

First Unitarian Church

*A Member Congregation of the
Unitarian Universalist Association*

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www.firstulou.org
809 S. 4th Street
Louisville, KY 40203
Phone: 502.585.5110
Phone: 502.589.6028
Fax: 502.587.8446
Office Hours 9-3, M-F
Minister's Office Hours:
Tues., Wed., & Fri.,
10-2 or by appointment

Rev. Dawn Cooley, Minister - minister@firstulou.org
Rhonda Green-Barron, Religious Education Coordinator -
dre@firstulou.org
Doug Taylor, President - Board of Trustees - president@firstulou.org
Rebecca Dimon, Office Manager - office@firstulou.org
Phillip Morgan, Choir Director
Earl Reynolds, Building Supervisor
Rev. Robert Reed & Rev. Richard Beal, Ministers Emeriti
Anne Miller, DRE Emerita

Celebrations of Life

Sunday Services begin at 10:55 a.m.

August 1 *Lammas*, Debra Gilbert & Ron Zorn

In the Earth Based Tradition, Lammas is the time of the first harvest. In ancient times, grains were harvested and breads were baked. Today, not very many of us harvest our own grains, so we will be exploring the modern significance of honoring this ancient celebration with themes of Celebration, Thanksgiving, and Sacrifice.

August 8 *How the Immigration Crisis Impacts Each of Us*, The Rev. Dawn Cooley

On July 29, unless it is somehow stopped at the last minute, Arizona's new immigration law went into effect. This law has been debated, even among Unitarian Universalists. How does this debate, and the crisis the law is intended to address, effect each one of us?

August 15 *Are You a Yukon Sally or Helicopter Joe?* The Rev. Dawn Cooley

The first in a series this year based on the album "Bountiful" by Peter Mayer. During this time of year, in particular, it seems as though there is too much happening to keep track of. But what wonderful moments do we miss if we just hurry from one thing to the next?

August 22 *90 Years Later*, The Rev. Dawn Cooley

After over 50 years of struggle, women won the right to vote on August 26, 1920. What does their story have to say to us today?

August 29 *Polishing Our Own Silver*, Claudia Runge, Geneva Fry

Clean Up Sunday -- Wear your T-shirt, shorts, and comfy shoes and join your fellow UUs as we accomplish together the once-a-year cleaning of our lovely church building. We'll have a short service before we begin our various tasks. "Many hands make light work." The choir will sing.

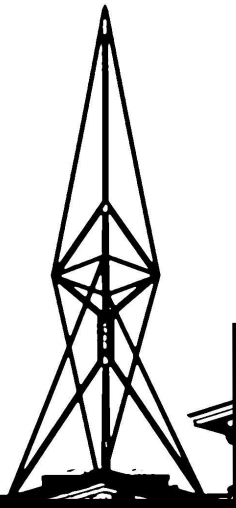
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Love is the spirit of this church...

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

STEEPLETALK



Minister's Musings

For the ancient Roman's these were the Dog Days – the time when the star Sirius rose just before or at the same time as sunrise (which is no longer the case, fyi). They believed it was a time “when the seas boiled, wine turned sour, dogs grew mad, and all creatures became languid, causing to man burning fevers, hysterics, and phrensies.”

I suppose, if pushed, I can see a connection between the frenzy that getting ready for a new church year requires, and the phrensies referenced in that quote from *Clavis Calendarium*.

However, for me, growing up, August meant an end to getting up early for swim team practice. It meant going to the beach to visit my grandmother – at a time when the jellyfish were at their peak. It meant school supplies and clothes shopping. And at the end of it all, I was usually more than ready to get back to the routine of school.

So it is for me this summer. I have enjoyed my break. I read about *Worship that Works* and about *Small Group Ministry*. I went to the beach (no jellyfish, hurray!). I caught up on all my various doctors appointments. And now I am more than ready to get back into the routine of church. This year promises to be full and rich – indeed it has already started off as exactly that, for many of you kept going this summer, continuing to spend your energy on fulfilling the mission of this congregation. Thank you!

Languid? Maybe on those hot days where it is too hot to do anything other than stay inside and read or watch a movie, but thankfully with few hysterics. Instead of seas boiling and wine turning sour, I see the energy at this time of year as one that is hopeful. Forward looking. An energy that reminds me a lot of a colder time of year.

In our culture, I think we are lucky that we get at least two different chances to start fresh. At the New Year, we make resolutions, plans, hopes for what the year will be like. And then, for those of us still connected in some way to the school year, we get to do it all over again in August.

May this August find you looking forward to the new year we get to create together!

