



**MARCH 2011**

# In Touch

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF WICHITA

FOUNDED 1887



## Condolences

Our hearts go out to Janet and Sandy Roberts on the unexpected death of Janet's daughter, Shannon Skiles, on February 4, 2011. Our care and concern go out to Shannon's daughter, Jordan Fleming, who often attends our church with her grandparents.

We also extend our sympathy to the Kim Kingman and Fred Cronenwett family on the recent death of Fred's mother. Kim and Fred's kids, Amelia and Charlie, are in our thoughts.

## UUA Response to House Vote to Cut Funds for Title X and Planned Parenthood

The UUA joins the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, the Religious Institute, and the Religious Action Center in supporting Planned Parenthood and other reproductive justice organizations that provide critical services to women, men, and families who otherwise could not afford quality health care and services.

... As Unitarian Universalists, we are called by our principles to affirm and promote justice, equality, and compassion, especially for those in our communities who are voiceless and vulnerable. In the midst of questions about our nation's budget and allocation of resources, we are called as people of faith and good will to let our leaders know that addressing our current financial crisis should not come at the expense of the most vulnerable among us....

See [www.uua.org/news](http://www.uua.org/news) for full text.

Make plans now to attend the  
**Hungarian-Romanian Candlelight Dinner**  
on Saturday, March 26.

Doors open at 6 p.m.

Proceeds from the event will benefit our Partner Church  
in Homorod Szentpal, Romania.

Tickets are \$15 each; \$8 for children 12 and under.

Choice of entrees (including vegan!).

Exhibits and more.

Stay tuned to weekly bulletins and announcements for further details.

## Chamber Music Series Resumes

March 6, April 17 and May 8 are a MUST SAVE for Sunday 3:00 p.m. Chamber Music Concerts at First Unitarian Universalist Church. Performers for this series include the trio of John Harrison, Susan Mayo and Randy Zellers; The Nova Deco duo of Nancy Johnson and Dominique Corbeil playing Telemann and de Beniot Violin music; Amy Hoffman, Susan Mayo and James Knight with a selection from Trio for Flute, Cello and Piano by Dello Joio, then a Rachmaninoff Cello and Piano Sonata selection; WSU Camerata (Catherine Consiglio's Baroque String Orchestra minus conductor); Violin duo of Judith and Sarah Naillon; Walter and Mary Mays with Kay Buskirk playing a Walter Mays arrangement of Bagatelles by Bartok; Betty Hensley and Paul Doherty playing "The Colors Fall" by James DeMars on Silver and Cedar Flutes; The Market Street Recorder Consort playing a Suite by William Brade; Handel's "Sonata in F Major" played by Vada Snider, Flutist, with Pianist, Karen Louchs; Guitar duos from the Renaissance and transcribed Schubert songs performed by Guitarists Greg Golding and Randy Zellers; and Laura Black, Violinist, and Helen Griffen, Pianist, with a classical sonata.

This is a tremendous lineup of Wichita musicians divided evenly over three concerts. BUT WAIT – saved until the May 8 concert is Phillip Black with two solo Tuba pieces: "Stuff" by James Grant and "Aboriginal Voices" by Neal Corwell. So, mark your calendars, save back a suggested donation of \$10 per concert and then come to actively listen then eat cookies.

For information, contact Carol Neighbor, 269-1506, or [klezlovers@gmail.com](mailto:klezlovers@gmail.com).

# In Touch

The newsletter of  
The First Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Wichita  
is published monthly

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The deadline for In Touch  
and for the monthly  
Calendar is the third  
Wednesday of each month.

Please submit items to:  
**Newsletter@FirstUU.net**  
or bring to the church office.

LATE SUBMISSIONS MAY BE OMITTED.



## MINISTER'S MUSINGS

### Poems for Marguerite

Included in this issue of In Touch are three poems Rev. Carter wrote while courting Marguerite, "way back when." He says, "I remember showing her the first of them in Houston, Texas one very sunny and very hot afternoon. Fifteen or so years on, it seems she thought they had potential...!"

Look for the poems in the pages of this newsletter. The first is just below.

