



# STEEPLETALK

---

## FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

*A Member Congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association*

Volume 12 Number 7

July 2006

---

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  
Penny Nader, Board President • Norm Stewart, Minister • Linda Givens, Shared Ministry Coordinator  
• Lisa Willner, Director of Religious Education • Greg Gapsis, Interim Office Manager •  
James Dersch, Instrumentalist • Rebecca Johnson, Music Director • Earl Reynolds, Custodian  
• Anne Miller, DRE Emeritus • Robert Reed, Minister Emeritus •

---

### Update from the Board

Our minister, Norm Stewart, will complete his ministry with us on August 31, 2006. The Board and I are saddened by this, as I am sure you are. We all wish Norm well in his new endeavors and our care and support go with him.

Because many of you did not have an opportunity to attend or respond to Norm's announcement on Sunday, June 18, we are planning to gather in July to share our feelings about his departure. In addition, we hope to schedule a social event for you to share your good wishes with Norm in August. Watch your mailbox for further details.

The Board is consulting with the UUA and the Heartland District about our next steps regarding interim ministry and professional leadership. At the same time, we are exploring the possibility of a temporary lay led structure to sustain us until professional help is in place.

While we are challenged by our situation and we wish it would have been different, First Unitarian is a strong, capable spiritual community. Our mutual support will ensure our future.

Penny Nader,  
President, Board of Trustees

### Yuletide Fare Sewing in July

If you like to sew, or cut out, or help out with making things to sell during the Yuletide Fare, please join us on Wednesdays beginning July 12, from 5:30-7:30pm. Bring fabric, ribbons, lace, patterns, sewing machines, needles, thread, or your helping hands each Wednesday. Also, if you think you'll be hungry during that time, bring your dinner or a snack. Contact Holly Hogue ([xxx-xxxx](mailto:xxx-xxxx) or [xxx-xxxx@xxxxxx.com](mailto:xxx-xxxx@xxxxxx.com)), Barb Coles ([xxx-xxxx](mailto:xxx-xxxx) or [xxxxxxx@xxx.com](mailto:xxxxxxx@xxx.com)) or Linda Parry ([xxx-xxxx](mailto:xxx-xxxx) or [xxxxxx@xxxxxx.xxx](mailto:xxxxxx@xxxxxx.xxx)) if you have questions.

---

*Celebrating 175 Years in Louisville*

# Church Matters

## Congregational Meeting on the Ministry of First Unitarian Church

from Penny Nader, President, Board of Trustees  
There was a congregational meeting held at 4:30 on June 18 to discuss our ministry at First Unitarian. Because Norm announced his resignation during the service that morning, much of the meeting was a discussion around how we would fill the role of minister over the next one to two years. The members passed a confirming resolution instructing the Board to continue to pursue the discernment process over the next year. The Board will keep you informed as plans evolve to fill the many roles played by the minister.

For a complete account of the proceedings at the meeting, check the minutes on file in the office. If you would like an e-mail copy, I will be glad to send them to you after they have been approved. E-mail me or **Jane Martin Buckley** with that request.



### Meijer Shoppers Can Provide Benefits to First U

For those who shop at Meijer, First U has an institutional ID number that will allow you to benefit the church each time you shop at Meijer. Sign up by going on-line at Meijer card sign-up:

<http://www.meijer.com/mymeijer/SignUp1.asp?pgm=mcr&url=/rewards/mcrsignup2.asp>. When asked for the 6 digit number of your organization, fill in **965674** for First Unitarian.

## The First Unitarian Church Council

Your Church Council administers the programming activities of the Church. The programming committees or groups are: the Activities Committee, the Congregational Services Committee, the Denominational and Public Relations, the Membership/Shared Ministry Committee, the Music Committee, the Religious Education Committee, the Social Responsibility Committee, the Worship Committee, the affiliate groups: CUUPS, Interweave and the Women's Alliance. We have a few other responsibilities which you can read about in the By Laws of First Unitarian or ask us but administering church programming is the biggie.

At present we have five elected members plus the Minister, Director of Religious Education and the Shared Ministry Coordinator. Elected members are Pat Allison, Mike Avery, Angela Klueber, Kathy Drehmel, and Kathy Thackeray. The two Kathys will serve as co-chairs of the council this year.

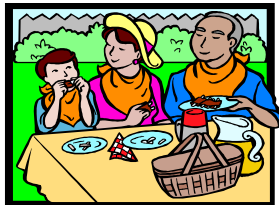
This Church Year we will try to keep you informed about what we are doing by placing a column in *Steepletalk*, using the Internet list serve to announce items of interest, and posting our minutes and other information on one of the triangular bulletin boards in the Social Hall. Please feel free to call or email either of the co-chairs with any question or concern you have.

