

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit

4605 Cass Avenue

313-833-9107 - Office

Detroit, MI 48201

313-833-0127 – Fax

June 3, 2007

info@1stuu.org

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

Rev. Drew Johnston (Interim)

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

Leonard Swint (Sunday)

Trustees

Lencha Acker

Sally Borden

Charlene Evans

Irene Schultz

Newsletter Editor

Irene Schultz

Upcoming Services

Services begin promptly at 11:00 a.m.

June 10, 2007

Rev. Drew Johnston

Annual Meeting

(Details elsewhere in Newsletter)

June 17, 2007

Juneteenth Emancipation Celebration

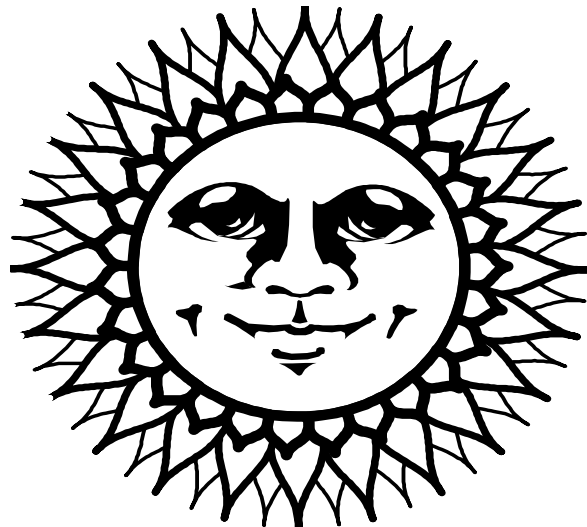
Dr. James Robinson, Guest Speaker

Annual Juneteenth Picnic follows

Last service of regular church year

June 24, 2007

Summer Services begin



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for printed material is **Sunday, June 17, 2007** no later than **NOON** or the following **Monday no later than 5:30 p.m.** for electronically submitted material. Articles may be emailed, by the deadline date and time, to ieschultz1945@yahoo.com. If you email items they must specify they are for the Newsletter.

Ed. Note...This will be the last Newsletter of the regular church year. There will be one Newsletter in July and one in August – probably the third Sunday/Monday. The regular Newsletter schedule will resume the first Sunday in September.

Drew's News

I've been thinking a lot lately about how we evolve. Personal evolution is fascinating, and our collective evolution is even more so. In both realms we can often anticipate what is coming next (although that is simpler with an individual than it is with an institution). At this church, this institution, we are staging ourselves for some evolution that we may want to try to anticipate.

After the Annual Meeting on June 10th we expect to have a new Mission Statement to help guide us, and that is one part of the work we need to complete in the near future. The Mission answers the question of "what do you do here?" There are other documents we can create that are also important in guiding our evolution.

A Vision statement answers the question, "how do you see yourselves?" Both the Mission and Vision apply to the future – what we do from this time forward, and what we look like in the future.

A behavioral covenant answers the question of how we treat each other and applies in this moment as well as in the future.

There are also a couple of larger documents that will help us. A Long Range Plan will describe the path from where we are to where we hope to go, and a Strategic Plan describes detailed steps that we will need to take.

The Mission Statement is a result of dozens of you contributing through the Appreciative Inquiry interviews we conducted, then the hard work of a team of folks who worked with those results for many weeks. All along the way they have been publishing their progress and soliciting further comments from you. This was a fun process!

The next documents will take considerable effort as well, and I am looking for people interested in helping. As we move through the summer and into the new church year we will need to begin focusing on these other plans. And they will become a crucial part of how we are able to continue evolving. At a practical level, raising and spending money are both clearer tasks when you know where you are along the plan. Describing and defining steps to move forward is also a great way to be deeply involved in the life of the church, both practical and visionary!

As you think about our evolution, think about your part in the process. And quickly let me know what you feel like doing. Together we will find ways to help each other evolve, and that is a great reason to be at church! See you there -

Committee News

Membership Committee

Eleven of us enjoyed the play LAPSES at the Detroit Repertory Theater on June 2 followed by dinner at the Traffic Jam. Our church budget is \$90.00 richer. The play was excellent and we had the opportunity to meet the author afterward. Thank you to all who purchased tickets.

I will be having garage sales on some Fridays during the summer and would appreciate some help. Please call me at 313-822-7775 to let me know when you are available. Margaret Beck

Religious Education

Wanted- Your Refundable Bottles and Cans!

