Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central Ohio (FCACO) Upcoming Meeting Have you wondered just what the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central Ohio (formerly known as the “Memorial Society”) does? Do you have questions about what a membership means? Do you receive advertisements from local funeral homes? Do you know how to “comparison shop”? Want to know more about buying a funeral, in general? Come to one of our monthly, informative meetings to ask questions and find out valuable information about this “hidden” subject. Our organization (our national federation) is the only non-profit watchdog of the funeral industry in the country. Our open meetings are held monthly (4th Monday) in Room 8 at the church, 7:00 pm). Next meeting is April 22 and the presenter is Phyllis Byard. Phyllis has been active in this local organization for over 25 years. FCACO also monitors funeral/cemetery related legislation in Ohio.

(Apologies to those of you who came to the last month's meeting for any inconvenience. The meeting was cancelled unexpectedly, due to illness.)

For further information, contact Phyllis Byard at 846-2747.

Kroger Rewards During the month of April, each person who wants to have the Kroger Rewards dollars directed to First UU needs to re-enroll in the plan (or enroll for the first time). On your computer, go to the website www.krogercommunityrewards.com and click on “Columbus, OH” and click on “Enroll”. Then follow the instructions. If you are re-enrolling, go to the website and “sign in” (you'll need to remember your password or you'll have to reset it). If you have questions you can call 1-800-KROGERS for assistance. This is a source of “free money” for us. If you are not already contributing to the church or any other organization, please consider doing so now. We start earning the money in May.



UU Animal Ministry meets every second Tuesday of the month, at 7pm, in the Library. The next meeting will be held May 14. Rick Krizter, 781-1799, rick94037@yahoo.com.

Parents of Infants and Toddlers meets every second Saturday. The next meeting is on Saturday, May 11, from 11am to 1pm. Rooms 1&2. Contact Nancy Powlick for more information, lpowlick@columbus.rr.com.

Muslims for Progressive Values conducts an Islamic Prayer Service every Friday at 1pm, here at First UU. All Muslims and all friends of Islam are invited participate in this gender-neutral and LGBT-welcoming Jumma Prayer. For information, contact Frank Parmir, frankparmir@yahoo.com, 614-274-7330.

The Starry Messenger, a music drama about the life of Galileo, will be presented Friday, April 19, 8pm, at the McConnell Arts Center, 777 Evening Street, in Worthington. This is the world premiere performance, with music written by Leslie Kleen. The text is from a series of poems by the California poet George Keithley. Many members of First UU are involved in this production, and it is sponsored by the Atheist/Agnostic Circle of First UU. Tickets are \$10, and they are available at the door and at www.mcconnellarts.org

PEACE CAMP

Jenifer Bojanowski, Director

Registration for peace camp is open! We will be exploring peace within, among, and between. Through art, music, discussions, and interactions, we will work on problem solving and negotiation skills, as well as self exploration. Due to feedback from families, both sessions will be mixed age groups.

In addition, I am looking for volunteers (teen as well as adult) to help with activities. It is a great way to interact with our youth in this wonderful community. They bring such joy and creativity.

Registration forms can be found at the Sunday school table and are available online. They can be handed to me directly or put in my mailbox at UU. Any questions, suggestions, ideas are definitely welcomed. I can be reached at greenness.com@prodigy.net.

Peace and warm wishes,
Jenifer Bojanowski
Peace Camp Director

See page 9 for more about Peace Camp.

JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY (JAM)



The Nehemiah Action is the single most important social justice event in Central Ohio each year. Why? BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity), our church's interfaith social justice community organization, gets results because you and thousands of other BREAD members and supporters show up in person and demand action for real and significant change.

Public officials cooperate with BREAD on a wide variety of social justice initiatives because, once each year, BREAD turns out thousands of supporters representing over 50 faith groups. BREAD's initiatives in education, crime and violence, housing, improving access to jobs, health care, and now discrimination against immigrants have succeeded because you and others showed up. You came to the Nehemiah Action last May, and you asked officials to work with BREAD. These officials said "Yes," *because* you were there.

Please come to the Nehemiah Action, and bring others!

Monday, May 6, 6:15 p.m. registration
Celeste Center, Ohio State Fairgrounds
717 E. 17th Avenue

Carpool, if possible, from First UU, your job, or your home. (Parking costs BREAD \$5.00/vehicle.)

Childcare available for children out of diapers to age 8. Ten to 16 year olds are invited to be a part of the Children's Choir. Rehearsal Monday, April 22. Contact Tony McDonald, musicdirector@firstuucolumbus.org.

