

UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF WEST CHESTER  
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WEST CHESTER PA 19382



the  
**FELLOWTARIAN**

**Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester**

Telephone: 610-692-5966 Web: [www.ufwc.org](http://www.ufwc.org)

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**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.*

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## SUNDAY SERVICES October 2011

**October 2**

**OUR HIDDEN IDENTITY**

**Ed Cohle and the  
Identity/Name Exploration Team**

We don't often take the time to think about our personal or collective identities. Our nicknames and job titles are but a few of the ways in which language is a short hand for defining our identities. So it is with our institutions, organizations, businesses, etc. Why is it important to define ourselves? How do we define ourselves? How do others view us?

**October 9**

**RADICAL HOSPITALITY**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

Hospitality has been a bedrock religious tenet since probably before biblical times. There is much precedent for extending oneself and one's household to strangers. With all of the attacks on immigration, we need to take a look at role faith plays and has played in welcoming the stranger into our midst.

**October 16**

**GOD, AS I UNDERSTAND GOD**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

In our second service of the year we found ourselves evenly spread from one end of the sanctuary to the other in relation to our belief or disbelief in any kind of God. The question arises often, "which God is it that you don't believe in?" Deborah will offer one "take" on God—the one of her understanding.

**October 23**

**TOLERANCE FOR THE INTOLERABLE?**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

Tolerance is a word that can evoke a lot of things. We are taught to be a very tolerant people, at least in liberal circles. Is there a line – a limit to what we ought to tolerate and what we ought to outright reject?

**October 30**

**CONSIDERING THE SIMPLE QUESTIONS OF LIFE**

**Sharon Sweitzer**

"All of us have to ask this simple question of our relationships, our affiliations, our professions, our politics, and our theology: Does this path, this choice, make me larger or smaller?" – James Hollis, PhD. *What Matters Most*

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

## THE SONG OF DEBORAH

I had started to write a different column for this month's newsletter but then Rachel Maddow's television show came on our TV with the lead story being about today marking the end of Don't Ask Don't Tell. Finally. As Rachel was interviewing two of the activists who worked so hard to get the 17 year old law repealed, one openly, one literally in the shadows, a raucous party was happening in the background. It was a long overdue celebration of something that seems natural on its face, the right of soldiers, sailors and marines to be who they are.

I thought of the couple whose civil union I had the privilege to perform ten years ago who had left the DC area to move to Vermont. They moved because after 17 years of hiding their love and identity from almost everyone in their lives, they could no longer live a lie. I thought of the various friends and acquaintances I have made through the years, some who remained closeted and some who left the military because of the law.

From there I thought about the years that I hid my religious identity from my father and how hard that was. I thought about my father hiding my mother's religious background from his entire family. She has told me stories of the rouse they had to go through when my uncle came to visit. How many of us have at some time in our lives had to hide our true selves from others? How many of us have had to lie to family members, to friends, to employers because there was something about our identity that would be unacceptable to them? What did that do to our own sense of self?

We are talking about identity a lot this year at the fellowship as we continue our process of looking at changing our name. Identity – who we are, how we manifest our authenticity in the world – is essential

to our core as an institution just as it is essential to our core as individuals.

One of the things I truly do love about this faith, Unitarian Universalism, is that it asks us, if not demands from us authenticity in our "free and responsible search for truth and meaning" as stated in our fourth principle. We are not required to subscribe to any creed, any dogma, any set of beliefs.

*Getting past discrimination and marginalization is a challenge for our society.*

We are challenged to formulate our own. We are called to be who we are, to be honest with ourselves and others, and to value everyone's inherent worth and dignity. It sounds so obvious. Would that it were.

Days like today, as I write these words, remind me that none of this can be easily taken for granted. Getting past discrimination and marginalization is a challenge for our society. I am grateful to be part of an institution that has as its vision and mission efforts to build a more just and compassionate society. It is not easy to do either personally or collectively. It requires faith and hope, qualities that sometimes defy the reason we so cherish.

