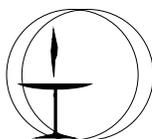


UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF WEST CHESTER  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  
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# the FELLOWTARIAN

*Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester*

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

April, 2009

**April 5**

**DUETS, THE SEQUEL**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

One of my favorite services of any year is when I can share the pulpit with my brother, the singer/songwriter. Last year at this time we began the celebration of Installation Day with our Duets Service. This year we will pick new songs, new topics. Food for thought, food for the brain and the soul. Please join us. Children will begin the morning in the sanctuary.

**April 12**

**ROLLING AWAY THE STONE**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

This Easter Sunday we will look at part of the Jesus story, the part where his entombment leads into his reappearance among his disciples. How might this story apply to those of us who reject the miracle of resurrection?

**April 19**

**UUSC JUSTICE SUNDAY**

**Social Justice Committee**

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Come celebrate the many accomplishments of UUs toward justice and human rights and learn what remains to be done and how our Service Committee is doing much of the work.

**April 26**

**“EVERYONE’S ALL A TWITTER!”**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

New technology has us sending out information all over the airwaves and the internet. From the President keeping his e-mail account to politicians and celebrities transmitting their every move and opinion —within the limit of 140 characters. Are we communicating? I know that this minister is having trouble keeping up with all of the new tools. Are you? Let’s learn from one another and do some communicating.

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

## THE SONG OF DEBORAH

It took me by surprise a couple of weeks ago when I realized that this is the time of year that, for the past decade, I shift into “good-bye mode.” For 8½ years I served our association and congregations as an interim minister. I worked with congregations in transition and part of that transition was to formally stage the leaving of the minister in a healthy way. I would begin to write about it in late February and then become more intentional in March and by April, the congregation would be in gear ready to say good-bye to me as they were getting excited about the candidating week of a potential minister.

This was a pattern I repeated with five different congregations and it became part of my subconscious. Let no one tell you that we don’t have inner rhythms that set the pace of our lives.

I realized this and then took a deep breath — a very deep breath — and then let go of it. I’m not going anywhere. I’m not saying good-bye. That is an odd but not unwelcome feeling. In fact it brought a big smile to my face.

So, if I’m not going somewhere, what’s next? That’s an interesting question. We now have a mission and with that mission we will start formulating goals. One of the goals I see in front of me, in front of us, is going deeper.

I can see this taking different forms. It is time for me to take time to go deeper into my own spirit and find more ways of connecting to the larger cosmos. It is also time to go deeper in my relationships with each of you. I write this after just having completed the Faith and Reason series that was very rewarding for

me and I hope for those of you who took part. We had a wonderful time hearing from a great variety of writers about their connection, or lack thereof, to God, to mythology, to science, to spirit. It was lots of fun to talk about the writers and once in a while we snuck in of some of the chapters of our own stories. We need to do more of this — lots more.

It seems like a luxury to me — I’m already thinking ahead to next fall and some of the programming I’d like to do which will provide opportunities for us to tell more of our stories to one another. Yes, next fall seems very far away, but with spring coming and all of the things we already have planned it is impossible to fit in a six or eight week series and hope to work around our busy lives. In the mean time I will be planning some vesper services on occasional Wednesday evenings for meditation, poetry, quiet music and contemplation. Stay tuned.

I’d like to issue a challenge to each of you. We said in our mission statement that we have at least three pretty strong goals for changing our lives and the lives of our children and people in the wider community. We want to create an environment for spiritual growth and fulfillment. What are you doing to aid in that goal? Are you taking part in the variety of programs we offer? Are you coming to join others in Sunday Worship and/or taking an active part in its planning or serving in a volunteer role?

We also said we want to build meaningful connections.

Are you reaching out to make new connections with people you don’t already know in the Fellowship? If so, great, if not, now’s your chance. Take the time to get to know someone new. Find out about their story and share yours.

And how are you actively advancing peace and justice in our community and beyond? As the Board sets out to craft “ends” statements or goals we would

like to achieve in living our mission,

I challenge each of us, myself included, to set some personal goals that reflect our collective mission.

They don’t have to be big. If we can think about our own roles regarding spiritual growth, community building, and working for social justice, we will have a greater wealth of resources when we all come together on the journey.

This isn’t a one time thing. We will be working to fulfill our mission for a long time to come, but to do so we each need to take that first step on the path. Take some time. Think about the mission and your role in making it real. Talk with one another about it. Make some new connections.

I, for one, am already feeling energized just thinking about it. I hope you are too. We are in this together for the long haul and it feels great.