#### Beloved

under cover of night  
those two greatly charitable  
and influential ambassadors of love  
your eyes

slip down into my heart  
through the portal of dreams  
and there  
disrupt by their mystic dance  
and the lyric of their ecstasy  
the tyranny of inability  
that separates me from who I am.

upon waking  
buried alive even still  
by that deeper sleep we call the world  
your eyes

from beyond the cacophony of high and low  
ransom me from the world of names  
revealing:

the palace of illusion  
in flames  
empty of prisoners;  
my shipwrecked sailors  
pulling for the shore;  
fear's cruel sovereignty subverted;

and happy in love at the heart of light  
the Thief of Hearts making love dance.

Sweet One  
because they subject the figures of delight  
to the corruption of material form  
please,  
unbind me from these two worse than useless thieves  
my vagabond eyes  
and give me sight.

## THE ? BAND Performs April 2

*Raphael Imbert - saxophone, Paul Elwood - banjo, Mark Foley - bass, Susan Mayo - cello*

Jazz? Classical? Bluegrass? Rock?

Who knows, but put these four musicians together and it's bound to be great!

April 2nd, 7:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church of Wichita

\$10 Suggested Donation

RAPHAEL IMBERT is a saxophonist and composer who draws stylistically from an eclectic mix including baroque, classical, free improvisation, Appalachian, blues, gospel, jazz, bluegrass, and country music. Other influences include reflections on spirituality and paranormal phenomena. Imbert's eclectic musical and intellectual interests led him to produce shows inspired by texts of Théodore Monod and Martin Luther King, among others. Raphaël Imbert worked on a study focused on the Sacred in Jazz and was a recipient of Villa Médicis Hors Les Murs, managed by AFAA and the French Foreign Affairs Ministry which enabled him to study in New York in October 2003. Imbert has developed teaching projects at the Marseille Conservatory, at Festival Cluny, and Fai'art. He has written music for cinema and television for projects by Philippe Carrése and Isabelle Boni-Claverie. Currently Raphaël Imbert manages two groups within the Nine Spirit Company and has recordings released on the Zig Zag Territoires Label distributed by Harmonia Mundi.

DR. PAUL ELWOOD moves deftly between the academic world of contemporary music composition and the down-home world of bluegrass banjo. Often the twain shall meet, as he composes and performs in classical as well as traditional and jazz settings, always with banjo in hand. He has had his music performed throughout the world, with musical collaborators including Native American musician Robert Mirabal, banjoists Tony Trishka and John Hartford, electric guitarist Eugene Chadbourne, jazz cellist Hank Roberts and many others. He played throughout this region with Kelly Werts in the Sons of Rayon, and

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with Susan Mayo in the Wichita New Music Ensemble. He now teaches composition at University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

DR. MARK FOLEY has been the principal bassist of the Wichita Symphony and professor of bass at Wichita State University since 1989. Originally from the Minneapolis area, he has attended the University of Minnesota, The Eastman School, and Indiana University. He has played in the bass sections of many major orchestras including the Rochester Philharmonic, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Indianapolis Symphony, the Kansas City Symphony, and the Bellingham Festival Orchestra.

Mark has been a featured soloist with the Wichita Symphony Orchestra and the Wichita State University Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Foley also performs extensively as a contemporary music and jazz artist.

He is a member of WSU's Faculty Jazz Quartet, and is founder and musical director of KNOB, a festival of new music held annually in Wichita, Kansas.

SUSAN MAYO has performed regionally in diverse settings ranging from Quartetto da Camera and the Wichita Symphony Orchestra to the free jazz of Craig Owens Bodo Ensemble. She has taught cello at several area colleges, having inspired a generation of young cellists to play with an open mind and spirit. Her knowledge of music and sense of freedom on the instrument allows her to connect with many of the area's finest musicians in areas that may initially seem foreign to the cello. She performed for several years in The Plaid Family with Kelly Werts, where she delved into traditional world musics while incorporating those influences into her own compositional style.