Examining and lifting up our identities has inherent worth. It is good to be able to do so among such good people. May we all be grateful to have a place where this is a core value.

– In faith and with gratitude,  
*Deborah*

### NEWCOMER ORIENTATION CLASS

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to those new to the UFWC and invite you to learn more about us as we learn more about you. If you were at the September 18 service, you got a visual sample of the variety of perspectives that make up our congregation. These sessions will go deeper and give you an overview of who we are, what we do, and why. There will be three classes: October 23, November 6, and November 13 – all at 12:30 p.m. after the second service.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### NEW INITIATIVES, VICE-PRESIDENT, BUDGET

The Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester Board of Trustees met Tuesday, September 13, 2011. Members of the Board heard from Pam Sapko and Ralph Mero, who have researched the planned giving program at UFWC. The program allows members to make donations to UFWC through their wills.

In addition, Rick Marts was elected to be vice-president of the Board of Trustees for the 2011-12 Fellowship year. Board discussion included a review of the leadership retreat that took place in late August and new and on-going initiatives. The budget discussion included planning for an October meeting to update the congregation on progress towards funding the budget and ideas for rethinking our approach to stewardship.

The Board encourages UFWC members and friends to share comments and concerns with Board members, as well as to attend Board meetings if interested. The Board meets in the office at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. In October, the board will hear from representatives to the UUA General Assembly last June and will also focus on planning for the implementation of the Long Range Plan. Meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary after approval by the Board. Members of the Board include Mary Yeager, president; Fred Frayer; Curt Hoganson; Dirk Troltenier; Helena Graham; Rick Marts, vice-president; and Sandra Schaal, secretary.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was a joy to see so many of you at the Fellowship Picnic on the 18th. These gatherings make me feel truly blessed by my Fellowship friends. Sunday Services that day discussed our identity as UU's and enlightened us as to the wide variety of religious and philosophical beliefs which are held by our congregants. Such discussions will help us on our journey this year as we choose a name for our congregation. I know that some of you are worried that the name discussion will be a divisive force in our Fellowship, and it could be, but I see it as an opportunity for us to know and understand each other better. This discussion will reveal tender and sacred spots in our heart and souls.

It is our task to be open about our fears and needs and to respect each other's sensitivities. By listening to each other and questioning ourselves, I think we will come through this experience with a deeper appreciation for our Fellowship community. A question that I ask myself when I am troubled is, "Am I acting out of fear or love?" If you find yourself troubled by this name discussion, perhaps asking yourself that question will help you find some clarity.

The Name Exploration Committee will host several gatherings this fall to discuss what we want our Congregation's name to say about us. Please take advantage of these opportunities to make your preference heard and – just as important – listen to what our Fellowship friends and members have to say. Everyone should speak up – if you don't want to our name to change, if you want to change it in some small way, or you believe a completely new name is in order. No one will hear your perspective unless you speak. Though this discussion is valuable in this context, it is not a task that the congregation should take on frequently, so this fall is our time to voice our thoughts.

In regards to our financial status, remember in June the congregation

approved an underfunded budget for our 2011-12 fiscal year. Even though the Fellowship Council had trimmed over ten thousand dollars from the proposed budget, we were still about \$8,000 over projected funds.

The congregation took a leap of faith in passing the proposed budget with the understanding that we would

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meet again before the end of October to see what progress we could make during the interim towards eliminating that budgetary gap. In brief, some people have caught up on their past-due pledges. More money is being carried over from last year than expected, and we have had some one-time gifts to help us bridge this gap. This has helped ease the money crunch we are all concerned about, but our financial status still requires your attention.

The Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee will provide you with a complete update on Sunday evening, October, 23. We encourage you to come and find out where we stand financially. Join us for a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a financial update at 6:45.