### Summer Office Hours

The church office will be open Monday - Thursday from 10:00am-2:00pm and on Friday from 10:00am-12:00noon.

## Luncheon/Picnic Planned for July 9

The activities committee is hosting a lunch on July 9 after church. (Not the 19th as printed in the Sunday FYI, not the 16th as guessed at during the service) We'll eat picnic food outside, weather permitting. Adults are \$3, Youth are \$1.50



## Reminder: Please Pay Your Pledge

Dear First U members and friends:  
For those of you who made a pledge of financial support for 2005-2006, this is to remind you that this fiscal year is ending on June 30. Please take a moment to determine if you have completed your pledge for this year. If you have any questions, please call our treasurer, George Schuhmann, at 585-5110.

Thank you,  
Finance Committee

## Interweave



### “Interweaving”

Join us on July 5 at 6:00 for a “pitch-in” bread and salad supper (we'll supply greens and dressings; you bring whatever additions you think appropriate). After supper, we will try our hands at spinning (wheels, drop spindles) or weaving, or just visiting with each other and with our old friend, **Connie Byrne**. Spindles, looms, roving, and yarn will be available. This is a whole church (and interested visitor) event sponsored by Interweave.

## “Terquasquicentennial” Minutes

*As part of the 175th anniversary of First Unitarian Church and as a service to its members and friends, Steepletalk will publish a series of important dates in the history of the church. (Note: “Terquasquicentennial” is the Latin-derived numerical name for the number 175.)*

- On July 5, 1972, First Unitarian offered its first “About Your Sexuality” class.
- On July 15, 1843, The foundation was laid for the First Universalist Society building on Market Street near 8th Street in Louisville.
- On July 24, 1970, First Unitarian Church agreed to host meetings of Fort Knox soldiers opposed to the war.
- On July 31, 2001, The Reverend Richard Beal resigned after serving 15 years as minister at First Unitarian Church



## Unitarian Universalist Identity: The 7 Principles

### July 2

- Open Classroom (Grades 1-6): Exploring the Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Person
- Preschool: I am Special

### July 9

- Open Classroom: What are Justice, Equity, and Compassion in Our Daily Interactions?
- Preschool: I Can Give

### July 16

The children will be downstairs for the first half of the service.

- Open Classroom: Learning Together
- Preschool: I Can Share

### July 23

- Open Classroom: Emerson and His Search for Truth
- Preschool: I Can Ask Questions

### July 30

- Open Classroom: A Vote for Everyone
- Preschool: I Can Help

### August 6 -- Multigenerational Service

The Preschool Room will be open and staffed for those in need.

### August 13

- Open Classroom: Defining Peace
- Preschool: I Can Love

### August 20

- Open Classroom: The Interdependent Web of Nature
- Preschool: My World Has Animals

### August 27 -- Multigenerational Service

\*\*There are still spots in need of volunteers. Please contact **Mary Griffin**, xxx-xxxx, if interested. Thanks.

**Sunday Morning Adult Round Table** will not meet during the summer. Have a wonderful, restful summertime, and plan to join the Round Table again in September. Please send program suggestions to [smart@firstulou.org](mailto:smart@firstulou.org).

## Take a Positive Step Forward on Summer Sunday Mornings at 9:30

All members and friends of First Unitarian Church are invited to join us for an Open Discussion in the Church Library on Sunday Mornings from 9:30 to 10:45 throughout the month of July (and possibly August). Members of our church (who have taken to calling themselves the “Positive Action Team”\*) will be facilitating this discussion, and scheduled topics include:

- July 2 - For the Good of the Whole
- July 9 - An Environment of Trust
- July 16 - Being a Team Player
- July 23 - Courage to Collaborate

Some prepared lead-in questions that will direct our discussion are from a text entitled “Appreciative Team Building” by Diana Whitney, Amanda Trosten-Bloom, Jay Cherney and Ron Fry. These are discussions that we believe will lead us to be a better church community that is more cohesive and perhaps more receptive to our next ministerial leadership, if and when we should get a new minister.

\*Positive Action Team members include **Holly Hogue, Jane Martin Buckley, Jo Ann Dale, Katy Brown** and a number of others. No dues or secret handshake required. This group is sponsored by the Non-Violent Communications Team.

Note: SMART, regular Sunday Morning Adult Round Table, will return to this time slot with fall programming.