### Golden Rule Curriculum Training Workshop

**When:** Monday, March 7, 2011, from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

**Where:** First Unitarian Universalist Church of Wichita  
7202 E. 21st St., Wichita, Kansas 67206 / Cost: \$20

**What:** To make the Golden Rule a practical experience instead of an unrealized ideal.

Training Workshop designed for ...Frontline Youth Workers, Public and Private School Teachers, Scout Leaders, Religious Leaders, Church School Teachers, Business People Educators.

Why: The Curriculum's methodology is particularly effective because it helps to break down barriers that separate us from our deeper selves and from others. The goal is not to fill overloaded minds with more information, but to create an environment and experience where transformative learning can take place.

Interested? For more info and to register, visit Global Faith In Action (GFIA) at their website: [www.globalfaithinaction.org](http://www.globalfaithinaction.org)

## Worship Committee Seeks New Member

The Worship Committee seeks a new member to participate in the planning and execution of lay-led and minister-led services.

There are a number of personal and community benefits to be had from participating on the Worship Committee and the benefits enjoyed are likely different for each member. Since I can only speak for myself, here is what I get out of serving on the WC:

- Through the process of selecting readings, music, and meditations, I have grown in my self-discovery and have found texts that reinforce – and sometimes challenge – my values.
- I like feeling needed and connected and I believe I am making a valuable contribution to this community. I like sharing my talents while getting to know the other committee members better. I hope that we are making an impact on other's lives and furthering the vision and mission of First Unitarian Universalist Church in the process.

Please consider joining the Worship Committee. No previous experience is necessary and since the work load is shared, the demands are manageable. We meet on the third Thursday of the month from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the church library but we do seek to be flexible if or when members have work or family commitments that require an adjustment.

Email access is extremely helpful, as is semi-regular attendance at the Sunday morning services.

If you are interested or if you have questions, please contact Suzanna Mathews at sweetsuzanna17@yahoo.com, send a text message to 316-655-2917, or see me after church!

*Suzanna Mathews  
Worship Committee Chair*

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**There are many opportunities for you to share your talents and time at First UU! Just ask... you'll find out there's something to suit YOU!**

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## FROM SHADOW TO LIGHT

let who will dissemble  
because your wine dark hair  
fragrant as ripe pomegranate  
evinces divinity; nor fear  
their dissembling. your eyes  
breach even the best disguise.  
Who made you beautiful, made you wise.  
(but now, bind your hair  
be careful...  
the Beloved is near...)

abused of high conceit  
they can never enter to 'bide  
'mongst that throng.  
pity those whose burden of pride  
binds them to the deceit of years.  
in a crowd, dancing, devoid of fear  
you sang and shook your wine dark hair!  
(it's not easy to enter, there's a price to pay  
but lucky one,  
your pockets are full, don't delay!)

the Tamal tree by its ecstasy  
produces a mystical umbra  
wherein to jubilant act  
invulnerables waken from mortal slumber!  
weeping, in trance, in a crowd  
set free, singing Love's name aloud,  
your brazen locks a wine dark cloud!  
(few outdistance night  
but the way's been unbarred; braid your locks  
break from shadow to light!)

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## Chalice Bookstore News: Old, Current and Future

**OLD:** The December Galleria and the Lucky Thirteen Valentine sales netted more than \$800 for First UU's Operating fund. Thanks to everyone who helped us out by donating items or patronizing the sales.

**CURRENT:** A few UU coffee/tea mugs are available at the Fair Trade table on Sundays or in the Bookstore at any time the church is open. The cost is \$10. The Used Bookstore is always open... self-service. See the posted prices for guidelines. Donations accepted of books which you genuinely recommend to your friends. Leave them in the basket on the table just inside the Library door.

The shelves on the EAST hold Chalice Bookstore offerings. The shelves on the WEST wall hold the First UU Lending Library Books. Jean Babcock is the librarian.

**FUTURE:** We're planning the June Sale. The theme this year will be GARDENING, GAMES AND GADGETS. We'll be looking for donations of games and books featuring gardening, as well as small items which might be called "gadgets." (Electric corkscrews? Wannabe Swiss Army knives? Or maybe your name for a "gadget" is "Gizmo." We'll start taking donations in May. More details later.

