

# FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

Volume 8, Number 20

27 October 2002

809 S. Fourth Street • Louisville KY 40203 • (502)585-5110 or 589-6028 • Fax (502)587-8446  
www.firstulou.org • Office Hours: 9:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. M-F • Celebration of Life 10:55am Sundays  
Norm Stewart, Minister (502)561-8326 • Lisa Willner, Director of Religious Education (502)634--0249  
John Miller, Board President (502)895-4160 • Jen Lavery, Office Manager • Michael Megahan, Music Director  
Marian Ziebell, Instrumentalist • Anne Miller, DRE Emeritus • Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus

## First Unitarian Gives Generously to Mind the Gap!

from **Linette Lowe**, Mind the Gap Coordinator

**H**ave you ever wondered what it feels like to raise the roof during a worship service? That's what happened in our congregation on Sunday, October 6, as we celebrated Youth and Young Adult Ministry Sunday in joyous style. We were blessed with inspiring **stories from Anne Miller, David Reed, Jay Dolen** and **xxxxx xxxxx**, and we had terrific **music provided by xxxxx xxxxx-xxxxxxx** and **Terry and xxxxx White**. And we made our own miracles happen, for we raised **\$1,166.15** in support of youth, young adult, and campus ministry programs across the Unitarian Universalist Association! **WOW!** Let me just say how proud I am to be a member of such a generous community - and you should be, too. Please accept sincere thanks for your wonderful support of this effort! If you'd like to follow the funds raised and how they will be used, go to <http://www.uua.org/Sunday2002> for updates and information.

## Entering Our Church Community

**N**ot sure about how to become a part of First Unitarian Church? Here are a few suggestions from the Membership Committee.

- (1) Attend Sunday services, which we call Celebrations of Life, at least seven (7) times. Our Services are varied and seven times gives you a good sample.
- (2) Complete the green "Visitor Information" card. You will start receiving our bimonthly newsletter *Steepletalk*.
- (3) Read all information in the yellow "Message to Our Visitors".
- (4) Attend SMART (Sunday Morning Adult Round Table at 9:40am).
- (5) Come to Chalice Night Wednesday evenings.
- (6) Check out the Visitor's Table on Sunday morning in the Social Hall.
- (7) Read the Unitarian Universalists ...*(continued on page 7)*

**"To seek the truth in love..."**

STEEPLETALK



## Notes From Norm

Our next three Celebrations of Life should be quite engaging in very different ways.

On October 27th the service celebrates our month of discernment and consciousness raising around issues relating to this congregation's aspiration to be a Welcoming Congregation.

On November 10th, **Jo Ann Dale** and **Barb Coles** coordinate a service to help us remember more intimately the human side of war.

November 3rd will be our Second Annual fiesta el Día de Los Muertos, Day of the Dead service. My colleague and classmate from seminary, Peter Morales says, "Día de los Muertos ... mixes celebration and mourning. Like a good UU memorial service, it both affirms life and gives us a chance to share our grief."

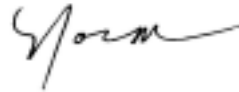
As I write this, our DRE **Lisa Willner** is in Asheville, NC for a LREDA (liberal religious educators) conference. Here's what Lisa wrote before last year's service: "First U members and friends of all ages are invited to worship together to celebrate Día de los Muertos. (Optional childcare is available for Kindergartners and younger.) This 3000 year-old Mexican festival is not only a day of mourning, but a day to celebrate the lives of loved ones who have died. **We invite everyone to participate by bringing offerings for our ofrenda (altar).** We ask that you bring favorite foods or beverages of the dead loved ones whose lives you wish to celebrate. Photographs, articles of clothing, musical instruments, toys and games, even favorite brand of cigarettes and imbibements (!! ) are items traditionally brought to the ofrenda. This will be an important element in our ser-

vice, and we do hope that people of all ages will participate by bringing in items. (Following the Mexican tradition of feasting at this special time of the year, we can celebrate after the service by sharing the food and drink items brought to the ofrenda.)"

**Pan de muerto** - Last year many of you made Pan de muerto (bread) for our ofrendas. Lisa has a website with a recipe for Pan de muerto and she will be sending out an announcement on the church e-mail announcement list with that website. If you don't do e-mail contact Lisa for a copy of the recipe.

There will also be an opportunity at our October 30th, Chalice Night to create a small alter space for loved ones who are no longer present with us in the flesh.

I hope most of you will be able to join us for our Celebrations of Life in the next few weeks.



