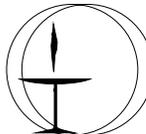


UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF WEST CHESTER
501 S HIGH ST
WEST CHESTER PA 19382

 **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

June 2010

June 6 at 9:00 a.m.

**MISSION, COVENANT, ENDS, MEANS
WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN ANYWAY?**

Rev. Deborah Mero

As we prepare for our annual meeting we look back at what we've done and forward to what we wish to do. How do all the pieces fit with one another? This morning I will make an attempt at pulling it all together. All of this reflects a lot of thought and energy...and forward momentum.

June 6 at 11:00 a.m.

YOUTH BRIDGING CEREMONY

Youth Group

We celebrate this year's graduating seniors and their transition from Youth to Young Adulthood. This promises to be a moving service, full of music, song, and spirit. Join in welcoming these young people of our congregation into the adult community.

June 13 at 9:00 a.m.

RE SUNDAY: SEEING THROUGH A DIFFERENT LENS

Pam Baxter, DRE

Join us as we commemorate this year's Religious Education classes and honor our volunteer teachers. Hear our fabulous UFWC drummers, take part in a mystery photo tour and test your knowledge of other religions. (There will be prizes!) After the service, enjoy our traditional Enhanced Coffee Hour in honor of our teachers. Come help us celebrate.

June 13 at 11:00 a.m.

COMING OF AGE

Coming of Age Class

Five of our 9th and 10th graders have worked all year exploring Unitarian Universalism and how it applies in their lives. They have journeyed to Boston to explore UU roots in America, and worked with mentors to explore their own beliefs. Listen to the students present their personal credos, take a Boston tour, and get to know a little more about these amazing young people within our congregation. The mentors will also share their experiences.

— CONTINUED ON LAST PAGE —

Services and Babysitting - See service schedule above. Last R.E. is June 6 at 9 a.m.

THE SONG OF DEBORAH

I vividly remember one early morning in the summer of 1972 when I was traveling around Europe using a student Eurail Pass. The train was entering Germany and several border police officers were going through the train one compartment at a time asking us for our passports. The uniforms they wore didn't seem to have changed much from those used during WW II and a chill went up my spine.

I thought about all of the movie scenes I'd seen with the Gestapo stopping people asking for their "papers." I was well aware that had my father's family not moved half way across the globe in the 1920's they would all have been dead, and I never would have existed. I am grateful to have been born in the US, a first generation American where we wouldn't think of asking people to show their "papers" when going from one state to another. Until now, that is.

What is happening in Arizona is very complicated. Yes, there are huge problems with drug smuggling, and there are people coming over the Mexican border seeking a better life. And yes, we absolutely need some new laws and a plan to legally absorb the 12 million or so undocumented immigrants who are living and mostly working across the US and paying taxes like everyone else without naturalizing the criminals. But the new laws in Arizona have been put into place for other reasons, not the least of which is intimidating US citizens, both born here and who have emigrated from Central and South America to keep them from voting or learning about their own history and culture in school.

Much has been written about the story behind what is going on

in Arizona – the story you won't read in the mainstream press. But it keeps taking me back to that morning on the train and the irrational fearful reaction I had to the border guard.

In our country, in our society, we are not stopped and asked to prove that we are here legally – at least not if we are Caucasian. These new laws are about fear, mostly of the unknown. They are about intimidation, and they are about attempting to stop change and trying to control things that are uncontrollable.

Each wave of immigration – from Eastern Europe, from Ireland, from Japan, from Mexico – has sparked a backlash whether it has been about class, religion, or race. Xenophobia is a powerful and destructive thing. There is now talk in several states, including Pennsylvania, about writing similar laws. I hope not, and I will work against such efforts.

It was not hard for me to join with those of my colleagues who have asked the UUA not to hold our General Assembly in Phoenix in 2012 when it is scheduled to be there. (Next year is in Charlotte North Carolina.) A couple of hundred of us have pledged \$100 to help offset the costs should the UUA decide to cancel its arrangements.