# Social Responsibility --Tingley House

by Janet Rink

Recently, when I arrived at Tingley House on a Tuesday evening, I learned at the front desk that a new family had moved into the shelter that week with daughters, ages 4 and 6. I knocked at their door to invite the girls to come to the play room.

The mother answered the door with the girls peeking out behind her.

"Would Trixxii and Fugii like to come to the play room?" I asked.

"I just got back from work," the mom replied. "I'm on my feet all day, and I'm exhausted."

"You could lie down and rest while the children play," I said.

"My daughters don't go anywhere (in the shelter) without me," she said.

"You're welcome to come, too. We'll be here until 7:45, and the children will be well supervised."

"Maybe when my husband comes back."

But I was relentless. Eventually, I persuaded the mom to come upstairs with the girls. The children's eyes widened at the room full of toys, and they went from one thing to another exclaiming to each other, "Look!"

The mom sat in a chair near the door, all expression drained from her face. I brought out a box of newly donated books. "Why don't you look through these books and see if there's any you want to take with you."

She bent over and started examining the books. She smiled, "Oh, I remember this one." Soon her face brightened.

In the following weeks, Trixxii and Fugii have played happily in the play room while their mom rested.

One evening as I was leaving, the parents were standing on the small porch outside the door to the shelter. "We really appreciate what you do," said the children's father.

This is what our presence means at the Volunteers of America's Family Emergency Shelter (Tingley House). On Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:45, volunteers from our church (and some former members as well) supervise a play room for children ages 3 to 6. We provide nurturing activities for the children, and we give their parents a chance to relax. Additionally, volunteers assist in tutoring school-age children in a "Study Buddy" room.

The shelter can accommodate about 20 families in one and two-room places. The VOA provides, housing, three meals a day, transportation assistance and case management with the goal of returning each family to stability.

For about 10 years, volunteers from our church have participated in this service project from October through May. This year, volunteers who committed to at least one Tuesday each month were **Erica Cates, Tish Moore, Pam and xxxxxxx Moe, Kathy Kremer, Claudia and David Runge, and Fran Fargen**. Others who participated were **Rose Stevens, Richard Rink, Mary Ballard and Chloe Taylor**.

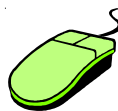
## STEEPLETALK

Published every month by  
**First Unitarian Church of Louisville**  
809 South 4th Street, Louisville, KY 40203

Next deadline: **Friday, July 21, 2005**  
(covers month of August)

Editor: Claudia Runge

Contact us: [editor@firstulou.org](mailto:editor@firstulou.org)



## Communications

from **Holly Hogue**, Webmaster

I encourage everyone who has access to email to join the ListServer. Why? **Claudia** announces when *Steepletalk* is on the web site. I make announcements of web updates, especially when photos have been added. **Linda Givens** sends out a written copy of the announcements made during the Celebration of Life. Sometimes we find out when a baby is born or when someone needs a visit. All of the emails are related to the Church.

It is very easy to join. Simply go to <http://www.firstulou.org/list.html> and scroll to the bottom of the page and subscribe.

There are a few rules. The first rule is that the ListServer is to be utilized for our Church information only. The ListServer will not process images or HTML formatted messages. In other words, use only plain text emails. This is to protect our provider's computer.

On a final note, after joining, it is possible for the computer to accidentally lock you out. It has something to do with computers and is nothing personal. If you find you are not receiving 4-6 emails a month from the ListServer, go to the join page and unsubscribe. Wait for the email notifying you this has happened and then subscribe again.

## Women's Alliance

### **Get Out Your Walking Shoes: Summer Downtown Walking Club Begins July 8**

Please accept this invitation from the Women's Alliance of First Unitarian Church to participate in an 8-week Summer Downtown Walking Club. Beginning on Saturday, July 8 at 8:00 a.m., walkers can meet on the parking lot-side porch and proceed to a nearby destination and return no later than 9:00 a.m. You don't have to come every Saturday, and you don't have to attend any meetings, take any notes, or bring a dish!

Below is a tentative list of destinations (suggestions are welcome):

July 8: Site of early First Unitarian Church at 5th Street and Muhammad Ali Boulevard; July 15: Central Park; July 22: Christ Church Cathedral; July 29: Union Station; August 5: Cathedral of the Assumption; August 12: Slugger Field; August 19: Glassworks; August 26: Indiana Visitor Center by way of the 2nd Street Bridge.

For more information, please contact **Kathy Kremer** at [xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxx](mailto:xxxxxxxxxx@xxxxx.xxx) or at xxx-xxxx.

