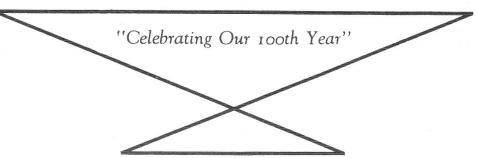
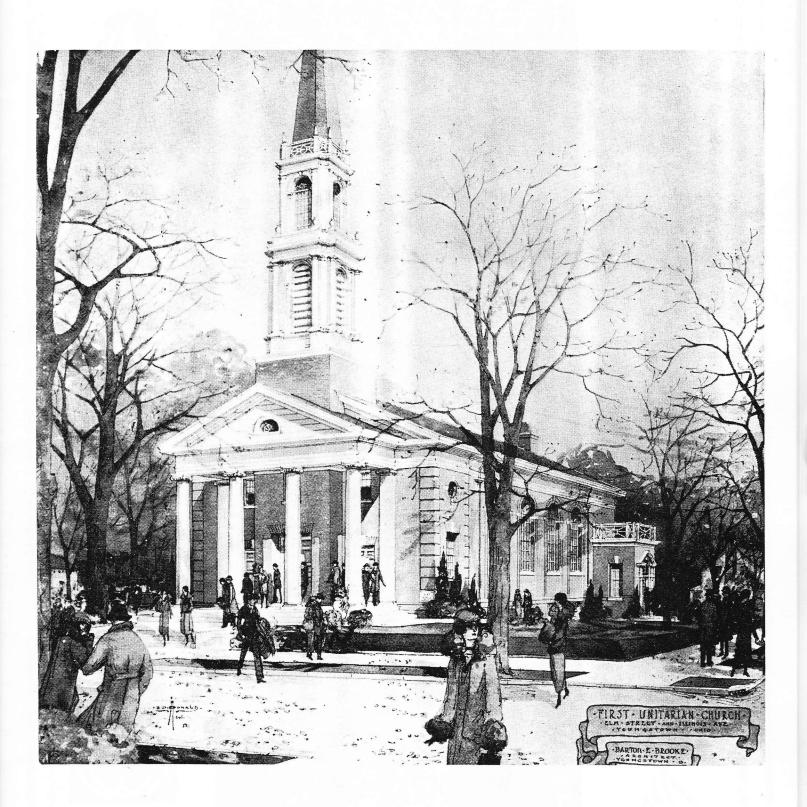
THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN





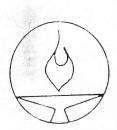
1892~1992

Member Unitarian Universalist Association















These Articles of Incorporation

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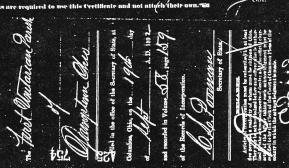
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First Unitarian Church of Youngstown

ELM STREET AND ILLINOIS AVENUE
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44505 • (216) 746-3067
David Leonard, Minister
Karen Lapidus, Director of Religious Education

"Celebrating Our 100th Year"

Dear friends and members of the First Unitarian Church:

Although I myself have been involved for only about one half of one per-cent of the history we celebrate here, that is sufficient time for me to conclude that it is a story well worth remembering and celebrating. Much of the work of those who preceded us in the life of this congregation is with us yet, and stands as testimonial to the power of the dedication and commitment of a people who suppose they can accomplish what they dream — the building, the addition of the Religious Education wing, programs and ministries initiated by others years ago, the very existence of a liberal religious congregation in Youngstown.

Some of this we know quite well. Especially do we have memories and stories of a few individuals (ministers and congregational leaders) which have been passed on to us and are recorded elsewhere. But by far most of the dedication and commitment which has made our continued presence in this community possible, remains nameless and unknown. We do not know of all who served on committees, who maintained and repaired the facilities, who taught religious education classes, who supported the congregation financially, who spoke a welcoming word to visitors and strangers, or who witnessed by their lives with others the message of our religious way. And yet in the long run it is people like these who have built our church. Let us honor them and be inspired by their quiet examples, and thus will future generations of Unitarian Universalists in the Youngstown area have cause to thank even ordinary people like us.

It is indeed an honor and a joy to be with you here and now as we begin to write the history of our next one hundred years!

David Leonard Minister





BOARD PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

KUDOS to this congregation for keeping liberal religion "alive" in their valley for 100 years! We will see how "well" it is as the next century progresses.

Having only been attending here for about 5 years, I cannot claim much knowledge of, or connection with this church's past. But I must thank the current members and friends for the support and encouragement they have been to me in my role as "fill in" minister, and during my service on the Board of Trustees.

Just a word now about two NEW things we will experience together this Centennial Year. First, we are looking forward to the new hymnals by the end of the year. If you want to donate one or more as a memorial gift or whatever, please let the office know or David Leonard. Secondly, we have a new Flaming Chalice for the front table.

What does the "Flaming Chalice" mean? An ancient symbol like a vessel with a flame has no traceable beginning. But *our* Flaming Chalice has its origins in 1941. It was designed in Lisbon, Portugal, by one Hans Deutsch, a refugee from Nazi Germany, as the symbol for the fledgling Unitarian Service Committee. He designed it as a sign to other refugees that there were people in a world-gone-mad who still believed in equality and freedom, and who lived lives of courageous service. Below is a copy of that original symbol.

Have a great Centennial!

ED KNIGHT President, Board of Trustees

CENTENNIAL NOTES FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Music has long held an important place at First Unitarian Church of Youngstown. This was apparent to me even before my tenure as music director when I served as a substitute musician on several occasions. What most impressed me, and what encouraged me to accept this position was the willingness of the congregation to embrace a marvelous diversity of musical styles as suitable for its worship service. Music represents one of the highest achievements of humankind: What better way to celebrate our own innate creativity and spirituality than to exalt in beautifully crafted works of art!

I feel that my situation here has been mutually beneficial to me and the congregation. Not only does the music I provide (hopefully) enhance the mood or theme of the service, but I have expanded my own repertoire in my continual search for appropriate music each week, often exposing the congregation to music perhaps new to them. I even find that familiar music that I've played for years acquires new meaning for me placed in a philosophical and reflective content. I have experienced innumerable moments when the words of a reading or sermon resonated through the melodies and cadence that followed, literally giving me goose bumps, and inspiring me to heightened levels of performance.

No less gratifying has been the opportunity to join in fellowship with members of the congregation, sharing ideas not only about music, but all aspects of life. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the church and its membership as you embark on your second century.

Dr. Nanette Kaplan Solomon Music Director



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION "Stirring Up Children's Minds"

Teaching children to think for themselves is much more challenging and satisfying than teaching children to think like us. Throughout our history as a congregation, we have been guided by the advice of William Ellery Channing who said, "The great end in religious instruction is not to stamp our minds upon the young, but to stir up their own." Providing children and youth with the information and opportunities to make personal, responsible choices regarding their beliefs and their actions remains the primary goal of our religious education program.

