

The  
**DISCOVERER**  
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### WORSHIP SERVICES

**September 21, 2008 – 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Eric Meter**

**“Religious Truth and Responsible Speech: A Morality Tale”**

*Social Justice Offering*

**September 28, 2008 – 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Mark Belletini**

**“Humility as an Open Door”**

**October 5, 2008 – 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.**

**Rev. Mark Belletini**

**“ Leftovers”**

*The first in a series on Forgiveness/Reconciliation*

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

*This issue was delayed due to the Windstorm of Sunday September 14, 2008. More on page 6.*

**Wednesday, September 17, 2008**

1:00p Archives Organizing  
 7:00p Membership Committee; UFETA Film  
 7:30p Men's Spirituality  
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

**Thursday, September 18, 2008**

9:30a Improvisational Dance  
 6:00p Communications Committee  
 6:30p "Thank God for Evolution" class  
 7:30p Chalice (11:00 A.M.) Choir

**Friday, September 19, 2008**

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission

**Saturday, September 20, 2008**

8:30a Zen Meditation  
 10:00a Covenant Group Steering Team  
 7:00p Turning of the Earth Wheel  
 7:00p Hymn Sing Along

**Sunday, September 21, 2008**

9:00a Worship Service/Sunday School  
 10:15a Getting to Know UU  
 11:00a Worship Service/Sunday School  
 12:15p Getting to Know UU  
 12:30p Youth Group  
 12:45p Book Discussion

1:00p OWL Sr. High Parents

**Monday, September 22, 2008**

11:00a UU Handcrafts and Book Society  
 7:00p UU Social Dance; Grief and Loss  
 7:30p Music Department

**Tuesday, September 23, 2008**

10:00a Archives Organizing  
 11:00a Seniors Gathering  
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups  
 5:30p Tuesday Night Supper (until 7pm)  
 6:15p Peace Pals Choir  
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir; Zen Meditation  
 7:00p Being an Atheist or Agnostic  
 7:00p Women's Sharing Circle  
 7:00p New Covenant Group Facilitators  
 7:30p Men's Spirituality  
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

**Wednesday, September 24, 2008**

1:00p Archives Organizing  
 7:00p Memoir Writing Group  
 7:00p Board of Trustees  
 7:30p Men's Spirituality; Integral Yoga  
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

**Thursday, September 25, 2008**

9:30a Improvisational Dance  
 6:30p "Thank God for Evolution"  
 7:00p Soul Collage  
 7:30p Chalice Choir

**Friday, September 26, 2008**

7:00p Other Friday Film Series  
 7:30p All Souls Contra Dance

**Saturday, September 27, 2008**

8:30a Zen Meditation  
 9:30a Covenant Group Fireside Chat  
 11:00a SPAN  
 6:30p Fellowship Dinner

**Sunday, September 28, 2008**

9:00a Worship Service/Sunday School  
 10:15a Getting to Know UU  
 11:00a Worship Service/Sunday School  
 12:15p Getting to Know UU  
 12:45p Book Discussion  
 1:00p UU Artists; Classroom Control  
 2:00p PFLAG  
 6:00p Bridge Club

**Monday, September 29, 2008**

11:00a UU Handcrafts/Book Society  
 7:00p UU Social Dance;

**Tuesday, September 30, 2008**

9:00a Newsletter folding  
 10:00a Archives Organizing  
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups  
 5:30p Tuesday Night Supper (until 7pm)  
 6:15p Peace Pals Choir  
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir  
 7:00p Zen Meditation; RE Council  
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

**Wednesday, October 1, 2008**

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

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

The next issue of *The Discoverer*: **Sunday, September 28. Deadline: 1:00pm** – hard copy in the yellow folder in the church office; or **6:00pm** – e-mail copy to [olwfire@yahoo.com](mailto:olwfire@yahoo.com).

## LINKS

As the Coming of Age program begins another great year, I can't help but think back a few years to when I spoke with a man who was asked to be a mentor for a friend's son, David, as he entered his teenage years. David's parents, knowing that he would need guidance from other responsible adults, reached out to Ken and a few others to provide something similar to the mentoring that is a key component of our Coming of Age program.

