

the FELLOWTARIAN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester

Telephone: 610-692-5966 Web: www.ufwc.org

Our Mission: *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.*

SUNDAY SERVICES

January 2010

January 3

350, MORE THAN JUST A NUMBER

Rev. Deborah Mero

As we enter the second decade in the new millennium, we are faced with the real possibility of a global climate calamity. The Climate Conference in Copenhagen is over. What did we learn? What will we as a nation do? What can we as individuals do?

January 10

WAG MORE, BARK LESS

Rev. Libby Smith

Many of us tend to "bark" more easily than we "wag" in response to the events of our lives. Wagging comes more naturally if we learn to cultivate a deeper and more authentic sense of happiness and compassion in our lives. The Rev. Libby Smith is the chaplain at Unitarian Universalist House, a small nursing home in Philadelphia, and serves the UU Fellowship of Lower Bucks as consulting minister.

January 17

THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

Rev. Deborah Mero

Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had a vision of a completely integrated society, a community of love and justice wherein he saw "brotherhood" as an actuality in all of social life. Where are we now? Is it possible to realize King's dream?

January 24

**SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION
AND THE NEW PARADIGM**

**Rev. Dr. Om Prakash
John Gilmore**

Based on Matthew Fox's work in the area Life Work and Spirituality, we will reflect on the need for us to do three types of work to be effective agents of social change: The inner work; the outer work; and the greater work. During the sermon we will explore the need for all three and how we can create models of social change within our congregations in order to do so.

January 31

THE IMPATIENCE OF JOB

Rev. Deborah Mero

Perhaps the greatest question of all time is "Why?" Why do bad things happen to good people? It is not a question with an answer, though it has been asked since time began. The book of Job in the Bible is one of the most written about stories of all time for a reason.

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

THE SONG OF DEBORAH

On Sunday, December 6, I fell in love with this congregation all over again — a sentiment I expressed to those gathered to take the next step in fulfilling our mission. At least one third of the active membership along with friends new and old showed up and spent a very full four hours (in addition to coming to worship that morning) as we shared our stories of connection and spiritual deepening within our religious community. Sadly, Diane Cohle was missing from the event having fallen and broken her wrist that morning. Diane and I spent several months planning for the day, and it was a great disappointment to us both that she missed the energy and engagement of so many of you. But your enthusiasm and creativity showed me again why I am so grateful to be here with you. It was an inspiring day and Diane was thrilled to hear what a great day it was.

We looked at our successes in times past and brought forth the myriad of assets within and available to our community. What emerged were some great new ideas. A large number of attendees at the workshop were attracted to building up interfaith connections and knowledge both within our own congregation and also in the wider community. One of the projects was dubbed “University of the Soul,” a rather catchy title that also implies an intention-

ality to build on our connections with WCU. The other large group that emerged from the day’s work was dubbed the UFWC Players. With the facility we have and the talent within the congregation there is a desire to use the medium of theatre to deepen our exploration of spirituality. Both of these major themes are a bit sketchy at the moment, but we fully intend to flesh them out and grow some exciting new programs from them. Already we have one of the group leaders setting up a communications network to begin the next phase of the planning. In addition to those topics, a group wants to enliven nature walks and exploration and another group wants to plan a retreat. These are what bubbled to the top of the over 20 ideas presented to the large group.

For me, it was wonderful watching you engage with one another, tell your stories, bring new people into the circle, and reach beyond what you have done in the past. The “can do” spirit was most evident and the attendance was impressive. I’m hoping that the next event on January 30 will have an equal response. We will be focusing our discussion then on Social Justice and how we “actively advance peace and justice in the world.” It became evident to some of us toward the end of the first workshop that there would be some overlap between all three

parts of our Mission Statement and the results that emerge from our planning. To me, that makes the whole process even better.

Part 2 of our process will take place on Saturday, January 30. We’ll start at 9:30 and end by 2 p.m., perhaps even earlier. We will provide lunch this time rather than have you worry about what to bring for pot luck. Those of you who are more turned on by Social Justice than Spiritual Growth, this day is for you. Please plan to come. There will be some similarities and some differences from the December 6 agenda. If it turns out to be anything like the first session, hold on to your hats, we’ve got a great ride into an exciting future ahead of us. Again, I’m so glad to be on this journey with you all.

