

STEEPLETALK

FIRST UNITARIAN

Volume 7, Number 15

August 19, 2001

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

David Parke, Interim Minister • Lisa Willner, Religious Education Director (502)xxx-xxxx • Lynn Slaughter, Board President, (502)xxx-xxxx

Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus • Anne Miller, D.R.E. Emeritus • Laura Jennings, Shared Ministry Coordinator

Office Hours: 9:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. • Celebration of Life 10:55am • www.firstulou.org • fuu@bellsouth.net

Need a Change? Want to Travel?

Open a **First Unitarian Church** cookbook and experiment with gourmet cuisines! Try everything from Gourgeres and Hungarian Goulash to Zesty Bean and Rice Casserole. You will be transported by the aromas from your own culinary accomplishments. **Cookbooks will be on sale September 9** in the social hall following the Celebration of Life. Bon Appetit!

Committee to Provide Free Luncheon

This Sunday, Aug. 19, between the service and the sprucing, members of the worship committee and friends will be serving a **free vegetarian-style luncheon**. Please join us and get to know someone new. Many have said they made good friends while sharing a chore. If you will be out of town on August 19th and still wish to do your part in cleaning, contact **Geneva Fry (xxx-xxxx)** or **Jackey Dorset**. We will be instituting a "job jar" in conjunction with House and Grounds which will be located next to the First Aid station in the kitchen. Let's keep our church a place to be proud of!



Service Auction Help Needed!

Each year, First Unitarian Church holds a Service Auction as one of the church's major fund-raising events — it brings almost \$10,000 into the General Fund. Auction items include everything from elegant dinners in people's homes, to works of art, to financial services, to babysitting — and just about everything else you can think of. **The 2001 auction will be held on Sunday, November 4.**

This year, co-chairs **Anne Miller** and **Tiffany Taylor** would like to add a couple of enhancements to the auction. To do so, we need your help:

- An increased number of donations from the community, in the form of gift certificates and services. We need help from folks who are good at writing letters and making phone calls, to solicit donations from businesses in the Louisville/Southern Indiana area.
- A simple (or not-so-simple) dinner and/or dessert table before the auction, in addition to the refreshments usually offered. This task will require a small group to coordinate food preparation, ask people to make desserts, serve food, collect money, etc.

If you're willing to help us, please contact Tiffany (taylor928@aol.com, xxx-xxxx) or Anne (afmncc1701@webtv.net, xxx-xxxx). We guarantee that it's both fun and satisfying to be part of this important church event!

Urgent! Regulars needed to prepare ST -- Who will fold, staple, label, and mail our church newsletter this year? Our congregation needs a small group of regulars who will work for a few hours every other Tuesday to prepare *Steepletalk*. Please contact Claudia Runge (xxx-xxxx or c_runge@bellsouth.net) if you can help.

"To dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another."

Church Matters

Bust the 01-02 Year Church Deficit!

by **Phil Candee**

Finance Committee

Your creative idea can help the Church and be a lot of fun. Chess tournament (nominal entry fee), car wash, aluminum can drive...got a good idea go for it. The idea is to divert some of the congregation's discretionary spending to ourselves. So as a hesitant introvert I will follow my own advice: I invite you gardeners to join me in the First UU Plant Sale. Start some annuals or perennials early next year, and next April let's sell them to ourselves, our friends, our neighbors here at the Church. Why pay Home Depot when we can buy from ourselves? Recruiting growers for early 2002—and next April buyers.



Adult Round Table to Continue ARE Programming

by **Bob Parish**, Chair

Round Table Task Force

The Sunday Morning Adult Round Table (**SMART**) is a new program we are developing that incorporates Adult Religious Education with Shared Ministry. It has two components—an optional spirituality prelude from 9:30 am to 9:40am to provide a moment of spiritual sharing for those who wish it, and from 9:45 am to 10:45 am, we have ARE.

Although SMART is incorporating more spiritual elements through this brief prelude in the morning, the ARE component of SMART will cover the same mix of secular and religious topics as before. In fact, one of the speakers we have already lined up for September is **Emmett F. Fields**, noted local Secular Humanist, and the force behind noted Humanist resource library, “The Bank of Wisdom” (<http://www.bank-of-wisdom.com/>).

