

The
DISCOVERER
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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Of COLUMBUS
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PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY

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WORSHIP SERVICES

One service only (at 10:00 a.m.) until the Sunday after Labor Day, September 12, 2010

September 5, 2010, 10:00 A.M.

Steve Abbott

Spirituality and Work

A Labor Day inquiry into the inherent value of work in a time when so many are without it and so many others—regardless of its monetary benefits—find little fulfillment in it. Last 10 A.M. service

Labor Day Retreat at Camp Oty 'Okwa, September 4-6, with Rev. Eric Meter conducting the Sunday service there.

September Theme: Letting Go

September 12, 2010, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

Water Ceremony: Letting Go and Returning

Installation of Teachers

September 19, 2010, 9:15 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

Letting Go of Awareness: The Tao of a Good Heart

Yom Kippur. Social Justice Offering

► "Getting to Know UU" meets Sunday mornings in Slowter Lounge, following the service. Anyone interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and about the First UU Church of Columbus is welcome.

Wednesday, September 1, 2010

8:00a UU Food Co-op
 1:00p Archives Organizing
 7:00p Sunday School Committee
 7:00p Settlers 30-Something
 7:30p FOCUUS (ages 18-35), at OSU, (513) 910-6449
 7:30p Yoga; Men's Spirituality
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, September 2, 2010

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 3, 2010

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission/Pater Noster
 6:30p First Friday Potluck
 7:30p Community Leaders Forum
 7:30p Covenant Group Demonstration

Saturday, September 4, 2010

8:30a Zen Meditation

Sunday, September 5, 2010

10:00a Worship Service/All Ages Sunday School
 11:30a Getting to Know UU
 12:00p Youth Group

Monday, September 6, 2010 - Office Closed

7:00p UU Dance Fellowship
 7:30p Healing Journey moved to Wednesday, 9/8

Tuesday, September 7, 2010

9:30a Archives Organizing
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups
 5:30p Tuesday Supper
 6:30p Peace Pals Choir
 7:00p Social Justice Committee; Caring Committee
 7:00p Worship Committee; Zen Meditation
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir
 7:00p Covenant Group Facilitator Training
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

1:00p Archives Organizing
 6:00p Workshop Leaders
 7:00p Covenant Group Steering Team
 7:00p Memoir Writing Group; Building & Grounds
 7:30p Yoga; Men's Spirituality; The Healing Journey
 7:30p FOCUUS (ages 18-35 at OSU)
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, September 9, 2010

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 6:00p Personnel Committee
 7:00p Expressive Collage
 7:30p Chalice Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, September 11, 2010

8:30a Zen Meditation
 9:30a Memorial Garden Workday
 11:00a Parents of Infants and Toddlers
 2:00p Interfaith Solidarity Event (RDTF)

Sunday, September 12, 2010

8:30a Leadership Development Committee
 8:45a Breakfast
 9:15a Orientation for new families
 9:15a Worship Service, Sunday School
 10:30p Getting to Know UU
 10:35a Dance Choir Group
 11:00a Orientation for new families
 11:00a Worship Service, Sunday School
 12:15a Getting to Know UU
 12:30p Listening Session; Young Adult Check-in
 12:30p Sunday Forum
 1:00p Green Team; Teacher Retreat
 1:30p Installation Team
 2:00p 8th Grade OWL Parent Orientation
 7:00p The Big History

Monday, September 13, 2010

7:00p Adult Enrichment Programs Committee
 7:00p UU Dance Fellowship
 7:30p Healing Journey

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

9:00a Newsletter Folding
 9:30a Archives Organizing
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups
 5:30p Tuesday Supper
 6:00p Path to Membership
 6:30p Peace Pals Choir
 7:00p Social Committee; Zen Meditation
 7:00p Community in Challenging Times
 7:00p UU Bible School; Rising Voices Choir
 7:30p Men's Spirituality
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

1:00p Archives Organizing
 7:00p Membership Committee; UU Humanists
 7:00p Listening Session; BREAD Orientation
 7:30p Yoga; Men's Spirituality; FOCUUS (see 9/1)
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Next issue of The Discoverer: **Sunday, September 12.**
 Deadline: 1:00pm – hard copy in the church office; or
6:00pm – e-mail copy to olwfire@yahoo.com.