I have seen numerous arguments on both sides of a potential boycott put forth by my colleagues on our minister's "chat," our e-mail group. I am watching with interest as professional sports teams and leagues make their own statements about inclusivity in their dealings with teams in Arizona. It may be the sports world that moves that state to back off their draconian laws. I hope so.

In the mean time I prefer to believe that diversity and new people and new stories and customs enrich us all and add to the complex fabric of this country and should be welcomed. As there will be a debate and vote taken at this year's GA, I would like to hear from any of you who have an opinion about whether or not a boycott is in order and would support one. At least four of us from UFWC will be at GA in Minneapolis and present at that debate.

Things change. New people do bring new ideas, new customs, new cultural understandings. Unitarian Universalism is a faith that I hope would, by its very nature, welcome new insight into the understanding of who we are on this planet and who we can be to and for one another. UFWC has had an influx of new members in the past couple of weeks and the nature of who we are as a community and congregation will grow and change as their stories are added to the mix.

Nothing is static in this world. The more connected we become, the more we open ourselves up to new ideas and new experiences, the more we ourselves grow and thrive. As we move into the future how we not only welcome but invite the stranger into our midst and learn and adapt will say a lot about what future we are to have. May we always be standing on the side of love and welcome rather than fear and hatred. Doing so certainly leads to a happier life.

– In faith and with hope,
Deborah



BOARD PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

The Board's year began with an uplifting retreat where we celebrated all of the wonderful things happening at the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester. It is comforting that many of our cherished traditions have continued over the years. However, at that retreat, the Board envisioned new ways to grow and improve. Our goals were built around continuing the work that the previous board had started.

Last year at this time, a newly formed Committee on Ministry began work on defining its role as an advocate for all of the congregational ministries within the new policy governance model. They were charged with completing a congregational survey to get more feedback from the congregation on what's working and what needs work. The Board and the committees continue to review the data from the survey and make appropriate changes. The Committee on Ministry also researched and recommended to the Board a ministerial review process. This is the first time in the history of the UFWC where guidelines have been made for the evaluation of the minister. I applaud the work of committee members Jim MacFadyen, Heidi Frayer, and Sue Johnston.

The Board established a committee to work on our next Strategic Plan. Members of this committee include Paul Heck (chair), Nancy Artus, Paul Sapko, Jack Butler, and Terry Rothermel. They have been reviewing the accomplishments of our previous strategic plan and trying to foresee where we see ourselves in five years. They have spoken to a number of committees and individuals in the congregation.

Another initiative of the Board included establishing a Safety Plan. We had a member of the West Chester fire company out to review our facility and make recommendations, many of which have been implemented. Safety also includes looking at other areas such as making sure that our children are safe in RE classes and we are all safe in the sanctuary. Members working on this include Reverend Mero, Pam Baxter, Betty Grosse, Eileen Kelly-Meyer, Sandy Schaal, Mark Steel and Barbara Robinson.

The governance model we use, Policy Governance, is one well suited to keeping our mission at the forefront of congregational life while offering the greatest freedom and support to all members as they realize the mission's goals. The congregation has the

role of being informed members who drive the 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.

This year, we had three workshops to develop the mission into more specific End Statements. Congregants came together to discuss what it means to create spiritual growth, build meaningful connections, and advance peace and justice in the world.

– Diane Cohle
Board President

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees conducted its regular monthly meeting on May 11, 2010. Treasurer Mike Miller presented the current state of the stewardship drive, noting that pledges received thus far fall short of the anticipated budget for next year, and re-canvassing will begin shortly. The Ends Team presented the expanded Ends statements for approval by the Board and will present them to the congregation at the annual meeting.

The complete agenda for the annual meeting on June 6 was decided. A potluck will begin at 6 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7:00. The letter announcing the meeting and detailing the business to be conducted will be in members' and friends' homes by May 27. Please watch for it, and plan to attend.

Other topics of discussion for this month included progress on the strategic plan and finding better ways to acknowledge and appreciate all of the volunteers who do so much for the Fellowship and the community.

