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FELLOWTARIAN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester

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SUNDAY SERVICES

April, 2008

April 6 Single Service
10 a.m. Only

DUETS

Rev. Deborah Mero

Deborah and her singer/songwriter brother David Roth will share the podium at 10 a.m. in a service that will be a treat and hopefully an annual tradition. ***THIS IS A SINGLE SERVICE AT 10 A.M. ONLY.***

April 13

**A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST RESPONSE
TO AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH**

Diane Maguire

How do our Unitarian Universalist principles guide us in formulating a response to the threat of global warming and climate change? The Fellowship's Global Warming subcommittee will share the faith and science that motivates them and offer some slightly inconvenient suggestions for reducing personal and societal contributions to greenhouse gases.

April 20

OUT OF EGYPT

Rev. Deborah Mero

The Passover Seder is a tradition that tells of leaving slavery behind to wander in the desert before finding the Promised Land. What, if any, is the source of our own bondage and desire to be free?

April 27

EXPLORING OUR HUMANIST ROOTS

Rev. Deborah Mero

Unitarian ministers were some of the first to claim a Humanist understanding of the universe. But it was anything but secular.

Services and Babysitting at 9 AM and 11 AM. Religious Education at 9 AM only.

The Song of Deborah

By the time you read this we will have launched our pledge campaign, The Fire of Commitment. The leadership will have already made its pledges, and we will be off and running. From what I know of you already I have confidence that you will be as generous with your pledges as you are with your energy, your time, your talents, and your dedication to the UFWC. Nothing that I have witnessed since coming to West Chester gives me any reason to doubt that. You are amazing! HUGE thanks go to our Stewardship Campaign leaders, Pam Sapko, Gerry Geiss, and Mike Miller and the team they assembled to attend to every detail. Their work is truly a ministry to the entire congregation.

I am realizing that by the end of April it will have been a year since we first met. A lot has happened. We have “moved in” together, are about to make our “vows” expressing the covenant we will endeavor to uphold as we walk together on our journey, and the stark reality is beginning to settle in. Here we are. We are no longer either in transition or in the controlled atmosphere of “dating.” We’re starting to see that there is a lot of work ahead of us. We are growing into a relationship where, having enough time to settle in and (to use a household metaphor) find the dishes and cooking utensils in my kitchen, I can now cook some of the basic things I want to. But I need to learn some recipes from you. I need some feedback on what is working and what needs

adjusting. To push the metaphor further, what kinds of foods do you like best, what kinds of things you are allergic to, what will make for a good balanced diet that will feed us all at one time or another. We need to do some menu planning together.

We are putting a small task force together to look at what an Adult RE program at UFWC would look like. Given the time, building, resources, parking, and other constraints that we all know about, what kinds of subjects, programs, schedules, and leadership will provide for a well rounded and exciting program. From those discussions will also—I hope—spring ideas about what you want me to be exploring on Sunday mornings too. I hope you will want to give feedback to me, to the Religious Services Committee, and to the ARE task force once it

I'd love to hear from you if you have ideas, thoughts, concerns, and suggestions. It will help in building a relationship and building trust.

begins it's work. In the mean time, I'd love to hear from you if you have ideas, thoughts, concerns, and suggestions. It will help in building a relationship and building trust. Please feel free to call me or send me a note, however you wish to send it. We have lots of time ahead of us to plan and to build. I am sure that we have the combined talents to grow both larger in size and offerings and deeper in spirit. The word that keeps coming up in so many conversations and meetings is Mission. You will be hearing a lot about that as time goes on and into next year. It will provide us a great opportunity to go deeper and explore who we are as individuals and what we want to do as a community. Stay tuned.

In the mean time, I look forward to seeing your wonderful faces on April 6 as we fill our sanctuary and celebrate our journey forward.

— In peace and with love,
Deborah

PASSOVER SEDER SUNDAY APRIL 20, 6 P.M.

We will be holding a traditional (as traditional as anything with a UU flavor can be) Passover Seder on the evening of April 20. It falls on the second night of Passover. The Seder is a ritual retelling of the Exodus story over a dinner meal. We will have roast chicken, brisket, chicken soup with matzoh balls and, of course, vegetarian foods as well. This will take the form of a “planned” pot luck. There will be sign-up sheets available at the Fellowship both for cooking and helping. Kosher recipes will be available. This is a family friendly event and good for children aged 3 and older. The Religious Services Committee will be sponsoring it. Guaranteed good food and good fun.

