

The
DISCOVERER
Volume 72, #88, January 4, 2009

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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Of COLUMBUS
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WORSHIP SERVICES

January Monthly Theme: Resistance

January 11, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

"Invisible Occupation"

January 18, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

"Resisting Perfection"

MLK Weekend. Social Justice Offering

January 25, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Eric Meter

"When We Resist the Call of Life"

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

|

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

1:00p Archives Organizing
 5:00p Artist's Way
 7:00p Board of Trustees
 7:30p Hatha Yoga; Men's Spirituality
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, January 8, 2009

9:30a Improvisational Dance
 6:45p Nonviolent Communication
 7:30p Chalice (11:00 A.M.) Choir

Friday, January 9, 2009

Senior High Conference (overnight)

Saturday, January 10, 2009

8:30a Zen Meditation

Sunday, January 11, 2009

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; Teachers Retreat
 12:45p Sunday Forum
 1:00p Nominating Committee
 1:00p Committee on Church Ministry

Monday, January 12, 2009

11:00a UU Handcrafts & Book Society
 7:00p UU Social Dance; Executive Com.
 7:00p Adult Enrichment Prog; Website mtg.

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

10:00a Archives Organizing
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups
 5:30p Tuesday Night Supper (until 7:00p)
 6:15p Peace Pals Choir
 7:00p UU Bible School; Rising Voices Choir
 7:00p Zen Meditation
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

1:00p Archives Organizing
 5:00p Artist's Way
 6:30p Personal Wellness Plan
 7:00p Memoir Writing Group
 7:30p Hatha Yoga; Lasagna Gardening
 7:30p Men's Spirituality
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, January 15, 2009

9:00a Improvisational Dance
 6:00p Communications Committee
 7:00p Writing Class for Memoirs
 7:30p Chalice Choir

Friday, January 16, 2009

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission

Saturday, January 17, 2009

8:30a Zen Meditation
 9:00a Path to Membership
 9:00a Appreciative Inquiry (ABD Workshop)

Sunday, January 18, 2009

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 Ad Hoc Name Change Committee
 1:00p Green Team

Monday, January 19, 2009 OFFICE CLOSED

11:00a UU Handcrafts/Book Society
 6:00p COA Team
 7:00p UU Social Dance; Building Com.
 7:00p BREAD Team

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

9:00a Newsletter folding
 10:00a Archives Organizing
 1:00p Cancer Support Groups
 5:00p Memoir Writing
 5:30p Tuesday Night Supper (until 7pm)
 6:15p Peace Pals Choir
 7:00p Rising Voices Choir; Zen Meditation
 7:00p Book Bites; Nonviolent Communication
 7:00p UU History & Worship; Sound Techs
 7:30p Finance Committee
 7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

1:00p Archives Organizing
 5:00p Artist's Way
 6:30p Personal Wellness Plan
 7:00p Membership Committee
 7:00p Unitarianism & Ottoman Islam
 7:15p Governance Documents
 7:30p Hatha Yoga; Lasagna Gardening
 7:30p The Healing Journey
 7:30p Men's Spirituality
 8:00p Women's Spirituality

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

The next issue of *The Discoverer*: **Sunday**, January 18, 2009. **Deadline: 1:00pm** – hard copy in the church office; or **6:00pm** – e-mail copy to olwfire@yahoo.com.

Happy New Year, Everyone!

Because gratitude is always a good way to start a new year, let me offer my thanks to those who, once again, recently brought the Labyrinth to the congregation.


The first time I heard about Labyrinths I was just completing my first term in seminary. Other students were going into San Francisco to walk the Labyrinth at Grace Cathedral on New Year's Eve. While I had come to Berkeley for new adventures after coming of age in the upper Midwest, the thought of walking around a pattern on the floor seemed, well, silly to me.

Within two years though, another friend talked me into going. By then I had learned more about Labyrinths and felt it was time to give it a try.

When I completed that first walk, my friend looked at me quizzically, "How are you? You looked so stiff at the start." "Really? As soon as I started I began feeling filled with the expectations people bring to the Labyrinth. I was just wanting to remain open to that. I didn't know it made me look stiff."