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 Board approval.

– Eileen Kelly-Meyer, Board Secretary

ENDS STATEMENTS

Remember the three workshops so many of you attended this past year to talk about our Mission and how we want to realize it? From those events and all the conversations and feedback we have developed a set of expanded “Ends Statements” that express the goals we are setting for ourselves. These statements will be the anchor for our work together going forward as a congregation. They are more specific than the first draft we put together last year. Take a look and see how you would like to engage in making these statements come alive.

UFWC ENDS STATEMENTS

JUNE 6, 2010

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, building meaningful connections, and for actively advancing peace and justice in the world.

Creating an Environment for Spiritual Growth

We provide inspirational worship.

Our worship incorporates music of all kinds, elements from the dramatic repertoire, insights into faiths beyond our own.

We provide religious education for all ages.

Our children receive an education grounded in our history, our principles, and with insights into world religions.

Our adults are offered and encouraged to take part in a variety of opportunities that include interfaith exploration and dialogue, celebration of a variety of holiday and holy days, and deeper exploration into Unitarian Universalism.

We provide opportunities for, and support of, individual spiritual practice.

We invite the talents of our members to share their spiritual practice with one another and provide the time and space. We provide opportunities for spiritual retreat with one another.

Building Meaningful Connections

At the UFWC people feel welcome, dialogues flourish, and relationships develop through good times and bad.

We provide a multitude of opportunities for social engagement, mutual support, musical sharing, and conversations about living a meaning-filled life.

We encourage demonstration of appreciation and gratitude.

We use our resources, time and energy to make a positive impact in our community.

We make connections with local agencies, congregations and organizations both for the support of those in need and for our own experiential growth.

We maintain intentional involvement with diverse populations and promote diversity within our congregation.

We seek opportunities to interact with all types of people within and outside our walls.

Advancing Peace and Justice in the World

Our congregation actively works to eliminate oppression and create a peaceful, just and sustainable world.

We collaborate with local organizations with a current focus on food and housing for those in need.

We promote dialogue and raise awareness of peaceful alternatives to violent words and actions.

We create institutional policies that promote ecological sustainability and we encourage personal practices for conservation in our daily lives.

We demonstrate our commitment to anti-racism in the world, and in our local community.

We actively challenge our attitudes about racism on a personal, institutional and community level through education, dialogue, curricula, and relationships we have within the community.

Facilities

Our building and our grounds are safe, welcoming, comfortable, and accessible to all who seek their use in harmony with our mission.

RE SUNDAY – TIME TO CELEBRATE!

This spring we've been inundated with more blossoms (and pollen!) at the same time than ever before in my experience. Of course this incredible display got me thinking about our Religious Education program.

Children and teachers have been busy all year, but not until June 13 will we get to see the flowering of our months of working together since last September. It's not unlike what happens in nature: the buds that explode into bloom in the spring actually develop well before winter. It just looks like a spontaneous outburst.

Our own spring flowering happens at 9 a.m. on "RE Sunday," the annual celebration of our children, teachers and their explorations together. On this day, in a service for all ages, what was largely out of sight downstairs during the rest of the year will emerge in art, song, and brain-teasers.

This continues at the 11 a.m. service, when we will have the privilege of celebrating the Coming of Age of five of our ninth and tenth graders. These students have worked all year exploring Unitarian Universalism and how it applies in their lives. They have journeyed to Boston to explore UU roots in America, and worked with mentors to explore their own beliefs and to create their own personal credos, which they will present during the service.

I hope you will be able to enjoy our "RE Spring" this year, at both 9:00 and 11:00 – to get a glimpse of what our children and teens have worked on through the year. And hopefully you will also come away with an understanding that in our shared teaching ministry, we are planting the seeds of the next generation of Unitarian Universalists.

When you come to the Fellowship on June 13, please also consider bringing something to contribute to our annual Teacher Appreciation Brunch, to honor our volunteer teachers. (See box.)