— Larilla Combs and Del Smith, Chalice Bookstore

## EVERY MONTH AT FIRST UU

**Full Moon Dances** are open to both women and men. Join in the dance to connect with the earth's power, celebrate the elements, and discover your personal power. Information: Kathy Hull, 204-9956.

**New Moon Circle** meets at the church. Intended to complement the Full Moon Dances, we offer this time to gather on the New Moon for study, meditation, and ritual exploration of earth-centered spiritual growth. Information: Kathy Hull, 267-3860.

**Eclectic Readers** group meet the 3rd Friday of the month at 11:30 a.m. at the church. Contact: Del Smith, 612-0826

**Book Discussion Group** meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Joe Brewer, 2531 N Roosevelt. You are welcome to attend whether or not you have read the book. Information: 686-8575

**Ethical Eating group** meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Meal followed/accompanied by round table discussion. Bring a vegan dish to share! Contact Dianne Waltner, 946-1115, or [dwaltner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dwaltner@sbcglobal.net), for additional information.

**Monday Movie Night** meets the Third Monday at 7 p.m. Critically acclaimed movies. Kathryn Vernon selects the films and leads the discussion after each showing. Series coordinator, Kathryn Vernon, 210-2731.

**Membership Committee** meets the 4th Sunday at 10 a.m.

**Personnel Committee** meets the 4th Sunday at 10:15 a.m. in the library.

**Dinners for Eight.** Date varies. Contact Maxine Wells, 681-0442 or Marcia Ellsworth, 688-5352.

**Music Committee** meets the fourth Sunday following service.

## EVERY WEEK AT FIRST UU

**Southwind Sangha Zen Buddhist Meditation** meets at the church. Introductory session, 7 p.m., first Wednesday of each month. Also meets 8-9 a.m. on Sundays, 6-7 p.m. on Mondays, 7-8 p.m. on Wednesdays and 6-6:45 p.m. on Thursdays. Half-day retreat on third Saturdays, 8 a.m. to noon. Information: [www.southwindsangha.org](http://www.southwindsangha.org), or Kathryn Riley, 684-8819, or Del Smith, 612-0826.

**Tai Chi classes** on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Cost: \$5 per class. Dress comfortably. Information: David Larsen, 612-4726 or [davidlarsen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davidlarsen@sbcglobal.net)

**Adult RE** meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the southwest corner R.E. room. Current topic: Skeptics and Believers. Contact: Corey Swertfager, 201-6921

**Meditation and Book Discussion** on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Contact: Bob Feleppa, 304-9170

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### BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

#### Next Up: **The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy**

The Book Discussion Group, which meets at the home of Joe Brewer, has chosen *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams for our session on March 9. Participants are free to choose which version of the book series to read as we contemplate the Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything, which of course is 42.

You are welcome to join us whether you have finished the book or not at the home of Joe Brewer on the second Wednesday (February 9) at 7:30 p.m.. Please call 686-8575 for directions.

*("There was a point to this story, but it has temporarily escaped the chronicler's mind.")*  
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### ECLECTIC READERS

#### March & April Selections

**March 18:** The Eclectic Readers Group will be reading "The Road" by Cormac McCarthy. This post-apocalyptic novel looks at what the world might be like after civilization ends. McCarthy's world is modeled on our own Earth.

In April, the group will read "The Learning Tree" by Gordon Parks, a book about the difficult life of a black boy named Newton Winger growing up during a time of segregation.

Eclectic Readers meet at 11:30 (brown-bag lunch) on the third Friday of each month.

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### MONDAY MOVIE NIGHT

#### Frank Lloyd Wright (cont'd)

The second half of the movie "Frank Lloyd Wright" will be shown at the Monday Movie Night on March 21 at 7 p.m. If you haven't seen this acclaimed documentary by award-winning filmmaker Ken Burns, and you enjoy fine architecture, this is a riveting portrait of "our architect."

"Rare footage and illuminating interviews, along with an in-depth look at Wright's body of work from his 92 years, come together to bring his unforgettable – and frequently turbulent – story to life.