Get your First UU-identified tickets after services or from a BREAD Team Leader. Everyone counts! We need at least 250 First UU members and friends at the Celeste Center on May 6, toward 3,500 total to make a difference.

Additional information: Alice Rathburn,
alice37@insight.rr.com, 895-2109 or 563-0536.

Single Payer Action Network will hold its annual meeting on Saturday April 27, at 10am at the Ramada Conference Center on Sinclair Rd. The theme this year is "Health Care Reform in the Age of the Affordable Care Act." Many people do not know that, at full implementation, there will still be over 20 million people uninsured. That number will be higher if states do not adopt Medicaid expansion. Lunch is included in the registration fee. Brochures can be found in the Window Hallway, or you can register at www.spanohio.org. A fundraising walk for health care justice will be held the next day at Franklin Park Conservatory. Contact alice.faryna@gmail.com for more information.



Reproductive Justice is a focus of our Justice Action Ministry Task Force on Women's Health Issues for two years, and the UUA's Study/Action Issue for four years. Jane Larson and Beth Jewell are hosting a three-hour luncheon workshop with NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio and the Ohio Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice.

Join us Saturday, April 27, from 10:30 to 1:30, for the Empowerment Workshop for Reproductive Justice. This is a streamlined version of a conference that Jane and Beth attended in November, and they are thrilled to bring the facilitators to First UU, so that our talented membership can be further empowered to work for justice.

Topics include a policy review, the theology of reproductive justice, messaging tips, and media training. With this training, you'll be empowered to testify, write letters, speak, conduct interviews, and have the one-on-one conversations you've always dreamed about that can change the world! Spread the word; attendance is not limited to members of our church; others committed to reproductive justice are welcome! \$5 suggested donation. Register with Jane Larson, janelarson47@gmail.com or 614-766-4223; please indicate childcare or special dietary needs.

Feed My Sheep Food Pantry is in need of canned stew and chunky soup, peanut butter, dried pinto beans, canned meat, and children's books. Bring also aluminum beverage cans. Bring your donations to the Social Justice table in Fellowship Hall on Sunday.

Hispanohablantes Aspirantes expands its offerings: now on Saturday too! The Care and Share Timebank (CSTB) is expanding its Spanish conversation group, by popular demand! **Thursday at 11:00 am** is great for those of us who are retired or on flexible schedules, but impossible for many of us! This past Saturday, we initiated a second session: **11:00 am on Saturdays**. Both sessions are in the First UU Library. Since these groups are also sponsored by First UU's Adult Enrichment Program (AEP), anyone can attend, from non-speakers to fluent speakers who just need some practice. Experienced Spanish speakers act as "mentors" to assist, guide, correct, suggest. Contact Alice Faryna, 614-560-1732, alice.faryna@gmail.com or, to register. Consider joining CSTB so you can participate in all the other services our members provide. Come to the next CSTB Potluck on Sunday, April 21, 6:30 -8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

THE INNER FLAME

from Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

(And now for something completely different!)

As some of you may know, iPhone 5 engages its users in a new way, with the addition of Siri, a woman's voice that answers questions you ask audibly. "Where is a good place in the Short North to get sushi, Siri?" And she will answer "Haiku is a good place," then give you the address and phone number. It's really quite a remarkable feature since it understands my actual spoken words, no small feat, I would have to imagine, considering how many accents there are in just the USA alone.

One of the more fun things folks do with Siri is to ask her philosophical questions. In this month, themed Life and Death, I thought it might be fun to let you see what Siri answers to the question, "What is the Meaning of Life?" when I ask her. (And I do, every day. Everyone needs a laugh now and then!)

1. 42 (a clear reference to Doug Adam's novel *Hitchhiker's Guide*)
2. I can't answer that right now, but give me some very long time to write a play in which nothing happens. (*Waiting for Godot* reference?)
3. To think about questions like this.
4. All evidence to date suggests that it is chocolate.
5. I think it's odd that you would ask an inanimate object like me that sort of question.
6. I Kant answer that. Ha Ha Ha.
7. I give up.
8. It's nothing Nietzsche couldn't teach ya!
9. I don't know. But I think there is an app for that.
10. I shouldn't tell you.

and 11...a somewhat UU sounding answer, from a Monty Python movie, of all things: "Try and be nice to people, avoid eating fat, read a good book every now and then, get some walking in, and try and live together in peace and harmony with people of all creeds and nations."

