**Sara’s Good Tidings**
By the Rev. Sara Goodman

I am so excited to join the team here at the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee and meet all of you on August 6 when I will share with you a service on "Asking for Help." My role as Assistant Sabbatical Minister will give me the opportunity to get to know many of you, as I offer pastoral care while the Rev. Dena is on Sabbatical. It will also be my privilege to support the Pastoral Care Associates Team and the Social Justice Council in their work in her absence.

I come to ministry with my whole and broken heart, and I honor the connections we can make because of it. I bring with me a joy in creativity and exploration, a desire to bring people together in laughter and tears, and a curiosity for the stories of people’s lives. I bring an analytical mind, an eye for aesthetics, and a profoundly empathetic soul.

I’m enthusiastic to once again serve in a large congregation! I grew up as part of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, did my field education training at All Souls Unitarian in New York City, and served for my internship at the First Unitarian Society of Madison, so I look forward to experiencing the joy and vitality of a large faith community. I know that in my short time with you and with only 15 hours a week, I will not be able to meet and connect with everyone, but I do hope to connect with many of you.

I live in Madison WI, with my Husband Shawn and our son Jamie, so I’m new to Milwaukee and all that this city has to offer. I’m looking forward to getting started.

Eagerly yours,
The Rev. Sara Goodman

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**COMING ON SUNDAY!**

**ONE SERVICE & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RUNS**

**JUNE 11-SEPTEMBER 3**

**10:00 A.M.**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6**

"Asking for Help"
The Rev. Sara Goodman

Jack Forbes Wilson, Resident Artist

The idea that we have to ‘go it alone’, to be strong and silent about our troubles, hurts us as individuals and as a culture.

The Rev. Sara Goodman, our new Assistant Sabbatical Minister, will share how we can learn from her cat Chase about how to ask for help. The Rev. Goodman is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist raised in San Diego California, has a soft spot for youth and young adults, making deep connections with people of all ages, and creative arts as part of religious expression. She, her husband Shawn and son Jamie live in Madison.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**

"Deeper Spirituality through Illness and Pain"

Denise Cawley, member

Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director

No one asks to become seriously ill or to go through a physical, mental or emotional crisis, but these things happen to us and to our loved ones. As we sit with the trauma, how do we move through anger, and despair and find the best of the situation, or better yet take advantage of pain and tragedy and make it your teacher?

Denise Cawley has been a pivotal player in Milwaukee and Door County working on diversity, inclusion, marriage equality and voting rights. She is a marketing and public relations professional who has

(Continued on page 11)
A Summer Update
by Julie Bock

Not to sound mean but... don’t sit inside and read this silly column in the Chanticleer!

Go outside. Enjoy the warmth (goodness knows it disappears quickly enough). Walk. Ride a bike. Picnic. Read a great book in a comfy lawn chair. Store up some vitamin D for December (yes, I do know that’s not really possible). Roast marshmallows over a fire. Look up at the stars. Swat some mosquitos.

My point being is that First Church slows down during the summer. We really go full bore the rest of the year; planning, preaching, protesting, teaching, and celebrating. While staying connected to our beloved community is important, R&R is indispensable to our souls. Therefore, come worship with us on Sundays, debate in the coffee hour, welcome visitors, find out about social justice happenings, etc. But also take the time to rest, recharge, and rejuvenate.

As we ready for our upcoming church year, one in which we’ll be actively engaging in a process to create our vision for the future (more on that in the coming months) it is crucial we come into community with open hearts and our whole selves.

So, have fun playing in the summer sun and see you at First Church!

Julie Bock
President of the Congregation, 2016-2018

Welcome Reception for the Rev.
Sara Goodman
By Candice Haight

The Rev. Dena’s Committee on Ministry cordially invites you to join us in welcoming the Rev. Sara Goodman, our new Assistant Sabbatical Minister, following her first day in the pulpit. During our Coffee Hour Reception, there will be an opportunity to get more acquainted with the Rev. Sara while enjoying some special treats. The Rev. Sara will be joining the staff team from August through December. We are excited to have such an enthusiastic and talented minister who will be focused on many of Dena’s responsibilities while Dena is on sabbatical.