FROM THE PRESIDENT SO WHAT WERE YOUR QUESTIONS?

I want to thank everyone once again who attended our first Board sponsored Town Meeting and pot-luck dinner a few weeks back. It's been on my mind for a couple of years that with double services it's been hard to find a way to connect this congregation to the Board – we used to just hold quick after service update meetings when we had a single service, but that doesn't work well now – so this is a good compromise.

But, of course, it's yet another full evening to commit in our already busy lives, so we can't do it often, and we can't get everyone there when we do. Nevertheless, I'm glad so many of you came and enjoyed the great food and company and got the overview from us of what the board is working on and our plans for the future.

In other words you mostly listened to me. I'm can be a bit of a bigmouth when there's a lot to go over, the ex-math teacher in me who wants everyone to understand all the parts of the story. So by the time we were done presenting and asked for questions from the floor, most folks were ready to go home to bed. A few questions and then off we went. Maybe we explained everything, but I'm not so sure.

I think that a key part of the role of the Board is to listen to the congregation and not just talk to the congregation. And it's true that we need to up the communication level and feedback.

I and all board members want to find a way to get questions from the congregation and try to get them answered and are looking for good ways to do this. We spoke at the last board meet-

ing about helping to get the neighborhood meeting idea off the ground and make sure board members join in the fun, so we'll look into that after our installation. I was also thinking of putting a 'Questions for the Board' box in the lobby so anyone could put a question to us for consideration. Everyone is of course invited to join in at Board meetings each second Tuesday if you're interested, always a fun time.

But remember – those folks who were sitting at the front of the room and wear yellow or blue name tags are board members, and you can and should talk to them about anything on your mind. With so much going on here, it's hard to keep track of how people are feeling. The more informed we all are the better.

– Bob Scott

CELEBRATION DINNER

We wish to invite all members and friends who will be contributing this year to the financial health of the congregation to attend the 2008 Stewardship campaign event, The Fire of Commitment – Celebration Dinner. The dinner will be at the fellowship on Saturday, April 26, at 6:00 p.m.

The evening is to celebrate the success of our annual stewardship campaign. There will be delicious food, great entertainment and wonderful camaraderie. If you have never attended this annual dinner, you should know that this is THE dinner of the year. Invitations are in the mail. Dressy attire is suggested and on-site childcare is only available upon request. In order to attend, please RSVP by April 19 to email: celebration-dinner or call Fatima Patel.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The ad hoc Name Change Committee is entering the next phase of our exploration of a possible congregational name change. At the February Town Hall meeting, a majority of those attending indicated support for continuing this exploration. This process will begin next fall in conjunction with the formulation of a new congregational mission statement.

Last fall, as many will remember, the committee provided background information on the Fellowship name and movement, as well as data pertaining to other names used by Unitarian Universalist congregations. This fall, the process will involve meeting with members and friends to determine and discuss the pros and cons of a name change. This will be your chance to voice your opinions and preferences. You are also welcome do so now via email: name, or by writing your thoughts on the poster in the lobby. We're looking forward to hearing from you.

REmarks – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

A question I put to the RE Committee at our recent retreat was, "Is our goal in RE to encourage free thinking or to create UUs? Can the two goals exist together?" As I watched and listened to the service that the Youth Group created and presented on March 9, I felt I had the answer: the two can definitely co-exist. The basic principles that Unitarian Universalists gather around ran like strong, bright threads through the fabric of the very thoughtful and creative service. It was a shivery sort of moment for me, as I realized that over the years our UFWC "village" – teachers, parents, ministers, DRE, other adults and classmates – has helped these children grow into people they can be proud to be and who we can be proud to call Unitarian Universalists.

While the most visible part of our religious education program takes place at the Fellowship on Sunday mornings, a lot happens in other places. This month, I want to share some of that with you.

RE Committee Annual Retreat – for the fifth year, the RE Committee held an off-site retreat in order to be able to focus on aspects of the program that don't fit into a regular monthly committee meeting. This year we reviewed the Vision and Mission statements we created at our 2005 retreat. We found that there is no need to make any changes at present, but we decided to review our mission again after the

congregation has its new mission statement completed.