The Religious Education students of First UU are holding a Bottle-Can Drive to raise money for the "Pilgrimage to Boston". If you have any refundable bottles or cans laying about taking up space in your house, garage or storage shed, please consider donating them to the RE youths. RE students will be happy to return them to the store for the deposit money and will use the proceeds to help fund their trip to Boston in June. RE will be collecting refundable bottles and cans every Sunday through June 17th.

Women's Alliance

The Women's Alliance will be meeting **June 13 – the second Wednesday** of the month. The featured speaker will be Michael Hauser, Marketing Manager of the Detroit Opera House. The cost for the luncheon is \$6.00 and reservations must be made by Monday, June 11th before noon by calling the church office at 313-833-9107 or Eiko Takemoto at 313-869-6389.

Worship Committee

Thank you to all who have helped with coffee hour during the church year. For the month of May we have the Search Committee to thank: Dr. James Robinson, Marilyn Mitchell, Sharlene Gage, Ivan Cotman and Kathe Stevens. The Governing Board will be doing the honors for the month of June. A special thank you to Helen True and Rose LaBolle who offer their assistance every Sunday. Faye Colling

First UU Happenings

Juneteenth Emancipation Celebration Sunday, June 17th – 11:00 A.M.

The special guest speaker will be Dr. James Robinson who will be speaking about Ella Baker, Civil Rights Warrior. Our annual Juneteenth Emancipation Celebration picnic will be held after the service in the churchyard at 1:00 P.M. Sport your ethnic dress and bring a picnic lunch and a dish to share. Watermelon and lemonade will be provided.

All in the Family

Congratulations to **Anthony Wahl** for achieving second honors at U of D Jesuit High School.



Celebration

Long-time First Church member Ruth Crawford will celebrate her 95th birthday on June 26. Mary Lou Malone, Lynda Smith and Kathe Stevens are going to take a side trip after GA to Santa Rosa, California to visit Ruth and help her celebrate. Here is Ruth's address in case you want to send your own birthday wishes:

Ruth Crawford
1333 W. Steele Lane
Apt. 668
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Interfaith Dialog

The Interfaith Dialog will be meeting June 17th at 2:00 P.M.

Items From the Internet

Actual questions/answers from grade school tests:

Q: Explain one of the processes by which water can be made safe to drink.

A: Flirtation (sic) makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants like grit, sand, dead sheep and canoeists.

Q: How can you delay milk turning sour?

A: Keep it in the cow.

Q: What causes the tides in the oceans?

A: The tides are a fight between the Earth and the Moon. All water tends to flow towards the moon because there is no water on the moon, and nature hates a vacuum. I forget where the sun joins in this fight.

Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Strength (M.O.S.E.S) is an organization that compliments our 7 UU principles and our congregation's own efforts in the realm of "social justice."

- **The inherent worth and dignity of every person;**
- **Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;**
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- **The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;**
- **The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;**
- **Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.**

Now review the goals (principles) of the M.O.S.E.S. organization listed below and you will discover the natural compliments and why our membership with M.O.S.E.S. will enable 1st UU of Detroit to continue its heritage of community service and social justice actions.

"Because faith must be accompanied with action, our faith mandates that we strive together to pursue the goals we believe are keeping with the design of God. These goals include:

- **Justice** – for all, without regard to race, gender, social status or religion
- **Respect for the Dignity of each person** – more than a mere respect for life, it is the acknowledgment that each one of us bears the image of God.
- **Mercy** – understanding that there are times and circumstances when laws and guidelines have both a letter and a "spirit".
- **Fairness** – the expectation that society's laws, policies and procedures will be administered in an equitable fashion.
- **Civility** – our desire is a society where each of us respects the rights and humanity of others, and behaves in a fashion worthy of respect.
- **Kindness** – we participate in the building of a true "community" marked by friendliness, generosity, sympathy and tolerance.

Thus, we actively involve ourselves in social and community issues such as:

- Equitable allocation and distribution of public funds
- Equal opportunities for quality public education
- Equal access to public transportation
- Equal opportunity for full and meaningful employment
- Safe and healthy neighborhoods in which to live"

MOSES' goal is to build and strengthen the member congregations and to empower these congregations to strengthen local communities to bring about beneficial systemic change.

As we develop our social justice activities to honor our past and build our future, we invite you to participate in our conversations to build our own relationships with each to understand what our core values are and what we will support in the public arena. Your Social Justice Committee will be working closely with MOSES to bring the benefits of resources and training to our congregation for our congregation's use, however, we need to know what your issues and passions are regarding social justice?

Over the next few months, we invite you to participate with the one-on-one conversations, similar to the Appreciative Inquiry process, to gather your input. From this input, we will build the future actions and direction of your Social Justice Committee.

