

Take Me Home!

First Unitarian Universalist Church The BLAST: July 5 - July 12, 2009

Sunday, July 5, 10:30 a.m. Worship
Happy Birthday to US

Rev. Adam Robinson, Affiliate Minister

"All progress has resulted from people who took unpopular positions. All change is the result of a change in the contemporary state of mind." Adlai Stevenson

On the day after the celebration of our nation's independence let's look at the sacrament of democracy. Are there presents we still need to give ourselves?

We on the search committee have been gathering your input and ideas for the search for a settled minister. As we listen, some important themes seem to be emerging. Many have said that our minister should be a good speaker, a thinker, someone who can create excellent sermons that are intellectual and thought-provoking. Many of you have also said that our congregation needs a minister who can embrace multiple diverse faiths, theologies or beliefs. Thirdly, you have said you want a minister who can connect to and relate with the congregation, someone who is authentic in relationship. The fourth most mentioned statement is the wish for a minister who is known as a liberal voice in the larger community, someone who can represent our faith on equal footing with other faith leaders, who makes our principles and values known in the public square. **Please continue to come to our weekly Table Talks on Sunday mornings in Channing Hall before and after service.** We especially want to hear from those who have not yet come to give input. The search for a settled minister is some of the most important work we have to do as a congregation in the next year. We want everyone to be part of it. We look forward to talking with you!

The Search Committee search@firstuu.org

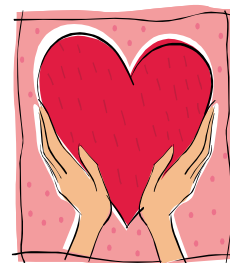
Summer Film Series for the Whole Family. Second Friday of each month 6:00 p.m.

Potluck dinner, movies and provocative discussion for youth and adults. Our **July 10** movie for adults will be **Hoosiers**. **Potluck:** last names starting with A-G: desserts; H-N: vegetables and salads; M-T: main dishes; U-Z: bread or appetizers. Beverages will be provided. Volunteers are needed for set up, serving and cleanup. Sign up in Channing Hall or contact Natalie Browne at 713-526-5200 or natalie@firstuu.org. Younger participants will watch **The Lion King**; nursery care will be available.

The monthly *First Church News* is easily and immediately available electronically every month. **We encourage you to choose this method of receiving the newsletter and to let the office know to remove you from the "snail mail" list.**

How is your soul, my friend?

If you have any pastoral needs we are here to help. Our Care Team, Befrienders and clergy are available for you. Call or mail Rev. Adam Robinson, 713-526-5200 or adam@firstuu.org.



YOUNG ADULTS, LET'S EAT.

It's time to gather for lunch again. Let's meet **right after church this Sunday, July 5**, in the front courtyard, and go to Katz's Deli for fun, food, and making new acquaintances. All 20's and 30's are invited to join us every **First Sunday**.



Visitors, friends, and members are invited to gather with Welcoming Team volunteers at the Welcome Table in Channing Hall after Sunday worship for coffee, lunch, conversation, and fellowship. Just look for the Welcoming Table's red checkered tablecloth.

Next Sunday, July 12, 10:30 a.m. Worship
Lifespan Faith Development and the Girl Who Was Born in China
Natalie Browne, Director of Religious Education

All of us are on a journey. Natalie Browne will share her journey from China through Brazil to First Church, and from Presbyterian missionary kid through marriage and loss to standing before you. She will use her story to point out some of the tasks of faith development that most of us encounter and to suggest some travel essentials for the journey.

Adult Discussion Group
Every Sunday at Noon, Room 304, July 5

What do you think about long-term personal relationships? Facilitators: Stan and Michelle

Special Parent Meetings in July

**The Search Committee Wants
to Meet with Parents**
Sunday, July 12, at Noon, Room 207

Members of the Search Committee will interview parents about what they are hoping for in the next settled minister at our church. This is your opportunity to have your voice heard for yourself and for your children. Please make every effort to attend. The nursery will be open and an extra worker will be available to supervise children with games in the Fireside Room.

**Family Ministry Team Vision
Including Music**

Sunday, July 19, at Noon, Room 207

We'll present the new Family Ministry Team vision and plans. A part of the vision is to better integrate children into the music program of the church. Thus, our new Music Director, Jason Oby, will present first followed by Lifespan Religious Education Director, Natalie Browne, and members of the Religious Education Committee. We strongly encourage your attendance and input. Nursery care will be provided along with activities for children.



**SUNDAY MORNING PASTRY, SNACKS, AND
FRUIT SALES RETURN ON JULY 5**

The coffee will be free and the delicious pastries, fruit bowls, and snacks will cost only \$1.00. Join with friends and guests to enjoy fresh snacks, coffee and good conversation.

Exploring Spirituality
4 Sundays, 9:15 - 10:15 am, July 12 - Aug. 2, Room 304
Facilitator: Pam Perry

All are invited to attend any or all of the four programs exploring our differing perspectives about spirituality.

July 12: What is spirituality?
July 19: What is spiritual growth?
July 26: What is the "spirit of life?"
Aug. 5: What are spiritual experiences?

The hour will start with a reading, followed by interactive discussion, ending with a couple of guided mindfulness or meditation practices.

Rev. Keyes reminds us to partake of the sweet little ritual of collecting a bit of water on our summer travels. We will gather our waters and this faith community on **Sunday, August 30**. Meanwhile, when you are able, do enjoy the excellent summer worship and lifespan learning opportunities planned by Rev. Adam and Religious Education Director Natalie Browne.



For more information about these or any of First Church's ministries visit www.firstuu.org, call the office at 713-526-5200 or stop by the information table on Sunday morning in Channing Hall. **You are encouraged to sign up to receive the monthly First Church News and the weekly Blast electronically by sending your request to office@firstuu.org.**