**Lisa Willner**  
**Religious Education Director**

*Telephone*  
(502) 585-5110 (Office)  
(502) xxx-xxxx (Home)

*E-mail*  
dre@firstulou.org  
xxx@xxxxxxx.win.net (home)

*Office Hours*  
Monday 12 - 3  
Tuesday 12 - 6  
Wednesday 12 - 3  
or by appointment

**Friday is Lisa's day off.**

from *Lisa*

Children will trick-or-treat for UNICEF this Sunday, **October 27th** at the beginning of the Celebration of Life. All are encouraged to come in costume. There will be a special children's lesson about UNICEF immediately preceding, from 9:45 - 10:45 in the Open Classroom.

The final **Memory Box** session will be on **November 3rd**. At the end of this session, we'll take our finished projects to the Sanctuary to share with the congregation during the Day of the Dead service. *If you took your family's box home to complete, please remember to bring it back to church with you on November 3rd.*

## Christmas Choir for All Ages!

As part of R.E.'s Artist in Residence series, and in preparation for the R.E. Holiday Celebration of Life, **this special holiday choir begins rehearsals on Sunday morning, November 17 at 9:45.** Last year's Children's Choir was so successful and fun, that **Music Director Michael Megahan** and the R.E. Committee decided to let people of all ages in on it. Children, youth, adults: if you'd like to sing in this special choir, please sign up on the R.E. Committee bulletin board just outside the Open Classroom. *Families are especially encouraged to participate together!!*



## Sunday Morning Adult Round Table

Church Library

Sharing at 9:30am

Program - 9:40 until 10:45am

also from Lisa Willner

Announcing a very special Sunday Morning Adult Round Table, November 3rd. Please join us in welcoming our **special guest, Amy Shelton, from Witness for Peace**. Amy is a Louisville native, a graduate of Manual High School and the University of Kentucky. Amy will be visiting with us from her home in Managua, Nicaragua where she is a member of the Witness for Peace International Team. Witness for Peace began accompanying Nicaraguan citizens during the U.S. funded Contra War, and has continued to work in Nicaragua and throughout Latin America to bring to light the effects of U.S. policy on Latin America and to promote peace, justice, and sustainable economies. In her talk, **"Peace In the Absence of War: The Cycle of Military and Economic Violence in Nicaragua,"** Amy will give a brief history of Witness for Peace and its work in Nicaragua, followed by a discussion of the organization's current work. Her focus will be on trade issues, the role of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, and how U.S. policy is directly affecting Nicaraguans. There will be opportunity for questions and discussion. Please join us, and listen to Amy's firsthand account of her experiences in Nicaragua. For more information about Witness for Peace, visit [www.witnessforpeace.org](http://www.witnessforpeace.org).



## Shared Ministry

### ...Lookin' For A Few Good UU's

Do you feel like being more a part of our church community? What would it be like to participate in developing a Celebration of Life or exploring an area of social concern? Perhaps you can do these things as a member of one of our church committees. Or, perhaps you are interested in fostering the social events in our church life or in shaping the religious education program for our youth or adults.

Shared Ministry committee is looking for members or friends who are looking for ways to enrich their spiritual connection to First U by participating in the organizational life of our church. This level of participation can add immeasurably to your religious experience in a responsible and caring way.

These opportunities are limited to persons not currently serving on a committee, task force, or other form of regular nonmonetary contribution. If you are interested let **Kathy Drehmel** (xxx-xxxx or xxxxxxxxxx@aol.com) or **George Schuhmann** (xxx-xxxx or xxxxxxxx@aol.com) know how you would like to help, or leave a note in the Shared Ministry box in the volunteer area.



Visit our web page on the Internet

[www.firstulou.org](http://www.firstulou.org)

- Church Calendar
- List Server signup
- More Steepletalk
- Lifespan Religious Education
- Our Constitution

The advertisement features a red and yellow border. On the left, there is a list of website features. On the right, there is a small screenshot of the website's interface, showing a search bar and various links.

## Board Biz

### FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH GENERAL FUND OPERATING STATEMENT

Thru Sept 2002 2002-2003 Budget

#### Income

Pledges  
Other

Total Income

#### Expenses

Salaries/Benefits  
Office Expenses  
Buildings and Grounds  
Miscellaneous  
Programs/Committees

#### Total Expenses

#### Net Income/(Loss)

**Make sure your pledges are paid up to date and support the November 3rd Service Auction, our biggest fund-raiser. Doug Yoder, Treasurer**

## Steepletalk

Published every two weeks (with exceptions) by

**First Unitarian Church of Louisville**

809 South 4th Street

Louisville, KY 40203

Next deadline: **Friday, November 01, 2002**  
(covers November 10-23)



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## ***Congregational Services Volunteers***

**Yes! I am willing to give my time to provide assistance to our members and friends at times of crisis.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**I can help with the following (check all that apply):**

\_\_\_\_\_ Occasional food for shut-ins, the bereaved, or those recently discharged from the hospital

\_\_\_\_\_ Occasional transportation for those who cannot drive

\_\_\_\_\_ Help purchase and prepare food for memorial service receptions

\_\_\_\_\_ Set up or clean up for memorial service receptions

\_\_\_\_\_ Set up and serve coffee during social hour after the Sunday morning Celebration of Life

For further information call **Joan Johnson, xxx-xxxx.**

**Please mail this form to the church, 809 South Fourth Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40203, or place it in the Congregational Services basket on the desk in the volunteer area.**

First Unitarian Church

# Service Auction!

Sunday, Nov. 3

Silent Auction & Refreshments 6:00 p.m.

