

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



the

FELLOWTARIAN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester

Telephone: 610-692-5966 Web: www.ucwc.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 March, 2012

March 4

WHO'S CHURCH? WHAT STATE?

Rev. Deborah Mero

The First Amendment to the Constitution says "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; . . ." but lately it has become difficult to see what that bright line is supposed to be about. Is it the government's business to decide who can marry or have a family? Is it the business of any one faith to determine the rules for us all?

March 11

STEWARDS OF THE MISSION

Rev. Deborah Mero

Note: Daylight Savings Time begins this morning. Move your clock ahead 1 hour so you won't be late.

That's what we are. Each one of us has a part to play in advancing our mission and supporting the life and work of our congregation. We are here to transform lives. How do we do that?

March 18

THE CALL

Rev. Deborah Mero

Can you hear it? Do you know what you are called to do? What your life is meant to be? What is your ministry to the world? In this many million piece jigsaw puzzle of life, how do we make sense out of that one little piece that is each one of us? Is there even a way to answer that question?

March 25

YOUTH GROUP SERVICE

UCWC Youth Group

TBA

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

THE SONG OF DEBORAH

Welcome to the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester!

Now that we have completed our name change process many other things will follow. We are working on a new web site. There has been a long standing wish for a new banner to replace one that seems to be lost. (Would any of you like to volunteer to help with that?) And we will be looking for a new sign to replace the one in front of our meeting house (church? fellowship? we can call it what we individually wish to, I would think).

Our current web site has already been updated with our new name, and the e-mail alias addresses are soon to follow. We will have a new logo and graphic design to our name as well. Even our newsletter will be looking for a new name. Stay tuned for how we will arrive at that. I know that some of our sister congregations are looking for a process to accomplish the same ends, a name change, and they will be looking to us for guidance. Kudos to the team who designed and navigated us through the process – Mark Steel, Shelly Case, Fatima Patel, Heidi Frayer, Jon McCormack, Pam Baxter and Diane Cohle.

So many changes – all because of one word. Sometimes it only takes one

small change to start an avalanche of others. Life can be like that. When we face change in our lives, either large or small we have decisions to make. Will we embrace the change and use it to open new doors and opportunities or see it as a stumbling block? We are looking at this as an opportunity to look forward, to re-commit to our mission and to head into the future with a new perspective and energy. With so

Every time any one of us has an opportunity to make connections within our Unitarian Universalist universe, something happens to both touch us personally and give us a gift to pass along to others.

many new families and young adults we will be gifted with new ideas and projects as well. It is an exciting time to be a part of the UCWC.

What will not change is the heart and soul of who we are and why we gather. We gather for mutual support on our journeys – to grow our

spirits, our ties within the community, and our strength to do what we can to make this a better world for ourselves and the generations to come. We do all of this together because being part of a community makes all we do worthwhile.

It is also a great time to be part of our larger movement. The planning for "Justice GA" is getting more intense as the registration is about to open on March 1. If you have thoughts of joining me in Phoenix check out the UUA's web site <http://uua.org/ga/> to find out

more details. The planning committee is trying to make this as accessible as possible for as many people as possible. In addition to the usual array of hotels, they are arranging lodging at the local university as well as home hospitality. Please take a look if you have any desire to be part of this unique experience. One thing I know for sure is if you go, you will be transformed by the experience.

Every event I attend, whether it be in the community representing you, at a district gathering, or at a General Assembly, gives me an opportunity to grow and learn and bring something back to you. But it is not a role I have all to myself. Every time any one of us has an opportunity to make connections within our Unitarian Universalist universe, something happens to both touch us personally and give us a gift to pass along to others. We are blessed with an abundance of opportunities for growth. May we say yes to them when they come our way.

– In faith, Deborah



PATH TO MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Path to Membership Classes begin March 4 and continue through March 11 and 18. All sessions follow the 11 a.m. Sunday service. They are intended for any friend of the UCWC who is interested in learning more about our community, our philosophy, plus the benefits of becoming a member. You may have visited with us for a length of time, or you may be very new to UCWC. Classes are held in the upstairs office. The Membership Committee will provide a light lunch. Sessions generally conclude by 2 p.m.