Historically, our church has been responsive and supportive of religious education. The home on the corner of Elm Street and Illinois Avenue was purchased and used for religious education until it overflowed with children. In the 1960's, the church made a major financial commitment to the children with the building of the R.E. Wing.

Over the years, countless women and men have served as church school teachers and leaders. Many of the long time members of our church today taught in the R.E. Program when their children were young. Many of those children have returned to teach the next generation of Unitarian Universalist children.

Because this congregation values the importance of religious education and recognizes the need for strong leadership, the position of R.E. Coordinator or Director of Religious Education has been paid rather than volunteer. In recent years, Carol Schultz, Judy Stone, Mary Ellen Shutes and currently Karen Lapidus have held this position.

The strength of our current program is built on the foundation of those who worked before us. The R.E. Committees have consistantly followed the lead of the American Unitarian Association by choosing curricula from the Beacon Series, The UUA's Multi-Media Kits, and currently the new programs being developed under the auspices of the denomination's Future's Committee.

Each church year brings new areas of growth. In the future, I hope we will enhance all that is positive in our program—the strong sense of community, the content of our curricula, the intergenerational activities, the aspects of worship and wonder, the supportive programs ("About Your Sexuality" and parenting groups) and the Confirmation Program—and continue to see new ways to "stir up" our children's minds and lead them to think for themselves.

Karen Lapidus Director of Religious Education September 1992



· IN · PRAISE · OF · THE · ARTS ·



Since its beginning in the mid 1970's "In Praise of the Arts" has become a firmly established tradition in our church. It is a multifaceted celebration of creativity in its many forms. It provides a showcase for the visual arts with a locally respected, juried show and for the performing arts with presentations of music, dance, drama and readings.

"In Praise of the Arts" enhances our church community in a variety of ways - through our enjoyment of the performances and displays, through support of local artists, through outreach to the community and through fundraising for the church.

On the personal level, when much of our individual and collective energy seems directed toward problem solving, "In Praise of the Arts" gives a valued opportunity for CELEBRATION.

Congratulations

from

MELISSA SMITH

In Appreciation
of
PAST MINISTERS
and
MEMBERS
of

First Unitarian Church of Youngstown



Mahoning Valley Association of Churches

=Serving Youngslown and Vicinity ==

631 WICK AVENUE YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44502-1298 Telephone: (216) 744-8946

The Mahoning Valley of Churches congratulates First Unitarian Church upon this one hundredth anniversary of ministry in Youngstown. Over the years it hasbeen our good fortune to work with several of you, both lay members and pastors, on community projects. We are pleased that your congregation has reached this historic point and celebrate with you! You have our best wishes for a bright future serving with us and other people of faith in the valley. God Bless you.

Elsie L Dursi Exective Director, Mahoning Valley Association of Churches August 18, 1992

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

It is easier to speak of the individual women of the First Unitarian Church than it is to speak of the collective group known as the Women's Alliance. Each woman brings to the group her own distinct values and aims. Together these women build a sense of community within the church, supplementing and supporting all facets of church life.

The Women's Alliance promotes fellowship by encouraging participation in the Annual Spaghetti Sauce Contest (a man has won two (2) years in a row) and the winter Chili Bowl Cook-off. The Alliance also sponsors the All-Church Thanksgiving Dinner. As in any home, the women cast critical eyes upon the "house". Pew cushion are replaced, carpeting installed, curtains hung, funds raised to accomplish these and other improvements to the church home. The Alliance listens to the members and friends of the church family, ready, at a phone call, to render whatever help that is within its power.

The women of the Alliance do not function as a single unit. Each woman decides that her contribution will be, then sets out to implement it. Unitarian-Universalist women working in harmony is the nature of the Women's Alliance.

Mary Jane Evans, Vice President September 1992



HISTORICAL SKETCH

Even <u>having</u> a hundred year history to tell about would not be possible if it weren't for the <u>laity</u> who truly are the Church. Even if we chose to tell about only the active people in this Church, there would be too many to even begin to identify. And this is as it should be.

CHURCH BEGINNINGS: THE LARGER CONTEXT ---

Let's begin with a quiz. What do the following historical events have in common?

- The beginnings of Youngstown Sheet and Tube;
- English Unitarians;
- The conflict between theistic Christian Unitarians and ethical humanists;
- Who would control the missionary work of the Western Unitarian Conference: the West, or Boston?

An answer is that these events provided the matrix out of which, on September 16, 1892, the First Unitarian Parish of Youngstown was officially born.

Among the pioneers of the early steel industry, the founders of Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company brought over some English engineers and others to organize the mills. Specifically, among these immigrants were some Unitarians. This is part of the cast for the story of our Church's beginnings.

Add the influence of Joseph Priestly and English Unitarianism in western Pennsylvania, of which one result was the 1844 founding of Meadville Theological Seminary. These, along with other influences, contributed to Youngstown playing an important role in what was then known as the Western Conference—the fastest growing section of the American Unitarian Association. (Our denomination was the AUA before the merger with the Universalists in 1961.)

One issue in the 1870's and 1880's was determining who should control the missionary work in the West: the Western Conference or the Boston headquarters of the AUA? As if this weren't enough, there were sharp divisions, even in the West, between the descendants of William Ellery Channing's Christian Unitarianism and the followers of Emerson and Parker, or what would be known later as ethical humanism.

Where the early Unitarian Society of Youngstown stood on the theological issue can be seen in the Bond of Union for 1892:

"In the love of truth and the spirit of Jesus Christ we unite for the worship of God and the Service of Man."

By 1904, the word "Christ" was no longer used, although in 1917 we again find the phrase: "In the spirit of Jesus Christ".

Close ties existed with the Meadville Theological Seminary from the founding of the Youngstown Church in 1892, until the seminary moved to Chicago in 1926. It should surprise no one that the theological, political, and ego issues involving leaders in Meadville, the Western Conference, and the AUA were mirrored here at the local church.

Though we cannot here go further into the larger history of the denomination, the 1970's were rough times, not only for this Church, but the denomination as well, even after the increase from the merger of the Unitarians with the Universalists in 1961. One crucial factor in this slump was the interplay of money and the black power issue that divided the 1968 UUA General Assembly in Cleveland.



CHURCH BEGINNINGS:

LOCAL STRUGGLES ---

Turning directly to developments here in Youngstown, it is clear that owing money has been a significant part of our history. Ever since our founding, we have had to seek subsidies, not only from the AUA and the old Western Conference, but later the UUA. As far as anyone knows, at no time have we been out of debt to Boston. This has demanded, as a consequence, the almost continual attention of all our Boards of Trustees throughout this century.

We were barely one year old when the depression of 1893 hit the country. The Youngstown Society, like a number of new congregations, could not afford to stay open. After calling Oliver J. Fairfield as our first minister in 1892, and a year later, a Mr. Walsh, we abandoned services in January of 1894. Not all ties among local Unitarians were severed, however, and for the next decade some of "the faithful" continued to meet informally in each other's homes.

