

the FELLOWTARIAN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester

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SUNDAY SERVICES September, 2007

**September 2
10 AM ONLY**

**SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS OF
"THE QUALITY OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE"**

**UFWC's Cadre of
Small Group Leaders**

Commonplace tasks and routines sometimes fill our days with predictability, absorbing our energy and dampening our creativity and even our desire for more meaningful experiences. In turn, resentment, loneliness, or disappointment can challenge our sense of accomplishment and fulfillment. But with focus and perseverance, we learn to overcome such obstacles to our quality of life. In small groups, we will explore such questions as: What do you believe constitutes good quality of daily life for you? Can you describe a recent event that has given you a sense of fulfillment? In this way, we will share, listen, and make connections with each other. **LAST SINGLE SERVICE OF THE SUMMER.**

September 9 9 AM & 11 AM

SETTING THE COMPASS

Rev. Deborah Mero

As we gather together for the first time officially there will be an air of hope and anticipation. Many will be returning from vacations far away and many will have stories of local fun and frolic. Some will return with not so happy tales or experiences and may not even wish to share the fear or sadness. But here we will all be in the sanctuary of our religious "home." It is time to embark on our journey together. But where to? In order to begin a journey it is always a good thing to figure out where you are and where you begin, and to set the compass in order to take those first steps with confidence. **DOUBLE SERVICES RESUME TODAY.**

September 16 9 AM & 11 AM

INSCRIBED IN THE BOOK OF LIFE

Rev. Deborah Mero

This Sunday falls in between the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, and the Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur. It is the holiest time in the Jewish calendar, and there are multiple messages in the celebration of the New Year that apply to UU's, both because of our religious roots as a faith tradition and because many of us actually do have religious roots in Judaism. Join us for a very special and out of the ordinary service.

September 23 9 AM & 11 AM

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Rev. Deborah Mero

While it will take you, the members and friends of the UFWC time to get to know me, your task is a bit lighter than mine. As an interim minister, getting to know people, really know them was not, shall we say, in the "game plan." Yes, I have gotten to know some wonderful people along my journey in ministry, even in interim ministry, but it is not quite the same as wanting to get to know you in anticipation of our learning one another's stories over time. This Sunday will kick off the beginning of an intentional getting to know you and your neighborhoods. Stay tuned, all will be revealed.

September 30 9 AM & 11 AM

UNIVERSALISTS DON'T USE WHIPPING BOYS

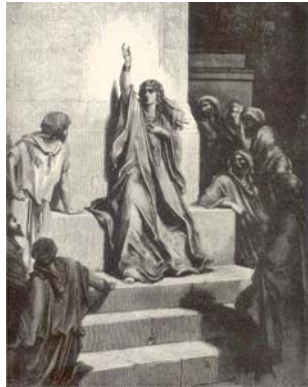
Rev. Garry M. LeFevre

Today's worship leader hails from Lancaster County and became a member of the UU church there in 1970. A graduate of Andover Newton Theological School in 1993, he has served UU congregations in Maryland and central Massachusetts. Our theme today will involve some history, some theology, and reflections on the nature of scapegoating.

Services and Babysitting at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Religious Education at 9 a.m. only.

The Song of Deborah

There are two songs in the Bible that are attributed to women. The first, the Song of Miriam, is in Exodus 15:20-21. The song is sung in celebration after having crossed the Red (Reed) Sea and in triumph when the Pharaoh's legions are drowned in it. Part of me wants to celebrate the liberation from slavery with song, yet the pacifist side of me shudders at the thought of celebrating the ill fate of others. But that's a story for another day.



The second song is found in the book of Judges in Chapter 5 where Deborah leads her people into battle. In chapters 4 and 5 the tale is told of a prophetess who comes to teach and lead her people through a time of crisis.

"The Song of Deborah" is a poignant piece of poetry, perhaps one of the earliest in scripture. After having served congregations in transition for the past eight years and having to, in reality, lead some of them through crises, I am happy to know and say that we are on a different path together, you and I.

I don't intend to lead you into battle, or through a crisis — at least I don't anticipate any from within. I will try to lead as best I can while encouraging your own able leaders to continue to do what they already do well. I will cheer you on and help facilitate whatever conversations and processes are

appropriate. My newsletter column has traditionally been named after the spirit of the female biblical leader and my namesake. Now that I have heard some of the great musical talent in the congregation it seems fitting; it has a certain kind of lilt to it that appeals to me.

