

TERRY SWEETSER ...

is a fifth generation Universalist, and has been a parish minister for 30 years. He graduated from Oberlin College and has a B.D. from Harvard Divinity School. His career includes establishing the first pastoral services program in a 500 bed teaching hospital. In each of the churches he has served, the congregations have grown and financial support has increased dramatically. He indicates almost all UU congregations have at some time participated in his fund raising workshops. Rev. Sweetser is currently Senior Adviser to UUA President Bill Sinkford, planning for the financial development of the denomination. He is married to the Reverend M. Susan Milnor, senior minister of the Lancaster, PA Unitarian Universalist Church. They have a twelve year old daughter, Abigail.

JOHN TOLLEY ...

currently serves on the faculty of Meadville Lombard Theological School. He received his B.A. from the University of Indianapolis, his Master of Ministry from the Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis and his Ph.D. from New York University. He has served a variety of churches in differing capacities, with responsibilities for religious education, fund raising (he is certified by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives), and minister of religious arts. His skills and experience in the arts, particularly theater, are extensive.

DAVID WEISSBARD ...

is senior minister of the Rockford, IL, Unitarian Universalist Church. Born and raised a Unitarian, he received a Master of Divinity and Certification in Religious Education from St. Lawrence University. He was called as minister of the First Parish in Bedford, MA in 1965, where he actively opposed the Vietnam War and was a member of the Massachusetts Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty. In Rockford since 1974, he has been the producer of FUSION, a weekly half-hour television program, for 22 years. He is president of the Northern Illinois Chapter of the ACLU, and has been active within the UUA, nationally and in the Central Midwest District. The mayor of Rockford proclaimed May 21, 2000 as "Dave Weissbard Day." Since 1990, he has been married to Karen Wells.

MONTHLY PRESENCE

RUPPERT LOVELY ...

recently completed 35 years of service to the Countryside Unitarian Universalist Church in Palatine, IL. He then immediately left for a two year interim ministry at The First Unitarian Church of St. Louis. When that contract ends in June, 2003, he plans to retire in Milwaukee. The son and younger brother of Unitarian ministers, he began his career with the Sherwin Williams Company, much of his six years spent in branch management. Deciding to follow the family pattern, he attended Meadville Lombard Theological School from 1963-66, and began his long and successful career with the Palatine church. He currently serves on the executive committee of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association of the U.S.



The Rev. Ruppert Lovely

MARK WARD ...

is a third year student at Meadville Lombard. For 25 years his career in journalism has included editorial and science writing for the Milwaukee Journal and the Journal Sentinel. Mark has been president of the board and chair of the long range planning committee at Unitarian Universalist Church West in Brookfield. This year he has been a ministerial intern at First Unitarian Society in Madison. A graduate of Earlham College in Richmond, IN, he received his M.A. in philosophy at Bryn Mawr College and his M.S. in journalism at Columbia. He and his wife Debbie live in Wauwatosa and have three children.



Mark Ward

**LEADERS IN
LIBERAL
RELIGIOUS
THOUGHT**

A SPECIAL SERIES

February 28-29	Forrest Church
March 13-14	Terry Sweetser
April 17-18	Scott Alexander
May 22-23	Rosemary Bray McNatt

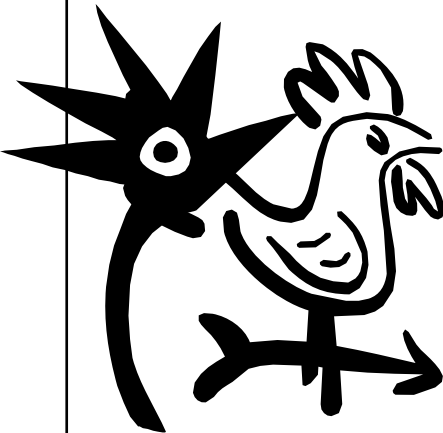
THE SABBATICAL COMMITTEE:

Joy B., Chair,
John C., Jean J.,
Drew Kennedy, Pat M.,
Kate M., Anne N.,
Jeff P., Miriam R.,
Melinda V.

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee

**First Unitarian Society of
Milwaukee**

**Sabbatical
Sundays**



January—May, 2004

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Milwaukee, WI 53202
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Fax: 414 273-5254
Visit us on the World Wide Web at
uumilwaukee.org

**A Unitarian Universalist
Congregation**

SABBATICAL SUNDAYS—A TIME FOR SOARING!

When a highly respected minister such as Drew is away from his pulpit for a period of some months (January through May, 2004), the church and congregation have both a challenge and an opportunity. The challenge is to provide stability. The opportunity is to expand horizons, introduce new thoughts, keep our spirits soaring.

