

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

Volume 11 Number 14

14 August 2005

809 S. Fourth Street • Louisville KY 40203 • (502)585-5110 or 589-6028 • Fax (502)587-8446
www.firstulou.org • Office Hours: 9:00am - 3:00pm M-F • Celebration of Life 10:55am Sundays
Bill Allison/Sharon Leighty, Board Presidents • Norm Stewart, Minister (502)561-8326 • Retha Justice, Office Mgr.
Lisa Willner, Director of Religious Education • James Dersch, Instrumentalist • Rebecca Johnson, Music Director
Linda Givens, Shared Ministry Coordinator • Anne Miller, DRE Emeritus • Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus

Brownbaggers to Hear Givenses

from Jesse Schreiber

Brownbaggers may recall that we had planned to have our September meeting at the Schreibers' -- a late-afternoon potluck. The possibility of sweltering heat and other weather uncertainties made us change our minds. We have invited **Wayne** and **Linda Givens** to speak at our September 12 meeting. The Givenses will be talking about their journey into living with a chronic disability and about some of the lessons learned along the way. The meeting will be in the church library between 11:30 am and 2:00 pm. Bring your usual brownbag lunch.

For further information call **Natalie Schreiber** (xxx-xxxx) or **Linda Givens** at the church (xxx-xxxx)



BIG Multi-Church Yard Sale

Saturday, August 20

9:00 - 3:00

Has that super-doooper citrus squeezer that Aunt Marge thought you needed taken up space in the cabinet for two years without seeing an orange? Have you changed the colors in the bathroom and the hot pink towels, shower curtain and floor mat just don't work with the lime green walls? Do those throw pillows on the couch clash with in new rug? Those things that don't "fit" any longer may be just the thing someone else can't live without!

Bring those valuable items to the Big Multi-Church Yard Sale.

A receipt will be provided for tax purposes to all who request one.

REMEMBER--half the proceeds from the sale will go the HELP Office, a worthy project that the church has supported for many years. The other half goes in our church's General Fund. Donations are being accepted now at the church, but be sure to get them there the week before the sale, Saturday, August 20. Need something picked up? Call **Linda Parry** at xxx-xxxx.

Celebrating 175 Years in Louisville

STEEPLETALK



by **Sharon Howerton Leightty**
 Co-president, Board of Trustees

Greetings from your Board of Trustees. Vacation plans kept many members away from our July meeting. As a result, we kept decision-making to a minimum.

However, one big decision was made. The Board approved a proposal from the Aesthetics Committee (see below) to accept a design by artist **Craig Kaviar** for a new 4th Street sign. Thanks to the generosity of several members, we have funds to get this project started. However, it will still take a few more \$ to complete the installation by the end of this year. If you are interested in donating, please give Sharon Howerton Leightty a call. This sign should be a great addition to the celebration of our 175th year—and a wonderful legacy for many more celebrations yet to come.

Did you know that we now have an Aesthetics Committee? Thanks to **Carol Tobe**, **Mike Watkins**, and **Joanne Graf** for agreeing to serve as aesthetics consultants for the building. Keeping an attractive space will be especially important as we attempt to bring in more income by rental of our facilities. Please help in this effort by referring all decisions concerning purchase or placement of artwork, signage, bulletin boards, etc. to this able group.

The Sermon on the Amount

GENERAL FUND REPORT Fiscal Year 2004-05

INCOME	Actual	Budget	Difference
Pledges	\$139,985	170,000	
Fund Raising	13,633	18,000	
Other	<u>43,981</u>	<u>26,900</u>	
Total	197,599	214,900	-17,301

EXPENSE	Actual	Budget	Difference
Staff	\$178,938	191,646	
Administrative	9,848	10,300	
Bldg & Grounds	32,646	37,800	
Miscellaneous	4,714	4,262	
<u>Program</u>	<u>33,507</u>	<u>41,800</u>	
Total	259,653	285,808	26,155

EXCESS			
EXPENSES	\$62,054		
<u>Savings Used</u>	<u>55,882</u>		
Net Shortfall	-6,172		

George Schuhmann, Treasurer



Welcome, Retha Justice, New Office Manager

After reviewing 40+ resumes and interviewing five excellent prospective candidates, the Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that we have offered the church Office Manager position to **Retha Justice**, and she has accepted our offer. We are confident that members of First U will find Retha to be a bright, delightful, and dedicated employee. Also, Retha knows a bit about the principles of Unitarian-Universalism — she is Social Responsibility team coordinator at Clifton Unitarian. We welcome Retha to the First Unitarian staff and look forward to a productive and rewarding association with her.