Think back for a moment. If you were anything like me, you were able to hear things from teachers or other older family members that you would never have taken to heart if your parents talked about them.

It was clear to me that both David and Ken were among the lucky ones. David was lucky because he had a wealth of adults interested in his development and welfare. Ken was lucky because he had a great kid in his life.

After the orientation for the Coming of Age program I caught myself thinking about David again. You see, a few years ago David caught the political bug. He was the youngest delegate at the Democratic National Convention last month. He was even on the Tavis Smiley show. Addressing adults or youth, David has become a passionate and skilled speaker, and he's only 17.

I can only guess what the future holds for him. As I sit with our youth, whom I'm just beginning to get to know, I have even less sense of the adults they will become. What I do know is that they are also the lucky ones, because they have a mighty and loving congregation backing them.

The rest of us are among the lucky ones as well. These are awesome youth. They're going to dazzle us, too, just you wait and see.

In peace,



Rev. Eric Meter

## CHURCH NEWS

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *Illuminati* will provide the music at the 11:00 A.M. service on Sunday, September 28. Created in response to community requests for performances of a sacred or spiritual nature, *Illuminati* is a subgroup of the **Columbus Gay Men's Chorus**. This ensemble of about 25 voices performs in area churches as an outreach function of the full chorus, which has about 90 singers. The group, including First UU member Bob Gordon, and accompanied by First UU pianist Nathan Hamm, will sing four pieces.

**OTHER MUSIC NEWS** 🎵 The next *Sing-along* will be on Saturday, **September 20, 7:00pm** in the Worship Center. We will sing selections from our hymnal, familiar and otherwise. Rev. Mark Belletini will be on hand to bring history and insight to the hymns. Come and join us – no musical experience necessary.

**NEW GROUP** The UU Handcrafts and Book Society will meet Mondays at 11:00am in Slowter Lounge, starting **September 15**. We'll knit, spin, scrapbook, crochet, draw, sew etc – and discuss books. Bring your project along; we'll choose a book at the first meeting to get us started. We'll also discuss handcrafting for public service. Please bring a lunch for yourself. Contact Stephanie Mesler-Evans at 614-622-7081, or meslerevans@gmail.com.

**ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS** We're back to help our Coming of Age group through the sale of Entertainment Books. \$20 each with \$4.00 going to the Coming of Age group. These books have 50% off coupons and other value savings for places and events: Columbus area restaurants, dry cleaners, BalletMet, Wexner Center etc. Available in Fellowship Hall on Sundays, or call Karin Erickson, 833-6479.

**TUESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS** If you find that you're rushing to get yourself, the kids or your carpool gang to First UU on Tuesday nights, and don't have the time or energy to get dinner on the table, please consider joining us at church for a **Community Supper**, open to all. It's **5:30pm-7:00pm** every Tuesday night that Children's Choir Rehearsal is scheduled from now until **December 2, 2008**. I prepare wholesome, kid-oriented meals from scratch, using fresh, all natural ingredients. There is always a vegetarian and non-vegetarian option. Cost for the supper is **\$6 for Adults and \$4 for Children** (12 yrs old and under). 10% of all proceeds go back to First UU Church. Please **contact Adrienne Novak to make a reservation by 2pm the Monday before**. Email [anovak@iglide.net](mailto:anovak@iglide.net) or leave a **voice mail (preferred) at 614-570-0041**. Food shopping is done on Monday and your RSVP is important to ensure the correct quantity of food is purchased! Menus will be posted in the kitchen. Hope to share a meal with you soon! -Adrienne

**FELLOWSHIP DINNER** *Saturday, September 27* starting at **6:30pm** in the Worship Center . Potluck dinner; please bring your favorite dish to share (FYI: no electric available). Drinks will be provided. The program will include an exploration of our church's name and its relationship to our vision/mission.

