

# *The Discoverer*

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus, January 9 – 22, 2013

## **MARKINGS**

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

Well, it almost seems like a surprise, all of this picture postcard snowfall. After a warm winter and a snow-free and very warm fall (the quinces were in full bloom just before Christmas at the back exit of the church), the Currier and Ives look on Weisheimer seems like news.

Eric and I were talking about the Jewish concept of Sabbath, the subject of his sermon on December 30. Rest. Setting it all down. Just letting go for a time and letting what is be what is. No deadlines, no scurry, just quiet reading on a warm chair inside, quietly.

Not, we agreed, the easiest practice for ministers. A rarer event than we would like. But we agreed that grief in our lives enforces a kind of Sabbath when we don't do it by practice. No wanting to go out. Not wanting to do things. Wanting to sit and be quiet.

And the snow does that too, sometimes. I wasn't able to drive up on Wednesday to see my sister. The road conditions were just too cruel and icy. I could have gone up the next day, but I had a commitment here on Friday, so up and down to Michigan in one day is just asking for exhaustion.

My sister and I talked, and that was good enough. I'll go up sometime later in January when I am on Sabbatical, and when I don't have to fear being frozen into place.

I can't believe it. It took only 14 years for my California self to look out the window of my office, see the snow lining the branches, and say, "Wow, isn't that beautiful! How fortunate we are to see this beauty."

Blessings,



(see *THE INNER FLAME* on page 4)

## **CHURCH NEWS**

**Save the Date! The Mid-Year Congregational Meeting** will be Sunday, February 3, 12:30pm. A light lunch will be available in Fellowship Hall; you are invited to bring finger foods to share. Childcare will be provided.



### **Members and Neighbors Walk the Holiday Season Labyrinth**

The 11-circuit Chartres-style Labyrinth was available once again in our Worship Center between Christmas and New

Year. How many walked it is hard to tell, since it is a very private matter, and long hours are available. Comments in the "Journal", though, tell of experiences to wind up the old year and welcome the new one in a peaceful, meditative space. Clearly, this is becoming a popular holiday tradition!

We may not know of all who benefited from it, but we do know who contributed to its mood! Our thanks to David MacDonald, Kevin and Cathy O'Neil, Sarah Wurdlow, Karen Thimmes, and Tina Thonnings, who played contemplative music to add to the meditative experience at various times through the week. Special thanks to Tina for organizing the musicians, providing several introductory sessions for those who had not walked a labyrinth before, and for closing up the church on many cold, dark nights.

The church staff also ensured a smooth running, in spite of a snow-filled parking lot and holiday responsibilities: Brian Hagemann ensured the church was open on days the office was closed; Marian Garcia informed the congregation of schedules and music; Don Hippensteel creatively arranged the Worship Center chairs around the labyrinth so that services and other activities could proceed as planned.

Thank you also to Sandy Coen, who helped Michael Greenman roll up the large canvas sheets at the end of the week.

Our thanks to all who walked the labyrinth. We hope to see you again during the next season!

(*CHURCH NEWS continues on page 2*)

## LINKS

Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister

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Once again, I've enjoyed walking the labyrinth here in the Worship Center in the days following Christmas. The first time I ever walked a labyrinth was at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. Fellow seminarians kept telling me how great it was, and I had been too foolish to admit to them that I had no idea what they were talking about. It was a few years later when I hiked up the hill to the Cathedral to learn what all the fuss was about. There were many people there that day. My friend went first, and when she was done I took my turn, round and about, twisting my shoulders so as to make as little contact with others as we crossed paths along the arcs and turns of the route. When I was done she said to me, "Eric, you looked so stiff out there. Was it as uncomfortable for you as it looked?" Far from it, actually. While I probably did look that way to others, my experience came as a surprise. It was as if I could feel all the varied expectations people had brought to the labyrinth, and was absorbing them through the palms of my hands, which I held more or less parallel to the ground.

I've walked labyrinths many times since then, and have never had that experience again. It remains a singular memory, held apart. The experience probably had more to do with my frame of mind then than anything in the labyrinth itself, but I'm happy to leave some mystery present in the interpretation.