Policy Governance was chosen as the form of polity for our congrega-

tion several years ago. The Board of Trustees is still working out some of the policies and procedures that are directly and indirectly dictated by our adaptation to policy governance. One of the things we have realized is that the position of Program Coordinator which Mark Steele holds is critical to the smooth operation of the Fellowship. He is the go-to person for questions and problems. Need an answer? Contact Mark. Leaking basement? Mark to the rescue. He is also the go-between for the committees and the Board.

Everyone at the Fellowship has been very kind and appreciative of my taking on the presidency, but let me tell you, it is Mark that deserves our gratitude. I tell you this first of all to ask you to thank Mark and Marie Steele for all the time and energy they expend for us. Their cheery faces alone are worth a trip to the Fellowship. The second reason I am telling you this is that when Mark asks for help, we need to pitch in and give a hand; he can't do it alone.

There are lots of ways to be involved in Fellowship activities this fall – Name Exploration, Hospitality Teams, Stewardship, Fundraising... Choose one or choose them all. Help a little or a lot; it's your choice.

– Mary Yeager

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP FORMING

Can we find spiritual/philosophical meaning in a video game? What about Harry Potter, Star Wars, or today's anime? Is the virtual world pulling us all apart even as it brings us together? How do young adults coming up in today's world navigate career, relationships, and other issues? What unique challenges do we face? What can spiritual and philosophical writings from thousands of years ago mean to us today? Can science and religion be reconciled with one another? Should they?

Are you interested in any of these questions? Maybe you have some better ones. Let's get together and talk about it.

A young adult group is forming, and we would love to have your input and participation. Our first meeting is at the Fellowship Sunday, October 16, at 12:45 p.m. (shortly after the second service). We'll be discussing what form we want the group to take, what kinds of things we want to talk about, and when we want to meet going forward. Please come and bring a friend.

If you have questions, ideas, or are interested but can't make the meeting please contact "Az" Azarak in person or at email: young-adults. We would love to hear from you.

## REmarks – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Michael Puchek, and Jackson, Vardan and Sallie Olbrish joined our RE program in September. If you haven't already met them, or their parents Koreen Olbrish, and Peter and Sherry Puchek, I hope you will have the opportunity to get acquainted with them soon. Please give them all a warm welcome.

We began the new RE year on September 18 talking about "beginnings." At our ingathering session we heard an Iroquois creation story that describes a time when all that existed was the world of water, with a skyland far above. In the story, Muskrat risked her life to swim down to the bottom of the water world to get mud to put on Turtle's back. The intent was to make a place for Skywoman, falling down from the skyland, to stand safely, but the mud expanded and spread, creating the Earth. Turtle is still holding the Earth on his back.

Who really knows how the world began? Not even our best scientists know for sure, and every culture has its own stories about where everything came from and how the Earth was formed. We will continue celebrating beginnings throughout the year, telling a different creation story each week. Depending on the myth/story, we will tie in activities such as yoga, meditation, cooking, and others we don't even know about yet – part of the Mystery we're exploring! We Unitarian Universalists even have our own creation story, which we'll hear and talk about later on in the year.

Exploring these stories fits in with this year's World Religions curriculum theme. It ties in with our UU Sources, which include "Wisdom from the world's religions" and "Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science." There is always more to learn and explore.

In order to allow time for these stories and activities, we are extending the RE time 15 minutes, so that classes will end at 10:15 a.m. Parents of children in Pre-K through 3rd grade, please come down at that time to retrieve your children. This will give you a chance to get your coffee before coming downstairs, but please do remember to collect your kids! Children in grades 4-6 will be dismissed directly upstairs. Please note that on days when the Intergen Choir rehearses, we will try and wrap up RE a few minutes earlier to allow time for set-up.

A reminder to all parents that you are welcome to visit your child's class at any time. We'd love to see you.

– Pam Baxter  
Director of Religious Education

## WALK A MILE (OR 12) WITH THE YOUTH GROUP

For 25 years, AIDS Walk Philly has raised over \$15 million in funds for HIV prevention, public education, and HIV care services in the Greater Philadelphia Region. This year's walk, on Sunday, October 16, will once again start at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and follow a 12-mile route, beginning on Kelly Drive and returning on Martin Luther King Drive.