— Blessings,  
*Deborah*

*We want to create an environment for spiritual growth and fulfillment. What are you doing to aid in that goal?*



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the year winds down I like to review what's left for us to do against the goals the Board set for the year — the annual meeting is coming up on June 7.

I'd also like to invite everyone to come to a potluck dinner on Sunday, April 19, which will be followed by a "Town Meeting" for the Board and the Congregation to go over some of this information and answer any questions anyone might have. We'll be suggesting changes to the by-laws this year as we complete our transition into policy governance, and we'd like to communicate that in advance. Also we'll get a chance to reflect on the generous results of the Stewardship campaign and give any updates needed. Of course, the social time and the food are what bring me out — we'll eat first and talk a bit after.

In brief, we agreed at our Board retreat to support and drive creation of a mission and covenant statement, to implement policy government this year by approving Board Policies in the four policy groups, to change the by-laws to reflect the governance change, to form a Committee on Ministry that reflects these changes, and to put some focus on volunteer coordination.

We've completed the work on mission/covenant — great effort by all! We did name a Committee on Ministry which kicked off last week and is "open for business" as discussed elsewhere in this *Fellowtarian*. We are working toward defining a job description for Volunteer Coordinator and applying for a Chalice Lighter's grant to help pay for it. We have made some decisions about the structure of the leadership at UFWC and are working on the appropriate By-laws changes.

In particular, the Board approved an Executive team to be comprised of the Minister, the Treasurer and the Program Coordinator, and to have this team coordinate all the operational aspects of UFWC with the committees, the Council and the staff. The Board will then focus on Mission and Ends, both setting and monitoring, and keeping these and our long range goals in the forefront.

At our last Board meeting we had good discussions with working drafts from sub-committees on policies on limitations, Board/Executive linkage and Ends policies. I'm now sure we'll be able to complete a good first pass at all these policies in time for our annual meeting.

It was really nice to have made so much progress and to be digging in and spending Board time on this important work. I'm particularly pleased to have been able to spend time discussing our own draft Ends statements which do indeed reflect the mission — this is the heart of Board work.

I'll share the state of our policies with the congregation at the Town Hall meeting and we'll start posting them around so people can read and discuss and grow to understand how this all will work.

Please talk with any Board member in the meantime if you have questions, and feel free to come to a Board meeting and see how things are changing.

I do feel grateful to the Board and the Congregation for so much hard work this year so far, with just a few more months to finish the job and reap the long term rewards.

— Bob Scott

## WE NOW HAVE A MISSION STATEMENT AND A COVENANT STATEMENT

On January 25, the members of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester approved the following mission statement and covenant statement at a congregational meeting:

### **Mission Statement:**

As a diverse liberal faith congregation we make a difference in our lives, our children's lives, and the wider community by creating an environment for spiritual growth and fulfillment, for building meaningful connections, and for actively advancing peace and justice in the world.

### **Covenant Statement:**

The members of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester covenant and affirm that in our lives together:

- We communicate with kindness and support.
- We accept responsibility for our individual actions.
- We build trust by acting with honesty, integrity, and respect.
- We honor our diversity as a source of strength.
- We actively minister to one another in times of need.
- We challenge ourselves and each other to live the UU principles in our daily lives and to accomplish our mission.

We serve with compassion and commitment and pledge our time, talents and treasure to the common good of the congregation.

The mission-covenant committee thanks all who helped accomplish this goal.

## REmarks – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

### **Pennies for Peace**

Thanks to everyone, of all ages, who contributed to the Pennies for Peace fundraiser conducted by our sixth- and seventh-graders. This is the first time children have engaged in a fundraising effort that lasted more than a day or two. First, the class researched the program, which builds schools and provides educational materials for children in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and created an informational poster.

Every Sunday morning in January and February, the class visited the younger children during Worship Circle to explain the program and collect pennies. They also read aloud to them the book, "Listen to the Wind." This is a picture-book version of Greg Mortenson's "Three Cups of Tea," which gives more details about how Mortenson got the idea for his outreach program, along with photographs of how many hurdles had to be crossed in order to build the first school. Announcements in the orders of service brought pennies from adults during coffee hours. The collection jar quickly filled up and a second container was needed to handle all the contributions.

The project also involved a letter-writing campaign to elected officials. So far, the class has received responses from Senator Andy Dinniman and Representative Barbara McClvaine-Smith, applauding the class's efforts to raise money for this worthy cause. The 15th of February was the last call for pennies and the total raised was \$150.05. It was mostly pennies that were collected, which helped to show the children how "the power of one" can multiply.

