

The  
**DISCOVERER**  
Volume 72, #74, June 22, 2008

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Columbus, Ohio  
Permit 131

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### WORSHIP SERVICES

**June 29, 2008, 10:00 A.M. (one service only)**

**Marge Lynd**

**“What in the World Are We Doing?”**

*A service about the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee*

**July 6, 2008, 10:00 A.M. (one service only)**

**Jack Wisniewski and Freeman Wicklund**

**“Let Your Light Shine”**

*Celebrating and Defending the Earth*

**July 13, 2008, 10:00 A.M. (one service only)**

**Wesley Thompson**

*Social Justice and Spirituality*

► **Getting to Know UU** meets Sunday mornings in Slowter Lounge after the Worship Service.

**Wednesday, June 25, 2008**

1:00p Archives Organizing  
7:00p Memoir Writing Group  
7:00p Board of Trustees  
7:30p Earth Institute Class  
7:30p Men's Spirituality  
8:00p Women's Spirituality

**Thursday, June 26 2008**

9:30a Improvisational Dance  
7:00p Soul Collage

**Friday, June 27 2008**

7:00p "Other Friday" Film Series

**Saturday, June 28, 2008**

8:30a Zen Meditation  
7:30p All Souls Contra Dance

**Sunday, June 29, 2008**

10:00a Worship Service/Sunday School  
11:15a Getting to Know UU  
2:00p PFLAG

**Monday, June 30, 2008**

7:00p UU Social Dance  
7:30p Artists' Way

**Tuesday, July 1, 2008**

10:00a Archives Organizing  
1:00p Cancer Support Groups  
7:00p Social Justice Committee  
7:00p Arts & Space Committee  
7:00p Building Your Own Theology  
7:00p Zen Meditation  
7:30p Worship Committee

**Wednesday, July 2, 2008**

1:00p Archives Organizing  
7:30p Men's Spirituality  
8:00p Women's Spirituality

**Thursday, July 3, 2008**

9:30a Improvisational Dance  
7:30p Writing for Life (open group)

**Friday, July 4, 2008 Building Closed**

*First Friday Potluck/Programs cancelled*

**Saturday, July 5, 2008**

8:30a Zen Meditation  
9:00a UU Food Co-op

**Sunday, July 6, 2008**

10:00a Worship Service/Sunday School  
11:15a Getting to Know UU  
1:30p Bluegrass Jam

**Monday, July 7, 2008**

7:00p Program Council; UU Social Dance  
7:30p Artists' Way

**Tuesday, July 8, 2008**

9:00a Newsletter folding  
10:00a Archives Organizing  
7:00p BYOT; Zen Meditation  
7:30p Men's Spirituality

**Wednesday, July 9, 2008**

1:00p Archives Organizing  
7:00p 10/17 Committee  
7:30p Men's Spirituality  
8:00p Women's Spirituality

*7:30p Thursdays, FOCUS meets in the OSU Campus area. Call 447-8407.*

*FIRST FRIDAY, July 4, 2008 Cancelled due to the holiday. The next First Friday Potluck and Programs is scheduled for August 1, 2008.*

The next issue of *The Discoverer*: **Sunday, July 6. Deadline: 12:00pm** – hard copy in the yellow folder in the church office; or **6:00pm** – e-mail to [olwfire@yahoo.com](mailto:olwfire@yahoo.com). If possible, please include your article in the body of your e-mail rather than as an attachment.-- Olwen Firestone, Editor

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND RETREAT**

Camp Oty' Okwa in the Hocking Hills  
*Saturday. August 30 through Monday morning, September 1.* A great inter-generational all church experience! Register on the First UU website or using the form in the May 11, 2008 Discoverer.

**FAMILY CAMPING** at East Harbor State Park on Lake Erie, July 25-27. Optional ferry excursion to Put-In-Bay on South Bass Island, Friday, July 25. Other activities could include visiting the beach and Marblehead lighthouse.