The 175 Anniversary Church (Picture) Directory

Please make plans to have your picture taken on **September 15, 16, or 17**. Mark your calendars. The Olan Mills Photographer will be at First Unitarian on Thursday and Friday September 15 and 16, 3:00 to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturday, September 17, between 10:00 am and 5:00 p.m.

You will be able to start making appointments on August 14 -- in the social hall after the service, and afterwards by calling the church office as well as on Sundays in the Social Hall.

So please think about what day and time will be good for your family or yourself. For your information, **Kathy Thackeray** and **Kathy Drehmel** and a member of the Shared Ministry Committee will be the coordinators of this project. **Linda Givens**, Shared Ministry Coordinator, will serve as the Staff connection.

Linda Givens Shared Ministry Coordinator



Office hours for summer
Monday - Thursday
10am - 2 pm* (most weeks)
Friday off

**Linda will work from home at times,
so feel free to call her there at xxx-xxxx.*

502-585-5110

XXXXXXXXXX@XXXXXXXX.XXX

Mostly the job of Shared Ministry Coordinator is filled with loosely related tasks. Lately, however, it has centered around a theme--LEADERSHIP. With the recent Committee Leader Orientation and Mid-West Leadership School and the upcoming Leadership Retreat, I've had little choice but to consider ideas about leadership and shared ministry.

At the Committee Orientation, **Ralph Moss** offered a couple of thoughts that have found their way into my journal on several occasions. Quoting **Lao-Tzu**, Ralph noted "As for the best leaders, the people do not notice their existence. The next best, the people honor and praise. The next, the people fear, and the next, the people hate. When the best leader's work is done, the people say, 'We did it ourselves!'"

During Mid-West Leadership School the focus was on process and leadership. While there we reflected on the seven principles in a personal way, and it occurred to me that the content of Unitarianism lies in the process of living those principles. Leadership is, therefore, a demonstration of those principles as we go about being First Unitarian Church of Louisville.

It is my joy to be a part of the upcoming Leadership Retreat for Trustee and Council members, and it is my hope that we more fully determine to demonstrate our principles as we lead in such a way that the church will say, "We did it ourselves."

And I must share one final quote that Ralph Moss brought from Lao-Tzu, "To lead the people, walk behind them."

Linda

REviews

Greetings All! I had a great month away, and now it's great to be back. I'm looking forward to connecting with those of you who've found us over the summer, and to re-connecting with all of you "oldtimers." There's a lot happening as we prepare for the start-up of the new church year. Here's an overview, and some important upcoming dates:

Many thanks to Summer R.E. Coordinator **Laura White** and her merry band of volunteers for running a great children's program throughout the summer. Summer R.E. classes continue each Sunday through August 21, 10:55 – 12:00 in the Open Classroom and Preschool Room.

- 8/21 9:45 – 10:45 Coming of Age orientation for mentors and parents - choir room.
- 8/26 6:00 – 8:30 Coming of Age potluck dinner and first quarterly meeting for mentors and CoA candidates. Location TBA.
- 8/27 10:00 Youth Advisor Orientation
- 8/28 9:30 – 10:45 R.E. Teacher Orientation – R.E. Library (breakfast-y treats provided). The Teacher Orientation will be followed by a brief worship service and our churchwide clean-up party. R.E. teachers, parents, youth, and children are needed to help prepare our classrooms for the upcoming semester.
- 9/4 10:55 R.E. Committee member Barbara Schweickart will lead special children's activities during the Celebration of Life hour.
- 9/11 10:55 Our annual in-gathering will be a Multigenerational Celebration of Life. Children's first hour programs resume (9:45-10:45).
- 9/18 Fall semester R.E. classes begin!
- 9/25 5:00 – 7:30 Youth Adult Potluck and YAC elections

- Also in September: Our Whole Lives sexuality education classes for 4th and 5th graders begin. Dates TBA. Stay tuned to *Steepletalk* and the First U website, or contact **Carol Uebelhoer** (xxxxxxx@xxxxx.com) for more information.

