

First Unitarian Church

*A Member Congregation of the
Unitarian Universalist Association*

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Banner Rededication-Marriage is a Civil Right Sunday, February 14

The Rev. Dawn Cooley will address the theme Freedom to Marry at the Celebration of Life on Sunday, February 14. Our a new banner to replace the one torn down by the wind storms will be rededicated. We will renew our commitment to marriage equality and join with UU Churches across the country in standing on the side of love for valentines day.

Join us for a church luncheon sponsored by Interweave, which will follow the service.



Special Congregational Meeting After Church Sunday, February 7

The First Unitarian Board of Trustees has called a special congregational meeting to address the current financial status of the congregation. Members, please plan to attend to participate in the governance of our church

See Maureen Taylor's Money Talks article on page six for more details.

Save the Date!

Canvass Sunday, March 7

Celebration of Life

led by the Rev. Dawn Cooley

with

a light brunch following the service

Join your First U church family as we consider together the reasons that we give and the joy that we receive from our generosity. Enjoy nourishing food and talented entertainers! Make your pledge on Canvass Sunday after the service, or choose to wait until later when a canvasser calls on you.

Watch for further information in the mail and via email.

Capture the Wonder of Tomorrow

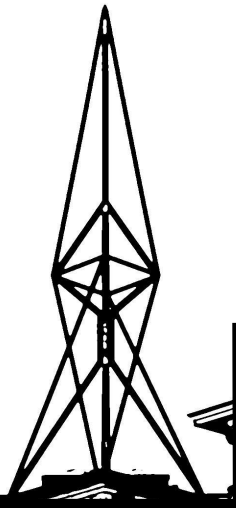
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Love is the spirit of this church...

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

STEEPLETALK



Minister's Musings

Returning from my first study leave with you, I am finding myself eager to get back to the day to day tasks of ministry. I miss being in the church office, I miss seeing the hustle and flow of church life up close. I even miss meetings. It has, by many accounts, been a very successful study leave, though not for reasons I had expected. If you would like to read more about what I learned on my study leave, I invite you check out one of my projects: a new blog! You can read it online from our webpage, or go directly to it via <http://revdawn.wordpress.com/> I will also be posting my thoughts on our congregational meeting that is going to be taking place on February 7.

My heart is filled with gratitude for all the support I have received from you in regards to the death of my step-father at the start of my study leave, on January 1. Your notes, emails, cards and messages were much appreciated.

Duane and my mother had been together for almost 10 years, married for 6. They were high school friends who reunited though the internet! Though he had only been in my life for ten years, my children knew him as one of their grandfathers. I performed the wedding ceremony for my mother and Duane, and so I was not surprised when she and his children asked me to perform the memorial service.

Usually, ministers try not to officiate at memorial services for family members. It can be emotionally difficult. But Duane had treated me like one of his own children, and was proud of my accomplishments. He attended our Vespers service and was truly delighted by where I have landed – he spoke again and again about how lovely and warm everyone had been that evening.

He was not a Unitarian Universalist – not by a long shot. But when family asked me if I would officiate, I didn't hesitate to affirm that I would. Certainly one reason was because I know Duane would have loved it and it was one last gifts I could give to him.

But there is another reason: We Unitarian Universalists perform Memorial Services and Funerals better than anyone out there. As a minister, my job as I understand it in such circumstances is to be midwife to the grieving process – to help the family mourn their loss. At the same time, we affirm that the love the deceased person shared, and the love of family and friends whose lives he touched – these can never die. Love lives on. We can speculate about theories on an afterlife (or not), but this we know: Love lives on.

In the eulogy, I try to speak the life of the deceased – to share touching stories, interesting facts and details...Including some of the things that made him/her human. Idolizing the deceased does not speak his/her story fully – nor does it allow us to fully embrace the grieving process in all its many stages. So I tell the story, gently, with reverence, and with love.

For these reasons, I agreed to officiate at Duane's memorial service. The Northwest UU Congregation graciously opened their building at the last minute. Neighbors provided food, we shared stories. I cried, of course, but it was okay. We all did. And we laughed.

Memorial services are an important aspect of my ministry with you. Though we don't always like to talk about it, we will all die someday. That is certainly a dependable fact of life. As it was a privilege to perform my step-fathers service, so will it be an honor and a privilege to be able to minister to you and your families in this way should the need arise. Hopefully, that won't be too soon. But if you would like to talk about it – for the near term or for the future, please don't hesitate to let me know.