Contact Catherine Saveson,  
[cath@windfish.net](mailto:cath@windfish.net) or 614-843-9505.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **SUMMER CHOIRS**

The Choir schedules are as follows:

- 1) Summer Choir: **July 13, July 20 and August 24** (rehearsals begin at 9 AM on each of those dates)
- 2) Intergenerational Choir: **August 3 and August 10** (rehearsal dates will be announced)

Questions about the Summer Choir can be directed to Doug, rdohio@gmail.com, or to Tony McDonald, tonym@firstuucolumbus.org, for the Intergenerational Choir.

**CHANGE OUR NAME?** At the Annual Meeting on June 8, the congregation passed a resolution directing the Board of Trustees to facilitate a conversation about changing the name of our church. There will be various opportunities to discuss this possibility, including our Mission/Vision weekend, October 24-26, the annual Fellowship Dinner, and so forth. The Board will name an ad hoc committee to coordinate these conversations.

Some of our members consider the word “church” too Christian and are looking for a more inclusive name, while others may have negative reactions because of past histories with other churches. Across the country, there are Unitarian Universalist congregations who use the words Congregation, Society, and Fellowship in their names. So, for example, we could become the “First Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbus,” or the “Spirit of Life Unitarian Universalist Society,” or we could choose to keep the name we have now. Think about it!

**REIMBURSEMENTS** As we approach the end of our fiscal year, please remember that all receipts for reimbursement for purchases during FY08 (July 1, '07 – June 30, '08) must be submitted to the bookkeeper with a completed signed voucher (vouchers can be

found in the Volunteer Workroom, next to the office) no later than July 1, 2008, if you want to be reimbursed. Yours in service,  
Debra Gray Boyd, Treasurer

### **WOMEN’S SPIRITUALITY**

June 25: *Let’s Talk* with Jeanni Ray and all;  
July 2: *Birthdays, Poetry Sharing, Let’s Celebrate*

### **ALL SOLES CONTRA DANCE**

**Saturday, June 28, 8:00-10:30 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. The ever-popular Ann Arbor band, Scalar Scalawags, will provide a blend of Celtic, Eastern European, percussion-driven contra tunes, to the calling of rising-star Josh Moses of Cincinnati. Beginners are always warmly welcomed, with **a teaching session at 7:30pm**. All dances are walked-through and called. Partners change frequently; come alone or with friends. Children who are able and interested may participate in the dancing, but childcare is also provided in a separate room. Cost \$7 for adults, \$4 for those under age 25. After-party following the dance at Dianne Ferguson's home. Website: [firstuucolumbus.org/AllSoles](http://firstuucolumbus.org/AllSoles) or call Kate Power at 789-0652.

**PARADISE DISCUSSION** Have you read “This Present Paradise” in the Summer 2008 issue of the UU World, pages 27-32? We’ll discuss this article which presents the idea that Paradise not Crucifixion was Christianity’s first emphasis - on Sunday, July 20, after the worship service. (Adult Enrichment Program)

### **OTHER FRIDAY FILM SERIES**

*Dr. Strangelove* June 27, at 7:00pm in Room 8. Everyone welcome.

**AVAILABLE** Copies of *Thank Goodness for Evolution* with Rev. Michael Dowd and Scientist Connie Barlow have been purchased for continued AEP study. Do you want summer classes or to wait until fall? Do you prefer Sundays at 1:00pm, Mondays at 7:00pm or Saturdays at 11:00am – 1 ½ hour sessions? Please leave only your preferences, name, and phone number at 433-0363. (Soon!) Thanks.

**PLAN AHEAD!** Attention all committee chairs and group leaders: Reserve space while it's still available! Because our building is very busy, with many inside and outside rentals, you are encouraged to plan ahead and make reservations **now** for your group's meetings and events *for the next three years*. Call Marian Garcia, in the church office, 267-4946, ext. 21, or [marian@firstuucolumbus.org](mailto:marian@firstuucolumbus.org).