Those dedicated, sturdy Youngstown Unitarians finally found the wherewithal by August 28, 1904 to re-organize, this time as the First Unitarian Church of Youngstown. With the inspiration and help of the Reverend Leon Harvey of the Erie Church, the Youngstown group began meeting at a place known as the "Bissell Block" on West Federal Street. There the church remained until October, 1906, when they moved meetings to Rodef Sholem Temple on Lincoln Avenue.

In April of 1909 the AUA provided a portable church that was set up at Elm and Bissell Streets. Finally, in 1925 the present church was built at Elm and Illinois. The AUA then moved the portable church to another site. One rumor is that it is still in use by another church somewhere in the Youngstown area.

MINISTRY —

In the century from 1892 and the Reverend Oliver Fairfield to our present minister, the Reverend David Leonard, who was called in 1992, we have had a total of 24 ministers. The shortest tenure was that of the Reverend Walsh, called in 1893, who barely served before the Church ceased to meet by the end of that year.

Between 1914 and 1933, ministerial stability was the rule. Only three ministers served, two having long tenures. The short term was by the Reverend William V. Peck. He was called in February of 1923 on the condition that a new church be built. The church was built in 1925. Yet curiously, on May 4, 1926, a special meeting of the congregation voted to discharge him.

The longest tenure was that of the Reverend Dubois LeFevre who served a total of eleven years starting in 1927. LeFevre first served until 1933 and then resigned. He was called back in 1941 to help the Church heal after the pain resulting from the experience of the forced resignation of two ministers. LeFevre then remained here until 1946.

It was during those troubled years between 1933 and 1941 with its ministerial and money problems that we seriously explored the option of merging with the Plymouth Congregational Church on Wick Avenue.

The Reverend Paul Carnes, who ministered here from 1948 to 1953, once observed that "It is amazing how many men have left the ministry after serving in Youngstown." He had an interesting hypothesis about our problems with ministers: Carnes took note of the Unitarian tradition of optimism and faith in reason, along with a lack of any sense of sin or evil. Without such a sense, the only recourse is to blame someone. Thus, when a church fails to grow as fast as members



desire, for example, people get impatient. Blame soon follows. If things do not go as expected, it must be somebody's fault. And who else is there, but the minister who we tend to put on a pedestal and then get angry with when he turns out to be a mere mortal.

Interestingly, when Carnes left Youngstown he went on to become President of the American Other ministers. Unitarian Association. (Schulman, Westwood), also gained wider after leaving Youngstown. prominence Horace Westwood, who served from 1909-1912, went on to become influential in the development of Canadian Unitarianism. Four other of our former ministers published distribution meditational writings for throughout the denomination.

GROWING PAINS ---

Over the century of this Church's existence there have been periods of struggle when people simply had to hang on. Rarely, however, was there even a hint of despair. There have also been times of growth, energy, and optimism. One such growth period was during the second decade of this century. Accurate Church membership figures are like quicksilver and just as hard to capture. Approximate figures, though, show an increase from around 70 members in 1910 to a bit over 100 members by 1920.

There is reason to suspect much of the growth came from people with young children. Before 1910, church records are silent on the subject of Sunday School. In April of 1913, the Ladies Alliance voted to establish a school for working girls in the neighborhood. A group of young people in the Church decided to organize an Emerson Club. A year later, records show first indications of a need for a permanent building.

In the fall of 1914, the Reverend F. M. Bennett was called at a salary of \$400 a year. He was definitely one of our activist ministers. In his first year he not only requested new hymnals but wanted Sunday evening services, as well

as having the annual meeting shifted from December to April.

Sunday School was one of his special interests. This he indicated right from the beginning. In August of 1915, the records show Bennett announcing that he was "... going to take charge of the Sunday School again personally."

Amidst such growing pains, the Church in 1915 asked the American Unitarian Association for \$600 to help with budget problems. In late 1915, the Secretary of the AUA, the Rev. E. A. Rumball, visited the Church to offer guidance on money problems. The Church was urged to go for the novel idea of direct pledges rather than subscriptions, fairs, and the like. He also admonished the Church to pay its debt to the AUA.

Besides devoting energy to religious education, some was spent on exploring possibilities for a permanent building. In 1916, the Church considered buying the Brown Memorial property: Plans were even drawn up for a subscription drive to raise money for a new building.

A PERMANENT BUILDING

AT LAST ---

During the 1920's much energy went into raising money, especially for the project of erecting a permanent church building. Finally, the cornerstone for the present structure was laid on Monday, April 27, 1925. The architect was Barton E. Brooke, a member of this Church. He modelled the building after the Second Unitarian Church of Boston, which was built in the style of the famous English architect, Christopher Wren.

One issue in the building of the church was whether a steeple could be built. After all, so it was argued, no one had built one in fifty years, so steeple building must be a dead art. And would one stay on that windy hill? Though seemingly impossible, the job was done anyway.



EXPANSION, CRISIS,

AND RENEWAL ---

Another vital and growing period for the Church was the 1960's. Church attendance was up. The Sunday School, bulging at the seams, was meeting in the old Schweitzer House across the street on Illinois. The house was purchased in 1958. And not only was it costly to maintain, but was quickly outgrown.

By 1969, Sunday School enrollment was at an all time high of 121 with an average attendance of 64. So, during that year an addition was built onto the church, designed to blend as part of the historic building by another architect and Church member, Howard Schafer.

The years between 1967 and 1977 were trying times. Twice during that decade, Dr. Martin Greenman, head of the Philosophy and Religion Department at Youngstown State University and also a U.U. minister who could marry, bury and conduct other pastoral services, served part-time to help us out during times when we were between ministers. Greenman provided an especially needed healing touch after the troubled ministry and the tragic deaths in 1973 of the Rev. Straughan Gettier and his wife. Despite some anxious years of emotional pain, a small but committed band of members hung on.

Then came September, 1977. On that famous "Black Monday", Youngstown Sheet and Tube closed without warning. But during that same month, almost to the day, the Reverend Edward Searl was called to begin his ministry here. His five year ministry provided leadership for a period of further healing as well as renewal and growth. Given a legacy of division which grew in this Church out of the Gettier ministry, one of Searl's gifts was in being able to sit down with, and really listen to, the various Church factions.

Another sign of renewal was in the Sunday School program. After the great attendance slump of the 1970's the Sunday School once again began to grow. By the mid-1980's attendance had almost doubled. Today, religious education shows more vigor in program and in numbers than at any time since the expanding years of the 1960's when the new wing had been added. There is no doubt that religious education has been a significant measure of growth in this Church.

Between the time Searl left in early 1983, and ten months later when the Reverend Steven Beall came, our congregation was once again tested by the lack of a religious professional in the pulpit Sunday after Sunday. However, the positive energy of the preceding years was sustained, thanks to much hard work by the lay leadership and strong support from the congregation at large. The Rev. Steven Beall's ministry was a challenging one for us. He called on us to examine our commitment to the work of this Church as well as our relation with ministry. He was also a decidedly visible presence in the larger community, being especially active in work on the North Side of Youngstown. During Beall's ministry a number of young couples began attending services and were also getting involved in the various activities of this Church. It was during his tenure that the current Women's Alliance group activated.