– Pam Baxter, Director of Religious Education

R.E. TEACHER APPRECIATION BRUNCH

Between services on Sunday, June 13, the Religious Education Committee invites you to join us for a brunch to honor our dedicated and creative RE teachers. We would greatly appreciate it if friends and members, especially non-teaching parents, would bring in some kind of brunch-type treat that morning: muffins, scones, coffee cake, bagels and cream cheese, bake-ahead egg dishes, fruit, juice, milk, etc.

Please contact Deanna Gabe at no later than Wednesday, June 9, to let her know what you are bringing.

FINANCIALLY YOURS – HELP WANTED – INCOME TREASURER

The successful applicant must have big feet, but they probably won't be big enough to fill the shoes of our departing Income Treasurer, Cyndy Bullaughey. Cyndy is stepping down after 13 years on the job and a lasting impact on the way our Fellowship conducts its financial affairs and keeps its books. Among her many legacies is the new web based software for recording income and expenses and planning budgets and events. Cyndy has worked extra hard in the past six months (along with Rose Werner and Janine Galen) to set up the accounts for and to transfer all of our financial records into this package. This hard work will make it easier for our next Income Treasurer to do the job, plus if you act today, Cyndy will train you and be available to help you over the rough spots. You know you can do this. This is the challenge you've been seeking. Talk to Mike Miller or Cyndy, if you are interested and want more information.

As reported earlier, we are still wrestling with the budget, and holding off completing it until the last moment to learn the results of our supplemental contributions campaign. As this is being written, we are still have about \$14,000 less in expected income this year compared to last, but we are making progress. You can help in the following ways: (1) if you have not already done so, please make a supplemental contribution in the form of a one-time gift and pledge increase, and (2) make sure you pay your pledge for our current 2009-2010 year, and if possible, please pay that pledge as soon as you can, so that we can better determine what amount of surplus we might have to carry over to next year.

– Mike Miller, Treasurer

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, June 11, 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.

SINGLE SUNDAY SERVICES BEGIN JUNE 20

Starting with the June 20 Sunday service, the summer schedule will begin with single services at 10 a.m. only.

Double services will resume at the end of the summer, the date to be announced.



Don't forget to attend the annual Congregational Meeting and Potluck, Sunday, June 6, at 6. p.m. See the Board of Trustees article on page 3 for more details.

NEW MEMBER PROFILE: HAVE YOU MET REBECCA AND PHIL KERPER?

Introducing yourself to Rebecca and Phil Kerper shouldn't be hard. Just look for the family with three young children and a new one on the way—this August! “

Our next big step is the birth of a new baby this summer,” says Rebecca, mother of Ryan, 5, Cole, 3 and Charlie, 10 months. “We know it will be hectic working full-time with four children ages 5 and under, but we approach our family life as a team so neither one of us feels too overwhelmed.”

Rebecca works full-time at QVC in West Chester as a multiplatform manager, producing on-air shows and online content. For the past 12 years, Phil has served as an RN in the emergency department at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where he works three 12-hour shifts a week, allowing four days off for family time.

As for play, “we like spending time outside (beach, pool, park, yard), taking pictures of the kids, and reading,” says Rebecca. “Before having children, I loved taking pottery classes and piano lessons—now my time is mostly spent with diaper bag in hand!”

Close in proximity to the UFWC, Rebecca, Phil and gang have lived in the borough of West Chester for three years. “We love living in town; there are a ton of young kids on our block, which means there's always someone to ride bikes or play with,” she says. “When the weather is warmer, we spend our weekends walking around and exploring.”

After attending the UFWC for about a year, Rebecca and Phil officially joined in January. “We both feel comfortable here—our kids do, too. The other day Pam Baxter observed the boys busting through the doors downstairs. Cole ran straight for the nursery and Ryan made a beeline for the chairs at Children's Worship. Goes to show that they're excited about coming to the fellowship every week,” says Rebecca. “When we started thinking about how we wanted to raise our children, we did our research and knew UU was right for us.”