**THE WENDY SHOW!** I worked with Nina Lewis to put together the slideshow for Wendy which was shown at her May 10 farewell event. Many didn't get a chance to see it then, but would like to view it. So, I made 20 copies on CDs. They are available in the church office *for free, first-come, first-served*. – Gary Allread

**BOOKSTORE SUMMER SCHEDULE**  
Open alternate Sundays during the summer months: **June 29; July 13 and 27; August 10 and 24**. Normal weekly schedule returns Sunday, **September 7**.

**BOOK BITES** We will meet **July 15** in Slower Lounge, **7 to 9 pm**. New topic: A book about a place you have vacationed, or dream about visiting. Questions: Kathleen Boston, 262-4025.

**LOCKED or UNLOCKED?** We keep the East entrance (Panera side) to our facility locked during week days to ensure the safety of our SYC children. We also keep it locked for the safety of our Summer Camp and Peace Camp children during June, July and August. By having the east entrance locked and the West (main) entrance opened we can better monitor the people who come and go..

We unlock the East entrance at **5pm daily** to allow for more easy access to evening events in our Church. If you are holding an event during the day-time and think some of your attendees may want to access the church through the East entrance please consider posting someone at the East entrance that can open and close the door for them. Again, the East entrance should remain locked for the safety of our children, staff and facility.

Both entrances are open on Sunday mornings for your convenience.  
-- Michael Brennan, Church Administrator

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### ***SOCIAL JUSTICE***

**GAY PRIDE PARADE** Saturday afternoon, June 28. Line up is around noon at **Goodale Park**, and the parade begins marching at 1:00 pm. Details about where to meet in Goodale Park will be forthcoming. Many may want to carpool from the church. For more info and if you would be able to drive participants from the church, call Judy Fettman at 769-2729.

**MINERAL AREA PROJECT** Children's books are needed. Since school is out for the summer, the children are coming to the food pantry with their parents. I have been giving them the books that I have – but I am running out! They love getting those books. And the parents are very thankful. Free books for the summer – what a treat! (And don't forget the families need food too. Peanut butter and canned meats and vegetables and fruits are much appreciated).

Great news! Someone gave an anonymous \$50 gift certificate for a worthwhile project in the Mineral area. The certificate is to an Athens garden supply store. The young man who received the certificate is going to use the supplies to build a greenhouse and start his own business, growing organic vegetables to sell locally. Anyone else interested in helping him get started with this project, please stop by the Social Justice Table on Sunday morning – Jacques

**HEIFER INTERNATIONAL** Don't forget if your children are celebrating a birthday this summer, a Heifer birthday party is a good way to show the children how to be good citizens of the Earth. If you need a gift that helps the poor and keeps on giving, come to the Social Justice Table on Sunday.

**NEW COMPOST CADDY** for the Kitchen! if you see a square, slim green bucket, with a filter in the lid, back near the dishwashing area, it's the place for all your vegetable, fruit and plant scraps, including coffee grounds and tea bags, even some paper napkins. And if it looks pretty full, please take a turn at emptying it (and rinsing it out) into the big black **compost bin** out behind the garden shed. We'll soon have some good rich humus to add to our church gardens . . . .

### **CARING CORNER**

Congratulations to: **Nancy and Len Powlick** on their 50th wedding anniversary; **Carol and Paul Brody**, who celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary June 17; **Carole Pruiksmas**, and also **Sue Pasqual**, who both recently retired after 30 years with public school libraries.

Happy Birthday to: **Rev. Mark Belletini**, who celebrated his birthday; June 16.

We wish a speedy recovery to: **Jan Robinson-Gildehaus**, who is at home following minor surgery; **Denni Hale**, who

recently broke her left foot; **Lisa Fleisher**, Judy Kleen's mother, who is in rehab after breaking her hip; and **Beth Peterson's** father, who had recent quadruple bypass surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.