Members of the Youth Group (and "Bunny") have been participating for the last six or seven years. You are cordially invited to join us in our efforts to raise money for this most worthy cause. We will meet at the Malvern SEPTA station that morning at 7:45 a.m. to catch the 7:50 a.m. R5 train to Suburban Station. Hopefully this year the weather will be as cooperative as it was last year. Please contact the Youth Group advisors (email: youth-group) if you'd like to join us as we stroll leisurely along the Schuylkill River.

If you can't join us, please consider making a donation to support our efforts at [www.aidswalkphilly.org/walk/sponsor1.php](http://www.aidswalkphilly.org/walk/sponsor1.php). Our team name is "Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester" (go figure) and our team number is 1843.



## NEIGHBORHOOD/ HOSPITALITY GATHERINGS IDENTITY AND NAME EXPLORATION

Watch for Neighborhood/Hospitality Gatherings for discussions on our Identity and Name Exploration between October 15 and November 15. These meetings will be offered near your home or at the Fellowship. More to come.

## INTERGENERATIONAL CHOIR

The UFWC Intergenerational Choir kicked off the fall singing season at the September 11 services. The primary thrust of the Choir is to give children an opportunity to participate in a musical group that is welcoming and fun, and that fosters intergenerational community and spiritual awareness. We sing about once a month at the Sunday services. Children ages four and up, youth, and adults are welcome to join us. No musical experience is necessary.

We rehearse downstairs after RE classes from 10:15 to 10:45 once or twice per month depending on the next date we sing in services. Our next rehearsals are October 9 and 23 in preparation for singing at both services on October 30. (Children in the choir at 9:00 that day will go downstairs for RE immediately after singing.) If you would like to get on the Intergen Choir email list or if you have questions, please contact Abby McGillivray at or email: [intergenerational-choir](mailto:intergenerational-choir). Come join us.

**TYPES OF SERVICE  
DONATIONS FOR THE  
AUCTION**

Antiques	Knitting
Art	Lessons
Babysitting	Massage
Birthday Cake	Mending
Breadmaking	Mexican for 6
Brunch	Mother's Helper
Car Washing	Music
Career Counseling	Personal Coach
Chair fixing	Pet care
Childcare	Plants
Chinese for 8	Ride to Airport
Chocolate Cake	Shortbread
Computer help	Software
Homemade Cookies	Stenciling
Fondue	Summer BBQ
Frequent Flyer Miles	Teaching
Gardening	Use of Boat
Gift Certificates	Vacation Home
Homemade Candy	Wallpapering
Hot Tub	Weekend Retreat
How to...	Window Washing
Jewelry	Yard Work



**2011 DIRECTORY  
UPDATE**

Our UFWC 2011 Directory is being updated, and Barbara Robinson is adding information, new members, and friends. If your information has changed in the last year, and you have not notified the office, please do so now at e-mail: office.

Also, if you are new to the Fellowship and would like your information added to our directory, please e-mail your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address to us (email: office) so we may add you. If you would prefer to be taken out of the directory, please let us know, and we will remove your information.

All updated and new information should be submitted no later than October 1.

**DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT AND AUCTION  
NOVEMBER 5**

We are starting at 5 p.m. this year with a hearty Mexican dinner, beer, wine and a variety show. Then the silent auction starts at 6, followed by the live auction at 7. The show will feature an assortment of entertainment from our own local talent pool, including Who Needs Nigel? Unplugged, tap dancing, Harmonium and it is rumored (we can't promise anything) that Ed Cohle may unveil a movie trailer for his next comedic project.

The auction is a fundraising as well as a fun raising event where services are offered from members of the UFWC community and local businesses.

Proceeds support the Fellowship. This year our auctioneer will be Joseph Felice, a licensed auctioneer of 26 years who particularly enjoys doing benefit auctions. Joe does not pressure you like many auctioneers do.