There were very few prominent women named in the Bible; after all, it is mostly a story told by men about men. Perhaps that is why the stories of the women that survive today have intrigued me enough to want to teach them in each new congregation I serve. And you will be no different.

I have had some of my best times surrounded by a group of eager learners uncovering deeper and deeper layers of the stories of these women and in turn finding layers of our own stories that resonate with these ancient tales. And I learn so much more each time through it too.

As I have yet to meet with the leadership to actually plan our first few months together, the starting date of "Listen to Her Voice," Women in the Hebrew Bible has yet to be determined, but we shall venture forth together into the biblical world beginning some time in late September or early October, and when we are ready to jump in, there will be plenty of information available to you on line to get us started. And I do

hope that there are some brave men in the congregation who will wish to join us.

In the mean time, there is so much I am looking forward to. I write these words surrounded by boxes in Framingham, Massachusetts. By the time you get them I will be surrounded by boxes in West Chester Pennsylvania. We will have lots and lots of time to unpack the stories of our lives and our hopes and dreams together. I can't wait!

A bit of Bible trivia: after Deborah led her army in battle against Sisera and the Canaanites, there were forty years of peace.

In Peace and Love,

— *Deborah*

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Small Group Ministry plans to form new groups in September. Watch for sign-up opportunities. (If you wonder what Small Group Ministry is, look it up in the Action section of the UFWC website and email SGM with questions or to express interest in a certain day.) There will be as many groups as needed to accommodate groups of 8-10 people. During this formative time, there will be open meetings on Thursday, September 6 and Tuesday, September 18 at 7:15 p.m. Topics will be announced via email.

REmarks: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

As I look forward to welcoming the children back to RE, it occurs to me that in some ways putting together a religious education program is like hosting a big dinner party. You plan the menu (select curricula), enlist friends to help you (recruit teachers), clean your house (schedule a work party), set the table (prepare the chalice-lighting area), and invite everyone on your guest list (welcome the children). Then you wait for your guests to arrive and hope that everyone has a great time.

This year, we're serving up curricula that focus mostly on the Old and New Testaments and World Religions for Pre-K through Eighth Grade classes. Ninth and Tenth graders will be engaged in the Coming of Age program. On our monthly Group RE Days we will continue our Social Action projects and explore aspects of Unitarian Universalism. (Pre-K through Sixth.)

All classes meet at 9:00 a.m. only:

Pre-K and Kindergarten *We Are Many, We Are One*
First and Second Grade *Stories About God*
Third and Fourth Grade *Timeless Themes*
Fifth and Sixth Grade *Bibleodeon*
Seventh and Eighth Grade .. *Neighboring Faiths*
Ninth and Tenth Grade *Heresy Apparent and Coming of Age*

More information will be available in the RE Brochure and on the website. (See September 16 Parent Orientation, below.)

Some Important Dates:

- Sunday, September 16: RE Program begins (9 a.m.)
- Sunday, September 16: PARENT ORIENTATION between services, 10:15-10:45 a.m. (Feel free to bring your coffee with you.) Fill out or update Registration Forms and pick up your copy of this year's RE Brochure and RE Calendar. We'll present an overview of the program and review the RE "Rules of the Road," so that you can help your children know what is expected/hoped of them on Sundays.
- Saturday, October 20: A Samhain celebration for all Middle Schoolers in our newly formed Brandywine Cluster (made up of eight area UU congregations). Look for details in the October *Fellowtarian*.

Ways Parents Can Help:

- We need a supply of snacks to start off the year. Please leave contributions downstairs on the table to the left of the refrigerator in the Snack Hallway. Reminder: acceptable beverages are Juicy Juice and apple juice. (No added sugar or food dyes.) Favorite Snacks: Pepperidge Farm Goldfish, small pretzels, microwavable popcorn. Please – no cookies or other sugary stuff.
- Sign up as a Floating Volunteer at Parent Orientation, or contact Susan Sluk.

As always, if you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact me.

– Pam Baxter, Director of Religious Education

LOST & FOUND

Please check the Lost & Found basket (under the coat rack in the sanctuary). There are quite a few mugs, gloves, and umbrellas, among other items. Anything not claimed by September 30 will be donated to a local charity.