Curriculum was another focus point for us; in particular, how to make sure that every child growing up in the program has the opportunity to be part of the Neighboring Faiths, Our Whole Lives, and Coming of Age programs.

We also took a close look at all the facets/tasks involved in running the RE Program, looking at who's responsible for what. We found some areas that we think parents can assist with, so if an RE Committee member

asks for your help, I hope your answer will be "yes!"

Teacher Development "Renaissance Module" for DREs – This workshop, held in Buckeystown, Maryland, was my

7th "Ren" Module. The program was rewritten last year around *The Courage to Teach* by Parker Palmer, a Quaker teacher and speaker. Formerly called "Teacher Training," this program now puts a large focus on the ministry and spiritual nature of teaching. It calls us to recognize how much more we can learn when we all learn from each other, and how to communicate these concepts to teachers.

DREs Cluster Meetings – The northern Joseph Priestley District DREs "cluster" meets roughly once a month to provide support and inspiration to each other and to share tools, experience and ideas. It is always energizing to meet with my colleagues, and I come home with valuable insights to put to use here.

— Pam Baxter
Director of Religious Education

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YOUTH GROUP

We hope you came to the AMAZING Youth Sunday service last month – if not, ask your friends about it! In two services on March 9th, we made music, selected readings, told tales of our Bunny's adventures, and took a fabulous "road trip" to our favorite UU Congregation, asking many questions along the way. Rev. Mero spent some time (and ate some pizza) with us afterward, giving us a chance to start developing a great relationship with our new minister.

What's coming in April? First, we're proud to be participating in Rev. Mero's installation service and reception on April 6. We'll follow that with a few great weeks of discussions and games. Questions? Contact Rob Sartain or Kate Cuffari at email: youth-group.

REVEREND MERO'S INSTALLATION – APRIL 6, 2008

Excitement is building for the April 6 installation of Rev. Deborah Mero, now just two or three weeks away.

A large number of our Fellowship members and friends, bolstered by area clergy and some prominent members of the community, have RSVP'ed that they will attend. Your Installation Planning Committee is busy making final arrangements to ensure a ceremony that will be both meaningful and beautiful.

We will begin with a stirring processional hymn during which clergy will process in robes. Among those clergy will be the Rev. Dr. Patrick O'Neill, our interim minister from last year, who will be back to deliver the charge to the congregation. In addition to the exchange of covenants between Deborah and our members, the service will also include beautiful music from the choir and a sermon by the Rev. Meg Riley, Director of Advocacy and Witness for the UUA. Our youth and children in the Religious Education Program will play a part as well.

Based on the RSVPs received, our sanctuary will be full. We will be able to accommodate everyone, but please understand that we cannot accept any last minute RSVPs.

We also need the cooperation of those who are attending. We are asking you to leave no vacant space in the seating. In addition, as you arrive, please take your seat as soon as possible to avoid congestion in the foyer and to ensure that the service begins on time. There will be ushers to help with this. It is possible that we will need to seat late comers in the foyer.

While the service will be formal, the reception that follows will provide the opportunity for us to socialize and enjoy one another over good food. All together, this promises to be a day of celebration and re-commitment to who we are and aspire to be as a religious community. I for one can't wait!

– Flo Miller, Chair
Installation Planning Committee

CARING CORNER

Congratulations to John McCormick and Jon Griffin who recently celebrated their thirtieth anniversary together. We would also like to offer a belated congratulations to Bob Radcliffe and Helen Neary on their engagement.

Pat Orban is on the road to recovery from kidney cancer after having had a kidney and tumor removed. Cathy Vogt's brother, Tim, is undergoing treatment for brain cancer. Please keep them and their loved ones in your thoughts and hearts during this difficult time.

Heidi Freyer is now coordinat-

ing help for Shelly Case and Gerry Geiss. The two areas of need currently identified are "shopping" (either online or in store) to get estimated values/replacement cost of items destroyed by the fire, and an occasional meal cooked for them. E-mail Heidi if you can help with either of these.

The **Support Resource Library** contains a wealth of information about resources available to people in our area on many different topics, including education and training programs, medical resources, volunteer opportunities, nursing homes, and many, many

others. It consists of two plastic file boxes and is located in the Fellowship library to the left of the stage.