When Beall left we faced another period without a full time ministry, but for the first time, we decided to call an interim minister, the Reverend Clarke Dewey Wells. His poetry and his pulpit presence helped sustain us during that 1990-91 church year. While it was not a year without tensions, we learned much about ourselves.

The Search Committee worked long and hard that year, but was unable to secure a candidate until well after our church year began in September, 1991. So rather than have another year of interim ministry, a dedicated leadership team served us most ably, led by Ed Knight.



ordained minister of a Protestant denomination, and Vice President of our Board of Trustees.

With the Reverend David Leonard having started his ministry to us in February, 1992, there is much reason to be optimistic. Many old timers are back. A number of new folks have joined, many with children who are enrolled in Church school.

Not surprisingly, ministers have played a central role in the history of this Church. Yet over the past decade we have begun to learn a valuable lesson: "Ministers do not a church make."

It may be true we are a church whose memory is too much with us. Let us acknowledge this past embrace it mourn it, and then let it go.

We are a congregation that has survived, not only times of growth and optimism, but also intervals of pain, despair, and loss. We have shown we are not only survivors, but committed, resilient, and hopeful. What a legacy with which to begin our second century here in Youngstown.

Joseph Kirschner

and other members of the Historical Committee,

Robert Amott Beth Foster Dianna R. Mason Richard Palmer Hurley J. Quackenbush Carol Schultz

AN EARLY BUDGET PROPOSAL

To get some sense of Church finances in those early years, herewith is a copy of the proposed budget that was made at a special congregational meeting on April 1, 1920:

(= 1992 dollars*) (\$73,000)

\$3,600 was proposed for the minister, \$ 500 was proposed for the choir.

The total budget was \$4,875.

(\$54,000) (\$ 7,500)

Pledges were expected to bring in around \$2,650. (\$40,000) So, a 50% increase in pledging was called for.

("Multiplying the 1920 dollars times 15 gives 1992 dollars for a rough budget comparison.)

CONGRATULATIONS

FROM

Alex & Millie Shashaty

· IN · PRAISE · OF · THE · ARTS ·



A CONTINUING CELEBRATION

Preview Party

Friday, October 16, 1992

Arts Services

Sunday, October 18 - 11:00 a.m. - BOB FITZER

Sunday, October 25 - 11:00 a.m. ED TRUITT & ANN CROSSLAND

Sunday, November 1 - 11:00 a.m.

DAVID LEONARD





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First Unitarian Church



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SEAMSTRESS ON DUTY

6534 Market Street Youngstown, Ohio - 758-0606 In honor of

ALL THE MINISTERS

who have served this church during the past 100 years.

Jan Schnall

IN MEMORY OF

Carl Neidus

and

Eva Gaylord

CONGRATULATIONS!

FROM

A

FRIEND

Sondra & Sanford Gaylord

To Celebrate our daughter:

LISA MALMER

"Defender of Civil rights." In Memory of

CATHERINE & LLOYD
WOLFORD

Jim Wolford

Ralph & Marcia Malmer



Historical Roster of Board Presidents

1892-93 Harry Parrock 1904 - 12 F. A. Douglas 1913 - Dr. W. M. Hayden 1914-19 William W. Wallis 1920-21 Dr. S. M. McCurdy 1922 Judge W. S. Metcalf 1923-26 Barton E. Brooke 1927-29 A. E. Walker 1930-35 W. L. Countryman 1936 - Mrs. A. E. Adams 1937-38 Charles Coburn 1939 Dr. John R. Buchanan 1940 Howard W. Lamkin 1941-42 R.O. Kale 1943 W. L. Countryman 1944-45 W. F. Burr 1946-48 Lester Peabody 1949 John R. Buchanan

1950 Richard E. Shook

1952-53 Robert Arnott

1954 Elton W. Luckhart

1951 L. L. Sheldon

1955 John Oliver

1956 Arnoldus Goudsmit 1957 Frank K. Inui 1958 Richard E. Shook 1959 William Loch 1960-62 Loren S. Bennett 1963-64 Ralph Skerratt, Jr. 1965-66 Philip Hahn 1967-68 Alex Shashaty 1969-70 William "Bud" Powell 1971-72 Howard Schafer 1973 Leon Rand 1974-75 Virginia Shorten 1976-77 Alex Shashaty 1978 Bill Whittington 1979-81 Gloria Jones 1981-82 John Uhrick 1982-83 Joe Kirschner 1983-84 Karen O' Malia 1984-85 Bill Whittington 1985-86 Sandra LaCivita 1986 Robert Arnott 1986-90 Ellen Satre 1990-92 Jan Schnall 1992- Ed Knight

1992-93 Board of Trustees

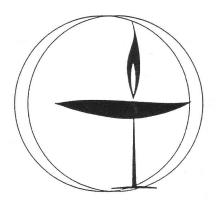
OFFICERS

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TRUSTEES

Dianna R. Mason Tom Booher Richard Palmer Ginger Whittington Jane Knuppel Helen Demblewski





The First Unitarian Church of Youngstown

Celebrating 100 Years 1892 - 1992

You are cordially invited to join the historical celebration of The One Hundredth Anniversary of the founding of First Unitarian Church of Youngstown, Ohio. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. in Channing Hall Saturday, September 19, 1992 Program immediately following.

Twenty-five dollars per person (Due to Channing Hall space limitations seating will be limited to the first one-hundred reservations.)

R.S.V.P. by September 10, 1992

DINNER

Sit Down Menu

Appetizer and Salad Fresh Fruit Cup Tossed Garden Salad

ENTREES

Choice of:

Glazed Rock Cornish Hen

Stuffed Flounder with Crab Meat & Lemon Glaze

Vegetarian Specialty

SIDE DISHES:

Parsley Buttered Potato

Francaise Mixed Vegetables w/almonds

Homemade Rolls, Butter

Hot and Cold Beverages

Dessert

Cherries in the Snow

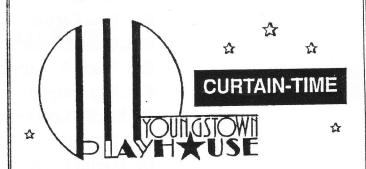
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COLONIAL CATERING
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Canfield, Ohio