Blessings and Peace be with you in the New Year, 2010.

– Deborah

SPECIAL ORIENTATION AND WELCOME

On Sunday, January 3, at 12:30 p.m., there will be a special orientation and welcome for newcomers and those interested in finding out more about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. Please join Deborah and some of our congregation’s leaders in an informal session and learn more about us. This may help you decide if Unitarian Universalism and the UFWC is the place for you.

The Fellowtarian is the monthly newsletter of the **Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester**

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REmarks – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

On December 13 I was singing in the Intergen Choir and enjoying how wonderful it sounded when the congregation joined in, singing and clapping, on the hymn “Give Light.” I looked out into the group and saw a young boy, maybe four years old, focused intently on the choir, watching every move, and trying to clap in time with everyone else. It looked as if he was into the activity with every cell of his body, mind and spirit. He was obviously tuned in to the energy of that moment, engaged in something beyond words. The opportunities for this kind of engagement are myriad, and usually unexpected.

When we bring our children to church, we “tell” them that it is important. When we bring our children to church, they get to try new things in an expansive atmosphere of love, acceptance and encouragement. When we bring our children to church, they get to learn by doing and experiencing. When we bring our children to church – especially in intergenerational services where we are all together – the essence of what it means to be Unitarian Universalist has a chance to seep into them deeply and without words.

When this issue of *The Fellowtarian* reaches you, you will probably be in the middle of holiday preparations. Though we consider ourselves at this point to be UU, most of us still celebrate the same way we celebrated as children, with Christmas or Hanuk-

kah, or perhaps a blend, and maybe including a Solstice observance. As you get ready this year, I invite you to think back to your childhood in the church, synagogue, meeting, or outdoor area

where you had a positive experience of Something Spiritual. Take a moment to remember how it felt to be in that space, recall what that sense of mystery felt like in your body and spirit.

One such memory I have is of Palm Sundays in the Congregational Church my mother, sisters and I attended. The

tangible memory is of the single palm frond we each got to take home. The spiritual memory is of something present in the sanctu-

ary that day that was not present on other days. That feeling of the presence of spirit is not connected just with Palm Sundays, in that church. It is the same feeling I often get during a Fellowship service, or at the top of a mountain in Maine, watching as the sun goes down over the ocean, or when I look out into the congregation and see a small boy engaged with all his being, in being a part of what he is witnessing.

We can never predict or know what will be a spiritual experience for our children. But we can give them the opportunities for those experiences to happen; for those experiences to find a way into that sacred place within each of us that longs to be visited by that which has no name, but which connects us all.

May this New Year bring you opportunities for visitations of Spirit and connectedness.

– Pam Baxter

Director of Religious Education

INTERGEN SERVICES

We have two fun Intergen Services coming up: a celebration of Chinese New Year on February 14, and a “Thinking Outside the Box/Silly Sunday” on May 2. Would you like to help in the planning? Please send a note to me at email: DRE.



UFWC THINGS-TO-DO EMAIL LIST

Have you ever discovered a neat, fun, or interesting show, concert, place, trip, or other activity you really wanted to go to, do or experience – but didn’t have someone who had the same enthusiasm to go with you? If so, you need to subscribe to the Fellowship’s things-to-do-list. This is an email discussion list that serves as a way to communicate and connect with other Fellowship members and friends to share a common activity.

As a subscriber, you can post a message to the list (email: **things-to-do-list** at our ufwc.org domain) with a request or invitation for an activity. The message is delivered to all the subscribers. Those who are interested can contact you, work out the details, and have fun.

You must be a subscriber to participate, you may post messages only through your subscribed email account, and large attachments are not permitted. If you are interested, send a request to subscribe to Marie Steel at email: fun.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH WORKSHOP A SUCCESS

On Sunday, December 6, the first of three workshops was held to begin putting our Mission into action. This first one focused on Spiritual Growth and Development. The next two will be based on the other two “pillars” of our Mission statement, Social Justice (January 30) and Community Building (March 21).