This fundraiser was part of a social justice curriculum, titled "It Starts with Me." In addition to Pennies for Peace, the class prepared and delivered lunch to our Habitat for Humanity builders and prepared a meal for the people at the Safe Harbor homeless shelter, donating two weekend days to these efforts. They have two more projects to complete. Congratulations to the class for their dedication to this project and thanks also to the 6th/7th grade teaching team for all their work.

### **Somebody Loves You**

Thanks to everyone for making valentines to give out on February 15th and for taking part in bringing to life the story of lonely Mr. Hatch, who learned how to reach out to people and how to take love in. Special thanks to Rob Sartain and Brett Goldman for agreeing to play the part of Mr. Hatch – without rehearsal! They both made it a lot of fun. For all of you who wondered, the valentine and the hug each Mr. Hatch received from two of our young-

est children were spontaneous acts of love – we didn't plan them!

Deborah and I have been focusing a lot of time and creative energy in making intergenerational services both meaningful and fun for all ages because these gatherings are the only times we all come together for worship. So, it has been great to see more and more people – both children and adults – attending these services and having such a good time: singing, laughing, sharing, dancing, sitting quietly in meditation – whatever the story and the message call us to do. We can feel the energy from the collected group, and it feels good.

The next intergen is scheduled for May 3. We will use *Alice in Wonderland* as our starting point, and after the second service we will celebrate with an "unbirthday" party for everyone. You are all invited! Look for more details in Connections and orders of service later this month.

— Pam Baxter  
Director of Religious Education

## COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

We are pleased to report that a new Committee on Ministry has been appointed and is beginning to meet. Among the committee's responsibilities are the development and implementation of tools to evaluate the effectiveness of our congregation's ministry, consultation with the minister in the development of yearly goals, and management of internal conflicts that could adversely affect our ability to carry out our mission.

The members of the committee are Heidi Frayer, Sue Johnston, Jim MacFadyen, and Michael Werner. Please feel free to contact any of them or email the committee at email: COM, if you have questions or have any concerns about the Fellowship's ministry effectiveness. Suggestions about how we can better minister to you are always welcome, too.

## FROM THE NEW PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Some of you may recall that during the 2008 annual meeting, the Board asked the congregation to approve the adoption of a Program Coordinator position. The main goals were to have the Program Coordinator facilitate an Executive Team and chair the Fellowship Council. The Board Vice-President formerly facilitated the Fellowship Council. The Program Coordinator would report to the Board; however he/she would not be on the Board. Bob Scott, our Board President, will explain the function of the Executive Team in another article.

I look at this position as the glue and the communications between committees and the board. As PC (Program Coordinator), each month I receive reports from each committee chair on the committee's accomplishments and needs. From this, an agenda is created, a meeting is held, and all share in the wonderful accomplishments of each committee. We discuss issues, and we problem solve. We also find ways to cooperate in designing the many programs we offer. For those who have not been to a Fellowship Council meeting, you would find they are very rich in accomplishments, brainstorming, and laughter. I find them very rewarding to facilitate. This is a great group of people helping this Fellowship be its best.

The PC is also involved in building and re-building committees. I have assisted in forming a new Communications Committee. It is made up of Sandy Retzloff, Scott Tarlo, and Alaine Butler. They have jumped right into the task! They

took the Stewardship Brochures and created the banners you see in the front of the sanctuary. They are also communicating to the media about the events held within our Fellowship that make a difference to the community.

With the resignation of the Building Committee chair, we re-built that committee and scheduled our Spring Work Party. We are inviting you all to join us Saturday, March 28, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. This team is made up of Doug Campbell, Wayne Bullaughey, Tilo Stahl, Dirk Trolleiner, Bruce Neff, Jack Butler, Tom Townsend, Gerry

Giess, and Scott Tarlo. We could use your support as we spruce up the building for spring.

We have also started two sub-committees, one to improve our web-site and the other to improve our sound system. More to come on these teams in the near future.

These are some of the things I have been working on since accepting the call from the Board to be Program Coordinator. If you want to know more, feel free to ask me.

— Mark Steel  
email: program



## COFFEE TEAM AND COFFEE BREWERS

We thank the members and friends who are now part of The Coffee Team at UFWC. The team's members (generated by the recent Talents Survey and including the Membership Committee) have been contacted and will receive a quarterly schedule. We always have room for more volunteers.

Perhaps you would like to be on the Refreshment Team? It would be nice to have additional items to compliment the wonderful home made goodies contributed by several folks. If you would like to stop at one of the two local pastry outlets, the Coffee Team will be sure to set the goodies out. Please let us know so that we can set up a schedule, perhaps on a monthly basis. If it is your month, you can always bring and freeze extra bakery items.