What I know is that we can have experiences that surprise us, and that is good enough for me. And still, my favorite part of that day was watching a young girl, no more than seven, take two adults by the hand (parents, godparents, her aunt and uncle?) and running, lead them from the start of the labyrinth, straight to the center, purposely ignoring the marked pathways. There was joy on her face, and laughter. This wasn't a solemn ritual practice for her, but just another form of play. Who knows? She may have been the wisest one ever to tread upon that particular path.

Happy New Year,

*Eric*

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### Healing Journey

Are you experiencing grief due to the loss of a family member or other loved one, a job loss, or the pain of another unwelcome life transition? If so, the Healing Journey may be for you. Together we share our stories, and learn how much we have in common with others who also know the experience of loss. The group will meet 7:30 to 9 pm on Thursdays, January 24 through February 28. For further information and to register, please call Rev. Eric Meter at 267-4946 x23.

## CHURCH NEWS *(continued from page 1)*

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### Art of Developing Meaningful Conversations (ADMC)

First UU and the Leadership Development Committee invite members and friends to participate in a special event coming up in Fellowship Hall on January 26, 2-6 pm. (The 26th from 2-6: easy to remember!) ADMC offers us a chance to listen and speak with each other in powerful ways. At the January 26 event, we will **explore what it takes for the congregation and congregants to live our mission**. We will also deepen our grounding in World Cafe and Circle practices. (This is the agenda that had been originally planned for November 3, but was unfortunately cancelled at the last minute due to circumstances our hosts could not overcome.) Teens are encouraged to attend, and childcare for younger children will be provided. Please register for the event, even if you registered for the November one that was canceled. Contact Allie Bonsteel at [bonsteam@gmail.com](mailto:bonsteam@gmail.com) or look for the table at coffee hour after the service.

**Attention All UU Artists and First UU Members.** The March-April exhibition is open to all with the title: *Check the Box*. You can interpret this as you wish. Please let Deb Baillieul, [debbsyc@yahoo.com](mailto:debbsyc@yahoo.com), know if you are interested in entering—any media, any size. The art take-in will be Sunday, February 24.

Please take time to view the newest exhibition *The Art of Terry LeMaster*. Her intriguing works are mainly acrylic and watercolor. Be sure to give her your comments. This show will run through February 13.

**Garden Club** We're doing it again next month: Another indoor plant/garden items swap, because several folks asked. Bring items for sharing on Sunday, February 3, in Fellowship Hall, during and between the services. Thanks to all those who brought items to January's swap. Contact Christine Hardin via [chrisincols@live.com](mailto:chrisincols@live.com).

**Blood Drive** Our first Red Cross Blood Drive for 2013 is planned for Friday, March 1, from 3 to 7 p.m. in Rooms 7 and 8, which coincides with March's First Friday event. Please mark your calendars now. Sign-up sheets for appointments and snacks will begin in February at the Caring Table. Contact Christine Hardin via [chrisincols@live.com](mailto:chrisincols@live.com)

**Book Bites** will meet in Slowter Lounge 7 to 9 pm, Tuesday, January 15. Kathleen, 262-4025.



**UU Animal Ministry** meets every second Tuesday of the month, at 7pm, in the Library. The next meeting will be held February 12.

Congratulations to raffle winners Patricia Boughton and John Schumacher! They are the winners of our first drawing for prizes to those who pledged to Meatless Mondays. They have a choice of gift certificates to the Banana Leaf or The Loving Hut. Start off 2013 by eating healthier, plant based foods! Gleb Tsipursky and Agnes Vishnevkin recently pledged to Meatless Mondays. If you're already vegetarian, you can pledge to vegan Mondays. If it seems difficult to make the commitment, and if you'd like to speak with someone, stop by our table on January 20, or talk to any UU Animal Ministry member. Rick Krizter, 781-1799, [rick94037@yahoo.com](mailto:rick94037@yahoo.com).

**Parents of Infants and Toddlers** meets every second Sunday. The next meeting is on Saturday, January 12, from 11am to 1pm. Rooms 1&2. Contact Nancy Powlick for more information. [lpowlick@columbus.rr.com](mailto:lpowlick@columbus.rr.com).