What also impressed me was the delight several children took in navigating the twists and turns. At one point, a young girl pulled her parents, one by each hand, at an angle across the path straight to the center. There, she bade them sit and meditate while she beamed triumphantly. The rest of us walking the more traditional route let them be. There was a story there, but we never learned what it was.

Since then, I've walked several other Labyrinths. Each time I do there is something familiar and always also something new. I've never felt the same quality of expectation since that first time, though, and I doubt I ever will. Still, there is always something of value to be found whenever we set out on a pilgrimage, not just to get from point A to point B.

In peace, 

Rev. Eric Meter

HOLIDAY APPEAL UPDATE Thanks to all those who gave generously to the Holiday Appeal. We have raised nearly \$35,000—a little more than two-thirds of what we need to balance our budget and honor our commitments to our loyal staff, the UUA and the OMD. Thanks to all those whose generosity has brought us this far! If you have been thinking about giving, it's not too late! Although the Board will meet in early January to make changes to balance the budget, your gift now can help prevent or reduce cuts. Please write a check today to First UU Columbus, put "Holiday Appeal" on the memo line, and mail it to the church or drop it in the basket Sunday. If you would prefer, you may increase your pledge online at <http://www.firstuucolumbus.org/stewardship/holiday-appeal-2008.html>. Your generous gift, in the amount that works for you, will be appreciated. -- Gretchen Faulstich

2009 AUCTION NEWS *To Boldly Bid What No One Has Bid Before!* With the holidays behind us, the Auction Committee is moving into high gear to prepare for this year's Auction fundraiser on **February 21, 2009**. This year we are taking you to outer space! If you have a service or a high quality item to donate, or would like to volunteer for one of many available jobs on auction night, please stop by the auction table in Fellowship Hall after either service, or visit www.firstuucolumbus.org/auction to enter your donation online. **This week's featured donation:** Picture yourself and five family members or friends in a condo in Sedona, Arizona for a week in October. You'll have plenty of time to explore Sedona plus make side excursions to other attractions such as the Grand Canyon. This brand new offering comes courtesy of Linda Thompson. Mark your calendars and plan to attend! -Jo Anne St. Clair/Cathy O'Neil, Co-chairs

Constitutional Amendment to be proposed at the mid-year congregational meeting on February 8, 2009: To reflect the emerging role of the Nominating Committee, the name of the committee shall be changed from "Nominating Committee" to "Leadership Development Committee" throughout Article V and Article VII and wherever else the name appears. The following language in Article VII, Section 2, "~~The Nominating Committee will help identify throughout the year interested candidates for leadership and service roles throughout the church,~~" will be replaced with "The Leadership Development Committee will coordinate the identification, recruitment, training, support and recognition of church leaders. The Leadership Development Committee will be responsible for allocating budgeted funds for leadership development." The following language in Article VII, section 3, "~~The duties of the Nominating Committee shall be to review,~~" shall be replaced with "Every year the Leadership Development Committee shall review..." (Submitted pursuant to the written notice requirement for proposed constitutional amendments and with approval of the Board of Trustees.)-- Leslie Armstrong, Chair, Nominating Committee.

GREEN TEAM WORK DAY January 10, 9:00am. All are invited to help! If you have any insulation, weatherstripping or plastic (even small scrapes) left over from a previous job, please consider donating it to the work day. Call David Krohn, 260-6953) if you need to have the material picked up.

WORKSHOP All committees are invited to send a representative to the Healthy Congregations Workshop, Saturday, January 24, 2009 from 9 - 3 at First UU. Members of the North UU Church will join us.

Rev. Joan Van Becelaere, Executive Director of the Ohio Meadville District, will be leading us in the workshop.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS *Discussion About Wellness* - Developing your personal wellness plan. Four 90 minute modules, which lead participants from considering what wellness means to them through putting together steps to address wellness in their lives: 1) Intro to Wellness; 2) What's Important? 3) Goal setting and planning; and 4) Barriers and pathways to Wellness. In Slowter Lounge from 6:30-8:00pm on Wednesdays, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, and 2/4. It will be presented by Matthew Fleming, MA, PC., fleming.171@osu.edu. Limit 12 people.

BOOK BITES *January 20, 2009* in Slowter Lounge at **7 pm**. New topic: a book from New York Times 100 Notable Books of 2008. Call Kathleen Boston, 262-4025, for book list.