Volunteer Opportunities

Teaching children's religious education classes is a great way to learn more about Unitarian Universalism, to explore your own beliefs, and to connect with our spirited and supportive R.E. family. We currently have one available opening in our teaching roster for fall classes. If you have attended First Unitarian Church for a minimum of six months and think you might be interested in getting involved with this important ministry, please contact me for more information.

The R.E. Committee is looking for 2-3 adult advisors for our Senior High Youth Group. (Senior High R.E. teachers will serve as interim youth advisors until other advisors are selected and trained.) If you are a UU with energy and enthusiasm, and think you might enjoy sharing leadership with some great UU youth, please contact me.

I'm looking forward to another great year of learning together. As always, I hope you'll feel free to contact me with any R.E.-related questions, ideas, or concerns.

Peace,

Lisa



A Gentle Reminder

Please Wear Your Nametag!

New people and visitors find it much more comfortable carrying on a conversation after the service if your name is readily available to them. It also helps some of us "oldtimers" with poor memories. Please be kind to all and wear your nametag.

STEEPLETALK

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Next deadline: **Friday, August 26, 2005**
(covers September 4 - 17)
(2 weeks)
Editor: Claudia Runge

Contact us: xxxxx@xxxxxxx

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Religious Education Director

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(502) 585-5110 (Office)

E-mail
xxx@xxxxxxx.xxx

Office Hours

Monday 11 - 3

Tuesday 12 - evening

Wednesday 11 - 3

Additional times available by appointment.

S.M.A.R.T.

Sunday Morning

Adult Round Table

Church Library

Sharing at 9:30am

Program - 9:40 until 10:45am

Summer Conversations

through September 4

Round Table has ended for the 2004-2005 church year and will resume on September 11 for the 2005-2006 church year. During Sunday morning first hour this summer, First Unitarian members and friends are invited to continue gathering in the library at 9:30am for informal conversations about various *UU World* articles (www.uua.org/world).

Youth are encouraged to join the Summer Conversations. Parents are welcome to bring children with them. Child care for children age five and under will be arranged if requested in advance; email **Linda Givens**, Shared Ministry Coordinator, at xxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.org or call Linda at 585-5110, to request childcare. Please note that childcare will not be provided if no one requests it in advance.

In Memoriam

Emilie Clinkenbeard

Died July 26, 2005 at 99 1/2 years of age.



Social Action

➔ The big **50th Anniversary celebration of ACLU of KY** is September 24. To reserve your seat to hear National ACLU director, Nadine Strossen, and enjoy a special dinner with friends, send \$40.00 to ACLU of KY, Suite 300, 315 Guthrie Green, Lou., KY 40202-3820. Write "First Unitarian Church" in the memo line, if you would like to be seated with church people. Young people may apply for dinner scholarships to the ACLU of KY office: 581-9746.

➔ **Aim Higher** is a subcommittee of the **Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation**. Their goal is to inform youth and others about the impact of the military on each of us, on our soldiers, and on our world. They can provide, and welcome invitations for, speakers on these topics for meetings of parent and/or student discussions at churches and other organizations. They also provide trained counselors around issues of countering recruitment in the schools, the possible draft, and how to start building deferment files. You can reach them through Jean Edwards, Louisville FOR (xxxx xxxx Ave, Louisville 40205) or e-mail them at militaryalternatives@xxxxxx.xxx

Place Nametags Here!

The **Shared Ministry Committee** has placed a basket on a small table near the door at the Library Lane entrance/exit. The purpose of this basket is to allow you to **place your nametag in it BEFORE you leave our church.**



Just among ourselves...

All are welcome to come to see the work of **Barbara Coles**, BFA Thesis Exhibition Show, University of Louisville at Schneider Hall, Allen R. Hite Institute. Show open from August 5 to September 2, 2005, with **Artist Reception on Thursday, August 25, from 5-8pm.**

Kenton Atwood and **Uwe & Kathy Eickmann** invite everyone in the church to see their newly remodeled home--a place where many UUs have gathered over the past 50 years. They will have wine, cheese and music for all. Come any time **between 2 and 10 p.m. on Sunday, August 21.** They're located at xxxx xxxxxxxx Dr. right off xxxxxxxxxx Rd. Call xxx-xxxx if you need directions.

