

# FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

Volume 9, Number 14

27 July 2003

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)585-5110  
Jane M. Buckley, Board President • Barbara Kearley, Shared Ministry Coordinator • Bryan Reiff, Office Manager  
Marian Ziebell, Interim Music Director • Anne Miller, DRE Emeritus • Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus



## First U Folks Share Special GA Experience

by **Kathy Thackeray**

Your delegates to the **42nd General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association**, between June 26 and June 30 in Boston, Massachusetts, had a great time. We know you didn't send us there to do only that! We did attend the plenary (business) sessions and many workshops and other various events. We will share what we learned to the various committees and Board and Council at their meetings, and we will share our experience with all of you at a SMART (Sunday Morning Adult Roundtable) on September 14. In the meantime feel free to ask us about our time at General Assembly -- don't be surprised if we talk your ear off!

**Linda Parry, Joan Beal, Kathy Thackeray and Jasmine Walston** were your delegates. **Norm Stewart, Lisa Willner, John Scruton** and **Agatha Walston** were also present. Agatha carried our church banner in the banner parade, which was a fantastic event. Visualize: 10,000 (yes that is the correct number of 0's) Unitarian Universalists together at the Fleet Center (Ice Hockey Arena in Boston) for the Service of the Living Tradition. AWESOME!

**"Love is the spirit of this church..."**

STEEPLETALK



# News and Notes

## Historical Pamphlets Available in First U Library

from **Kathy Thackeray**

**Mark Irwin** discovered two historical pamphlets about First Unitarian on a visit to the Filson Club. He also found them at the Louisville Free Public Library. The pamphlets have been placed in binders and can be viewed in the First U library. **Penny Nader** provided a copy of a newer history of First U, which has also been placed in the First U library.

The titles may interest members and friends: "An Historical Sketch of First Unitarian 1830-1930," compiled by Edith Fesdick Bodlen and Gustave Breaux; "125th Anniversary of First Unitarian 1830-1955"; "History of First Unitarian Church 1971" by Alexander Booth, President of the Board 1955-56.

We urge you to stop in the First U library and read the story of our church, but please do not remove the histories from the library. On your next visit to the church library, note the new shelves along the north wall that display photos objects, and information about our partner church in Transylvania.

## Steepletalk

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**First Unitarian Church of Louisville**

809 South 4th Street

Louisville, KY 40203

Next deadline: **Friday, August 8, 2003**

(covers August 17 - 30)



Editors: Claudia Runge &  
Scott Borden  
**editor@firstulou.org**

Contact us:

office@firstulou.org *or* minister@firstulou.org

## Office Furniture Needed

**Bryan Reiff** and **Barbara Kearley** are now both working out of the front office and need a few items to make it a more functional space. They need a desk and a comfortable office chair to supplement what they currently have. If you have items that might fit the bill for the office and you are interested in donating them, please call Barbara or Bryan (585-5110) so they can talk about the details with you.



## Yard Sale Success

from **Betty Caudle**

Very Upbeat Day! Many repeat customers and new neighbor buyers. Had lots of repeat volunteers and many new ones. Great music throughout the day, a fabulous clown and balloons. It was a festive occasion indeed. And, **we netted \$1300**.

This favorable outcome was made possible by the extra good donations from church members and friends and the hours of sorting, pricing and setup prior to the sale.

All good things must come to an end, and we ended on a good note. Most unsold items were delivered to the Goodwill. The books were donated to the New Albany Library Book Store, and the games to the Americana Community Center.

To All--Thanks Muchly,

Betty Caudle

### New Members Sign Book at First Unitarian

We welcome the following as members of First Unitarian Church. **Blair White** signed the membership book on Sunday, June 22, 2003. The entire Moss family signed the membership book on Sunday, June 22, 2003: **Margaret Moss, Ralph Moss, Geoffrey Moss, and Eleanor Moss. Dennis Thompson** signed the membership book on Sunday, July 6, 2003. The entire congregation welcomes these new members. The ceremony to officially welcome new members will be held during the Sunday Service on November 16, 2003.



### Leadership Retreat Scheduled for August 15-16 in Nazareth, KY

from **Barb Kearley**

The annual leadership retreat is scheduled for the 3rd weekend in August. Members of the Board, Council, committee chairs, and all other interested folks are invited to attend this gathering to get geared up for the coming church year.

We will be organizing to work together towards our shared mission as well as learning some of the nitty gritty details necessary for organizational effectiveness. Of course, there will also be time for relaxation and socializing!

Registration forms are available at the volunteer desk. Cost is \$57.50 for the weekend or \$20 for Saturday only. Deadline for registration is July 25. If you have additional questions, please contact **Gary Drehmel** at home (xxx-xxxx) or at [gary.drehmel@loukymetro.org](mailto:gary.drehmel@loukymetro.org).