We will charge \$10 for the dinner to cover our expenses. (There will be a reduced rate for children and teens.) If you choose to join us for the sit-down dinner and show, we request an RSVP sent to email: auction-dinner. Otherwise, plan to arrive at 6. Everyone attending the auction will have a chance to win a door prize.

To make the auction a success, we need the following from you:

- Your personal donation(s). Examples of types of services offered are listed in the box on this page. Please either use the online donation form on the UFWC website (preferable), or send the information to email: auction-donations, or complete and turn in a paper form available at the Fellowship (look for an envelope labeled "AUCTION DONATIONS"). Submit your donations by October 16 to be included in the book. Later donations will be accepted but will appear in an addendum.
- Think of at least one local business to ask for a donation. Many businesses are happy to support community events; they just need to be asked. It is best to speak with the manager, either by phone or in person. There are copies of a business solicitation letter on our website. Be sure to say that we will highlight their business in our program.
- If you like to bake, please bring a dessert. (Send a note to email: auction to let us know.)
- Be sure to reserve the night of November 5 to attend. It is lots of fun, and it supports UFWC. Your participation will help to make our auction a success. Thank you.

**THE LEGACY WE LEAVE**

We are all terminal; we just don't all know when we will draw our last breath.

The minister and members of the Pastoral Care Team will be offering a five-week course about end of life issues. The class will encompass the medical and legal issues around death and dying as well as advance directives and ethical wills. We will talk and think about our experiences and thoughts and fears of death. There will be one session with a physician (we hope) and one with an attorney.

This is not just for those of us who are aging. We all need to be able to leave our loved ones with good instructions should we be incapacitated. There will be lots of tools and some homework.

The course begins October 5, and will run for five weeks through November 2 in two identical daytime and evening sessions, one from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The class will be limited to 12 in each time slot. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the sanctuary, or contact us at email: pastoral-care. All are welcome.

## STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

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

One of the goals of the Social Justice Committee this year is to involve more of you in our social justice activities and events. We would especially like to see youth and families involved in some way as well as intergenerational social justice events. I would argue that we as a congregation have a responsibility to nurture the social justice experiences of our children. We espouse this as one of our core values that is central to our identity as a congregation and a religious association as a whole. One such event is the upcoming annual AIDS walk in Philadelphia on Sunday, October 16. This event has been attended by our youth group year after year. In the past, many of you have pledged money to their efforts. However, for those able to do the walk, this event represents an opportunity for adults in the congregation to walk with the youth. This gives real meaning to the phrase “walk the walk”. I encourage as many of you as possible to take this walk with our youth to show our support in a very tangible way: by doing.

Our social justice groups will also be sponsoring several educational events over the next year. The first is sponsored by the Animal Ministry group. They will be showing the documentary *Food, Inc.* (See related article in this issue of the *Fellowtarian*). In case you are thinking, “I’m not really interested in becoming a vegetarian”, this is not a movie about that. It is a movie about all the food you eat. Small locally owned farms are going the way of small local hardware stores. They are harder and harder to find. This movie gives you a sense of what is really happening to our food supply. If you haven’t seen it, please attend. If you have seen it, please support our event by attending, too.

Ed Cohle, Social Justice Chair

### GETTING OUR HANDS DIRTY

They are at it again. Over the past two months, members of our congregation have been harvesting sweet potatoes, corn, tomatoes and whatever else needs to be picked. Gleaning is when farmers and gardeners reserve some of their crops to be used for people in need. The fresh produce goes to the Chester County Food Bank and is distributed widely.

The Yeagers put aside some of their garden to plant sweet potatoes again this year. Hundreds of pounds have been picked and donated so far with more to come. A recent tomato harvest netted over 500 lbs. all picked in a morning session. Tom Townsend (email: gleaning) continues to coordinate our efforts until all is harvested.



### UUSC UPDATE

The Holiday season is just around the corner! Again this year UFWC will feature greeting cards and “stocking stuffers” (water bottles, baseball hats, tee shirts, etc.) from our favorite human rights organization UUSC (the UU Service Committee), the ONLY charity that begins with the letters “UU”.