SMART programs will draw from the six sources of Unitarian Universalism (both Humanist and Spiritual), as well as from current events, local issues, issues of social justice and ecology, and other matters that are relevant to the adults at this church.

The Task Force for SMART will meet Tuesday, August 28, at 7pm in the Open Classroom (upstairs across from the elevator) with **Lisa Willner** to finish planning a curriculum for the Fall. Lisa is there to advise and assist, not to set the content of this program. As with the old Sunday morning ARE task force, we will continue to democratically decide on the content and schedule of the programs. But to do this we need your help and input.

Please join us for this meeting if you wish to be a part of this new task force or help in other ways. Also we shall be meeting for open discussion in the Library before church on the 19 and 26, please join us for coffee and community conversation then. Or post comments to the church's chat list (1stulouchat@yahoogroups.com; contact Jo Ann Dale for information on how to join.) Your input is not only appreciated, it is vital to make this program work! Thank you.

Executions in the United States

Since 1976: 725

This year: 42

Steepletalk

Published every two weeks with exceptions by

First Unitarian Church of Louisville

809 South 4th Street

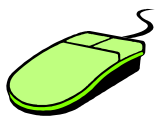
Louisville, KY 40203

Next deadline: **Friday, August 24, 2001**

Editor: Claudia Runge

(502) xxx-xxxx

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Social Responsibility

Global Poverty — Legislative Update / Opportunity for Action!

Tuberculosis, a curable disease, is killing 2 million people each year. Most victims are young adults. In an attempt to gain higher funding for international TB control, local RESULTS members (including 1st UU member **Keith Wilhelmi**) met with Sherry Baird in Representative Northup's office on Tuesday, August 7th, and are seeking a meeting with Senator McConnell or his staff.

For Congress, these are the critical weeks in regards to this issue. The House of Representatives has recently passed its version of the foreign aid bill. Thanks in part to lobbying by RESULTS, the House included \$110 million (an increase of \$50 million) for international TB control. However, we have not given up on our goal of \$200 million. The full Senate will deal with its version of the foreign aid bill after the August recess, then the bills will be reconciled in Conference Committee - probably in mid-September. There is still time for Senators to introduce (and support) amendments, and for Representatives to voice their support for the higher amounts (to their representatives on the Conference Committee).

Please contact your Representative and Senators and urge that they support efforts to include \$200 million for international TB control in the final version of the foreign aid bill. For more information, see the **Social Responsibility Committee's table** in the social hall, or contact **Keith Wilhelmi at xxx-xxxx**.

Flag Flies to Signal Executions

Beginning in September, our church will display a black flag at the "First Unitarian" sign in front of church on days when someone is executed in the United States. We have obtained a black flag and installed the display bracket.

HARMONY HABITAT Work Parties: Harmony Habitat volunteers have two opportunities to enjoy a camp out/work party in August! On **August 18-19 and again on August 25-26**, volunteers will gather at the farm to continue working on the preparation of the group home. Contact **Peg Kesler at HABITAT321@aol.com** or call **(502) xxx-xxxx** if you'd like to volunteer.

Shared Ministry



Have you ever had someone at church ask you to help with something in which you had no interest? Have you ever felt obligated to (or, in **Linette Lowe's** words, "flattered into") work on something when your free time was already nonexistent? Have you ever felt someone asked you to serve on a particular committee just because you are a dependable warm body?

This is your chance to nip that in the bud!

Have you recently joined 1st U, or been attending and wanting to get more involved, and not known where you might best fit, or even what choices for service are available? Or is there something that you are good at that you would like to share with this community?

Now is the time!

Shared Ministry and the Gifts Discovery Workshops address all of these issues. We take the time to get to know you, to help you discover your gifts, and to find out which types of activities you really enjoy, as well as which types of things you'd prefer to avoid. We don't want you to feel like groaning when you answer the phone and hear someone say, "Hi, this is so-and-so from church!" AND we don't want you to be hoping for a call and not receive one. Call me (**xxx-xxxx**, or try me at church) to figure out which workshops best fit your schedule.

I hope that your summer has been a delightful and relaxing one.

