

# The Discoverer

The monthly newsletter of the  
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus  
93 W. Weisheimer Road, Columbus Ohio 43214

May 2018

---

## BELOVED COMMUNITY

Rev. Marian Stewart, Senior Minister

---

May's theme is Beloved Community. In recent weeks, months for some, we have been discussing the possibility of becoming a Sanctuary church. This makes me wonder what the intersection is between our beloved First UU community and the larger community in which we live. The term Beloved Community was first coined in the early 20th century by American Josiah Rice but was popularized by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Beloved Community was a frequent topic for King. He wrote,

“...the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the Beloved Community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends.... It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men.”



Beloved community is not about winning. It is not a zero-sum game. It is about when we all see each other as neighbors worthy of respect, dignity, and love.

Over the years, I have thought a lot about Beloved Community and how hard it is to achieve. There is so much suffering in this world – and so much good. Where and how could the good help relieve some of the suffering? It is an ongoing struggle on so many fronts. It is not only for “others” or “out there” but also a question – and job – for us. What might that look like?

Recently, I had the opportunity to see how our ideals and actions are sometimes at odds with each other. I know almost everyone understands our immigration system is unjust, unkind, and extremely harmful to individuals and families. We struggle to figure out not only how to help people, but also to fix the system itself. Sometimes, the realities of this dissonance between ideals and actions, are represented in the mundane happenstance or accident of location.

When I checked my email the evening after we finished our Congregational Meeting on Sanctuary (4/6), I was asked to be a witness to just how hard it is for immigrant families. I showed up and here is what I wrote the next day...

“I got a text Sunday night asking if I could be prepared to speak with the press at the I.C.E. hearing early Monday morning. What would I say?

*Family values do not include breaking families apart.*

*This is gross malpractice of morality.*

*A country is judged by how it treats its most vulnerable.*

The press crew was there, as were our little circle of UUs, Catholic sisters, a retired Lutheran minister, a community leader, a professor, and others gathered in the opulent lobby of 50 Broad Street in downtown Columbus. Cameras rolled as we held hands and a prayer was offered. More people would come later with posters and signs, but I didn't see them.

Along with First UU member and retired minister Lynda Smith, I accompanied Edith's son (Edith is in Sanctuary at the Mennonite church) upstairs to his hearing. He is a nice-looking and polite young man who just graduated from high school. His siblings are American citizens. The hearing, a quick meeting with an officer, lasted just over a minute. But it took more than two hours of sitting to get to that moment. Paperwork, a few quick questions, an assertion or two by the I.C.E. officer, and it was over. Safe for the time being, yet this young man still cannot start his future.

*Continued on page 4*

## LINKS

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

---

To have a role within a group larger than yourself, a role in which you are seen and respected and appreciated. Many of us hunger for just that, at least sometime during our lives.

Of course, it helps to feel like you know what you are doing, even as you may feel challenged in some ways.

Maybe because the cousins on my father's side of the family are planning a reunion this summer, I've been thinking more lately about extended family and other communities and where each of us may find ourselves fitting in. When we do feel like we are fitting in.

And I've been recalling a family reunion I was at in my mid-later teens. My brother and I are about a half generation off from our cousins on either side of our family, which is not a big deal now, but was much more so years ago. At the reunion in question, and as my memory serves, I was the only one there within 10 years of my age, and I felt isolated and bored, bored, bored.

Thankfully my mother saw this, and also noticed that my younger cousin Elizabeth, then about six or seven, had a similar expression on her face. "Eric, why don't you ask Elizabeth to go on a walk with you?"

We didn't go far, and we didn't talk much. But at one point we came to a large culvert. It was tall and not very long. Elizabeth asked if we could walk through it. "Sure thing." I don't even think she smiled, but she took my hand, and ended up leading me through it. This was our little adventure.

Decades have passed since then. I don't hear much about Elizabeth these days, though I know she has a family now and once worked for a winery in Walla Walla, Washington. I think she lives in the Seattle area now, and I hope to see her and meet her family this summer.

For introverts like me, knowing I have a role to play in any larger community helps me feel at ease. Not everyone works that way. Some like to be close to the center of activity, and some just like to be a part of a group of people enjoying each other's company. And then there are those for whom groups of any size are just too much.

Our faith community is made of all of these and more. Any large group is a jumble, and ours is certainly no exception.

It can take newcomers some time to find their place here. So, I have two requests this month:

1) If you are a long-time member, try to remember what it was like for you when you first started attending First UU. Was there someone who helped you fit in? Did you stride forward until you had created a space for yourself? Or did it take a while for you to feel you belonged here?

2) If you are new to the community, what did, or would, help you to feel sure of your role among the large group? What has helped? What hasn't?