You might have notice a few items new from this Committee:

- 1) Updated bulletin board with current calendars and action items for your use and participation
- 2) 7th Principle in action! Recycle containers for Paper/Cardboard; Plastics; Cans/Glass are available in McCollester Hall now!! Image, recycling by the Church!
- 3) Friday Films – Next one is July 13, 2007 – Who Killed the Electric Car

However, we still need to hear from you! So be on the lookout for one-to-one conversations with Lee Gaddies, Mary Lou Malone, Sally Borden and others through out the next few months.



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 11, 2007, revised by Colleen Dolan-Greene June 4, 2007

Contact:

Colleen Dolan-Greene

313-867-4890

dolangreenegroup@hotmail.com

Nancy Finegood, Executive Director

Michigan Historic Preservation Network

517-371-8080

Finegood@mhpn.org

The Michigan Historic Preservation Network
and
Partners for Sacred Places
Bring Fund-Raising Training to Michigan

For the second year in Michigan, the *Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN)* and *Partners for Sacred Places* have collaborated in a venture to assist religious congregations with their older and historic buildings. First UU Church Detroit has been selected to participate in this program. It is as *New Dollars/New Partners*, the nation's only preservation effort that provides practical tools to help congregations with their aging edifices. The MHPN's sponsorship of *New Dollars/New Partners* has been funded by the *Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs* and the *Kellogg Foundation*.

A primary purpose of the *New Dollars/New Partners* program is to broaden and diversify the pool of donors and partners that support the management and community use of local sacred places.

Michigan's fund-raising training program is unique in the nation in that it is the first *New Dollars/New Partners* initiative with a statewide focus, and involves seven religious structures in addition to First UU Church Detroit in seven communities, including Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Newaygo, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Lansing, and Manistee.

Partners for Sacred Places previously has offered this training through the sponsorship of historic preservation organizations and denominational offices at single sites in California, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, and Washington, D.C. Congregations that participated in the program have enjoyed amplified levels of motivation, improved leadership, and increased knowledge and effectiveness for their fund-raising teams.

According to one participant from Washington D.C: *"I am very grateful for this learning opportunity. Sacred Places is helping our congregation think not just about its building, but its mission in every respect."*

This training is designed for congregations that:

- Have a sacred place that is more than 50 years old
- Have capital needs that are beyond the financial capability of the congregations
- Want to deepen their community connections
- Want to use their building more effectively

During the year-long workshop series, congregations will learn:

- How to make an effective case for their building as a community asset (history, architecture, community-serving ministries that are offered)
- How to calculate the dollar value of the outreach programs with an on-line calculating tool
- How to discover new community partners through Asset Based Community Development
- How to maximize internal funding support and tap new external resources

The first two sessions for the program will take place at First United Methodist Church, 227 E, Fulton Street in Grand Rapids on June 8 and 9. Representing First UU Church Detroit at these sessions will be Rev. Drew Johnston, Alicia Biggers, Colleen Dolan-Greene and Bill McKnight.

About the Michigan Historic Preservation Network

The *Michigan Historic Preservation Network* (MHPN) is the largest membership organization in the state dedicated to recognizing and preserving Michigan's rich cultural and architectural heritage. Founded in 1981, the MHPN fosters the protection of the state's irreplaceable historic buildings, structures, sites, objects, features and open spaces. The membership of over 1,500 includes owners of residential, commercial, industrial, institutional and agricultural property; students and educators; governmental officials and appointees; archaeologists, architects and designers; landscape architects and landscapers; interior designers, contractors, developers, realtors, bankers and insurance agents; and preservation volunteers and professionals. The volunteer board of directors and the staff help Network members maintain the neighborhoods where they live and the downtowns where they work, build new ways to respect and reinforce local character, revitalize some of Michigan's oldest urban centers, adapt all types of buildings for current uses, and use to best advantage the rich rural, agricultural, and maritime heritage of Michigan.

For more information on the *New Dollars/New Partners* program and how MHPN is supporting your community, please contact Nancy Finegood, Executive Director at 517-371-8080 or via e-mail at Finegood@mhpn.org. Or visit MHPN's web site at: www.mhpn.org.

About Partners for Sacred Places

Since 1989, Partners for Sacred Places has helped congregations across the country sustain and actively use their historic sacred places. Partners' expertise is in promoting and developing community-wide funding for historic religious properties. Partners publishes *The Complete Guide to Capital Campaigns for Historic Churches and Synagogues* and maintains the nation's largest clearinghouse of practical information on the development of capital funding for houses of worship. With main offices in Philadelphia, more information about Partners for Sacred Places is available at www.sacredplaces.org.