– Sharon Breske

KERPER KEEPERS

Favorite Book: Rebecca - *Where The Sidewalk Ends*. “I loved it as a kid and memorized all of the poems.” Phil - *First Break All The Rules*.

Favorite Place: Aruba. “We went there for our honeymoon and returned a few years later.” Runner up – Jersey Shore.

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

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Diane Cohle, President email: president

Pam Baxter, Dir. of Religious Ed email: dre

Steve and Linda Sander, Editors email: fellowtarian

STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

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

As we approach the lazy hazy days of summer, thoughts turn to vacations, mowing the lawn, planting the garden, and all those great outside activities we all love to do. Unfortunately the need for social justice activities takes no break. People are still going homeless, hungry, suffering discrimination, oppressed, dying in a far away war, and on and on. Hate to be a “buzzkill” but this is the reality of our world. Most of us could continue on fine without ever addressing these issues, but our UU ideals and principles call forth some action on our part.

Please continue to support our food projects and share-the-plate contributions throughout the summer. Just as important is your willingness to volunteer some time in a social justice project, activity, or committee. There are many opportunities. Enjoy the summer, but please save some time for us.

– Ed Cohle, Social Justice Chair

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Our Mission: *Encourage sustainable energy choices, advocacy and action to mindfully consider our impact on the global environment and bring that knowledge to our community.*

At the UFWC we’re very involved in environmental issues and working to help our community and world change. We also participate in environmental events at West Chester University, Chester County Citizens for Climate Protection (CCCCP), the Sierra Club, the West Chester Business Leaders United for Emission Reduction (BLUER) and other groups. Our reputation in the community is that we’re a group that acts on our beliefs, and that reputation is growing.



Please take two minutes to fill out the survey on the UFWC web site to let us know of your interests, educational and fun activities, and how you want us to represent the UFWC as we develop our committee. Do you want to participate in events, host events or receive links to information to keep current on local, national and global environmental issues? Let us know.

Join the Sustainable Living Committee on May 25 at 7 p.m. at the UFWC or via Skype by connecting to Skype Name: CharlotBarker. Contact Charlot prior to the meeting to do a test connection at email: sustainable-living.

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

Our monthly food collection is on Sunday, June 6. Look for collection baskets in the lobby. *Suggested items for June are pasta, rice, and boxes of mac & cheese.* Reminder: Please check expiration dates. Items past expiration cannot be distributed. As always, other donations are gratefully accepted, too.

BEYOND WAR DIALOGUE A SUCCESS

On Sunday, May 16, about 35 people attended a dialogue about Terrorism and what America should do about it. These kinds of events are important, since they not only provide a unique forum for different ideas but also bring in people from outside the Fellowship. About forty percent of the audience was from outside our membership.

Reverend Bob Moore from New Jersey brought in his peace perspective stressing alternatives to military responses. Bob stressed humanitarian support to people who are in need instead of the alternatives that terrorist groups provide.

Dennis Feltwell, a former Marine and adjunct instructor in ethics and world religions at Delaware County Community College brought in a “just” war perspective. This perspective is a Catholic guideline to determine through specific criteria whether a war is “just” or not. Differences between what both speakers believe and some commonalities were explored during the two hour event.

SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

The share-the-plate collection for May raised \$455 in support of Safe Harbor. Much thanks to all who contributed. We've also raised an additional \$680 for the West Chester Food Cupboard recently through an unexpected donation specifically for that organization. The share-the-plate recipient on June 20 (third Sunday of the month) is the West Chester Food Cupboard. For this donation, the funds will be used specifically to buy compact florescent bulbs (CFLs) for the West Chester Food Cupboard to distribute, so the people will get light bulbs but also lower their energy bills and reduce their carbon footprint.

We continue to be a very, very generous congregation.



SHARE-THE-PLATE SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

The Social Justice Committee is planning the next several months of share-the-plate recipients. If you would like to nominate a local agency doing work locally for people living in Chester County, please contact us at email: social-justice-chair. We will then send you a form to be completed by June 4 in time for our next social justice committee meeting, at which time all nominations will be considered.