-Dawn



Container Gardening

The Senior High Youth Group is working on growing some food this year. A hydroponic system donated by Rick and Holly Hogue is being utilized indoors, and plans are underway for some container gardening in the spring. The group is looking for donations of any unused hanging baskets or strawberry pots you may have at home, and potting soil. Contact any of the advisors if you have items to share: Kathy Gapsis, Doug Taylor, Rick Rinehart.

STEEPLETALK

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Love is the spirit of this church...

Religious Education News

I hope each of you had a joyous holiday season and a blessed new year. I, for one, am very excited about what 2010 will bring.

As you all have undoubtedly heard by now, I have resigned the position of Director of Religious Education effective January 31. While I have resigned my position with the church, I have no intention of leaving the church. I consider the opportunity to work here a true blessing in that it brought me to your community and I look forward to joining your community as a member.

The Religious Education Ministry, under the leadership of Rhonda Green Barron, will continue to work on ensuring that the religious education programs offered by First Unitarian Church continue to operate smoothly and will be as strong as they always have been. It's unclear, as of this writing, how exactly this transition will go and who will

take my place, but the REM and the Board are working hard to make sure this is as smooth a transition as possible.

We've started the 3rd – 5th grade OWL program with 4 participants. We're also planning on starting the High School OWL by the end of the month, and will be doing the Young Adult OWL later this spring. If you're interested in any of these, please contact Carol Uebelhoer. The Coming of Age youth continue to progress nicely (thanks largely due to their great mentors). The classes are set for Sundays and we all owe a huge thank-you to our teachers who come each Sunday to teach our kids.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon!

-Rus Funk, Director of Religious Education

Sunday Morning Adult Round Table

Church Library 9:30 to 10:45am

Faith Development focuses the Sunday Morning Adult Round Table, which meets at 9:30am each Sunday for programs on a variety of topics. Participants engage in their own faith development and contribute to that of others who are present. For more information or to suggest a program, contact Jasmine Walston at jasminegld@aol.com. Youth are encouraged to participate. Child care is available for infants and children through fifth grade, beginning at 9:30am

- **February 7 - *Capture the Wonder of Tomorrow***: An exploration of the reasons we give and the rewards we receive from our generosity.
- **February 14 - *Add Marriage, Stir Liberally***: "We've been together for 31 years and married for one. Did it make a difference? Will it make a difference?" Jo Ann Dale and Carol Uebelhoer.
- **February 21 - *Roots Hold Me Close: Tradition, Teachers, and Spiritual Formation***: One's personal spirituality is influenced by a variety of role models, teachers, mentors, and traditions within one's faith traditions and secular society.
- **February 28 - *Godless and Proud of It***: What's it like to be an out-and-proud atheist in a country where nearly half the population would refuse to vote for someone who doesn't believe in God? Discussion led by Tiffany Taylor

Still Responding to Community Need: Project Warm

Project Warm was created in 1982 by a group of community-minded individuals to provide free weatherization services for low-income people who could no longer afford high heating bills. The escalating energy prices of the 1970s created a crisis for many fixed-income households as well as the families of many workers who were laid off from industries that were shutting down or downsizing their workforces.

Today, those struggling with the current recession challenges, due in part to the lack of decent housing and

good-paying jobs, cannot pay their utility bills. Through its free energy management workshops and in-home repair, Project Warm encourages people to learn how to reduce their utility bills and thereby join the "green revolution" by decreasing their dependence on non-renewable energy resources like coal and natural gas.

Last year, Project Warm served nearly 1,000 homes, thanks to generous volunteers and clients, and donors, including LG&E, Louisville Metro Government, UPS and individuals.

For more information about Project Warm, go to www.projectwarm.org or call 502-636-9276.

Just Among Ourselves...

June Payne, a longtime member, passed away January 5, 2010. We send our sympathy to her family.

Gerald Fitzpatrick, also a longtime member, passed away January 14, 2010. Our condolences go to his family.

Our thoughts of love, strength, and support were with the Rev. Dawn Cooley and family as they dealt with the death of her stepfather at the start of the new year.

Calling all readers! The First U Book Club, with a strong showing of 13 members, gathered Monday evening, January 11th, to discuss our reading selections. Twenty six titles were suggested as candidates to be read in the next six months, six were chosen. Following is a list of those books and the date when they will be discussed.