Laura

Shared Ministry Coordinator
Laura Jennings

Office hours: Fridays, 2 - 5 pm (Choir room)
Home phone: xxx-xxxx
E-mail: ljsmc@juno.com

RE News and Announcements

Greetings All! The R.E. Committee, Adult Programming Project Team (APPT), youth advisors and I have been busily planning and getting geared up for another exciting year of Religious Education programming. Ours is a **Lifespan Religious Education Program**, and this year's lineup of activities has something for everyone. We've got a load of information to convey: **please look this over carefully**, and hang on to these announcements for future reference.

Children

Sunday morning activities for children (through 5th grade) will begin on **August 19** with **3 consecutive Sundays of "Alternate R.E. programming."**

✿ **August 19: Carnival Game Day** in the courtyard for PreKs through Grade 5, with games, face painting, and cool treats. If it rains, the Carnival will take place in the Open Classroom and the Preschool Room.

✿ **August 26:** Weather permitting, the PreKs and Kindergartners will have water play in the courtyard with a small wading pool, paint brushes for water painting, bubbles, etc., along with cool treats. The kids should come prepared to get wet (with possibly a change of clothes and a towel.) We will have extra cloths and towels available for visitors. Grades 1-5 will do Paper Collage art in the open classroom.

✿ **September 2: Lessons on the interdependent web of life** with age-appropriate activities for PreKs and Ks in the PreK room and for Grades 1-5 in the Courtyard or the Open Classroom, depending on weather.

✿ **September 9: Intergenerational Service.** All children are invited to attend with their families. (Childcare will be provided for preschoolers and younger.) .During the first hour (9:45 - 10:45) beginning September 9, childcare will be provided for kindergarten and younger in the preschool room, and elementary school age children are invited to enjoy quiet games in the Open Classroom. **Regular RE classes will resume at 10:55 on September 16.**

✿ Beginning August 19, our nursery care provider will be xxxxxxxx xxxxxx. Welcome xxxxxxxx! We're so

happy you're with us. And many thanks to **Cassidy Johnson** for her great work in the nursery during the summer services.

Youth (6th - 12th grades)

✓ We are kicking off the church year for youth with a **Potluck celebration** and meeting at my house (3310 Linnet Road in Audubon Park.) on **Friday, August 24, beginning at 6:30. All youth, parents, advisors, and interested others are invited and encouraged to attend.** We'll eat, play, and talk about a variety of issues including: the 5 components of YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) programs - do you know what they are?; OWL for junior high; Coming of Age for senior high; and reviving YAC. (What is a yac? This, and more, will all be revealed on August 24.) Come with a dish to serve 8 or so, lawn chairs, and all your questions and ideas.

✓ On **August 30, 7:00 - 9:00**, there is a very important **Parent Orientation for our OWL sexuality program**, which will be offering to 7th, 8th, and 9th graders beginning September 9. Parent attendance at this meeting is critical. (For any youth to participate in our OWL program, we must have the informed written consent of all custodial parents and/or guardians.)

(continued on p.5)

Lisa Willner Religious Education Director

Church office
(502) 585-5110

Home
(502) xxx-xxxx

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



Office Hours
Monday 10 - 3
Tuesday afternoon & evenings
Wednesday 11-3
Friday is Lisa's day off.

RE News and Announcements

✓ **Youth groups will resume on September 9 at 9:45** in the Junior High and Senior High classrooms. All 6th - 12th graders are invited to join. Three of our 5 Youth Advisors are going to a Youth Advisor training program sponsored by the Heartland District, so they'll be coming back with lots of new information and ideas for our youth groups.

YOUTH PLEASE NOTE: There are no Sunday morning youth programs scheduled until September 9. Prior to the 9th, Youth are invited to attend the Celebration of Life, or may volunteer to help with children's activities by calling **Patty Kannapel** at xxx-xxxx.

Adults

☛ We are expanding Religious Education opportunities for adults. (Why should the kids have all the fun?!) The Adult Programming Project Team has put together an exciting list of courses, and our brand new Adult R.E. Programs brochure should be rolling off the presses any day now (thanks to **Melissa Draut**). Programs will be offered at a variety of times during the week and on Sunday mornings. A notable change for this year is that we are offering more Sunday morning options. The **Sunday Morning Adult Round Table** (formerly "A.R.E.") will continue to offer classes each week in the Library, and all are invited to drop in any time to sample the variety of these interesting programs. The Round Table resumes on September 9 at 9:45, with an optional "centering time" offered at 9:30, during which participants are invited to share Joys and Concerns.