UUSC UPDATE

As you may know, this year's topic for Justice Sunday was ECONOMIC JUSTICE. In the United States, more than 28 million people, about a quarter of the workforce between the ages of 18 and 64, are minimum wage workers – earning less than the poverty level for their families. Nearly two-thirds are women, and almost one third of those women are raising children. To learn more – especially about the "\$10 in 2010" campaign – go to the UUSC website at: www.uusc.org. UUSC also has a "Statement on the Oil Drilling Disaster" on their website – take a look at that too.

Please remember that this is the only human rights organization that begins with the letters "U.U." It instills our values around the U.S. and around the world. Won't you join or renew your membership today? We have only until June 30 to reach the 75% congregational membership level. **New members are encouraged to join.** If you are new to UFWC, this is your chance to extend our reach to the global level. To do so (and for more info), see Robin Garrett, Linda Sander, or Tom Townsend or join on-line (be sure to indicate what congregation you are from).

OUR GLEANING PROJECTS ARE GROWING

Gleaning is what we do to help the hungry in Chester County, which are estimated by the Chester County Food Bank to be 1 in 10 people. Not only do we pick at commercial farms like Pete's Produce, but this year two of our members have dedicated part of their gardens to grow produce which we can give to the Food Bank. But we need help – all summer at various times – a couple of hours here and there.

If you are interested in providing some help in this important project and want to be placed on the list of volunteers, please email or call Tom Townsend (email: gleaning). You will then be contacted when help is needed, and you can decide at that time whether you can make it or not.

EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP END OF YEAR POT LUCK JUNE 5 AT 10 AM

This year we will meet at Pat Shorten's for our breakfast brunch. While we enjoy the good food and company, we discuss books for next year, make selections, and put together our Summer/Beach/Vacation Book List, too. For more information please contact Shelly Case or Ruth MacFadyen or email: diversity-book-group. All are Welcome.

Our regular monthly meetings begin again in September.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Do you know our Minister's favorite kind of ice cream?

Come find out at a special RE family ice cream social on Saturday, June 12, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Reverend Mero's house. RSVP to Sue Quake (email: RE) by June 8 so we know how much ice cream to provide.



GAME NIGHT

Our next game night will be June 4 at 6:30 p.m. We will celebrate the coming of summer with ice cream sundaes. Ice cream and toppings will be provided. Bring a main dish or a side dish to share as well as a beverage and games to play. What a great way to end a hot busy week! Please don't be shy about coming – everyone is welcome. You are encouraged to bring a friend. We play a variety of games – board games, card games, sometimes even RGP's – new ones and old favorites too. So bring what you want to play and relax – it's fun.

It would be helpful (but not necessary) to give us a heads-up if you are coming, so that we know how much ice cream (et.al.) to bring. If you are coming, or if you have any questions, you can contact us at email: game-night.

COFFEE HOUSE

The last coffee house for this season will be held on June 12 with singer songwriter Diane Neri as the featured act. There will be no Coffee House in July or August.

CAMPFIRE, FOLK SINGING AND CAMPING

Date: Friday, June 18.

Time: 6 PM and beyond

Place: Sharon Sweitzer's farm

Address: 438 Gum Tree Road, Coatesville (near Cochranville)

What to bring:

- a dish to share for a pot-luck supper
- your own drink
- a lawn chair or blanket
- frisbees or balls/ games
- bathing suit if you want to swim in a spring fed pond
- guitars and musical instruments
- camping equipment and supplies



What will be provided: serving tables, plates, cups and utensils, out-house facilities, campfire wood.

After the potluck we can enjoy a campfire and singing together. Those wanting to camp are welcome to bring their tents. Dogs are allowed. There is a nice pond with a double kayak and pasture land to explore and play in. Direct questions to Sharon Sweitzer at email: camping.

DELIBERATE LIVING

During our May meeting, the group decided that we will not plan any further Deliberate Living meetings. It has been about five years that I've facilitated this group. We have seen many changes in members attending, as it was an open group. It was always good! Yet it seemed this may be the time to let it end.