Documentary, Biographical Documentaries, PBS. 1998, 153 minutes.

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### Change to Meditation Schedule

After consulting with students, Reverend Carter has decided to suspend the Children's Meditation Class until further notice.

Reverend Carter's updated Meditation Class hours are as follows:

**Sunday: 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m., Meditation: Establishing A Practice**

**Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Meditation: Diversifying One's Practice**

Please feel free to contact Kat Allee, Office Manager, with any questions at [officemanager@firstuu.net](mailto:officemanager@firstuu.net).

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## Mid-Year Congregational Meeting Report

By Kat Allee, Office Manager

Following the service and a delicious light lunch provided by Ashley Roberts, Bonnie Till, and Jean Vaughn, First UU members sat down on Sunday, Feb. 20, for our annual Mid-Year Meeting.

A Minister's Report from Reverend David Carter, RE Report from Denise Jackson-Simon, and President's Report from Trina Wheeler were presented to the congregation.

First UU's Treasurer, Anne Bailey, presented the Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2011-2012. The budget was voted on and accepted by the congregation as presented.

This budget provides for parking lot improvements such as a Gate at the North Driveway, New Handicap Signs, Parking Lot Striping, and more. For full details, please stop by the church office.

Members were encouraged to attend in order to vote for a new Board Member to fill an expired term on the Board of Trustees. Ballots were distributed to the congregation for the election, candidates were Joe Niblett and Courtney Ruthven. Courtney Ruthven was elected to the Board of Trustees to serve March 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Thank you to Joe Niblett who so graciously accepted our call for candidates for the position!

Trina Wheeler, Mike Felton, and Kim Talbot gave a report on the results of the Congregational Assessment Survey we asked members and friends to fill out a few months ago.

Fifty-nine responses helped us assess our progress as a congregation, our strengths and weaknesses. For details on the results of the survey, feel free to contact the church office.

Pat Felton, new (year-'round!) chair of the Financial Commitment Campaign Committee gave a presentation to the congregation on our upcoming Campaign: "Here's What It Takes: It's Up To You!"

Details on the campaign process were discussed, and Pat gave a call for volunteers to host Cottage Meetings for the Campaign. For more information on these cottage meetings, please contact Kim Talbot at 316-641-6043.

Nomination forms for the Volunteer of the Year Recognition to be held at the 2011 Annual Meeting were also passed out to the congregation.

The Volunteer of the Year Recognition ceremony honors First UU volunteers. Volunteer nominees can include First UU members, friends, and regular visitors. To send in your nomination, please contact the church office for a nomination form.

Thank you to all who attended, and to all who continue to make First UU a growing, vital congregation by your continuing support and weekly attendance! We couldn't do anything without you!

**Nominate YOUR FIRST UU HERO for VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR!**

## News from the Caring Committee

Over the past few months, three members of our committee have needed to discontinue or limit their involvement with the committee. In the interest of saving time and resources, we have decided to discontinue sending out birthday cards. Instead, birthdays will be listed in the newsletter so individuals can acknowledge them as they wish.

If you are interested in joining the Caring Committee, we would be happy to have new members. We meet the fourth Saturday of the month (unless it's a holiday weekend) at the church at 10 a.m.

If you are new to the congregation and would like to know how you can get more involved, the Caring Committee would like to offer you the opportunity to do so by taking our survey. It includes a list of ways in which we can help each other and the congregation, and you are free to select as many or as few as you are able. Call Jana Rambo, 686-4215, or LaRilla Combs, 733-2089, for more information.

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### THINK AND LET YOUR HEART BE STILL

darling, let go fear. being metaphysic  
the exquisiteness you're possessed of  
will not fade or become cruel,  
though it wear your body like a glove.  
nor dream I've become enamored  
of the wily mimic. Love cannot but press  
its sweetness upon whatever fabric it fancy,  
however fragile, however helpless,  
till, as with you, the thing becomes consummate;  
translated, iron turns to gold, its unexceptionable feature.  
tell me, could we two recall anything of our meeting  
but that the mysterious other loved the Other?  
then fret not who came and courted but the mimic  
and grew weary, till love fled.  
misreading dry dust for spirit they learn too late  
that even dancing, dust is dead.  
think, and let your heart be still,  
how it was with us, with this gifted love;  
we sought only spiritual excellence,  
later marveled how well hand fit glove.