If you find yourself in need of help, please feel free to ask. We have **Helping Hands** volunteers who can provide rides, meals, do chores, etc., for people in time of need. You can speak to Rev. Deborah Mero, or anyone on the **Caring Committee**: Sharon Mayer-Conroy, Heidi Buss, Diane Cohle, John Orban, and Pat Orban. You can identify us by the hearts on our name tags. We can also be reached at email: caring.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 11. Board members continued their ongoing discussion of the make-up of the executive team as part of Fellowship governance, as well as looking at samples of policies from two other congregations regarding limitations on the executive team. In addition, it was announced that several people are willing to serve on a Board sub-committee to recommend a process for creating a mission statement for the congregation.

The Board also designated four delegates to the upcoming Joseph Priestly Spring Conference: Diane Cohle, Ed Cohle, Mike Miller and Bob Scott. Rev. Deborah Mero will also attend.

Jack Butler led a discussion of the report of the Building and Space Committee, whose assignment it was to look at the space of Fellowship building and determine how it might be better utilized as the congregation grows, as well as what options might be available if the congregation outgrows the building.

Several other issues briefly discussed included the Board's budget needs for the next fiscal year, as well as the progress of the current stewardship campaign, and an installation update; 180 people have already accepted their invitation for the installation of the minister and the reception following on April 6. Lastly, President Bob Scott noted the need for a policy regarding privacy issues around Fellowship emails.

Board members include Bob Scott, President; Craig Talbot, Vice President; Erach Patel, Finance Chair; Deanna Koepcke, Secretary; and Jack Butler, Diane Cohle, Fatima Patel, and Sandy Schaal, Trustees. Rev. Deborah Mero and Pam Baxter, Director of Religious Education, also meet with the Board. Board minutes may be accessed at the members' area of the UFWC website, and Board members are interested in hearing comments and questions regarding the Fellowship functioning.

– Deanna Koepcke, Board Secretary

MARCH 1 CLEAN-UP DAY AND APRIL 5 TOUCH-UP DAY

Thanks to all 35 folks who came ready to work on March 1. It was a huge success and we accomplished most of the things on our list. I found that we have a number of people with specific skills that we were able to harness. Special thanks to Chic Bach, Dan Meyer and those teams that did the electrical and carpentry work. We will hold a brief "Touch-Up Day" on April 5, beginning 8:30 a.m., to polish up the place in time for the installation. If you can make it, that would be helpful. Once the weather turns mild, we will schedule another day for outside work and landscaping.



Thanks again,
Bruce, Tilo and Wayne

RELIGIOUS SERVICES COMMITTEE

Although summer is still weeks away, your Religious Services committee is making plans for meaningful worship in those hot, humid days to come. Summer is a time when we relax a bit and when many members and friends go on holiday. Accordingly, we schedule only a single worship service each Sunday. This year our last Sunday of double services will be June 15, and our first single service of the summer will be on June 22. We usually switch back to double services the first Sunday after Labor Day, so you can expect that on September 7 we will return to having two services.

Summer is also a time for our minister to recharge her batteries with some extended time out of the pulpit devoted to travel, study and relaxation. During summer, then, we have guest speakers and lay-led services.

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to suggest topics or activities for a summer service. In the past we have utilized a broad range of themes. If there is a topic you would like to see explored or if you have idea for an activity that might fit into a Sunday morning worship experience, please feel welcome to communicate it to the committee, perhaps to email: religious-services. Send any other thoughts you have been having regarding our Sunday services – we do like to hear from you.

– Curt Hoganson, Chair
Religious Services Committee

DENOMINATIONAL DOINGS

GA is coming! Registration materials and program descriptions for the General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations are now available. For newcomers to our Fellowship, GA is an annual gathering of UUs from across the country. They meet for a chock-full schedule of speakers, workshops, worship services, and business, or plenary sessions to conduct the business of the association.

This year's GA will be held June 25-29 in Fort Lauderdale, FL. We are entitled to a certain number of voting delegates at the plenary sessions. That number is currently 4, based on a congregational membership of around 180. But all are welcome to attend, and all can benefit. In the past few years, our Fellowship has been well represented, with far more than the minimal voting delegation in attendance.