☛ The **Parenting Teens group** will continue to meet this year on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:45 in the Parlor. Meetings resume on September 16.

☛ There will also be a series of **Sunday morning discussion groups** offered in the R.E. Library upstairs. The first of these, a discussion of the book *Principles and Purposes*, facilitated by **Jen Lavery**, will begin on **September 16** and run for 8 consecutive weeks. You may pre-register for this course by sign-

ing up at the R.E. Table in the Social Hall, by leaving a message in the Adult Programs mailbox, or by e-mailing me at lis_wil@bellsouth.net. Watch for many more adult programs to be announced shortly.

☛ And for the many adults who will be teaching this semester, we are having a **Teacher Orientation meeting on September 9 at 9:45** in the R.E. Library upstairs. (Any teachers who are unable to attend this important meeting, please contact Lisa.)

Everyone

- **Beginning August 19**, there will be a **Religious Education table** in the Social Hall. Here you may **complete registration forms** which are required for all children and youth participating in our programs, pre-register for adult programs, and sign up for jobs to ensure the success of our R.E. programs. All are invited and encouraged to participate in R.E., and we particularly welcome the help and support of those without children currently in our programs.

- And while these supportive friends will certainly lighten the load for parents, we do expect that parents will fulfill a minimum co-op commitment of 4 hours per semester. At this time, **we especially need adult volunteers to help out in the nursery, to supervise children during the 1st hour quiet activities, and to help with children's activities on August 19, 26, and September 2.**

I'm looking forward to another year of working, playing, and learning together.

Yours with love,

Lisa



Meetings, Gatherings, Ideas

Seek and Find

Upcoming Ministerial Search Committee events:

→ **August 22 (Wednesday) -- 5:30 Search Committee meeting.** *Contact any committee member if you have an agenda item.*

→ **August 29 (Wednesday) -- 5:30 Search Committee meeting.**

→ **August - September --** Receive and return by mail the "demographics" portion of the **congregational survey.**

→ **September 16 (Sunday) 12:00** First U's first and possibly best opportunity to discuss our vision with each other, then fill out the "hopes and dreams" portion of the **congregational survey.**

→ **October 21 (Sunday) 11-4** "Beyond Categorical Thinking," a service and workshop presented by two experienced UUA trainers, will help us explore how failing to be aware of unintentional discrimination may keep us from getting the best minister for our church. All are invited to attend service and workshop.

The **First U Singles and Friends** will meet for a **potluck with the church on August 17.** Please join us for adult companionship and conversation, and card games afterward.

CUUPs News: All interested persons are welcome to participate in a CUUPs program planning meeting. Please bring a sandwich and join us in the library at 12:45pm, this coming Sunday, August 19, to help plan our next celebration. Mark your calendar now for the **Fall Festival, September 23**, potluck at 6pm with ritual to follow.

The **Polyamory Awareness Group** will discuss Children of Poly Families at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 23, in the Parlor. All are welcome to bring your questions or comments and join the discussion.

Pig Roast Date Changes

Mark your calendars now: Saturday, September 22, for the annual First Unitarian Church Pig Roast! (Originally scheduled for Sept. 29.)

The world's most delicious pork ... homemade baked beans, slaw, and sauce ... homemade cakes... and the company of lots of First Church friends on a beautiful fall day. The Pig Roast is held at the home of **Tiffany** and **Doug Taylor**, and is co-hosted by **Anne Miller**, **Idell Rosen**, and **Frances Pierce**. All First Church members and friends, young and old, are invited to attend.

The Pig Roast is a fund-raiser; all monies raised go into the church General Fund. If you haven't already purchased places through the Service Auction and you'd like to come, please contact Tiffany (taylor928@aol.com, xxx-xxxx): adults \$10, children 6-12 \$5, children under 6 free.

We'll send a reminder and directions closer to the date. Hope you'll join us!