The best part is, we have been generously blessed with three recent donations. Peggy and Dennis Wadsworth donated two large brewers for our potlucks, gatherings, etc. Barbara and David Long donated two 14-cup Toastmasters for hot tea water. Chic Bach loaned, on a permanent basis, a restaurant type Bunn coffee brewer which makes a 12-cup pot of coffee in four minutes. Thank you so much!

We are now very efficient in our production. We are still in need of a large 12-cup thermos — our second one disappeared. Of course, we continue to use delicious fair trade coffee supplied by the Fellowship and ordered by Mary Yeager of the Fun & Fellowship committee. Enjoy!

— Barbara Long and Mira Tryon  
email: membership

## EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS: ATTEND OUR DISTRICT CONFERENCE OR GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Spring for Unitarian Universalists brings more than the promise of warm weather, with all that connotes in terms of renewal and growth. The season also offers UUs the opportunity to renew and grow in their faith through the annual spring conference of the Joseph Priestley District. As we head into summer, the General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Congregations provides the opportunity for an exceptionally enriching five days of worship, workshops, and lectures.

The Joseph Priestley District, or JPD, serves 67 congregations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. It employs an office staff in Wilmington, DE, including Executive Director the Rev. Dr. Richard Speck. A Board of Trustees (of which yours truly is a member) oversees the organization.

This year's spring conference – scheduled for April 24-25 at the Doubletree Hotel in Wilmington – will afford us the opportunity to learn from and interact with UUs from outside the Fellowship while also attending worship services and workshops on a variety of subjects. An added attraction is a Friday night forum featuring the two candidates for UUA President, Laurel Hallman and Peter Morales. They will be the subject of a vote at General Assembly (more on that later).

We are lucky in that the conference this year is being held in Wilmington, an easy half hour's drive away. While attendance at Friday night's program is recommended, you may come only on Saturday if you wish. (There is not a discount, however, for partial attendance.) For a full program and registration information, visit the JPD website at [www.jpduua.org](http://www.jpduua.org),

General Assembly – which operates on a much, much larger national scale - is scheduled for June 24-28 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The program includes over 300 events on a wide variety of topics, all related in some way to our UU faith. UUs from all over the country attend; they typically number several thousand, and just being in their presence is an energizing experience. In addition, at each GA, we carry on the business of the association. That business this year includes electing a president who will lead the UUA for the next four years.

You can obtain additional information at the website for the UUA at [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org). There is a link to General Assembly 2009 on the home page.

If you have questions or just want a first-hand account of the value of these conferences, don't hesitate to contact me at email: [denominational-affairs](mailto:denominational-affairs). I'd also appreciate a note if you plan to attend either event this year. Because the district conference is so close to home, we hope to have an especially wide representation at that event.

—Flo Miller Denominational Affairs Chair

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees conducted its regular monthly meeting on March 10. The Board continued its work on policy governance. Subcommittees in the areas of Ends statements, structure, linkage, and limitations presented drafts. Members of the board will review these for the April meeting. A town meeting to communicate information from stewardship and a Board report about policy governance to the congregation is planned for April 19 at 6 p.m. A potluck will take place before the meeting.

Other topics of discussion for this meeting included: a Chalice Lighters grant application to fund a volunteer coordinator as a staff position, a Minister's discretionary fund funded by donations, and Rev. Mero's efforts for Steve Johnson (author of *The Invention of Air*) to visit this area.

Current Board members include: Bob Scott, President; Craig Talbot, Vice President; Eileen Kelly-Meyer, Secretary; and Diane Cohle, Sandy Schaal, Juan Leon and Betty Grosse, Trustees. Rev. Deborah Mero, Pam Baxter, Director of Religious Education, Erach Patel, Executive Treasurer, and Mark Steel, Program Coordinator also meet with the Board.

Members and friends of the Fellowship are encouraged to share comments and concerns with Board members, as well as to attend Board meetings if interested.

The board meets on the second Tuesday of the month, in the office. Meeting minutes are posted to the members section of the UFWC website after being approved by the Board.



## STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

*Each event, each action is another stone in the wall of social justice.*

The Social Justice Committee continues to develop and support new events and efforts as well as forge new relationships within our community. As you may recall, several of us participated on the MLK day of service steering committee hosted by St. Paul's Baptist Church. The group decided to do several events throughout the year, not just on MLK day. We will keep you informed of their events as they approach.