We hope you will join us. Feel free to contact us at email: membership with any questions, or by calling the office at 610-692-5966. We also would appreciate an RSVP, so we can plan accordingly.

OUR NAME CHANGE AND EMAIL ADDRESSES:

During our migration from Unitarian **Fellowship** of West Chester to Unitarian **Congregation** of West Chester, you should continue to use **ufwc.org** in email addresses until directed to use **ucwc.org**.

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

**501 South High Street
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REMARKS – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE “RADICAL HOSPITALITY” AND RE

Over the past couple of years there's been a lot of talk in Unitarian Universalist circles about "radical hospitality." Radical hospitality is about welcoming strangers with extreme generosity; doing everything possible to make them feel truly welcome in our congregations. From everything I've seen, we do a good job of that at UCWC. Every visitor I've met here has told me that he/she has felt far more welcome at our congregation than at most other churches they've visited. That's good to hear. But I think that part of radical hospitality is continuing to evaluate what we're doing and find ways to improve or expand it.

So, at the RE Committee's annual retreat this past January, we talked about the concept of radical hospitality, and explored what it means in our religious education program in a much broader sense. We asked ourselves, "How do we help children feel welcome week after week, not just the first time they walk through our doors? How do we make the whole child -- the musician, the artist, the geek, the athlete, the Goth, the vegan, the actor, the leader, the thinker, the dreamer -- feel that all of him/her has a place here?"

Adults talk about feeling at home here. Do our children feel the same way? What can we do to carry that message? Along about here in our retreat conversation, we found ourselves talking about the continuing need to create more interaction between upstairs and downstairs. So, when one of our RE kids asked me recently, "Miss Pam, can I do fencing on stage during a service?" my first response was to ask if fencing has a UU connection we could tie into. My second response was to ask myself how we could embrace this child's passion. We adults have our own rock band, a play-reading group, a lunch group, a book group, and a things-to-do email group to make it easier to do fun stuff with

our friends. Wouldn't finding a way to let this child display a talent tie in with radical hospitality? How could we make that happen?

The newly-instituted third-Sunday-after-second-service potluck provided the perfect solution: why not invite any kids who wanted to, to get up onstage during the potluck and show off a talent? The Fun and Fellowship Committee gave a thumbs-up, so on Sunday, February 19, the folks who attended the pot-

luck lunch were treated to a singing/dancing performance and a fencing demonstration. Really cool stuff!

On the surface, this looked like just plain entertainment. But it was more than that. When you see the kids up onstage at a future potluck, you'll know that they're taking advantage of another aspect of radical hospitality.

– Pam Baxter

Director of Religious Education



COMING APRIL 13-15
JOSEPH PRIESTLEY DISTRICT ASSEMBLY
LOOKING BACKWARD, MOVING FORWARD:
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE JPD
KEY BRIDGE MARRIOTT, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA
KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
REV. PETER MORALES,
PRESIDENT OF THE UUA

For the conference web page,

full conference brochure, and online registration go to:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=f8rafhcab&oeidk=a07e5ku7icwa1cb2e9f&oseq=>

We will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Joseph Priestley District on Friday night. On Saturday we will explore the present with a vast assortment of workshops and a special conversation with the Gathered Here process.

Gathered here will give shape to a shared vision for the future of our faith and the ways in which we, as religious leaders, will advance our faith on local and national levels. Based on Appreciative Inquiry, an approach to organizational change that builds on what's working rather than trying to fix what's not, the process will engage you and other UUs, congregations, and groups in conversations that forge new relationships and create new possibilities for the future of Unitarian Universalism.

Sunday morning, President Peter Morales will speak to our future and help us set our course for the next fifty years in the Middle Atlantic region. There will be great worship, fellowship, and exhibits as we gather for this special weekend. Plan now to attend. Space will be limited and we expect a full house.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We did it! We have taken the step to change our name. This was a major decision that was holding us back from many of the actions we have been talking about.