Following a potluck lunch, the 64 participants gathered around tables in groups of eight to begin a process of Appreciative Inquiry. We pondered questions like, “When was a time that you felt most alive?” and, “What things about UFWC contribute most to your spiritual growth?” After sharing our responses with our groups, the groups then shared with all present, collecting a list on newsprint that was ten pages long.

Next, we thought about “assets” – personal talents, material goods, physical and spiritual assets of UFWC – and wrote each on its own slip of paper. Then each group took a section of wall space to begin to assemble those assets into something we could accomplish. This proved challenging, but ideas slowly began to spring to life. Some examples are: UU theatre, University of the Soul, and using Nature and the Environment for spiritual practice. Participants then gravitated to the ideas that drew them and formed groups to begin making these ideas gel. Each team will need to answer three questions: What does it look like? How does it help us accomplish our Mission? What are the obstacles we’ll need to overcome?

This process is only just beginning, and the momentum and excitement are high. Even if you missed December 6, there are still plenty of opportunities for YOU to get involved. Watch for more information on the upcoming workshops, and plan to participate.

Part 2 – Fulfilling the Mission, Social Justice. Saturday, January 30 at 9:30 a.m. How will we actively advance Peace and Justice in the World? Come help us give shape to our future. Those who were at the December 6 workshop can attest to how energizing the conversations and process was. We will use some of the same tools and some others to help us take the next step in defining our ends and putting our hands to work. Lunch will be provided.

NEW NAME TAG KIOSK

A big thank you goes to Jay Heck for his fine workmanship on the design and creation of the name tag kiosk on wheels. This was his Eagle Scout project; his leaders can be pleased with his work. Special thanks to Wayne Bullaughey, Mark Steel and the Heck family for their support.

With it comes a new procedure to help us all find our tags quickly. For the next month or so, as you come in, please take your name tag off of the old white holders and return it to your specific section on the new kiosk which will be alphabetized.



– Barbara Long
Membership Committee

RECOGNITION AND THANKS

Kudos to our Auction Team who pulled off a really successful event. We had more people in attendance than in recent memory, great auctioneers, a fun time, and we raised money for the Fellowship at the same time. The team consisted of Mark and Marie Steel, Nancy Artus, Brett Goldman, Ellen Schpul, Diane Cohle, Craig Talbot, Chris Brenner, and of course, our dynamic duo of auctioneers, Mike Miller and Ed Cohle.

Big thanks to those who helped decorate the sanctuary – Ellen Schipul, Eileen Kelly-Meyer, Mike Miller, Sandy Retzlaff, Clark Arnold and the whole Arnold family, Michael, Molly, Katie, and Megan, and Ralph Mero. And thanks go out to the anonymous donor who contributed funds to purchase some new decorations.

PHOTO DIRECTORY UPDATE

The photo directory is finally in Olan Mills’ hands and will be ready this spring. To help keep us all in touch until then, the Membership Committee will email a mini-directory with names, phone numbers and email addresses to everyone in the directory. Those without email addresses listed will receive theirs by regular mail. If you do not want your mini-directory emailed, please let us know by contacting Cyndy Bullaughey no later than Monday, January 4, at email: directory. Thanks to everyone for your continued patience.

FINANCIALLY YOURS

The Finance Committee wants to extend its congratulations to the Service Auction Committee for another successful auction on November 20. Although we do not yet have a complete accounting, it appears that the auction will net \$7,900 which is just about on our budget of \$8,000. Outside of pledges, the auction is our most important source of income, but we have other fund raisers worthy of your support such as grocery coupons for which we have budgeted \$3,600. Don't forget to buy them for your holiday shopping. They are easy to use and an easy source of income for the Fellowship.

Also during this hectic holiday season, please don't forget to pay your pledge. Right now we are lagging a bit in pledge income. By this time last year we had collected 46% of our operating pledge budget compared to 37% this year. There is still time to catch up on your pledge or to pay it in advance to get a deduction for your 2009 taxes.

Attention Committee Chairs: by the time you read this you will have received a request to provide the Finance Committee with a draft budget for our 2010-2011 financial year. Time flies doesn't it? Our goal is to provide early input to the Stewardship Committee as well as to provide information about funding for your basic and "dream" budgets to our members and friends. The Stewardship Committee has already met twice to develop a schedule, a kick-off, and a theme. More news on this subject will be forthcoming.