Please let me know. I'd love to hear from you.

In Peace,  
Rev. Eric



Please send articles for the May issue of the newsletter by Sunday, May 27, to [office@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:office@firstuucolumbus.org).

Rev. Dr. Marian Stewart, Senior Minister  
Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister  
Rev. Kathleen Fowler, Minister Affiliated  
Rev. Suzan McCrystal, Minister Affiliated  
Amanda Hays, Ministerial Intern  
Rev. Mark Belletini, Minister Emeritus  
Rev. Wendy Fish, Minister Emerita

Rev. Lane Campbell, Minister, Religious Exploration  
Suzan Jervej, RE Assistant  
Tony McDonald, Music Director  
Brandon Moss, Chalice Choir Director  
Karen Madden, Choir Director  
Leigh Mamlin, Children/Youth Choir Director  
Cath Saveson, Children/Youth Choir Director  
Nathan Hamm, Pianist/Accompanist

Brian Hagemann, Director of Administration  
Marian Garcia, Office Manager  
Joe Voltolini, Bookkeeper  
Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant  
Cathy Hausmann, Facilities Assistant  
Susan Roscigno, SYC Co-Associate Director  
Amy Rudawsky, SYC Co-Associate Director

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

# GROWING AS WE GO

Rev. Lane Campbell, Minister of Religious Exploration

---

## The Realities of Beloved Community

The term “beloved community” is one I first remember hearing as a Unitarian Universalist teenager in my home congregation. My interpretation of it was something like a church where everyone gets along, where all are supportive of one another, where folks are constantly engaging each other, and welcoming new people in. Beloved to me felt like an entirely positive experience one hundred percent of the time. I don’t know if it has something to do with my experience with the church I grew up in or just my perception at the time, but I can say things have changed now.



Sure, beloved community means all of the positive things I listed above. And I also know beloved community as a place where we can disappoint one another, where we can find forgiveness for our faults, and where we need to seek forgiveness pretty often. Beloved community is a community that sees us as we fully are, not just the cleaned-up versions of how we would like to present ourselves. To be beloved means knowing one another’s shortcomings and naming where we have harmed others. It also means being loved for the positive contributions we bring to the whole community.

I know there are ways, over the last five years, that I have disappointed you as a minister and as a leader. We all do this. We all fall short of expectations or over-commit ourselves or forget that thing we said we were gonna do. I am not above this and neither are the other ministers I serve this congregation alongside. This feels like an important confessional moment following my announcement last month that I will be leaving First UU at the end of this church year, in July.

And today, in this newsletter article (and probably elsewhere), I ask for your forgiveness. For those moments of disappointment, falling short, and being at fault in a situation, will you forgive me?

Being in beloved community means naming aloud those times we are in need of forgiveness. I would not be so bold as to list out here all the ways I have fallen short, probably because I would miss some and the list could potentially be quite long. However, if there are ways I have caused harm or disappointment in your life, know that I am reaching out to you now to acknowledge these shortcomings.

My wish for you all is that this can be a place where we seek and offer forgiveness. My wish is that First UU be a place that is welcoming and open to new perspectives while having all the trappings of a healthy congregation. My wish is that this can be a place where we can be real with one another about our hurts as well as the ways this church supports each of us in our spiritual explorations. May this be a beloved community.

Rev. Lane Campbell



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Carolee Noonan, Board Chair

---

### Big Questions, Strategic Planning and Being Above the Line

Are you thinking about our promise to ourselves that, with love at the center, we will transform and heal ourselves and our world through reason and love?

We promised ourselves to:

- Create community through caring, nurturing, and celebrating
- Work for justice through learning, reflecting, and doing
- Engage diversity through welcoming, listening, and empowering

I think about these promises and am proud of what we at First UU are doing. I also think about planning our next steps as a congregation to keep this promise to ourselves.

The Board, Ministers, and Senior Staff lead our congregation in Partnership Ministry as laid out by Dan Hotchkiss in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *Governance and Ministry – Rethinking Board Leadership*. In chapter 8, “Life After Governance Change,” Hotchkiss explains the Board’s responsibility to work on open questions in preparation for establishing goals. We have a responsibility to form several open questions and then share them with you before we reach decisions. We want to be influenced by what you think about our open questions before we set goals for next year. On May 6, the Board will be meeting for a spring retreat to form some open questions for reflection and thought. We will share these with you and ask you to tell us what you think.

We are also forming a plan to structure our Strategic Plan. Your input will, again, be sought. More to come...

Finally, we are all leaders in transforming and healing ourselves and our world through reason and love. I invite you to view a video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLqzYDZAqCI> and ask yourself, “Where am I as I think about creating community, working for justice and engaging diversity?”