At last June's congregational meeting, concern was raised over growth. "Why aren't we growing anymore?" "Why aren't we talking about growth?" Well we had been growing, and let me assure you we have been talking about it. Back in 2004, when our congregation decided to put effort into growing, our membership was holding pretty steady at around 130 members. We are now near 175 members. An increase of 45 members is commendable progress towards our goal of growth. When we started talking in earnest about growth, many of us participated in a presentation developed by Alice Mann, which discussed congregation sizes and information about how to grow. It was eye-opening. Growth is not a simple matter of $X + Y = \text{growth}$. I think it is time for us to once again as a congregation talk about growth and the changes we need to make to foster growth. It isn't just about numbers. It is about being a healthy, welcoming community of individuals who support and reach out to others in need within and outside our community.

We grew by more than 34% from 2004-2008. During those years we did a lot of self-examination under the guidance of our interim ministers. We were excited; we were united in our desire to share our Fellowship home with others. We had energy. The ministerial search process filled us with hope for our dreams. We went from getting settled in with our minister, Deborah Mero, to developing our congregational mission and goals. Now, we have decided on our name. All these steps were necessary.

It is time to talk about growth again, so that we can be united in our efforts to be an effective presence in our community. Growth in numbers will come, if we grow spiritually as a congregation. As we support each other through our personal hardships, we strengthen the bonds of trust and caring between us. Reaching out to the greater West Chester community, our connections to the greater community take root. By participating in other UUA activities such as General Assembly and District Assembly, we gain knowledge and wisdom from those who have walked the path that we are trying to follow.

The Board has been investigating a program that the Regional UUA (CERG) is offering to congregations, called the Threshold Congregation Program. It is a guidance and support program for congregations that are trying to grow. We hope to participate in the program in 2013. We decided to wait till next year, because the whole congregation – not just the Board – has to understand and support this program.

I ask you to learn more about what it means to grow by participating in our stewardship campaign and by enjoying the many programs and activities the congregation offers. We will also offer discussion groups and workshops on growth and related topics through the year. Remember that nearly all of the programs here, other than those offered by our Reverend Mero, are offered on a volunteer basis by members and friends like you. We are all in this together – and that is what we enjoy – being together. Our time together makes us stronger – trusting in one another. We become wiser learning about ourselves and each other.

As we support each other through our personal hardships, we strengthen the bonds of trust and caring between us.

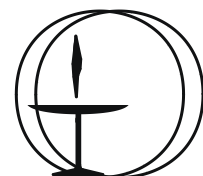
– Mary Yeager

FINANCIALLY YOURS

The Stewardship Committee is in high gear preparing for this year's fund raising campaign and for a festive celebration dinner at the start of the campaign. Soon we all will be asked to consider our pledge to the UCWC for our next fiscal year so the budget can be created. Since 70+% of our income comes from pledge payments, this is critically important. But, there are some other ways you can support our congregation financially too, and we will start to discuss those over the coming months.

The Board has recently updated our policies for accepting honorary or memorial gifts, capital gifts, gifts to the Social Action Trust Fund, and endowment gifts. These types of gifts are an ideal way for members and friends to make a meaningful impact and ensure the longevity of the UCWC. A high-income is not necessary. And it does not need to be complicated. A gift may be left by adding a simple codicil to your will to leave a certain amount or percent from your estate to UCWC. Another simple route is to name UCWC as beneficiary of a life insurance policy. If you have already included UCWC in your future financial plans, please let us know.

We will offer a free workshop with lunch after the second service on April 22 to discuss legacy gifts and some ideas for you to consider. More information on this workshop will be provided in next month's newsletter, but be sure to plan to attend this informative session. For questions, please contact Pam Sapko or Ralph Mero at email: giving.



**COME TO OUR
CELEBRATION
DINNER
MARCH 10**

The Unitarian Congregation of West Chester will hold its annual Stewardship dinner for members and friends on Saturday, March 10 at 5:30 p.m. Plan to attend this important event.

- ◆ We'll dine on wonderful entrees prepared by some of the finest chef's in the county (us!), sharing wine and appetizers, listening to music, and getting to know each other better – what we do best.
- ◆ We'll also celebrate the many accomplishments we've achieved in the past year that speak to our mission – and they are many. We'll launch our new website, reflect on our new name, and hear wonderful stories about why UCWC is so important to us and to this community.
- ◆ We'll set our sights on accomplishing even more in the upcoming year(s). So get your fancy clothes out of the closet, and talk to your friends about joining in the fun – the more the merrier.

