

STEEPLETALK

U N I T A R I A N

Volume 7, Number 2

January 21, 2001

F **I** **R** **S** **T**
F **U** **R** **C** **H**
First Unitarian Church • 809 S. Fourth Street • Louisville, KY 40203 • (502)585-5110 or 589-6028 • Fax (502) 587-8446

Richard Beal, Minister, (502)584-2332 • Lisa Willner, Interim R.E. Coordinator (502)634--0249 • Doug Taylor, Board President, (812)949-0411

Timothy Glasscock, Music Director • Sheryl Soderberg, Instrumentalist • Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus • Anne Miller, D.R.E. Emeritus •

Alice Taveirne, Office Manager • Office Hours: 9:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. • Celebration of Life 10:55am • www.firstlou.org • richard_beal@bellsouth.net

Farewell to Tim--and Good Luck

We were sad to learn that Sunday, Jan. 14, was **Tim Glasscock's** last service with us. He regrets that his jobs in Campbellsville and Lexington, plus his doctoral work, make it impossible for him to give the proper time and attention to being the music and choir director for First U. And we regret that we will no longer enjoy his wonderful voice, terrific sense of humor, and extraordinary gift of teaching. We wish Tim the best in all he undertakes!

Help Raise Money for Public Radio

The Public Radio Partnership Pledge Drive is upon us again. Help out our favorite radio stations and help First U with free publicity. We are responsible for answering phones on **Sunday, Feb. 18**, from **8 a.m. until 11 p.m.**

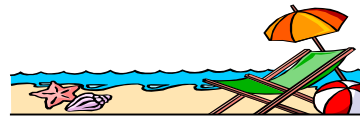
There are numerous two- or three-hour slots available. The PR committee will be taking sign ups at coffee hour for the next several weeks. Have fun at the new Public Radio building, hang out with First U buddies, and provide a community service, all at the same time. See or call or e-mail **Joan Beal (xxx-xxxx, joansbeal@aol.com)** or anyone from Denominational Affairs or Public Relations committee.

Few Places Left for Women's Retreat

As of deadline, there are five spots left for the **Women's Retreat on Saturday, February 3** from **10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The retreat entitled "Oh Woman, Remember Who You Are" focuses on remembering when women have felt most fully alive. Facilitator, **Mary Farmer** uses guided imagery, reflection time and group process as participants discern what they desire now to be fully alive. All women of the church are invited, but we are limited to 20 participants. The cost is \$20 which includes lunch, refreshments and childcare. Call **Melissa Draut at xxx-xxxx** for more information.

CUUPS to Celebrate Spring

CUUPS invites you to celebrate the hope of spring in the midst of winter. Come to our Imbolc ritual on **February 2, at 7:30 pm.** The celebration will be held at the church. If you have questions, call **Linda Berry (xxx-xxxx)** or **Suzanne Turner (xxx-xxxx)**.



Beach Party Potluck

This **Friday, January 19**, "Third Friday" potlucks resume with a summer beach theme. (What better way to relieve cabin fever?) So bring your favorite summer beach dish, wear your Hawaiian shirt, and arrive around **6:30** for fun in the sun -- and good food.

"Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law."

WAYWARD PULPIT

“We have to get our act together!” That was what kept going through my mind ... back when I was a full-time church volunteer. My family and I belonged to a wonderful parish with many gifted and spirit-filled people. They committed a great deal of time, energy, and care to supporting the life of our church. I couldn’t understand why we didn’t see more results from all the effort that was being put forth. Not surprisingly, these dedicated people sometimes wondered if their efforts were a waste of time.

[I went to hear Jean Morris Trumbauer at a national volunteer conference ...]

Convinced she was right, I went back to my parish and got to work, using the information I had gathered at the workshop. I started small, applying the principles in the area for which I was responsible. And ... it worked! Finding people to volunteer was no longer a chore. We wrote creative job descriptions, breaking them down into chewable pieces. We interviewed people, finding out why they wanted to volunteer and what gifts they brought to the work they were interested in doing. People felt wanted, productive, and respected. We accomplished a lot and had fun doing it. Pretty soon other people in the church began to wonder why our group was having so much success. ...