Finding Your Senior Minister

Jennifer’s Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Saturday: writing days at home
Friday: Day Off
Sunday: Church Day

Jennifer may also make appointments at other times.

You may reach Jennifer at:
Office phone: 414-273-5257, ext. 201
Email: jennifer.nordstrom@uumilwaukee.org

Finding Your Assistant Sabbatical Minister

Sara’s Office Hours: Tuesday: 12:30-6:00 p.m.
Sunday: Once a Month

Sara may also make appointments at other times.

You may reach Sara at:
Office phone: 414-273-5257, ext. 202
Email: sara.goodman@uumilwaukee.org

For Pastoral Care Emergencies and other urgent needs:
Cell Phone: 414-216-3113
Aware of a Pastoral Care Need?
By the Rev. Dena McPhetres, Associate Minister

You can help us care for our community by letting us know about the pastoral care needs of our members. Pick up a half page, simple form, at the Member Services Table on Sundays during coffee hour and put it in the Pastoral Care box on the same table. This information will go to our Assistant Sabbatical Minister, Sara Goodman, each week beginning August 6. Be assured this will be kept confidential between our Ministers and Pastoral Care Coordinators. And thank you for helping us create the caring community we all desire!

Membership Musings on Moving and Belonging
By Lynne Jacoby, Membership Development Coordinator

Last week I was driving into Milwaukee with my nephew in a U-Haul and as I said out loud ‘this is my city now’ I startled my nephew. ‘That’s a bit presumptuous isn’t it?’ he asked, and I thought he might be right. I wondered if I was being too possessive, or grandiose, until the next day when I took him to all three of the places I remembered here. Riverwalk, the lakefront, and First Church! I was totally showing off my city, the little tiny bit I knew of it.

I’ve just been through the process of weeding through all of my things; the physical things anyway. Judging each as move worthy or not, and leaving much behind. I kept telling myself ‘what you own, owns you Lynne’, which is true, but it didn’t help. It only reminded me that I want to be owned a little. Like when a relationship ends and you are suddenly free to watch your Syfy movies every night if you want; but all that keeps running in your head is that Janice Joplin line ‘Freedom’s just another word for nothin’ left to lose…’. My nephew is 19 and all about exploring, I get that. He doesn’t want a city yet, he wants to see all the cities. But I have come to appreciate that what I claim does own me and that is a good thing. My faith, my community, and all who I love. I want to try and grow into the demands these ask of me, be a part of something larger then myself, and contribute differently than a visitor would. I do not know you yet but I suspect many of you have the same motivations in naming First Church your own spiritual home. I hope, as your new Membership Development Coordinator I can support you in continuing to make it so.

Welcome Our New Facilities Manager!
By Jean Johnson, Director of Administration

I’m delighted to announce that after considering many strong applicants, we’ve hired Tom Schroeder to be our half-time facilities manager. Tom brings decades of experience as facilities manager of the iconic Art Deco Wisconsin Gas Building (he was in charge of the flame!) and then the WE Energies Valley plant. Tom and retired Facilities Manager Ed McGraw were founding members of the Milwaukee Plant & Facilities Maintenance Association. Tom loves facilities work and working with people – a great fit for First Church! He started July 10, so please welcome him to the First Church community if you run into him.

Summer Cleaning Work Party August 19
By Jean Johnson, Director of Administration

For many summers we’ve rallied a group of folks to give the Sanctuary a deep cleaning so it is sparkling clean for Ingathering Sunday.

Saturday, August 19, 8:00 a.m. until noon we’ll tackle the job. Led by our new Facilities Manager, Tom Schroeder, we’ll knock down dust and cob webs on high sills and moldings, the large pendant light fixtures, and beautifully arched beams. For those who like to keep their feet on the ground, we’ll clean the pews, baseboards, pulpit rail, and other woodwork. Of course we’ll also socialize over a well-deserved coffee and bagel break.