More information is available on the web at www.uua.org/events/generalassembly. Or ask me. I can fill you in and/or direct you to others who will tell you how enriching and rewarding GA can be. And it's fun, too!

Update on past issues: Several weeks ago, we designated our "Share the Plate" monthly collection to the Pottstown Unitarian Fellowship. The Pottstown Fellowship experienced an oil spill on their property, and the \$45,000 clean-up bill is exceeding their annual budget. I've learned that \$9,000 was collected from area congregations, including our own, to help defray the costs. Another \$10,000 is being paid by insurance. If you missed our collection and would still like to help out, see me and I will provide donor information.

Our Joseph Priestley District will be receiving a substantial allocation of \$40,000 from the UUA as a result of contributions from congregations at "Association Sunday." During this special service (ours was held in January), UUs donated funds to assist programs associated with growth of the denomination. Our Joseph Priestley District – comprised of congregations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Washington, DC, and northern Virginia – is currently investigating how to expend its \$40,000 allocation. The district's Growth and Extension Committee has been charged with looking into it.

As of this writing, we had at least ten Fellowship members planning to attend the JPD's annual conference March 28-30 in Bethesda, MD. That number does not include our Youth Group. Included on the agenda for the business meeting was election of new trustees for the JPD Board. I was on the nominating slate and am anticipating serving a two-year term on the Board.

– Flo Miller
Denominational Affairs Chair



SUMMER CAMPING TRIP SUSQUEHANNOCK STATE PARK JULY 12-13



It's not even the first day of spring and it's a cold and rainy day (just be glad it's not snowing); the Flyers and Sixers are still playing; and the Phillies are in Clearwater. Hopefully you haven't made your summer vacation plans yet.

The few that made it to last summer's outing at Susquehannock State Park thoroughly enjoyed the location – the view of the Susquehanna River; the bald eagles circling overhead; the clear sky for viewing the stars; and don't forget, the LIT RESTROOMS and FLUSH TOILETS at 3 a.m.

If you've not been there, Susquehannock State Park sits on a bluff overlooking the Susquehanna River in southern Lancaster County, north of the Conowingo Reservoir. You can find out more about Susquehannock on the internet at <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/>. Convenient to the group camp site are a playground, a ball field and hiking trails.

Please put Saturday, July 12 on your calendar and plan on joining us for a summer night of singing, sleeping and S'mores!

Contact Dan Meyer at email: camping.

STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

Communication has become more important as we grow and the number of activities in which you can participate grows. *The Fellowtarian* and the *Connections* are two ways to get your information about social justice activities and opportunities. We also have our bulletin board that is organized by major social justice emphasis. It's located on the right side of the back wall as you leave the sanctuary. Check it out. Information, pictures taken at our events, and opportunities in the community are all on this bulletin board.

The social justice committee asks that congregation members refrain from posting on the bulletin board. See someone on the committee or in one of our many social justice groups and subcommittees if you have something related to our projects that you want us to post.

A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD

You are still needed at the Peace Vigil . In conjunction with the Justice Sunday service on March 30 at UFWC, your action is needed on Saturday morning April 5 at 10:45. We will gather at and then walk from the Fellowship to the courthouse to support ending the current and all wars. We will join the protest that has been happening every Saturday for the past five years.

You can make a sign or just be part of the crowd until the end of the protest which is at noon. We will walk for peace, hope, understanding, and compassion. We will let West Chester know that Unitarian Universalists walk for a more just and compassionate world. Mark it on your calendar now.



GLEANINGS FROM THE UUSC BLOGOSPHERE

UUSC now has a blog on their website. Like many blogs anyone can add to it. Recently, there was a posting and while not relating directly to UUSC, nevertheless it was a gem.

It said, "A few weeks back, I was talking to a friend, a father who, when he reads fairy tales to his young daughter, changes the ending in each one. Instead of marrying handsome princes, each woman in his daughter's fairy tales becomes a lawyer for Amnesty International, or a doctor with Doctors Without Borders, or a musician playing packed houses – or some other independent, intelligent, powerful woman."

Around the world the majority of grants that UUSC awards go to women because the more they are supported and educated, the fewer the wars, violence, and destruction. Kudos to UUSC for printing this.