Tune Up for a Hootenanny

The Service Auction Event of a **Hootenanny** has been scheduled for **Sunday night, September 30 from 6-10 pm** at the home of **Ron and Kathie Johnson**. If you purchased this event at the Service Auction, put the date on your calendar. If you did not purchase this event, but wish to at this time, the cost is \$20 per person, which includes the meal (soup, bread, beer, soft drinks) and world-class 1st U musicians accompanying a traditional 1960s sing-along. You must contact **Kathie Johnson** to see if there are any remaining openings for this event.



Cabaret Reminder! -- Don't forget to provide First Unitarian with names of your friends who may enjoy the wonderful music, refreshments, and atmosphere of **Cabaret Riviera**, coming in October. Put names, addresses and zip codes on a piece of paper, and drop them in the labelled basket in the volunteer area, and they will receive a special invitation. You can also email names and addresses to joansbeal@aol.com.

Calendar: August 16 - September 1

August

16 Thursday

6:30pm UU Reading Group
(Rooms 202&204)

7:00pm Care Group
(Library)

17 Friday

6:30pm Third Friday All-Church Potluck & "Singles
and Friends" group (Social Hall)

19 Sunday

Luncheon and "Clean Up" Sunday

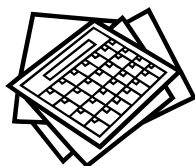
12:45pm CUUPs (Library)

20 Monday

7:00pm Membership (Library)

21 Tuesday

6:00pm Board Meeting (Library)



22 Wednesday

5:30pm Ministerial Search (Social Hall)

6:30pm UU Reading Group (Rooms 202&204)

7:00pm Worship Committee (Library)

23 Thursday

6:30pm UU Reading Group (Rooms 202&204)

7:00pm Polyamory Awareness (Parlor)

24 Friday

noon **Steepletalk Deadline**

28 Tuesday

5:30pm Denominational Affairs/Public Relations
(Library)

7:00pm Adult Round Table (Upstairs)

29 Wednesday

5:30pm Ministerial Search (Choir Room - 210)

6:30pm UU Reading Group (Rooms 202&204)

30 Thursday

6:30pm UU Reading Group (Rooms 202&204)

7:00pm OWL Parenting (Library)

Just among ourselves

Lisa Willner will be performing a capella music with her group "Out to Lunch: A Quartet of Three" at the Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church coffeehouse, Sunday August 19th at 7:30. All are invited to attend.

Ukiah Smith, active here in his high school years, has graduated from U of L and has taken a position in Columbus, Ohio. Ukiah's mother, **Christie Floyd**, a former church member, has graduated from U of L Law School and is awaiting the results of her recently-taken bar exams. Sincere congratulations to both!

Don't forget the **Schreibers' Annual Backyard Potluck**, Saturday August 25, 6:30 PM--3408 Nelinda May Dr. Bring Lawn Chairs, dish for several hungry people, and good appetites. Drinks provided. If you need directions, call xxx-xxxx.

Best wishes to **Alice Taveirne**, former office manager of the First U, in her new job at New Directions Housing Corporation. Alice's last day with us was Aug. 15.

By the time this issue of *Steepletalk* is distributed I should have departed for, and arrived in, Auckland. I am writing to thank all of you for making my leave-taking so very friendly and pleasant. I appreciated all of your cards and comments, the wonderful gifts of the quilt and the laptop on which I'm writing this,



and most especially, the lunches, dinners and coffees you invited Joan and myself to have with you. We enjoyed the chance to visit, talk and reminisce. Your good wishes mean a great deal to me, and they are sincerely matched by my hopes and wishes for each of you and for the church.

Thank you all,

Richard

**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.

August 19 *Caring for Our Church and Caring for Each Other.* A house is not necessarily a home. A church is not just a building. As some of us plan to spend the afternoon scrubbing and sprucing up our meeting house, let us consider why that is important and what it means to have a church home. **Participants in the previous week's Leadership Retreat** will share some of their experiences. **Nell McGlothlin** will share her beliefs about another aspect of caring for our tradition.

August 26 *Shared Ministry.* They keep talking about it, but what does it have to do with me? **Laura Jennings** is our guest speaker for this topic.

September 2 *Are You Working Tomorrow?* The meanings of Labor Day. Join us in some rousing Labor songs.