We send our sympathy to **Karen Thimmes** whose mother died last week and to the family of **Louise Hastings**, longtime church member, who died this past weekend.

The **Grief and Loss support group** (that meets the second and fourth Monday of the month) will not be meeting over the summer

**Hello Friends:** We are doing well in Southern California. Our new address is: Bill and Pat Bentz  
1902 Wellington Lane Apt 189  
Vista, CA 92081-7967  
Our new phone # is 760-536-9385

**Thanks** On May 24, family and friends gathered to celebrate the life of Ruth Gordon, mother of Bob Gordon. We thank Laura Adams, David and Susan Carr, Judy Field, Olwen Firestone, Donna Green, Sherri Osbeck, Jim Pinchak and Karen Torvik and others for their help in making this a memorable occasion for the Gordon family. -- Jo-E. Miller and Carole Wilhelm, Memorial Service Coordinators.

### **OMD Summer Institute**

July 13-19, 2008  
Kenyon College, Gambier, OH

The Theme Speaker will be Meg Barnhouse, speaker, singer/songwriter and humorist. Meg is a commentator for NC Public Radio on a segment called "Radio Free Bubba." She has also been heard on National Public Radio's "Weekend All Things Considered."

Brochures available in the office.

QUESTIONS?? email to SI Chair for 2008, Dave Murray, dmurray08@gmail.com.

## **From the Board Chair...**

*As I finish my time as Chair of your Board, I want those who could not attend the Annual Meeting to read my remarks as a kind of thank you to this great congregation for the opportunity to serve you in this capacity. The following is the text of my remarks at the Annual Meeting on June 8, 2008. With much gratitude. -- Chas Williams*

“Good afternoon. Most of what I want to say is already in the Board Report in your Annual Reports, so I will not repeat most of that information. But please look at that report. It shows you just how amazing this year has been, and how much we’ve done together in our beloved community. In the short time I have, I want to look forward briefly to what I see happening next year.

First, I want to point out a very important event which has been little noted, but which will impact the life of this church for years to come. We refinanced our two mortgages, into one mortgage, on very advantageous terms. That will save us almost \$10,000.00 per year in our mortgage payments. This sounds simple, but it was a difficult and complex task in this lending environment. Thanks should go to our treasurer, Deb Boyd and all who worked so hard on the Refinancing Committee.

Secondly, for the first time since I can remember, starting the new church year, every major committee of this church has its leadership in place. In addition, Board leadership for the next two years has been determined. And so we are ready to embark on some very exciting adventures, and hopefully we will not be spending time recruiting committee chairs or Board leadership.

We know that we will be welcoming Eric Meter as our new consulting minister and Jolinda Stephens as our new settled DRE as we say goodbye to Rev. Wendy Fish and Caroline Balderston Parry. I hope each of us will welcome our new staff members with all the warmth, grace and enthusiasm that we can summon, as they weave their lives and gifts into our community.

For me, the most exciting news is that on October 25 and 26, 2008, Stefan Jonasson, Large Church Consultant with the UUA, will be with us to take us through a long overdue Mission and Vision process. Mark that weekend on your planners NOW. Please be here. Let’s find out together where we are going in this world and why.

For our challenges, we must continue our education in racism and diversity to become truly welcoming. And, we must continue to strive to become a full Fair Share contributor to the UUA. This is a justice issue and a budgetary issue, and represents one of the thorniest problems we face.

Budgetarily, we are continually challenged. We are looking at almost a \$25K “holiday appeal” this coming year. It is my wish that we will not need a “holiday appeal,” and that very soon we will learn to deepen our sense of abundance and generosity. But for now, we will be asked to reach deeper as we give and receive more from our beloved community. I know we will solve this problem, so let’s keep working on it.

