

The
DISCOVERER
Volume 72, #96, April 26, 2009

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THE FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Of COLUMBUS
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WORSHIP SERVICES

May Theme: Family

May 3, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belleteini

"How To Create a Family"

May 10, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Jolinda Stephens

"Mothering Ourselves and the World"

A Mothers' Day exploration of what an ancient Jewish Goddess has to teach us now.

May 17, 2009 - 9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Rev. Mark Belletini

"Functional Families"

Social Justice Offering

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

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

1:00p Archives Organizing
7:30p Men's Spirituality; Healing Journey
7:30p Integral Hatha Yoga
8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, April 30, 2009

9:30a Improvisational Dance
7:30p Chalice (11:00 A.M.) Choir
7:30p Job Exploration Workshop

Friday, May 1, 2009

12:00p Cooking for Faith Mission
6:30p First Friday Potluck
7:30p First Friday Programs
7:30p Turn the World Around

Saturday, May 2, 2009

8:30a Zen Meditation
8:30a BUILDING WORKDAY
9:30a Memorial Garden Workday
7:00p Chamber Music Concert

Sunday, May 3, 2009

8:30a Breakfast
9:00a/11:00a Worship Service/Sunday School
10:15a/12:15a Getting to Know UU
12:30p Youth Group; Bridging Planning
12:45p YASC

Monday, May 4, 2009

11:00a UU Handcrafts & Book Society
6:15p BREAD Nehemiah Action at Vets
7:00p UU Social Dance

Tuesday, May 5 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 Zen Meditation; Rising Voices Choir
7:00p Worship Com.; Caring Committee
7:00p Social Justice Com.;
7:30p Building Your Own Theology (BYOT)
7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

1:00p Archives Organizing
7:00p Executive Committee
7:30p Hatha Yoga; Men's Spirituality
7:30p Healing Journey
8:00p Women's Spirituality

Thursday, May 7, 2009

9:00a Improvisational Dance
6:45p Nonviolent Communication Practice
7:30p Chalice Choir; Job Explor. Wkshp.

Saturday, May 9, 2009

8:30a Zen Meditation
9:00a Voluntary Simplicity
11:00a Parent/Infant/Toddler Group
11:00a Committee on Church Ministry
1:00p Worship Committee Training
2:00p Schoyer Memorial Service
4:30p Spirit of Life and Children's Choirs,
with special guest OSU Ladies First

Sunday, May 10, 2009

8:30a Breakfast
9:00a/11:00a Worship Service/Sunday School
10:15a/12:15a Getting to Know UU
12:45p Sunday Forum
1:00p Nominating Committee

Monday, May 11, 2009

11:00a UU Handcrafts/Book Society
7:00p UU Social Dance; Program Council
7:00p Executive Committee
7:00p Adult Enrichment Programs

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

9:00a Newsletter folding
10:00a Archives Organizing
1:00p Cancer Support Groups
7:00p Zen Meditation; UU Bible School
7:30p Men's Spirituality; BYOT
7:45p Spirit of Life Choir

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

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

7:30p Wednesdays, FOCUS meets in the OSU Campus area. Call 330-805-0207.

The next issue of *The Discoverer*: **Sunday, May 10, 2009**. Deadline: **1:00pm** – hard copy in the church office; or **6:00pm** – e-mail copy to olwfire@yahoo.com.

The Coming of Age class, which has just returned from its annual Spring Retreat, has reminded me of something crucial: if you are looking for a way to help build your sense of hopefulness, volunteer with children and youth.

We took the class to the woods and gave them a modified version of the Native American Vision Quest. For more than six hours each of them had only themselves, the breezes and the occasional curious wildlife to keep them company. This would be a challenge for any of us, and they, each and every one of them, rose to it in fine fashion. The weekend marked the symbolic turning point in their lives from childhood to youth. In many ways, this is a tenuous transition. And yet, as I look at photographs of the class members taken last fall, it is clear that these youth are no longer the children they used to be.