An Interfaith Forum is currently being planned during the evening of May 3 on the topic of, "Who is our neighbor?" If you attended last year's forum, you know how interesting the discussion will be. This year, four clergy and/or religious scholars from diverse faiths will talk about how their faith traditions and sacred texts address the important question of who is our neighbor. Since we are often told to, "Love thy neighbor," this question is especially important.

We also hope to be starting an anti-racism, anti-oppression, multicultural diversity group (That's a mouthful, isn't it?) in the near future. Social justice never rests. To get involved, contact us at email: social-justice.

### BEYOND WAR EVENT DRAWS ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME

Peace activists from as far away as Eugene, Oregon and Ventura, California gathered in West Chester recently for the Beyond War Annual National Conference. Fourteen members of UFWC along with Grove Methodist Church members were among the local participants who focused their discussions and training sessions on promoting Beyond War's objectives of building a safer and saner world through the peaceful resolution of conflicts on a interpersonal, community, and global basis. Highlighting the gathering was the launching of the recently published book, "Living Beyond War: A Citizen's Guide" by Winslow Myers, a long-time member of Beyond War's efforts. Many speakers throughout the weekend (including our own Ed Cohle) gave renewed energy and new direction to attendees.

Beyond War subcommittee members were instrumental in coordinating this conference, held for the first time on the East Coast. A well attended reception for conference attendees was held on Saturday night in our sanctuary. UFWC members interested in joining in the Beyond War movement are welcome to attend the next monthly meeting to be held at the Fellowship on Monday, April 13, at 7 p.m. For more information, contact John Gribbin at email: beyond-war.

### FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

Reminder: We collect canned and boxed foods the first Sunday of every month. The next food collection is April 5. The food will be donated to the West Chester Food Cupboard which will distribute it to food cupboards throughout the county. All food items should be put into the baskets in the lobby. Thank you to everyone who contributed last month.

### SUSTAINABLE LIVING SUBCOMMITTEE TIP OF THE MONTH

Southeastern PA Household Hazardous Waste Collection Information

**ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS:** hazardous household, automotive, home maintenance, lawn, and pest control products. Saturday, April 4, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Center for Arts & Technology Pickering Campus, 1580 Charlestown Road, Phoenixville. Computers will be accepted on this date.

**UNACCEPTABLE MATERIALS:** Latex (water-based) paint (see instructions below), explosives, ammunition, appliances, radioactive waste, tires, infectious waste, unidentified waste.

Pack waste safely in original containers for transport. Mercury will be accepted — pack safely. Please air dry or absorb latex paint, and dispose with your regular trash. Recycle motor oil, tires and anti-freeze at your local service station. If you need more information, call your township.

## UUSC UPDATE

Can less money be more? Yes, if you are truly pioneering. For the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and its partners, the recession has meant reduced funding for many innovative projects that, in some cases, have been years in the making. It has also meant larger-than-usual needs. But money is only half the equation.

The other half is that “eye-to-eye” partnerships with local groups are formed. These are partnerships that offer respect and mutuality, appreciate diversity, give support, and teach each other. Technical support, for example, is always tailored to the partner and has become even more critical to fulfilling UUSC’s mission. This support comes in a variety of forms, including co-strategizing, providing media and other communications support, introducing partners to each other as co-collaborators and allies, and organizing training and conferences with partner staff.

UUSC works with grassroots groups that are often overlooked by other government, nonprofit, and individual donors. They counsel torture victims in Darfur, repair fishing boats for shrimpers in the Bayou, form alliances among street vendors in Kenya, and fight the tide of water privatization in Peru.

What? You are not a member of UUSC yet? Contact us at email: social-justice, and we’ll tell you how you can join the almost 75% of our members who already are.



## SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

The share-the-plate collection of \$285 for February was donated to Home of the Sparrow, which serves homeless, disadvantaged and abused women and children, helping them move from homelessness to self-sufficiency. Members and friends of UFWC also donated an amazing \$1,225 in Giant grocery cards to Coatesville arson victims.

The recipient for April will be Habitat for Humanity. This might be your last opportunity to contribute toward this effort before the house is completed. The Cohabitat group has almost raised the entire amount needed. You can help put it over the top. You can help our neighbors by giving generously when the April share-the-plate collection is taken. In light of the current financial circumstances of many, it is so heartening that UFWC gives so generously to those who struggle to meet their basic needs.

## EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP

APRIL 19 7-8:30 PM

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak is an unforgettable story about books and reading and the power of words to hurt and to heal. Set in Nazi Germany (1933-1945) we follow the tale of Liesel Meminger who steals her first book at age nine. With *The Gravedigger’s Handbook* and the help of her foster father she later learns to read, and so our story begins. Dena Beeghly will lead our discussion.