OHIO-MEADVILLE DISTRICT

Out of Bounds: Moving Beyond Our Boundaries

Join us for this historic joint District Assembly with keynote speaker the Rev. Peter Morales, president of the UUA. UUs from both the St. Lawrence and Ohio-Meadville Districts will gather at the Niagara Falls Convention Center in Niagara Falls, NY April 26-27, 2013. Full information, details, and registration is available at the OMD website - <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/program/da>.

Are You Ready for Leadership School?

UULTI - the UU Leadership Team Institute is back with two offerings this summer - *UULTI by the Lake* July 31-August 4 in Cananadagua, NY, and *UULTI on the Hudson* August 14-18 in Stoney Brook, NY. Youth can explore their leadership skills at *Goldmine Youth Leadership School West*, July 31-August 4 also in Cananadagua, NY, or *Goldmine Youth Leadership School East*, August 20-24 in Stoney Brook, NY. Details can be found at www.cerguua.org/uulti or www.cerguua.org/goldmine.

The WV Youth Service Learning Experience is Back!

Last year 20 youth had an amazing experience working in the Appalachian mountains of West Virginia providing services to families in need and learning about the unique culture and environmental challenges of the area. This year we return for new experiences the week of July 7-13. Registration is now open for youth who are interested. Adults interesting in chaperoning may also sign up. Learn more at <http://www.ohiomeadville.org/omdevents/590-youthcamp2013>.

General Assembly 2013

This year's General Assembly is in Louisville, KY, an easy drive from all the congregations in the OMD. This year's theme is covenant and the social justice focus will be environmental justice. Local ministers from West Virginia and Kentucky are already working on programs and opportunities in this year. We'll be electing a new moderator as well as other positions. Learn more about the schedule, registration, housing and more at www.uua.org/ga.

FIRST UU MUSIC

Tony McDonald, Music Director

BREAD Youth Choir

BREAD is looking to have a youth choir sing again at its annual Nehemiah Action Meeting on Monday, May 6, at the State Fairgrounds. We did it for the first time last year. It was a success, and we want to build on that going forward.

There will be one rehearsal with the whole choir on Monday, April 22, at 7:00 pm, at Christ the King Church, plus we will have an earlier run-through here to get familiar with the music. The choir will sing *Lean On Me* and *This Land Is Your Land*. Yours, truly will not be one of the directors this year.

We are now looking for young singers from First UU, ca. ages 10 - 16, to join the group. We had about 12 participate last year want even more this year. Any young person interested, whether you are in a choir here or not, should contact me as soon as possible at: musicdirector@firstuucolumbus.org. More details to come soon. The Nehemiah Action Meeting is a great experience, especially for anyone interested in social justice, and it is a thrill to be part of it.

Spring Choir Concert

Cantar

(Spanish for "to sing")

Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 pm

Featuring all four First UU choirs:

Peace Pals
Rising Voices
Spirit of Life
Chalice

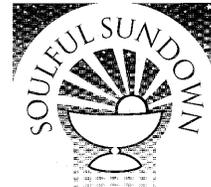
First UU Worship Center

Free of charge. Childcare provided upon request. Contact Tony McDonald, 614-327-8854, tonym@firstuucolumbus.org, for more information.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Ben Iten, Campus Chaplain

FOCUUS, First UU's **campus ministry group**, meets every Sunday (except the last Sunday of the month, when is when it meets at First UU for Soulful Sundown) at 7pm at University Baptist Church, 50 W. Lane Ave, near OSU. Contact Chaplain Ben Iten, theitens@gmail.com, 329-2915, for information.



Soulful Sundown Sunday, April 28, 5:00pm

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.

Summer Schedule

Starting Sunday, May 26 (Memorial Day weekend), we will have only one worship service, at 10am. This will continue through the summer, until the Sunday after Labor Day, September 8, when we resume our two-service schedule.

Also, please note that, beginning with the May 29 issue and our summer church schedule, *The Discoverer* will be published monthly. Please plan accordingly for announcements, articles, and submissions

CARING CORNER

The **memorial service reception** for Lydia Oursler was capably managed, in our absence, by: Olwen Firestone, Linda Royalty, Linda Miller, Sue Vierow, Vanda Hughes, Linda Thompson, and James Brown. Thanks also to those who greeted, served and contributed food: Laurel Richardson, Thom Pegan, Joe Heimlich, Sharon Hamersley, Jim Hodnett, Carol Branscomb, Amanda Ralph, Karen Keenan, Donna Greenman, Leslie Armstrong, Linda Royalty, Emily Weatherspoon, Linda Thompson, and Doris Oursler. We are most appreciative.
—Carole Wilhelm and Tina Thonnings, memorial reception co-coordinators

Congratulations to **David Krohn**, who was selected to audition for "America's Got Talent".