On a personal note, as I step down as your Board Chair, I want to say how grateful I am to have served you in this capacity. I could not have done it without your support and without the support of our staff, ministers, and your excellent Board members.

This year has been transformative for me. I have changed for the better and deepened my faith as a UU. I actually have more hair on my head now than when I started. That’s a fact. Some would attribute that to certain medications, but I don’t think so.

Leadership in this church is transformative. It takes you out of your safe zone, time and again, and with the help of all our good friends, it makes you better. So, I recommend leadership to you. Think about getting more involved in leadership. When you are asked to volunteer, say “yes,” come to our leadership training workshops. Find out what this leadership stuff is all about. It’s good for you. It’s good for us. Thanks.”

*During part of the summer our Senior Minister, Rev. Mark Belletini, is not in the pulpit and our worship services are lay led. From Memorial Day to Labor Day there is one service – at 10:00 a.m. This summer, members of our Social Justice Committee will share their commitment.*

## **Summer Services 2008**

6-29-08	“What in the World Are We Doing?” <i>The work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee</i>	Marge Lynd
7-6-08	“Let Your Light <u>Shine</u> ” <i>Celebrating and Defending the Earth</i>	Jack Wisniewski/Freeman Wicklund
7-13-08	Social Justice & Spirituality <i>Summer Choir sings</i>	Wesley Thompson
7-20-08	B.R.E.A.D. <i>Summer Choir sings</i>	Alice Rathburn
7-27-08	Health Care/R.E.S.U.L.T.S.	Ginnie Vogts
8-3-08	Reproductive Choice <i>Intergenerational Choir sings</i>	Jane Larson and Barb Avery
8-10-08	Poverty Near and Far <i>Intergenerational Choir sings</i>	Jacques Angelino
8-17-08	Humanist Service	Earl Wurdlow
8-24-08	Rev. Belletini returns to the pulpit. <i>Summer Choir sings</i>	

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Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister

Rev. Carol Brody, Minister Emerita  
 Caroline Balderston Parry, Interim Dir. of Religious Education  
 Lori Jones, RE Assistant  
 Stephanie Rottmayer, SYC Director  
 Tony McDonald, Music Director  
 Doug O’Neal/Elizabeth Woodhouse, Choir Directors  
 Nathan Hamm, Pianist/Accompanist  
 Chas Williams, Chair, Board of Trustees

Michael Brennan, Church Administrator  
 Marian Garcia, Administrative Assistant  
 Joe Voltolini, Bookkeeper  
 Deb McGuire, Staff Secretary  
 Don Hippensteel, Events Coordinator  
 Naoko Kobayashi, Facilities Assistant  
 Cathy Hausmann, Custodial Assistant  
 Bob Graffagnino, Co-Webmaster  
 Kevin O’Neil, Co-Webmaster  
 Olwen Firestone, Newsletter Editor

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## TEACHER SIGN-UPS –YOU ARE ALL NEEDED!

Many thanks to all those who are continuing to volunteer in our vital Religious Education (RE) world, specifically with the Sunday School (SS). Thanks especially to those who have already signed up for a first round of teaching or helping other aspects of RE programming to happen in the fall. Remember that, although we do have paid RE staff, the success of the whole program is absolutely dependent on *volunteer help*. The good news is that many of our committees are looking fairly well covered for leadership – as are our classes for youth --Our Whole Lives, or OWL, Coming of Age and Senior Hi Covenant Group. Hurrah!

The number of teachers for our younger SS grades, however, is looking pretty thin. At this time last year, I reported in *The Discoverer* that almost all the opportunities to teach Sunday School, at both services, were already filled - but NOT this year! There is barely a month left before I depart for home, and we still need lots of volunteers - both seasoned and newcomers! We encourage **non-parents** to sign up, not only because they can give our always-hands-full parents a break, but also because we want our UU children to experience the full diversity of this beloved community – elders, college students, single people who have chosen not to parent – in short, EVERYONE! Got questions? Please call the RE Office to discuss your interests.