-Dawn

Women's Alliance

The Women's Alliance invites all women of First Unitarian to the Annual Muffin and Yogurt Brunch on **Saturday, September 25, 2010**, in the Social Hall at 9:30 a.m. Be sure to respond to the survey that Geneva Fry will be sending via email or via regular mail. At the Muffin and Yogurt Brunch will be deciding the events, programs and service projects for the year. We welcome our new Steering Committee members, Jill Sampson and Nancy MacPherson. Any questions contact Kathy Thackeray.

Sr. High Weekend of Service

The Sr. High Youth Group had a local weekend of service this year. On **July 16-18**, our youth worked at First U moving the archives from the third floor and recovering the last 20 folding chairs, as well as painting a large room at the Salvation Army's Center of Hope Shelter.

We had a very productive weekend. Ask us about our service!

STEEPLETALK

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Love is the spirit of this church...

Money Talk\$

Closing out the Church Fiscal Year. Now that we are almost through July (at this writing), we can report to you on the close of the very challenging year that ended June 30. Everyone should feel really good about several accomplishments: (1) We ended the year in the black, with enough of a cushion (a bit over \$43,000) to survive the lean, hot months; (2) We needed to withdraw only \$20,000 of the \$35,000 “advance” from the Endowment Fund that the congregation approved at the emergency meeting, so we should be able to start receiving quarterly payments from that fund again in the spring of 2011 (earlier than expected); (3) Pledges came in at a bit better rate than the predicted 93%, and they are still coming in; and (4) We were all very conservative spenders, so we underspent several accounts, making our total expenditures for the year \$266,861.88—a saving of more than \$50,000. Hurray for us!

The Quarterly Statements. We keep tweaking our statement format a bit each time these go out, and the statements that went out electronically on July 18 seem to have caused the least confusion so far. Only two or three statements actually contained errors this time. There were a few where payments needed to be re-allocated (from one pledge year to another). Sorry about that; we keep working on our mind-reading skills, but they still are woefully

inadequate. (Where is Dunninger when you need him? And if you’re old enough to get that reference, man, you are OLD!) Anyway, here is a reminder of how we record checks that we receive: We follow whatever it says—that we can read—in the Memo line. If the Memo line is blank, we record the check as a payment on the current pledge. So anything coming in now is recorded as paid on the 2010-2011 pledge unless the Memo line clearly says something different. Checks that came in before June 30, 2010 were recorded as payments on the 2009-2010 pledges.

A Bequest from Emmett Jordan. Does anyone remember a chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars that was apparently connected with First Church at one time? There must have been one, as we have just received a donation to it from the will of Emmett Jordan, which was passed on to us when his widow, Dorothy Jordan, died last year. Apparently Dorothy was not a member here, but Emmett was—or at least he participated in the MOWW here and wanted to give them a percentage of his estate after his widow died. With the permission of the Executor, Karen Kirchner, we put the \$1,989.89 check received this week into the Endowment Fund.

Maureen Taylor and Pat Triplett, Co-Treasurers

Summer Conversations

Church Library 9:30 to 10:45am

Lively and friendly gatherings meet each Sunday beginning June 6 through Labor Day weekend. Child care will be available for infants and preschoolers. Participants are welcome to bring children in their care to the program.

- **Healthy Initiative** meets on the second Sunday of each month. Contact Jill Sampson for more information.
- **Great Sermon Series** meets other Sundays to read and discuss a selected sermon. Please give your sermon suggestions to a Curricula Team member – Jasmine Walston (jasminegl@aol.com), Kris Barski, or Janice Molnar – or leave your suggestion in the Religious Education mailbox in the volunteer area.
 - **August 1 -The Likeness to God** by the Rev. Dr. Jim Nelson. Great Sermons Series.
 - **August 8 - Eat this, not that, Restaurant Guide** - Healthy Initiatives. Wondering where to eat out? Not sure what choices to make? Come talk about ways to eat out and be healthy. Contact Jill Sampson for more information.
 - **August 15 - It Matters Most What We Love**, by the Rev. Alice Blair Wesley. Great Sermons Series.
 - **August 22 - Reaching Across**, by the Rev. Dawn Cooley. Great Sermons Series.
 - **August 29 - Capture the Wonder of Tomorrow**, by the Rev. Dawn Cooley. Begin a conversation with the Multigenerational Task Team about the possibilities available in a multigenerational approach to church programming. Great Sermons Series.
 - **September 5 - Shelter from the Storm**, by the Rev. Tony Johnson. Great Sermons Series.

~~~ Read the sermons at [www.firstulou.org/re/roundtable.html](http://www.firstulou.org/re/roundtable.html) ~~~

~~~ Curricula Meeting: **Tuesday, August 10, 3:00pm** ~~~

Next Steepletalk Deadline: **Friday, August 20** (Covers the month of September)

Just Among Ourselves...

