

# First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit

4605 Cass Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48201  
October 15, 2006

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First Unitarian Universalist Church  
Organizational Chart 2006-2007

## Officers

Moderator  
*Linda Darga*  
Vice Moderator  
*Alicia Biggers*  
Immediate Past Moderator  
*James Harvey*  
Board Secretary  
*Donna Walker*  
Treasurer  
*Dan Wiest*

## Staff

Minister  
Minister Emeritus  
*Rev. Larry Hutchison*  
Director of Religious Education  
*Athena Kolbe (Interim)*  
Music Director  
*Todd Ballou*  
Choir Director  
*Gwen Foss*  
Church Secretary  
*Wendi Winston*  
Building and Grounds  
*Joe Brimmer*

## Trustees

*Lencha Acker*  
*Sally Borden*  
*Jim Brown*  
*Charlene Evans*  
*Earl Harvey*  
*Mary Lou Malone*  
*Irene Schultz*  
*Donna Walker*  
*Dan Wiest*

## Newsletter Editor

*Irene Schultz*

## Upcoming Services

Services begin promptly at 11:00 A.M.

**October 29, 2006**

**Rev. Fran Dres - TBA**

**November 5, 2006**

**Volunteer Recognition Sunday**

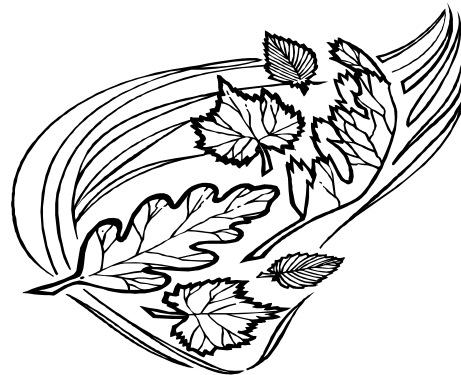
**November 12, 2006**

**TBA**

**November 19, 2006**

**TBA**

*Potluck Sunday*



## Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline for printed material is **Sunday, November 5, 2006** no later than **NOON** or the following **Monday no later than 5:30 P.M.** for electronic material. Articles may be emailed, by the deadline dates and times, to [ieschultz1945@yahoo.com](mailto:ieschultz1945@yahoo.com) If you email items they **must** specify they are for the Newsletter.

**NOTE: While your Newsletter editor is at a reunion, please email any items to the church. Thank you. Irene**

## **Committees and Affiliates**

### **Search Committee**

The Settled Minister Search Committee is deeply appreciative to all participants in the September 17th Holy Conversation in which we discussed our various belief systems. The resulting information was not only interesting, it will be very helpful to us as we prepare First Church's Congregational Record. Thank you so much.

The Ministerial Search Committee,

Dr. James A. Robinson, Chair  
 Dr. Ivan Cotman  
 Sharlene Gage  
 Marilyn Mitchell  
 Kathe Stevens

### **Constitution/By-Laws Committee**

We've been busy working over the summer to improve First UU's Constitution and By-Laws based on comments and suggestions made at the May Congregational Meeting and at other times.

We will have two informational meetings after church to review the revisions and give everyone a chance to make further modifications. The dates for these two meetings are on Sunday, Oct 29 and Nov 12 at 12:30 PM. Please come and make your opinions heard.

Sally Borden, Earl Harvey and Mary Lou Malone.

### **Book Group**

We are planning to reconfigure our book group and are opening it up to both men and women. We are also no longer limiting the authors to women only. Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in Memorial Hall. Please join us for this planning session.

On a related note – I would like to know if there is interest in a Covenant on Black America. For more information please see Rhonda Rodgers during coffee hour.

### **Fundraising**

It is getting too cold to have garage sales but we have some nice items for sale: Sewing Machine with attachments and manuals Not used much \$40, Many books 25 and 50 cents each, small bike \$7, hand made pottery, clothes most \$1 each you can make an appointment for a private sale if you would be interested in any of these thing. Entertainment books are for sale at \$20 each with \$4 going to church budget. Sold at coffee hour.