In past years, the results have been magnificent and satisfying. If you’d like to spend special time in our beloved sanctuary AND have fun working with a bunch of great people, please leave a message for Tom at the church office 414-273-5257 extension 206 or email tom.schroeder@uumilwaukee.org.
Hogwarts Camp!
for Young UUs
Summer Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
June 11- September 3
Open to Children Entering 1st-6th Grades

Our summer Religious Education program will be magically transformed into a Harry Potter camp — with UU overtones, of course. We'll learn a few spells, make a craft or two and talk about the UU Principles in the seven Harry Potter books. If you haven't read the books, don't worry! The classes will be fun for Muggles, too!

Mariah Groshek will serve as our “Headmaster” and will be bringing her special magic, talents and perspectives to teach spiritual and social values while creating a bonded community of children and adults. This program will be assisted by House Elves, and perhaps a visiting professor or two.

... and Mini-Muggle Child Care!
for children 5 and under, or not quite ready for Hogwarts

Loving care, play, and comfort will be provided for our youngest children by our longtime care provider Lindsey Porter, and her assistants. This group environment has nothing to do with Harry Potter, but we liked the name, and any older siblings will appreciate the tie-in!

Meet Debbie Lyonsdove, Our New Administrative Assistant in the RE Department
By Beryl Aschenberg, Director of Religious Education

I am delighted to share the news that Debbie Lyonsdove will be joining the Religious Education staff team in August. Debbie most recently worked as a litigation paralegal and notes that many of the skills needed for that work will be helpful as she jumps in at First Church. For over a decade, Debbie was an active member and volunteer at All Peoples Church in central Milwaukee. The search team was impressed with Debbie’s credentials and references, and was especially won over by her “can do” attitude, warmth, and great sense of humor. Please stop by the RE Table to introduce yourself and your children and welcome Debbie to our community.

Join the Party!
We Have Room for You in RE Leadership!

While we “need” just two more volunteers to assist in our RE program beginning this fall, we want you to know that serving the children and youth in our congregation is a tremendous blessing, and we have room for additional volunteers in most of our classes if you would like to be a part of this incredible ministry of religious exploration! Please visit the RE Table on Sunday mornings for more information or contact Beryl or Deb in the RE department!

The Church Courtyard is Now Open on Sundays! Enjoy!

Parents, please encourage your kids to play safely and gently in this lovely shared space. Children must be supervised in the courtyard.
Time to Register for 2017-2018 Sunday School! (Early Bird Discounts End as of August 1, but Registration is Still Required for Young People to Attend)

We are beginning to plan a terrific year for our First Church kids! As you may know, we are offering Religious Education in conjunction with our two service times next year:

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<th>9:00 a.m.</th>
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<td>Nursery (Birth-3 years)</td>
<td>Nursery (Birth-3 years)</td>
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<td>Early Childhood (K4-K5)</td>
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<td>K5-Eighth Grade classes</td>
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<td>Ninth-Twelfth Grade Youth Group</td>
<td>Eighth Grade “OWL” – Registration</td>
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<td>(aka “YRUU”)</td>
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Regarding Class Caps:
As always, we do have caps on the number of children we will allow to register in each of our K4-Eighth grade classes at the beginning of the church year. It is a generous number (twenty students) in recognition of the fact that not all our young people are likely to come on any given Sunday. It is, however, likely that many of our children will attend during the initial few weeks of the church year, and we are committed to preserving a quality experience and safe environment for both our volunteers and the children themselves. The best way to assure that your children can attend the RE program time you prefer is to register NOW!

How to Register:
If you have not yet registered your child(ren) for the 2017-2018 Religious Education program please visit our website at www.uumilwaukee.org to easily sign up online or download a registration form. Completed forms and checks payable to First Church may be dropped off at the RE Table box on Sunday mornings, or sent to:

First Unitarian Society
Attn: Debbie
1342 N. Astor St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Thanks for doing this quickly! Questions? Please contact our Director of Religious Education, Beryl Aschenberg, at Beryl@uumilwaukee.org.