**Women's Spirituality** meets Wednesdays, 7:30 – 9pm.  
 January 9 - birthday, poetry and sharing  
 January 16 - we celebrate women of color  
 January 23 - we talk about justice and spirituality  
 January 30 - we celebrate Imbolc/Candlemas  
 Jeanni Ray, 614-985-6176, [jeanniray@gmail.com](mailto:jeanniray@gmail.com).

**Sunday Forum**, January 13, 12:30pm, in the Worship Center. Topic: *Job and Job Training Opportunities in Columbus*. Linda O'Connor (Assistant Director, Ohio Department of Education), Joel Potts (Executive Director, Ohio Job and Family Services Directors' Association), and Andy Maciejewski (Executive Director, Ohio Apprenticeship Council) will speak on county and state services to assist in employment. Sponsored by First UU's Adult Enrichment Program. For more information, contact Earl Wurdlow at 614-263-6304, [earlword@yahoo.com](mailto:earlword@yahoo.com).

**Holiday Choir Concert Reception** Besides the wonderful entertainment from musicians, we are most grateful for the reception contributions of various committees and individuals. Thanks to the Leadership Development Committee for the punch and beverage service. Groups providing finger foods were: Auction Committee, Book World (Bookstore, Book Bites, Library Team), Caring Committee, all four choirs, Membership Committee, and Worship Committee. Individuals of special assistance were: Steve Abbott (the dishwasher), Jenny McLaughlin, Cathy O'Neil, Karen Thimmes and Carole Wilhelm (all general clean-up and set-up). Thanks to all for a fantastic holiday experience!!  
 -Paula Hook, Coordinator

**Christmas Undecorating Project** With assistance from Olwen Firestone, Paula Hook stored various Christmas decorations on Friday, January 4. As always, we are thankful to the staff for their support and guidance. The evergreens, however, are hiding until their reappearance on February 16, in their role as a forest at the First UU Auction.

**UU Elevator Speech** What do you say when someone asks you what Unitarian Universalism is?

“I believe there is one (Unitarian) life-giving force in the universe to which we are all (Universalist) necessarily connected. Unitarian Universalists gather in community to celebrate this connectedness and to encourage behavior that respects and cares for all life and the environment upon which we depend. We respect all the religious traditions that promote love and peace in the world, but we don't believe any one of them is absolute truth.”

Beth McCreary

## **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](mailto:theitens@gmail.com), 329-2915, for information.



### **Soulful Sundown**

**Sunday, January 27, 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](mailto:theitens@gmail.com), 614-329-2915, with questions.

## ***JUSTICE ACTION MINISTRY (JAM)***

### **YWCA Family Center Taco Dinner**

There were so many volunteers! Thank you to all of you wonderful people. Even though there were many families to serve and clean up after, our team of volunteers was excellent, and absolutely so hardworking! Our great volunteers this month were: Candyce Walchesky - shopper, Jan Voelker, Sharon Hamersley, Jim Conlan, Sherrie and Cariann Stubbs, Christine Smithies, Rachel Reid, Steve LeVesconte, Rachel Reid, Mike Anderson and Ginnie Vogts. Just a quick reminder of what these folks do. They prepare food, set up tables, serve food, wash dishes, and smile, smile, smile.

Very Gratefully Yours,  
Cathy McCutcheon



Thank you to Kathleen Boston, Barbara and William Fiorini, and Tracy Moebius and Neal Schmitt for their investments in BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity, [www.breadcolumbus.org](http://www.breadcolumbus.org)), our Central Ohio interfaith community organization that holds local officials accountable for serious problems in our community. During 2012 members and friends of First UU, a founding member of BREAD, have contributed \$11,115 toward BREAD's ongoing work.

Volunteers from BREAD's 54 member congregations, with the invaluable assistance of BREAD's five organizers, are continuing to make progress on BREAD's ongoing issues— Healthcare, the Land Bank, Keeping Kids in School, Jobs, and Restorative Justice— and to research for action the problem chosen at BREAD's Annual Assembly, "Discrimination Against Immigrants."