We will send invites in the mail shortly – and we will need a good headcount. Please take a moment now to RSVP at email: stewardship and let us know that you're planning to attend (or not attend if, sadly, that's the only choice for you) and how many. It will help us enormously to plan for this great event.

SEE YOU ON THE 10TH.

Contact Bob Scott, email: stewardship

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Unitarian Congregation of West Chester Board of Trustees met on Tuesday, February 14, 2012. The Board reviewed the report of the Treasurer which indicated that the budget is on track for the year. Discussion of how to communicate UCWC's ongoing financial status to the Congregation followed. The Board will move forward with plans for periodic budget updates in the coming months.

Board responsibilities for following up on the name change vote, review of the name-change process, and proposed revisions to the endowment fund policies were also discussed as part of the Board's agenda.

The Board encourages UCWC members and friends to share comments and concerns with Board members, as well as to attend Board meetings if interested. The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the UCWC office. Meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board at the back of the sanctuary after being approved 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.

SECOND ANNUAL UCWC ART AFTERNOON SATURDAY, APRIL 14 2:30-4:00 P.M.

An artist whose uncle refused to shake his hand because it had drawn the human figure; an artist who got herself arrested as a spy; prism-ism; a local artist whose work inspired Pirates of the Caribbean? Come find out as we delve into an eclectic collection of sixteen reproductions of artworks ranging from the Stone Age to now and spanning the globe. Led by a real live trained docent, this is not a lecture. It's an interactive "tour" and is free of charge.

RSVP by April 1 to Jaan Troltenier. Space is strictly limited to fifteen participants – adults or teens only, please. Our explorations will be fueled by light refreshments and caffeine.

INTERGEN APRIL FOOL'S DAY SERVICE

Deborah is recruiting some creative people to help plan our intergenerational April Fool's Day service. Pam will be with the Coming of Age class on their trip to Boston that weekend. Any Jokesters and Jesters among you who wish to jump into the fun? Please let her know, at email: minister.

STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

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

Our Social Justice Program is only as strong as the people who support and participate in our events, projects and activities. There is much happening. Several efforts at feeding the hungry include our food collections every month, donations of food cards, Safe Harbor dinner, and volunteers from our congregation who spend time helping at the food cupboard.

Maybe you were one of the people who have attended the last two movies shown by the Animal Ministry group. The Sustainable Living group continues to provide educational and action items of concern to our members. You will see articles in this issue from the Embracing Diversity Team, who are trying to raise awareness and move us toward a more diverse society and congregation. You may also notice that from time to time, we will be having people from the community giving testimonials to how our efforts have directly affected themselves or those they support. We heard from women at both services on a Sunday last month who have been directly helped through our efforts at Habitat for Humanity.

Social Justice isn't simply a good idea. It's actually changing lives and affecting people in our own community and beyond. Be part of that change in whatever way you can.

– Ed Cohle
Social Justice Chair

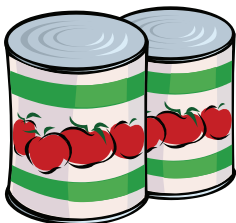
WEST CHESTER FOOD CUPBOARD

Did you know? The West Chester Food Cupboard served 487 households in December, 2011. This is more than twice the number served in December, 2010. People are hungry in our community.

Did you know? Our congregation provided an incredibly generous \$9,450 in grocery gift cards to the Food Cupboard in 2011 to help support feeding the hungry in our community.

Did you know? You can purchase grocery gift cards for the Food Cupboard by putting a check in the collection plate on Sunday? Please write the check to UCWC and put "food cupboard" in the memo line. We will take care of getting the gift cards to the Food Cupboard for you. It is that easy to make a difference.

Please share the gift of food with those that are less fortunate.



SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

THIS MONTH'S SUGGESTED ITEMS:

PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, HONEY, SYRUP

Our monthly food collection is Sunday, March 4. 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. It's just one more way UCWC helps those in need.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY TEAM SPONSORS BOOK DISCUSSIONS

The following is a list of the discussion groups being formed for *The Death of Josseline*. We already have 30 people interested in joining a group, but even if you didn't sign up, you can still join one of these groups. All groups will be led by a member of the Embracing Diversity Team and will last approximately one-and-a-half hours. We will meet in the Fireplace Room, which is at the bottom of the stairs, just inside the door.