Fee Waivers Are Available for Children and Youth to Attend RE Program
By Beryl Aschenberg, Director of Religious Education

All children are welcome in our Sunday RE program. We are flexible with registration fees and will always work with you to find a way to make your child’s attendance possible. Whether you would prefer to make payments or you need a full or partial waiver of fees, please don’t hesitate to contact our Director of Religious Education, Beryl Aschenberg, to arrange for your child’s participation.

Share Your Thoughts: “UU Question of the Summer”

This summer’s question was recommended twice in our suggestion box, so we are going to go with it! Summer’s question is:

“What are the best things to do in Milwaukee in the Summer?”

Share your favorite festivals, activities, music, and fun ideas all summer long!

This project is meant to spark a dialogue between the generations. Please take the time to post your response, and if you have a young person in your home, encourage them to share theirs too.
All About Youth
By Deb Solis, Youth Program Coordinator

“To handle yourself, use your head: to handle others, use your heart” — Eleanor Roosevelt

August Happenings for our youth include:
• Our Annual Youth Steering Committee Retreat takes place on Saturday, August 12 from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Our 2017-2018 roster includes youth members; Kaetryn Koneazny, Celie Koneazny, Ehlona Walker, Anke Ries-Buschhaus, Cecelia Groshek, Jonah Roth, Clarity Saigh, Maddie Weinhardt, Abby Aiken and adult members; Matthew Finco, Lisa Noble, and Nick DaVia.
• Sunday, August 13 youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Reeb Room for a youth-led worship service that will take place by Lake Michigan that morning (weather permitting).
• Our YRUU Advisor Orientation takes place on Sunday, August 27 from 2:30-5:30 p.m. This year our advisors will be Bizzy Schultz, Don Weimer, Jessie Moffat and Nick DaVia.

Eighth Grade “Owl” to be Offered Next Year!

Parents must attend an orientation in order for their child to participate. Orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 23, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

If you are a member of First Church, and the parent or guardian of a child currently in Seventh Grade, please consider the “Our Whole Lives” (OWL) sexuality education class for your child’s Religious Education experience in September.

OWL helps participants clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality. For a child to participate, at least one parent must attend a mandatory Parent Orientation. Contact Deb Solis, Youth Program Coordinator, by email or at 273-5257 ext. 209, to RSVP.

Eighth grade OWL classes will be held on Sundays from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. during the September-May months.

PlayTime News
By Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

• Alexis Fielek is directing everyone’s stories are true, an original play by Sabley Sabin. Performances are August 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26 at 7:30 p.m.; August 27 at 2:00 p.m. at Inspiration Studios, 1500 S. 73rd St., West Allis. Visit Villageplayhouse.org to purchase tickets.
• “Me and Dad” (Elizabeth & Nick Hayes) will be playing music August 13 from 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Shorewood Farmer’s Market, Lake Bluff School Playground, 1600 E. Lake Bluff Blvd., Shorewood.
• Bob Balderson is performing in Danceworks on Tap production of “What’s Tappenin’?!” At Danceworks Studio, 1661 N. Water St., Aug. 11-12 at 7:30 p.m.; Aug. 13 at 2:30 p.m. For tickets/info. go to danceworks-mke.org/purchase-tickets or call 414-277-8480.
• John Stano performs Aug. 10, 6:00-8:30 p.m. at The Corners of Brookfield, 20111 W. Bluemound Rd. Brookfield; Live at the Shawano Folk Festival, N5649 Airport Road, Shawano WI, Aug. 12 at 3:30 p.m. and Aug. 13 at 12:30 and again at 2:30 p.m. Festival passes can be purchased at www.shawanoarts.com/folkfestival; Live at The Cafe Carpe w/ special guest Dennis Waltman on Dobro Aug. 19 from 8:30-11:00 p.m. at Cafe Carpe, 18 S. Water St. West, Fort Atkinson. $7.00 tickets available at http://cafe-carpe.com. Live at The South Shore Terrace Beer Garden Aug. 23 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., South Shore Park, 2900 S. Shore Dr., Mil. and every Friday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Louie’s Coop, 1441 E. Russell Ave., Mil. John’s Free Harmonica Workshop is at Tall Tales Music Festival Aug. 12 at 10:00 a.m. at The Coffee House on Chestnut and Pine, 192 N Pine St., Burlington WI. www.talltalesfestival.com.
• Alissa Rhode continues to play performances of Victory Farm and Lumberjacks in Love at Northern Sky Theater in Door County this summer. She is also arranging and music directing the NST Fall world premiere. More info at www.northernskytheater.com.
Social Justice News