**2010 Annual First UU All-Church Labor Day
 Weekend Retreat
 at Camp Oty'Okwa
 September 4 (11am) - Monday, September 6 (11am)
 Beth Jewell, 847-6146, jewell_beth@att.net**

LINKS

I had just begun listening to Anais Mitchell's folk opera *Hadestown*, a musical treatment of the Orpheus and Eurydice myth, when a fledgling angel walked in the door. Was I sure I wasn't dreaming?

Let me explain.

Anais Mitchell is a young, talented singer-songwriter from Vermont. I haven't met her or heard her live, but I've been following her work for the last several years. My Uncle Ken had met her in Boston when he was studying there a while back, and he's been singing her praises ever since.

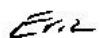
Hadestown has a distinct depression-era feel. Orpheus and Eurydice are rich only in affection, and no one else seems any better off. Hades himself is a wheeler-dealer with both traditional and deceptively modern touches. While the thought would be too heavy-handed if made real, I can't shake the image of seeing the show staged outdoors on Wall Street. (In reality, the show will soon come to St. Paul and Chicago before heading east to locations elsewhere in New York and New England.)

And what of the angel? Like I said, I had just begun listening to the songs when friends arrived, including a nearly-four-year-old Isaac, with a brace on his shoulders that looked like it should have sported angel's wings. In fact, the brace was there because he had broken his collar bone a week before. As he put it, "I fell upside down. How silly is that?" While absolutely fearless, Isaac has a slight frame. I fear he will sport many more braces and casts throughout his childhood. And if a shoulder brace doesn't seem enough to prompt a vision of angel wings, then you haven't seen his angelic smile.

At the close of *Hadestown*, Eurydice sings of Orpheus, and perhaps to all the Isaacs of the world:

Some flowers bloom when the green grass grows
My praise is not for them
But the one who blooms in the bitter snow
I raise my cup to him

in peace,



Rev. Eric

CHURCH NEWS

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS Saturday, August 14, 2010:

- Approved a motion to appoint Angie Gill to a 2-year term and David Easter to a 1-year term on the Committee on Shared Ministry
- Approved two updates to Caring Committee Policies/Procedures
- Treasurer's Report—Debra Boyd: revenues and expenses both up from prior fiscal, per draft not final

budget for fiscal ending 6/30/10; we are under budget for FY 2010.

- Administrator Search -- Kevin O'Neil: the listening sessions are in process; after all listening sessions are completed, probably next month, a compilation will be sent to the Board.
 - Discussion and vote: a motion was made by Sarah Graffagnino that "First UU Church join the Metropolitan Area Council of Churches (MACC) and appoint Eric Meter and Bob Parks as representatives of First UU Church to the Council." Second: Anita Bucknam. Passed.
 - Discussed Strategic Planning: the Board received an update from the Strategic Planning Team (Doug Rossiter and Anita Bucknam). The strategic planning process will take at least a year; it is not a problem-solving process, rather it is looking at bigger issues. At some point, the Board may want to get input from the entire congregation, perhaps via a survey instrument. A Strategic Planning Committee is being formed.
 - Discussed and shared insights from the morning's facilitated discussion on Systems Thinking.
 - Discussed future staffing needs, possibly to include Volunteer Coordinator; Chaplain.
 - Discussed future Board meeting agendas—Board will continue to discuss strategic planning, especially after the Strategic Planning Committee is fully staffed. Need to develop Board goals for the year—will set aside some time for goals at September Board meeting.
 - Announcements and updates: Mark announced that the services for the entire year are planned (FY 2011). Eric announced that his installation will be Sunday, October 17, 4:00 pm. Welcoming Potluck for Brandon Moss, new Choir Director, Thursday, August 26
 - Reminders: Next Board Meeting: September 22
OMD Leadership Day – Saturday September 25 (register on the district website)
 - Fellowship Dinner – Saturday September 25 (evening)
 - Governance Discussion with Doug Zelinski – Sunday September 26, 1:00 pm.
- Respectfully submitted,
Beth Jewell, Board Secretary

TUESDAY DINNERS We will be having Tuesday dinners starting August 31. Dinner at 5:30: salad, mac and cheese, pizza, etc. No RSVP needed. \$4 for adults; \$2.50 for children. Come join the fun!