When I was in my mid-20s and coming into my own, I lived in Minneapolis which was, at least from my admittedly biased perspective, the center of the men's mythopoeic movement. Robert Bly's *Iron John* was the rage and the illusive notion of initiation loomed as the latest example of what our society was not able to provide. This was also the time when my father turned ill and died.

So I approached this weekend, my first time helping lead this wilderness journey experience, with hope, some anxiety and skepticism, and also a little envy. While our culture may not provide one big initiation rite, we do well to focus on the many transitions growing up (and also growing old) provide. The more we pay attention to the transitions of our lives, the more meaning we take in them and the richer our lives, individually and collectively, become.

In peace,



Rev. Eric Meter

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR It's time for an ode to youth—the youth of our congregation. On April 19, I had the spiritual privilege, shared by many of you, to worship at our annual youth-led service, organized by the Youth Adult Steering Committee. As with every other year I've attended, I came away optimistic about the future of our UU faith tradition. The personal meditations of youth participants on the theme of “restoration in family relationships” were beautifully expressed and moving.

On April 26, I represented the Board of Trustees at the ceremony welcoming our 9th grade youth as they Come of Age as Unitarian Universalists. Youth and adults shared in a ritual circle of reflection on questions that take a lifetime to answer and that our youth are on the road to exploring. I look forward with anticipation to the Coming of Age worship service, Sunday, June 7, when COA youth will express their statements of belief before the congregation. They will teach us much about what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

In gratitude to our youth,

David Easter, Chair, Board of Trustees

BOARD OF TRUSTEES *Highlights of the April 22 meeting of the Board.* Full minutes will be available on the bulletin board in the Window Hallway and on the church website after they are corrected and approved at the May Board meeting.

Staff Report highlights, presented by Mark Belletini: Eric Meter- Served as a mediator between the Young Adult Steering committee and the Coming of Age program. - Is planning an evaluation of the Covenant Group program.- Continues to have a heavy pastoral load - Co-led the Five Wishes workshop. Jolinda Stephens - Conducted a survey regarding worship times.- Facilitated preparation for the youth service.- Organized the DRE Start-up. Mark Belletini

- Taught classes at Capital University - Did a reading of his poetry at Riverside Hospital and Stonewall Columbus - Is assuming many administrative responsibilities in the absence of an administrator.

Worship Service Time Change: Religious Education attendance at 11:00am often borders on a violation of fire code. Next year we will move the first service to 9:15am (from 9:00am) in hopes of making it more attractive to "RE families." We will send a letter requesting people to move to the first service.

Treasurer's Report: Pledge collection rate is a strong 97.2%. We have a small surplus, but Frank Phillips predicts that it will disappear by the end of the Fiscal Year. Gretchen Faulstich reported that the Annual Budget Drive (pledge campaign) is well ahead of last year at this time; we are still about \$50,000 short of our goal. 47% of pledging units have increased their pledge.

Green Audit: Margie Richardson presented additional information of how this audit could reduce energy usage and costs. She and Carol Fleming will submit a written report to the Board for further consideration.

Director of Religious Education "Start-up": Jolinda Stephens organized this evaluation, sponsored by the District (OMD). Written details are available.

Mission/Vision: The congregation will vote on the revised version at the June 14 Annual Meeting. **Name Change:** The Ad Hoc Committee concluded that there is no consensus on the need to change our name, and thus did not recommend a change at this time. **Administrator and Music:** Both searches are progressing on target and we hope to hire an administrator and director(s) for the Peace Pals, Rising Voices, and Spirit of Life choirs after the budget is approved at the June 14 Annual Meeting.

-- Bob Gordon, Board Secretary

SPRING WORK DAY *Saturday, May 2.* Breakfast at 8:30am. Help with indoor and outdoor projects from 9 - 12. Sponsored by the Building and Grounds committees.

