

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association

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Rev. Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus - Anne Miller, DRE Emeritus

Heavens to Betsy!

On **Sunday, September 10**, we will welcome the **Rev. Elizabeth Scheuerman** to our church as the interim minister. She joins us in Louisville from her home in New Jersey with her dog, Eddie. Betsy was a practicing attorney before being called to the UU ministry. She is a poet, a potter and a writer. During her tenure at First Unitarian she will guide us through the work we must do as we prepare for the search for a settled minister.

Join the Interim Committee, the Activities Committee and the Board of Trustees at a **potluck dinner** to welcome Betsy on **Friday, September 22, 7 - 9 pm**. Bring you favorite dish to share and stay and visit with our interim minister! Questions should be directed to **Debra Gilbert**.

We are honored and excited to have Betsy with us in the coming year.

Take Time to Sign Up for Circle Suppers!

The activities committee is once again organizing Circle Suppers for church members and friends. Please plan to set aside 4 Sunday nights over the course of the fall and winter to enjoy with a variety of people in a small group setting. This is a great activity to get to know your church community, rekindle old friendships and meet new members. Pairs and singles are welcome.

The meals are set up so that you and a partner rotate together through four evenings, one of which you host. This means over the course of the winter you will meet 24 people and enjoy a wide variety of appetizers, meals and desserts.

Please contact a member of the activities committee after the service on any Sunday in September to sign up. A sign up sheet will also be in the social hall. We would like to have at least 8 locations (64 people) hosting each Sunday and we'll need some alternates, so please stop by the table in the social hall to sign up.

See **Kay Woodworth** or **Jill Sampson** with any questions.

Love is the spirit of this church...



STEEPLETALK

From Your Interim Minister

What a whirlwind it has been! This last few weeks have been full of busy-ness: vacation in the Outer Banks; a quick trip to Louisville to find an apartment and attend part of the Leadership Retreat, with the added benefit of meeting some folks and getting a tour of the building; preaching at a congregation in the area; meeting with a couple planning their wedding; packing; seeing two sons off to college (one in New Orleans, one in D.C.), and, to top it all off, picking out bathroom tiles and fixtures, so we can remodel two bathrooms which have sprung terrible leaks.

In the midst of the whirlwind, too often I stop making time to be still... to listen... to reflect. My being can get lost in all the doing. But I know that the voice of wisdom, that voice which leads me to right action, needs a quiet space to be heard.

So, I look forward to “getting to know you, getting to know all about you, getting to like you...” as Oscar Hammerstein’s song lyrics put

it. I look forward to “all the beautiful and new things I’ll be learning about you, day by day.” I look forward to doing the work of interim ministry in your congregation. In the weeks to come, I will be meeting with you, individually and collectively. There will be much doing. There will be time to play, and have fun together, too. And there will be time and space for being, listening, reflecting.

In the short time since I was hired, I have already met some wonderful people in your congregation, passionately committed to your congregation, your community, Unitarian Universalism, and the world at large. I have seen your amazing building, with its blend of the old and the new. It honors your long and glorious past, and yet provides a functional and beautiful space for the present and the future. The ultimate goal of the interim time is to achieve something similar.

Blessings,

Betsy



Music Notes

It is my great pleasure to announce that **William Plummer** will be our new Music/Choir Director, effective September 1. Will comes with a great wealth of talent as a pianist and conductor; education in piano, choral conducting and music history; and experience as a church choir director.

He will be attending the August 26 Celebration of Life and rehearsing the choir at their first practice of the church year on Thursday, August 31. We are incredibly fortunate to have him join us here at First U. Welcome Will!

Jayne Haslam, Music Cmte. Chair

Yuletide Fare

Mark your calendar— 2nd Annual Yuletide Fare!

Saturday, December 9, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Last year’s Yuletide Fare was a great success: Our church community worked together to create this festive event, having fun along the way -- and raising more than \$4,000 for the church! Work is already under way for the 2006 Yuletide Fare. Come help with sewing and crafts on Wednesday evenings; keep an eye on the Sunday bulletin and the church email list for opportunities to make jams, jellies, and much more; and plan now to volunteer your help on Dec. 9. To help plan for the Fare, contact **Tiffany Taylor** at xxxx.xxxx@xxxxx.com or xxx-xxxx.