I hope to see you at the congregation’s Annual Meeting, June 3 after a single, 10am service.

Carolee Noonan, Chair of the Board of Trustees

[board@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:board@firstuucolumbus.org)

[carolee.noonan@gmail.com](mailto:carolee.noonan@gmail.com)

614-306-9898

## BELOVED COMMUNITY *(continued from page 1)*,

Rev. Marian Stewart, Senior Minister

---

Our country’s immigration system is in desperate need of repair. But for many of us, we only hear or see it on the news. It’s not our reality or our family on the line.

On Monday morning, the surroundings displayed that dissonance. Did I mention the lobby was opulent? It was all swank – mirrors, gold, with a little Sinatra in the background. It was the starkest of contrasts from the scene a few floors above – all the plastic chair luxury of a Bureau of Motor Vehicles waiting room with a dose of TSA-style conviviality. The downstairs glitz belied the stripped down utilitarian floor above that held power over so many lives. For me, the peak of irony was the oversized modern city map-style painting that hung between the huge mirrors on the left and the elevator bank on our right. As we waited for the elevator up, the title of the painting, which featured what might have been a main street, blared down in large letters: Jerusalem – the Old City.

This all happened only a few days after Easter. The only thing missing in the painting – and in the lobby – were the palm branches. I wonder how many have traveled down that same street.

Blessings and smiles of the season,  
Rev. Marian

## MUSIC PROGRAM

Tony McDonald, Director

---

**Magpie Consort, Sunday, May 6, 5pm at First UU** Magpie Consort is a mixed choral ensemble, specializing in diverse repertoire, including medieval motets and plainsong, Renaissance madrigals and sacred polyphony, 18th century psalmody, folk song and world music settings, and contemporary compositions from around the globe. Founded in 1998, it has appeared in and around Columbus, as well as in Zanesville, Findlay, Dayton and Lancaster. Under the direction of Christopher Dent since 2016, it has enjoyed a creative revival and continues to be one of Central Ohio's premier vocal ensembles. The May concert series *Play!* is an interaction between music and text that invites audiences to experience joy through playful harmonies, energetic rhythms, and familiar stories heard in new ways. Donations are gratefully accepted.

**First UU Philharmonic, Sunday, May 6, during the Sunday services at 9:15am and 11am** I have gathered together musicians of all ages, members and friends of the church, to form an orchestra. Some 30 players strong, this ensemble, called the First UU Philharmonic, will perform *Ode to Joy* and excerpts from Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony, in an arrangement written specifically for this orchestra and occasion.

**Spring Choir Concert, Sunday, May 20, 4pm** All four choirs will perform. The concert is free and child care will be provided. Peace Pals will sing: *UU Kids* by Joe Schafer, *Magic Penny* by Malvina Reynolds, the gospel song *Woke up this Morning with My Mind Stayed on Freedom*, and *This Pretty Planet* by John Forster and Tom Chapin. Spirit of Life and Rising Voices will sing music by women composers. Spirit of Life will perform the Korean folk song *Arirang*, plus *Banks of Doon* by Donna Gartman Schultz, and a work based on the 'burning bright' poetry of William Blake. Rising Voices will sing songs including *If I Planted a Garden*, by Sally DeFord, *Rainsong* and *Clouds*. Chalice Choir will present music by living women composers and arrangers, including Ysaye Barnwell, Eliza Gilkyson, Andrea Ramsey, Sheena Phillips, and Joan Szymko. Their portion of the concert will be dedicated to the memory of Don Hippensteel.

## JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY: BREAD

Alice Rathburn and Chris Johnson, Leaders

---

**BREAD** (*Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity*, 614-220-9363, [www.breadcolumbus.com](http://www.breadcolumbus.com), [www.facebook.com/breadorganization](https://www.facebook.com/breadorganization)) is Central Ohio's 42 congregation-based, multi-faith community organization founded by First UU and ten other congregations. We use the power of organized people to hold local decision-makers accountable for serious community problems.

Last month the Columbus City School Board voted to have over 100 school staff trained by the International Institute of Restorative Practices to use RP in their classrooms *plus* 36 support staff trained to be certified trainers, important first steps in BREAD's "Fewer Suspensions, Effective Interventions" campaign. How did we make that happen? We won this and so many other victories because people like **you** showed up, year after year, campaign after campaign, to the Nehemiah Action every May. When officials see thousands of people paying attention and ready to hold them accountable, they listen.