This group grew out of Simplicity Circle, which functioned with an emphasis on downsizing, de-cluttering, and similar themes. Subsequently we had picked up with focus on the questions: Having done all that, let's consider together more about what did we do it for? What are we really after in life? What are our deepest longings? How do we find our authentic core and how do we live it out? These paths have many dimensions and are individually determined. We came to rename the group to Deliberate Living.

These discussions have been significant opportunities for new friends and members to be integrated with our larger membership via a reflective and personable atmosphere. Many have joined us and participated in our typical dynamic flow of good energy. Topics were chosen by individual members who volunteered to lead off the discussion. We have enjoyed our time and meanings shared. However, we did feel it may be the time to let it end. Contact Heidi Buss at email: deliberate-living.

– Heidi Buss

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

Jun 2	Wed	Religious Education Committee. 7 p.m. Youth Group Room. Contact Sue Quake, email: RE
Jun 3	Thu	Young Adult Group. 7:30-9 p.m. Youth Group Rm. Contact email: Office
Jun 4	Fri	Potluck & Game Night. 6:30-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9. Deadline for Submission of Share-the-Plate Nomination Forms. See p. 8.
Jun 5	Sat	Exploring Diversity Book Group End of Year Pot Luck Brunch. 10 a.m. at Pat Shorten's home. See p. 8.
Jun 6	Sun	First Sunday Food Collection. Lobby. See p. 7. Membership Committee. 12:15-2 p.m. Office. Contact Mira Tyron or Barbara Long e-mail: membership Annual Meeting and Potluck. 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See Board article, p. 3.
Jun 8	Tue	Board Meeting. 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Diane Cohle, email: president
Jun 10	Thu	Social Justice Committee. 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice.
Jun 11	Fri	Lunch Group. 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 6.
Jun 12	Sat	Coffee House. 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9. Ice Cream Social. 1-3 p.m. Rev. Mero's house. See p. 9.
Jun 13	Sun	RE Teacher Appreciation Brunch. Between services. See p. 5. 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
Jun 14	Mon	Beyond War Group. 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace room. Contact John Gribbin, email: beyond-war
Jun 18	Fri	Campfire, Folk Singing, and Camping. 6 p.m. at Sharon Sweitzer's farm. See p.9.
Jun 20	Sun	Single 10 a.m. Sunday Services Begin. Share the Plate Sunday. Benefits West Chester Food Cupboard. See p. 8.
Jun 21	Mon	Women's Circle Solstice Ceremony. 7p.m. Watch <i>Connections</i> for location.
Jun 22	Tue	Fellowship Council. 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program
Jun 26	Sat	Youth Group Movie Overnight. 6 p.m. Sanctuary. Email: youth-group

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

Youth Group Most Sundays, 10:45-noon. Youth Group Room. Email: youth-group.

SUNDAY SERVICES (Continued)

June 20 at 10 a.m. only

THE ONCE AND FUTURE CHURCH

Rev. Deborah Mero

I am beginning to process some of what I've been hearing from luminaries in our Unitarian Universalist movement about where we might be seeing ourselves going theologically, socially, and spiritually as we face the uncertain future. It's time to plant some seeds, questions, and thoughts to take ourselves into the summer. I hope to leave you with much food for thought.

NOTE: Single summer services at 10 a.m. begin today.

June 27 at 10 a.m. only

YE OLDE HYMN SING

Michael Werner and Erin Behler

(Previously Stump the Hymnist) Join us as we kick off the summer season with a song-fest of your favorite hymns. In what has become a favorite service for many for the past seven years, we have explored our hymnal and gathered together to sing our favorite hymns. We've given up trying to stump the pianist – now we focus our energy and voices on old favorites, new melodies, and general good fun, as we celebrate our congregational voice. Bring your hymnal, a list of hymns which you want us to try, a sense of humor, and a warmed up voice. Be a part of the largest pick-up choir in Chester County.