Franklin County Juvenile Court Judge Elizabeth Gill has reported to BREAD's Crime and Violence Committee that the first three community Restorative Justice Circles will get underway in February. Restorative Justice programs elsewhere have reported significant decreases in re-offending rates.

Long-term plans are to have nine Restorative Justice Circles, each of which will serve a different area of Franklin County. The Circles will be charged with overseeing the process of bringing together the offender, the victim, and the community to determine appropriate actions to bring about restitution. **Volunteers are needed** to serve on one of these Circles.

For additional information about BREAD, the problems it is/will be addressing, and/or to get involved, contact Alice Rathburn, 895-2109, [alice37@insight.rr.com](mailto:alice37@insight.rr.com).

**Feed My Sheep Food Pantry** is in need of canned stew and chunky soup, peanut butter, dried pinto beans, canned meat, coats, scarves, gloves, mittens, blankets, and children's books. We are still collecting aluminum beverage cans, soda and beer only. Bring your donations to the Social Justice table in Fellowship Hall.

**Care Share Time Banks** monthly meeting and potluck, January 20, from 6:30 to 8:30pm, to share delicious food, learn from one another, and earn time from attending the meeting. Questions? Contact Michael Greenman, [mgreenmanoh@gmail.com](mailto:mgreenmanoh@gmail.com)

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade** Join us January 30, at Gateway Film Center. Reception at 6pm, program at 7pm program, with Dr. Susan Wood, former FDA official in charge of women's health, who resigned in 2005 to protest delays in approving broader access to Plan B emergency contraception. \$25 (students \$10). Register at [bit.ly/FOCO40thROE](http://bit.ly/FOCO40thROE), or stop by the table in Fellowship Hall on January 13 or 20.

Freedom of Choice Ohio Coalition  
& National Council of Jewish Women, Columbus Section  
present  
**Looking Back, Moving Forward:  
40th Anniversary of Roe**  
January 30, 2013  
**Featuring Dr. Susan Wood**  
Executive Director  
Jacobs Institute of Women's Health  
George Washington University  
as the top FDA official in charge of women's health, Dr. Wood resigned in 2005 to protest the delays in approving broader access to Plan B emergency contraception  
**Honoring Emily Rutherford**  
founder of Women Have Options and the Women's Fund of Central Ohio

## ***THE INNER FLAME***

from Rev Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

*Winter* by Ruth Firestone Brin 1986

Falling. Deeply fallen. The snow  
continuous, silent, covers the ground,  
the roots, and trees, seeds, spores,  
cocoon, various living cells,  
covers completely, persistently  
the white face of earth,  
relentlessly, continuously,  
as we  
who are masking, always masking,  
deeply making ourselves.

## **OHIO MEADVILLE DISTRICT**

### **Scholarships are available for participation**

The Leadership Development Committee is awarding partial scholarships for conference expenses for First UU members to attend workshops promoting leadership development and participation in UU events.

Applications are being accepted for various activities in 2013, including *Ohio Meadville District Assembly*, April 26-27 (location TBA); *UUA General Assembly*, June 19-23, in Louisville, KY; and *UU Leadership Training*, July 31-August 3, in Canandaigua, NY. For more information, please contact Marylou MacDonald ([lulu42@columbus.rr.com](mailto:lulu42@columbus.rr.com)) or Susan Williams ([mudwitch3@gmail.com](mailto:mudwitch3@gmail.com)).

### **Ohio Meadville District's Chalice Lighter's program**

is an opportunity to support UU congregations who want to make a larger impact in their community, by making improvements in their building, hiring staff, or extending the reach of the UU message in their community. An OMD Chalice Lighter is an *individual* who pledges to respond with a minimum of a \$10 contribution when the call comes. There is a maximum of four "calls" per year. First UU was the recipient of a grant last year to start the OSU Campus Ministry Program. The current call is to help congregations whose buildings were damaged by Hurricane Sandy, or who are helping those most affected.

Please consider becoming a Chalice Lighter. The District website is [www.ohiomeadville.org/challight](http://www.ohiomeadville.org/challight). Or contact Rev. Kathleen Fowler, [kathleenclarkfowler@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenclarkfowler@gmail.com).