Help us keep making a difference in Central Ohio. Please come to the **Nehemiah Action on Monday, May 7 at 6:40pm** in the Celeste Center at the [Fairgrounds \(717 E 17th Ave.\)](#). At the Nehemiah Action, we will be asking local officials for solutions to the problems we've seen in our community:

- Truly affordable housing for families
- A municipal ID to meet the needs of those who have difficulty getting state identification
- Living wage jobs for marginalized neighborhoods and for ex-offenders

We will also be *celebrating* the initiation of Restorative Practices in the Columbus City Schools and further Restorative Justice progress in the Franklin County Juvenile Court.

The doors at the Celeste Center open at 6pm. Free childcare available for children out of diapers up to age 8. Busses from First UU at 5:45 and 6pm (\$5/person or \$10/household of 3+). Come to the BREAD table in Fellowship Hall after the services on Aril 29 or May 6 to sign up for a bus, pickup at home if unable to drive, carpool from the south, west, or far east, buy a yellow Standing On the Side of Love t-shirt, or for any questions you have.

Alice Rathburn, [eulala1905@me.com](mailto:eulala1905@me.com)  
614-895-2109 or 614-563-0536

Chris Johnson, [chris@underspecified.com](mailto:chris@underspecified.com)  
614-946-1287

**First UU Board Candidates - 2018**  
**(Two to be elected to Three-Year Terms)**

**ALLIE BONSTEEL.** I joined First UU in the spring of 2009. Since joining, I have been a member of the Membership Team, primarily focusing on Path to Membership classes with Rev. Eric Meter. I have helped to facilitate workshops, taught Neighboring Faiths and participated in Wellspring. My husband, Dan Gerritsen, and I live in Westerville with our two sons, Pierce (4) and Connor (6 months). In my professional life, I work for Huntington as a SBA Loan Underwriter. I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Board. I hope to do my part in helping to shape the exciting future of our church.



**GREG DENBY.** I retired from the Columbus Metropolitan Library in 2016 after 30 years working at a variety of branches. I'm a long-term resident of Clintonville and am involved in numerous organizations and agencies, including as a board member of the Clintonville-Beechwood Community Resources Center. I'm currently treasurer of the Clintonville Historical Society as well as the Clintonville Farmers' Market. I have also worked on initiatives with the Clintonville Community Fund and the Clintonville Chamber of Commerce and am a board member of the Clintonville Rotary Club as well as the Columbus Folk Music Society. I began volunteering with the Salvation Army's Anti- Human Trafficking efforts in 2015 and currently participate in street outreach, provide training on human trafficking, and have been elected to be co-chair of the Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition's Demand Reduction Committee. I became a Guardian Ad Litem with CASA earlier this year and am currently on my second case. I live with three cats and one dog and spend most of my time listening to music and attending concerts, gardening, and reading. I came to First UU about five years ago at the suggestion of a counselor. He encouraged me to pay attention to my spiritual needs and be more social after the end of my marriage. I had attended a forum at First UU and began to come on Sunday. I was soon volunteering at the bookstore and teaching RE. I'm currently chair of the First UU Safety Team and am committed to increasing safety awareness at the church.

**First UU Nominating Committee Candidates - 2018**  
**(Three to be elected to Two-Year Terms)**



**MELANIE BOYD.** I still remember walking into this church for the first time in 1995, when my (now) husband and I knew that we had found a spiritual home. This community has helped me to memorialize my parents' deaths, celebrate my marriage, live our Seven Principles, and practice gratitude. Over the years, I have tried to repay the gifts I have received by serving as Membership Committee co-chair, Path to Membership coordinator, and member (1999-2002); Capital Campaign Steering Committee member (2001); Coming of Age mentor (2001) and teacher (2014-2016); Annual Pledge Drive chair (2012), trainer, and steward; Coordination Task Force member (2012); Coffee Team dishwasher and pourer (the best way to meet people, bar none); and most recently, co-chair of the Acorn Society, which recognizes individuals who have included First UU in their estate plans. Through it all, I have worked with amazing people and found great hope and inspiration in our youth. Outside of First UU, I've worked with multiple nonprofit organizations to build boards and committees that are strong precisely because they contain the right mix of people who have the right mix of strengths and personalities. I would be honored to do the same for First UU as a member of the Nominating Committee.



**JENNIFER HEFNER.** My UU roots run deep. I was raised in a small UU church near Bowling Green OH and met my husband Dave Tessier when we were both camp counselors at The Mountain, a UU summer camp. Proud of our UU identity, when we moved to Columbus eight years ago we sought out First UU and signed the membership book right away. We attend the early service with our two elementary-aged boys and over the past few years have coordinated, purchased for, and cooked church breakfast. I believe breakfast is a critical service activity within our church that both entices families with young children to the early service and provides a warm friendly meal to members and visitors in need of food and companionship. I have also engaged with the religious education program, teaching 8th grade OWL, elementary classes, and this year assisting Lane with Justice Sundays. In these roles I have met many great congregants and engaged in important discussions about the future of our church and our faith. I would be honored to join the Nominating Committee to continue to serve our congregation.