First Church Receives the 2017 United Nations Blue Ribbon Award!
By Janet Nortrom

I was honored to receive the United Nations Blue Ribbon Award on behalf of the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee at the 2017 General Assembly in New Orleans. Our church was one of 22 that received the award this year at the international reception. We finally qualified since Bruce Knotts, the director of our United Nations office, spent the United Nations weekend with us last October. Churches qualified for the Blue Ribbon award by meeting the following criteria:

1. Have an Envoy, Youth Envoy, or Envoy Team. Janet Fitch, Kate Marrs, and Janet Nortrom are UN Envoys serving as a link for First Church.
2. Hold an annual UN Sunday service. In celebration of the founding of the United Nations on October 24, 1945, last year we had UN Director, Bruce Knotts, provide two services and the FORUM.
3. Have 15 members or 5% of your congregation be individual UNA-UUA supporters.
4. Give the UNA-UUA an annual budget line or collection plate. We had the UN as our October 2016 "Share the Plate" recipient.

More information can be found on the UN website at unitednations@uua.org.

Look for the award on the First Church's bulletin board in the main hallway. We also have a wooden plaque that I hope we can add to each year.

Reflections on the 2017 Unitarian Universalist Association’s General Assembly
By Bruce Wiggins, Denominational Affairs Coordinator

This year, for the first time anyone can remember at First Church, we had a full slate of 16 member delegates to conduct our association’s business. A total of 11 attended General Assembly (GA) in New Orleans, two attended remotely via computer, and three who attended our Regional Assembly (RA) was designated by our Board of Trustees as delegates to vote for our association President. I want to highlight here and in the coming months some reflections of our delegates. Please engage with these people to find out more than we can communicate in these brief newsletter articles. And if these accounts interest you, plan to attend GA next June in Kansas City, MO.

"I found the experience very enriching. I had never seen so many African American UU’s gathered together. I met with representatives from Black Lives of UU (BLUU), Diverse and Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries (DRUMM), and talked with people I knew through social media. I came away feeling that the UUA is determined to help center the lives of people like me. The Ware Lecture by Bryan Stevenson was wonderful. He described his work in the criminal justice system, a system that many call criminal and seldom provides justice.” — Kenyatta Yamel

"Using my laptop computer, I participated in GA as an off-site delegate. I viewed all the major activities— evening services, Ware Lecture, business plenary sessions, voted for president, and several other matters. Off-site delegates even can take part in discussions in real time during plenary sessions. About a week after GA all delegates receive online access to all the workshops. Sitting in my dining room was not as exciting as being in New Orleans. However, as an off-site delegate, you really do learn how decisions are made in the UUA and are part of the process.” — Nancy Pajewski

Where Do I Submit…?
By Tracy Smith, Office Assistant

Chanticleer monthly newsletter copy: Chanticleer-newsletter@uwmilwaukee.org.
Deadline is 9:00 a.m. on the third Monday of the month.
No exceptions. Advertisements must be under 150 words and articles must be under 300 words.
Dr. Guy McPherson Challenged, Angered and Cheered Audience  
By Terry Wiggins

On July 12, First Church hosted nearly 150 people to listen to Dr. Guy McPherson talk about Abrupt Climate Change. His fundamental points were that:
• Humans have been given a terminal diagnosis
• What shall any of us do and how shall we live, given that diagnosis.