PARENTS OF INFANTS & TODDLERS

The meetings for this group will resume in the new year. These gatherings are intended as a safe space for parents, infants and toddlers of all ages; new and first time parents are especially welcome. Let's share stories and celebrate milestones. Juice and bagels will be provided (bring food for babies). Gatherings will be monthly on Saturdays: **February 7 (3/7, 4/11 and 5/9) from 11:00am -1:00pm**. Call Nancy Powlick, 451-4045, or lpowlick@columbus.rr.com

GRIEF/LOSS A series of six sessions for anyone experiencing a loss that affects one deeply: the loss of a loved one, of a relationship, a job loss, loss of a pet. *Weekly, 7:30 - 9:00pm, on Wednesdays, January 21 to February 25*. Sessions will be facilitated by Rev. Eric Meter and Kathleen Fowler. Winter

BRING ONE, TAKE ONE! *Sunday, January 11* during normal Bookstore hours. Bring a book (or more than one), take a book (or more than one), or **both!** Any books left at 1:00 pm will be donated to a local charity.

ALL SOLES CONTRA DANCES are open to all! By the end of the evening, you'll have danced with everyone in the hall. Ages 8 to 80+, all skill levels --if you can walk and smile, you can contra dance! You don't need to bring a partner (most of us don't), and we are friendly and welcoming to new dancers. A short teaching session is held at 7:30 prior to each evening dance, which runs from 8:00 to 10:30. Live music fills the air, and a caller prompts all dances. Cost is \$7 (\$4 for under age 25). Childcare provided for those too young to enjoy the dancing. Please bring your own refillable water bottle, and dress in lightweight, loose clothing.

Friday, January 30 -- caller Josh Moses will take the stage with Golden Griffon Stringtet, featuring hammered dulcimer, fiddle, guitar, and piano. **Friday, February 13** -- caller Kate Power welcomes an exciting young Columbus band in their All Soles premiere -- The Great Mad Hoax, with an eclectic mix of swing, gypsy, funky old-time, jazz, and more! You'll hear a 16-year-old virtuoso fiddler with bandmates on mandolin and dobro.

INTEGRAL YOGA - winter classes - begins Wednesday January 7, 7:30 - 9:00pm. Introduction to yoga philosophy and practices including yoga therapy vinyasas - whole body movements with breath. Each class includes new poses, breathing practices and deep relaxation. You may work towards liberation, enlightenment or overcoming fear and personal limits. Use time on the mat to release, relax and enjoy safe, supportive community. Drop in or come to all classes...\$10 donation to First UU suggested... wear comfortable clothes, bring yoga mat or towel and small blanket.- Linda Weigelt, 397-7296

MEDITATION INVITATION Zen Columbus members invite you to an orientation session on **Saturday, January 10, 9:45am**. This session is designed to answer questions and tell you more about the flow of a Zen Meditation sit. Regular "sits" are held at

First UU Saturdays at 8:30am and Tuesdays at 7pm. You are welcome!

THANKS The Worship Committee extends a special thanks to several people whose individual efforts contributed significantly to the success of the holiday worship season: Don Hippensteel, who worked tirelessly to shift the chairs in the Worship Center to suit the needs of worship; Paula Hook who organized the receptions following the Christmas Eve services; and Tina Gratitude who authored and organized the December 28th Kwanzaa worship celebrations. - Donna Jarrell

MORE THANKS Thanks to those who brought snacks to share on Christmas Eve. Specific thanks to: Cathy O'Neil (set-up), Kevin O'Neil (clean-up), Jo Dickinson (set-up), Karen Thimmes (late clean-up), Linda Royalty (decorations), Don Hippensteel and Naoko Kobayashi (facilities care). With these helpers, the two Christmas Eve events were successful and enjoyable.- Paula Hook

AND STILL MORE THANKS With a magic "poof," decorations from the past month's holiday festivities were collected and stored for next year, within 1 1/2 hours, on January 2! Assisting in that task were: Ruth Gerhold, Olwen Firestone, Kathleen Fowler and Don Hippensteel. Many thanks to these "after Christmas elves." - Paula Hook

SOCIAL JUSTICE

SOMETHING SPECIAL! The 24th Annual Martin Luther King Birthday Breakfast Celebration will be held **Monday, January 19, 2009. Our First UU Chalice Choir has been invited to take part.** The keynote speaker will be Rev. J. Alfred Smith, Sr.