**DAN McNABB.** I am honored to be a candidate for the Nominating Committee. I grew up at First UU and all three of my children attended SYC and completed the Our Whole Lives and Coming of Age programs. I am scheduled to be trained for the OWL program this summer and have agreed to a two-year commitment as an OWL teacher. In the past I have been an adult advisor of the middle school youth group. In this capacity I had the opportunity to see first-hand the amazing talents and gifts that our young people bring to the congregation. In my professional life I am a social worker and have consulted with church leadership on issues related to aging. I love the social activism that takes place at First UU. It's so nice to be amongst a group of free thinkers. I am interested in looking at ways to expand the diversity of the church membership and leadership. As someone who has reaped so many benefits from the church, I am excited to have the opportunity to give back.



**JENNIFER NICHOLS.** I have lived in the Central Ohio area for most of my adult life except for a few years in the Washington DC area and a few years in the Middle East. I received my PhD from OSU in 2010. As a former professor, I served as a chair for three academic searches and sat on many hiring committees. In my current position at the State of Ohio, I work with a team of HR professionals in selections and hiring in addition to developing curricula for training new and current State employees in Workforce Planning and Development. I officially became a member of First UU in 2012, but unofficially attended for several years prior to that. I am a mother to Kenneth and Devan—both have been named at First UU. Other roles I served on at First UU include co-facilitator for the Teen Covenant Group, Adult OWL teacher, and currently assist as Religious Exploration teacher on Sundays. I am looking forward to being involved in a variety of ways at First UU.

**GINA PHILLIPS.** I have been attending First UU since 2004, when I was searching for a place to reinforce my values with my son Tucker, who was five at the time and has thus been raised in this church. Although I sought out the church for my child, it has since become one of the most valuable parts of my own life. Over the years, I have served on the Board of Trustees, for which I was the Secretary during my final year of service, and the Worship Committee, which I was on for a number of years and co-chaired for a year. I also served on two Field Education Committees for First UU seminarians. Most recently I served on the regional level as a member of the planning committee for the Central East Region's Summer Institute, and I chaired that committee for 2017. Serving at the regional level has given me a much greater appreciation of our larger movement, and of the inspiring people and work being done in other congregations. I am very grateful for the connections I have made across the region. The most rewarding area of church life in which I have volunteered, however, is teaching Sunday School. I originally thought this was something I would not enjoy doing, or be any good at, however our interim DRE many years ago helped me find my way to the Sunday School wing on Sunday mornings and I quickly learned to love it and have been there in some capacity since. I have always been in classrooms with youth, teaching 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders, facilitating Coming of Age and Senior High Covenant Group, and being a Coming of Age mentor. If you ever feel pessimistic about the future, I recommend spending some time with UU youth! I am excited to start a new chapter in service to our community.



**DAVID RICHTER.** I joined First UU with my wife, Karen, in 2002 and attended for two years prior to that. Since joining First UU, I've been active on the Building and Grounds Committee, now Team, and for about eight years was chair of B&G. I also served on the Green & Growing Capital Campaign Committee and was chair of the Construction Team during renovation and rebuilding of the church from 2014 to 2017. I continue to serve on the B&G Team and the Follow-Up Committee for the G&G Campaign. I'm a retired associate professor of journalism from Ohio State. Prior to that, I was newspaper editor and reporter for several daily newspapers and taught journalism part-time at two universities. I was a board member for the local Society of Professional Journalists and treasurer there for six years. At First UU I found a warm, welcoming, intelligent group of people who I enjoy working with on various projects. I find the diversity of views and backgrounds especially refreshing. As a Nominating Committee member, I plan to use my many contacts with UU members to find new leaders willing to serve First UU.



## CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

---

**Playcamp at SYC** June 4 to July 27, in two-week sessions, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, 9:30-12:00. We have spots for children who will turn three before September 30, 2018. Children at Playcamp spend much of their mornings outside playing in mud, water, bubbles and paint, creating and exploring the world around them. In the meantime, they're learning how to: live and work with others, name and accept their feelings, trust that adults will help them, set limits on others and listen to others' limits. It's fun, but it's also time well-spent.

Holly, 614-267-0254, [office@syccolumbus.org](mailto:office@syccolumbus.org)

**UU Art: *Naturally Beautiful*** is the May-June exhibit in the Gallery and Worship Center, presented by Art Quilt Alliance. This show includes a number works using real birch bark, as well as nature-inspired art. Please **join the artists for a reception on Sunday, May 6, 12:45-2:30.**

Hear stories of the art and process, and enjoy some yummy eats. 10% of all purchases are donated to the church.