Friday	Feb. 24	1:00 p.m.
Sunday	Feb. 26	after services (approx. 12:30 p.m.)
Monday	Feb. 27	7:15 p.m.
Thursday	Mar. 1	7:15 p.m.
Saturday	Mar. 3	1:00 p.m.

Please choose the one that is best for you (and a second choice if possible – in case we have too many or too few in one of the groups and need to move you). Then, email Betty Grosse to let her know your choices, and she will confirm with you by email the same day, if possible. If it's necessary to move you due to group size, you will receive a telephone call. You can also call Betty at the number listed in our directory. If she is not home, please leave your name and number.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON IMMIGRATION

A FAITH RESPONSE TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25
TIME TBA**

On Sunday afternoon, March 25, we will host a panel discussion on “**A Faith Response to Illegal Immigration**”. Immigration issues are not confined to Arizona – they affect us here in Chester County, so please plan now to attend this timely event as we prepare for this year’s Justice General Assembly.

Invited (but not yet confirmed) panel members include speakers talking about the need for a faith-based response, personal stories of a student who arrived in the U.S. undocumented as a young child, a lawyer who represents immigrants, and someone addressing the economic myths and truths of immigration.

This promises to be a very stimulating and timely event. The issues are not always so clear cut. The Embracing Diversity Team hopes that the entire congregation will support this event.

JUST LABEL IT

Both the UUA and UU Ministry for Earth have joined hundreds of organizations in support of the “Just Label It” campaign. Just Label It encourages everyone to petition the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to require food producers to label any food that is genetically modified. No matter what your position on GE foods is, we all have a right to know what is in our food.

For more information and to sign the petition, go to <http://justlabelit.org>. For more information, contact Diane Maguire, Sustainable Living Group chair, at email: sustainable-living.

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

Ten volunteers from our congregation participated on Saturday, February 11, in the **Habitat for Humanity** efforts in the Coatesville area. They were split into three teams and provided work on houses being constructed. With no experience required, all volunteers were put to work and given instructions on how to complete their assigned tasks.

Volunteering with HFH is fun, educational, and rewarding...and much appreciated. Contact Mike Stevens at email: habitat for information about volunteering in the future.

SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

We are pleased to announce the share-the-plate recipient on **February 18 (third Sunday of the month)** is the **Domestic Violence Center**. The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County, (DVCCC), serves women and their children who have become homeless as a result of domestic violence and abuse. One of their excellent programs is a daycare and after-school program designed to provide support to these often traumatized children.

Thanks to everyone for the \$475 that was donated to Habitat for Humanity in January. It is so heartening that our congregation continues to be so generous in today’s economic times.



DOCUMENTARY EXPLORED CONNECTION BETWEEN FOOD AND HEALTH

The Animal Ministry Chapter of UCWC hosted a screening of the highly-praised documentary film, *Forks Over Knives* on February 18. The film was attended by 30 people, about 10 of whom were from outside our congregation.

Discussion after the film centered on the scientific data about the health of people in countries that rely less on meat products. Many myths were discussed including issues involving people’s fear that protein and calcium would be lacking in a vegetarian diet.

People attending were interested in seeing other films of this type. Veggie snacks were enjoyed by all.

TRASH TO TREASURE: SPRING FLEA MARKET

Something you have no use for might be a real “find” for someone else. Our spring flea market on Saturday, April 21, is a great opportunity to clear out your unneeded, unwanted “stuff” and donate it for sale to benefit UCWC.

We hear every year that people “meant to” donate to the flea market, but at the last minute did not have time to rummage through all the places where “stuff” accumulates. So now is the time.

Start checking your bookshelves, cupboards, closets, attics, basements, garages, sheds, under the beds and all those other ingenious nooks and crannies where “stuff” hides away. Set aside a cardboard carton or two in a corner of your closet and start gathering items to donate.

Cleaning up, clearing out and downsizing will feel good. It will un-clutter your life, support the “Reduce, Reuse and Recycle” principle of Earth Week, and help UCWC raise funds for its operating budget.

