



April 2006

The Leaf

The Newsletter of the First Universalist Church
of New Madison, Ohio, a Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Sunday Services 10 AM

Apr. 2: Carrie Nichols

**Apr. 9: Donne Hayden &
Richard Venus**

Apr. 16: Richard Venus

Apr. 23: Mike Short

Apr. 30: Leslie Woodward

Youth RE & Childcare
start at 10 AM

Upcoming Events

Church Clean-up

April 1, 10 AM

FISH Offering Sundays

April 2 & May 7

First Thursday Theological Society

April 6, 7 PM

May 4, 7 PM

Advance reading is available at
the church

Union Service with Eldorado

April 9

Pitch-in brunch following ser-
vice

Board of Directors Meetings

Everyone is welcome!

April 25, 7 PM

May 23, 7 PM

Dear Church Members and Friends,

Happy Springtime! What a year this has been for our church community. Just one year ago, we were seeking a new minister. Look at the changes we have undergone since then.

Just look at the high points of the year: the Reverend Richard Venus' installation, the Harvest Sounds Concert, creation of both adult and children's religious education programs, and participation in the UUSC "Guest at Your Table" program. We held a planning conference and created an action plan, resulting in a new church mission statement, with emphasis on public relations and social justice activities. The Public Relations Committee is creating a package of materials and programs to promote understanding of our church among the wider community and with visitors. I think you'll agree that this represents significant progress in just one year.

In addition to the above, critical church activities continue to require attention. We seek additional means of outreach and growth, including social justice activities. We have been good caretakers of our fine, old church building and yet it requires ongoing attention. Bills need to be paid. Therefore, I invite you to give generously to our annual Spring special collection. Inside this newsletter you will find an envelope for making a donation. Please bring the envelope to church and place it in the regular offering or place the donation envelope in a mailing envelope addressed to First Universalist Church, P. O. Box 315, New Madison, OH, 45346-0315.

Thanks for all that you do already. Many of you contribute time, hard work, and leadership throughout the year. You are the lifeblood of First Universalist Church. We make only two special appeals each year, one at Christmas and another in the spring. Your generous response to these appeals is an important part of our budget and planning, and your support is greatly appreciated.

With warm regards,
Christel Brooks, Board President



APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

- 1 Shea Huntington
- 5 Mike Buccicone
- 10 Rich Fritsche
- 17 Jon Ketring
- 22 Gretchen Price
- 28 Mary Evelyn Geeting



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES:

- 12 Chuck & Martha Andrews

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Upcoming Sinclair Community College Concerts

The Sinclair Community College Wind Symphony and Concert Band perform the most contemporary literature as well as standards from the repertoire for Wind Band. The Symphony and Band are made up of volunteer musicians (amateurs and some professionals) from the Dayton area. Admission is free to all concerts.

Thursday, April 13th 7:30 p.m.

Sinclair Fine & Performing Arts Division "Arts Showcase"
Lebanon Junior High School (160 Miller Road)

Featuring the Community Wind Symphony, Chamber Choir,
Dance Ensemble, and Theater scenes.

Sunday, April 23rd 2:00 p.m.

Wind Symphony, Concert Band, and Youth Wind Ensemble Concert

Sinclair Building 2, Blair Hall Theatre, on Sinclair's campus
(Park on street or in Visitors Lot across from Building 2 on
Fourth Street)

Margaret Schryver will be performing in this concert.

First Universalist Church
P.O. Box 315
331 E. Washington
New Madison, OH 45346-0315