See Margaret Beck



### **Upcoming Choir Fun**

The First UU Choir welcomes and invites all interested musicians to share the joy of music making. No audition is required. The Choir generally rehearses on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday mornings 9:30 – 10:30 am. Please join us October 29, November 5 and 12 to prepare for our November 12<sup>th</sup> performance. For more information please contact Gwen Foss, Choir Director at [gwenfoss@netrek.net](mailto:gwenfoss@netrek.net)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual UU Choir Festival in February 2007**

This tradition was started here in our Sanctuary by our music director, Todd Ballou in 2003 and has continued every other year. This year the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregation of Ann Arbor has generously offered to host the UU Choir Festival of Southeast Michigan on Sunday, February 18 at 3:00 pm. The 1<sup>st</sup>. UU Church of Ann Arbor is located at 4001 Saline-Ann Arbor Road. Musicians from all eight UU churches in our area gather for an amazing concert of music and fellowship, including lots of congregational singing. For more information, please contact Sarah Albright at [skalbright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skalbright@sbcglobal.net) or the 1<sup>st</sup> UU Church of Ann Arbor at 734-665-6158. Now is a great time to join the 1<sup>st</sup> UU Choir of Detroit to be a part of this event.

### **Thanksgiving Potluck**

We will be having our annual Thanksgiving Potluck on Thanksgiving Day at 2:00 in Memorial Hall. Plan to arrive with your food contribution at 1:30. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Linda Darga.

### **Coffee Hour**

Each year before I leave for the winter, I line up groups to accept the responsibility for coffee hour each month. This year and into 2007 we thank these groups:

**November** – Choir – Todd Ballou

**December** – Women’s Alliance – Helen True

**January** – Women’s Book Group – Rhonda Rodgers

**February** – Men’s Group – Al Acker

### **This Week In First UU History**

This past June while at GA, I introduced myself during a workshop and identified my church affiliation in order to ask a question. Afterwards, the Rev. Brendan Hadash of the St. Johnsbury, Vermont Universalist church approached me. He explained that for a long time a photo of a mystery church had hung at his church. About five years ago, Rev. Hadash was at a GA and saw a photo exhibit of old Universalist churches at a UU historical Society booth. He found a picture of the church taken from a different angle and so he was able to identify that the mystery photo in his church was the old Universalist Church of Detroit.

Rev. Hadash asked me if I thought First Church would like to have the photo. I said, yes! And we thereafter began exchanging some interesting emails.

Rev. Hadash has found a possible connection between our two churches. In 1928-1929 Dorothy Spoerl was Director of Religious Education at Detroit Universalist Church under Frank Adams. In 1934-35 her

husband, Rev. Howard Davis Spoerl, was minister of the St. Johnsbury Vermont Church. Rev. Hadash suspects that this picture might be something that Dorothy brought back from Detroit. Or that she may have used the excuse of a Universalist convention to go back to Detroit for a visit. Here's a link to more information about Dorothy:

<http://www.harvardsquarelibrary.org/unitarians/spoerl.html>

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### **UU Retreat in Santa Fe, New Mexico**

From March 10-18 2007, pause, reflect and meditate in the land famous for the light, art, food, museums, galleries, crafts and the Native Indian and Spanish cultural heritage. Being in historic Santa Fe is a surefire remedy for today’s stressful lifestyle. Visit the two most important Indian sites in New Mexico: Anasazi cliff dwellers (1100’s) and Chaco Canyon, major center of ancestral Puebloan culture (850-1250). See the landscape that inspired artist Georgia O’Keeffe and do an experiential art project. Walk a labyrinth at Ghost Ranch. Experience a Native Sweat Lodge. Soak in the waters at Ojo Caliente. Meditate at sunrise on a mesa or at sunset in the desert. Led by Rev Wayne Waler (leads and teaches meditation) and Beverly Carr of Neighborhood UU Congregation in Toronto. See [www.nuuc.ca](http://www.nuuc.ca) for details.