Global Warming Group's Tip of the Month:
Would you like to support local farmers? Check out Community Supported Agriculture at www.localharvest.org/csa to search for a farm near you that sells produce subscriptions. Subscribers or members receive a weekly or monthly basket of produce, flowers, fruits, eggs, milk, or other farm products.

DEADLINES for subscriptions are typically in late winter/early spring (now!)

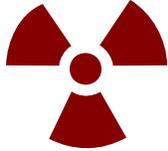
DONATE COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS TO THE LESS FORTUNATE

Did you know that the grocery gift card sellers at the Fellowship accept checks for donations to local food banks? Now, you can designate your donations for compact fluorescent light bulbs to be made available to those who use the food banks. CFLs are much more efficient than "regular" bulbs. This will reduce electricity bills, allowing folks to use the savings for other necessities. Simply write "CFL" in the memo line.

STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

The first of four 2008 Chester County Household Hazardous Waste drop-off dates is April 5th in Phoenixville at CAT Pickering Center for Arts & Technology, 1580 Charles-town Rd. Compact fluorescent light bulbs are now accepted on all drop-off dates. Computers will be accepted on April 5 only.



EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

APRIL 20 7-8:30 PM

Sky Burial: An Epic Love Story of Tibet by Xinran Xue. Journalist Xinran Xue's novel is based on the true story of a Chinese woman's long journey through Chinese occupied Tibet. What begins as a search for her soldier husband becomes more of a story about the land and culture of Tibet.

Susan Gast will lead our discussion. All are welcome. Contact either Shelly Case, or Ruth MacFadyen, or by email: diversity-book-group.

May 18 book to be announced.

WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT IF A KID COULD SAY...

I want to be in the **NONVIOLENT PEACEFORCE** when I grow up.

If this growing international movement, started in 2004 and already successful in four countries, catches on around the world, children everywhere will have a chance to choose between being a paid soldier or joining a new occupation - a paid, fully trained international peacekeeper. Not the UN blue helmets, these are a new kind of peacekeepers: unarmed, working in small groups of fully trained non-partisan members, each from a different country. They travel to countries upon invitation, training locals to use negotiation to deter violence, and have already been invited to 100 countries.

Erika Shatz, from www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org, powerfully and eloquently illustrated this vision when she came to talk to UFWC members and many other community guests on Saturday evening, March 8.

Erika told a story about how one of the Nonviolent Peaceforce groups was able to accompany mothers to negotiate the return of their 26 kidnapped children who had been forced into conscription by guerillas.

In another story, peacekeepers were mediating between two factions of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka, but were living with one faction. While traveling in their precious \$30,000 jeep, an angry mob from one faction stopped them and began smashing up the jeep. They thought the peacekeepers were siding with

INTERFAITH FORUM ON TORTURE AT UFWC

We will co-sponsor an Interfaith Forum with the Chester County Peace Movement and the Chester County Religious Campaign Against Torture entitled "Torture As a Moral Issue: People of Faith Respond." It will take place at UFWC on Sunday, April 13, from 2-4 p.m. More information to come through your weekly *Connections* email newsletter.

their rivals. Instead of running away, the peacekeepers got out of their jeep and, after listening to the complaints of the mob, said, "You are right, we haven't talked to you enough." Many in that mob later became volunteer peacekeepers.

Erika explained her vision that one day a professional International Peacekeeper would be an occupation that young children could aspire to. The vision is to scale this movement BIG and WORLDWIDE, so that it becomes a major nonviolent force in the world.

Yes, we can make a difference in this world! Future generations will look back on this decade and say that this was the time when international peacekeepers were first invented. Wouldn't it be wonderful if your great, great grandchildren could say that you helped start this international movement?

THINK SPRING CLEANING! THINK FLEA MARKET!

Spring cleaning? Down-sizing? Looking for interesting “UU stuff” to buy? Our Saturday, April 12, Flea Market is your chance.

FLEA MARKET DO’S AND DON’TS

DO donate only clean and useable items. Best sellers include jewelry, small appliances in good working order, household goods, garden tools, books, toys and games, baby and toddler clothing.

DO put tiny items – jewelry and small toys for example—into small clear plastic baggies if you possibly can.

DO make sure clothing is of consignment store quality.

DON’T donate items that might pose a liability risk. We cannot accept baby furniture, medical items or sports/exercise equipment.