Leadership Retreat

Report of the Board, Council, Committee Chairs Retreat

Note: This is a very abbreviated report - a short report is available on the ledge by the computer in the volunteer area, and the minutes are on the Board Council bulletin board in the social hall.

The Retreat was held on August 11-12, 2006, at the Catherine Spalding Retreat Center. Our goals for the Retreat: bonding and mutual support, getting organized and setting priorities, focus on becoming a healthier congregation.

Friday evening we had the honor of meeting our Interim Minister, **Betsy Scheuerman**. She lead us in our gathering, and she did say what her focus will be during this interim period.

Saturday was a full day of presenting and creating goals. The Board and the Council presented their goals; then we worked in groups to establish church goals. Time dictated that we form these goals in somewhat a backwards way; next year we will do this in a more correct and inclusive way. The Church Goals are the following: publicize our new staff; explore with the other two UU churches a 3-Church Initiative a service with the 3 ministers, a pot luck and then a forum); investigate an automated phone system to alert the congregation about care concerns and announcements of events; and look into “branding” in order to become more visible in the community.

The Conflict Management Team lead various activities, including a “play” and a rhythm activity and a hoop placement activity -- all to encourage us to observe, to find the need, and then request information. We thank all the participants and presenters for attending and a special thanks to **Lois Allen** and **Jayne Haslam** for leading us in song. We thank Betsy Scheuerman for her words of comfort.

Your Board of Trustees and Church Council



Help Ministries Yard Sale a Success!

On Saturday, August 12, a dedicated crew from First Unitarian managed a successful yard sale in conjunction with the Help Ministries churches in Downtown Louisville. Even though 25 folks were away at a retreat, the home crew brought in about \$1,900 to be split between our church and the Help Office. A special thanks goes to **Betty Caudle** who worked every day for a week at church sorting and labeling and then recruited volunteers to make this event a success. Thank you to all who participated.

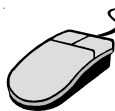
STEEPLETALK

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REviews

For those of us with children at home, it's that time of year. Lazy days of summer - I hope you had a few! - giving way to hectic schedules and a sense of anticipation, excitement, and perhaps anxiety about what lies ahead in the new school year: new friends, new classes, new teachers, new challenges. In our busy-ness, it can be so rewarding and centering when we can still make time to attend to our own and our children's religious and spiritual development within a church community.

When I take time to reflect on it, I am moved over and over again by our congregation's ongoing commitment to our children and youth religious education programs. Members of our Religious Education Committee, our R.E. teachers, youth advisors, OWL trainers, parents, and other volunteers make First Unitarian Church a great place for our lucky kids to grow up. This year, once again, we have a wonderful array of religious education classes and other programs for our children, youth, and adults. I hope that you and your family will find many ways to contribute to and reap the rewards of our liberal religious education offerings. See you at church!

Peace,
Lisa

R.E. Announcements

- Many, many thanks to **Mary Griffin**, our Summer R.E. Coordinator, for her care of our summer volunteers and for her commitment to our children.
- **September 3** – Activities for all children and youth, 10:55 – 12:15. R.E. Registration begins.
 - ✓ Preschoolers – 5th Grade: WATER PARTY IN THE COURTYARD! Stay cool in the dog days of summer with a Labor Day weekend “pool” party. Dress to get wet! Bring a towel

and a change of clothes (and perhaps some lendable swim gear and towels for visiting children).
✓ Middle School and High School Youth Groups will meet. Time to get acquainted or re-acquainted, meet your advisors, and begin planning for the year. Come! Bring a friend!

- **September 7 (at First U) and 14 (at Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church)**. Mandatory parent meetings for 7th- 9th Grade “Our Whole Lives” sexuality education program. Contact **Lisa** or visit the First U website for more information.

- **September 10: In-Gathering Sunday!** We look forward to seeing everyone for a multigenerational Celebration of Life at 10:55. Childcare will be provided in the Preschool Room for very young children.

- ✓ First Hour Programs for children begin today (9:45 – 10:45 in the Open Classroom).

- ✓ Following the Celebration of Life there will be a Youth Lunch in the Open Classroom, followed by Middle School Youth Group (1:00 – 2:30).

- **September 17:**

- ✓ R.E. classes for children and youth begin. 10:55 – 12:15.