Volunteers are also needed to make this event a success. If you would like to assist with set-up that Saturday at 3:00 PM or tear down after the dinner, please sign up in Fellowship Hall after services or contact one of the co-chairs. Childcare and transportation will also be available--register for them after services also (or contact us).  
-- Margaret Haldeman, 326.2695, ([mthaldeman@yahoo.com](mailto:mthaldeman@yahoo.com);) and Becky Wolff, 326.3936, ([fizzbangoh@gmail.com](mailto:fizzbangoh@gmail.com);) )

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CHURCH NAME** has put a background paper on the church's web site (click on "Consideration of Church Name"). This document includes the Committee's Vision and Mission Statements and its intentions about the process it will go through to assist the congregation in considering this issue.

**SPIRIT OF LIFE, SPIRIT OF LOVE** – a program to celebrate the tenth anniversary of Rev. Mark Belletini as our Senior Minister. On **Friday, October 17, starting at 7:00pm**, we will have an evening of toasts, music, and fellowship. Please join us. There will be a reception in Fellowship Hall following the program. Please call the church office (267-4946) if you need child care.

**\*\* You can be a part of celebrating Mark. Please stop by the Celebration Table, near the Caring Table, on September 28 or October 5 or 12.**

**OTHER FRIDAY FILM SERIES** This year's theme is "Race and Racism in American Film" and the first offering on **September 26** is a showing of Steven Spielberg's "Amistad." **7:00 pm** in Room 8.

**INTERWEAVE** At the October 3 First Friday, Interweave will meet in Room 8 for an open discussion. Interweave provides activities for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered members and friends of First UU. Please join the First Friday community for the potluck dinner at 6:30pm and/or participate in the Interweave meeting starting at 7:30pm. See you there!

**BOOKBITES** *October 21, 7-9 pm* in Slowter lounge. Topic: a book about a political candidate or campaign. In addition, bring a short essay about "What I learned during the great wind storm of 2008" to read at the meeting! – Kathleen Boston

**COFFEE HOUR HELP** We still need people to help with the 9:00 am (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5th Sundays) and 11:00am (5th Sundays). About eight more people are needed. We usually have two people per service, and we only ask that you sign-up for once a month. It is a great way to meet people and to get involved with the church with very little external time commitment. If you are interested in learning more, please call Charlie Haldeman at 326-2695, or e-mail him at haldeman.5@osu.edu. We really need the help so please step forward and be part of the solution. Thanks.

**DIRECTORIES** First UU directories are available in the front office (on the printer stand to the right of the door to the Senior Minister's office) for church Members and Friends only. The directory is reprinted approximately every two months. You may pick one up during office hours, Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm, or Sunday after the services. -- Marian Garcia

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### ***SOCIAL JUSTICE***

**CRC LUNCH** In 2002 the Community Resource Center called neighborhood churches asking for help in providing food and serving at the monthly brunches for local senior citizens. Since then, First UU Church has regularly assisted CRC on the second Thursday of October. Expenses for this event are covered by the Social Justice Committee. This year the brunch will be held on **October 9 from 10 – 2** at the North Broadway Methodist Church. Needed are donations of finger food desserts, casseroles and salads and volunteers for setting up and serving. Please call Jo-E. Miller at 846-6617 or email jo-emiller@columbus.rr.com.



**Listening Process:** The BREAD organization of 50+ central Ohio interfaith congregations works to make systemic change to improve the quality of life of those among us who have little or no voice. In its twelve years, BREAD has taken successful action on numerous community issues related to health care, affordable housing, transportation, crime, jobs, and education, and is currently working on health care, poverty, and early childhood education issues. Each year BREAD's member congregations conduct a listening process to surface the problems of greatest concern in our community. This year's listening process will begin with house meetings in October and end with a vote at the Annual Assembly on **Monday, November 24** to select the next problem for BREAD to study and act on. Please contact Alice Rathburn, 895-2109, or e-mail [alice37@insight.rr.com](mailto:alice37@insight.rr.com) if you can host one of the BREAD house meetings, or just want to participate in one to add your thoughts to the process.