He thinks most climate scientists are guilty of malpractice for not giving the diagnosis that self-reinforcing cycles of climate change are making our planet uninhabitable for humans.

Due to technical difficulties, he was not able to present his slides with scientific data. He orally presented studies with names of authors, dates, and journal titles.

Dr. McPherson is accused of not promoting hope, which he defined as wishing for an outcome over which one has no agency. Though he is “hope-free,” he does not suggest inaction, but rather, live in the present.

His three bits of advice:
1. Remain calm. Nothing is under your control. It doesn’t matter what’s going on around you. It matters how you respond to it. Act but do not be attached to the outcome.
2. Pursue excellence because at the end of the day you only report to you.

After the presentation, several of the attendees commented and sent emails about the “goofy science” he proffered. Yet others see him as their hero.

Is he a “goofy professor” (New York Times), “Doomist cult hero” (Michael Mann in Washington Post that day) or a solid scientist? You may judge for yourself at https://www.facebook.com/daniel.folkman.31 where his talk was live-streamed.

New Sanctuary? Our Sanctuary Discernment Continues  
By Patricia Geenen, Immigration Issues Action Group

By sharing knowledge and experiences at Sanctuary Sunday gatherings (the second Sunday of each month) and through ongoing research with relevant experts and stakeholders, the Sanctuary Discernment Team continues to gather and disseminate information about the risks and rewards of declaring solidarity with immigrants and refugees in the Milwaukee community.

In the July Chanticleer, we summarized the discernment process Cross Lutheran Church followed in becoming a sanctuary congregation in the 1980’s, as recalled by the Rev. Joseph Ellwanger. During our interview and in Chapter 10 of his book, Strength for the Struggle, Ellwanger recounted the following rewards of their sanctuary experience:
• Profound relationships with others in the sanctuary movement.
• Incorporation into the church’s liturgies commemoration of events and prayers for those martyred by U.S. support of oppressive regimes in Latin America.
• New partnerships with churches in Central America and solidarity for justice.
• A partnership between the ELCA of Southeastern Wisconsin and the Lutheran Church of El Salvador, yielding more than 12 congregational partnerships.
• Participation by members of Cross in national efforts to close the School of the Americas.
• Continuing collaboration with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services.

Please check the announcements and the Chanticleer for Sanctuary Sunday invitations and reports, as we continue gathering information to understand the moral, legal, economic, physical and personal dimensions of becoming a sanctuary congregation.

Also, please plan to attend one of a series of Cottage Meetings to be held from mid-October to mid-November to gather feedback from members of the congregation. In early September find a list of the Cottage Meeting schedule and locations in First Church publications, bulletin boards, and website.

Your involvement is vital to the discernment process!
Meaningful Connections: Literacy Services of Wisconsin
By Cheryl Butterfield

Two days a week I tutor English as a second language to immigrants at Literacy Services of Wisconsin. It has possibly been the most rewarding experience of my life. The students provide the interest, intelligence, and drive that they need to succeed, while I provide that little lift to overcome the barriers they confront.

At Literacy Services we provide a safe and welcoming space for learning. The faces are friendly and everyone is willing to help. For me, tutoring has been much more than just teaching English. My personal experience includes helping a recent immigrant navigate the medical system during her first pregnancy, helping a mother improve communication with her son’s teachers and helping a student research the credential requirements needed for advancement in her occupation. Things are only possible in the context of a continuing relationship of trust.

On the civic front, I have helped one student pass her citizenship test. I have provided encouragement to another who has been a citizen for several years, but had never registered and voted until this last election. More than teaching English, I have been a cheerleader, helping to build the confidence that enables immigrants to use their own voices.

Note: We are heartened to share this article from Cheryl Butterfield. There are multiple ways in Milwaukee to meet and personally assist our immigrant community members. One goal of the Sanctuary Discernment Team/Immigration Issues Action Group is to bring ideas forward of alternative options for personal action. There are many ways to meet individual talents, interests, life schedules and comfort levels in the work of Immigration Action! Contact the Immigration Issues Action Group representative during coffee hour at the Social Justice Table every Sunday.