(216) 744-4387



salutes the
First Unitarian Church
on their
Centennial



Featuring: "GYPSY" directed by Bob Kozar

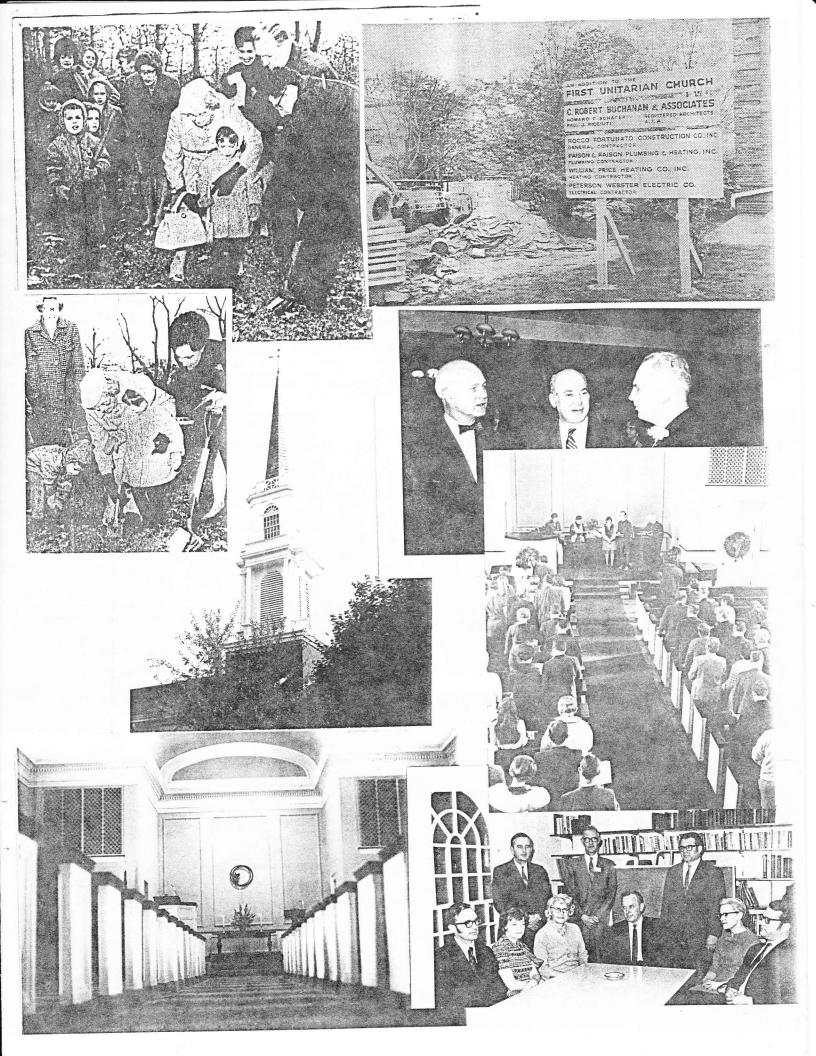
September 11 through October 4
Fri. & Sat.- 8:00 \$13.00
Sunday - 2:00 \$11.00
Students & Senior Citizens - \$9.00

Historical Roster of Ministers

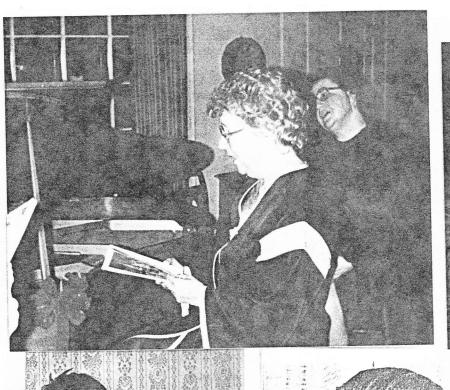
1892 Mr. Sprague (divided time between Youngstown and New Castle Oliver J. Fairfield late in 1892 (was ordained and installed as the first local minister) 1904 Rev. Leo Harvey Rev. Wayland Beers 1907 Rev. Horace Westwood 1909 1912 Rev. Burch 1914 Rev. F.M. Bennett Rev. Wm. W. Peck 1923 1927 Rev. Dubois LeFevre 1933 Rev. Eric Grimwade Rev. Ward Jenks 1936 1941 Rev. Duboise LeFevre No Minister 1946- Oct. 48 Rev. Paul Carnes 1948 Rev. Robert Schade 1954 1957 Rev. Frank Schulman Rev. Ray Baughn 1962 1967 (part-time) Dr. Martin Greenman Rev. Straughan Gettier 1969 1973 (part-time) Dr. Martin Greenman 1977 Rev. Edward Searl Rev. Steven Beall 1983 1990 (first Interim Minister) Dr. Clarke Wells Ed Knight 1991 (served 5 mo. part-time)

1992

Rev. David Leonard





















To Celebrate

my daughter

EVE's successes

in Theater.

Lorrayne Y. Baird-Lange





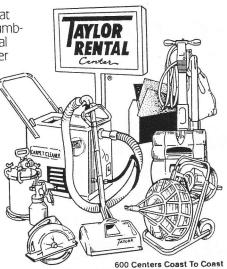
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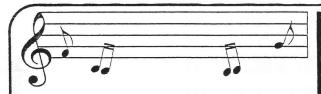
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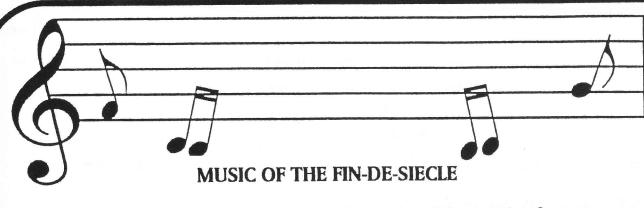
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CENTENNIAL PROGRAM

Saturday, September 19, 1992 8:00PM First Unitarian Church Youngstown, Ohio

GATHERING IN:	Grand Chorus in D
PROCESSIONAL:	Prelude and Fugue on "Old Hundredth" Hymns for the Celebration of Life #13) Stirling
	DRESS and BOARD PRESENTATION OF CHALICE Jan Schnall and Board of Trustees
OPENING WORDS Dianna R.	
MINISTERIAL REM David Leon	MARKS AND GREETINGS
DISTRICT AND UU Carol Broo	
	S PRESENTATIONS othy Arnott, Mike Rigo, and Homer Shook
	IDUAL CENTENNIAL SENTIMENTS of the congregation
SPECIAL MUSIC:	Vision, Op. 156, No. 5
PLACQUE DEDICA YOUTH G	
	ND COMMITTEE COMMENTARY Education In Praise of the Arts Rummage Sale Chew Buildings and grounds/Renovations Any and all others
BANNER PROCES	SIONAL: Festival March, Op. 29. No.1Foote
CONCLUDING W	ORDS
CLOSING MUSIC	Toccata, from Organ Symphony V



Music for the Centennial Program has been selected from works of composers living in 1892, the year of the Church's founding.

Alexandre GUILMANT (1837-1911) was arguably the greatest organist of his generation, both in his post at Ste. Trinite, Paris, and as one of the earliest touring concert organists. He first played in the United Stated in 1893, at the Chicago Columbian Exposition (world's fair), where he performed his "Grand Chorus in D" (composed in 1876), in addition to dozens of other works by many composers.

Elizabeth STIRLING (1819-1895) fulfilled the requirements for a Bachelor of Music degree at Oxford, but the university withheld the diploma because of her gender. She served as organist to two London churches: All Saints, Poplar (1839-1858), and St. Andrew's Undershaft (1858-1880). At age 44 she married Frederick Albert Bridge (then 22!), who eventually became choirmaster of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, nowadays renowned for its Academy (orchestra).