Service Auction 7:00 p.m.

Make donations by  
NOON, Nov. 3:

Tiffany Taylor: xxxxxxxxx@aol.com,  
xxx-xxxx

Anne Miller: xxxxxxxxx@webtv.net,  
xxx-xxxx



Most important:  
Be there to bid!

Stay for the entire auction  
to be entered in a chance  
to win a \$100 bill!

(from page 1...) Principles and Purposes. (8) Talk with **Lisa Willner**, Director of Religious Education, and **Norm Stewart**, our Minister. (9) Visit our website, [www.firstulou.org](http://www.firstulou.org), and visit the website of the Unitarian Universalist Association, [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org). (10) Attend the New UU program. This program is offered twice a year, fall and spring. (11) Ask questions. The Greeters at the Library Lane Entrance can help you or guide you to someone who can help you. (12) Think about how you would like to connect in a group or committee with the other friends and members of our church. The Membership Committee and/or the Shared Ministry Committees can help you with this. Again the Greeters at the Library Lane can guide you. First Unitarian has many active

friends in our congregation and we also have many members.

If you are thinking of membership please complete a "Covenant Card" which the greeters at the Library Lane can give you. Norm Stewart, our minister, will contact you and arrange a meeting. After your meeting with Norm you are welcome to sign our Membership Book. We honor our new members once in the Fall (November 17th) and once in the Spring.

**Thank You!**

**T**he **Membership Committee** thanks all the folks who came to church to have their pictures taken for the New Picture Directory!

# Calendar

## OCTOBER

**27 Sunday**

**10:55am Celebration Of Life**

5:30pm WC Weekend Ends

6:00pm CUUPS

6:30pm YOUUTH And YRUU Groups

**29 Tuesday**

6:30pm Ad Hoc Building Use, Library

**30 Wednesday**

**5:30pm Chalice Night**

**31 Thursday**

7:30 Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

## NOVEMBER

**1 Friday**

6:30pm Interweave Dance & Potluck, SH

**3 Sunday**

**10:55am Celebration Of Life**

**6:00pm Service Auction**

6:30pm YOUUTH And YRUU Groups

**5 Tuesday**

6:30pm RE Committee, Open Classroom

**6 Wednesday**

**5:30pm Chalice Night**

5:30pm Committee On Ministry, Minister's Office

**7 Thursday**

7:30pm Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

## Just Among Ourselves

Attention future Rumania/Transylvania travelers: **Anne Caudill** has donated a Rumanian language course to the church library.

**Carol Findling** and **Kathy Eickmann** are selling Entertainment Books (\$20 for discounts in area restaurants, hotels, etc.) to benefit **Trash Force**. Carol's number is xxx-xxxx and Kathy's is xxx-xxxx.



**John Scruton** says, "Many thanks from the Music Committee to the **Gateway Store**, for its **donation of a computer** for the choir room. The computer will be used to maintain information about the Church's music archives. Thanks also to **Jen Heath**, who secured the donation".

Unitarian Universalist  
Association  
42nd General Assembly  
June 26-30, 2003



from  
Boston...  
to the  
World

- √ Discounted registration thru Nov. 15
- √ Forms available in volunteer area

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

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### Celebrations of Life

*Sunday services begin at 10:55 a.m.*

**October 27:** *We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table: Why I'm an Elitist, Sexist, Racist, Heterosexist, Unitarian Universalist. Rev. Stewart and the Welcoming Congregation Committee.* This weekend we are reaffirming our commitment to being a Welcoming Congregation. Today's service will celebrate the work we have done so far and lift up the hopes we have for more inclusiveness at our welcome table. Children will trick or treat for UNICEF at the beginning of the service

**November 3 (Day of the Dead):** *Who Will Watch the Home Place* Rev. Norm Stewart. "Día de los Muertos ... mixes celebration and mourning. Like a good UU memorial service, it both affirms life and gives us a chance to share our grief." We will be creating altars with photographs, mementos, flowers, candles, etc. to remember and celebrate the lives of those we choose to remember. Please bring something for the altars we will be creating.

**November 10:** *Remembrance Day Worship Committee.* We will look at wartime and resistance through our Unitarian Universalist principles and the letters of ordinary people.