**Support Drive:** Many thanks to Denise Deschenes and Helene Roussi, Marge Lynd, Josette and Dick Bodonyi, Linda Halleran, and Susan and Fred Vierow who have now brought First UU members' investments to \$10,885. But BREAD also needs you to help further its social justice work with your financial support. Although we have surpassed First UU's commitment to BREAD of \$10,000, we have not yet reached our \$12,000 goal. Please make out a generous, tax-deductible check to BREAD (not First UU) and mail/bring it to the church in an envelope marked BREAD. For further information, please contact Alice Rathburn or access the BREAD website, <http://www.breadcolumbus.org/>

**ATHENS COUNTY/APPALACHIA MINISTRY** On September 8, the Feed My Sheep Pantry served food boxes to 86 clients, up from the 73 boxes served in the entire month of August 2004 when we first helped. The food bank in Logan which services the ten counties in Southeast Ohio has not had food to order in a month. Many of the pantries are out of food. Our contributions are critical to our ministry in Athens County. Please bring food or a donation to buy a bag of groceries to the Social Justice Table on Sunday. Thanks.– Jacques Angelino

**YWCA FAMILY CENTER** 4th Friday Taco Dinner Many many thanks to Holly Borghese, Barbie and Megan Luna, Angela, Annie and Melanie Terez, Jan Voelker, plus Candyce Walchesky for devoting their Friday night to providing dinner to the homeless families at the YWCA Family Center. I am especially grateful to them because I became ill at the last minute and was unable to help out at all. They are all real troopers! I would like to give an extra thank you to Candyce for doing all the shopping for the dinner this past summer. She allowed me to work out scheduling issues with my own family.

If you see any of these women around church, please congratulate them on a job well done.

Very gratefully yours, Cathy McCutcheon

**MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM**  
**Monday, October 27** at First UU Church  
**Reception at 6:30pm; Program at 7:00pm.**  
Presented by the Franklin County Consortium for Good Government, FirstUU Church, and Congregation Beth Tikvah. Details to follow.

**\*\*FROM REV. MARK BELLETINI:**

The Windstorm left our church home... offices, schools, machinery, lights... powerless for four full days. It affected most

homes of the people of the congregation. Some had a bit of power at least, some had none. Our sibling church, the North Congregation, was damaged when a wall from one of their out-buildings was ripped off entirely and sent crashing into their Worship Center.

But it did other things. It slowed us down. It helped us understand the limits of our patience and the breadth of our compassion. It burdened sectors of economy as it burgeoned others...the flashlight and ice industries must be humming along very well. It freed us from having to watch increasingly disturbing campaign ads. It offered opportunities for self-reflection on our dependencies and new electrically interdependent life. It is almost entirely unknown outside our borders since it was never reported making us aware of how communication doesn't work, even when there IS electricity. We'll be sharing stories Sunday I'm sure. May they make us even closer.

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***CARING CORNER***

**Paul Brody**, First UU member and husband of Rev. Carol Brody, had a second hip surgery on September 8. His recovery at home is going well.

Our thoughts are with **Jessica Fechter** and her parents, **Stephen Fechter and Amy Thompson**. Jessica had surgery to repair a brain aneurysm.

Our condolences to **Sarah Wurdlow** and to **Bob and Carol Aldridge**. Sarah's father died the beginning of August. Bob's 33-year old nephew, Artie, died recently.

We send caring thoughts to **Barb Fisher** and Del Harlan. Del's wife, Blanche Harlan, who was part of Barb's family of spirit, died suddenly Sunday, September 7, 2008.

## DENOMINATIONAL CONCERNS

**BARNHOUSE VISIT** The North Unitarian Universalist Congregation will welcome Rev. Meg Barnhouse on **October 4 at 7:30pm**. She is the senior pastor for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Spartanburg, South Carolina and was this year's guest speaker at Summer Institute. Meg Barnhouse is a singer/songwriter, storyteller, humorist and all around supremely interesting and accomplished person (including a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree blackbelt in karate). For those who have not heard Meg before, please ask anyone who attended SI, or feel free to check out clips of songs and stories at [www.MegBarnhouse.com](http://www.MegBarnhouse.com).

Tickets for "An Evening with Meg Barnhouse" are \$15 and may be purchased from the North UU Congregation church office by e-mailing [nuucjdill@aol.com](mailto:nuucjdill@aol.com) or calling the church at 740-657-8081.

Since space is limited, all tickets must be purchased in advance; there will be no tickets sold at the door.