NAME CHANGE WE'RE (STILL) JUST LOOKING

In June, the *Fellowtarian* included an article introducing the Name Change Committee, an *ad hoc* committee authorized by the Board to determine congregational interest in a name change for the UFWC. Since many of us have been away and “out of the loop” this summer, this article is simply to reintroduce and reiterate the purpose for the committee as well as provide some updated information about coming events.

The initial task of the committee is not to find a new name but to explore what a new name might mean to our congregation. The committee is comprised of Mark Steel (Chair), Shelly Case, Diane Cohle, Heidi Frayer, and Fatima Patel.

Our exploration will include a number of issues we feel the congregation should consider during this process. These include:

- History of the Fellowship movement
- Definitions of commonly used congregational names
- Comparative analysis of names used by other congregations in the Joseph Priestly District as well as other Districts across the country
- Ramifications of a name change including the cost, publicity, and any gains or losses we might experience within and without our congregational community.

In the next six to eight months the Name Change Committee will hold a large group as well as a number of small group

UUSC UPDATE

Fair trade has been important for women in Nicaragua. It has allowed us to have an effect on politics and in our own organizations. It has allowed us to take power in an area that has been traditionally controlled by men. Coffee farming forms the principal economy of our country, but until recently women did not enter it. Now women form a significant portion of coffee producers, 36 percent. We are found within the management structure, we are in the administration, and this is very important. Fair trade allowed this to happen.

– Blanca Rosa Molina, Nicaragua

What is the Coffee Project? What is Equal Exchange? They have to do with the coffee and tea we serve after every service and the coffee, tea, and the chocolate we always have for sale in the lobby at the display at the office steps. But what does it mean? It's just another way that we can all put our values into action. It has to do with the first of our seven great principles: “The inherent worth and dignity of every person.”

Farmers, especially in Central America, are very poor. So a co-op named Equal Exchange helps them by paying a premium for their products. Equal Exchange is a partner organization of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). So UUSC offers us — individually and as congregations — the opportunity to buy fair-traded products from Equal Exchange. A portion of the money comes back to the “Small Farmers Fund” at UUSC, where it is dispensed to help those most in need. It's a win-win situation. We get the best coffee, tea, and chocolate available, and the producers get dinner on their table and books for their children's schools.

Buy some today.

– Tom Townsend



discussions beginning in the Fall of 2007. These meetings will be for the purpose of disseminating the information gathered by the committee as well as providing a forum for discussion about the name change process. Beginning in September, we will have a list of meeting dates and times for you to choose from.

Following this series of discussions, a congregational vote will be held to determine whether to proceed further with the name change process.

It is important to remember that this is a congregational de-

cision, and as such, we are looking for as much participation as possible. The committee is anxious to provide each individual ample opportunity to learn about the process and to offer any suggestions, concerns or questions. You can speak to any committee member directly, or you may email the committee at name. We have already received some well reasoned and passionate suggestions. Why not add your two cents? We'd love to hear from you.

STONES IN THE WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

As the summer winds down, I am sure that most of you now have lots of extra time. Lots of extra time to devote to all of the activities and worthy efforts you've been putting off. OK, so none of us has extra time. Probably never will. It seems like the business of living is like that.

One of the most important ways to live out our faith is through social justice. It's such an important part of our identity, something that people felt really strongly about during our search for a new minister. Living out our faith seems to be more than just belonging to a church that has a social justice identity but, rather, calls us forth to action.

Whether the actions are very personal, societal or systems change, or consciousness raising, they are needed. We are challenged to do more, to find the time to do more. We are challenged to be in partnership with other groups and other churches. The global warming interest group, Habitat for Humanity group, the Beyond War discussion series are but a few of the efforts that are trying to do just that. Lastly, we are challenged to enter into relationships with those marginalized groups that are not currently represented by the UFWC membership (more about that in the coming year).

A good way to support our efforts with only a minimal amount of time involved is to become a social justice associate. This is a new designation for people who are helping out by taking on a small but important task to further the social justice committee efforts. We're talking an hour a month here, folks. You can crowbar it into your busy schedule and do it from home, from work, or from the road. Please e-mail social-justice-chair to get in-

involved. No reasonable offer refused.