Joy to the **Rothert Family**—Candee, Dan, Erin, and Kelly—who were selected by lottery to take part in the Easter Egg Roll on the lawn of the White House!

Condolences to **Glenn Waring**, whose sister died recently.

A memorial service for Lydia Oursler, **Doris Oursler's** sister and **Will Smith's** aunt, was held here on April 13.

Jo-E. Miller is in Riverside Hospital following TIAS - transient ischemic attacks, or "warning strokes."

Wanda Hambrick is home now, after the damage to her house from the October 4 fire was repaired.

Congratulations to **Linda Cox**, who welcomed her fifth grandchild recently—a boy named Bryan Seltzer.

Healing thoughts to: **John Schumacher**, who has gone from Ross Heart Hospital to rehab at First Community Village; **Carolyn Aurnou**, who had back surgery on April 11; **Jeanne Desy**, who is recovering from an adverse drug effect and an infection; and **Andy Shewmon**, who is recovering at home from a mild heart attack.

AUCTION CORNER

We still have some auction items available. If you are interested in any of these events or items, please contact Danya Furda at dfurda@gmail.com or 614-471-3786.

Item No	Item Name	Donor	Qty Left	Event Date
EX1	Guided Highbanks Hike	Erica Scurr	8	Sun Apr 7 1:00 PM
MM29	Soup, Salad, and Games	Karen & Dick Dawson	5	Sat Jun 22 6:30 PM
FA20	Parents' Day Out	Beth Jewell	8	Sun Jun 23 1:00 PM
FA19	Game Night with the Boyd Girls	Melanie Boyd & Debra Boyd	8	Fri Aug 2 7:00 PM
EX6	Birding at Blendon	Karen McGuire	2	Fri Sep 20 2:30 PM
EX8	Annual Fossil Hike	Steve Molk	11	Fri Sep 20 2:30 PM
EX9	Spring Nature Hike/Mound Excursion	Steve Molk	13	Fri Sep 20 2:30 PM
MM20	Mindful Eating	Tina Thonnings, E.M.P.	3	Sun Oct 13 4:00 PM
ED15	Basic Self Defense for Women and Girls	Deschenes/ Roussi Family	9	
ED16	Authentic Movement for Women: A Safe Place to Express Your	Peggy McKee & Beki Test	10	
EN6	The William Wyler Film Festival	Tony McDonald	6	
FO1	Hello Dolly Cookies	Karin Erickson	13	
FO2	Pecan Balls (or Mexican Wedding Cakes)	Karin Erickson	17	

Sexuality Education Information Meetings May 5

We offer OWL (Our Whole Lives) values-based sexuality classes on Sunday mornings to four groups: 1st grade, 5th and 6th grade, 8th grade and high school.

There will be two informational meetings on the 5th. **At 10:30 there will be a half hour meeting for 1st and 5th/6th grades only. At 1 pm an introduction to all levels**, including adult, will be offered in an hour format. At both meetings you will be allowed to sign up for the first grade class. See information in article below.

For the two younger groups the classes are offered in addition to regular Sunday School groups. The 8th grade and high school classes are the only Sunday School option for those age groups. More information about

OWL: <http://www.uua.org/re/owl/>

Limited Enrollment for First Grade OWL; 8th Grade OWL Goes to Two Sessions

The database indicates that we have 30 children enrolled now who will be in first grade next fall. We cannot accommodate that many children in classes that would have meaning. We will offer two sessions next year, one at 9:15 starting in September and the other at 11 starting in January. The enrollment in each is limited to 10. You may sign up starting May 5. We will limit enrollment to those attending now unless openings remain in September.

It also appears that there will be too many youth entering 8th grade next fall to hold one class. We are adding a class at 9am. We will be able to accommodate a few youth from the community at 9am.

Don't Miss Out on the Sunday School Excitement

Sunday School is thriving, and it will get a new burst of interest and enthusiasm with the young energy of the new DRE. We need more teachers than ever.

We will continue to offer the nature-based Web of Life to Kindergarten, and will add it for K/1 at 9:15. Neighboring Faiths is back for middle school, and High School will continue with a Covenant Group. Curriculum from the UUA will be featured for elementary groups. Our preschool room will be bursting at the seams with inquisitive three and four year olds. We also need mentors for new families, two CONcierges to make the arrangements for youth CONS, and multi-cultural celebrations leaders. Be a part of all the excitement. Sign up online now or at the Sunday School Table on Sunday. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S8V8V8Z>

From the Adult Enrichment Programs (AEP) Committee:

Sunday Forum

April 28, 12:30pm, in the First UU Worship Center
Topic: "This is what I believe and why I believe it"

Representatives from the Abrahamic faith traditions—Christianity, Islam, and Judaism—in addition to two other philosophic traditions, will give a brief statement about what their faith is all about and their commitment to this faith: fifteen-minute opening statements from each faith representative, plus follow-up questions.