Remember that UUSC receives NO governmental or denominational funds, so it can maintain its independence. And it works ONLY with local partner organizations, to promote the concept that only those people involved know how to solve their local problems, in other words, “the U.S. knows best” doesn’t always fit.

So wait until we have cards and gifts (the latter half of October and into November) to do your last minute shopping, and at the same time support UUSC as it works across the U.S. and around the world each and every day.

### SUSTAINABLE LIVING SUBCOMMITTEE TIPS OF THE MONTH

**Hazardous Waste Collection.** Saturday, October 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Rd., West Chester. Computers accepted. For a list of other household hazardous waste that will be accepted, go to [www.chestercountyswa.org](http://www.chestercountyswa.org) and click on Waste Disposal.

**Greener Lawn Care – It’s In The Timing.** According to Natural Lands Trust, if you apply fertilizer to your lawn, do that between the last lawn mowing and Thanksgiving. This way the fertilizer will feed the grass’ roots, not the blades of grass. Spring fertilizing promotes blade growth but also feeds weeds.

### SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

**We are pleased to announce the share-the-plate recipient on October 16 (third Sunday of the month) is Orion Communities.** Orion Communities, Inc. believes that communities are best when neighbor helps neighbor. They actively work to develop living arrangements, jobs, emotional and physical support, etc. with those community members who have disabilities or are undervalued by the community as a result of homelessness, poverty, or self-destructive life choices. As to the previous Share-the-Plate, we raised \$470 for Home of the Sparrow. Thanks so much for your generosity.

## HIGHLY ACCLAIMED DOCUMENTARY TO BE SHOWN

The much-acclaimed documentary **Food Inc.** will be presented at the Fellowship on Saturday, October 22 at 7 p.m. Released in 2008, the hard-hitting expose reveals the dark underside of the corporate food service industry which now accounts for a staggering three-quarters of all food consumed in the nation today.

**Food, Inc.** exposes America's industrialized food system and its effect on our environment, health, economy and workers' rights. A must-see for all concerned consumers, **Food Inc.** sounds an alarm for the undermining of America's public health in the quest for ever greater corporate profits. *Rolling Stone* says, "Don't take another bite till you see *Food, Inc.*, an essential, indelible documentary."

This free screening will be open to the public and will be followed with complimentary vegetarian snacks. The Animal Ministry Group is sponsoring this event. Contact John Gribbin at email: animal-ministry.

## FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

**This Month's Suggested Items:**  
**SPAGHETTI  
SAUCE  
TOMATO PRODUCTS**

Our monthly food collection is on Sunday, October 2. Look for collection baskets in the lobby. We participate in a special program that assures the food bank of specific items on any given month so please keep this month's needs in mind when you donate – see above headline.

Please make sure that the date on the food item has not expired. As always, thanks for participating in this project.

## VEGETARIAN AWARENESS MONTH

In conjunction with "Vegetarian Awareness Month", our recently formed Animal Ministry Group has launched a month-long educational effort focused on the many benefits of reducing meat in the diet. The Animal Ministry Group will distribute informational brochures extolling the benefits of vegetarianism after services throughout October. Non-vegetarians are encouraged to pledge to go meat free for a day, week, or the entire month.

Among the many benefits of a vegetarian diet:

**NATIONAL DEBT REDUCTION** – It is estimated that between 60 and 120 billion is spent annually in treating heart disease, cancer, obesity and food poisoning that are directly related to the by-products of American diets heavy on animal products.

**FAMILY BUDGET SAVINGS** – Replacing meat and fish with vegetables and grains can cut family annual food budgets by as much as \$4,000.

**AIR POLLUTION REDUCTION** – According to the EPA, our nation's factory farm system collectively produces two billion tons of manure, one of the nation's top 10 pollutants.



**REDUCE FAMINE WORLDWIDE** – Over 72 percent of all grain in the nation is fed to animals for slaughter. (Fifteen pounds of feed for one pound of meat.) If this grain was allocated directly for human consumption, world hunger would be drastically reduced.