SUNDAY BREAKFAST Breakfast will be offered again before the 9:15 service starting September 12. Eggs, bacon, tater tots, apples, oatmeal, oj and coffee will be served starting at 8:45. A requested donation of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children will gratefully be accepted. First time visitors are served on the house!

FIRST FRIDAY September 3. Potluck at 6:30pm; Programs at 7:30pm. Programs include: a dialogue on "Should an Islamic Center be built close to the site of the 9/11 disaster?"; a demonstration of a Covenant Group meeting; *Tom and Jerry* cartoons!



COVENANT GROUP REGISTRATION -

Thinking about joining a Covenant Group? Online registration has begun for new and returning participants, as most groups reorganize each year. Online registration will continue through September 22. To register: go to the home page at firstuucolumbus.org. Click on COMMUNITY in the header and scroll down to COVENANT GROUPS.

Need to know more about Covenant Groups? Check our website. Also, there will be information/registration tables in Fellowship Hall after the services September 12 and 19. Members of the Covenant Group Steering Team will be there to talk to you about Covenant Groups and to help you sign up if you so desire.

PARENTS OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS

The next meeting is on Saturday, September 11 from 11am to 1pm. These open meetings are intended as a safe place for parents, little ones, and guests to meet. There will be bagels and drinks. Call Nancy Powlick for more info. 451-4045 lpowlick@columbus.rr.com

YOGA Calling all yogis and yoginis (or wannabes): *Yoga with Terry* begins **Wednesday, September 1** at 7:30-9:15pm in Fellowship Hall. Wear comfortable clothes; bring a mat, blanket and sitting cushion if you have one. Not a problem if you miss the first class.

I will also teach a yoga/meditation workshop at the during the Labor Day weekend church retreat — so maybe I'll see you there! Terry, 614-218-2855.

GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE? All church members are invited to envision an alliance between gay, straight, lesbian, Queer, bisexual and transgendered folks on **Thursday, September 30 at 6:30pm**. Food and Fellowship will be served up! Contact Bob Rice, at bricejr@gmail.com, or 313-7158 for more information.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY Meets Wednesdays at 7:00pm: September 1 - Birthdays, Poetry and Sharing; September 8 - Body and Spirit, Mind; September 15 - Body and Spirit, Mind; September 22 - Talking Circle; September 29 - Body, Mind, Spirit.

HATS! Hey! Let's wear our hats on September 12, ladies (and gents too) to welcome the new church year!
-- Jeanni Ray, 985-6176

FIRST UU CANOE TRIP You are invited to enjoy the outdoor scenery on a canoe trip planned for Sunday, October 16, 2010 after the 9:15am service. Gather at 10:30 to carpool to Logan, Ohio. We will meet at the Hocking Valley Canoe Livery. We expect to return by 4:00pm. Children are invited with their families. Interested? Check with Chuck Wolfe twolfe53@aol.com or Pat Larson, 268-7670, to sign up. A sign up table will be available in Fellowship Hall after each service, beginning September 12.

FIRST UU'S ADMINISTRATOR POSITION We will have two more listening sessions on September 12 (12:30pm) and 15 (7pm). Please attend one of these even if you think that you have nothing to add because you didn't directly work with the Administrator. Your voice is important.

The outcome of these sessions will be a recommendation for how First UU should proceed regarding the position of Administrator.

-- Kevin O'Neil

SOCIAL JUSTICE

ATHENS COUNTY/APPALACHIA To those who have donated school supplies, thank you. We still need school supplies more. We also need underwear for boys and girls, all sizes. Please remember to bring in food for the Athens County/Appalachia pantry (peanut butter, canned meats, fruits and veggies, also garden produce.

Don't forget to bring in your empty aluminum cans.
-- Jacques Angelino

CARING CORNER

Karen Thimmes invites you to help her celebrate her birthday on Saturday, September 18, 2-9pm. Optional potluck; no gifts. 1085 Trentwood Rd., 43221; 457-0409

A Happy Birthday to **Reverend Eric Meter** whose birthday was Sunday, August 29.