UUs Unite. Are you an activist who is deeply committed to a cause that reflects our UU principles? Do you struggle to find others who share your passion? Do you want to accomplish more, but feel overwhelmed?

Good news! Pennsylvania is forming a statewide action network to undertake lobbying in Harrisburg on issues that are critical to Unitarian Universalists. Other states have built such UU legislative networks and have provided an effective alternative voice to the religious right, which has been vociferous in our state capitols.

There will be an organizational meeting September 29 in Harrisburg to elect a board and select the first issue(s) of focus. Gun control? Global warming? Gay marriage? Immigrant rights? You can help decide. And help us build UUPLAN – the Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (www.uuplan.org). Home stays can be arranged and mileage reimbursed. Contact Casey Gilmore if you have questions or plan to attend.

Global Warming: Making a Difference. Global warming is the sad result of world-wide failure to honor the 7th UU principle: respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. It is more than a life style, scientific, or political issue; it is a moral issue. Global warming will seriously disrupt the lives and livelihoods of millions of people, place the worst burden on the poor, and potentially lead to armed conflicts over resources.

How can the global warming interest group make a difference in this huge problem?

Projects undertaken by the group fall into two categories. The

“bottom up” approach is identifying changes that individuals can make in their own lives to reduce their personal contribution to global warming, and then finding ways to share information with others as widely as possible. This has included developing and printing lists of suggestions for individual actions, trading literature with other churches, researching environmentally-friendly investment opportunities, and participating in a multi-organization exchange of information organized and maintained by a member of our neighboring Baptist church. When enough individuals take action, the combined effect is significant.

The top-down approach involves more public and political action. UFWC participated in a four-church rally on global warming, showed *An Inconvenient Truth* free and open to the public, discussed giving support to the West Chester organization BLUER (Borough Leaders United for Emissions Reduction), and will work with UUPLAN (see related article in this newsletter) to support significant state-wide actions. In August, the global warming group shared information, and their passion, at a lay-led Sunday service. There is interest in working with other area churches on joint projects, and supporting activities designed to encourage government at all levels to mandate changes that will significantly moderate the warming trend.

You can participate or simply learn more about the GW Interest Group by e-mailing global-warming or calling Rich Cole. Because of the wide array of activities, you will be able to participate in projects that match your individual interests and skills.

Continued next page...

SOCIAL JUSTICE

(Continued from prev. page)

What If They Gave A War And Nobody Came? If you are interested in exploring what each of us can do (starting in our own families) to create a world beyond war, join us Mondays 7 p.m. – 9 p.m., September 17 to November 5 in the fireplace room.

Come to question and discuss readings (provided). There is no cost for this course. Bring a friend or neighbor. Beyond War is a growing international grass-roots movement formed in the 80's to provide education about what people and nations can do instead of war. It coordinates a network of citizens who promote these ideas and actions. Its materials are non-partisan, future oriented, non-blaming, and compelling.

Several of us caught the Beyond War seminar at the Quaker Meeting House and were so impressed with its quality that we bought the study course to start a Beyond War study/discussion group this fall.

By enrolling in this study series, you will:

- Learn how social change happens.
- Learn how to talk with people who don't agree with you or who think war is a good idea.
- Explore why war makes us less safe.
- Learn how nations and people can resolve conflict by using strategies other than war.
- Learn three Beyond War foundational ideas and implications for personal action.

To help us organize the study groups, please register by sending email to beyond-war.

– Ed Cohle, SJ Chair

UFWC ONLINE

Check out all the ways you can experience the UFWC online:

Our website, www.ufwc.org, has everything you need in order to be in the know about the UFWC. On the Contacts page, you can find email “aliases”. These are email addresses that automatically forward your message to the correct “person in charge.” For instance, Rev. Mero’s alias is “minister” — to send a message to her, just send it to minister at our domain.



We have two mailing lists that we use to get information out that can't wait for the next issue of the *Fellowtarian*. One is an open “General” list for everyone who wants to keep “in the loop.” All members are also automatically subscribed to the second list (of very limited use), which is of interest only to members. The leaders of the Youth Group also have a list used for dissemination of information. Contact them at youth-group for more information about this list. There are also two discussion lists — lists to which any subscriber may post messages — one for social justice and one for global warming.