SPRING BARN PARTY Did you miss the auction? No need to miss out on the fun. Bring the entire family and join us for a Spring Barn Party. Music, dancing, May Pole, kids' games, punch and cookies. **May 3 from 2-4.** Rain date May 17. Requested donation: Adults \$10; Children \$5. RSVP cath@windfish.net

BOOK SWAP First UU bookstore will have a "Bring One--Take One Book Swap" on **Sunday May 3, 2009.** This is a wonderful opportunity to recycle books, or to simply clear space for new books in your home.

BOOK BITES *May 19, 7 to 9* in Slowter Lounge. The April topic continues *Little Known Women*. Marguerite Molk will coordinate. Kathleen Boston, 262-4025

PARENTS/INFANTS/TODDLERS The next meeting will be on Saturday, **May 9, 11 am to 1 pm.** Please join us.

-- Nancy Powlick

THANKS to our neighbors at Panera Bread for contributing lunch for the Director of Religious Education Start Up held April 4.
--Amy Thompson REC co-chair

ANNUAL REPORTS Attention Committee Chairs and Group leaders: Now is the time to turn in your group's annual report to Marian Garcia in the church office. It should contain the group's mission statement, a list of group members, and a summary of the year's accomplishments, activities, and changes. Email reports to Marian@FirstUUColumbus.org, or leave them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox in the Workroom. In order to

compile these in time for the Annual Meeting, they must be turned in by **Thursday, May 14**. For more information, please call 267-4946, ext. 21.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

At the April meeting of the Board of Trustees, the following Motion was adopted for vote at the annual meeting, June 14.

That Article V, Section 5, regarding the Committee on Church Ministry, and Article VII, Section 3C, relating to the nomination of a candidate for election to the Committee on Church Ministry be REPEALED.

Further, that the congregation require the Board to appoint an ad hoc committee to study models for a similar committee to the Committee on Church Ministry for churches of our size, and that this committee make recommendations and report to the Board and congregation at either the mid meeting or the annual meeting in 2010.

Commentary: The Committee on Church Ministry has not functioned well or met the needs of our growing congregation for several years. The Board and Ministers recommend the abolishment of the current structure of the Committee on Church Ministry to allow a committee to study for a year the models for similar committees at other churches of our size and make recommendations to the Board and congregation before going forward.

IDENTIFYING SERVICES *CommUUnity in Challenging Times* Members of the church are attempting to identify services that we ourselves can provide, or share knowledge about, to help us move through these challenging days. (Note: a name change from *CommUUnity in Hard Times*.) Another CommUUnity Spring Fair will be held on Sunday, May 31, after the 10 am service. Tables will be staffed and information provided focusing on job counseling/training, health care, financial

and real estate advice, the church's Neighborhood Network, Simply Living, food co-op, and more. You are encouraged to offer help or seek it. An updated Catalog of Services will be available each Sunday in May at a special table, next to the Caring Table. It can also be found by a link on the First UU website. There will be volunteers to talk with you about the following topics: May 3 - Financial advice; May 10 - Neighborhood Network; May 17 - Job possibilities; May 24 - Realtors; May 31 - the Spring Fair

HATS! Let's wear our hats for Mother's Day, May 10.-- Jeanni Ray

SOCIAL JUSTICE

EYE GLASS PROJECT The 11:00 AM fourth/fifth grade Sunday School class will be collecting your unwanted eyeglasses and sunglasses to donate to Onesight, a charitable organization that donates vision care and eyewear to those in need. Please bring your eyeglasses and sunglasses to the box in Fellowship Hall on Sundays May 3, May 10 and May 17.-- Sherri Stubbs, 577-9277, or stubbscpa@sbcglobal.net

APPALACHIA MINISTRY A big thanks to the Miller-Gnann Family for their help in Mineral, Ohio. The girls, Mariah and Tara, were a great help in making food boxes, stocking shelves, and packaging dried beans. They were assisted by their mother, Deborah Gnann, and their father, Gary Miller. A great time was had by all! 68 families were fed that day, all of whom were very thankful.