February 8th - *That Old Ace in the Hole* by Annie Proulx

March 8th - *Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America* by Nathan McCall

April 12th - *Watermark* by Joseph Brodsky

May 10th - *The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance* by Kirstin Downey

June 14th - *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf

July 12th - *Charles and Emma: The Darwins' Leap of Faith* by Deborah Heiligman

We meet in the Parlor on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

-Kathy Rogers

We would love for you to join us!

The family of Gerald Fitzpatrick wishes to thank members of the congregation for their thoughts and visits during this difficult time. A special thanks to Rev. Dawn Cooley, Rev. Robert Reed, Bill Latta, Tiffany Taylor, and Anne Miller for their help in making the service such a meaningful celebration.

CUUPS

Imbolc or Candlemas celebrates the growing God and the wakening of the Goddess after her rest. This Sabbath is also a banishment of the winter, a purification time, and a festival of fire. The Earth is slowly waking from its winter slumber, and is preparing to become fertile once again.

Please join the First U CUUPS as we celebrate Imbolc on **February 7, 2010**. Our potluck dinner will start at 6:00pm and the celebration will follow around 7:00pm. Should childcare be needed, please contact the church office.

UU Christian Fellowship

A video will be the next UU Christian Fellowship activity at the monthly meeting on **Saturday, February 6 at 6:30pm** in the library. The group will also plan future topics and activities. For questions about the video or UUCF, contact UUCF Chair Geneva Fry at grfry@flash.net at (812)-948-1367.

The UU Christian Fellowship meetings are open to anyone who is interested: seekers, doubters, skeptics, critical thinkers, former Christians, current Christians, questioning Christians, Christian-curious, believers, agnostics, atheists, and followers of other faith traditions.

Women's Alliance News

On **Sunday, February 21st**, after the Celebration of Life the Women's Alliance will provide a "Spaghetti Luncheon" to benefit "The Solar Array Project". We are looking forward to seeing the entire congregation there!

About 30 members attended the January Business Meeting and heard Betsy Wiley and Peer Mentor Kelly Gray talk about The Healing Place. Geneva Fry noticed that the Help Office really needed a shredder while she was volunteering there. So at our meeting we put a donation bowl for a shredder for the Help Office. With Kathy Drehmel's thrifty shopping the Women's Alliance will donate a very good shredder to the Help Office. Thank you all.

During Women's History Month, March, the Women's Alliance will have a service on **March 21st** and we will offer the Cakes for the Queen of Heaven during Chalice Night. Jane Buckley, Bev Daly and Deb Gilbert will present this very popular UUA program.

The next general meeting of the Women's Alliance will be a Tea on **Saturday, April 10, 2010, at 2:30 pm**. All Women of First Unitarian are invited. Any questions please contact Kathy Thackeray, womensalliance@firstulou.org

Calendar - Click link to view up-to-date calendar <http://firstulou.org/calendars/index.html>

Monday, February 1
7:00pm RE Committee

Tuesday, February 2

Wednesday, February 3
5:00pm Canvass Committee
5:30pm Chalice Night

Thursday, February 4
6:00pm Resources Ministry
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 5

Saturday, February 6
9:00am House & Grounds
6:30pm UU Christian Fellowship

Sunday, February 7
9:30am Round Table
9:30am 4th&5th OWL
9:45am YAC
10:55am Celebration of Life & Children's Religious Education
12:15pm **Special Congregational Meeting**
12:15pm Worship Committee
6:00pm Sabbat Circle, CUUPS

Monday, February 8
6:00pm Book Club

Tuesday, February 9
6:00pm Finance
6:15pm Ministry Council

Wednesday, February 10
5:30pm Chalice Night

Thursday, February 11
5:30pm Personnel Committee
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 12

Saturday, February 13
9:00am House and Grounds

Sunday, February 14
9:30am Round Table
9:30 4th&5th OWL
10:55am Celebration of Life & Children's Religious Education
12:30pm **All Church Luncheon**, Interweave

Monday, February 15
11:30am Brownbaggers

Tuesday, February 16
6:00pm Board of Trustees

Wednesday, February 17
5:30pm Chalice Night

Thursday, February 18
6:00pm Member Ministry
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 19