Share the Plate
By Dawn Blackmore

Common Ground’s United Parent’s Cafe is our Share the Plate recipient for the summer months of June-August. As stated on the Common Ground website, “Common Ground’s United Parents group has brought the Parent Café model from Be Strong Families in Illinois to a variety of locations in the Milwaukee area. Cafés allow parents to come together for a meal and small group conversations about some of the joys and challenges of parenting. Their children eat together and are cared for in a nearby room. Based on the Strengthening Families™ approach of the national Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP), cafés are designed to empower parents through peer-to-peer interaction and support. The model is rooted in what many people know as the World Café method of fostering dialog within a large group. The magic of the Café is peer-to-peer learning and deep reflection; there are no “experts” telling parents what they should or should not do.”

Share the Plate Cash collected in the plate will be split 50/50 between the recipient and First Church. To donate only to our monthly recipient, please write a check directly to the organization, and we will mail it for you.

Parents and guardians, please talk with your children about how even small donations help.

Summer Staffing
By Jean Johnson, Director of Administration

The church staff is encouraged to take vacation or work reduced hours in the summertime when activity is somewhat slower around church. So, you may find there are fewer of us around after June 4. However, we usually have at least one staff person in the office nearly every day of the summer. So please call to confirm that a specific person is in the office, or when we might expect them to be in the office. If you don’t talk to a live person, we’ll return your voicemail message as soon as possible.
**Come Visit Our Affinity Groups!**

From Beryl Aschenberg, Director of Religious Education
Come visit our Affinity Groups! Stop in, meet new people and make new friends! If you have an idea for starting a new group, contact Beryl Aschenberg at 414 273-5257, ext. 204 or beryl@uwmilwaukee.org.

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**Book Discussion Group**
On Vacation  
Second Sunday of the month  
1:00–3:00 p.m.  
Next meeting is September 10

We are reading *Enrique’s Journey* by Sonia Nazario. The true story of a Honduran family and the desperate conditions forcing them to immigrate. All readers are welcome. For more information, contact Chris Linder.

**Buddhist Study Group:**  
**Gathering Waters Sangha**  
On Vacation  
First and third Wednesdays of the month  
6:30–8:00 p.m.  
Next meeting is September 6

We explore Buddhist teachings and ideas, practice meditation, followed by tea, cookies and fellowship. All are welcome! For more information, please email Steve or Jeanne Lowry at gatheringwaterssangha@gmail.com.

**Chancel Choir**
Weekly rehearsals resume  
August 24  
7:15–9:00 p.m.

All singers high school age and up are invited to join our weekly choir rehearsals. Please contact our Choral Director Tristan Strelitzer with your name and voice type.

**The Chronologically Gifted**
Musical Monday in Lake Park  
August 21 Potluck Picnic  
Food: 5:00–6:30 p.m.; Music: 6:30 p.m.

We foster activities and relationships that allow members age 60 and older to live and age well by offering meaningful, creative, healthy engagement through the arts, education, relationship building, mutual support and fun! For more information, contact Sharon DePue.

**The Forties and Fifties UU Network (FFUUN)**
FFUUN is a group of First Church members who are ‘40 to 50-somethings’ seeking social connections with others. For information on their activities, please contact Diana Altstadt or Scot Henry or visit www.facebook.com/ffuun.

**Pagan Celebrations Group**
Pagan rituals honor the natural cycle of the earth and celebrate the seasons. For more information, please contact Kathleen Miezio or Nick Davia.

**S.W.A.N.S. Group**  
(Seasoned Women Are Naturally Social)  
First Sunday of the month we go out for lunch after the second service.  
Next lunch is August 6

Join us once a month for lunch after church and other social events. Newcomers are always welcome! For more information about SWANS, contact Barbara Collignon or Jeanne Durnford.

**UU Parenting Group**
Second Sunday of the month  
Potluck Summer Picnics  
Next gathering is August 13

We are a group of First Church parents that share helpful parenting resources, do fun family activities together, and discuss a variety of topics including positive discipline, creating healthy habits, and the unique challenges of raising UU children. For more information contact Stacey Thieme and Brook Worzella-Best.