Deb Baillieul, [614-447-1223](tel:614-447-1223).

**Una Tarde de Películas!** (An Afternoon of Movies!)

Feature: *Las Aventuras de Tadeo Jones* (Tad the Explorer) Friday, May 4. Doors open at 6:30, feature starts at 7pm. In Spanish with English subtitles. For language students and native-speakers alike. Free to all. This family-friendly animated comedy-adventure has something for everybody! Light refreshments provided, but feel free to bring your own favorites. For details and schedules of coming events please email [1stuupeliculas@gmail.com](mailto:1stuupeliculas@gmail.com).

**Community Coffee Hours with *Village in the Ville***

Thursday, June 14, Fellowship Hall, 1-3:30pm  
*Village in the Ville* is a program for Clintonville residents of age 50 and older, operated by the Clintonville Beechwood Resources Center. Program Director Christine Happel invites members of the community to learn more about the Village over coffee and tea. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the group, joining the Village, volunteering, or building a partnership with our growing community group is welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Village Movement and meet existing Village members. Hope you can join!

**Bookbites** Will meet Tuesday, May 15, 7-9pm in Slowter Lounge. May topic is *Hidden Histories*. June 19 meeting, same time same place, *Read a Graphic Book*.

Kathleen Boston, [614-262-4025](tel:614-262-4025).

**First Friday** Friday, May 6. Potluck at 6:30pm. Programs begin at 7:30pm.

Laurie Brown, 614-246-0170



**Feed My Sheep food pantry** Please bring donations of food to Jacques Angelino's table in Fellowship Hall. We especially need peanut butter, chunky soup, stew, dried pinto beans, canned meats, and rice. We also need feminine hygiene products (tampons), dog and cat food, and children's books, diapers (for adults, too). May 27 is Dandy Diaper Day; please bring diapers for babies and adults, all sizes. First UU supports the Feed My Sheep food pantry as a project of our Justice Action Ministry.

**SanctuaryNews:** Meals for Edith Espinal: Edith remains in Sanctuary at Columbus Mennonite Church, and we are coordinating and delivering meals for her and her family. You may help by preparing a meal or by giving a grocery store gift card. Sign up to make a meal at [www.mealtrain.com/trains/r3y3ed](http://www.mealtrain.com/trains/r3y3ed). Jan Phillips is collecting gift cards.

**The Red Library Cart** will be in Fellowship Hall after Sunday Services on the **third** Sunday of each month. If returning books to the library, deposit them in the black box. Please do not shelve them. Books may be returned at the Red Cart as well.

Books donated to the library need to be processed and their titles entered into the computer before being shelved, so just place them on or near the library computer desk.

---

## ALSO AT FIRST UU

**In Spirit Ministries: First Saturday Chant Night**

Saturday, May 5, 5pm, in First UU's Worship Center.

*In Spirit* hosts a monthly event at First UU, on the first Saturday of every month at 5pm. Called the "First Saturday Chant," it is an uplifting hour of music to hum or sing along with. The music is provided by the *In Spirit Band*, often with special musical guests, both local and national. Together we tap into the healing power of music and get it circulating in our midst.

For the *Chant Night* on Saturday, May 5, Christy Snow will perform both solo and with the *In Spirit Band*. No cover charge; donations only. Christy Snow is a musician with 14 CDs ranging from spiritual chants, to Native inspired flute, guided meditation and acoustic folk/rock. She is also an ordained minister with 10 years' experience in pulpit ministry and more than 15 years sharing keynote addresses, music, workshops and retreats for New Thought centers, conferences, interfaith events, pride events, schools and universities across the US and in Canada.

*In Spirit Ministries* is a non-denominational ministry, co-founded by Joanne Blum and Joe Lambert. For more information, visit [www.inspiritministries.org](http://www.inspiritministries.org).

## CARING CORNER

---

Each year the Caring Team recognizes high school and college graduates with a caring card signed by all. If you have someone in your family, or if you will be someone, graduating this spring, please let Jane Reisman know. You can email her at [jmdreisman@aol.com](mailto:jmdreisman@aol.com) or fill out a Joys and Sorrows request form, which is found on the church's website. [www.firstuucolumbus.org](http://www.firstuucolumbus.org).

Congratulations to:

- **Rev. Eric Meter**, who celebrated 30 years since his ordination into Unitarian Universalist ministry, on March 28. He was ordained in 1998.
- **Rev. Kathleen and Joe Fowler**, who will celebrate their wedding anniversary on May 1.

Happy Birthday to:

- **Art Beach**, who celebrated his 87th birthday on April 26.