Saturday, February 20
Steepletalk Deadline

Sunday, February 21
9:30am Round Table
9:30am 4th&5th OWL
10:55am Celebration of Life & Children's Religious Education
12:30pm **Spring Spaghetti Luncheon**, Women's Alliance

Monday, February 22

Tuesday, February 23

Wednesday, February 24
5:30pm Chalice Night

Thursday, February 25
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 26

Saturday, February 27

Sunday, February 28
9:30am Round Table
9:30am 4th&5th OWL
10:55am Celebration of Life
12:30pm Visitor Information, Library
12:30pm Interweave Sponsored Program, Famous Polys



Blood Drive

The Red Cross is holding a blood drive in First U's social hall on **Thursday, March 4, 2 - 6 pm**. Louisville's blood supply remains low after the holidays, and your donation of blood is truly a gift of life. By coincidence, **March 4** is National Poundcake Day, so all donors will be served delicious poundcake. Appointments available (kgapsis@mac.com, 923-7696) but not necessary.

Kathy Gapsis

Visitor Information Session

If you're not yet a member and want to know more about First Unitarian Church, please join us on **Sunday, February 23** about ten minutes after the service in the Church Library.

Bring your questions and your story. We'll cover the history of First Unitarian Church and get a tour, discuss the activities and groups here and how to get involved, and you'll get to know other visitors, friends and members in the process.

We look forward to getting to know you!

"A kiss on the hand can be quite Continental but Kroger's is a girls best friend"

Yes, picture your sweetie's face when she opens that black velvet box on Valentine's day and finds.....a First U Kroger gift card (with \$20 already on it)... I'm sure she will find a special way to thank you!

To get your gift card that benefits our church at no cost to you see Gary Drehmel in the social hall after the Celebration of Life.

Find that Lost Book, Hat, or Bowl: If you've lost something and it might be at church, check out the Lost and Found table on **Sunday, February 14 and 21** in the Social Hall during Coffee Hour after the Celebration of Life Service.

Coming of Age Survey

As part of our process of self-knowledge, we are seeking your responses to six questions about the Church in 2010. If you are willing, please take the short on-line survey. <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MNBPDSK>

For those without an online link, we will have a paper version available at the volunteer area. This is a project for the "Coming of Age Program."

NEW MEMBER CLASS

On **Saturday, February 27**, Member Ministry, in cooperation with the staff and other leaders of First Unitarian, will offer an opportunity to learn more about this congregation and what it means to be Unitarian Universalist and a member of a UU church. The class will start at 9am and go until 3pm with lunch being provided. Please call Rebecca at 585-5110 to let her know if you are interested in attending. There is no cost for attending and childcare is provided if you let us know a few days in advance that you will need it.

Member Development Director/Office Administrator Check-in

Hello, All! I realize I haven't kept you up to speed on what I've been doing lately so I thought a check-in would be good. For those of you who may have missed it, I added a position to my title in November... Betty retired and I was fortunate enough to step into part of the position she left vacant. I have tidied up (and continue to tidy up) the office. I moved into the area of the office by the windows and now Maureen has a dedicated workspace to do the job of Treasurer. Having this space helps us to communicate and helps her to know that there will always be a desk and computer available to her when she needs it (especially on Sunday mornings when she and a volunteer count the money).

In the last three months I have been busy with many tasks. Some of the tasks follow:

- I have taken over publication of the Order of Service each week. I work closely with Dawn or the Worship Associate to accomplish this task and have found it to be a highlight of my week.
- I continue to go through files and piles and hope to one day have more floor space in my office – but I have come a long way (just ask anyone who saw the office before I got hold of it). Big thanks to Carol Findling for taking the responsibility of organizing our filing systems in the office.
- I am in charge of building use and scheduling and keep the church's calendar. I am still working on cleaning up some of the organizational difficulties of the past but, with the help of a few office volunteers, I have a grasp on what has and has not happened. If you have any requests for space, send me an email, call me or come by to speak to me about rentals and events.
- I continue to schedule Chalice Night programming and have received compliments on the number and quality of the programs that are being offered. I don't feel I can take full credit for this as others have approached me with their ideas for the majority of the programming. And of course Tiffany's cooking is always a big draw to get folks out on a Wednesday evening. Thanks to Carol Uebelhoer for finding folks willing to lead the Centering Services each week and often stepping in to lead them herself.
- I am in the office 30 hours a week. Please feel free to stop in during office hours and see what I'm up to, chat awhile, pitch an idea, or just have a cup of coffee, tea or cocoa. (I have a welcoming little area with a coffee maker and hot water kettle.) I am generally in the office Mondays from 9-5, Wednesdays from 1-9, Thursdays from 9-5, Fridays from 10-2 and Sundays from 10:30-12:30.