As of June 22, here are our needs:

**9 am – three classes** will need **three teams of four** teachers (total 12) early risers interested in more fluid age groupings – so far, we have **only five volunteers**.

**11 am Toddler/2/3s** need a team of four to work WITH the paid sitters – we have one veteran, Nancy Powlick (hats off to her!) and one likely new volunteer – **need two more**.

**11 am Fellowship for Ages 4/5** has two teachers, **needs at least two more** –remember, this group is going to have a big focus on hospitality for new families.

**11 am Web of Life class for Ages 4/5** has two teachers, **needs two more**

**11 am Grade 1 class** has one, **needs three more teachers**

**11 am Grade 2 class** has one, **needs three more teachers**

**11 am Grade 3 class** has two, **needs two more teachers**

**11 am Grades 4/5 class** has two, **needs two more teachers**

For details of the curricula being taught in these different classes, please see the new brochures on the website or the big sign-up charts in Area A/B, aka the Sunday School Information Area.

And the **SS Info Area** has a returning veteran leader of that new-last-year team, Candee Rothert, but no other volunteers to date –we need a group of **at least 4 people**, each willing to serve once a month for the whole morning.

Then the **All Ages Sundays team** has two new volunteers who will work with the new DRE –but they could use **at least two more** to plan and help provide programming for the ten Sundays per year when regular Sunday School classes do not meet.

So dear UU friends, now is the time to volunteer and help us staff our wonderful RE programs. When registration ended this spring, we had 208 children and youth enrolled. They/we need YOU! Be the first team members to work with Jolinda Stephens, our new Director of Religious Education (DRE)!

-- Caroline Balderston Parry, Interim DRE



## RElations

Caroline Balderston Parry  
Interim Director of Religious Education  
caroline@FirstuuColumbus.org  
614-267-4946 ext. 28

**DISCUSSION GROUPS** based on *WHY ARE ALL THE BLACK KIDS SITTING TOGETHER IN THE CAFETERIA?* This is the book Mark Belletini recommended and which Adult Enrichment Program (AEP) Committee has been promoting. Over 30 copies of the book have been sold (more are on order), and a good number of people have signed up to join some sort of group. To date, three different groups are being offered:

1. (definite) **A summer group on Monday nights, 7-9 pm, starting 7/14, and running 7/21 and 8/4** (could go to 8/11 & 8/18 if there's sufficient interest). Susan Williams will lead it, using a covenant group kind of deep listening process, with no real cross-discussion.
2. (provisional) **A summer group that only meets once, on a Tuesday or Thursday night in late July or into August, depending on response** to this option. Myrna Paris will facilitate this group, with a general discussion format. This one-time group might decide to meet further. Let the RE Office know your choice of specific dates, ASAP, and if there are enough people (minimum four), there will be a group.
3. (definite) Ray and Lauri Nandyal will be leading **a fall group that meets Sundays after the 11am service**, for five sessions on **9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/19 and 11/2**. The format will be facilitated discussion over potluck or sack lunch; details TBA.

**Anyone may still sign up for any of these options, or propose another one!** Please use the AEP registration forms or contact the R.E. Office.

**A MUST-SEE FILM** *Please join us on Saturday afternoon, July 19, 2:00pm for a screening and discussion of "Iron Jawed Angels," sponsored by the Adult Enrichment Program (we'll provide feminist popcorn and lemonade). This review was written by Jane Larson:*

**ATTENTION: GIRLS & WOMEN OF ALL AGES**  
(and boys and men of all ages who know and love them!)

I just saw a fantastic film I want to share with all of you. "*Iron Jawed Angels*," originally produced for HBO, is a graphic depiction of the battle that our foremothers waged, the true story of how young, defiant female activists took the suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote. The "Night of Terror" occurred in 1917, when the warden at the workhouse in Virginia ordered his guard to teach a lesson to the 33 women imprisoned there, wrongly convicted of obstructing sidewalk traffic, because they dared to picket the White House. Affidavits describe the guards grabbing, dragging, beating, choking, slamming, pinching, twisting and kicking the women. When one of the leaders, Alice Paul, embarked on a hunger strike, they tied her to a chair, forced a tube down her throat and poured liquid food into her until she vomited. She was tortured like this for weeks until word was smuggled out to the press. Did your history books in school contain information about this?