Condolences to:

- The family of **Sue Sinclair**, long time member of First UU, passed away March 10.
- The family and colleagues of the **Rev. Katherine "Kay" Anne Greenleaf**, former long-time First UU member, who died January 19. (More information in *From the Archives*, below.)
- **Mike Neely**, whose father, Bob Neely, died Wednesday April 11.
- The family of **Marilyn Chambers**. Marilyn died April 12, after suffering a stroke.
- The family of **Chris Collins**. Chris' father, James Collins, passed away on Thursday, April 19, in Akron, after a battle with kidney disease. James was also father-in-law to Chris' wife Barbara, and their children, Katie and Cameron.

**Want to become more involved  
in serving the church on Sunday morning?**

One person is needed to assist with counting the donations collection one Sunday a month after the 11am service.

If interested, contact Sharon Oliver, [sharonabo@aol.com](mailto:sharonabo@aol.com)

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

---

Linda Thompson, Historian

Rev. Kay Greenleaf's memorial service was held in Poughkeepsie, NY on April 21. Kay was a First UU member and a leader in LGBT concerns in the 90s. During her time here, she also served on the Board. First UU ordained her on April 20, 1997, and she was called to the Poughkeepsie UU Fellowship in 1998, where she served until retirement in June 2009. She is survived by a sister-in-law, several cousins, and Pat Sullivan, her partner and wife of 31 years.

Clarifications:

The plaque in Fellowship Hall was commissioned in 1905 by Mrs. Chas. Wissler for the First Universalist Church. The First Universalist Church on State Street was probably its location.

Several people have contacted me about the church pew in Fellowship Hall. Rev. Carol Brody told several of us that it came from the Universalist Church. It may have been located in the last Columbus Universalist Church on E. 16th Avenue near the OSU campus.

## FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

---

### Field Trip to Cincinnati's National Underground Railroad Freedom Center

Join other First UUs on Saturday, June 9, on a field trip to this historic museum. The trip will be led by Rev. Eric and Jenna Haaser, Cincinnati native and Coming of Age teacher.

Please email him at [ericm@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:ericm@firstuucolumbus.org) by Friday, May 25, to register. Individual fees will be determined by the number of participants. We'll meet at First UU to carpool to the museum at 9am that morning. We will have lunch in the museum cafeteria. All ages welcome.

### Dear Members and Friends of the First Unitarian Universalist Church Community,

I am reaching out to you all today with appreciation: appreciation for the ways you have nurtured my ministry, appreciation for the encouragement you have offered me and our youngest members, and appreciation for the way this community cares for one another. First UU is certainly a gift to the people who lead and participate in this community.

And I know that gift, as I have benefitted from it immensely. You hired me as Director of Religious Education, decided to ordain me in October of 2015, and the Board conferred the title to me shortly thereafter as Minister of Religious Exploration. I have seen the ways Religious Exploration has grown here, the ways you are building multi-generational community, and the ways you are supporting our youth in their spiritual growth and activism. As our RE program has grown, I have grown, and you have grown too.

Today, I want to share with you that I am leaving my position as the Minister of Religious Exploration at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus at the end of this church year. I have discerned a different path in my ministry and decided to seek out parish ministry positions this year. I will be a candidate for ministry with the First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY.

This has been a long-term plan of mine for the past few years. What I wanted to do was to wait to make this transition until this church was through the Interim period and had settled a new Senior Minister. I waited so that you could call the right person and so that you could grow to love her and so that she could offer support to the church in this transition. I believe you all have made an amazing choice in calling Rev. Marian.

What I want you to know is that I am so grateful to each of you for the connections we have shared, for the ways you continually show up in this community, and for the appreciation you have extended to me as I have served you. I have always felt respected and appreciated in this community. You have helped me grow and blossom into the minister that I am. Your support and enthusiasm for Religious Exploration will make First UU an ideal location for any religious educator seeking a position to start next church year. So, thank you. Thank you for opening your hearts, for welcoming a young minister at the beginning of her career, and for all you have done to help me grow. Thank you.

Blessings,  
Rev. Lane Campbell

The UU College of Social Justice's mission is to inspire and sustain spiritually centered action for social justice and we know that youth are leaders in this work. If you're a high school-aged youth interested in deepening your understanding of social justice activism, check out our 2018 Open Enrollment Activate programs!

This summer we are offering two Activate Youth Justice Trainings:

- [Activate New Orleans: Racial Justice & Beloved Community](#) – July 15-22
- [Activate Tucson: Sanctuary, Solidarity & Immigration Justice](#) – August 5-12

Registrations are due by May 31 and generous financial aid is still available! Youth can sign up now at: [www.UUCSJ.org/activate-registration](http://www.UUCSJ.org/activate-registration).