We also have a mailing list for those who want to receive the *Fellowtarian* in PDF format by email rather than by snail mail. This saves us money (printing and mailing), and you get each issue sooner.

Please send all requests to subscribe or unsubscribe to Steve Sander at email.

YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

It's time to remind everyone why, at UFWC, the words “Youth Group” are never heard without the word “amazing.” Join youth from nearly a dozen different schools. Meet actors, athletes, artists, thinkers, do-ers, travelers, gamers, jokers and dreamers. Come in and pull up a couch cushion.

WHO Youth in grades 8-12

WHAT First meeting of the year

WHERE Downstairs, first room on the left past the double doors

WHEN Sunday, September 9 from 10:45 a.m to noon, and weekly thereafter

WHY Our members have said: a place to be myself – friendship – challenging discussions – to contribute to important causes – humor – shared values – CONs – nothing better to do on Sunday mornings (seriously – we're not making that one up)

Still not sure what the fuss is all about? Suspicious of those unshowered, sleep-deprived people you sometimes see on Sunday mornings? Talk with youth leaders, adult advisors and group members at our Q&A for Youth and Families in the sanctuary on Sunday, September 16 after the second service at 12:15 p.m. We'll have lunch/munchies.

Questions? Contact Kate Cuffari at youth-group.

THE AUCTION IS COMING! THE AUCTION IS COMING!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 6 P.M.

The Service Auction is a fundraising event where services and small items from our congregation and local businesses are offered to the highest bidder. Examples of the types of services offered include, but are not limited to, babysitting, rides to the airport, home-cooked meals, lessons, technical or professional assistance, and live music. Proceeds support the Fellowship.

Our silent auction will be online, with ebay-style bidding, beginning prior to Saturday evening. The silent auction will conclude Saturday night, when we will also have raffles, small games, and a live auction. Beverages and a light dinner will be offered to complete the entertainment for a night out.

Sounds like too much fun, right? How about joining the team? We are in need of the following people,

as well as people to help during that evening:

- Fellowship Donation Coordinator (and helpers)
- Raffle and Small Games Coordinator (& helpers)
- Setup and Decorating Coordinator (& helpers)

So, plan to be there October 27, and use the form below to make your personal donation by September 30.

Lastly, to make this a fun family night, we will host a party for children downstairs with pizza, popcorn and a movie during the auction at no cost. This babysitting service needs to be prearranged, so please email auction with the names and ages of the children by October 13 if you plan to take advantage of this service.

See you there.

- Babysitting
- Birthday Cake
- Breadmaking
- Brunch
- Car Washing
- Career Counseling
- Chair fixing
- Childcare
- Chinese Dinner
- Chocolate Cake
- Computer help
- Home made Cookies
- Fondue
- Frequent Flyer Miles
- Gardening
- Gift Certificates
- Homemade Candy
- Hot Tub
- How to...
- Knitting
- Massage
- Mending
- Mexican Dinner
- Mother's Helper
- Music
- Personal Coach
- Pet care
- Plants
- Ride to Airport
- Shortbread
- Software
- Stenciling
- Summer BBQ
- Teaching
- Use of Boat
- Vacation Home
- Wallpapering
- Weekend Retreat
- Window Washing
- Yard Work
- ...you name it!

FELLOWSHIP DONATIONS

UFWC ANNUAL SERVICE AUCTION -- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2007

Name of Donor: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____

Check here if you want to offer the same item as last year.

Service or Item: _____

Special Conditions: _____

Please include a Date(s) if offering a meal: _____

Services or items will be sold to the highest bidder unless a minimum bid is specified.

Minimum Bid (optional): \$ _____

Deadline for Catalog: September 30. Later donations will be listed in an addendum available the night of the auction. No donations can be taken the night of the auction.

Questions about donations should be directed to email: auction-donations, or call Dan Meyer.

Bring the completed form to Sunday service or mail to:

Annual Service Auction
Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester
501 South High Street
West Chester, PA 19382

Or EMAIL: auction-donations



Thank YOU! Thank you for your support!

Note: The winning bidder may be someone you don't know. With items such as boats, special equipment or vacation homes you may want to ask for a security deposit. Services are available as arranged by donor and buyer for one year unless otherwise specified.