- ✓ Middle Schoolers are invited to stay after R.E. class for Youth Lunch in the Open Classroom (right after class) and Youth Group (1:00 – 2:30).

- ✓ High School Youth Group Retreat at Cedar Ridge! The High School Youth Group will be going on a beginning-of-the-year retreat from 9:45 to 5:00. The retreat will be at Cedar Ridge Camp (check out the website to learn more about CRC: <http://www.cedarridgecamp.com/>). We'll be starting the day off with a low-ropes course and finishing up with some fun and exciting activities. Get ready for another great year of High School Youth Group and RE! Contact **Seana Golder** (xxxx.xxxxx@xxxxxx.xxx) for more information or to volunteer. Parent volunteers will be

R.E. Announcements

S.M.A.R.T.

needed for carpooling to and from church, and for providing lunch.

- **September 24:** Youth/Adult Potluck, 5:00 - 7:30. Fun and information about youth programs for youth, parents, and interested others. YAC elections will be held. Please join us and bring a dish to share.

A Word from Mary...

I would like to thank the following for volunteering a little of their precious summer time in order to keep our R.E. program up and running during this season: **Phil Candee (2X), Kathy Thackeray, Nancy Macpherson, Carol Uebelhoer, Roger Bradshaw (2X), Beverly Moore, Seana Golder, Fran Fargen, danielle rogers-candee, Katrina xxxxx, Katy Brown, Jim Fry, Rhonda Green Barron (2X), Calvin xxxxxx (2X), Kathy Gapsis, Helen xxxxx, Patty Kannapel, John Grossman, John Scruton, Ben xxxxx and Joan Beal.**

Thank you all!

Mary Griffin, Summer Religious Education
Coordinator

Lisa Willner Religious Education Director

Telephone
(502) 585-5110 (Office)

E-mail
dre@firstulou.org

Office Hours
Monday 10:00 - 2:00
Tuesday 11:00 - 2:00
Thursday 11:00 - 2:00

Additional times available by appointment.

Sunday Morning Adult Round Table Church Library Gather at 9:30am Program until 10:45am

Throughout the year, Round Table will make use of the Ethics volume of "Building Your Own Theology" as we work with the UUA Study Action Issues "Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society" and "Peacemaking." The workbook is available for purchase at the UUA Bookstore. In response to requests, Round Table will plan two Sundays each for the first two Ethics session, to encourage contemplation on each lesson and follow-up discussion.

- **Sept. 10 -- *Ingathering Breakfast.*** Gather in the library for food and fellowship as we kick off a new season of first-hour adult programming. Browse the "Ethics" workbook and pick up a copy of the Session 1 reading. All first hour adult programs are invited to join the Round Table for the Ingathering Breakfast
- **Sept. 17 -- *Authority-Can We Be Good Without God?*** How do we determine our ultimate ethical authority? Is there an absolute ethic?
- **Sept 24 -- *Authority-Can We Be Good Without God?*** Do we need a transcendent perspective, a view outside of the self? Follow-up discussion.

Curricula meeting to be arranged. For more information or to suggest a program, email the Curricula Team at smart@firstulou.org, or call **Jasmine Walston** at xxx-xxxx.



News and Notes

Brownbaggers

Iran is much in the news these days. **Emil Roy**, one of our church members, has recently returned from Iran and has consented to talk to our group about his observations. He has interesting materials to show us. Come see and learn. Meeting is Sept. 18. Brownbag lunch is at noon in church library, followed by program. See you there!

Mark Your Calendar

What: Interweave Planning Meeting to prepare for the new church year

Date: Wednesday, September 6

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Social Hall

Kroger Bucks Report

Our two best months for receipts from our Kroger Gift Card purchases last year, 2005-2006, were in November and January-February. In both of those months our purchases exceeded \$6800, which meant that our 4% shares were \$275 and \$273. Last month, June 11-July 8, the total of our purchases was \$4738, or \$189.52 in receipts for us. Those earlier higher earnings suggest that we can do better, if we REMEMBER TO USE our Gift Cards whenever we shop at Kroger.



First Unitarian Church

Service Auction!

Saturday, Oct. 21

Silent Auction & Refreshments 5:00 p.m.

Service Auction 6:00 p.m.