**UU Justice Ohio Network (UUJO)** facilitates collaboration between our congregations as well as partnerships with other Ohio social justice organizations promoting social, economic, environmental and racial justice that fosters the dignity of all, through education and by organizing concrete action and public witness with and on behalf of marginalized groups and individuals. Individuals may register at <https://ohiomeadville.wufoo.com/forms/m7m4m7> to receive periodic news updates, to identify issues of interest, and to volunteer time. All Ohio congregations have also been asked to join by designating an individual liaison to register at <https://ohiomeadville.wufoo.com/forms/m7m4m7>. For more information, visit the UUJO website at <http://ohiomeadville.org/uujo/>.

## **FIRST UU MUSIC**

Tony McDonald, Music Director

Happy New Year everyone. Now that we can bank another very successful Holiday Concert (and thanks for the great work of all who participated) we can look forward to the exciting continuation of this season. The list of upcoming events is below, in a convenient cut-and-post format. Feel free to decorate your refrigerator with it.

I will be talking more about each concert as it approaches, but let me start with the first one, which is coming up quite soon. The Chiarina Piano Quartet is a professional chamber music ensemble headed by our own Mark Rudoff, cello, and Nancy Nehring, viola. It also includes violinist Mary Horozaniecki and pianist David Viscoli from Minnesota. As you may know, Mark is Professor of Cello at The Ohio State University.

The group will be performing piano quartets by Schubert and Dvorak, plus a piece called Dark Rosaleen by local American composer Lee Hoiby. Dark Rosaleen is a free rhapsody on a song by (literary giant) James Joyce.

Many people have expressed a desire for a concert of high quality chamber since the end of the UUNIVERSE! Series a few years ago, so I am proud to announce this performance that will more than fill that request. Keep watching this space for details on future events.

### **First UU Music Concerts 2013**

Chiarina Piano Quartet\*  
Friday, February 1, 7:30 pm

Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra\*  
Sunday, February 17, 3:00 pm

Folk music Sing-along with Bill Cohen  
Saturday, March 2, 7:30 pm

Adult Talent Show  
Saturday April 13, 7:30 pm

Spring Choirs Concert  
Sunday, May 19, 4:00 pm

\*Optional requested donation for these concerts, to help offset expenses, of approx. \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors/students.

## ***CARING CORNER***

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A memorial service for **Gracie Beach** was held here at First UU on Saturday, December 29. A big thank you to all who donated food, time and help. Thank you to Olwen Firestone and her granddaughter, Elizabeth, Linda Royalty, Chris Hardin, Nancy Powlick, Sarah Wurdlow, Chris Sullivan, Paula Hook, Linda Wigelt, Steven Davis, Carole Wilhelm, and Tina Thonnings for all you did and gave for this, and other events.

Congratulations to **Marilyn and Tom Beerman** who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary yesterday.

There was a naming ceremony for Kenneth Henry Braekevelt-Nichols, son of **Jennifer Nichols**, on December 23.

Congratulations to **Kyle Pigman**, who participated in the Special Olympics Ohio State Aquatics Championships last weekend. He received several medals.

Congratulations to **Linda Cox**, who was honored as a "GLBT Living Legend" in the recent edition of *Who's Who in GLBT Columbus* for her social and political activism, and her work in transgender education.

Healing thoughts to **Pam Hambrick**, who recently broke her leg.

Words of caring to **Diana Cook**, whose father is suffering from kidney disease and diabetes, and is hospitalized following surgery due to an infection in his foot.

Sympathy to **Michael Anderson**, whose great aunt died on December 14.

Congratulations to **Debbie Shaw**, who retired on December 29 from Columbus Metropolitan Library.

We send healing thoughts to **Mary Lou MacDonald**, who had laser surgery on both eyes on January 2.

We send our sympathy to **Lavaughn Margraff**. Her 29 year old son, Robert, died on December 27, during a family vacation to Disneyland.