Steepletalk

Published every two weeks with exceptions by
First Unitarian Church of Louisville
809 South 4th Street
Louisville, KY 40203
Next deadline: **Friday, January 26, 2001**



Editor: Claudia Runge
(502) 454 - 7563
c_runge@bellsouth.net

It’s much easier to describe this movement from volunteerism to ministry [the end result of a Shared Ministry program] than it is to change.

--A brief excerpt from the *Introduction to Sharing the Ministry: A Practical Guide For Transforming Volunteers Into Ministers*

COMMENTARY

I’d like to welcome - and encourage all of us to welcome - **Laura Jennings**, who has been hired by the church as our first **Shared Ministry Coordinator**. Laura, the mother of **xxxx**, joined First Unitarian in May of 1997, and has spent almost four years trying to figure out how to become involved and make a contribution to this church. Fortunately, she became involved in the RE program and has served this year on the RE Council. This led to her becoming more knowledgeable about the church and the way it functions (both the good and the bad aspects of our functioning). Equally important, some of the “movers and shakers” in the church got to know Laura and urged her to pursue her interest in applying for the Shared Ministry position.

We’re very pleased she did and to have her in a position she’s researched and become very excited about helping us all discover more about and get underway. Because of the way this position was funded in last year’s budget, Laura will be working approximately half-time for the rest of this fiscal year [which ends for us on June 30th). She’ll be helping us gradually work toward implementing a Shared Ministry program here and will need all of us to work with her to do so successfully. To the extent we are successful, it will become much easier for us to find our place in the mission and ministry of the church, and to feel wanted, productive and respected as we do.

Welcome, Laura, we look forward to

Seeing more of you in the life of the church.

Richard

Denominational and Church Affairs

Evensong Series Drawing to a Close

Evensong will be held in the sanctuary from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. on the following **Wednesday**:

- **Jan. 24 Ministry** -- What is my ministry? What am I called to do in the world? (This is the last session of the Evensong program.)
- **Feb. 14** - no session
- **Feb. 28** - *Spirituality Group* programming resumes

Childcare will be provided. For more information call **Marty Horrar** at xxx-xxxx or **Melissa Draut** at xxx-xxxx. *Evensong* is an informal service of talking and listening as a means of spiritual gathering.

Lifespan Looking and Learning (Adult Religious Education) Sunday morning -- 9:45 to 10:45 Church Library

Upcoming Topics

On the last two Sundays in January, ARE will focus on a UU Study Action Issue:

Jan. 21 & 28

An Alternative to the War on Drugs

For more information on the issue, see the ARE web page at www.firstulou.org.

Feb 4 -- *Christian Creation Myths*

Feb 11 -- *Other Creation Myths*

Book Group to Meet this Month

The First UU book group will meet on **Sunday, January 28**, at Zephyr Gallery (610 East Market), after church (**Sharon** and **David Leighty** hosting). The book is Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*.

ROMEOS Meet and Eat

Start the New Year right by sharing lunch and fellowship with other men. ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) meet the **first Wednesday of each month** at Piccadilly Cafeteria, 123 S. Hurstborne Pkwy. (the one almost to Shelbyville Road) at 12:15.

Kroger Bucks Still on Sale after Church

Just a reminder that the Social Responsibility Committee will be selling Kroger Bucks after church in the social hall on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. While the committee may sell them on other Sundays, the goal is to have them available every 2nd and 4th Sunday.

Consider SUUSI 2001

Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute will be at Blacksburg VA, July 22-28, 2001. SUUSI has attained an almost mythic status among UU events. If you are interested in a new, exciting, sociable and different way to spend a vacation, contact www.suusi.org, or see **Joan Beal** for phone numbers of organizers.

Brownbaggers Plan Art Outting

The Brown Baggers will meet on **Friday, February 2**, for a very special outing to the **Carnegie Center for Art & History in New Albany**, to see "Bruce Fox: Artistry in Aluminum," an extensive display of the artist's works and colorful family and business history. Bruce Fox's work was sold throughout the world. The Carnegie Center will exhibit a wide range of his popular designs, one-of-a-kind creations, paintings and drawings, and commemorative works, many of them to be shown publicly for the first time. Visitors will view a living room and dining room of the 1950's, showing Bruce Fox creations in context, with furnishings on loan from Louisville antique dealers. The exhibit will also focus on Bruce Fox design and manufacturing processes, paintings and drawings by the artist, advertising and giftware, and memorabilia and anecdotes showcasing Fox's colorful lifestyle and personal history.