DON’T bring items that will be hard to dispose of if left unsold, such as TV’s, computers and other electronics, and large furniture items. But **DO** offer these items for sale online by contacting email: flea-market with a description (and if possible a digital photo).

The Story of Stuff (www.storyofstuff.org) details the stress our consumer society places on the environment by producing, transporting and then discarding “stuff.” This lively and informative 20-minute video makes a strong case for recycling useable but unwanted goods for someone else to use.

We will again give all items left unsold at the end of our flea market to other local nonprofits, making good use of all dona-

tions. We welcome your recommendations of groups that can best use various types of items—e.g., books, clothes, household goods.

The flea market schedule will begin as usual on Thursday evening by receiving your donations from 7-9 p.m. on April 10 at the side (Lacey Street) entrance. Volunteers will help you unload your car and distribute your goods to the right tables for sale. On Friday a large crew will be sorting, pricing and arranging; and the sale runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday.

One more thing: **DO** bring a friend and shop for great “UU stuff.”

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BAKE SALE DURING FLEA MARKET

Bake your favorite recipe for cookies, brownies, cakes, breads and other pastries and bring them with you to the Flea Market Saturday morning. While the Flea Market income supports the Fellowship’s budget, bake sale proceeds are for the local Habitat for Humanity project the Fellowship supports.



A VOLUNTEER FAVORITE

The flea market volunteers have so much fun that many of last year’s crew have already signed up for this year. We still need lots more help, though, as we expect this year’s sale to be bigger than ever. New members and friends are especially welcome as this is such a fun way to get to know people. We need crews for room set-up, intake of donations, organizing and pricing, helping at the sale, transporting unsold goods to other charities, cleaning the sanctuary and helping to set up for the Coffee House that evening.

Join the fun by e-mailing flea-market or by putting your name on the sign-up sheet during the coffee hour.

Flea Market Shift Volunteers are needed during the following times:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Thu, Apr 10 ... 5 - 7 pm | Stack chairs, set up tables and signs |
| Thu, Apr 10 ... 7 - 9 pm | Help with drop-off and sorting |
| Fri, Apr 11 All day | Arrange and price items |
| Sat, Apr 12 7:30 am - 1 pm | Help with sale |
| Sat, Apr 12 1 - 3 pm. | Pack up and transport unsold goods |
| Sat, Apr 12 2 - 4 pm | Clean and re-set sanctuary |

GAME NIGHT

Our monthly potluck and game night will be held Friday, April 4, and Friday, May 2. Generally, we meet the first Friday of each month in the sanctuary. We start at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck, and then break up into groups to play a variety of board and card games.



Bring some food and a beverage to share. If you don't have time to cook or you just don't want to, pick up pizza or something on the way. Bring any game(s) you would like to play. We plan to have Jeopardy at the May game night. We usually finish between 9 and 9:30 p.m. If you would like to get on the game night email list or more information, contact Mary Yeager at email: game-night.

COFFEE HOUSE

AN EVENING OF MUSIC

Saturday, April 12
7-10 pm
At The Fellowship

Featured Act Steve Sander



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

Contact Judy Perri at
email: coffeehouse

HIKE IN FRENCH CREEK STATE PARK AND HOPEWELL FURNACE IN MAY

Join us for an easy hike in French Creek State Park and Hopewell Furnace on Saturday, May 17, at noon. Meet at the parking lot at Hopewell Lake (directions and maps to be available next month). It will be an easy "figure eight" hike (approximately six miles) going by two lakes and through the historic Hopewell Village on the Horse-Shoe Trail and other trails in those two parks. Since the route brings us back near the parking lot halfway through the hike, there is an opportunity for people to do a shorter hike if they want. If you are interested, please contact Mike Stevens, and watch for the article in the May *Fellowtarian* with more details. Children are welcome.



LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet on Friday, April 11, at 11:30 a.m. at Panera Bread Company, located in West Goshen, near Shop Rite, at 1103 West Chester Pike. Many lunch group members will help price items for the flea market in the morning and break for lunch at Panera. E-mail Linda Sander at lunch-group to be added to the e-mail reminder list. Everyone is welcome.

FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, April 5, at 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. Bring a munchie, if you wish. Maps are available in the foyer. Newcomers are welcome. No experience or talent is necessary. Contact Steve at email: folk-singing.