Bill Fullarton is facilitating the purchase of tickets for first UU members so that we can be seated at tables of 10. Contact Bill at 669-4970 or b.fullarton@yahoo.com for more information and/or to purchase tickets.

... And to further honor Martin Luther King: *Health and Hunger* is the focus of a community outreach service project on Saturday, January 17, 8-2, at the Worthington Inn at 7007 North High Street. The Red Cross will operate a bloodmobile, food will be available and various health and hunger organizations will be represented. For information, call Sally Willson at 901-8515.



"Member: BREAD (Our local interfaith social justice organization)" These words appear on the front of each Sunday's Order of Celebration. Sixteen multifaith congregations, including ours, covenanted in 1996 to establish and support BREAD, i.e., Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity, to bring about systemic change on issues of social justice in central Ohio. Since that time, BREAD has grown to 52 congregations - UU, Christian, Jewish, and Muslim - and has had many accomplishments, e.g., *Payday Lending* reform; *expanded health care* for un- and underinsured central Ohioans; *transportation* from low-income areas to jobs near the outer belt, among others.

The problems BREAD addresses are democratically selected by its members, then researched by volunteers from BREAD member congregations and an issue for action developed. Once the BREAD teams of the member congregations approve an issue, it is taken to one or more community leaders who might be able to effect the needed change. BREAD also invites the community leader(s) to its Nehemiah Action Meeting in May, at which they are asked publicly to work with BREAD to implement the issue.

Why do important and powerful community leaders agree to attend the Action Meeting

and to work with BREAD? Because they know now that BREAD represents more than 40,000 community members and that at least 2,000 of them feel so strongly about the issue(s) that they will take an evening from their busy lives to tell them so.

BREAD's power lies in the willingness of its people to show up one evening each year. Its power to make change for justice will continue to increase as its numbers increase at the annual BREAD Nehemiah Action Meeting. Please put this year's meeting on your calendar now for yourself AND your children... **Monday, May 4, Veterans Memorial, 6:15 p.m. (registration).**

Contact Alice Rathburn at 895-2109, 563-0536, or alice37@insight.rr.com for additional information and/or to learn more about our congregation's BREAD Team.

YWCA FAMILY CENTER 4th Friday Taco and Brownie Dinner We had a very successful end-of-the-year dinner at the center on Friday, December 26. The volunteers who made this meal possible were Kenny, Lindsay, Holly and Cliff Adams, Cariann and Sherri Stubbs, Matt Velten, Francis and Connie Connelly. These wonderfully generous people prepped, cooked, served, and cleaned up - all with beautiful smiles! Plus, when Jan Voelker heard that one of the volunteers was sick, she stopped by to see if she could help. Our congregation is truly blessed to have these people in our midst.

Thanks to all who have shared their time and energy to give the gifts of nutrition and hope to the families this past year. I know that in 2009 we will be able to continue this much appreciated service.

- Very Gratefully Yours, Cathy McCutcheon

PFLAG January 25, 2009 2:00-4:00 p.m. at First UU. Topic: *Don't Ask, Don't Tell*. Guest speaker Rupert "Twink" Starr, a WWII veteran, served with his unit in the "Battle of the Bulge." Twink will show a moving four

minute video narrated by him about his experience. He will then discuss the history of DADT, the reasons it came about etc. He will present the arguments of those interested in repealing the ban. There will be time for questions. The public is welcome.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE Will 2009 be your year to help alleviate hunger in Southeast Ohio? Please bring your donation(s) to the Social Justice Table (and your aluminum cans) or call Jacques at 888-8052 to arrange for a pickup of your donations.

Rev. Ray Ogburn of the *Feed My Sheep* food pantry in Mineral, OH sends a huge thank you to our church for our four and one half years of continued support.

Please make a difference - help to support this church endeavor.

WARM UP APPALACHIA We are sending hand-knitted afghans to Mineral, OH. Donate yarn (whole skeins or small balls in any color) via the marked box near the Social Justice table on Sundays. Want to learn to knit? Join Pat Larson's knitting class on Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm, starting January 6. To enroll, call Pat at 268-7670. - Gretchen Curtis at 734-1214.