The North Unitarian Universalist Congregation is located at 1574 Franklin, Lewis Center

\*\*\* Rev. Barnhouse will also be the guest minister at First UU Columbus on October 5, speaking at both services.

### **GATHERING OF OUR RESPECTED ELDERS/OLDER SENIORS Tuesday, September 23, 2008**

The ministers and the Pastoral Team invite our respected elders/older seniors to a gathering at the church on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 -- 11:00am - 1:15pm.

This is the first Senior Gathering for this church year. Rev. Mark Belletini and Rev. Eric Meter will do a short service in the Worship Center at 11:00am. The Pastoral Team will serve a light lunch in Rooms A/B for informal fellowship.

These Senior gatherings bring older members and friends together for fellowship and to help them continue to feel part of our religious community.

Contact the church office (267-4946) or Dick Dawson (459-0787) to let us know you are coming, request transportation, or get additional information.

Rev. Mark Belletini, Senior Minister  
Rev. Eric Meter, Consulting Minister  
Rev. Carol Brody, Minister Emerita  
Rev. Wendy Fish, Minister Emerita  
Dick Dawson, Chaplain  
Jolinda Stephens, Director 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

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

This year I am introducing the idea of monthly themes. These themes will have general titles, and will benefit from two or three sermons unpacking the ideas. Like several of my colleagues in larger congregations, I have created a list of three years' worth of such themes, which will then repeat again.

The purpose of this is to help us all to deepen our spiritual/religious vocabulary by looking at facets (sometimes contradictory) of a particular theme. Not all sermons in each month will be on the theme (pulpit guests, for example, do not need to follow the schedule) and perhaps sometimes holiday sermons may be on a different topic.

But I am hoping that this will enrich our spiritual conversations over the years, and bring a healing depth to our days. This list has already been shared with the Religious Education Director and Covenant Group leaders, so that you may hear some echoes in other places.

By the way, I hope many of you have signed up for our Covenant Groups this year. I think we really have one of the better programs in the whole Association.

Here are the themes:

	<b>First Year</b>	<b>Second Year</b>	<b>Third Year</b>
August Gateway:	A. Reflection on Summer Events B. Vision for the Community	A. Reflection on Summer Events B. Vision for the Community	A. Reflection on Summer Events B. Vision for the Community
September	Hospitality	At-One-Ment	Letting Go
October	Forgiveness/ Reconciliation	Faith/Trust/Belief	Accountability
November	Gratitude	Democracy	Roots
December	Hope	Peace	Wings
January	Resistance	Justice	Authority
February	Love	Wholeness/Holy	Listening
March	Brokenness	God/Grace	Difference/Diversity
April	Restoration	Life and Death	Freedom
May	Family	Covenant/Agreement	Community
June Gateway:	A. Coming of Age B. Poetic Preface to the Annual Meeting Summer Thematic Series Begins	A. Coming of Age B. Poetic Preface to the Annual Meeting Summer Thematic Series Begins	A. Coming of Age B. Poetic Preface to the Annual Meeting Summer Thematic Series Begins

 Rev. Mark Belletini

## **FAITH DEVELOPMENT**

### **Sunday Morning Is Not Enough**

The first edition of the Fall Adult Enrichment Program (AEP) brochure is available. Pick one up at the Information Area on Sunday and check out the many classes and events in theology and scriptural study, worship and celebration, leadership and communication, arts and creativity, social justice, and personal development and healing. Turn to the back page to see the many additional on-going classes. There should be enough choices that at least one of them should appeal to you.

Of course, the AEP Committee and I are always seeking to learn what kinds of classes and events would fill your spiritual hunger. Please contact one of us to talk about programming you would like to see. Judy Fettman is the chair of the committee and you can find other committee members at the AEP table on Sunday mornings. Sunday morning worship, where we all come together to be inspired, challenged and comforted, where we all feel surrounded by the large community and a part of something bigger than ourselves, is vitally important, basic to our spiritual life. Yet, the small group experience is vital to our spiritual growth and development, also, and it is in small groups that we get the most intense sense of community. Covenant Groups are key to a vital faith community and I can't overemphasize their importance. Faith development in the form of classes is also vital.