## ***AUCTION CORNER***

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Danya Furda, Auction Chair

**Donations, donations, donations!** We need donations of all sorts – vacation lodging, dinners, services, items, etc. – to make our auction successful on **February 16, 2013**. Please enter your auction donations online at <http://firstuucolumbus.org/auction> or see us at the auction table in Fellowship Hall after the services and fill out a paper donation form. **The deadline for getting your items into the auction catalog is January 20 by midnight.**

This Discoverer's featured auction item is: **A Week in Sedona! (March 10-17, 2013)** donated by Linda Thompson. Need a vacation? How about staying at a townhouse condo on Oak Creek in uptown Sedona from March 10-17! The condo has everything you need: two bedrooms, each with its own balcony & bath. The master bedroom has a gas fireplace, TV, a Jacuzzi tub, and a king bed. The second bedroom has twin beds. The first floor has a full kitchen, a washer & dryer, and a half bathroom while the living/dining room has a queen-size hide-a-bed, two large chairs, a dining table, a TV, a gas fireplace & balcony/patio. Courtyards have gas grills, tables, swings, and fountains. There are indoor and outdoor pools as well as exercise, game, computer & steam/sauna rooms. The condo is in a quiet location so you can either rest or be a tourist. Sedona is located two hours north of Phoenix, two hours south of the Grand Canyon and one hour from Jerome, a ghost town made into an artist area. Red Rock country is beautiful & offers hikes, history, art galleries, shows, and restaurants. Maximum occupancy is six people in the condo; no pets or smoking permitted. Bidding begins at \$700 for the week.

Questions about the auction, contact Danya Furda at [dfurda@gmail.com](mailto:dfurda@gmail.com) or (614) 471-3786.



## ***FAITH DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL AGES***

Jolinda Stephens, Religious Education Director

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### **Tearing Down Walls**

Michael Tino was a huge help to me when I first became a DRE and was charged with creating a young adult program with only one young adult in the congregation. At the time he was the UUA Director for Young Adult Ministry, a position our own Carey McDonald holds today. He gave me eminently practical advice that allowed me to gather a group that reached 25 in 18 months. He has since gotten his doctorate and is the minister of a congregation in New York.

Today he preached the ordination service for Frances Sink. Ordination sermons are often very powerful and this was not exception. I'd like to share with you a few excerpts.

"For too long, Unitarian Universalists have insisted on the primacy of reason in our religious life to the exclusion of other ways of knowing. We wall off our heads from our hearts. We wall off our intellect from our bodies. We wall off our physical being from our spiritual connection to all that is...As a former scientist, I'm pretty fond of reason. I'm pretty fond of the scientific method...If our entire religious experience has been reduced to data, let's have lab meetings instead of worship services. There has got to be more...We must learn to look back at our Universalist heritage and translate their message of salvation for a new era...We can understand that our connection to God, or the spirit of life, or the ultimate source of being—however it is you understand or name that source—depends on us knowing, deep down within our souls, that we are whole, that we are loved, and that we are not alone. That knowledge can only come if we open ourselves up to all of the ways of knowing that we have been endowed with as humans."

Michael continues with the walls that divide one UU from another and all of us from those around us. Like the wooden pew boxes purchased by families in old-time New England churches, walls of defensiveness, propriety, mistrust and individualism separate us from really being with one another in community.

"Ironically, though, those wooden pew boxes in old Unitarian churches were the place where people first heard the theology of people like William Ellery Channing, who proclaimed that each of us has a spark of the divine within us...We need to take into account that each person we meet has the same spark of the divine in them that we do. That each person we meet has the same connection to the source of life...[W]hat makes Unitarian Universalism possible is our bold proclamation that each of us has a piece of the truth—and that no religious tradition has a monopoly on it. Rational Unitarian humanists and mystic Universalist Christians stayed in the same rooms with one another through the consolidation of our religion because they all understood this."

"Into those rooms came questioning interfaith families seeking a place to belong, dancing pagans worshipping the Earth and its cycles, silently meditating Buddhists and third-generation-lapsed-Catholic queer cell biologists (or at least one of us). We came into the room seeking welcome, seeking belonging, seeking a place where our piece of the truth was valued. We stayed if and when we found that it was. But too often, there are walls preventing that from being true for others seeking just such a faith community."