WELCOME REV. MERO PICNIC

Reverend Deborah Mero, our new settled minister, will have her first day in the pulpit on September 9 (when we will resume double services). We would like to celebrate this first day together with a picnic (noon to 4 p.m.) at Hoopes Park in West Chester. This is also a time of returning from our various summer journeys. We hope you will attend and catch up on old friendships and begin many new ones.

The Fun and Fellowship Committee will provide the beverages, paper products, main course, and condiments. We will have chicken, hamburgers, and hot dogs. This year, in recognition of the Seventh Principal and the concerns brought to our attention by the Global Warming Task Force, we will serve grass-fed beef hamburgers as well as turkey burgers and veggie burgers.

We ask for a donation of \$4 for adults and \$3 for children to cover the cost of the food, the park rental, et. al. Bring a salad or dessert to share. Feel free to bring sports supplies for basketball, tennis, baseball, and frisbee. Hoopes Park has plenty of sun and shade. Car pooling is recommended since the near parking spots fill up quickly. As usual, a light rain will not stop us. Worse weather will result in us picnicking in the sanctuary while the food is grilled outside.

Come and meet Reverend Mero and all your Fellowship friends. We all look forward to seeing each of you there and to sharing stories of our summers. There will be a sign-up sheet and maps to the park in the foyer (and via email) in August. Contact Mary Yeager, if you have any questions.

COFFEE HOUSE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF MUSIC

WHEN: Friday, September 21, 7-9 p.m.

WHERE: Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester

WHO: Talented musicians playing acoustic music. 2-3 songs per performer. Sign up that night. First come first served and performance order randomly selected.

CONTACT: Judy Perri at email coffeeshouse

All members and friends are invited to be supporters and or entertainers.



UFWC CAMPING TRIP REPORT JULY 21 AND 22

The weather was perfect, and Susquehannock State Park is beautiful! The twelve of us had a great time; we just wish more people had come out. We missed our “regulars” who couldn’t come, but we had our usual dinner cooked on an open fire, followed by a camp fire with folk singing, s’mores and good conversation.

The facilities are less rugged and more open than French Creek – easily accessible, level, tree-shaded sites, a ball field adjacent to the campsite where we could have an intergenerational softball game (also good for frisbee or soccer), and a great playground on the other side of the ball field. There are also clean restrooms (not pits!). The park borders the Susquehanna River and has lots of hiking trails with great overlooks. It’s a little farther to travel (only 20 minutes and 9 miles more, clocked from UFWC), but well worth it! So, we hope to see more of you there next year.

Watch this space in the spring for our announcement of the date, and plan to join us for a wonderful “back to nature” experience! Or, you can email camping to be put on our mailing list of folks we will contact directly about next year’s camp trip. We hope to see you there!

– Dan Meyer and Eileen Kelly

SIMPLICITY CIRCLE

We have decided to skip the September meeting, as Labor Day weekend would interfere with our first Sunday in the month meeting, and Rev. Deborah Mero will have her first service with us on September 9, followed by a picnic later in the day. We will want to make the most of that day. Our next meeting will be on October 7. Contact Heidi Buss.

CHOIR

UFWC Choir will begin rehearsals for the 2007-08 season on Thursday, September 13 at 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. The choir will sing at both services on the third Sunday of each month, rehearsing on Thursday evenings from 7:15 - 9 p.m.

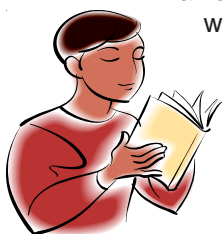
The choir is a great way to have fun, to get to know your fellow UFWC'ers, and to have an active part in the Sunday services. Please join us. Contact Choir Director Barbara Kovacs at email: choir.



EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP

NEXT MEETING – SEPTEMBER 16 – 7- 8:30 P.M.

The Exploring Diversity Book Discussion Group meets on the third Sunday of each month from September through May. We select books (movies in months of December and January) that will help us better understand and appreciate differences in ourselves and others. Our year's selections typically include fiction and non-fiction. We have read a variety of books, including plays and short stories as well as literature for young people. This year we are starting off with a mystery.