## Denomination - General Assembly

What a thrill for First U members who found themselves at General Assembly in St. Louis among so many friends! Not just other UU friends, but First Unitarian friends! We showed up in force to have the largest percentage of congregational representation of any church in our Heartland district.

First Uers who attended all or parts of UU University and/or GA are **Katrina Brown** and her Coming of Age mentor, **Cassandra Culin**- both of whom carried our beautiful banner in

the opening ceremony--**Jane Martin Buckley, Kathy Drehmel, Joe Edmiston, Linda Givens, Jill Harmer, Fred & Carol Lehman, Janice & Mike Molnar, Beverly Moore, Penny & John Nader, Claudia Runge, Norm Stewart, Kathy Thackeray, Carol Uebelhoer & Jo Ann Dale, Jasmine, Rodney, & Agatha Walston, Holly Hogue, George & Suzi Schuhmann.**

Ask these folks to tell you a little about GA and share some of the things they experienced in workshops, lectures, and worship services there.

# Building Use Calendar for July

<b>2</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Friday</b>
10:55am	Celebration of Life, Sanctuary	7:00pm	Christian Fellowship. Library
10:55am	RE Activities, Open Classroom	<b>15</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00am	House & Grounds Work Party, church
<b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>		8:00pm	*Outside Event, Choir Room
<b>5</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
6:00pm	Interweave, S.H.	10:55am	Celebration of Life, Sanct.
<b>7</b>	<b>Friday</b>	10:55am	RE Activities, Open Classroom
6:00pm	*Outside event, Sanctuary	<b>18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
7:00pm	Drum Circle, Choir room	11:00am	The Village Playgroup, Pre-school rm
<b>8</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
7:00pm	*Outside event, Sanctuary	5:30pm	Yuletide Fare sewing
<b>9</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
10:55am	Celebration Of Life, Sanctuary	10:55am	Celebration of Life, Sanctuary
<b>10:55am</b>	<b>RE Activities, Open Classroom</b>	10:55am	Summer RE activities, Open Classrm.
<b>10</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>
7:00pm	Interweave, S.H.	11:00am	The Village Playgroup, Pre-School rm.
<b>11</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
11:00am	The Village Playgroup, Preschool rm	5:30pm	Yuletide Fare sewing
6:00pm	Transitions, Open Classroom	7:00pm	CUUPS Study Group, Library
7:00pm	Council, Library	<b>28</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00pm	Christian Fellowship, Library
5:30pm	Yuletide Fare sewing	<b>30</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
7:00pm	CUUPS Study Group, Library	10:55am	Celebration of Life, Sanctuary
<b>13</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	10:55am	RE Activities, Open Classroom
6:30pm	PDR sub-committee, Library	5:00pm	CUUPS, Lammass Celebration, Sanct.



## Just among ourselves

A box has been placed in the kitchen for dish lost and found. If you come to church potlucks and may have left something, please look in the box and talk to **Geneva Fry** or **Kathy Kremer**. Several umbrellas have also been left at the church. At the all-church cleanup in August we will be donating extra items to charity. Please claim your things!

**Dolores White**, a former member of this church and founder of Genesis Arts (which used to meet here), will again present her original (BUT NEW) production of a *Slave Wedding* at Locust Grove on July 9 at 6 p.m. We are all invited. You may want to bring a folding chair; this is performed outside. Children welcome.

**First Unitarian Church**  
**809 South Fourth Street**  
**Louisville, KY 40203-2115**

**Return Service Requested**

**Non-Profit Org.**  
**U.S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Louisville, Kentucky**  
**Permit No. 146**

### **Celebrations of Life**

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

**July 2**      *Belonging.* What does it mean to belong to a UU church? How is that “belonging” different from belonging to other churches? **Jill Sampson** will present a sermon by **Matthew Tittle**, a UU Minister in the Bay Area. **Great Sermons Series**

**July 9**      *Universal Salvation.* **Joe Edmiston** looks for answers to some challenging questions: What if God really loved UU and me? Would we treat others differently if we believed in our Universalist heritage? What does universal salvation mean to 21st century UUs?

**July 16**      *What’s Behind the Ivory Door?* Lay minister, **Homer Wilkins**, leads us in an Intergenerational Service based on the A.A. Milne play, *The Ivory Door*.

**July 23**      *Midlife Crisis as Spiritual Practice.* **Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh** shares with us, “This topic came to my mind first in response to my worries about turning 35. Then it seemed to have application to intellectual, spiritual, as well as physical growth. Is it possible that the anxiety and restlessness associated with a mid-life crisis could yield healthful results?”