In addition to its educational efforts on behalf of vegetarianism, the Animal Ministry Group actively advocates for issues related to the reduction of animal cruelty such as more humane agricultural legislation, the elimination of puppy mills, dog fighting, and unnecessary animal experimentation. For those interested in joining or obtaining more information about the Animal Ministry Group, please contact John Gribbin or Ralph Mero (email: animal-ministry) or visit the UFWC home page and click on Social Justice heading. For information on the UU Animal Ministry on a national level, visit their website: [www.uuam.org](http://www.uuam.org).

## EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP

**October 9 7-8:30 p.m.**

*Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay fictionalizes the 1942 Paris roundups and deportations, in which thousands of Jewish families were arrested, held at the *Velodrome d'Hiver* outside the city, and then transported to Auschwitz. Forty-five year old Julie Jarmond, writes for an American magazine in Paris and is assigned to cover the 60th anniversary of the *Vel'd'Hiv* roundups. Julie soon learns that the apartment that she and her husband plan to move into was acquired by Bertrand's family when its Jewish occupants were arrested and deported 60 years ago. Julie resolves to find out what happened to the former occupants.

Amy Ayers Zadeh will lead our discussion. For more information, please contact us at email: diversity-book-group, or call Ruth MacFadyen or Shelly Case. All are Welcome.

## BUDGET UPDATE

**CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK OCTOBER 23 AT 6 P.M.**

**Look for more details in Connections.**

## FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, October 29, 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.



## COFFEE HOUSE

Next coffee house is Saturday, October 8, at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship. The featured act will be Ed Ritchie, a singer, piano and guitar man, who is wonderfully entertaining, and has often frequented the coffee house.

## WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Attention women of the congregation (and friends): Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of the Women's Circle. We're a spiritual gathering of minds and hearts joined together for two hours of sharing and listening each month. Come, be involved in this unique group experience the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. (This month it will be October 17.) Contact Debby Kern at email: womens-circle.

## LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, October 14, 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.

## FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

We hope everyone had a great time this past Sunday at the annual picnic. BBQ and bocce ball dominated this year's fun. Special thanks to Phil Yeager for his grill skills and Mary Yeager for her picnic skills. Thanks also to Nancy Artus, Marie Steel, Barbara Long, and Tylar Kelly for their help making this a great event.

We have a lot of upcoming activities this fall and holiday season. Our next game night is Friday, October 7. Potluck at 6:30; games start around 7:00. Please bring a dish to share and a drink. Game night is not just for kids. So if your week wore you down, and you want to go out but not expend too much energy or money, please join us.

Also upcoming in October is our first "Sunday After Services Potluck" on October 16 after the second service. Please bring a dish/drink to share and join in some lively conversation. This is great way to casually get to know members of the congregation you may not have met yet.

Thinking forward we are beginning to think about our December Holiday Parties. Please let us know if you'd be interested in hosting a party. For more information or questions, please contact us at email: fun.

## DINE AND DONATE

Please join us Monday, October 3, from 5 to 9 p.m. at P.J. Whelihan's Pub & Restaurant in Downingtown for the UFWC's first "Dine and Donate" fundraiser. Ten percent of your total dinner bill will be donated to the UFWC just by letting your server know you want to participate by handing in a flyer that we will make available.

Come out for an evening of fun and food. Who Needs Nigel will provide easy listening music from 7 to 9 p.m. Ask your family and friends to support us by coming out for dinner. P.J. Whelihan's is located at 853 East Lancaster Avenue in Downingtown. Contact Marie Steel at email: music.

## MEDITATION GROUP

The next meeting of the meditation Group will be Sunday, October 16, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Look for more details in *Connections*. Contact Cheryl Pittenger at email: meditation.