FLEECE FABRIC REQUESTED The Covenant Group which meets on the first and third Sunday is looking for donations of fleece fabric to make scarves for the needy. (one yard = three scarves) Please bring to Fellowship Hall on any Sunday in January. Thanks. Susan Hayashi, 614-932-9939.

GAYT Guest At Your Table boxes can be turned in on Sunday or at the Church Office during the week (before the end of January) and if possible, please turn your contribution into a membership. All of the people UUSC serves will be grateful. -- Marge Lynd

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to **Kyle Pigman**, who won a silver medal in competition at the State Aquatics Championship at OSU in December.

Our caring thoughts are with **Irene Powlick**, Len and Nancy Powlick's eight-year-old granddaughter diagnosed with Stevens'-Johnson syndrome; **Mary McMichael-Liston**, hospitalized with heart failure; **Pam Hussen** who fell and broke her arm and pelvis; and **Ross Schifano** in the midst of two back surgeries, the second to be this month.

*The Caring Committee will sponsor a program on **Sunday, January 25, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.**, focusing on "**Spiritual Journeys - Close to Home.**" Our featured speaker will be Nancy Stranahan, Director of the Arc of Appalachia Preserve System (aka Highlands Nature Sanctuary), located in southern Ohio. Watch for more information!*

DENOMINATIONAL CONCERNS

PLAN AHEAD Winter Institute 2009
The 9th Annual Winter Institute will be held at Salt Fork State Park near Cambridge, OH on **February 13-16, 2009** (President's Day Weekend). **January 23, 2009** is the registration deadline. To learn more and to register, visit:
Ohiomeadville.org/conference/omdwi.html

OMD ANNUAL MEETING The 2009 District Assembly will be held March 27-28, 2009 at First Unitarian Church of Cleveland.

Other events at First UU The Bulletin Board across from the restrooms lists community events taking place at the church which are not church sponsored, such as the Columbus Winter Farmers' Market, 1/24, 2/14, 2/28, 3/7, 3/21, 4/4, 4/18 (open to the public.)

Well, I have been called to jury duty. Common Pleas. Two weeks in January starting the 12th. I was called to jury duty ten times while in California, more than anyone else I know. Not sure why. It was only a week's commitment there...not sure why Ohio needs two weeks. But it will make me hard to get a hold of for a while. I will have to work nights, which means I will be out of touch with the staff. But somehow, we'll have to figure out how best to work things out.

Every once in a while I describe my hidden rules behind the Order of Celebration we put together each week. 1) I always use quotes from different sources gender-wise and language-wise. Both the quotes at the top and the readings. I do not swerve from this pattern. 2) All readings I choose are verifiable. I know where they come from. I find all sorts of readings which people claim have been written by this or that person. Most of such claims are false, at least on the Internet. Unless I can tell you where the words come from, and date it, I will not use it. I am something of a stickler on this point. It makes my work more time consuming, but authenticity is important to me. 3) Anything that is not attributed is my own writing (or Eric's), whether it is a meditation, a prayer, an affirmation or a ceremony.

May our new year unfold gracefully.

The Inner Fire: *Mirror*

And here on the trunk of this tree
are a few bursting buds,
a green still fresher than the grass
which rests the heart.
the trunk appeared dead when
I first saw it hanging over the gulley.

And everything suggests the miracle:
and I am that cloud-borne water
today reflecting in the pools
its bit of bluest sky;
the green which splits the bark,
which was not there last night.

Salvatore Quasimodo,
Nobel Laureate 1966



Rev. Mark Belletini

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
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/RE Assistant
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

Faith Development for All Ages

RESOLVED: I will watch more funny movies and consume more deep red and purple foods. As I write this, just four days into the new year, I'm thinking about our All Ages Sunday today led by Marjorie Prince and her son Armando. The theme was "New Things," and after Armando taught us how to breakdance (and some of us actually did learn some steps), we recorded a new thing we wanted to do for the new year. Some of the items were new things – learning to ride a bike, for instance. Others were traditional New Year's Resolutions – I will eat less candy or do all my chores. Still others were the exact opposite. Some children decided to plan to eat more candy or spend more time playing electronic games.