Make donations by
October 20:

Tiffany Taylor: xxx-xxxx,
xxxxx.xxx@xxxxxx.com

Anne Miller: xxx-xxxx,
xxxxxxx@xxxxx.net



Most important:
Be there to bid!

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

Social Responsibility

Universal, High Quality, Health Care: What Policy, What System?

Thursday, September 14, 7:00 p.m.

Centennial Room, Louisville Free Public Library,
4th & York, Speaker, **Dr. Steffie Woolhandler**
Associate Prof. of Medicine, Harvard University
Co-founder, Physicians for a National Health
Program

The Social Responsibility Committee calls this meeting to our attention as part of its followup for the top priorities which emerged from the congregation's response to an SRC survey last spring. Health care for all was the top priority to emerge from that survey. The next two priorities were the Fairness Campaign and Separation of Church and State. In various ways during the coming year, SRC will be advising us concerning each of these issues.

➡ Though it was a slightly lower priority, **Global Warming** is another issue that SRC has decided to highlight for us. This is a primary Unitarian Universalist Association Study Action Issue which is now even more compelling in the light of the Al Gore film and book, *An Inconvenient Truth*.

In so doing, the SRC goal will be to determine the top three causes of greenhouse gas emissions and ways that the congregation and its members could reduce these emissions, including the pin-pointing of some means to show how well we are accomplishing this.



➡ This has been a busy summer for our SR committee, which has had meetings in both July and August, plus support for the recent Yard Sale for the HELP Office. Coping with a somewhat reduced budget is another matter of major concern, and in this light the committee wants us to be aware of the **financial contributions** that we made during the past year, from our budget and on behalf of the congregation, to various community organizations and that we will do our best to continue, as needed. They were -

- HELP Office (plus Yard Sale) - \$1725
- The Fairness Campaign - \$200
- Louisville Peace Action Committee - \$200
- KY Alliance Against Racial and Political Oppression - \$200
- Center for Women and Children - \$100
- Fellowship of Reconciliation - \$100
- The Home of the Innocents - \$100
- The Kling Center - \$100
- KY ACLU - \$100
- Kentuckians for Single Payer Health Care - \$100
- AIDS Interfaith Ministries - \$100
- KY Jobs for Justice - \$100
- Kentuckians for the Commonwealth - \$100
- KY Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice - \$100
- Peace Education Program - \$100
- Project Warm - \$100
- The Sierra Club - \$100
- Women in Transition - \$100
- Coalition for the Homeless - \$75

TOTAL = \$3800

In the past year SRC was also responsible for a variety of other contributions which it made from Kroger Bucks and special Sunday collections and will report at a later date.

Chalice Night

from **Jo Ann Dale**

On September 13, First Unitarian begins its fifth consecutive year of diverse Chalice Night programming. Each Wednesday evening, **Tiffany Taylor** and her able assistants prepare a delicious full meal (including luscious dessert), available for purchase from 5:30 to 6:15. The cost is \$4 for a regular plate, or \$2 for a small portion (and for those younger picky eaters, macaroni and cheese or peanut butter and jelly is always an option).

This year, we will include the option of “topic tables” -- for discussion of particular subjects during dinner. At 6:30, we move to the sanctuary for an informal centering service. We are delighted that the September 13 service will be led by our new Interim Minister, **Betsy Scheurman**, and subsequent September lay-led services will address “Channeling” and “Gratitude.”

At 7:00, we disperse to varied programs and activities, which end at 8:30. During September,

the programming options will include a presentation regarding the interim years, a fishbowl conversation concerning options for Vespers services, Cyberspace 101, Grief Rituals, Sewing, Cooking and Crafts for Yuletide Fare, Earth-based Ritual Etiquette, Service Planning 101, Book discussions (including “Healthy Congregations” and Humanist works), and others.

Come for dinner and fellowship, for the opportunity to laugh with others while cleaning up after supper, for an inspiring service, for a thought-provoking program, or for all of the above. Bring a friend for a casual introduction to First Unitarian. For the most up-to-date schedule information, check the website at <http://firstulou.org/re/chalicenight.html> or pick up a copy of the current Chalice Night calendar, available in the volunteer area. If you are interested in facilitating a program, leading a service, or suggesting a program or activity option, contact **Lisa Willner, Janice Molnar** or **Holly Hogue**.