This requires a multiple approach, which is reflected in the schedule and brief description of those preaching in Drew's absence. In combination with Ruppert Lovely and Mark Ward, who will provide the stability of a regular presence, the guest ministers represent a dynamic diversity of Unitarian Universalist thought. You will see this as you read through the material below.

Your attention is particularly called to a special series: **"Leaders in Liberal Religious Thought."** Participants are nationally prominent, with a presence extending far beyond the Unitarian Universalist pulpit. Each will speak or lead a workshop in addition to preaching one Sunday's services. These programs will be open to the larger Milwaukee community, and are an outstanding opportunity for us to hear and interact with those whose minds and ideas challenge not only Unitarian Universalists, but other theologians across the country. It should be a stunning series.

In fact, next year will be one to remember in the annals of the church!

SCOTT W. ALEXANDER ...

has been the senior minister of the River Road Unitarian Church in Bethesda, MD since 1998. Born into a Unitarian family, he was raised in Racine, graduated from Lawrence University, and received a Master of Divinity from Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA. After serving two churches in the Eastern U.S., in 1988 he joined the staff of the Church of the Larger Fellowship, a "church without walls" for almost 3,000 isolated Unitarian Universalists around the world. In 1989 he was also appointed director of the UUA's Office of Lesbian and Gay Concerns. A sought after speaker, preacher, and workshop leader, he has also been an Adjunct Professor of Homiletics at Andover Newton Theological School. An avid cyclist, he commutes to church on his bicycle. He lives in Washington, D.C. with his partner, H. Collins Mikesell.



The Rev. Scott Alexander

ROGER BERTSCHAUSEN ...

has been the minister of the Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Appleton since 1990. During this time, the membership has quadrupled and the fellowship has moved into a new building. Currently he chairs Toward Community: Unity in Diversity, a regional organization he helped found ten years ago. He also serves as one of two ministerial settlement representatives for the UUA's Central Midwest District. Roger is married to the Rev. Amy Bertschausen, a minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) who serves as chaplain in a nursing home. They have two children.



The Rev. Roger Bertschausen

FORREST CHURCH ...

is currently serving his 25th year as senior minister of All Souls Unitarian Church in Manhattan, and is one of the key voices for liberal religious thought in the country. He was educated at Stanford University, Harvard Divinity School, and Harvard University, where he received his Ph.D. in Early Church History. He is the author or editor of 20 books, including *Restoring Faith: America's Religious Leaders Answer Terror with Hope*. His 1988 interview with Bill Moyers is included in *A World of Ideas*, and many of his addresses and sermons have been included in noted anthologies.



The Rev. Dr. Forrest Church

In 1995 Mayor Giuliani appointed him Chairman of the Council on the Environment of New York City, where he directs, among other programs, 32 green markets. This summer he will be one of the chaplains at Chautauqua Institution, where the leading ministers of the country have preached for over 125 years. He and his wife, Carolyn Buck Luce, live in New York City, and have four children.

NINA GREY ...

is the senior minister of First Unitarian Church in Chicago, and is actively involved in its Social Justice Council, supporting criminal justice work and anti-racism. She received her Master of Divinity from the Andover Newton Theological Seminary in Newton, MA, in 1982, and served at churches in New Hampshire and Philadelphia from 1991-1999. Through the years she has played an active role in emergency housing and interfaith work. The Philadelphia church became a Welcoming Congregation during her tenure.

ROSEMARY BRAY MCNATT ...

is a 1976 graduate of Yale University, and recently earned her Master of Divinity from Drew Theological Seminary in Madison, NJ. In 2001 she became the settled minister of the Fourth Universalist Society in New York City. A former editor of *The New York Times Book Review*, she is currently book editor of the *UU World*. She has authored a memoir, *Unafraid of the Dark*, and is the author of the new UUA pamphlet "The Faith of a Theist: There Must Be a God Somewhere." The Rev. Ms. McNatt is currently completing her term as chair of the Board of Trustees at Starr King School for the Ministry. She is also co-chair of the Jessie Smith Noyes Foundation, which provides grants in the areas of environmental and reproductive rights issues. She lives in Manhattan with her husband and two sons.

VICTORIA SAFFORD ...

is minister of White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church near St. Paul, MN. A native of New York State, she went to Minnesota in 1999, following a ten year ministry at Northampton, MA, and five years of work with the American Friends Service Committee as a community organizer and activist. She is the winner of numerous sermon awards, and a collection of her meditations will be published this year by Skinner House. A graduate of Vassar College and Yale Divinity School, she lives in Mahtomedi, MN with her husband Ross and their nine year-old daughter, Hope.



The Rev. Victoria Safford