Pat Shorten will lead our discussion of *Blood from a Stone*, a modern, murder mystery set in Venice. A *Vu Campra* is killed early on in the book, and Donna Leon's protagonist, Police Chief Guido Brunetti, is sent to investigate. *Vu Campras* (Italian for "Want to buy") are illegal immigrants that survive by selling knock-off designer bags to unsuspecting tourists while evading the law. The book delves into the Italian immigration problem while touching on racial biases. Along the way you get an in-depth tour of Venice that leaves you wanting to visit the city and food descriptions so wonderful you can taste the espresso! If you like to read, you will enjoy this light thriller.

Please join us for our opening book discussion, and feel free to contact either Ruth MacFadyen or Shelly Case.

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet on Friday, September 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Panera, located in West Goshen near Shop Rite, at 1103 West Chester Pike.

Newcomers are welcome. E-mail lunch-group to be added to the e-mail reminder list. Please try to respond to the e-mail reminder so we can save enough space for everyone. If you don't have e-mail or you change your mind at the last minute, come anyway. Everyone is welcome.

– Linda Sander

FOLK SINGING

The folk singing interest group will get together on Saturday, September 8, at 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. This is not a performance group. No talent or experience is necessary – just a desire to have fun. Bring a munchie if you wish. Maps are available in the foyer. Contact Steve at email folksinging.

GAME NIGHT

Our next Potluck and Game night will be on Friday, September 7 at the Fellowship. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for dinner or after 7 p.m. for games. Everyone is welcome – families, individuals, couples, children... Bring a dish and beverage to share. (Don't forget the beverage because we never know how many are coming, so we don't know how much to bring. Besides, we don't know what you want to drink.) Bring a friend too; this is a great event to introduce friends to the Fellowship.

We send out an email reminder a few days before the event to those who are regulars. If you would like a reminder, send a message to email game-night saying, "Put me on the Game-Night list," (or something like that). If you have any questions you can query at the above email address or call Mary Yeager.



FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

- Sep 4 Tue Finance Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Erach Patel, email: finance
- Sep 5 Wed RE Committee.** 7 p.m. OWL room. Contact Cathy Vogt, email: RE
- Sep 6 Thu Open Small Group Ministry.** 7:15 p.m. See p. 2.
- Sep 7 Fri Potluck & Game Night.** 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Sep 8 Sat Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 9.
- Sep 9 Sun Double Services Start Today,** 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Welcome Rev. Mero Picnic. Noon-4 p.m. Hoopes Park. See p. 8.
Youth Group First Meeting of the Year. 10:45 a.m. Downstairs. See p. 6.
Safe Harbor Dinner. Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. Email: safe-harbor
- Sep 11 Tue Board Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Office. All are welcome.
- Sep 14 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 a.m. at Panera in West Goshen. See p. 9.
- Sep 16 Sun Religious Education Begins.** 9 a.m. See p. 3.
Religious Education Parent Orientation at 10:15-10:45 a.m. See p. 3.
Youth Group Q&A for Parents. 12:15-2 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 6.
Exploring Diversity Book Discussion Group. 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace room. See p. 9.
- Sep 18 Tue Open Small Group Ministry.** 7:15 p.m. See p. 2.
- Sep 21 Fri Coffee House.** 7-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 8.
- Sep 22 Sat Lunch for the Needy.** Provided by our Fellowship at the Salvation Army. Email: salvation-army
- Sep 25 Tue Social Justice Committee.** 7 p.m. Office. Email: social-justice
- Sep 27 Thu Religious Services Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Curt Hoganson, email: religious-services
- Sep 29 Sat UUPLAN Organizational Meeting.** Harrisburg. See p. 5.
- Sep 30 Sun Service Auction Deadline for Donations to be in the Printed Catalog.** See p. 7.
Fun & Fellowship Committee. 12:15 p.m. Downstairs. Contact Nancy Artus, email: fun

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

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| Choir Rehearsal | Thursdays, 7:15-9 p.m. beginning September 13. Sanctuary. Email: choir. See p. 9. |
| Beyond War Study Series | Mondays, 7-9 p.m., starting September 17. See p. 6. |
| Small Group Ministry | Contact Gerry Giess, email: SGM. See p. 2. |
| Youth Group | Most Sundays, 10:45 am - noon. OWL/Youth Group rm. See p. 6. |
| Yoga Classes | Thursdays 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the basement. Email: yoga. |

NOTE: All email addresses are @ufwc.org.