My resolutions tend to fall in the last category – watching funny movies and those red and purple foods (read: great wine and yummy berries). You may ask what this has to do with faith development or religion. A whole lot, I think. Unlike my small friends whose pleasure tends to cause some problems, I will benefit from the very pleasurable acts of watching comedies and drinking wine. The same is true for pleasurable activities at Sunday School. One of the best ways to develop a sense of community is to play community building games. Taking a chance to do something new, such as breakdancing, and appear uncoordinated and less than perfect at church, is wonderful training for being in religious community where we learn to trust and deal gently with one another in all our imperfections.

At a deeper level the soul, whatever that is, seems to need lightness. Listening to comedian Dick Gregory taught me long ago that transformation as often comes from comedy as it does from confrontation and soul searching. Transformation is the major goal of religious education.

If one of your new year rituals is to calendar the important events of the year, will you add the "DRE Start-up" to it? It's *Saturday, April 4*, and I really want you there. My job, if I'm doing it well, touches every life at First UU. I'd like you to have a say in the agreements that we make about how we will go forward together. The schedule right now is for congregational and board participation from 11 am to 2 pm, including lunch.

May we hold our community close as we move into the new year with its many unknowns.
--Jolinda Stephens, Director of Religious Education

Our Whole Lives (OWL) Sexuality Education for 1st Graders and Fifth/Sixth Graders

Pre-register at the Information Table now to guarantee a spot for your child for our acclaimed comprehensive sexuality education program designed jointly by the UUA and the United Church of Christ. It situates the physical information in the framework of values and relationships and helps children learn not just healthy attitudes but relational skills. Mandatory Parent Information Meeting is Sunday, January 25. Most of the eight sessions will be held from 9:15 to 10:45 on Sunday mornings for the older group and 9:45 to 10:50 for the younger group. The orientation session is Saturday, January 31 from 10 to noon.

Currently, we do not have enough facilitators to offer the 1st Grade class and we may need to reschedule unless trained OWL facilitators step forward now.

Spiritual Journeys Close To Home This Caring Committee presentation, **Sunday, January 25 at 1 pm**, offers a chance to learn about nearby places, most in natural settings and many of these suitable for children. Many have no cost involved. Two-hour presentation. Please contact Marian in the Church Office, 267-4946, ext.21, to reserve childcare.

A Year of Science Begins January 20 The Roles of Science and Religion in 21st Century American Life. 2009 has been designated "A Year of Science" by a consortium of scientific

societies, educational institutions, government agencies, businesses, and private groups. In honoring science, the Adult Enrichment Program is hosting a series of monthly facilitated discussions on topics drawn from Science Magazine's "125 Great Unanswered Questions." The first session on Tuesday, January 20, 7:00pm, will be an overview of the year's topics, and an interactive discussion about the roles of science and religion in 21st Century American life. The Rev. Mark Belletini and Earth Scientist Tom Baillieul will facilitate.

What Are We All About? If you ever thought you'd like to know more about our theology, our history or our practices, you will probably never have a better time to find out.

1) On **January 20 at 7:30 pm.** seminarian Suzan McCrystal will lead an exploration of the worship theme for this month, "Resistance." Participants will examine some of the people, experiences and ideas that have shaped our living tradition and gain more awareness of how their personal narratives fit in the context of the larger relational whole. Join her the third Tuesday of each month.

2) UU historian and minister, Rev. Susan Ritchie, follows the next evening – **January 21 at 7 pm** – for a fascinating look at Islamic influences on Unitarianism and the protection the Ottoman Empire afforded Unitarians after the death of the only Unitarian king. Don't miss "The Pasha of Buda and the Edit of Torda." Rev. Ritchie will return in the spring with a distillation of her Minns Lectures examining the core of our faith.

3) Then in February, Rev. Eric Meter begins a weekly look at the people and the ideas that shaped modern Unitarian Universalism. This class is reaching its limit and requires registration at the AEP Information Table on Sundays or on the website.

4) In addition, the sign ups for Building Your Own Theology are growing. A decision will be made soon about whether or not it is offered. Sign up now.

How To Sign Up/Register Visit the AEP Information Table next to Fellowship Hall or register at the church website www.firstuucolumbus.org. Scroll down to the green text block nearly at the bottom of the home page and click "**General Information Requests and Sign Me Up Forms.**" Then select "**Adult Enrichment Program Course Sign-up Form.**"

Corrections to Adult Enrichment Programs Catalog

Our current catalog for Adult Enrichment has a few corrections. In addition, the original Winter Catalog did not have all the listings. You may want to take another look.