Please feel free to contact Shelly Case or Ruth MacFadyen at email: diversity-book-group. All are Welcome. Next meeting will be May 17.

## TWO OF A KIND A MUSIC COMMITTEE, RE, FUN AND FELLOWSHIP AND SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENT



TWO CONCERTS ON  
SATURDAY, APRIL 25



Two of a Kind will perform a free concert at the Fellowship at 2 pm. It is open to the public for families and kids of all ages. Their music teaches diversity, peace, inclusion and the connectivity of us all.

That evening at 6 p.m. they will transform into a quartet for adults performing a benefit concert. Proceeds will go to Children Creating Bridges, and organization that encourages children to be active participants in cultural and educational exchanges with the goal of bringing hope and celebration of diversity to their own communities and throughout the world.

## IT'S FLEA MARKET TIME

Is unused, unnecessary, unwanted “stuff” spilling out of your closets, shelves, cupboards, garage, attic, basement, shed, and the boxes hidden under your bed?? Here is your chance to clear away the clutter.

Saturday, April 18, is the date of our annual flea market. We will be happy to receive your good quality donations on Thursday evening April 16 from 7 - 9 p.m. 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 sort and price, and the sale will run from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. Your unwanted items will be transformed into someone else's prized finds.



## WHY A FLEA MARKET?

**Because** — We raise funds for the operating budget. We make low cost items available to our congregation and to our West Chester neighbors. We help the environment by honoring the “reduce, re-use, re-cycle” philosophy. We encourage the simpler, uncluttered life. We support the local caring community by donating unsold items to other nonprofits. And we have loads of fun doing all this. Wow!

## BIGGER AND BETTER (SO WE NEED YOUR HELP)

The flea market gets bigger and better every year. We will again need a generous contribution of volunteer time. New members and friends are especially welcome. No special expertise is required.

Join the fun. Put your name on the sign-up sheet during coffee hour, or email: flea-market.

|     |        |                        |  |
|-----|--------|------------------------|--|
| Thu | Apr 16 | 5 - 7 p.m. ....        | Stack chairs, set up tables/signs                          |
| Thu | Apr 16 | 7 - 9 p.m. ....        | Help with drop off and sort                                |
| Fri | Apr 17 | all day .....          | Arrange and price items                                    |
| Sat | Apr 18 | 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. ... | Help with the sale   |
| Sat | Apr 18 | 1 - 4 p.m. ....        | Pack up & transport unsold goods. Clean & re-set sanctuary |

## DISPOSING OF LEFTOVER ITEMS

We will give all unsold items to other nonprofits, so we'll need volunteers to box and transport them to appropriate recipients. We welcome your recommendations of groups that can best use various types of items — e.g., books, clothes, linens, household goods. For example, the SPCA will welcome towels, sheets and blankets, but we need a volunteer to deliver them. Because the Salvation Army does not receive donations after 12 noon on Saturdays, we will need a few volunteers who can store boxes in their cars and drop them off during the following week.

## FLEA MARKET DO'S AND DON'TS

**DO** donate only clean and useable items. Best sellers include jewelry and collectibles, small appliances, household goods, linens, garden tools, books & toys.

**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. No shoes, please.

**DO** be sure the books you donate are in good condition.

**DON'T** donate textbooks, encyclopedias, manuals or magazines. They don't sell.

**DON'T** donate items that might pose a liability risk. No baby furniture, medical or personal care 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, anything containing freon, or large furniture items.

But **DO** let us offer these items for sale on-line by contacting Tom Buglio.

**DO** bring a friend and shop for great “UU stuff.”

**DON'T** forget the bake sale!

## FLEA MARKET BAKE SALE BENEFITS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Bake your favorite recipe for cookies, brownies, cakes, breads and other pastries and bring them with you for the bake sale at the Flea Market Saturday morning. Flea Market income supports the Fellowship's budget, but the bake sale benefits our local Habitat for Humanity project. Help us as the house nears completion.

## FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, April 11, at 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. All are welcome. No singing talent or experience is necessary. Bring a munchie, if you wish. Maps are in the foyer. Contact Steve at email: folk-singing.



## COFFEE HOUSE

The next UFWC Coffee House is Saturday, April 18, from 7 to 10 p.m. Come on out and enjoy the music. Or, better yet, if you are a performer, come on out and show us what you've got. (Performers should arrive early for a time-slot.) Contact Judy Perri at email: coffee-house.

## LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, April 10, at 11:30 a.m. at Panera Bread, 1103 West Chester Pike, near Shop Rite. Newcomers are welcome.