Rev. Ray Ogburn says that our continued support means a great deal to him and the recipients of the food boxes. Without our support, the pantry could not keep up with the growing need. His wife, Sister Anita, says, "When it is a recession in Columbus, it is a depression down here." The pantry's needs continue to grow along with the worsening economy. A number of the

pantries in Athens County have closed and most of the remaining ones only have food for one or two weeks per month. The Feed My Sheep Pantry which we help has never run out of food. 291 families were served in March 2009.

When school is out, more children will be eating at home rather than at school. Please help! Donations of peanut butter, canned meats, vegetables and fruit are needed.

And don't forget your empty aluminum cans. Please bring cans and food donations to the Social Justice Table. If you prefer to donate money, \$25 buys a large bag of groceries; \$15, a small one.

Thanks for all your help.
-- Jacques Angelino

WARM UP APPALACHIA The afghan knitting continues! Contact Gretchen Curtis, 734-1214, for time and place.

BAKE SALE/SERVICE PROJECT

On Sunday, April 26, the bake sale benefiting the Middle School Youth Group's service project with Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) collected \$250! Thank you for your support.

Our project to donate a "Welcome Basket," items to meet the basic material needs of a family of six, is off to a great start. The Welcome Basket will be delivered to a family of refugees upon their arrival in Columbus. If you volunteered to donate one of the items needed, please bring your donation to the Social Justice table by May 17. We are still looking for the following new or gently used items: set of mixing bowls; set of large pots and pans; set of cooking utensils; sets of extra-long sheets; pillow cases; pillows; blankets.

We'll keep you posted on our progress and what we learn about our family.

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to: **Kyle Pigman** who won the silver medal in the Special Olympics Ohio Sectional Bowling Tournament; **Jim Arter** who will receive the Columbus Gay Men's Chorus Forte Award on May 16; and to our Minister Emerita, **Carol Brody**, who celebrated her birthday recently.

Oskar Thomas Koontz, son of Tom and Kristin and brother of Amelia and Rosemary, was welcomed in the Naming Ceremony on Sunday, April 26.

A speedy recovery to **Pat Owens** who suffered burns as the result of an accidental spill of very hot water; **Gary Williams** who underwent corneal transplant surgery; and **Andy Campbell**, the father of Sophie Smith-Campbell who fractured his skull.

Our thoughts are with **Jeanne Hammond** and her daughter, who underwent surgery for uterine cancer.

Our sympathy to **Joe and Kathleen Fowler** on the death of Joe's mother last weekend. Kathleen conducted the service.

FCACO The Funeral Consumers Alliance of Central Ohio (formerly called *The Memorial Society*) will be holding its annual meeting on *Saturday, May 16, 2009* at the church. The buffet luncheon begins at noon and costs \$10.00. The program follows and will feature Dan Pally, the funeral director of Cook & Son – Pally Funeral Home, one of our cooperating funeral homes.

DENOMINATIONAL CONCERNS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA 09) June 24-28 in Salt Lake City: information can be found about GA
<http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly>.

♪ MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC!

What do community outreach, wonderful music, our beautiful worship space, social justice and church musicians have in common? UUNIVERSE! Diverse Music You Want to Know!

Debut Concert: music by women composers, **May 2, 7:00pm.**

This is not just another chamber music concert series, but a set of experiences designed to bring new folks to our building, reach out to diverse cultural communities, highlight our gifted musicians, put our excellent concert space to use, connect with schools, and build relationships with our existing partners. This new concert series is sponsored by the Music Committee and the Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC).

The method is to perform works of under-represented composers: women, gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender (GLBT), African American, and Hispanic composers. Each concert is accompanied by an outreach mini-concert to a local school or organization. In future seasons, the series will include composers from the Arab, Asian, Jewish and Native American communities.