Hello all! I am starting to get back into the swing of things with work at church after taking several weeks off after the arrival of my baby, **xxxxx**. The Shared Ministry Committee has been busy in my absence working to fill the last few committee vacancies in preparation for next year. Be on the lookout in a future issue of *Steepletalk* for a list of committees so that you can keep track of who is doing what this year.

With the changes in my position description, I will be taking on some of the duties formerly handled by the office manager, **Jen Lavery**. I will be working on matters pertaining to membership and will be working from the front office with **Bryan**. I am currently working on entering data in the new church software which is going to be a very helpful tool once it is up and running--which should be in the next several weeks.

I have brought on my own personal assistant to help in the office. His name is **xxxxx** and though he can't type or even talk for that matter, he sure does make great faces. Stop by and say hello if you're in the area! I look forward to catching up with you all! **Barbara**

### Barbara Kearley Shared Ministry Coordinator



NEW Office hours:  
MWF  
9 - 2  
Other hours by appointment

502-585-5110 (W)  
502-xxx-xxxx (H)  
[sharedministry@firstulou.org](mailto:sharedministry@firstulou.org)

## REviews

*Children are not born hostile, aggressive or violent. Nether are they born apathetic. From their environment and from their experiences, children learn to respond to the inevitable problems and conflicts of life; the learned attitudes and responses may be creative, constructive and caring--or they may be harmful to others as well as to oneself.*

--Loren Eiseley

As the date of the **Peace Camp** draws near, I have begun to question my original motives for the idea in the first place. First I thought about the extra work involved in initiating it and, as with any endeavor, it has taken extra meetings and effort to get together. It is still, in fact, coming together. With that in mind, I questioned how the idea for the peace camp began.

The answer lies in the above quote. In order for us to envision a different picture and contribute to the betterment of society, children must be taught the way to peace. Our children will feed off of whatever kind of knowledge we give them. As Eiseley states, they learn through the experiences and the environment they are given. In that way, there is so much potential to shape our children's experiences for the better. Teaching them that peace is the way ensures that tomorrow will bring more peace in the world than today. Is it idealistic for someone still in college to assume that peace is possible and that our children will break the cycle? Probably so. But what other choice do we have? "There is no way to peace, peace is the way."

I know I am preaching to the choir. As Unitarian Universalists, we honor the importance of working for peace and justice in the world. Teaching our children about it is another way to work for it. Here are the details of the camp:

When: **July 29-31, Tuesday-Thursday, 7-9 p.m.**

Where: First Unitarian Church

Who: Children in grades K-6

How: There are three ways to sign up your children:

- 1 Respond by email to the listserv announcement, listing the name(s) and grade levels of your child/children OR email me at [whitebl@earlham.edu](mailto:whitebl@earlham.edu) with the same information.
- 2 Sign up in person at church with me on July 27 in the social hall after the service.
- 3 Send back the postcard that you received in the mail, postmarked no later than July 25.

If you have any questions, call me at home at xxx -xxxx, at church at **585-5110**, or email me at [whitebl@earlham.edu](mailto:whitebl@earlham.edu).



Peace, **Blair**

Blair White, summer RE coordinator

**Sunday Morning Adult Round Table**  
**Church Library**  
**Sharing at 9:30am**  
**Program - 9:40 until 10:45am**

❑ **Round Table Light** continues for the summer through August 31. Bring in coffee and newspapers for informal discussions every Sunday morning. **Children are welcome at Round Table Light**; no separate programming for children will be held during this summer's first-hour. Nursery care will be available.

❑ On **Tuesday, July 29 at 6:30 pm**, the **SMART Curricula Team** will meet to begin planning Fall programming. Anyone interested in adult religious education is welcome to join us in this meeting. For more information, contact **Jasmine Walston**, [jasminegld@aol.com](mailto:jasminegld@aol.com), or xxx-xxxx.

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

*Telephone*  
(502) 585-5110 (Office)

*E-mail*  
[dre@firstulou.org](mailto:dre@firstulou.org)  
[lisa@scruton.win.net](mailto:lisa@scruton.win.net) (home)

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

**Friday is Lisa's day off, and she is on vacation during the month of July.**

Greetings from your Council! In July we worked on the policies and criteria pertaining to First Unitarian Special Interest Group status and should be finalizing the process in our August meeting. We are also excited about the Leadership Retreat/Workshop on August 15 and 16. Contact me for details: **Gary Drehmel**, xxx-xxxx (home). Enjoy what is left of the summer.