To be added to the e-mail reminder list, contact Linda Sander at email: lunch-group. The reminders are an easy way to RSVP, so we can save enough seats for everyone. If you don't have e-mail or you change your mind at the last minute, come anyway. Everyone is welcome.

## DELIBERATE LIVING

Our next meeting is on April 5, the first Sunday of the month as usual. We meet at 12:30 p.m. downstairs after the second service.

In living deliberately, 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. Peggy Wadsworth will be in the lead this time. Peggy has previously demonstrated her facility for meaningful reflections to us. We look for the same dynamic experience as we had with Bruce Neff, Juan Leon, Alex Miller and others.

Our last meeting took place at the Friends Meeting in Downingtown on special invitation by Alex. We had to abbreviate our presence there due to our own stewardship activities here. For those interested, we could visit them again and make it "Quaker for the Day." They, in turn, will support and attend some of our meetings.

These discussions are significant opportunities for new friends and members to be integrated with our larger membership via a reflective and personable atmosphere. Come and join us to be a part of our typical dynamic flow of good energy. No preparation is needed. No commitment is required, though continuity is best. Any questions or comments contact Heidi Buss at email: deliberate-living.

## PASSOVER SEDER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

6 P.M.

We will hold a traditional (UU flavor, of course) Passover Seder on the evening of April 8, the first night of Passover. The Seder is a ritual retelling of the Exodus story over a shared dinner meal. We will have roast chicken, brisket, chicken soup with matzo balls, and, of course, vegetarian foods. This will take the form of a "planned" pot luck; there will be sign-up sheets available at the Fellowship for cooking and helping in other ways. Kosher recipes will be available.

This is a family friendly event and good for children aged three years and older. In fact, there are some fun parts of the ritual for kids. The Religious Services Committee is sponsoring this event. Good food and good fun are guaranteed! Please let us know as soon as possible if you will need babysitting arrangements. Contact Sue Johnston at email: seder.

## DINNER FOR EIGHT... JUST FOR FUN

Dinner for Eight is a "just for fun" opportunity to get together in a small group of eight people from the Fellowship. The group shares a meal at someone's home and enjoys an evening in a more intimate home setting with new and old friends from the Fellowship.

As a guest, your job is to sign up for the date that fits your calendar. The host for that date holds the dinner at his/her home, provides the main dish, and assigns a side dish, salad, bread, dessert, etc. to the other folks attending. You will get a call from the host with the time and directions. All you have to do is show up on that date, bring what you agreed to bring for eight people, and enjoy the fascinating company and stimulating conversation.

So here are the dates for our first Dinners for Eight. You can choose April 25, May 2, or May 9 (all Saturdays). You have until the end of April to sign up. If you'd like to host one of these dinners, the May 9 date is available. Maureen Wagner is coordinating sign-ups for these three dates. To sign up, contact Maureen at email: dinner-for-8 with "UU Dinner" in the subject line. Don't delay; once these dates are full with eight people for each night, we're done for this round. If everyone enjoys it and would like to try it again, we can hold it again in the fall.

Come join us!

— Cindy Heck and Maureen Wagner  
Fun & Fellowship Committee

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

By this time we hope that you all have attended a Gathering or have spoken to a Steward. Please return your pledge cards to the Income Treasurer as soon as possible. If you would like to discuss any aspect of Stewardship, please contact us at email: stewardship.

— Sandy Marts and  
Pam Sapko

## GAME NIGHT

Join us on Friday, April 3, for our monthly potluck and game night at the Fellowship. We start at 6:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner followed by games. Game Night is fun for all ages. We typically have three or more games going at a time. Everyone is welcome, and there is no need to call ahead. Bring a dish and beverage to share and any games you wish to play. For more information contact Mary Yeager at email: game-night.



## PLANT SALE IN MAY



The UFWC Spring Plant Sale will be Saturday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Beautiful hanging baskets, annuals, vegetables, herbs, and more!

Just for Us

Wind River recording artist (and Rev. Mero's brother)

## DAVID ROTH

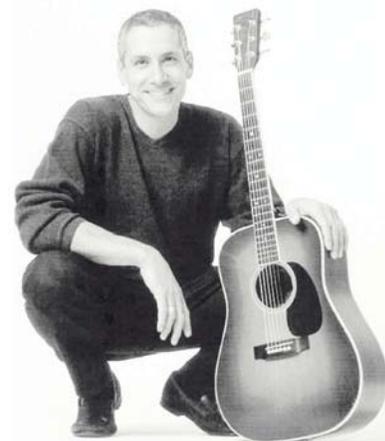
**Sunday, April 5**

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Duets Services (Deborah and David)