DELIBERATE LIVING

This month only, due to the Installation service on April 6, we will meet on April 13 instead of the usual first Sunday. We meet at 12:30 p.m. downstairs after the second service.

We recently chose a new name for Simplicity Circle. We wanted our name to reflect more clearly our current focus. We have asked ourselves questions: What are we really after in our life? What are our deepest longings for a complete life? What are some of the pathways toward reaching our authentic core, and how do we live it out? These pathways have many dimensions.

Maureen Finnay, one of our newer members and an active participant, will lead the meeting this month. We look forward to her insightful contributions.

Come and join us. No preparation needed. It's a good group for newcomers – no commitment is required, though continuity is best. Contact Heidi Buss at 6email: deliberate-living.

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Apr 1 Tue Finance Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Erach Patel, email: finance
- Apr 2 Wed RE Committee.** 7 p.m. Contact Cathy Vogt, email: religious-education
- Apr 3 Thu Caring Committee.** 1-3 p.m. Sharon Mayer-Conroy's home. Email: caring
- Global Warming Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Lobby. Contact Diane Maguire, email: global-warming.
- Apr 4 Fri Potluck and Game Night.** 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary. Contact Mary Yeager, email: game-night
- Apr 5 Sat Work Party for the Installation.** 8:30 a.m. Contact Bruce Koepcke, email: building. See p. 6.
- Peace Vigil: Justice Sunday Follow-up Event.** Gather at the Fellowship at 10:45 a.m. and walk to join the peace vigil at the courthouse. See p. 8.
- Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 11.
- Apr 6 Sun Installation of Reverend Mero.** 5 p.m. Sanctuary. RSVP required. See p. 5.
- Apr 8 Tue Board Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Office. All are welcome.
- Apr 10 Thu Flea Market: Set up.** 5-7 p.m. **Drop-off & Sorting.** 7-9 p.m. See p. 10.
- Social Justice Committee.** 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice
- Apr 11 Fri Flea Market: Arranging and Pricing Items.** All day. See p. 10.
- Lunch Group.** 11:30 a.m. Panera. See p. 11. Email: lunch-group
- Apr 12 Sat Flea Market and Habitat Bake Sale: Sale.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. **Pack & Transport Unsold Goods.** 1-3 p.m. **Clean & Set up sanctuary.** 2-4 p.m. See p. 10.
- Coffee House.** 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 11.
- Apr 13 Sun Deliberate Living.** 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Room. See p. 11.
- Inter-Faith Forum on Torture.** 2-4 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Safe Harbor Dinner.** Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. To help, contact Sharon Mayer-Conroy, email: safe-harbor
- Apr 14 Mon Beyond War Group.** 7-9 p.m. Fireplace Room. Email: beyond-war
- Apr 19 Sat RSVP Deadline for Celebration Dinner.** See p. 3.
- Apr 20 Sun Passover Seder.** 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 2.
- Exploring Diversity Book Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace Room. See p. 9.
- Apr 22 Tue Council Meeting.** 7-9:30 pm. Office. Contact Craig Talbot, email: vice-president
- Apr 24 Thu Religious Services Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Curt Hoganson, email: religious-services
- Membership Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Lobby. Contact Mira Tryon or Barbara Long, e-mail: membership
- Apr 26 Sat Salvation Army Lunch.** Provided by the Fellowship the fourth Saturday of the month. To help, contact Sharon Mayer-Conroy, email: salvation-army
- Celebration Dinner.** 6 p.m. Sanctuary. Please RSVP by April 19. See p. 3.

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

- Small Group Ministry** Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evening and Tuesday daytime groups. Contact: Gerry Giess, Email: sgm.
- Adult RE** **Women in the Hebrew Bible Course.** Wednesdays 7-9 p.m. Fireplace Room. Contact Rev. Mero.
- Choir Practice** Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary. Contact Barbara Kovacs, Choir Director, email: choir.
- Yoga Classes** Thursdays 6:15-7:15 p.m. Downstairs. Contact Mira Tryon, e-mail: yoga.
- Peace Vigils** Saturdays 11 a.m. to noon. West Chester Court House. High and Market Streets, West Chester. Email: social-justice.
- Youth Group** Most Sunday mornings. 10:45 a.m. OWL/Youth Group rm. Contact Kate Cuffari, email: youth-group. See p. 4