Contact Earl Wurdlow, 614-296-6304, earlword@yahoo.com, for more information.

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

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CALENDAR April 17 - 30, 2013

Wednesday, April 17

- 10:00am Newsletter Folding
- 5:00pm Campfire Girls & Boys
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Yoga (Spring Session)
- 7:30pm Men's Spirituality

Thursday, April 18

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 11:00am Hispanohablantes Aspirantes
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do (DOV)
- 6:00pm Smartphone Photography
- 7:00pm Path to Membership
- 7:30pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 19

- 12:00pm Cooking for Faith Mission

Saturday, April 20

- 8:30am Zen Meditation
- 11:00am Hispanohablantes Aspirantes
- 11:00am Sound Team
- 11:30am Dance Your Way
- 12:00pm Move to Amend

Sunday, April 21

- 8:30am Leadership Development Committee
- 9:15am & 11:00am Worship Celebration
- 10:30am & 12:15pm Getting to Know UU
- 12:30pm Strategic Planning
- 1:00pm Youth Group
- 1:30pm Path to Membership
- 5:00pm Wellspring
- 6:30pm Time Bank Potluck Meeting
- 6:30pm Young Adult Covenant Group
- 7:00pm FOCUUS (OSU area)

Monday, April 22

- 4:00pm Art Journaling; AA Meeting
- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship; Justice Action Ministry
- 7:00pm Funeral Consumers Alliance
- 7:30pm Healing Journey

Tuesday, April 23

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 6:30pm Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Goddesses in Training; UU History
- 7:00pm Being an Atheist or Agnostic; Zen Meditation
- 7:00pm Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
- 7:45pm Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 24

- 1:00pm Archives Organizing
- 7:00pm Board of Trustees
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Men's Spirituality
- 7:30pm Yoga (Spring Session)

Thursday, April 25

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 11:00am Hispanohablantes Aspirantes
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do (DOV)
- 6:00pm Smartphone Photography
- 7:00pm Expressive Collage; Personnel Committee
- 7:30pm Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 27

- 8:30am Zen Meditation
- 9:30am Ecology and the Human Spirit (offsite)
- 10:30am Workshop on Reproductive Justice
- 11:00am Hispanohablantes Aspirantes

Sunday, April 28

- 9:15am & 11:00am Worship Celebration
- 10:30am & 12:15pm Getting to Know UU
- 12:15pm Sunday Forum
- 1:00pm Auction Meeting
- 2:00pm PFLAG
- 4:00pm Community Drumming Circle
- 5:00pm Soulful Sundown Worship Service
- 6:00pm Bridge Group (call 499-2434)
- 6:30pm Young Adult OWL

Monday, April 29

- 4:00pm AA Meeting; Art Journaling
- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship
- 7:00pm Ecology and the Human Spirit
- 7:30pm Healing Journey

Tuesday, April 30

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 10:00am Newsletter Folding
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 4:30pm The Personal Essay
- 6:30pm Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Zen Meditation
- 7:00pm Capital Campaign Presentation Training
- 7:00pm Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
- 7:45pm Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

Next newsletter deadline: Sunday, April 28. Please send articles to marian@firstuucolumbus.org, or leave them in the Office Manager mailbox in the workroom.



The
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April 17 - 30, 2013

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Theme for April: Life and Death

April 21, 2013, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

**“Life and Death: Our Ties to the World
Beyond Our Walls”**

Rev. Mark Belletini

April 28, 2013, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

“Life and Death in Young Adult Literature

First UU Youth Group

5:00 pm: **Soulful Sundown Service.** (See page 7.)

Campus Ministry Chaplain Ben Iten

Theme for May: Covenant/Agreement

May 5, 2013, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

“Can We Really Agree to Disagree?”

Rev. Mark Belletini

Sign Language (ASL) interpretation is provided at the 11am service. Hearing assisted devices, large print materials are available at the rear of the Worship Center. Copies of CDs of our worship services will become available for sale at the bookstore. Recent sermons can be found on the church website.



As part of our commitment to caring for the Earth (our UU Seventh Principle), this publication has been printed on 100% recycled paper.