Joseph RHEINBERGER (1839-1901) made his reputation as professor of organ, piano and composition at the Munich Conservatory, where he taught (among others) the American composers George Whitefield Chadwick (1854-1931) and Horatio Parker (1863-1919). Rheinberger set out to compose an organ sonata in each of the 24 major and minor keys, but had four left to go when he died. His "Vision" is one of a set of twelve <u>Character Pieces</u> composed in 1890.

Arthur FOOTE (1853-1937), was a member of the so-called "Boston group" of composers, which included Chadwick and Parker, as well as Amy Beach (1867-1944) and Arthur Whiting (1861-1936). Foote was organist of Boston's First Unitarian Church from 1878 to 1910. He was a founder of the American Guild of Organists (1896). His brother, Henry Wilder Foote (1838-1889), and his nephew, Henry Wilder Foote II (1875-1964), were both ministers of King's Chapel (Unitarian), Boston; Henry II's son and Arthur's namesake, Arthur Foote II (b. 1911), ministered to Unitarian churches in California and St. Paul, Minnesota, and served as chairman of the Commission that created Hymns for the Celebration of Life (Boston, 1964). Arthur Foote's "festival March" dates from 1893.

Charles-Marie WIDOR (1844-1937) succeeded Cesar Franck (1822-1890) as professor of organ at the Paris conservatory. When Widor became professor of composition in 1896 he had Guilmant appointed to replace him as organ professor. During Widor's long life he produced an impressive catalog of works, including operas and symphonies; but today he is remembered almost exclusively for his ten organ "symphonies"—actually suites written for the "symphonic" organ of the time. The toccata which concludes Widor's fifth organ symphony (composed in 1887, revised in 1901) is one of the most familiar and beloved pieces in the entire organ repertory.

-Robert Hopkins

I love you Grandma . . .



My grandma has always been there for me. From the time I was a little kid in kindergarten, till now as a freshman in high school. She's a very important person in my life, giving me the handholding support I needed then and the comfort of her wisdom now.

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CONGREGATIONAL COMMENTARY

CENTENNIAL SENTIMENTS

The Unitarian celebration of 100 years in Youngstown is an opportunity for us to shine our beacon of mind-broadening acceptance. May it reflect in the spirit of each person working to make our community life a little better, day by day.

The tenacity, the continuity, the very ability to exist at all, is commendable to the population and society of the Greater Youngstown Area, as well as to each person who has an ongoing part in creating such historic movement. The challenge now is to preserve the strength, to accept alternatives, to advance the culture we are living.

A small church begun by people they called Pisceans, "Fishers of Men", became a significant alternative world influence. People living in the current new age are referred to as Aquarians, "Water Bearers for All". We are once again at an incredible beginning, and new alternatives.

As a significant past century turns to face the coming century, we find ourselves at a major turning point in world history. Just like that small but strong group of the first century A.D. The message of the past 20 centuries was one of gathering resources and building equal consideration. Now we see the need for the coming centurys' message: to perpetuate our resources in a way that is structured for the mutual benefit and regard for all involved.

May we join and build, together and singly, in our acceptance of alternatives that strengthen us,

from: 'Love self, neighbor, and creation equally,' into: 'Fairly share, from the seas to the mountains.'

Hurley J. Quackenbush Started attending May '91, Unitarian since 1962 4-5-36 (56) Youngstown, Ohio

The opportunity for community expression of liberal religion is valuable to me because it affords a sane and logical voice to almost any contentious community problem, religious or secular.

Unfortunately, that voice has not been heard much outside the confines of our own building. We do not "blow our own horn", so to speak, as a group. Individually I think we do quite well, but collectively we "hide our light under a bushel!" (A couple of trite, but apt, phrases.) :)

Mrs. Kenneth S. (Jane) Platt member joined 1958 6-14-19 (72) Youngstown, Ohio



CENTENNIAL SENTIMENTS...

As a newcomer to the community in 1954, the Unitarian Church was recommended to me as a church with outstanding ministerial and lay leadership, which I found to be true. Here I have found stimulating spiritual ideas, formed some of my closest personal friendships, and enjoyed some of the finest musical performances available in the community.

Elizabeth A. Foster member joined 1966, started attending Spring 1954 May 15, 1929 (63) Youngstown, Ohio

Coming together with a group of people to worship the mysteries of life without the weight of being bogged down by dogma. No fears of exploring, questioning, searching your feelings on who and what God is. Respecting and learning about other philosophies and ways of worship. These are a few reasons I keep coming back to the Unitarian Church. There is soul food for me here in Youngstown. This makes me glad.

Deborah J. Pesce member joined 1990 3-24-53 (39) Youngstown, Ohio

I was raised "Unitarian" by a mother who thought she was Presbyterian! She never told me anything that wasn't true --- even about Santa Claus --- and to her embarrassment --- I told every little friend I knew, the "truth"!

Mabel B. Greene (Mrs.) member joined March 12, 1961 9-19-1917 (75) Youngstown, Ohio

Raised Presbyterian, went to the Methodist Church when Dr. Humbert was there; but then joined the Unitarian Church in 1961.

Mildred M. Burman member joined March 12, 1961 10-4-1910 (81) Youngstown, Ohio

One of my favorite church related experiences is being involved with "In Praise of the Arts" --- especially in setting up the art show and being involved in some musical Sundays during IPOA.

Then there was struggling as a church officer with some crucial issues between 1982 and 1984 --- especially those 10 months we had no minister (between Searl and Beall).

Joseph Kirshner member joined this church September 1979 (Unitarian since 1950) 12-5-30 (61) Youngstown, Ohio



CENTENNIAL SENTIMENTS...

First Unitarian means to me, an extended family. I am part of this church to learn more about working with others toward a common goal. What I like best are the adult forums. Important to me in being a Unitarian is the freedom to learn about people and religions. I'm amazed that there is such a jewel in Youngstown, it allows for a better way to look at the area. Community expression of liberal religion is important to me because the entire spirit of this country stays alive here.

Richard J. Palmer member joined September 8, 1991, started attending June '91. 9-6-49 (42) Youngstown, Ohio

First Unitarian was initially a safe haven for me as a 12 year old liberal with "non-mainstream" ideas. In this Sunday school, I felt free to voice my opinions without fear of rejection or ostracism. I knew from the first sermon I heard, that this was a sacred place where the doors were wide open to the points of view of many learned peoples, across many cultures. Safety was, in time no longer the issue. From that initial "draw" I was invited to grow spiritually and intellectually over the years. I continue to try to do so, with a "little help from my friends."

Judith L. Stone member joined 1963, started attending 1958 8-16-46 (45) Poland, Ohio

I like mostly that, "What I really believe is my religion!" What may be most important to me is, that I might have some spiritual growth or at least encouragement. I must change to grow. Too many places you are seen as an enemy if you disagree.