Thoughts of strength and healing to Margaret Moss who is now how recovering after having a small stroke July. Please keep her in your thoughts. Jo Ann Dale is coordinating our church care efforts please contact her at mamajo16@yahoo.com if you can help out.

ROMEO's, our group of Retired Old Men Eating Out, It's next meeting will be in August on its usual first Wednesday, **August 4th, at 12:45 pm**, at the Piccadilly Cafeteria located on the southeast corner of Hurstbourne and Taylorsville avenues.

Green Scene!

Green Scene is vacationing this month and please contact Carol Findling with your ideas!

Calling All Readers,

The First U Book Club, with a strong showing of 13 members, gathered Monday, July 12th to discuss our reading selections. Twenty-two titles were suggested as candidates to be read in the next six months, six were chosen. Following is a list of those books and the date when they will be discussed.

- **August 10, 2010** *To kill a mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- **September 13, 2010** *Zookeeper's wife* by Diane Ackerman
- **October 11, 2010** *Hotel on the corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford
- **November 8, 2010** *A history of God: The 4,000-year quest of Judaism, Christianity and Islam* by Karen Armstrong
- **December 13, 2010** *Girl with the dragon tattoo* by Stieg Larsson
- **January 10, 2011** *Speckled monster: a historical tale of battling the smallpox epidemic* by [Jennifer](#) Lee Carrell

Thanks to all for your wonderful suggestions.

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

Kathy Rogers



CUUPS: Join the Covenant of UU Pagans

In the earth based Tradition, Lammas is the time of the first harvest. This Sabbat celebrates the turning of the year from summer to autumn and is traditionally a feast of grains and breads. At Lammas, we give thanks for all that we have and all that we will have. CUUPS celebrates the first harvest by hosting our annual **Breads and Spreads Luncheon** to thank our First U church family. This light lunch will be right after the celebration of life on **August 1st**.

Wednesday, August 11 at 7:00pm: Pagan Movie Night- *The Elements* featuring Janet and Stewart Farrar

Red, White and Blue Pie Sale will take place on **Sunday, September 5, 2010**, after the Celebration of Life in the Social Hall near the windows. This year we will offer both sweet and savory pies. So as you prepare for your gatherings on Labor Day remember to pick up a "homemade" pie for your event, while supporting the Women's Alliance programming for this church year.



The Christian Fellowship is on hiatus for the summer. We will resume in the fall (September) with some discussions on the many faces of Christianity now and through the years, including what that term means to us as individuals. In the past we have meet on Friday evenings and other years on Saturday evenings.

Our meeting dates and times have not been finalized so if you have an interest please contact us so that your wishes can be known!

The UU Christian Fellowship meetings are open to anyone who is interested: seekers, doubters, skeptics, critical thinkers, former Christians, current Christians, questioning Christians, Christian-curious, believers, agnostics, atheists, and followers of other faith traditions. For questions call Geneva Fry at (812) 948-1367 or e-mail her at grfry@flash.net.

Interweave

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

• Commitments

By voting to become a Welcoming Congregation, First Unitarian Church agreed to the "Commitments" listed in *The Welcoming Congregation Handbook*. Commitment #9 states:

"A Welcoming Congregation encourages the presence of a chapter of Interweave (Unitarian Universalists for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender concerns)."

• Planning Meeting

Interweave will meet on **Sunday, August 8 at 12:30pm** to plan programming and events for the coming year. The tentative meeting location is the church library; check the website for confirmation. Participants may purchase take-out lunch from a nearby restaurant, or bring a sack lunch. All members and friends of First Unitarian are welcome at the meeting.

• Advocacy

DOMA Struck Down: U.S. District Judge Joseph Tauro issued summary judgments in two cases on July 8, striking down Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage for federal purposes. Judge Tauro stated that DOMA violates the Fifth and Tenth Amendments, due process and rights reserved to states. In one of his two rulings, Judge Tauro stated, "Indeed, Congress undertook this

classification for the one purpose that lies entirely outside of legislative bounds, to disadvantage a group of which it disapproves. And such a classification, the Constitution clearly will not permit.... this court may conclude that it is only irrational prejudice that motivates the challenged classification."

UN Grants Status to LGBT Rights Group: On July 19, the full United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) granted consultative status to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC).

"Today's decision is an affirmation that the voices of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people have a place at the United Nations as part of a vital civil society community," said Cary Alan Johnson, IGLHRC Executive Director." The resolution passed with 23 in favor, 13 against, 13 abstentions and 5 absences. The government of the United States stood strongly behind IGLHRC's application.

The mission of The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) is advancing human rights for everyone, everywhere to end discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. A non-profit, non-governmental organization, IGLHRC is based in New York, with offices in Cape Town and Buenos Aires. Visit <http://www.iglhrc.org> for more information.