Publicity to these communities will increase visibility of our spiritual home as well as invite visitors from diverse cultures. The first concert will feature music composed by women of all eras, from Hildegard to Libby Larson.

We hope that concert ticket revenue will allow the project to become self-supporting and to continue after the first grant from the GCAC.

1. More information and poster available at <http://web.me.com/flutibia/FLUTIBIA/UUNIVERSE%21.html>
2. Attend! Buy tickets from Marian at the office, or at the door.
3. If you can't come, give a ticket to someone who might be interested.
4. Put June 18 at 7 pm on your calendar for our second concert of GLBT composers – the eve of PRIDE weekend.

All musicians are members or friends of First UU: Sarah Case, violin & viola; Kari Gunderson, violin; Nathan Hamm, piano; Lea Pearson, flute and Mark Rudoff, cello will be joined by Judy Kleen, violin; Joanna Lowenstein, soprano and Mark Merchant, bass. Lea Pearson, Artistic Director.

And other musical events...

♪ **Spring Choir Concert** "Singing the World, Loving the Earth" with choirs directed by Elizabeth Woodhouse: Peace Pals, Rising Voices, and Spirit of Life. Special guests: *OSU Ladies First*. **Saturday, May 9, 4:30pm.**

♪ **Broadway Sing-along** All are invited to join in a sing-along of great Broadway hits from many eras. **Saturday, May 16, 7:00pm.**

Well, whether we are drawn to Buddhist imagery or not, all of us are being called to mindfulness. With Henderson road reduced to one way going east for several months, and then one way going west for several months, mindfulness about which way we turn when exiting the church parking lot onto Weisheimer is not going to be an option. And next year they are going to dig up Weisheimer itself, so we'll have more amusements. But any solid community never sinks to mere convenience...it finds ways to come together elegantly even when challenges come its way. Mindfulness coming to church and departing from it can be a fruitful spiritual practice.

I read from my book at Riverside the other day. They called me up to read with two other poets who write about health and wholeness. Apparently they read my book to patients on a regular basis, and they wanted to share my poems with the staff, who usually don't get to hear them. Few things could be more gratifying to a poet than learning that his or her poetry is also useful.

For those who do not know, my mother fell just before Easter and was in the hospital during that season, deeply transformed by a bad reaction to morphine. She is doing better now, but is in a nursing home dedicated to physical therapy. She is still confused sometimes. We talk every day, and I call my sister and father often. Her situation occupies much of my inner life these days.

See you at the Nehemiah BREAD Assembly on May 4 (a Monday).



Rev. Mark Belletini

The Inner Flame...from Fernando Pessoa 1933

To be great, be whole;
exclude nothing.
Exaggerate nothing that is you.
Be whole in everything.
Put all you are into the smallest thing you do.
The whole moon gleams in every pond
because it climbs so high.

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

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

Everything in the universe is whirling, is quickened with love.

Fatemeh Keshavarz, Rumi scholar

This was one of those very rich weekends that we seem to have often at First UU. I began to think about an experience in which the messenger is the message, as I drove to church this morning. On NPR Fatemeh Keshavarz talked about the Sufi poet Rumi and read from his incomparable expressions of love. It brought to memory a visit from leaders of the Sufi Mevlevi Order of America to the last church I served. People told me that they still had a floaty feeling more than two days after the experience. I could never put my finger on what had been so special. There was some Rumi poetry, a little about Sufism, some dances and chanting (zikr) and they taught us to turn or whirl. But it wasn't anything they did, really, it seemed. I was who they were. The love that filled them just shone through and reached out to grab us.