Best wishes to **Kari Gunderson and Ron Oshima** who have moved into their new home in Milwaukee, WI.

A message of joy to **Jeanne Desi and Tom Tucker**. Jeanne's daughter, Cassie Ridenour, and Chris Cook were married by Rev. Eric Meter on August 22 at Jeanne's and Tom's home.

Best wishes to **Don and Pat Pierce** on their move to Florida. We will miss you.

Healing wishes to **Mary Lou MacDonald** with tachycardia. She had a successful procedure to get her heart back into normal rhythm and is doing well at home.

And healing wishes to **Oliver Jones** who was a patient at Riverside Hospital for a week with pneumonia. He is now at home and slowly recovering.

Our caring thoughts are with **Madge George** who underwent surgery Friday and will be recuperating at her mother's home for a few weeks.

Love and support to **Peggy McKee** whose mother has been moved to hospice.

Condolences to **Betsy and Guy Smalley** on the death of Betsy's uncle.

FIRST UU HISTORY

Rev. Clyde Williams was the first called minister to the First Unitarian Church. He served as minister from 1941 to 1943 when he resigned to become a chaplain during WWII. He served with distinction according to the church newsletter of May 27, 1945: "Chaplain Clyde Williams received the Bronze Star Medal award for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy in Belgium, Holland and Germany, November 9, 1944 to March 26, 1945. The citations read as follows: 'During this period, tho [sic] his life was endangered many times while under heavy enemy fire, Chaplain Williams displayed unceasing efforts to promote contentment and spiritual welfare among the men in the battalion to which he was assigned. Especially outstanding has been his remarkable work in the battalion aid station where he has spiritually comforted a countless number of wounded soldiers. The sympathetic counsel, courage, and ability exhibited by Chaplain Williams reflects high credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States.' Headquarters 84th Infantry Division, Office Commanding General Major General A. B. Bolling." -- Linda Thompson, Church Historian



WORDS ON MUSIC

by **Tony McDonald, Music Director**

The Music Program has an exciting season of concerts planned for the upcoming church year. The Music Committee has helped to put together a series that includes the continuation of several popular events from previous years, such as *UUNIVERSE! Concerts*, the *Sing-along* and the *Choirs' Holiday Concert*, plus some interesting new activities.

It all begins in a few weeks, with *A Brass Recital*. Steve Molk, French horn, and Richard Scranton, an excellent local trumpet player who often performs at our church, will join "yours truly" on trombone to play mostly contemporary music for brass. Also performing will be Sarah and Peter Case on violin/viola and cello, and, of course, Nathan Hamm on piano. We will present music by Hindemith, Poulenc, Persichetti, Bernstein, Paquito D'Rivera, H.I.F. Biber, and the world premiere of a trombone sonata that I have been working on, more or less, for 40 years (I take my time!).

Please join us for this and for all the events of the season, as your schedule permits

♪ A Brass Recital: Sunday, September 19, 3:00pm

♪ "Screenless Fantasia," a piano recital by Nathan Hamm: Saturday, October 16, 7:00pm

♪ UUNIVERSE! Chamber music concerts: Sunday, November 7, 2010, 3:00pm (featuring Asian composers)
Sunday, February 6, 2011, 3:00pm (featuring African composers)

♪ Choirs' Holiday Concert: Sunday, December 19, 4:00pm

♪ Beatles Sing-along: Friday, March 25, 2011, 7:30pm

♪ Youth Talent Nite, the Sequel: Saturday, April 23, 2011, 7:30pm

Help Spread the Word:

New Sunday School Groups for Those Who Don't Like Sunday School

No one model of "doing Sunday School" works for everyone. While we will never, as a volunteer organization, be able to meet everyone's needs precisely, we are working to do a better job. The Workshop Explorations for elementary groups are a good example. Some kids love talking and arts and crafts, the basis of traditional Sunday School; others need a lot of moving around. Some love skits and make believe; others science and math. Some like it all; the more variety the better. With different workshop leaders with different skills and interests leading each week, we can meet the needs of most of the children often enough that Sunday School remains an engaging experience.