Black men were given the right to vote after they were freed from slavery with the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1870. But women were told to stay home and take care of the children while their men took care of the political matters. Women couldn't serve on juries -- only voters were picked for that. Therefore, if a woman had to go on trial for a crime she did or did not commit, she wasn't tried by her real peers, only by men (mostly white, because the white men in power were still making it difficult for black men to vote).

When I was growing up, I never learned anything about this Suffrage (meaning ‘the right to vote’) Movement. When I was a teacher and my girls were growing up, there still was not much taught about this. I hope that when my grandsons are studying American history, their books and teachers will help them learn what some very brave women had to go through in order to finally get the right to vote in 1920 with the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

I found it jarring to watch President Woodrow Wilson and his cronies in this film try to persuade a psychiatrist to declare Alice Paul insane, so that she could be permanently institutionalized. And I was inspired watching the doctor refuse to do so, and then admonish the men. He said that Alice Paul was strong and brave, but that did not make her crazy. Courage in women was (and probably still is by some) often mistaken for insanity. ***Grandparents, mothers, daughters, men and boys –we hope everyone will come to be better informed — and inspired! Then stay for the discussion afterwards, and share your thoughts with other UUs (and your friends are welcome, too)!***

### **UPDATE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (RE)**

**New RE brochures are out and on line** – We hope you find them helpful as you look ahead to the fall. There’s a terrific new chart in the red “Religious Education for Children 2008-2009” flyer to help explain the options at both services (three classes at 9am in the fall, plus OWL in the midwinter term between the 9 and 11am regular classes). **Note the new fall arrangements** (thanks to inspired thinking by your Sunday School Committee!!) **for three and four year olds** –we will no longer have a “pre-school” classroom per se, but four slight improvements on our previous group structures, to help with welcoming visitors and minimizing overcrowded classrooms.

1. Toddlers through three year olds will gather in Room 1 with the paid sitter and a regular volunteer teacher team. This will be called the ***Toddlers-2s-3s group***.
2. Four year olds at 11 am can choose between a more informal, open drop-in group, to be called the ***Fellowship for Ages 4 and 5***, and a more structured class using the ***Web of Life*** curriculum, where we will be encouraging regular attendance.
3. Five year olds at 11 am can make the same choice: the ***Fellowship Group*** or ***Web of Life***.
4. We hope **new families will get to know us better** by
  - a) listening to the service in the Worship Center together, in Slowter Lounge or the glassed-in Family Room
  - b) visiting the Fellowship – also as (one) parent and child together, initially
  - c) attending a “Getting to Know UU” session in Slowter Lounge after either service, for which child care can be provided if needed.

These shifts mean some changes in teacher recruitment, too – if you would like to help with welcoming new families and to hang out with, more than teach specific curricula to, our younger folks, please consider signing up for the **new Ts-2s-3s team** (based in Rm 1) or the **new “Fellowship for Ages 4 and 5” (in Rms 3&4)** – this will be for 38 weeks, so that we have continuity AND options for these little people, even on All Ages Sundays.

We are also changing our plans for the Gr. 6-7-8 class which has been using the ***Neighboring Faiths*** curriculum for the last two years. Our incoming DRE Jolinda Stephens will help a new team of teachers with the UUA curriculum called "Race to Justice: A Racial Justice and Diversity Program for Junior High." (See details of this and other new curricula in previous Discoverer for May 11, Volume 72, # 71)

Blessings,