On Saturday I sat in as the Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed spoke with our Middle School Sunday School class about race and Unitarian Universalist history. When Mark asked me this morning how I thought his talk went, I didn't seem to have the wit to explain that, like the leaders from the Mevlevi Order, it had little to do with what Mark said and everything to do with the love that he exudes. And today was all about love. Sandwiched between all the hugs I usually get on Sunday morning was Mark's tough, challenging and ringing paean to Universalist love.

Next I participated in the Returning Ceremony for our Coming of Age youth. Love and mutual respect and gratitude flowed around the room, as tears fell and elders tried to make the welcome clear to those entering adulthood. Many struggled with finding the right words but they didn't really need them. They embodied that love, respect, gratitude and welcome. Finally I sat in on the end of Mark's reading from his new book, a memoir. His last selection was a gut punching reminder, as only hilarious stories can deliver that surprise jab to the gut, that an African American in America never can feel entirely safe and must always factor race into the equation. With that he turned over the last pages of the galley proofs and the love continued to shine through.

Jolinda Stephens

Director of Religious Education

jolindast@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Join the Neo-Pagan Festival of Beltane at First Friday, May 1

Come be a Red Beastie Drummer or the Green Man or a White Warrior Woman or a Guardian of the elements or just watch as we romp through a Fire Festival created by the city of Edinburgh and celebrate the rebirth of nature and the return of summer. Go to www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com to choose your part and know how to dress and what to bring and we will supply the facepaint to turn you green or red or blue. Let us know the part you have chosen by clicking on "comments" under the story. Or call the RE Office at extension 28.

It was traditional at Beltane to purify the herd by smoke from the fires as they were driven to their summer pastureland. If the weather is good we will also have a blessing of the animals. Check the blog on Thursday to see if the animal blessing will happen.

We also have special needs for a Trumpeter to open the festival, drummers, tiki torches, if we can hold this outside.

This event, a part of the Turn the World Around series, is for all ages who like to have fun. It begins at 7:30 after the 6:30 potluck supper.

Ceremony for Graduating Seniors

Rev. Eric and Jolinda Stephens will be leading a Bridging Ceremony during the 10 am worship service on May 31st. They are meeting with everyone who wants to participate in the ceremony on May 3rd at 12:45. Our major goals are to support young adults in this transition, publicly acknowledge the life passage and support the idea that they remain connected Unitarian Universalists as they move into adulthood. You do not have to be enrolled in Sunday School to participate. Contact Eric (ext 23, ericm@firstuucolumbus.org) or Jolinda (ext 28, dre@firstuucolumbus.org) if you will attend.

Last Chance for the 2nd Annual Youth Art Show

Would you like your beautiful photographs, drawings, paintings, collages, fiber art, jewelry or sculpture displayed on the walls at First UU? Email Deb Baillieul at debbsyc@yahoo.com with name, contact information, and information about the piece of art by May 1. Then on May 2nd at 10 am bring your piece matted or mounted on board to Room 6. Or bring it to Fellowship Hall on May 3. It should be ready to hang. The show is for school-aged youth. If you need some help with mounting and matting, contact Deb and bring it at 10 on May 2nd.

Group for Infants, Toddlers and Parents May 9 at 11 am

Come meet other families with infants and toddlers in this monthly gathering. For information contact Nancy Powlick at lpowlick@columbus.rr.com.

Get All the Latest First UU News for Parents www.firstuuparents.blogspot.com

Register for Peace Camp Now

Peace Camp is a wonderful tradition at First UU. For more information about it contact Cindy Dillard at cynthia.dillard6@gmail.com. Information and registration forms are at the Sunday School Information Table.

Aug. 3-7 for those entering 1st through 4th grade

Aug. 10-14 for those entering 5th and 6th grades

New Classes for Summer Sunday School

This year we will have three Sunday School classes during the summer. The pre-schoolers will enjoy Dr. Seuss and UU Principles while the Elementary group has fun with Harry Potter. For the first time Middle Schoolers will meet to watch cuts from movies using a curriculum called Popcorn Theology. We need to know how to plan, so register this week and sign up for a week or two in your child's room at the Sunday School Information Table. Summer Sundays when we go to one 10 am service begin May 31st.