For some families, however, the whole idea of a Sunday morning spend in separate spaces doing separate activities, doesn't fit their lives. They want their worship and learning to be for the whole family. For these families we have FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL. The families gather in the Worship Center for the beginning of the worship service. Then they meet with other families in Family Sunday School for a learning and worship experience that they share in leading. The experience is designed by the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Larger Fellowship for the use of families who don't have a brick and mortar congregation to attend. At the conclusion the families join Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall and connect with those entering from both the Worship Center and other Sunday School groups.

Please help get the word out to families who are (or could be) UU but who don't attend on Sunday morning because they need to be together as a family. This group meets at the 9:15 service.

Many youth, starting at age 11 or so, have a real need for learning and experiencing in the real world, rather than in an age-segregated classroom. For these we have WALKABOUT. We experimented with this on a more limited basis last year. Now it is in its second year with more structure. With the help of our Walkabout Coordinator, the youth (grades 6-12) choose from several Sunday morning volunteer opportunities; submit three suggestions to the DRE for a mentor; and agree to attend eight worship services per year. The DRE will secure the mentor. Throughout the year the youth meet her/his volunteer obligations; meet regularly at the church with the mentor and attend the worship services. The Walkabout Coordinator will check in from time to time to make sure that the experience is going well; to answer questions about the congregation and to get feedback to improve Walkabout and the work of the congregation. Mentors will also provide context for the volunteer experience and talk about their own spiritual paths.

For this one we need you to not only spread the word to youth who have stopped attending, but also to spread the word to committees and work teams about this amazing new volunteer pool that is opening up. While youth are capable of far more than many adult imagine, they also will need some thoughtful orientation. (For that matter, don't all our volunteers need thoughtful orientation?)

It's the beginning of a great new year. I will be providing orientation at First Friday, September 3, at 7:30 and as a part of the Labor Day Retreat schedule. I hope to see you there.

Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education. Office hours, Monday - Thursday, 1 to 6 and by appointment

We can't plan adequately for your children and youth unless you register them.

The link to the registration page is on the home page for our website www.firstuucolumbus.org, just beneath the slide show on the right. You need to complete at least two forms - one with household information and another for each child or youth. The Youth Form asks only two questions of the parents. The youth complete most of the form. Call the RE Office at ext 28 if you have difficulty with the form.

Sunday School Information

Sunday School Orientation: September 3, 7:30pm

8th Grade OWL Parent Orientation: September 12, 2pm

Teacher Retreat: September 12, 12:30 pm

Worship for All: September 12 at 9:15 and 11

First Day of Sunday School: September 19

Walkabout Orientation: September 19 at 9:30 and 11:15 in A/B

On-line Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/37n4ubo>

Parents' Blog: www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com

We have a spot you'll love in Sunday School !

- Like the outdoors? We have openings in the preschool Wild Experiences at 9:15 or the kindergarten Web of Life at 11 am. Help out twice per month, leading class once.
- Like to be with kids but hate to lead the class or do the prep work? Workshop Exploration Guides at 11 am is the place for you. Each week a new Workshop Leader conducts the class. You're there every week, the anchor that makes the group a community. Enjoy yourself while someone else does all the work.
- Like working with children but can't commit to regular Sunday mornings? Be a Coordinator. PreK/K Justice Sunday Coordinator organizes our connections with animals for the PreK/K groups. The Chalice Lighter Coordinator trains and schedules our worship chalice lighters.

DRE Needs...

Digital Projector for Teacher Retreat, Sunday September 12.

Copy of "When Love Comes To Town," the Kingdom Mix, the 7:30 minute version with Little Richard, as well as B B King and U2. Will be happy to purchase, if you can tell me who might carry it.

Please email Jolinda at dre@firstuucolumbus.org or call ext 28

Jolinda Stephens

jolindast@gmail.com

IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES FOR THE COMING YEAR

Parents' Blog: www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com - Calendar for the coming year has some changes and more to come. .

Sunday School Registration: To the right on the home page - www.firstuucolumbus.org - just below the slide show is the link to the page with the registration forms.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Dr. Seuss and UU is our summer Sunday School program for preschoolers and kindergartners. For 1st to 5th graders, *Keepers of the Earth* engages kids in Native American lore. Contact Deb McGuire in the RE Office (267-4946 x28) or Cindy Dillard (cynthia.dillard6@gmail.com/846-0912) for more info.