• More Information

For more information, comments, or questions about Interweave, please contact Interweave Chair Jasmine Walston at interweave@firstulou.org or 944-7517.

Multigenerational Task Team starts work

Minister Dawn Cooley has assembled a working group to look into expanding the church's efforts to incorporate a multigenerational approach to many elements of church life, including the Sunday morning celebration of life. The Multigenerational Task Team has met twice and will work through the fall.

Team members include Dawn Cooley, minister; Fran Ellers; Lydia Grossman; Ben Luoma; Nancy MacPherson; Jozi Uebelhoefer; Ann Ulinski; Jasmine Walston; and Ward Wilson. The team will ultimately report back to the minister and the church leadership team.

Most recently the members agreed on the team's mission: "The Multigenerational Task Team will explore what it means to be a multigenerational church and engage all ages of our church family in this exploration. The team will develop possibilities for incorporating more multigenerational opportunities into the program offerings of First Unitarian Church."

Please contribute your voice to this promising exploration by participating in one or more of the focused conversations that the task team will arrange over the coming months. The first opportunity will be at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 29, as part of the Summer Conversations' Great Sermons Series. The topic will be Dawn's sermon on a multigenerational emphasis, "Capture the Wonder of Tomorrow."

The task team is in the process of scheduling another planning meeting in August. Team meetings are open to guests and new members. Contact any team member for more information or to express your interest, and check the church calendars for the meeting date.

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

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| Sunday, August 1
9:30am - Round Table-lib
10:55am- Celebration of Life | Sunday, August 8
9:30am - Summer Conversations-lib
10:55 - Celebration of Life
12:30pm-Interweave | Sunday, August 15
9:30am - Summer Conversations-lib
10:55am- Celebration of Life | Sunday, August 22
9:30am - Summer Conversations-lib
10:55am - Celebration of Life
12 pm - Visitor Information-lib. | Sunday, August 29
9:30am - Summer Conversations-lib
10:55am- Celebration of Life |
| Monday, August 2
7pm-RE Committee | Monday, August 9
12:30pm-Interweave | Monday, August 16
12 pm - Visitor Information-lib. | Monday, August 23
12 pm - Visitor Information-lib. | Monday, August 30
12 pm - Visitor Information-lib. |
| Tuesday, August 3 | Tuesday, August 10
6pm - Finance
6pm - Book Club | Tuesday, August 17
6pm-Board of Trustees | Tuesday, August 24
6pm-Board of Trustees | Tuesday, August 31
6pm-Board of Trustees |
| Wednesday, August 4
11am-Staff Meeting | Wednesday, August 11
11am-Staff Meeting | Wednesday, August 18
11am-Staff Meeting | Wednesday, August 25
11am-Staff Meeting | Wednesday, September 1
11am-Staff Meeting |
| Thursday, August 5
5:30pm-Ministry Council | Thursday, August 12
7pm-CUUPs
7pm-Worship Ministry | Thursday, August 19
7pm-Worship | Thursday, August 26
7pm-Worship | Thursday, September 2
7pm-Worship |
| Friday, August 6 | Friday, August 13
6pm - Member Ministry | Friday, August 20
6pm - Member Ministry | Friday, August 27
6pm - Member Ministry | Friday, September 3
6pm - Member Ministry |
| Saturday, August 7 | Saturday, August 14
5:30pm - Personnel, library | Saturday, August 21
5:30pm - Personnel, library | Saturday, August 28
5:30pm - Personnel, library | Saturday, September 4
5:30pm - Personnel, library |

Lunch for the Work Crew on Aug. 29

As you prepare to attend the Clean Up Sunday service on **August 29**, please plan to eat lunch with your fellow workers. We invite you to bring your own sack lunch -- or if you forget it or just can't get it together on Sunday morning, the "makings" for sandwiches will be available for the work crew. Beverages will also be available. We'll ask for a small donation to cover the cost of the sandwiches and drinks. Hope to see you there after we've finished our chores!

New Member Session

If you're a new member or friend and would like to know more about First Unitarian Church, please join us **Sunday, August 22**, about 12:15 in the Parlor, across from the Library.

Bring your questions and your story. We'll cover a short history of First Unitarian Church, take a tour of the building, and discuss how to get involved with church activities and groups. If you have questions, contact Bev Daly at 491-4963 or bev.daly@insightbb.com.

We look forward to getting to know you!



Volunteers needed for RCRC Booth at Kentucky State Fair (August 19-29)

Over the years many members of this congregation have helped the Kentucky Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice by volunteering at their table at the Kentucky State Fair. You can have that opportunity again this year by contacting Melanie Phillips at melaniephillips77@gmail.com or 502-494-1956. You will receive a free ticket and parking to the Kentucky Fair for volunteering for a shift at Kentucky Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice State Fair Booth.