A memorial service for **Emilie Clinkenbeard**, a long-time member of First Unitarian who died July 26, will be held at the church on **Friday, August 26, at 2:00p.m.** Anyone who would like to share memories of Emilie or who would like to speak at the service should contact Norm Stewart at 561-8326.

Please keep **Linette Lowe**, her mother, **Nancy Lowe**, and other family members in your thoughts. Linette's great aunt, Mary Meabon, who was a grandmother to Linette, passed away July 26 in Michigan.



If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please clip the address label from this newsletter and mail it to the church office to the attention of **Linda Givens.**

Building Use Calendar: August 12 - September 3

August

12 Friday
4:00pm Leadership Retreat, Catherine Spalding Retreat Center
7:00pm Christian Fellowship, library

13 Saturday
8:00am Leadership Retreat, Catherine Spalding Retreat Center

14 Sunday
10:55am Celebration of Life
12:15pm Social Responsibility, parlor

15 Monday
10:00am Partner Church Steering Comm, lib
6:45pm Interweave

17 Wednesday
5:30pm CUUPS, library, soc.hall, kit
6:00pm ARE Fishbowl, choir rm

18 Thursday
6:30pm Board of Trustees, library

20 Saturday
All Day HELP Ministries Yard Sale, church

21 Sunday
9:30am Coming of Age orientation, choir rm
10:55am Celebration of Life
12:30pm Church Tour
2:00pm *Bridal Hop tour, church

22 Monday
6:00pm Shared Ministry Comm., library

24 Wednesday
6:00pm ARE Fishbowl, choir rm

26 Friday
6:00pm *Private event
7:00pm Christian Fellowship, library

27 Saturday
Youth/Advisor Orientation, outside location
3:00pm *First UU Families (FUUFs) potluck & swimming, Rick and Holly Hogue's, xxxx xxxxxx Ave.
3:30pm *Private event, sanc, soc hall, parlor, choir rm

28 Sunday
9:30pm RE Teacher Orientation, RE library
10:55am Celebration of Life
12:00pm T-shirt Sunday/Church Clean-up

31 Wednesday
5:30pm CUUPS, library

September

2 Friday
6:00pm *Private event, sanc

3 Saturday
5:00pm *Private event, sanc, soc hall, parlor, choir rm

** Denotes outside group or activity, not officially affiliated with First Unitarian Church.*



Please Respect Our Church Space

We must all work together to keep our building safe and welcoming. **When your committee or group meets in the building, you're responsible for leaving the space in good order.** When you leave, please be sure to check the doors, even if you think someone else is in the building. If there are others in the building when you leave, you may even remind them to lock doors and turn out lights.

Closing Checklist Upon Leaving the Building

- ✓ Turn coffeemaker OFF.
- ✓ Lock courtyard doors from social hall and kitchen.
- ✓ Pick up belongings.
- ✓ Replace furniture as you found it.
- ✓ Set heating/AC control to night setting.
- ✓ Turn lights OFF, including restrooms and hallways.
- ✓ Close all doors.

**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 14 *Yard Sales As Spiritual Practice.* **Rev. Norm Stewart.** Next Saturday, August 20, First Unitarian will take our annual Yard Sale to a new level as we join forces with Central Louisville churches in the First Annual HELP Ministries Giant Benefit Yard Sale. Today we will explore how your participation and support of this sale and of the HELP Ministries can be a part of your spiritual life.

August 21 *Confessions of a Mystical, Humanistically-Inclined Agnostic Theist with Pagan Tendencies And A Love For Jesus.* **Worship Associate, Joe Edmiston.** A sermon authored by the **Rev. Joy Atkinson** and part of the Great Sermon Series. Unitarian Universalists are often accused of either borrowing too freely from too many faith traditions or not believing in much of anything at all. Rev. Atkinson reminds us that UUs are able to hold the best of all religious and philosophical traditions in a wide embrace.

August 28 *Social Responsibility and Personal Responsibility: Annual T-Shirt/Clean-up Sunday.* **Worship Associates, John Durham and Geneva Fry.** Wear your favorite tee-shirt message and bring your favorite broom, vacuum or rag and cleaners. We hope this service will get you fired up and ready to clean. Is there really a kitchen witch? Are there fairies in the closet? Who cleans our church? Must you ask? Please be prepared to stay 1-2 hours after the service to work. Bring a sandwich and piece of fruit if you need to eat lunch right away. This is a great time to get to know fellow church members and prepare the church for Ingathering.