Summer Service Coordinator

from **Linda Givens**

As the very first Summer Service Coordinator (SSC) at First U, I am delighted to report that summer Celebrations of Life were well done, varied, informative, and creative. We had an opportunity to listen to a number of gifted church members and friends as well as to three wonderful guest speakers.

For me the highlight has been observing participating church members gain such pleasure from working with each other to create services that reflect a true celebration of life. Many who attended this summer’s services commented on the “This I Believe” part of the services. Hearing personal stories of the many ways in which

participants came to their spiritual paths and beliefs helps us appreciate our wonderful diversity. Again I was reminded of this community’s respect and appreciation for each other’s stories.

Thank you, to all of the summer service assistants for your enthusiasm, creativity and hard work. I think we all have a greater appreciation for the detailed work that makes the service look effortless. Also, I want to thank **Raymond Peart** for helping with microphone set up even before we asked. And as usual thanks to **Earl Reynolds** for being ready to help wherever he is needed.

Shared Ministry



First U is about to welcome three new staff members – an interim minister, a music director, and an office manager. So this is likely a good time for clarification of my responsibilities. Below

you will find a list of duties that require interaction with the congregation and its leadership. This is not intended as a complete job description, but rather a few of my responsibilities that have me interacting most directly with the congregation and its friends and visitors.

1. Information dissemination: A few weeks ago I posted a notice on the list reminding people that an important part of the Shared Ministry Coordinator's job is to disseminate information to the congregation. When church members, friends, and visitors call for assistance or to report an event, it is my responsibility either to provide that assistance or to direct them to another staff or church member who can provide needed help. Today, for example, a church member called for information about an upcoming Celebration of Life. I was able to direct her to the person who is most likely to have that information. Also, FYI's for the Order of Service are usually submitted through my office. In my opinion this is one of the two or three most important functions I can provide for First U. No matter who is the SM Coordinator, his or her role is crucial for effective information communication.

2. Calendar Scheduling: Formerly the office manager had this responsibility, but since that position has been unfilled I have been keeping the church calendar. This will continue after office staff is hired. Remember to schedule a meeting or event you must either fill out a schedule request form or email me with specific information about the event.

3. Committee Support: The SM Coordina-

tor works with the Shared Ministry Committee and with Council to staff committees and to support the committee work of the church. If your committee needs assistance with its work or with staffing, you have at least three places to go for help – Shared Ministry Committee, SM Coordinator, and Council.

4. Database Management: Church member, church friend, and visitor data is updated by the SM Coordinator. Therefore, it is crucial that you let me know of changes in contact information. *Steepletalk* address labels are printed from the database as are labels for all church mailings. If we don't have current information so that First U mailings will get to you, then who knows what you might miss?!

Hopefully this will help with confusion about duties. If you have questions please feel free to call me at church. As I write this article the new staff is not yet here, so I'm not sure what my office hours will be for the year. I will post them as soon as they have been determined.

I am grateful to First U members and friends for their patience, encouragement, and good natured support during the summer. With the minister being away and with me assuming the additional job as Summer Service Coordinator, this certainly was not a typical summer. Well, come to think of it I'm not sure what a typical summer would be, but this one seemed particularly busy and unsettling.

Linda

Linda Givens
Shared Ministry Coordinator
502-585-5110
sharedministry@firstulou.org

Women's Alliance

Alliance to Visit Hidden Hill Nursery

The Women's Alliance Steering Committee wanted to add another fun activity. We decided on a trip to Hidden Hill Nursery and Sculpture Garden, complete with a tour of the garden conducted by Bob Hill (at a cost of \$5) for Saturday, September 9, at 3pm. We chose this date because there will be free Bluegrass music and other entertainment on this day.

After our tour, we will be having a tea party. All members of the Women's Alliance are invited (you may join for an additional \$5 by contacting **Joan Beal**) and each one may invite a friend (man or woman). We need to know how many people are coming so we can have enough to eat and drink. **Carol Findling** has worked at Hidden Hill since they opened, so feel free to contact her with questions about Hidden Hill and directions. You may email her or call xxx-xxxx. She will have flyers with a map at church for a couple of weeks beforehand. You can also look on-line at www.hiddenhillnursery.com.



HEY, KIDS!