We are all familiar with the catalog of exclusiveness that makes up our UU culture, one of privilege, formal education and a certain age. Michael ends with a challenge.

"Unitarian Universalists, tear down your walls. All of them. Seek wholeness. Seek connection. Seek interdependence. Seek allies. Seek people with whom you have a whole lot in common. Seek people who are dramatically different from you."

The Religious Education Council is building a new Mission Statement. We still have a lot of work to do but we have decided that it will be one sentence, and it will be built around the word *intergenerational*, in other words, tearing down the walls, wholeness.

Thank you, Michael, again.

*My office time is Tuesday through Friday afternoons until at least 6 pm. Just call if you'd like to meet in the evening or on Saturday. The number is 614-267-4946, ext. 28. Email [jolindas@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:jolindas@firstuucolumbus.org).*

Jolinda

**A Few Openings in the Tae Kwon Do Class for Ages 6 to 18...**For classes starting Tuesday, January 8. Classes meet from 4:00 to 4:55 on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Fellowship Hall. There is a \$10 per month, per child, equipment fee due at the beginning of each month. They will need a TKD uniform within two weeks of starting class, but this can be obtained anywhere they would like, and can be new or used. Classes will be held only during the school year. Information and to register: Laurie Brown, [laurieeb12@gmail.com](mailto:laurieeb12@gmail.com).

**Grandparents: Great Ways To Connect** When you only see your grandchildren a few times each year, it can be hard to connect. You miss some of the details of their lives. It can sometimes be hard to buy gifts that are “in” or get conversations started. Helping in a Sunday School group is a great way to keep up with what’s going on with kids their age. When my granddaughter complained that she couldn’t find earcuffs, teens here told me that they use toe rings for earcuffs. My gift made her very happy.

We have a few openings at several age levels in Sunday School - Preschool, Kindergarten, 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Sign up at the Sunday School Table or call the RE Office (ext 28). We have serious needs in Sunday School. Please don't leave the wonderful Sunday School volunteers we have with the heavy end. If we have full leadership teams everyone only needs to be with the group twice per month or less. When we have incomplete teams, we wear out our volunteers. Our children are not just the future of Unitarian Universalism, they are an integral part of our vitality *right now*.

**High School Covenant Group Delayed Until February 3.** The High School OWL class will continue until the end of January. The Covenant Group will use music and other arts as the major way of communicating about the Great Questions and issues and values of importance to high school youth. It is offered at 11 am.

**Sexuality and Relationship for Adults (OWL)**, an open, honest, and informed conversation about sexuality, sex, identity, and behavior, meets the **Second and fourth Sunday 6:30p - 8:30pm, starting January 27**. Open to men and women, ages 18 to 35; couples welcome. This free 12-session course will explore ideas about sexuality such as:

- Why 50 Shades of Grey is so popular right now
- How relationships and attraction evolve over time
- The connections between mind and body
- How our values shape our sexuality and our relationships
- Understanding consent and boundaries
- How relationships are shaped, including open, polyamorous, monogamous, and single
- Creating a more sex positive culture
- Navigating the variety of sexual identities that exist personally and interpersonally
- The anatomy of pleasure

To register: <http://bit.ly/13c62hI>

**Parents, Infants and Toddlers** meets the second Saturday of each month from 11 am to 1 pm in the Toddler Room. It provides a warm, energized space for kids, including older siblings, to play and parents to connect and share experiences, frustrations, ideas and connection. The January gathering is on the 12th.