With the exception of high-value collectibles, we plan to maintain our low, low prices – a great help in these tough times. In addition to our UU shoppers, the flea market attracts many people from the community.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE BAKE SALE. Once again we will also hold a bake sale to benefit a local charity. Can you help by baking some goodies for this wonderful program? Bring your donations Saturday morning, April 21, then stay and check out the flea market merchandise. And bring a friend.



EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP MARCH 11 7:00-8:30 PM

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese is a cross-cultural epic tale of family, love, betrayal, fathers and sons, and the world of medicine. It follows the lives of twin boys Marion and Shiva, born to an Indian nun and the British surgeon she nursed back to health. Orphaned at an early age, the boys grow up in Ethiopia when the country is on brink of revolution. Sandy Schaal and Susan Shenkin will facilitate our discussion of this provocative book.

For more information contact us at email: diversity-book-group, or call Ruth MacFadyen or Shelly Case. All are Welcome

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE YOUTH GROUP?

Well since you asked, the youth group has been quite busy the last couple months. The month of January always brings the Winter CON. Five youth and two advisors braved the winter chill to spend the weekend at the UUC of Annapolis, MD. From a workshop perspective, this CON was a bit different from previous CONs. Instead of having several different types of workshops going on at a time, DYSC had hired a team to lead a single, day-long workshop on racial diversity.

The racial diversity topic was quite appropriate considering that the following Monday was Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. With everyone out of school, the group participated in the MLK Day of Service, helping with the food packet assembly at the fellowship. A few of us knitted baby caps on the stage. (Bunny heard all the noise in the sanctuary and wisely stayed hidden downstairs in the James Reeb room.)

January quickly became February, and all of a sudden it was our turn to cook and serve dinner for the residents at Safe Harbor. This year we invaded the Arnold's kitchen to prepare the annual LARGE pot of chili, create a garden salad, and bake large quantities of corn and rice. The coup de grace was watching Caroline and Kendra make four batches of brownies. Here's a big THANK YOU to Tom, Mary and Clarke for allowing us to spread a bit of “love” into the corners of the kitchen floor. (And we're all glad the missing pot lid was found!)

WELCOME NEW UCWC MEMBERS

This past January 29, we welcomed twelve members into our community: Liz Borino, Carol Dukes, Lauren Erion, Don Hurford, Bonita Kehler, Michael Kritzman, Inge Leonardos, Koreen Olbrish, Shayna Parker, Kendra Sweitzer, Judy Van Naerssen and Arielle Williams. Please join us in welcoming all of our new members. A “Getting to Know You,” picture/bio board can be found as you enter the hall, so please check it out. They are all exceptional folks, and we are delighted that they chose to join. In the next months, our new members will choose a date upon which we will honor them by their participation in lighting the chalice. Deborah will briefly introduce them to the congregation.

– Barbara Long
and the Membership Committee

COFFEE HOUSE

The next coffee house is Saturday, March 17 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. The featured act is Diane Neri, singer songwriter. This venue continues to be a fund raiser for UCWC with a \$5 suggested donation at the door.



GAME NIGHT

Our next Potluck and Game night will be on Friday, March 2, in the sanctuary. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for dinner or after 7:00 for games. Everyone is welcome – families, individuals, couples, and children.

Bring a dish and beverage to share. Bring a friend too. We send out an email reminder a few days before to those who are regulars. If you would like a reminder, just send a note to email: game-night saying, "Put me on the Game-Night list," and I will add you on the reminder list. If you have any questions you can contact Mary Yeager at email: game-night.

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, March 2, at 11:30 a.m. at Panera Bread, 1103 West Chester Pike, near Shop Rite. Newcomers are welcome.

To be added to the email 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.

PIZZA AND PEEPS SUNDAY POTLUCK

Please join us on Sunday, March 18, after the 11 a.m. service for our monthly potluck. In addition to our delicious dishes brought by the attendees, we will also offer pizza and will have goodies on hand to make Peep's dioramas.

So bring your young ones and all of us who are young at heart, and we can get our creativity flowing. We will also welcome any performers who might like to entertain us. We had a wonderful song and dance performance and fencing lesson/demo this past month.

FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, March 31, 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.

Dance Party

Saturday, March 3 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Donations go to fund the new UCWC Website Design

WHO NEEDS NIGEL?

at the

Unitarian Congregation of West Chester

501 S. High Street, West Chester, PA

We are having a party to celebrate our name change!



So kick up your heels and have a good time!

Everyone is invited on Saturday March 3 from 7-10 p.m. This is a great chance to 'shake shake shake yer bootie' and *renew friendships and make new friends*. Music is by "Who Needs Nigel?" - Our classic-rock band of six members who've entertained us for six years. Dancing isn't your thing? Just come and socialize or just bob your head or stand slack-jawed and you'll be in good company, too!

There's no admission fee. This is just one more of them big ol' parties. **Friends – Family - Dancing.** Donations are appreciated. Light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Marie Steel at email: music

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Mar 1 Thu Religious Education Committee.** 7 p.m. Youth Group Rm. Contact Heidi Frayer, email: RE
Embracing Diversity Book Discussion: *The Death of Josseline*. 7:15 p.m. Fireplace Rm.
See p. 6.
- Mar 2 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 at Panera Bread. See p. 9.
Potluck and Game Night. 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30). Sanctuary. Contact Mary Yeager, email:
game-night. See p. 9.
- Mar 3 Sat Embracing Diversity Book Discussion: *The Death of Josseline*.** 1p.m. Fireplace Rm. See p. 6.
Dance Party with *Who Needs Nigel?* 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Mar 4 Sun First Sunday Food Collection.** Lobby. See p. 6.
Path to Membership Class. After the 11 a.m. service. Office. See p. 2.
- Mar 5 Mon Embracing Diversity Team.** 7-8:30 p.m. Office. Contact Helena Graham, email embracing-di-
versity
- Mar 8 Thu Social Justice Committee.** 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice. See p. 6.
- Mar 10 Sat Celebration Dinner.** 5:30 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 5.
- Mar 11 Sun DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS THIS MORNING. Move your clock ahead 1 hour.**
Young Adult Group. 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Rm. Contact Az Azarak, email: young-adult
Path to Membership Class. After the 11 a.m. service. Office. See p. 2.
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. 8.
- Mar 13 Tue Board Meeting.** 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Mary Yeager, email: president. See p. 5.
- Mar 15 Thu Animal Ministry.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace Rm. Contact John Gribbin, email: animal-ministry
Religious Services. 7:30-9 p.m. Office. Contact Diane Minka, email:religious-services
- Mar 17 Sat Coffee House.** 7 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9
- Mar 18 Sun Share the Plate Sunday.** Benefits Domestic Violence Center of Chester County. See p. 7,
Spirit Singers perform at both services.
Intergenerational Choir Rehearsal. 10:15 a.m. Downstairs. Contact Abby McGillivray email:
intergenerational-choir
After-Service Potluck, Pizza and Peeps. After the second service. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
Path to Membership Class. After the 11 a.m. service. Office. See p. 2.
- Mar 19 Mon Women's Circle.** 7-9 p.m. Lobby. Contact Debby Kern, email: womens-circle
- Mar 25 Sun Young Adult Group.** 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Rm. Contact Az Azarak, email: young-adult
A Faith Response to Illegal Immigration. Panel Discussion. Time TBA. See p. 7.
- Mar 26 Mon Communications Team.** 7 p.m. Office. Contact Sandy Retzlaff, email: communication
- Mar 27 Tue Council Meeting.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program
- Mar 28 Wed Parent Support Group.** 7 p.m. Office. Contact Sharon Meyer-Conroy, email: parent-support
- Mar 31 Sat Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. See p. 9.

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

- Adult RE** *Faith Like A River: An Adult Exploration into Unitarian Universalism.* Wednesdays
March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4, 7-8:30 p.m. Office. Contact Rev. Deborah Mero
- Spirit Singers** Practices 7:15-9 p.m. Thursday March 1, Wednesday, March 7, Thursdays March 15
and March 22. Contact Miriam Davidson, email: choir
- Youth Group** Meets most Sundays, 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Youth Group Room. Email: youth-group. See
p. 8.