ADULT ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

Expressive Collage We have all heard that "a picture can say a thousand words." Come make your own picture soul collage. Express what you feel. Second and fourth Thursdays, 7-9pm

Women's Spirituality We explore, we support, we share our lives, we question what is spirituality. Wednesdays, 8pm.

Men's Spirituality -- These groups explore, in a non-threatening, spiritually sensitive environment, what it means to be a male in the 21st century. Thursdays, 7:30 pm.

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister
Rev. Eric Meter, Associate Minister
Rev. Carol Brody, Minister Emerita
Rev. Wendy Fish, Minister Emerita
Dick Dawson, Chaplain
Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education
Deb McGuire, Staff Secretary/RE Assistant
Tony McDonald, Music Director
Brandon Moss, Chalice Choir Directo
Cheridy Keller, Choir Director
Nathan Hamm, Pianist

Marian Garcia, Office Administrator
Stephanie Rottmayer, SYC Director
Joe Voltolini, Bookkeeper
Don Hippensteel, Events Coordinator
Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant
Cathy Hausmann, Facilities Assistant
Rich Humenick, Chair, Board of Trustees
Brian Hagemann, Interim Administrator
Jessica Winters, Lead Toddler Room Teacher
Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor

I don't know how it is in your part of town, but downtown where I live, the large metal plates that I have to drive over every day are turning my car's ball joints into eggs! I have been amazed by the amount of construction down where I live...roads repaved, new condos going up even in this market. Gay Street is looking more and more like Boston's South End, with elegant brick Brownstone style buildings. Downtown is looking quite different than when I first moved here in 1998. It's taking itself seriously as a place to live.

And the church buildings and grounds around here are themselves looking pretty spiffy for the opening of the year. The floors are so polished that I can see my face in them...spectacular! And the courtyard garden with the statues of Gotama the Buddha and Laozi holding a dragon has never looked better (thanks especially to David and Linda!) Things have been spruced up, branches cut back, and the whole place looks as if it's opening its arms wide. We even think we have the dishwasher fixed once and for all. Still working on that though...

Stay tuned for news about a possible prayer service on 9/11 with Muslims and other religious groups here in Columbus. It would be a good witness in a world where a man in Florida, a Christian pastor no less, intends to burn Qurans publicly soon. Shameful.

Remember the Water Ceremony happens on the Second Sunday in September (September 12). We return to two services on that date: 9:15 and 11. When you see his smiling face, make sure you welcome our new Chalice Choir director, Brandon Moss. A most excellent addition to the staff! Tony McDonald offers news of other music related events coming up soon (page 5). So many good things going on this fall.

The Water Ceremony: remember to send me information via e-mail (marcobell@firstuucolumbus.org) about any water you may have brought back this past year from trips. I will e-mail you back that I have received it. This is to make sure your email didn't end up in the spam, which two already have. You can also put written information in my mailbox. Doesn't make any difference which service you come to...both will be All Ages Celebrations from start to finish, and neither will have a sermon per se. We will take the water out at the end of each service to the Memorial Garden to remember all those who have died this year in our individual lives. It doesn't make any difference if your water came from far away...a vacation...or from close to home. All parts of our lives are important. Maybe you are bringing water back from a family reunion...or even a memorial service for a loved one. Just let me know before midnight on Friday, September 10. It does take time to organize and arrange all the information, so last minute additions won't make it. I'm not that much of a magician.

You'll be hearing a lot about our 70th anniversary. I know you'll love our celebrations this year. Stay tuned. Learn. Rejoice. Be glad. Welcome to the 2010-2011 "church year."

peace in your days....



Rev. Mark Belletini

The Flame Within

I like to live in the sound of water,
in the feel of mountain air. A sharp
reminder hits me: this world still is alive;
it stretches out there shivering toward its own
creation, and I'm part of it. Even my breathing
enters into the elaborate give and take,
this bowing to sun and moon, day or night,
winter, summer, storm, still—this tranquil
chaos that seems to be going somewhere.
This wilderness with a great peacefulness in it.
This motionless turmoil, this everything dance.

William Stafford, 1996