Harold S. Rogers member 1952 4-21-18 (74) New Middletown, Ohio

This church is, for me, a place where I can find friendship, spiritual growth, and where I can be free to question and doubt, as well as believe in the many sacred aspects of our human existence. I often find what I perceive to be God here, and this has enriched my life.

Janice W. Schnall member joined 1986 Youngstown, Ohio

My favorite church experience is sitting next to Reverend Beall --- with his real beard on --- before he left to go somewhere else and took a plane. I'll always remember him.

Rodger E. Cracraft member 7 years 4-49 Youngstown, Ohio

12-14-49



CENTENNIAL SENTIMENTS...

"We Sing of Golden Dawning" --- an anecdote:

Around 1981-1983, Ed and Ellie Searle conducted Tuesday night forums. We met in Schweitzer Lounge. 10 to 15 people informally met and discussed various topics: "Spirituality in U-U ism"; "Humor"; "Personality Testing"; "Current Social Issues". Norma Anderson, Ralph and Marcia Malmer, Jack and Karen Wendle, George and Ellen Handel, Bill Wittington, the Gaylords and many others attended. Norma had her purse snatched one night, chased the thief and caught him!

Afterwards, we all started going to the Golden Dawn, a "Dive" down the street. Many long-lasting friendships resulted. The last night, Ed wrote a song "We Dream of Golden Dawning".

Sondra P. Gaylord member joined about 1982 9-29-34 (58) Girard, Ohio

Music brought me to the church a dozen years ago. Delores Fitzer, a former member, and Robert Hopkins both taught at Dana School of Music and introduced my daughter, a student there, to the church. Each of us were eventually married in the church. Music still plays an important part in the service for me as well as the sermons, the friends I've met, the social gatherings, especially In Praise of the Arts. I've experienced comfort and closeness to the deceased and family during our personal-type of memorial service, including my Mother's at my own home.

One of my favorite experiences I've had was the painting of the lower walls and pews of the sanctuary 9 years ago. A dozen of us met every Wedensday evening, 5 to 9, until the job was completed. We took a pot-luck dinner break (sometimes with candlelight), and told amusing stories and played music while we painted. What fun, camaraderie, determination, and a feeling of accomplishment this commitment gave us.

And where else could you meet a dear, new friend while raking leaves one Sunday following the coffee hour --- and a year later, while painting the baseboards with the same friend --- have Bill Schultz (Unitarian Universalist President) ring the doorbell of our U. U. Church on Illinois Avenue?

K. Soman member April 1981, friend since September 1980

IN TRIBUTE TO:

Dr. & Mrs. Arnoldus Goudsmit and Dr. & Mrs. Frank Inui and Rev. Frank & Mrs. Alice Schulman

for their influence while members of this church.

Jane Platt

In Memory

of

Our Parents

Ed & Marge Brucker

In Honor of our grandchildren:

ELIZABETH OLSON PHILLIPS-JONES and WILLIAM DAVIES PHILLIPS-JONES

Roger & Gloria Jones

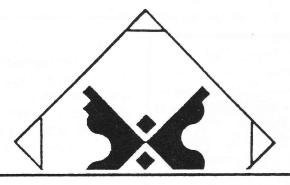
COMPLIMENTS OF

Arnoldus & Hellen Goudsmit

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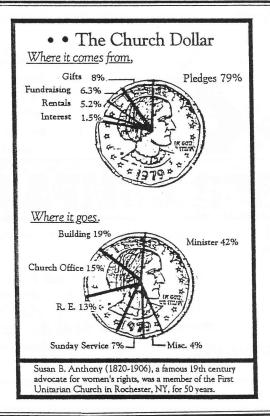
September 9, 1992

Barbara and I are delighted to send greetings to all those who are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the First Unitarian Church of Youngstown. Congratulations on this milestone.

We can all rejoice in what your house of worship has meant to its members. A place of prayer, fellowship, reflection, and renewal, it has also been the focal point for many acts of generosity and service to others. Indeed, because the faith and values nurtured within its walls are the foundation of strong families and communities, your church has been a source of strength for our entire country.

You have our best wishes for a joyous celebration.

ag Bul



Have

you

paid

your

PLEDGE?





SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This list of contributors only begins to convey the type of financial commitment made by myriad members and friends for the various special projects we have undertaken as a Church over recent years. From new carpeting, pew cushions and drapes in the sanctuary, to hand railings outside, and new stair treads, etc., etc. Without this and other types of support we would not have been able to accomplish such a beautiful presence in our community. Thank you one and all.

KATHERINE SOMAN Eleanor Powell William & Dianna R. Mason & Nick Ed & MARGE BRUCKER Tad & Louise Slawecki JAMES & Judith Stone BETH FOSTER CAROL SCHULTZ John BRENNAN MARY GHIZZONI Dorothy & Robert Arnott Hassan Ronaghy HOMER & RUTH SHOOK Ed & Virginia Shorten Bill & Ginger Whittington BETTY & Rober BAHM KATHERINE SOMAN GENE & PAM PUSATERI ROGER & Gloria Jones CHERYL & ARNI NASHBAR

WOMAN'S AlliANCE RUMMAGE SALE Ladies Knitting Group Fldon Bankert Bentley & Hilda Folsom IAN SCHNALL JANE & KENNETH PLATT RAIDH & ROSE MARIE SKERRATT Margaret & Clarence Strouss Mike & Ruth Rigo Sanford & Sondra Gaylord MidRED BURMAN Mable Greene Alex & Millie Shashaty MARGARET MORGAN Webster & Helen Harpman Jackson & Florence Moody Virginia Lucas Sally Kroloff PATRICIA REEDER MARGARET LAURENSON

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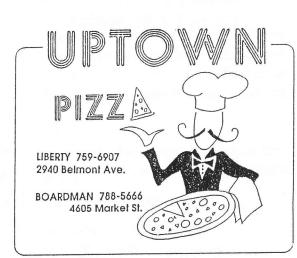
To Celebrate Our Daughter BRANDEIS, the "Karate Kid"

Frank Bellamy & Elaine B. Greeves

To Celebrate Our Daughter
MANDELA, the "Tap Dance Kid"

Frank Bellamy & Elaine B. Greeves

Congratulations from Neita Burger - Friend





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Dorothy Deeley Arnott

In loving memory

of

William R Cornell, husband and David W. Cornell, son With special memory

of my mother

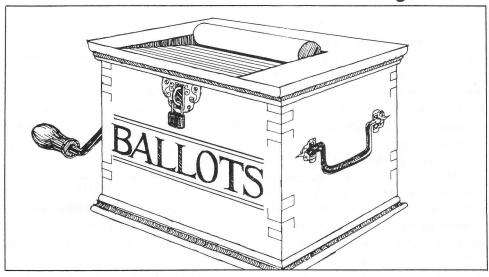
Batool Ronaghy

Hassan

Mary Lou Cornell



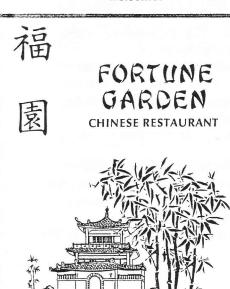
What do you have in common with Susan B. Anthony?