# March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6p Meditation/Book Discussion	2 6:30p Meditation: Diversifying Your Practice 7p Buddhist Meditation 7p Tai Chi	3 6p Buddhist Meditation 7p New Moon Circle	4 6p AA 12-Step Meeting: We Agnostics, Etcetera	5
6 8a Buddhist Meditation 9:30a Adult RE 12p First Sunday Lunch 3p Chamber Concert	7 6p Buddhist Discussion 6:30p Golden Rule Training Workshop w/ Rev's Carter/Muyskens	8 6p Meditation/Book Discussion	9 6:30p Meditation: Diversifying Your Practice 7p Buddhist Meditation 7p Tai Chi 7:30p Book Disc.@Brewers	10 6p Buddhist Meditation	11 6p AA 12-Step Meeting: We Agnostics, Etcetera	12 2:30p Private Event
13 8a Buddhist Meditation 9:30a Adult RE 9:30a Meditation: Establishing A Practice 12:15p Leadership Cncl.	14 6p Buddhist Discussion Group 6:30p Meatless Monday	15 6p Meditation/Book Discussion	16 7p Buddhist Meditation 7p Tai Chi 7p Board Meeting NEWSLETTER/ CALENDAR DEADLINE	17 6p Buddhist Meditation 7p NOW Meeting 7p Worship Committee	18 11:30a Eclectic Readers 6p AA 12-Step Meeting: We Agnostics, Etcetera 6:30p Full Moon Dance	19 8a Buddhist Silent Retreat
20 8a Buddhist Meditation 9:30a Adult RE 9:30a Meditation: Establishing A Practice 9:30a Seeking Circle	21 6p Buddhist Discussion Group 7p Movie Night	22 6p Meditation/Book Discussion	23 9:30a Newsletter Mailing 6:30p Meditation: Diversifying Your Practice 7p Buddhist Meditation 7p Tai Chi	24 6p Buddhist Meditation	25 6p AA 12-Step Meeting: We Agnostics, Etcetera	26 10a Caring Committee 6p Partner Church Dinner
27 8a Buddhist Meditation 9:30a Adult RE 9:30a Meditation: Establishing A Practice 10a Membership Comm. 10:15a Personnel Comm. 12:15p Music Committee	28 6p Buddhist Discussion Group					

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



# Return Service Requested



**FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH**  
**7202 E 21ST ST N**  
**WICHITA, KS 67206**

**WWW.FIRSTUU.NET**



I'll see YOU  
on March 26!



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## UPCOMING SERVICES

March  
 6 — "Maundy Thursday in the Garden," presented by Bill Erickson  
 13 — Rev. David Carter  
 20 — "Spring Equinox," presented by Amy Geyer  
 27 — Rev. David Carter  
 On April 3, Daisy "Akiiki" Kabagarama will present a program on "The Scourge of Diabetes in Africa"

## IWD Global Centenary

International Women's Day is March 8. This year marks 100 years since the first IWD event was held in 1911. March 25, 2011, is also the century mark of the tragic 'Triangle Fire' in New York City that took the lives of more than 140 working women, most of them Italian and Jewish immigrants. This disastrous event drew significant attention to working conditions and labor legislation in the United States.



## VISION STATEMENT

IT IS OUR VISION:

To be a growing, inclusive, vital congregation that encourages shared values amidst differing beliefs and nurtures creative exploration of intellectual and spiritual paths.

To be a visible community leader that promotes human equity and compassion, and celebrates life through the arts.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission, consistent with Unitarian Universalist principles, is to provide a joyful, safe, healing environment where diversity is embraced. We will inspire and uplift the whole person through enriching programs and services for all ages, and serve the larger community through social action and active promotion of the arts.

## Sunday Programs

9:30 a.m. Adult Religious Exploration

11:00 a.m. Children's RE and Nursery

11:00 a.m. Worship Service