In a religion where about 90% of us are new "converts" as adults, classes help us learn about our history, our practices and the basics of our theology. In a religion that emphasizes the individual search for truth and meaning, classes are important, long after we know our history and theology, to keep us actively seeking, actively digging deeper into our beliefs and values and into ways to live out our faith. In a religion that is relational, learning and seeking, as a part of a group, is basic to our growth.

I urge you to pick up one of those Adult Enrichment brochures this week and contemplate what your soul needs to stretch and expand.

-- Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education

### **News For and About Children and Youth Sunday School Report**

Our classes for our older children and youth were exciting this past Sunday, September 14.

The Fourth and Fifth Grade group had 19 kids and the Middle School group had 18. I watched while the Middle School group had great fun doing a continuum exercise (where you answer questions on a continuum by moving to a spot along a line). Because of the number of people and the size of the room, their line was less than a yard long!

The 9 am 3rd-6th Grade group had a great time finding places they had never seen in our building and the 11 am Web of Life group spent most of their time outside.

There is great news for those who would like a structured play option for 4 and 5 year olds at 9 am. Another teacher has volunteered and we've reinstated the group! So join Ramona Moon and Debra Boyd at 9 am next Sunday for 4-5 Fellowship.

The Senior High OWL Parents' Orientation is Sunday, Sept. 21 at 12:45 pm in Room 8.

The last Sunday to join our great Coming of Age program is September 28. You must attend by then and sign up.

### **Adult Education Programs**

**Book Discussion Group Starts Sunday, September 21** *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria*, led by Ray and Lauri Nandyal, begins this Sunday, September 21, at 12:45pm in the Worship Center.

**Earth-base Ritual on Saturday, September 20, 7:00pm.** Come celebrate the second harvest and Autumn Equinox, known as Mabon in the Neo-pagan calendar. Participate in turning the wheel of the year and connecting with the cycles of nature. Contact Wanda Hambrick for more information.

**Spielberg Blockbuster *Amistad* Featured at Other Friday Film Series** This first in the series of ten films on the topic "Race and Racism in American Films" offered the fourth Friday is a powerful examination of an important event in the history of slavery. Join us at **7 pm on September 26**.

**Evolution Is a Sacred Story** And none communicates that better than Connie Barlow, science writer and wife of the evolutionary evangelist the Rev. Michael Dowd. Wanda Hanbrick facilitates video encounters with Connie on **September 18 and 25 at 6:30pm**.

#### **Adult Enrichment Facilitators Sought**

The AEP Committee is seeking facilitators and class and event ideas for the Winter and Spring. Please talk with committee members at the AEP table in the Information Area on Sunday, email chair Judy Fettman (judyfet375@gmail.com) or email dre@firstuucolumbus.org. Proposal forms are available at the AEP table.

## **Ohio Meadville District Chalice Lighters Are Vital to Outreach and Growth**

*You possess only a small light, but uncover it, let it shine. Use it in order to bring more light and understanding to the hearts and minds of men and women. ~John Murray ~ Founder of Universalism in America*

We let our Unitarian Universalist light shine when we support our sister congregations through the Ohio-Meadville District's Chalice Lighter Program.

In October, each congregation is being asked to designate one Sunday as OMD Chalice Lighter Sunday. On this Sunday, people are being asked to sign up to become Chalice Lighters.

An OMD Chalice Lighter is an individual who pledges to respond with a \$10 contribution when the call comes to help a congregation in our district with an outreach project or an initiative vital to their growth and thriving. There is a maximum of four "calls" per year. The individual Chalice Lighter minimal commitment is a total of \$40 per year. Of course, Chalice Lighters are encouraged give more if they are inspired by the project named in the call.

You can easily sign up online at [www.ohiomeadville.org](http://www.ohiomeadville.org) or fill out one of the Chalice Lighter Brochures found in most congregational pamphlet racks. Please call the OMD Office at 740-252-5980 if you need assistance in signing up.

You can directly help our OMD congregations realize their dreams of expanding outreach into the community, making a building accessible, improving religious education for children and adults, creating new programs for growth, developing new social justice outreach or strengthening some other vital part of their ministries.

Inspired by John Murray, we want to spread the message of hope and courage to our larger communities.