

First Unitarian Church of Louisville

~ A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations ~

809 South Fourth Street • Louisville, Kentucky 40203 • (502) 585-5110

Steepletalk

Highlights Edition Summer 2016

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June-August 2016

Ministry Updates

MISSION & OUTREACH New Roots Fresh Stop Market is coming to First U on June 23. Have questions? See the full page of FAQ in the newsletter. For more information, call 502-509-6770 or info@newroots.org. CLOUT Celebrate the results of the hard work of CLOUT this year. A list of accomplishments as a result of CLOUT's hard work. Thanks to the First U members that did so much to help support the causes.

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION Description of Summer Classes for Children and Adults. RE will not meet June 26. Volunteers are needed to help in one or more of the Picture Book UU classes. Contact Linette at dre@firstulou.org RE Commissioning and Registration will be August 14. See pictures from the RE Celebration and the Whole Church Picnic on pages

RESOURCE MINISTRY Many lost and found items found their way home during the month of May. Various groups in the ministry have been and continue to be busy. Resource Ministry would like to thank those that help save our Resources and make this a pleasant place for all by picking up after themselves and others. Thank you for turning off lights and making sure doors are locked.

WORSHIP MINISTRY June brings us sermons on the ministry theme of Compassion. July brings a focus on Harmony and finding a balance. Sabbath is the theme for August. The Water Ceremony will be August 14

Updates from the Church Groups

ARCHIVES PROJECT John Findling and Kathy Kremer attended an orientation sessions to learn how to conduct interviews with our members and have begun interviewing people. First U Archivists are John jfindlin@ius.edu and Kathy at kathykremer11@gmail.com.

FIRST U BOOK CLUB UU Book Club meets on the second Monday of each month in the Parlor at 6:00. A list of upcoming books is in the newsletter.

BLACK LIVES MATTER VIGILS Summer vigils will be held at noon on June 12, July 10, and August 14. Signs provided.

CUUPS met on June 1st and discussed the Summer Solstice. The next meeting will be on August 3rd,

SOLAR ARRAY Learn about shipping containers and how recyclable waste is handled. (The US generates around 130 millions tons of it per year!)

WOMENS' ALLIANCE Pictures of the recent Shower for parents at Scholar House.

Staff and Board of Trustees, Board Groups

STAFF Be inspired by words from Rev. Dawn Cooley and DRE, Linette Lowe. Rev. Dawn brings a reminder that YOU are needed just for being you, even if are in need. Your place is with your religious community. Linette shares some thoughts about summer activities. She shares some suggestions for some things to consider for your faith development.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES We adopted modifications on our Welcoming Congregation. (see back) Devi Pierce is the new Board President. A vice president will be elected at the meeting on June 14 by the Board. Minutes from the meeting will need to be approved at the June Board meeting and then they will be available online and as a hard copy. The budget was approved at the Annual meeting. The Reports to the Congregation are available online on the First U webpage at

<http://www.firstulou.org/sites/default/files/2016%20Annual%20Report.pdf>

Election Reminder: First U isn't allowed to enforce or condemn anyone running for political office. Memembers can stil express themselves, but the church itself can't tke a stand.

BUILDING USE COMMITTEE Five groups call 809 S Fourth St "home." In addition to First U, this includes CLCM, Forward Radio, Spiritual Israel, Christ Sophia Inclusive Catholic Community by the Roman Catholic Women Priests, and not included in that number, soon, Fresh Stop

TOTALS Wrap your head around these numbers (Note: RE classes counted as one unit.)

564	routine meetings (47 meetings a month)
102	First U church services and RE (incl no-RE dates)
12	First Sunday Lunches
64	Spiritual Israel and CSICC services
210	CLCM open (closed Christmas and holidays)
75	anticipated one-time rental events
<u>11</u>	Fresh Stop market days

One Time Events

Total Jan-May

2014	32	15
2015	46	23
2016	?	33

ESTIMATED 2016 TOTAL 1,038 separate activities on the calendar We're on target to have DOUBLE the one-time events in 2016 that we did just two years ago.

STEWARDSHIP The Spring Stewardship drive was a huge success. We raised a total of \$204,000 in pledges, and 99 out of a total of 135 pledge units pledged for the next fiscal year. We also raised over \$7000 for the UUA fair share fund. Thanks to everyone for their wonderful generosity.

OUR MINISTRY STAFF

The Rev. Dawn Cooley Minister minister@firstulou.org

Linette Lowe Director Religious Exploration, dre@firstulou.org

Christe Lunsford Music Director, music@firstulou.org



UUA General Assembly
Columbus, Ohio
June 22-26.

FYI

FIRST U HIKERS Dates: June 26, starting at 5pm; July 31 5pm, and a moonlight hike Friday August 19. Locations to be announced. For further information, contact Roger Ohlman rohlman@twc.com

BROWNBAGGERS The group will meet June 14 at 11:30 to discuss ideas for the fall and winter meetings then takes a break.

FORECASTLE FESTIVAL Want to volunteer and raise money for the church? Contact Kathy Gapsis kgapsis@gmail.com to sign up.

KCIW OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY If you are interested in participating in a new outreach effort to the Kentucky Correctional Institute for Women (KCIW) in Pewee Valley, please contact Rev. Dawn at minister@firstulou.org.

MEETING DATE CHANGES Due to the upcoming General Assembly date, the June Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 6 pm June 14. The Finance Committee normally held that day has been moved to 4:45 on June 7th.

SUMMER RE June 12, we will begin our Children's Summer RE begins June 12 in rooms 212/213. Adult classes remain the same in June but change topics in July. See the newsletter for class descriptions for children and adults. RE will not meet on June 26.

DISCOUNT TICKETS There are still some remaining from the Service Auction. The list is in the newsletter. Contact Kathy Gapsis for more information.

PETER MAYER IN CONCERT Peter Mayer is a UU Musician. He wrote *Blue Boat Home* and *Holy Now*. Concerts are June 17 in Nicholasville, KY and June 18 in Buffalo, Kentucky. See more information and a video of his performance in the newsletter.

GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE The schedule for Church Group meeting days and times is in the newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS LYDIA SCHWEICKART! Lydia graduated recently. See more about her accomplishments and plans in the newsletter.

Our Welcome Statement:



We welcome all persons to participate fully, openly, and equally, in all aspects of our congregational life, in ever-widening circles of inclusion. We respect and affirm diversity and its gifts in race, ethnicity, national origin, affectional or sexual orientation, family or relationship structure, gender identity, gender expression, sex, abilities, neurodiversity, age, socio-economic class, political views, religious belief, creed, or interpretation of religion.

First U Website www.firstulou.org

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Next Deadline: July 15 for the Fall Preview newsletter looking ahead to August and September. events.