I was surprised to learn that many members and friends are not aware of the availability of financial reports and policies and guidelines for giving on our website. Reports and policies are in the members' area while giving guidelines are in the public area. If you have any questions about any aspect of UFWC finances, please contact me, Cyndy Bullaughey, or Janine Galen.

– Mike Miller
Executive Treasurer

YOUTH GROUP

The UFWC Youth Group had a fun- and thought-filled December. We camped out in the sanctuary for a night of nonstop movies, and we had a chance to think and ask about life after high school (and see old friends) in UFWC's annual service with recent graduates.

What's on our horizon for the new year? In January, we'll be rolling up our sleeves and working together on the annual MLK, Jr. Day of Service (Monday morning, January 18). The following weekend we'll be trekking down to Manassas, Virginia, for the social-action-focused JPDYSC WinterCON, January 22-24. We'll also start planning for serving dinner at Safe Harbor (February 14) and brainstorming for our youth-created, youth-led Youth Sunday service (March 28). Watch your e-mails for details.

Join us for meetings at 10:45 a.m. Sundays downstairs in the Youth Room. Questions? Contact us at email: youth-group.

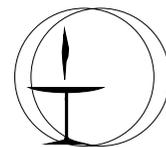
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees conducted its regular monthly meeting on December 8, 2009. The Ends team reported back on the Spiritual Growth workshop on December 6, which was very well attended and brimming with enthusiasm for new ways to live our Mission. Watch for more communications about the two remaining workshops, and the initiatives that come out of them.

The Board would like to thank the members of the newly formed Strategic Planning Team who will begin work on our next Long-Range Plan: Paul Heck (chair), Nancy Artus, Jack Butler, Alan Pittenger and Terry Rothermel.

Other topics of discussion for this month included UFWC's vote in the polls for GA agenda items that are part of the congregational certification process for 2010, ways to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of individuals and groups within the congregation, and the recent congregational survey.

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.

“Christmas isn’t about gifts, it’s about people.” I read that on a website recently. It was at the end of an article about the real meaning behind holiday gifts and the importance of relationships over material goods. The article interestingly enough was surrounded by ads for products and a section with a heading “And here’s a few more hot men’s gifts suggestions.” Inconsistent messages about this holiday season. Holidays that once valued giving gifts to those in need have yielded to giving gifts to each other, family members and friends.

January is a great time to take stock in what is important to you. It is a great time to challenge yourself to be consistent with the values you hold and your actions. Not easy to do, especially in today’s world.

The social justice committee would like to recognize all the projects, activities and efforts that occur through the year by many of our members and friends. You help UFWC stay consistent with our Vision and Mission. Social Justice has been recognized by the congregation as a vital part of our Beloved Community. We will continue to give each of you opportunities to contribute to a better community, a better world.

If you haven’t been able to participate in any of our efforts this past year, this is the year to jump on board. Families are especially encouraged to participate (your kids need opportunities to act on the great things they learn from you and from the RE program) in activities that might be of interest.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE

January 18 is the Martin Luther King Day of Service. Last year, an amazing 45 adults and youth from UFWC participated. We will again join other religious communities in West Chester and beyond to take part in this day of service.

The day will begin and end at St. Paul’s Baptist Church. We will embark from there to a variety of activities which will include singing at local nursing homes, reading to elders and children, knitting caps for newborns, quilting projects for a local agency, two different kinds of food drives, repairs at local social service agencies, and more to be determined.

This year we hope to get as many people pre-registered as possible so more time can be spent serving and less time getting organized. More information will be forthcoming. Join us.



SPECIAL JANUARY 24 SERVICE

On January 24 we will have a guest minister delivering the sermon. The Rev. Dr. Om Prakash John Gilmore, our district’s Director for Racial and Social Justice, will talk about “Social Transformation and the New Paradigm”. Om Prakash was invited to speak to kick off a new group that will look at racism, cultural diversity and oppression. This doesn’t mean we are going to rush out to change the world or tackle large complex issues. It does mean that we want to address ways to increase the diversity of our own membership and alliances/relationships with groups whose membership is quite different than our own (efforts have already been happening over the past year). It is our hope that people who are interested in the ideas addressed in the sermon might take a bit of time after the service to meet as a group. More details will follow. Keep your eye on your *Connections* emails in January.

SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

The November share-the-plate collection of \$210 for the Domestic Violence Center continues our commitment to help those in need in Chester County. The share-the-plate recipient in January is the West Chester Food Cupboard. WCFC is an all volunteer organization with the motto, “Neighbors Helping Neighbors”. There has been a large increase in need this year, and the help from UFWC is noticed and much appreciated.

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

Our monthly food collection is on Sunday, January 3. Look for collection baskets in the lobby. The suggested donation this month is canned fruits, but other non-perishables are welcome. Reminder: Please check expiration dates. Items past expiration cannot be distributed.

Financial donations for food may be put in the collection plate on any Sunday morning. Please write checks to UFWC and write food cupboard in the memo line. Financial donations will be converted into grocery gift cards. Our food donations go to the West Chester Food Cupboard.

The social justice committee has big plans for next year. The committee approved Tom Townsend's proposal to make a plot of ground (about 50x50) at Mary Yeager's place into a gleaning garden that Fellowship members and friends will care for. We'll provide more details in the spring. A great opportunity for all you gardeners and would-be gardeners.

You may have heard about the Billy Jonas concert on Saturday, January 23, here at UFWC. One interesting aspect of this concert is that part of the ticket sales will go to an organization in our community. The Social Justice Committee decided to donate the \$5 per ticket that we will receive to the West Chester Food Cupboard along with the January Share-the-Plate collection to help pay rent. When the WCFC started last March, Chester County agreed to pay the rent and utilities for only one year. One year is nearly over, and one month's rent for the food cupboard is \$2,400.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING SUBCOMMITTEE

After some "down time", the Sustainable Living subcommittee has a new chair, Charlot Barker, and a new co-chair, Lauren Kelly. Once they get organized, the good work started by the original Global Warming subcommittee will continue as they work to reinvent their focus.

They welcome anyone with an interest in the environment, minimizing our environmental impact, and learning about efforts internationally, nationally, and in our homes to help us tread gently on our earth.

Watch for notices and emails about upcoming meetings. If you'd like to join them, contact Charlot at email: sustainable-living.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEER DAY

On Saturday, January 9, UFWC will have a volunteer work day on the HFH construction site in West Chester. A new set of houses are well under way. Please volunteer to join other UFWC volunteers to crew the construction team and share in the joy of building a better community for those in need of help. Contact Mike Stevens if you are interested in volunteering at email: habitat.

PEACE ON EARTH

As the holidays approach, "Peace on Earth" will once again be the inspiring yet unrealized theme of the season. This year, we want to offer our nation and world a tantalizing possibility: what if we could make this message a reality? Here's a great opportunity to help make "Peace on Earth" more than just a slogan this Holiday Season.

The practical yet powerful work of peacebuilding offers a real prescription for peace on the planet. So this holiday season, we are asking you to take a stand in partnership with us to spread the message that indeed, peace is possible, by hosting a House Party in your community. Join people in cities across the nation with the theme of "Peace: Making it Real!" On January 9, the Peace Alliance and Student Peace Alliance are coordinating nationwide House Parties to promote and build awareness for their peace initiatives which include adopting a U.S. Peace Department. The House Parties will include a Town Hall Conference call with Peace Alliance Executive Director Lynn McMullen. If you are interested in joining or hosting a House Party on January 9, please contact John Gribbin or Debbie Kern for more information.



END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

You have probably heard of the Vagina Monologues. Maybe you've seen one of the many versions. The Social Justice Committee is co-sponsoring a performance of the Vagina Monologues given by an outside group on Sunday, February 7, early in the evening in our sanctuary. The proceeds from ticket sales will go to a local organization working to prevent violence against women. Stay tuned for details.

Coffee House
An evening of Music

Saturday, January 9

7-10 pm

at the Fellowship

Featured Act

**Jake Michael and the
Flying Mangos**

Winner of the People's
Choice Award this summer
at the

Mount Airy Folk Factory

All members and friends are invited to be supporters and/or entertainers. Sign-up for acts begins at 6 p.m. We will need set-up helpers around 5:30 p.m, donations of cakes, and someone to sell these items at the coffee house.