Bring your brown bag lunch, and meet at the Carnegie Center at 12 noon on February 2. We'll have lunch before touring the exhibit. If you will need transportation, please tell the Telephone Committee person who contacts you. The Carnegie Center is in downtown New Albany, at 201 E. Spring Street.

RE News

Our 1st and 2nd graders are using the curriculum “Stories About God.” The stories draw from a variety of different cultures and religious traditions. One of our second graders contributed the following:

“In the first and second grade class, we have been learning stories about God. In one story, a boy and a girl can’t decide what God’s real name is. So they set out to find God and ask him what his name really is. In the end God tells them he has many names.

In another story, a girl is afraid to try the big slide on the playground. Other children teased her because she was afraid to go down the big slide. Her friends didn’t like her, because she wouldn’t join them while they tried it. So in a prayer, she asked God for help. In the end, she met a boy. He went down the little slide with her. Then he told her he wanted to go down the big slide, but he needed her to go with him. Without noticing what she was doing, she went down the big slide after him. So you see, God is many things.”

Thanks, Nora, and many thanks to **Kathy Gapsis** and **Beth Nahinsky** for leading this lively and interesting class.

Yours with love,

Lisa



RE Announcements

All teaching slots are filled for the spring semester. There will be a **brief orientation session for incoming teachers on Sunday morning, January 21 at 11:00** in the RE Library. (Exiting teachers: please remember to turn in your curriculum books.)



Marti McDaniel returns with the *Parenting Teens Discussion Group*. The first meeting will be on **January 21st at 9:45** in the Parlor. Future meeting dates will be determined by Marti and the group. One of the topics of discussion will be “Why Teens Fib.” All are invited, but especially parents of teens and pre-teens.

Registration forms for the **Women’s Retreat** are on the upstairs bulletin board.

Remember that the **final Open Classroom meeting** of the year will be on January 28th. Many thanks to all who made the Open Classroom such a wonderful experience.



**Lisa Willner, RE Coordinator
(Interim)**

Church office
(502) 585-5110

Home
(502) 634-0249

E-mail
lis_wil@bellsouth.net (at church)
lisa@scruton.win.net (at home)

Office Hours
Monday and Wednesday mornings
Tuesdays 3:00 - 7:00

ADULT PROGRAMS SURVEY

Page 1

A recurrent theme in all our conversations about directions for this church is the need for additional programming for adults. The Adult Programming Project Team would like to provide such opportunities, but we need to know what will be supported by the congregation. So please help us by filling out this survey. Those who express an interest will be contacted about signing up for programs.

Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____ e-mail address _____

Most programs are for 5 to 10 sessions of 1 1/2 to 2 hours each. Please check those in which you would participate.

Being Liberal in an Illiberal Age—Alone and Together

Explores the book by Jack Mendelsohn through discussion and reflection. Introduces Unitarian Universalism. Encourages development and articulation of personal beliefs, values and meaning for religious liberals. Yes ___ No ___

Our Chosen Faith

Reading, reflecting, writing and discussing based on book by John A. Buehrens and F. Forrester Church. Addresses five of the Sources of the Living Tradition of the UUA. Yes ___ No ___

Building your Own Theology Volume III: Ethics, An Exploration in Personal Morality

The concept of the ?Moral Compass? helps identify eight modes of decision-making. Draws on literary, historical and contemporary case studies. Yes ___ No ___

Life Tapestry, An Exploration of Adult Life Issues

Offers insights on such issues as listening and communication, dreams and reality, intimacy and independence, aging, and spirituality. Uses experiential activities, guided meditation, and the arts. Yes ___ No ___

Religious Liberals Read the Bible

Examines 8 great themes from biblical literature: creation, liberation, exaltation, frustration, redemption, incarnation, and salvation. Yes ___ No ___

Parents as Resident Theologians

Helps parents respond to religious questions of their children. Yes ___ No ___

Parents as Social Justice Educators

Makes connections between our religious faith and values and our actions. Yes ___ No ___

Being a Unitarian Universalist Parent

A participatory program to enhance the religious dimension of family life and provide a parent support group. Yes ___ No ___

TURNPAGE OVER

ADULT PROGRAMS SURVEY

Page 2

Please indicate your first(1), second(2) and third(3) choices of meeting times for these possible programs.