What: Water Party
When: Sept. 3, Second Hour
Where: Courtyard
Who: Pre-school and elementary party animals

Wear bathing suits and flip-flops. Bring squirt guns. (No supersoakers, please) Barb Schweickart and Nancy MacPherson will be on hand with games, snacks and a few surprises!

Get Your Red, White and Blue Pies!

The First Unitarian Women's Alliance will be making and selling Red, White and Blue Pies just in time for your Labor Day gatherings. The Women's Alliance will be making strawberry, raspberry, blueberry, banana cream, coconut cream, etc. pies and will be selling them whole or by the slice on Sunday, September 3 after the Celebration of Life.

The **Kentucky Women's Book Festival**, sponsored by "Women Who Write," will be held at First Unitarian at noon on Saturday, September 23. Sallie Bingham will be the luncheon speaker. For information about cost and registration, call xxx-xxxx or email xxxxxxx@xxxxxx.com.

Just among ourselves

Bill Latta has had his hip replacement surgery and is doing well. His spirits are up and so is he, with the aid of a walker. He and **Martha** are pleased with the progress so far. He will be at Jefferson Manor convalescing until probably the third week in August. Cards and well wishes are appreciated.

John Findling needs good pictures of ministers **Bob Weston** and **David Brown**. These pictures are to go into the history of First Unitarian Church's celebration of the 175th anniversary of its founding, now nearing completion. You may contact him by phone, xxx-xxxx, or email, xxxxxx@xxxxxx.com, or see him at church after Labor Day.

Joe Hodge is continuing to improve at home after his hospitalization for cardiac problems, and he hopes to be back in church soon.

Building Use Calendar for September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday September 1	Saturday
3 9:30a PosActTm 10:55a Col 10:55a RE activities 12:30a Pie Sale	4 LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	5 11a Village Play Group 6:30p R.E.Cmte	6 2p Partner Church 6p <i>Healthy</i> Congregations discussion 7p Interweave	7 OWL Parent/ Teacher Orient. at First U	8 6:30p *Private ev*	9 2p *Private ev*
10 9:30a SMART 9:45a Chldm's Act 10:55a Intergen- erational Col 12:30p MSYthGrip 1p *Peace Ed. Concert	11 6p Cong.Services 7p Interweave	12 11a Village Play Group 6p Activities Cmte 6:45p Council	13 5:30 Chalice Night	14 OWL Parent/ Teacher Orient. at TJ Unitarian	15 5p * Private evt	16 11p *Private evt 1p *Private evt 8p *Private evt
17 9:30a SMART 9:45a Chldm's Act 9:45a SRH Retreat 10:55a Col 10:55a RE 12:30p MS Yth 2p *Private evt	18 12p Brownbgrs	19 11a Village Play Group 6p Board 6:30p SocResp	20 5:30 Chalice Night	21	22 7p Welcome Betsy Potluck Dinner	23 11p * KY Women's Book Fest 3p OWL 6p CUUP's Maven Celebration & Potluck
24 9:30a SMART 9:45a Chldm's Act 10:55a Col 10:55a RE 12:30p MS Yth 5p Yth/Adlt Potluck	25 6:15p Shared Ministry Cmt	26 11a Village Play Group 7p Finance Cmte	27 5:30 Chalice Night	28	29 7p UUCF	30 * Denotes outside group or activity not officially affiliated with First Unitarian

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.

September 3 *Walking and Rolling: One Couple's Journey into Life with Quadriplegia.* Wayne and Linda Givens discuss the injury that led to Wayne's disability, their responses to that injury, and lessons learned along the way.

September 10 *Wade in the Water.* Rev. Betsy Scheuerman. Join in the Ingathering! We will come together as the church community, including our new interim minister, our new music director, children and youth, their teachers, and most important—you, the congregation. This service features the water Communion; please bring water symbolic of your experience over the summer.

September 17 *Succulent Spirituality.* Rev. Betsy Scheuerman. So often we associate spirituality with asceticism. Explore the wonders of succulence: the miracle of abundance that can be found even in the desert wilderness.

September 24 *The Healing Time.* Rev. Betsy Scheuerman. What are we to make of the conjunction of the autumnal equinox, Rosh Hashanah, and Ramadan? What does healing look like? What do we do with our wounds? The inspiration for this service, and its title, come from a poem by Pasha Gertler.