Contact Judy Perri at email:
coffee-house



DELIBERATE LIVING

Our next meeting will take place on January 3, our usual first Sunday of the month. We meet at 12:30 p.m. downstairs after the second service.

In living deliberately, we have asked ourselves questions: What are some of the pathways toward reaching our authentic core, and how do we live it out? These pathways have many dimensions. Alex Miller, a popular leader, who often joins us from the Downtown Friends, will lead the discussion on the following topic, peppered with a bit of a Quaker flair: "It is not a routine occurrence that the president of the United States is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. It is perhaps, because of this unique occasion, an appropriate time to reflect and examine our own views on war and peace."

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. Contact Heidi Buss at email: deliberate-living.

**NEW MEMBER POTLUCK
MEETS BICARB BISTRO**

On Sunday, January 31, at 6 p.m. we will have a joint venture of the annual New Member Potluck and the annual Bicarb Bistro. This year we are combining two great events by honoring members who have joined in the past year, sharing our favorite home-style foods, and in the Bicarb Bistro spirit, voting for your favorite dessert.

Plus, there will be live entertainment – Who Needs Nigel, UN-PLUGGED – fun, food, socializing, meeting new people, connecting with people you haven't seen for awhile, maybe even dancing. It's a two-for-one event of the year not to miss. So bring a dish to share (except for our honored New Members who just get to enjoy themselves this time) and/or a dessert for judging. Contact Mira Tryon.

**EXPLORING DIVERSITY
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

FEBRUARY 21 7-8:30 PM

The February book is *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, the autobiography of Ishmael Beah*. Beah tells his story of loss and wandering, violence and death with a compassionate voice. It is a gripping story that everyone should take the time to read. It explains in a clear voice how so many teenagers have become internally displaced in their own homelands. It is, in the end, a story of redemption and hope. Our discussion facilitator will be Pat Shorten.

Please feel free to contact us at email: diversity-book-group, or call Shelly Case or Ruth MacFadyen. All are Welcome.



**HOLIDAY PARTIES –
THANK YOU, HOSTS**

The Fun and Fellowship Committee wants to thank the hosts of the 2009-2010 holiday parties – Sharon Sweitzer, Mike and Flo Miller and Chic Bach with helper Ellen Schipul. These folks generously opened their homes to the congregation. It was wonderful to share the fun and fellowship. If you were a guest at any of these parties, consider being a host next year.

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, January 8, 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.

GAME NIGHT

Our next Potluck and Game night will be Friday, January 8, in the Fellowship sanctuary. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for dinner or after 7 for games.

Everyone is welcome – families, individuals, couples, children, friends... 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.

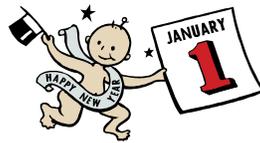
We send out an email reminder a few days before to those who are regulars. If you would like to be on the reminder list, just send a request to email: game-night. If you have any questions, contact Mary Yeager at email: game-night.

GO GREEN

UFWC is decreasing its paper mailing of the *Fellowtarian* to make our carbon footprint smaller. Please contact the office at 610-692-5966 or email: office, if you would like to continue to receive a paper copy. If we do not hear from you by January 1, we will remove you from our mailing list. If you would like e-mail delivery of the *Fellowtarian*, but we do not have your address, send a request to us at email: office. Our limited mailing will start with the February *Fellowtarian*. Thank you for helping UFWC GO GREEN.

NEW YEAR'S DAY OPEN HOUSE 629 NORWAY RD., CHADDS FORD

Our holiday festivities continue with a potluck open house on New Year's Day, beginning at 4 p.m., at the home of Chic Bach. Everyone is welcome. Bring a dish to share, and bring your instrument if you are a musician. Beverages will be provided. Please RSVP to Chic. Maps and directions are available in the back of the sanctuary, on our webpage, and through *Connections*.



FOLK SINGING FRIDAY IN JANUARY

The next folk singing get-together is *Friday* (not the usual Saturday), January 15, at 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. All are welcome. No singing talent or experience is necessary. Capable musicians should bring instruments. Bring a munchie, if you wish. Maps are in the foyer. Contact Steve at email: folk-singing.