**Gary**

## The Principles of the Unitarian Universalist Association

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

# Social Responsibility

*Did you  
brush your teeth  
this morning?*



**But what if you didn't have toothpaste—  
or a toothbrush?**

*If you're homeless, you lack basic  
personal hygiene items like a toothbrush  
or toilet paper.*

**That's why HELP needs help!** Our church is a partner in the downtown community ministries' support of the HELP office. HELP supplies the **most essential needs** for the minimum comfort of the **homeless and the poorest of the poor**. We urgently need:

→deodorants    →toothbrushes    →toothpaste  
→tissues        →toilet paper     →soap

**Please leave donations in the large box  
near the hall entrance to the Social Hall.**

## **Enjoy a Rebate and Help the Environment**

from **Joe and Kathy Kremer**

Need a lawnmower and want to do your share for cleaner air? The Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District is offering a \$100 rebate when you trade in your high-polluting gas-powered lawn mower for a new clean electric (cordless or corded) mower. A \$50 rebate (with trade) is also available for a new push/reel mower. If you don't have a lawnmower to trade, you can still take advantage of the rebate offer: receive \$50 back when you purchase a new electric lawnmower and \$25 for a new push/reel mower.

Louisville Metro residents who purchase a new electric or reel mower in the metro area can take their old mower to one of these Metro Recycling Center locations: 595 Hubbards Lane or 7219 Dixie Highway. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, beginning April 15.

Did you know that mowing for one hour with a gas-powered mower creates as much carbon monoxide and smog-forming chemicals as driving 200 miles in a late model compact car? Trade that mower in and try maintaining your green space without the extra noise, smells and pollution. Contact Phyllis Fitzgerald at 574-5322 or [Phyllis.Fitzgerald@loukymetro.org](mailto:Phyllis.Fitzgerald@loukymetro.org) for more details.

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**Please be kind to our visitors and new  
members and friends this  
summer.**



*Please wear your  
nametag!*

# Calendar: July 27 - August 16

## July 2003

### 27 Sunday

10:55am Celebration of Life

### 29 Tuesday

6:30pm Round Table Curricula Team, library

7:00pm Summer RE Peace Camp--open cr,  
presc, 205, 206

### 30 Wednesday

7:00pm Summer RE Peace Camp, open cr,  
presc, 205, 206

7:00pm CUUPs summer reading grp, choir rm

### 31 Thursday

7:00pm Summer RE Peace Camp--open cr,  
presc, 205, 206

7:15pm Choir Rehearsal -- Learning a  
Schubert Mass



## August 2003

### 3 Sunday

10:55am Celebration of Life  
followed by  
Lammas luncheon

### 8 Friday

12:00pm Steepletalk deadline

### 10 Sunday

10:55am Celebration of Life

### 12 Tuesday

7:00pm Council meeting, library

### 13 Wednesday

6:00pm Interweave-SH

7:00pm CUUPs summer reading grp, choir rm

### 14 Thursday

7:15pm Choir Rehearsal - Schubert Mass

### 15 Friday

Leadership Retreat -- Nazareth

### 16 Saturday

Leadership Retreat -- Nazareth



## Just Among Ourselves...

A personal note from **Barb Kearley**: Many thanks for the cards, calls, gifts, and visits that **Chris, xxxxx**, and I have received in the last several weeks. xxxxx has been a joyful addition to our lives and we can't really remember what life was like before his arrival. I look forward to sharing him with my church family.

Church members might like to know that **Ruth Lowe** is back home now after spending a few days in the Hospice and Palliative Care Inpatient Unit at the Norton Medical Pavilion. If anyone would like to send her a card, her address is Dosker Manor, 415 E. Muhammad Ali Boulevard, Louisville, KY 40202.

Farewell and many thanks to **Pam Steward** for her almost **10 years of work as an office volunteer**. One of her primary jobs was to coordinate the printing of each week's Order of Service - no small task! Though she may stop back by First U from time to time, she is now attending TJ, which is closer to her home. Many heartfelt thanks to Pam for all her contributions. We'll miss you, Pam.



First Unitarian Church  
809 South Fourth Street  
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## **Celebrations of Life**

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

**July 27**      *What Is Self-Reliance?* - Worship Associate **Linette Lowe** and **Jay Dolen**. In Emerson's essay "Self-Reliance," he says, "Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind." What does this great thinker mean by "self-reliance," and what wisdom can we as UUs glean from his words? Join us in an examination of Emerson's frequently misunderstood position.

**August 3**      *The Role of Nature in Emerson's Religion and Our Own*. Worship Associate **Linda Berry**. This service will explore Emerson's thoughts about nature considering the importance of nature in religious experience for Emerson and for ourselves. Lammas Luncheon following the service.

**August 10**      *What About Community and Social Action?* - Worship Associates **Bill** and **Pat Allison**.