ANNUAL MEETING-
June 14, 2009

Candidates for Election

At the annual meeting, the congregation will vote to approve nominees for the Board, Moderator, Nominating Committee and Search Committee. Below are short biographies of nominees for the Board and for Moderator. Additional biographies will appear in future issues of the Discoverer and all biographies will be posted in Fellowship Hall, along with pictures of the nominees.

Board of Trustees

Anita Bucknam: In former UU churches I taught Sunday school, co-chaired the auction and the annual retreat, and served on various committees and the Board of Trustees. I joined First UU two years ago after moving here to teach at Ohio State. I am currently chairing the Membership Committee and am on the administrator search committee.

Judy Kleen: I have been a member of First UU Columbus since moving to Columbus in 1984. Over the years I have been the treasurer three times. I was co-chair of the capital campaign for the new worship center, on the search committee for the senior minister that brought us Mark, and am currently on the administrator search committee. I sing in the Chalice choir and have been active in the musical life of the church. I am both a musician and a CPA so would bring many perspectives to my role as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Doug Rossiter: I recently retired from a business career providing survey research to consumer goods companies. In the community, I have served as Board Chair of On My Own, an organization that helped young adults with mild developmental disabilities become vital, contributing citizens. Currently I serve as an at-large Board member of the Families and Friends Network, an advocacy group with Goodwill Columbus. At First UU, I have worked with Bread and served on the Worship Committee. I am oriented toward practical problem solving and have a reasonably moderate temperament.

Gina Phillips: First UU is where I found and grew to love Unitarian Universalism. I have been attending here for five years. I have been teaching Middle School Sunday School for the last two years and have been active in a variety of church activities and First UU camping. I am a single mother to Cecilia, who is eight, and by day I work at a legal research company, researching and reporting public documents.

Moderator

Doris Oursler: I have been a member since 1990 and have been active in the choir, Membership Committee, Communications Committee, Board of Trustees, and the Pastoral Care Team, among others. An instructional designer and technical writer by trade, I count my 2 long-hair dachshunds, JJ and Sascha, as the rest of my home family.



**BREAD Nehemiah Action Meeting
Monday, May 4 – 6:15 p.m. registration
Veterans Memorial**

**Free Parking...Child Care (ages 3-7)
Carpools from your neighborhood & the church (6:00 p.m.)**

FREE TICKETS: BREAD table after services or a BREAD volunteer
(Why tickets? Not mandatory but will facilitate entry and counting attendance)

WHY COME? Large numbers = more publicity/cooperation by public officials* who can:

- 1) get at least 100 of the **5,200 documented vacant houses** in this area into productive use or demolished and 2) form a task force to streamline the process in the future –
***County Treasurer Ed Leonard and Mayor Michael Coleman**
- lobby for federal funding for the construction of three new health centers to provide primary health care for more of the **152,000** Franklin County residents without health insurance – ***U.S. Representatives Pat Tiberi and Kilroy and Senators Brown and Voinovich or their representatives**
- bring Franklin County's drug court program up to standard and increase referrals of non-violent drug offenders – ***Judge Guy Reece II**, Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

WHY CARPOOL? Yes, parking is free; but BREAD pays \$4.00 per vehicle! Nevertheless, don't let an inability to carpool stop you from coming! **We need to fill Veterans Memorial!**

HELP NEEDED (6:00 p.m., May 4):

- Registration Team to collect/count tickets
- Floor Team to monitor seating and demeanor
- Childcare Volunteers (First UU's Cindy Dillard, supervisor)

Contact Alice Rathburn at alice37@insight.rr.com, 895-2109, or 563-0536 to **volunteer**, to drive or ride from outlying areas, or for more information about BREAD (www.breadcolumbus.org).