-Rebecca Dimon,

Member Development Director/Office Administrator

Money Talk\$

February 7—Time for a mid-year adjustment! If you care about Church finances—and I know you do, or you wouldn't be reading this—you will want to attend the important Congregational meeting right after the Celebration of Life on **Sunday, February 7, 2010**. There are some positive things to note: Spring for a Day and Yuletide Fare were both budgetary highlights (more below), and our records are accurate and user-friendly at last, thanks to Books in Order. But we still aren't bringing in enough money to do everything in our budget for this year as well as catch up on the carryovers from last year. Our projected **\$70,000** shortfall means **we will run out of money before the end of April if we pay everything in the current budget**. Revised budget statements will be available before the meeting, and we plan to review the options the Board has considered and take a vote on how we should move forward. Please don't miss this meeting!

Spring for a Day and Yuletide Fare. December was a better-than-average month for First Church, thanks to these two programs. Spring for a Day brought in \$6,650 by year's end, with some pledges still outstanding. Yuletide Fare brought in almost \$7,000—quite a bit more than budgeted, but since its costs were higher, too, the net profits should be roughly half that (\$3,508).

Vespers Money for Rev. Mark's Orphanage in Uganda. We continue to be a generous group, as evidenced by our special collection on Christmas Eve: \$1,249.37 for the orphanage run by the UUA in Uganda. The money is already on its way there, and we're keeping our fingers crossed that this time it won't come back.

Finally, how does anyone get reimbursed for a Church expense? Since Betty Vernon resigned, the process has changed. Checks are prepared once a week by our accountant in Indianapolis. I pick up the reimbursement forms (already approved by a ministry leader), invoices, and other requests for payment on Sunday, prepare a check processing sheet on Monday night, and email it (along with copies of the invoices and requests) to Books in Order Tuesday morning. Checks are processed electronically in Indianapolis and should be sent from BB&T—either by mail or electronically—on Wednesday. Conclusion: If you want money, have an approved form in my mailbox on Sunday; if you want to change a request, call me before midnight on Monday. In emergencies, I can still prepare checks by hand, but this is not standard practice.

-Maureen Taylor, Treasurer

Love is the spirit of this church...

Interweave

"Interweave Continental is a membership organization actively working toward ending oppression based on sexual orientation and gender identity, recognizing that we will not be free until all oppression is a thing of the past."

• All Church Luncheon-Sunday, February 14

Interweave invites you to continue the celebration of Freedom to Marry and the rededication of First Unitarian's "Civil Marriage is a Civil Right" banner by gathering for an all-church luncheon, prepared by Interweave members, on **February 14** after the Celebration of Life. Donations will be accepted to cover costs of the meal.

• Famous Polys

Polyamorous relationships have been the daily reality for a remarkable number of people both in modern times and throughout history. Who are some of these polyamorists whose relationships were publicly known and whose names we might recognize? Participants may purchase take out from a nearby restaurant, or bring a sack lunch. Co-sponsored meeting. **Sunday, February 28, 12:30-2:30pm**, library.

• Commitments

By voting to become a Welcoming Congregation, First Unitarian Church agreed to the "Commitments" listed in *The Welcoming Congregation Handbook*. Commitments #6 and #11 state:

"A Welcoming Congregation offers congregational and ministerial support for services of union and memorial services for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender persons, and celebrations of evolving definitions of family."

"A Welcoming Congregation, as an advocate for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people, attends to legislative developments and works to promote justice, freedom, and equality in the larger society. It speaks out when the rights and dignity of bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people are at stake."

- For more information or questions about Interweave, please contact Interweave Chair Jasmine Walston at jasminegld@aol.com or 944-7517.



Brownbaggers

What: Deep Thoughts

Where: Church Library

When: 12:00pm on Monday, February 15



On Natalie and Jesse's recent visit to a UU church on Maryland's outer banks, a lay person, a woman, presented the Sunday sermon. They were greatly impressed. Jesse asked her if he could have a copy of it to present to the Brownbaggers in Louisville. She was delighted; so her talk "Deep Thoughts" will be our subject. It is considered by Natalie and Jesse to be thoughtful, disarmingly truthful, and much to the point.