**UU+ Study Group**
On Vacation  
Meetings will resume in October

We gather to deepen our understanding of Unitarian Universalism and our continuing spiritual journeys through reading and discussion, exploring UU theology and diverse spiritual paths. Please join us! For more information contact Nancy Pajewski.

**Unitarian Universalists Under Forty Doing Activities (UUUFDA)**  
Fourth Sunday of the month  
Brunch Potluck after the Summer service.  
11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
Next lunch is August 20

UUUFDA encourages social camaraderie among the under forty crowd at First Church, in service of contributing to a strong, joyful and fun church community. Contact Susie Seidelman or Yalanda Ludtka at uuufda@gmail.com.

**WomanSpirit**
We meet to empower women and join in spiritual quest through social justice, music, ritual and friendships. For more information, contact Janet Nortrom.
devoted much of her life to expanding the rights of LGBT people. Denise and her family have attended First Church for about 20 years and have been members since 2002.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20
Jeff Peary, member
Alissa Rhode, Lead Music Director

Our principles must not be static; they must become the inspiration to action in our daily lives. That inspiration has taken me around the world in work with people who have been marginalized. Our challenge is to constantly renew our commitment to these principles. Without a dogmatic creed, it is our spiritual responsibility to define how we act on our principles.

Jeff Peary is the organizing photographer of For Good Photography. He is the owner of Jeff Peary Photography, LLC in Milwaukee, WI. He has over thirty years of experience as a photojournalist. He has experience working both internationally as well as within the United States. Peary has previously worked as the Chief Photographer of a daily newspaper and is a member of the National Press Photographers Association.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27
The End of the Welcoming Church (Beginning of the Inviting Church)
The Rev. David Kraemer
Tristan Strelitzer, Choral Director

What if, instead of being welcoming, we were to be inviting? This service will use the Rev. Fred Muir’s "Turning Points" as a framework for reflection, which may be useful especially now, in the midst of deep soul-searching in our movement.

The Rev. David Kraemer is the minister at United Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Waukesha, WI, where he has served since September 2016. Ministry is his second career after 24 years as a journalist, working for newspapers in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa. He is a graduate of United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, was ordained 2015 at First Unitarian Universalist Church in Rochester, MN.

Check Out These Three Upcoming WomanSpirit Retreats!
By Janet Nortrom

- Get registered NOW! Still time to register for the Coming Home to Ourselves summer retreat from August 18-20 at Watersvliet, Michigan. Cost is $200, including 3 meals on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. Snacks will be provided Friday evening. Some scholarships and child care money available. Register at UUwomensconnection.org or call Gretchen.

(Continue on last page)
First Church Group Outing to See Jack at the Rep!
By Lois Wesener

Jack Forbes Wilson is starring in the Stackner Cabaret show *Souvenir* in the fall. *Souvenir* is the story of eccentric Manhattan socialite Florence Foster Jenkins recently told in a film starring Meryl Streep. Many church members in the past have enjoyed getting together as a group to see Jack perform.

Lois Wesener is once again arranging for a First Church group to attend the 4:00 p.m. Show on Saturday, October 28. She'll make arrangements to enjoy dinner at a nearby restaurant after the show for those who wish to join in. With savings of over $15 off the regular price, the group discount ticket is just $53.00. Get your check to Lois (made out to her) as soon as you can. Her address can be found in the member directory. For further information email or call her. Jack puts on a great show - at church and in the community. Don't miss this one! To see hundreds of free music events in Milwaukee this summer visit www.freemusicmilwaukee.com.

WomenSpirit Retreat *(continued from page 11)*

- Feb. 2-4, 2018. Hear Holly Near speak of music and activism in her Keynote, *I am Willing*. She will lead an all-conference workshop on Saturday morning and will lead the Sunday morning worship at the Evanston Church, Illinois. Save money now, go to Womanspirit@womanandreligion.org.