## BELOVED CONVERSATIONS COMING THIS FALL

Amanda Hays, Ministerial Intern

As the first year of my internship here draws to a close, I have been working with my internship committee and the other ministers here to develop my Focused Initiative. A Focused Initiative is a part of my program at Meadville Lombard Theological School. It is a project in my teaching congregation (First UU) that I initiate to help me develop my skills as a leader and to help First UU cross borders to serve a population that has been under-served by the congregation in the past.

Together with my internship committee and the other ministers, we have discerned that my focused initiative will be bringing the program *Beloved Conversations: Meditations on Race and Ethnicity* to First UU. *Beloved Conversations* is a small group program that helps congregations learn to have difficult conversations about race in a loving way. Individuals get to share their own experiences and identify areas of growth for themselves and their congregation. If you're interested in learning more about the program, check it out at:

<http://www.meadville.edu/fahs-collaborative/fahs-curriculum-catalogue/beloved-conversations>

*Beloved Conversations* will begin in the fall with a 1.5 day retreat facilitated by a retreat leader from the Fahs Collaborative. Then, small groups will continue to meet for two hours every two weeks for eight sessions total.

Would you like to have some *Beloved Conversations*?

Peace and Love,  
Amanda Hays

## CALENDAR

---

- Adult Programs: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 7-9pm
- Archives Team: Tuesdays, 9:30am
- Atheists/Skeptics/Humanists: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 7pm
- Bookbites: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7pm
- Board of Trustees: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 7pm
- BREAD Team: 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7pm
- Bridge Group (call 614-499-2434): 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 6pm
- Care and Share Time Bank: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6:30pm
- Caring Team: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7pm
- Chalice Choir: Thursdays, 7:30pm
- Contra Dance: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday, 7:30pm
- Cooking for Faith Mission: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 12pm
- Covenant Group Facilitators: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday, 6:30pm
- Creative Open Studio: Mondays, 3-5pm
- Families with Young Children: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays, 10am
- Finance Committee: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 6:30pm
- First Friday Potluck: 6:30pm
- French Language Group: Thursdays, 6pm
- Getting to Know UU: Sundays, after each service
- Hispanohablantes: Saturdays, 10:45am
- Improvisational Dance: Thursdays, 9:30am
- Intergenerational Book Group: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 7pm
- Justice Action Ministry: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 7pm
- Library Team: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 1:30pm
- Memoir Group: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7pm
- Meditation Workshop, Thursdays, 6:30pm
- Move to Amend: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 12pm
- New Members Covenant Group: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, 7pm
- Ohio Poor People's Campaign: Thursdays, 7pm
- Peace Pals Choir: Sundays, 10:25am
- RE Team: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 6:30pm
- Rising Voices Choir: Tuesdays, 6:45pm
- Sacred Song Circle: Wednesdays, 6pm
- Spirit of Life Choir: Tuesdays, 7:30pm

- Stewardship: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 7pm
- Sunday Breakfast: 8:45am (through 5/20)
- This Month in Science: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7pm
- Trans Youth Support Group: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 2pm
- UU Dance Fellowship: Mondays, 7pm
- Wednesday Women's Book Group: 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 1pm.
- Worship Team: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 7:30pm.
- Zen Meditation: Saturdays, 8:30am; Tuesdays, 7pm

### **Saturday, May 5, 2018**

9:00am Poor People's Campaign Non-Violent Resistance Training

### **Sunday, May 6, 2018**

12:30pm Art Reception

1:00pm Board Retreat

5:00pm Concert: Magpie Consort

### **Saturday, May 12, 2018**

9:00am Poor People's Campaign Non-Violent Resistance Training

5:00pm 13-14 Year Old OWL Final Celebration

### **Saturday, May 19, 2018**

8:00am Building & Grounds Workday

12:00pm Funeral Consumers Alliance Annual Meeting

### **Sunday, May 20, 2018**

4:00pm Spring Choir Concert

## ***The Discoverer***

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus  
93 West Weisheimer Rd.  
Columbus OH 43214

614-267-4946; fax: 614-267-4924  
[office@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:office@firstuucolumbus.org)  
<http://www.firstuucolumbus.org>

May 2018

## **UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES**

**May's theme: *Beloved Community***

**May 6, 9:15am & 11am**

*JAM 'n BREAD*

Rev. Dr. Marian Stewart

**Sunday, May 13, 9:15am & 11am**

*Flower Communion*

Rev. Dr. Marian Stewart

**Sunday, May 20, 9:15am & 11am**

*Religious Exploration Sunday*

Rev. Lane Campbell

**Sunday, May 27, 10am**

**(only one service)**

*Stories from a Possible Future*

Amanda Hays, Ministerial Intern