As an independent thinker, Susan B. Anthony chose her faith according to her convictions. Today her faith is practiced by 1000 congregations across the continent. These are communities supporting freedom of thought and personal growth; communities which don't separate religion from daily life.

Maybe the thoughtful faith of Clara Barton, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Whitney Young, Thomas Jefferson and people in your neighborhood is something you'd like to explore.

Think about it. If you'd like to visit a Unitarian Universalist congregation this week, welcome!



2560 Belmont Ave., Youngstown Tel: 743-6688 Carryout Welcome

First Unitarian Church

100 Years



Liberal Religion
Youngstown

CONGRATULATIONS

FROM



Dianna R. Mason, RNC,RS Consultant

> TEL 216-545-9148 FAX 216-793-5273

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS OF THE CENTURY

It is with sincere gratitude that I try to begin to highlight a partial list for you the very special help that was needed in order to make our Centennial Weekend a reality. To all of you (and many unnamed others) . . . "THANK YOU!"

To Nick Mason for your wonderful idea of Centennial Sentiments and your special love along with Dad to help me get all through this.

To Pat Beike – Your talent, compassion, and enthusiasm are your banners. Bless you! Without you this booklet would have only been an idea. You are phenomenal.

To Hurley Quackenbush for your computer, video and program expertise.

To Ed Knight for picking up the pieces and tying loose ends and for always being there.

To Ginny Shorten and the dinner committee for orchestrating and accomplishing another incredible dinner evening.

To Helen Thompson for designing the marvelous Program Booklet cover.

To Dr. and Mrs. Sanford F. Gaylord for the loan of their lovely Batik banner, made by Jennifer Centric, which is hanging from the organ loft.

To Jane Platt for your continual inspiration and for sharing your special flowers honoring your golden wedding anniversary.

To Karen Lapidus for your creativity in guiding our children to the meaning and expression of "One Hundred Years of Liberal Religion".

To Richard Palmer, Julie Cicarelli, and Benje Holtz for tolerating all the Adult Forum time we used up in planning our events.

To Jan Schnall for your laughter and tears and for believing in us as a Church and motivating the rest of us to do the same and for the beautiful celebratory banner hanging on the outside columns of the Church for all of Youngstown to see.

To trusting and supportive fellow Board members for their encouragement to move forward with this celebration.

To Paul Price, Tom Booher, Jim Zupanic, Martin Berger, Harold Rogers, and Jim Stone for taking time (countless hours) to get the Church "in shape and looking good."

To Kay Soman for stimulating and coordinating so much in your own way. Your list would be endless.

To Mary Jane Evans for taking the responsibility of ordering our mugs and centerpieces.

To Joe Kirshner and the rest of the Historical Committee for the fantastic job in piecing together our past and making sense of it all.

To David Leonard and Linda Wiltz for your spirit of adventure in accepting the call to this Church and participating so lovingly and willingly in our Centennial planning.

To all who helped with publicity including Richard Palmer, WYSU Radio, Leon Stennis, Stan Boney, Willard Scott, et al.

To many who supported this celebration in sundry ways on the condition their names be anonymous.

To all who helped with our new banners; banner ideas, drawings, feathers, gold buttons and other paraphernalia. (And certainly, to my father-in-law, Henry Mason, for making the banner stands.)

To all who bought and/or solicited ads for us and participated in our other fundraisers.

And to everyone else, all our members and friends who helped by their unique contributions to this process.

My wish is that the next hundred years should go so well.

Sincerely,

Dianna R. Mason, Centennial Chair



City of Youngstown Proclamation

Mayor Patrick I. Ungaro

W H E R E A S: THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN, a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, is representative of Liberal Religion in the Mahoning Valley; and

W H E R E A S: The congregation and ministry of THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN have a strong history of involvement in the social issues of the Youngstown and particularly north side community over the years; and

WHEREAS: Outreach activities of THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH have had a significant influence in promoting the religious growth of youth through self-discovery as they learn about the religions of the world including Judeo-Christian teaching, principles of Unitarian Universalism, peace-making, justice-building, earth-keeping and respect for self and others through worship, study and community;

WHEREAS: The role of THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH and its membership has been and continues to be significant in terms of social, academic, cultural, economic, political and religious issues; and

WHEREAS: THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of its founding on September 16, 1992, with celebrations planned for the weekend of September 19, 1992, and throughout the Church year;

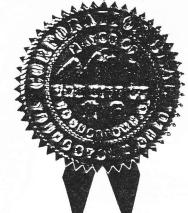
N O W THEREFORE, I, PATRICK J. UNGARO, as Mayor of the City of Youngstown, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 19, 1992, as

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN DAY

in Youngstown, and call upon the residents of our city to lend their support and show their appreciation of the accomplishments of the FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH and its members both present and past.

I N WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Youngstown, Ohio, this 17th day of September, 1992.

PATRICK J. UNGARO, MAYOR





IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN

WHEREAS,...THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH of Youngstown, located at the corner of Elm Street and Illinois Avenue on the North Side of the City of Youngstown, Ohio since 1925, a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of its initial founding on September 19, 1992; and

WHEREAS,...during its first century, The First Unitarian Church of Youngstown, has served and fulfilled the spiritual needs of Unitarians within its bounds through committed membership and leadership of dedicated ministers, board presidents, trustees and other lay church leaders; and

WHEREAS,...the members of The First Unitarian Church of Youngstown exemplify the spiritual dimensions of the principles of Unitarian Universalism including social advocacy through the daily practice of their lives in their homes, families, schools, businesses and community; and

WHEREAS,...the religious education program, as well as the past and present dedicated families and individuals of The First Unitarian Church of Youngstown have been integral to and involved in the growth, advancement, and leadership of the City of Youngstown and Mahoning County; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Mahoning County Commissioners proclaim to recognize and honor The First Unitarian Church of Youngstown on the occasion of its centennial anniversary for its meritorious presence within our society. Further, we call upon all residents of the Mahoning County area to lend their support to and show their appreciation of the accomplishments members. It is our sincere hope that the observances of this occasion throughout the year will lend to the continued growth and enhancement of its mission and purpose into the 21st century.

It was moved by Mr. Palermo and seconded by Mr. Carney, that the foregoing Resolution be approved this 17th day of September, 1992.

Roll call voting resulted:

Mr. Carney : aye Mr. Palermo : aye Mr. Yurcho : aye

WHEREUPON, the President of the Board declared the foregoing Resolution duly adopted this 17th day of

September, 1992.

J. Keyneth Gran, Clerk for the Board

Leonard G. Yurcho, President

Thomas J. Carpey, Vice President

John Palermo, Commissioner



First Unitarian Church of Youngstown

ELM STREET AND ILLINOIS AVENUE YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44505 • (216) 746-3067 David Leonard, Minister

"Celebrating Our 100th Year"