### **Spiritually-based Leadership Class at North UU**

Many UUs experience a deepening commitment to their faith and congregation as a call to accept a position of leadership-as a lay worship leader, a leader of children or youth or a member of a task force, committee or governing board. **Harvest the Power** provides leadership skill development that goes hand-in-hand with faith development. The focus of these sessions will be to strengthen UU identity, and help individuals to discover and resonate with our stories, symbols, and practices. All classes to be held at NUUC, 1574 Franklin Street, Lewis Center, OH. NUUC President Laura Howe leads each of the four Sundays in February, 5PM-8PM, dinner break included (dinner provided the first session). Sign up in by email: [RevRitchie@aol.com](mailto:RevRitchie@aol.com), or [howe\\_l@yahoo.com](mailto:howe_l@yahoo.com)

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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 January 9 - 22, 2013

### Wednesday, January 9

- 7:00pm Personnel Committee; Memoir Writing
- 7:00pm Small Group Ministry Steering Team
- 7:00pm Executive Committee
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Men's Spirituality

### Thursday, January 10

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 11:00am Hispanohablantes Aspirantes
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do (DOV)
- 7:00pm Expressive Collage

### Friday, January 11

- 7:30pm All Soles Contra Dance

### Saturday, January 12

- 8:30am Zen Meditation
- 9:00am Child Abuse Detection Training
- 9:45am Zen Meditation Orientation
- 11:00am Parents of Infants and Toddlers
- 11:00am Being with Dying

### Sunday, January 13

- 9:15am Worship Celebration
- 10:30am Getting to Know UU
- 11:00am Worship Celebration
- 12:15pm Getting to Know UU
- 12:30pm Enlightened Hippogriffs
- 1:00pm Auction Committee; Green Team
- 1:00pm Committee on Shared Ministry
- 5:00pm High School Senior Group
- 6:30pm Young Adult OWL
- 7:00pm FOCUUS (OSU area)

### Monday, January 14

- 4:00pm Art Journaling; AA Meeting
- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship
- 7:00pm Adult Enrichment Committee

### Tuesday, January 15

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 6:30pm Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Stewardship Committee
- 7:00pm Zen Meditation; Book Bites
- 7:00pm Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Finance Committee
- 7:45pm Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

### Wednesday, January 16

- 8:00am UU Food Co-op
- 5:00pm Campfire Girls & Boys
- 7:00pm Gay Straight Alliance
- 7:30pm Women's Spirituality; Men's Spirituality
- 7:30pm Yoga (Winter Session)

### Thursday, January 17

- 9:30am Improvisational Dance
- 11:00am Hispanohablantes Aspirantes
- 1:30pm Library
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do (DOV)
- 7:00pm Path to Membership
- 7:30pm All SquUares Square Dance Class

### Friday, January 18

- 12:00pm Cooking for Faith Mission

### Saturday, January 19

- 8:30am Zen Meditation
- 9:00am Stewardship Training
- 11:00am Being with Dying; Sound Team
- 11:30am Dance Your Way
- 12:00pm Move to Amend

### Sunday, January 20

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

### Monday, January 21

- 4:00pm Art Journaling; AA Meeting
- 7:00pm UU Dance Fellowship

### Tuesday, January 22

- 9:30am Archives Organizing
- 10:00am Newsletter Folding
- 1:00pm Cancer Support Group  
(contact se.schofield@hotmail.com)
- 4:00pm Tae Kwon Do
- 4:30pm The Personal Essay
- 6:30pm Peace Pals Choir Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Goddesses in Training; Zen Meditation
- 7:00pm Being an Atheist or Agnostic
- 7:00pm Rising Voices Choir Rehearsal
- 7:45pm Spirit of Life Choir Rehearsal

**Next newsletter deadline: Sunday, January 20.** Please send articles to [office@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:office@firstuucolumbus.org), or leave them in the newsletter mailbox in the workroom.



*The*  
**DISCOVERER**  
January 9 - 22, 2013

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## WORSHIP SERVICES

*Theme for January: The Meaning of Justice*

**January 6, 2013, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Mark Belletini**

**But What About Spirituality? Why Justice Talk All the Time?**

**January 13, 2013, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Mark Belletini**

**What Does It Take?**

**January 20, 2013, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Mark Belletini**

**Who Influences You?**

*Martin Luther King Jr. Day is January 21. Karen Thimmes reminded me that we used to march as a congregation in the MLK parade on MLK Day. Anyone interested in organizing a carpool from the church? It starts at 4:45 from City Hall. (Dress warmly.) Tony McDonald is directing the choir again at the MLK Breakfast earlier (and I do mean earlier!) that morning.*

► 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.