## UPCOMING CONCERTS AT UFWC DETAILS IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THE FELLOWTARIAN

**Saturday, November 19** – Wishing Chair, featuring Miriam Davidson, our new choir director

**Sunday, December 4** – Chamber Orchestra with our own Pam Baxter

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

**501 S. High St., West Chester, PA 19382**

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610-692-4043

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email: office

Mary Yeager, President

email: president

Pam Baxter, Dir. of Religious Ed

email: dre

Steve and Linda Sander, Editors

email: fellowtarian

## FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Oct 2 Sun First Sunday Food Collection.** Lobby. See p. 7.
- Oct 3 Mon Dine and Donate.** 5-9 p.m. at P.J. Whelihan's Pub & Restaurant in Downingtown. See p. 8.  
**Embracing Diversity Team.** 7-8:30 p.m. Office. Contact Eileen Kelly-Meyer, email: embracing-diversity
- Oct 5 Wed End of Life Planning Daytime Class Begins.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Fireplace Rm. See p. 5.  
**Religious Education Committee.** 7 p.m. Youth Group Rm. Contact Heidi Frayer, email: RE  
**End of Life Planning Evening Class Begins.** 7-9 p.m. Fireplace Rm. See p. 5.
- Oct 7 Fri Potluck and Game Night.** 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 8.
- Oct 8 Sat Coffee House.** 7 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 8.
- Oct 9 Sun Spirit Singers Perform at Sunday Services.**  
**Intergenerational Choir Rehearsal.** 10:15 a.m. Downstairs. Contact Abby McGillivray, email: intergenerational-choir. See p. 4.  
**Membership Committee.** 12:30-1:30 Office. Contact Barbara Long, email: membership.  
**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  
**Exploring Diversity Book Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Office. See p. 7.
- Oct 11 Tue Board Meeting.** 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Mary Yeager, email: president
- Oct 13 Thu Social Justice Committee.** 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice
- Oct 14 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 8.
- Oct 16 Sun Philly AIDS Walk.** Meet at Malvern SEPTA station at 7:45 a.m. for 7:50 train. See p. 4.  
**Share the Plate Sunday.** Benefits Orion Communities, Inc. See p. 6.  
**"Sunday After Services" Potluck.** Following the second service. Sanctuary. See p. 8.  
**Young Adult Group Initial Meeting.** 12:45-2:15. Fireplace Rm. See p. 3.  
**Meditation Group.** 5-6:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Contact Cheryl Pittenger, email: meditation. See p. 8.  
**Auction Deadline for Items to Be Included in Book.** See p. 5.
- Oct 17 Mon Men's Discussion Group.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ralph Mero, email: mens-group  
**Women's Circle.** 7-9 p.m. Lobby. Contact Debby Kern, email: womens-circle. See p. 8.
- Oct 20 Thu Animal Ministry.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace Rm. Contact John Gribbin, email: animal-ministry
- Oct 22 Sat Free Movie Night, Food Inc.** 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 7.
- Oct 23 Sun Intergenerational Choir Rehearsal.** 10:15-10:45 a.m. Downstairs. See p. 4.  
**Newcomer Orientation Class.** (First of three.) 12:30 p.m. Office. See p. 2.  
**Potluck Dinner and Budget Update.** 6 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 7.
- Oct 24 Mon Communications Team.** 6 p.m. Office. Contact Sandy Retzlaff, email: communications
- Oct 25 Tue Fellowship Council.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program
- Oct 26 Wed Parent Support Group.** 7 p.m. Office. Contact Sharon Mayer-Conroy, email: parent-support
- Oct 27 Thu Religious Services.** 7:30-9 p.m. Office. Contact Diane Minka, email: religious-services
- Oct 29 Sat Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. See p. 8.

### Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

- Adult RE** *The Legacy We Leave* - End of Life Planning. Wednesdays. Daytime class 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Evening class 7 - 9 p.m. Fireplace Rm. See p. 5.
- Spirit Singers** Only one practice in October – October 6 at 7:30 p.m. Contact Miriam Davidson, email: choir
- Youth Group** Meets most Sundays, 10:45-noon. Youth Group Room. Email: youth-group.