Come hear it and comment. Bring a brownbag lunch to the church library at noon. Discussion will follow.

• Kentucky Legislative Issues

Posted on the Kentucky Fairness website, kentuckyfairness.org:

1. Kentuckians Value Fairness Day, the 2010 lobby day for fairness, is Wednesday, February 24
2. Statewide Fairness Bill (House: HB 117) This bill would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity throughout Kentucky in employment, housing, public accommodations, insurance coverage, and credit.
3. Hospital Visitation Bill (House: HB 118) This initiative would allow any adult hospital patient to designate another individual to be treated as a member of the patient's family with regard to visitation.
4. Dating Violence Bill (House: HB 30) This bill would expand domestic violence statutes to allow "unmarried couples" (dating partners) to obtain protective orders.
5. Fair Marriage Bill (House: HB 17) This bill would repeal the 2004 anti-marriage amendment by returning the issue to Kentucky voters.
6. Oppose the Divisive Child Welfare Bill (Not Pre-Filed) This initiative means that being without a family is better for a child than being raised by a gay couple.

• Indiana Legislative Issues

Posted on the Indiana General Assembly website:

1. Definition of marriage. Senate Joint Resolution SJ0013 Provides that only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Indiana. Provides that a legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized.

Spring for a Day Dedications

We are grateful for those who "purchased" days during the Spring For A Day campaign. The January and February dedications are as follows:

January

3 & 9 – Anonymous,
10 – Harry Tobe's Birthday,
23 – Leslie Johnson (Mary Ballard's mom),
24 – Larry Atwood's Birthday,
25 – Celia Whelan's 17th Birthday,
26 – Joe Kremer's Birthday,
30 – Phoebe & Gary Gibson Marriage,
31 – Michael Molnar's Birthday on Jan. 30.

February

2 – Imbolc,
5 – John Cooley,
7 – mother: Mildred Ohlman, father: Ralph W. Ohlman, brother: Ralph E. Ohlman,
8 – the day after Carol Tobe's 70th birthday,
9 – the Klein Family of Iowa,
11 – Claire Gapsis birthday,
12 – Freedom to Marry Day,
13 – Sarah Ballard,
14 – Jill & Gary Sampson 10th Anniversary,
15 – Anonymous,
24 – Steve Tonnemacher's birthday.

Spring Returns!

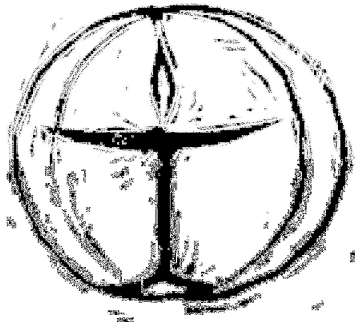
First Unitarian Choir & Coterie Concert

Please join us to share an afternoon together in song. On **March 21st**, the First Unitarian Church Choir will present a concert of choral music with the vocal ensemble Coterie from 3 to 4pm in the sanctuary. All are invited, and admission is free.

February Sunday Luncheons

Sunday, February 14—Freedom to Marry Luncheon sponsored by Interweave

Sunday, February 21-Spaghetti Luncheon sponsored by Women's Alliance to benefit the Solar Array Project



Celebrations of Life

Sunday Services begin at 10:55 a.m.

February 7 *Choosing to Respond*, The Reverend Dawn Cooley

When we are faced with a crisis, we may react without thinking, or we may learn how to hold our reactions and instead, choose our response. What do we gain when we respond, rather than simply react?

February 14 *Freedom to Marry*, The Reverend Dawn Cooley

Love is in the air! To many of us, it seems obvious that at some point in the not-too-distant future, civil marriage will be recognized as a civil right. How come we aren't there yet???

February 21 *Social Gospel, Social Justice*, Guest speaker Cate Fosl, director of The Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research at the University of Louisville. Kathie Johnson is the Worship Associate.

February 28 *Lessons from Avatar*, The Reverend Dawn Cooley

Avatar, a film with intense interdependent web messages, is poised to become the highest grossing movie of all time. Meanwhile, some viewers end up depressed after seeing it. What is going on here?