**6 p.m. Encore Performance at the Fellowship**  
**Join us for an unforgettable evening with David Roth**

**Suggested donation: \$15**

*Proceeds to go to the West Chester Food Cupboard*



## FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

*All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.*

|           |         |  |
|-----------|---------|--|
| Apr 1     | Wed     | <b>Religious Education Committee.</b> 7 p.m. OWL room. Contact Sue Quake, email: RE  |
| Apr 2     | Thu     | <b>Sustainable Living Committee.</b> 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace Rm. Contact Jen Stevens, email: sustainable-living.   |
| Apr 3     | Fri     | <b>Game Night.</b> 6:30-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 11.   |
| Apr 4     | Sat     | <b>Erin Behler Recital.</b> 5 p.m. Sanctuary. Reception to follow. 6:15 p.m.   |
| Apr 5     | Sun     | <b>First Sunday Food Collection.</b> Lobby. See p. 7.<br><b>Deliberate Living.</b> 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Rm. See p. 10.<br><b>David Roth Benefit Concert.</b> 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 11.  |
| Apr 8     | Wed     | <b>Passover Seder.</b> 6-8 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 10.  |
| Apr 8-11  | Wed-Sat | <b>Habitat for Humanity Work Week.</b> 8:30-3:30 each day. Contact Mike Stevens, email: habitat  |
| Apr 9     | Thu     | <b>Social Justice Committee.</b> 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice.  |
| Apr 10    | Fri     | <b>Lunch Group.</b> 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 10.<br><b>Exploring Our Spirituality Book Group.</b> 1:30-3:30 pm, offsite. Contact Susan Gast or Harriet Singer, email: spirituality-book-group   |
| Apr 11    | Sat     | <b>Folk Singing.</b> 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 10.  |
| Apr 12    | Sun     | <b>Safe Harbor Dinner.</b> Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. To help, contact Sharon Mayer-Conroy, email: safe-harbor   |
| Apr 13    | Mon     | <b>Beyond War Group.</b> 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace Room. Contact John Gribbin, email: beyond-war.  |
| Apr 14    | Tue     | <b>Board Meeting.</b> 7:30 p.m. Office. All are welcome.   |
| Apr 16    | Thu     | <b>Flea Market Drop-Off and Sorting.</b> 7-9 p.m. (Set up 5-7 p.m.) Contact Sue Stedman, email: flea-market. See p. 9.   |
| Apr 17    | Fri     | <b>Flea Market Pricing and Arranging.</b> 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact Sue Stedman, email: flea-market. See p. 9.   |
| Apr 18    | Sat     | <b>Flea Market &amp; Bake Sale.</b> 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact Sue Stedman, email: flea-market. See p. 9 for volunteer times and bake sale information.<br><b>Coffee House.</b> 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 10.   |
| Apr 19    | Sun     | <b>Share the Plate Sunday</b> benefitting Habitat for Humanity. See p. 8.<br><b>Town Meeting &amp; Potluck Dinner.</b> Dinner at 5 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 3.<br><b>Exploring Diversity Book Group.</b> 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace rm. See p. 8. |
| Apr 24-25 | Fri-Sat | <b>JPD Spring Conference.</b> Doubletree Hotel in Wilmington. See p. 6.  |
| Apr 25    | Sat     | <b>Two of A Kind Free Concert.</b> For families and kids of all ages. 2 p.m. See p. 8.<br><b>Two of A Kind Adult Benefit Concert.</b> 6 p.m. See p. 8.<br><b>Dinner for Eight.</b> See p. 11.  |
| Apr 26    | Sun     | <b>Comfort Shawl Group.</b> 7-8:45 p.m. Fireplace Rm. Contact Sharon Mayer-Conroy, email: caring   |
| Apr 28    | Tue     | <b>Fellowship Council.</b> 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program   |
| Apr 30    | Thu     | <b>Religious Services Com.</b> 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Curt Hoganson, email: religious-services.   |

### Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Adult Enrichment</b>    | <i>Reading Sacred Texts.</i> Second and fourth Wednesdays. 11a.m.–1p.m. Minister's study.  |
| <b>Choir Practice</b>      | Generally the three Thursdays before the third Sunday (which is when they sing at services). No practice on the fourth Thursday. Contact Helen Meacham, email: choir |
| <b>Evensong Gatherings</b> | Thursdays twice monthly (April 23 and 29), 7:30-9 pm, OWL Rm. Contact: Terry Rothermel or Heidi Buss, email: evensong-gatherings.                                    |
| <b>Youth Group</b>         | Most Sundays, 10:45-noon. OWL room. Email: youth-group.  |