1) **Knowing Yourself Better** is not a career workshop, as characterized in the latest catalog. It is an opportunity to look at your values and discern what skills and activities bring joy and excitement. Registration is required. Contact Wanda Hambrick.

2) **Lasagna Gardening** No book is necessary. Sign up now to learn this simple gardening technique. Register now for the January 14 and 21 sessions.

3) **Voluntary Simplicity**, offered by Simply Living, must have at least eight sign ups.

4) **Book Discussion: *White Like Me***, led by Lauri Nandyal with the Anti-racist Support Group of First UU, an ongoing collaboration of antiracist activists. Everyone is welcome. Please use the registration process. February 15 and 22, 12:45pm.

5) **Writing Class for Memoirs.** Len Powlick offers three weeks of assistance in making your memoirs works of art. **Begins** January 15. Registration required.

6) **Non-Violent Communication for Parents: An Introduction** with Monica Szonn-Lillard, LISW January 20. Registration required.

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

Registration is still open for last two “SOUP, SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP Workshops.” These workshops are free, with child care available. (If you need transportation home after the workshop, that can be arranged as well.)

Please register at the Adult Enrichment Program (AEP) Table Sunday after services, or on-line on the First UU website. Questions? Call Karen Dawson, 459-0787.

CHANGE OF DATE: Leadership Development Workshop on “Working Effectively with Volunteers” has been changed from January 18 to SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2009.

Remaining Schedule:

January 11: Leadership training for RE Teachers (RE Retreat) - Karen Dawson

February 1: *Working Effectively with Volunteers* - facilitated by Michael Brennan/Karen Dawson

March 22: *Conflict as Opportunity* - facilitated by Karen Dawson

Workshops provide the opportunity to learn more about the Church, how to get things done, and tips to be effective and successful in your current and future leadership roles.

Come and bring others from your Committee or Group.

Soup, Service and Leadership: Workshop Registration (2008-2009)

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

February 1 -- Working Effectively with Volunteers _____

March 22 -- Conflict as Opportunity _____

Cost: FREE

Child Care Needed? Yes _____ No _____ (If Yes, Number and ages of children _____)

Need Transportation? Yes _____ No _____ (If Yes, please specify _____)



CIRCLE SUPPERS 2009

Do you like good food and good conversation? Do you get cabin fever during the winter months? Do you wish you could meet more First UU members and friends?

Circle Suppers is a series of informal adult dinner parties hosted by fellow UU members or friends in their homes. The host(s) provide the main course with guests providing the rest of the meal. This year’s dinners are scheduled for Saturdays, February 28, March 28 & April 25, 2009. All begin at 7:15 pm.

To participate:

- complete the registration form below **along with** a self-addressed, stamped envelope
- leave the form and the envelope at the **Circle Suppers** table after Sunday services on January 11, 18, or 25, OR mail them to the address listed at the bottom of the form.

DEADLINE: JANUARY 26, 2009

A list of participants, alternates and dinner assignments will be mailed or emailed by February 9. If you have any questions, contact Cathy O’Neil at 614-267-4975 or croneil@columbus.rr.com

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CIRCLE SUPPERS 2009 REGISTRATION

Name and Address (please print clearly)

Home phone number _____ Email _____

1. Please register me (check one): (a) ___ individually; (b) ___ together with (your spouse, partner or friend; give the person’s name, address and phone number if different from yours)

c) ___ as an **alternate** (you will not be scheduled for any dinners but will be put on an alternate list to be called by the hostess/host in case of cancellations).

2. I/we cannot host a dinner at all but would like to participate _____

Please note: We will make every effort to accommodate those who are unable to host a dinner but if we do not have enough hosts, those unable to host may be put on the alternates' list.

3. I/we CAN host a dinner for up to (check one) ___ 6 or ___ 8 or ___ 10 people, including myself but CANNOT host on (check all that apply) ___ 2/28/09; ___ 3/28/09; ___ 4/25/09.

Mail this form and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Cathy O’Neil, 432 Acton Road, Columbus, OH 43214 by January 26, 2009.