BILLY JONAS BENEFIT CONCERT SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 8-10 PM

Please join us for a live concert with Billy Jonas at the Fellowship on Saturday evening from 8 to 10 p.m., January 23. Billy Jonas is a treat to experience live. Prepare for an evening of fun. Billy Jonas' performances will inspire, inform, and enlighten. His work is born out of respect and reverence and seeks to honor the creative energy in everyone. His original pieces are played on fanciful "industrial re-percussion" instruments made from found objects. He sings in a clear tenor voice; his guitar work is adventurous, alternately percussive and lyrical. (Note this is not a children's concert, and some material has adult content – he is doing kids shows earlier that day at Longwood Gardens.)

Tickets cost \$15. A third of that price goes to the Social Justice Committee. Tickets may be purchased in advance at services. Contact Marie Steel at email: fun.

KARAOKE RETURNS TO UFWC

Shake off the winter doldrums and come on down to the Fellowship on Saturday, January 16, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for some fun and entertainment. Good singers, not-so-good singers, and appreciative listeners/fans are all welcome. Willingness to have fun is the only requirement. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share if you would like. Beverages will be provided. Questions can be directed to Marie Steel at email: fun.

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Jan 1 Fri** **Holiday Party.** 4 p.m. Host: Chic Bach. See p. 9.
Deadline to Opt-In to the Printed and Mailed Fellowtarian. See p. 9.
New Year's Day -- Office Closed.
- Jan 3 Sun** **First Sunday Food Collection.** Lobby. See p. 7.
Deliberate Living. 12:30 p.m. Fireplace room. See p. 8.
Orientation and Welcome for Newcomers. 12:30 p.m. See p. 8.
- Jan 4 Mon** **Deadline to Opt-In for the Printed and Mailed Mini-Directory.** See p. 4.
- Jan 6 Wed** **Religious Education Committee.** 7 p.m. Youth Group room. Contact Sue Quake, email: RE
- Jan 8 Fri** **Exploring Our Spirituality Book Group.** 9:30 a.m. Offsite. Contact Susan Gast or Harriet Singer, email: spirituality-book-group
Lunch Group. 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 9.
Game Night. 6:30-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Jan 9 Sat** **Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Day.** See p. 7.
Coffee House. Featuring Jake Michael & the Flying Mangos. 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 8.
Peace: Making it Real House Parties. See p. 7,
- Jan 10 Sun** **Stewardship Meeting.** 10:30 p.m. Office. Contact Pam Sapko, email: stewardship
Safe Harbor Dinner. 6 p.m. Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. To help, contact Sharon Mayer-Conroy, email: safe-harbor
- Jan 11 Mon** **Beyond War Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace room. Contact John Gribbin, email: beyond-war
- Jan 12 Tue** **Board Meeting.** 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Diane Cohle, email: president
- Jan 14 Thu** **Social Justice Committee.** 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice.
- Jan 15 Fri** **Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 9.
- Jan 16 Sat** **Karaoke Party.** 7-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Jan 17 Sun** **Share the Plate Sunday.** West Chester Food Cupboard. See p. 6.
Membership Committee. 12:30 p.m. Office. Contact Mira Tyron or Barbara Long e-mail: membership
Exploring Diversity Book Group. 7-8:30 p.m. Office. See p. 8.
- Jan 18 Mon** **MLK Day of Service.** See p. 6.
MLK Day -- Office Closed.
- Jan 23 Sat** **Billy Jonas Benefit Concert.** 8-10 p.m. See p. 9.
- Jan 24 Sun** **Meeting After Service.** Start-up of a group to look at racism, cultural diversity, and oppression. See p. 6 and watch Connections.
- Jan 26 Tue** **Fellowship Council.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program
- Jan 28 Thu** **Religious Services Committee.** 7:30 p.m. Office. Contact Curt Hoganson, email: religious-services
- Jan 30 Sat** **Fulfilling the Mission, Social Justice.** 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. See. p. 4.
- Jan 31 Sun** **New Member Potluck & Bicarb Bistro.** 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 8.

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

- Choir Practice** 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
- Youth Group** Most Sundays, 10:45-noon. Youth Group room. Email: youth-group. See p. 5.