Wednesday evenings: 6:00 - 8:00 PM _____ 7:00 - 9:00 PM _____

Sunday: 9:45 to 10:50 am _____ 1:00 - 3:00 PM _____ 6:30 - 8:30 PM _____

Other times? _____

Will you need childcare provided in order to participate? Yes ___ No ___

Would you be interested in an Exploratory Workshop on a Saturday morning? Yes ___ No ___

A three hour exploratory workshop to identify additional opportunities for meeting the desires and needs of adults in the congregation. It would address choosing a special program, setting it up, creating the right environment, and effectively leading the group.

Other Topics or Suggestions?

Please return this survey to the Church Office, or place it in the "Survey Box" in the Volunteers Area **by Jan 28.**

First Unitarian Church
809 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40203
Attn: APPT

Calendar: January 18 - February 4

January 2001

18 Thursday

7:00pm Care Committee (Library or Parlor)

19 Friday

6:30pm All Church Pot Luck (Social Hall) - See p.1

21 Sunday

9:45am Adult RE (Library)

9:45am Parenting Group (Parlor)

12:30pm Board (Library)

24 Wednesday

7:00pm Evensong (Sanctuary)

25 Thursday

7:00pm Polyamory Discussion Group (Parlor)

28 Sunday

9:45am Adult RE (Library)

12:30-3:30pm Goal Setting/Stewardship (Social Hall)

February 2001

3 Saturday

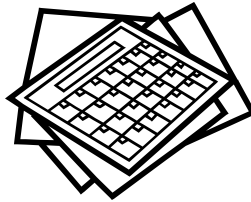
9:30am-4:00pm Women's Retreat (Classrooms Upstairs)

4 Sunday

RE 2nd SEMESTER BEGINS

9:45am Adult RE (Library)

12:15pm Monthly After-Church Luncheon (Social Hall)



Just among ourselves

Rae Cobbs is excited about a new position with the Volunteer Talent Center America Reads Program. As a VISTA Volunteer, her first task is to issue an emergency plea for tutors of 2nd and 3rd grade students at Coleridge-Taylor Elementary School. Please contact her at xxx-xxxx or at work, xxx-xxxx if you would like to be a tutor.

Congratulations to **Toby and Harold Wilcher** on the birth of their baby girl, xxx xxxxxx, who was born in December.



Our thoughts are with **Ruth Weinstock**, who has been in the hospital twice in the past month. At this writing, Ruth is slowly recovering at Baptist East. We hope that she will be returning to Four Courts soon.

The Care Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank our church members who again helped make Vespers such a memorable event. So many people, especially Richard, Tim, Lisa, and the members of the Worship and Music committees gave their time and gifts to create a meaningful service. Many thanks, too, to those who brought so many cookies(!) and to everyone who helped prepare the cookies and punch for after Vespers: **Dorothy Grossman, Kathy Drehmel, Lincoln Crum, Jenny Findling, Diane Carlin, Anne Caudill, Elmer Downs, xxxxx xxxxxxx, Linda Fry, xxxxx xxxxx, Virginia Allen, Martha Latta, Vickie Patterson, Mary Lou Ellison, Myrrandha Arkaen, xxxx xxxxx, xxxxxx xxxxx, and xxxxx xxxxxxx.** Others visited our church members, who are unable to attend Sunday services, and brought them cookies and best wishes: **Carol Findling, Bev Moore, Claudia Runge, and Isabel Silverman.**

**First Unitarian Church
809 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40203-2115**

Return Service Requested

**Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, Kentucky
Permit No. 146**

Scryings

Celebrations of Life

Sunday services begin at 10:55 a.m.

January 21 **Phillip Cherry** presents a living portrait of *Martin Luther King's timeless and timely call to harmony and justice*--with the musical accompaniment of **John Gage**--in a Worship Committee Service.

January 28 *Heretic's Heart*. We'll examine a wonderful autobiography by Margot Adler, who was born to left-wing secular Jewish parents in New York, was an activist in the Free Speech Movement at Berkeley, a correspondent for NPR, a Pagan priestess, a presenter at UUA General Assemblies. In her own journey and resulting person she brings together many seemingly disparate elements in Unitarian Universalism.

February 4 *The Scapegoat in Organizations and Society*. We all have heard of scapegoats. We have an idea of the function they serve in "primitive" societies. What about in our personal behavior and our own organizations? A necessary evil? A necessary good?