

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 **June, 2013**

June 2
10 a.m.

RE SUNDAY: BRINGING OUR UU PRINCIPLES TO LIFE

Pam Baxter, DRE

Join us for our annual retrospective of the year's Religious Education classes and help celebrate our volunteers. We'll explore some ways of putting our seven UU Principles into action, and hopefully inspire you. The service will include the Dedication of UCWC's newest child. Also, a visit from our District Executive to present the congregation and Youth Group with our 10th consecutive YES! Award, and Kendra Sweitzer with the District's Outstanding Youth Award. This will definitely be a morning of celebration. Please stay after the service for our traditional Teacher Appreciation Brunch.

June 9
10 a.m.

FLOWER COMMUNION AND REMEMBRANCE

Rev. Deborah Mero

We will celebrate the ritual that was begun by the Unitarian minister, Rev. Norbert Capek in Prague in 1923. Please bring with you a flower(s) to share with others in this beautiful and heart-felt ritual. We will also take time to remember those lost to us this past year.

June 16
10 a.m.

CREATING COMMUNITY

Mark Bernstein

The author Peter Block wrote, "Community is about the experience of belonging. It is knowing that even in the middle of the night, you are among friends." How do you create community at UCWC? How do you join together to become a strong, vital and growing congregation? What are the benefits, and the risks, of growing? Mark Bernstein is the Regional Growth Development Consultant for the Central East Region of the UUA and a member of the UU Church of Delaware County for 20 years.

June 23
10 a.m.

AFRICAN DANCE

Janet Peck

An annual favorite, Janet returns to bring spirituality/community/awareness to movement in an Intergenerational experience of the expressive power of African dance. Connect with your heart and be inspired. Come dressed to dance and prepared for fun. The live drummers will be Quint Lange's current class along with Quint himself – not to be missed!

June 30
10 a.m.

YE OLDE HYMN SING
(Previously known as Stump the Hymnist)

Michael Werner and
Alex Marthaler

Please join us in raising up your voice in a song-fest of your favorite hymns. In what has become a favorite service for many, for the past twelve 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 and a list of hymns which you want us to try, a sense of humor, a warmed up voice, and be a part of the largest pick-up choir in Chester County.

Services and Babysitting at 10 a.m.

THE SONG OF DEBORAH

My hybrid car gets a lot of mileage out of very little gas, but it still needs refueling. It is not a perpetual motion machine, nor are we human beings. We all need re-fueling. Well over a year ago both Pam and I requested of the Board (and received approval for) the granting of time for sabbatical – a biblical term meaning “seventh year,” an ancient directive that requires that fields should lie fallow and rest every seventh year to recover strength and vitality. Pam has taken some of her time this past spring and will be taking some additional time this summer. I am looking forward to taking time in the fall and in the spring for some rest and renewal. Having served in ministry for 23 years in a variety of capacities and settings, this is the first sabbatical I have been able to take. We are completing our sixth year together, which will provide us both with opportunities for growth and reflection.

I have lined up an excellent slate of visiting ministers to provide Sunday services during my absence.

Ralph and I will travel to Wisconsin in August where I will attend a workshop given by the Center for Courage and Renewal with Parker Palmer. He is a great teacher, and I’ve had the privilege of attending his workshops in the past. We will also be attending the UU Retired Ministers and Partners retreat in October, the first time I’ve been able to attend as his partner. I hope to also find some art courses to nourish the right side of my brain.

I will be gone from September 1 returning to the pulpit for our Thanksgiving Bread Communion service and will be with you through the holidays and until March 1 when I will be gone again for the Spring months until June 1. I have lined up an excellent slate of visiting ministers to provide Sunday services during my absence. You will essentially spend the time touring some of the Eastern PA UU churches – except that the ministers are coming to you rather than the other way around. The Pastoral Care Team will be actively available as will several of my colleagues should there be emergencies requiring ministerial services.

A most excellent Sabbatical Team will be coordinating all of the functions I would normally be taking care of. The Team is made up of Shelly Case, Diane Cohle, Eileen Kelly-Meyer, Amanda Lipnack, Sandy Schaal, and Pam Baxter with support from our new office administrator. You will be receiving more information in the mail that should answer whatever questions you may have.

It has been a very full six years in the life of the congregation, in my life with you, and in the general state of our society. It is a wonderful opportunity for us all to take time for renewal. I thank you in advance for the time and space which will benefit us both, and may summer provide some time for re-fueling for all.

– Peace and Joy
Deborah



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

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NEWS FROM THE STAY OR GO EXPLORATION TEAM

Recently, the Board of Trustees formed an *ad hoc* committee to explore the costs and benefits of remaining in our current building or moving to a new facility in the West Chester area. Over the next several months, we will be meeting with each committee and members and friends of the congregation to determine what our community needs and wants from a worship space. We will be asking questions such as: Is a dedicated parking lot necessary? Is outdoor space (i.e. playground/picnic/meditation space) necessary to grow and maintain a healthy congregation? Do we want to continue to be a more “urban” community as opposed to a suburban or rural one?

When considering these questions, be sure to leave the financial costs out of what you feel we need. Whether we stay in this building or not, there will be a financial burden. If we stay, we have many large projects—mold in the basement, new windows, new roof, etc.—that will require a substantial investment. In addition, if we decide to stay, we will ultimately have to explore whether we can or should renovate our space to accommodate growth. If we leave our current building, there will be a different set of costs. The real question at this point in our exploration is what do YOU feel is necessary to grow and maintain a healthy congregation. Everything else flows from those answers.

In the next few months the committee will be providing a variety of ways for you to participate and provide your input into this exploration. We look forward to hearing from as many members and friends as possible.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As your leadership team makes plans for the coming year, it is essential for the Board and the Executive Team to know what is important to you. Thank you to all who attended the congregation's town meeting in early May and those who have sent us their comments since then. Your responses highlighted being part of a caring community that lives its principles was paramount to many. Similarly, inspiring Sunday Services is of particular value to a majority of those who responded. Enriching our children's lives and including them in our community remains crucial to the health and success of our congregation. These were the areas of congregational life that we should particularly support with an investment of our time and energy.

During our past interim minister search, part of the process was congregational self-discovery. At that time, we identified social justice as the most important emphasis for ourselves and the ministers we were interviewing. There may be many reasons for the shift in priorities from social justice to community. The past five years have been difficult in terms of economic, social, and political stress for our members and friends. We need to explore our change in focus from social justice to community. This does not mean that social justice is not important to many or even most of us; rather it is time for all of us to do some self-examination, to nurture our community, and to find joy in each other.

I ask you to participate in the opportunities we offer to enrich and support our community. On June 16, Mark Bernstein will be the Sunday Service speaker. Mark is a consultant with a UUA's regional group. I have asked him to speak about "Creating Community". May this be the start of our reexamination of who we are as a congregation. I urge you to attend the service and the potluck luncheon

afterwards. Similarly, we will be starting the second phase of our Stay or Go information gathering. At the annual meeting on June 2, the Stay or Go task force will share with the congregation the survey results regarding how our physical plant meets our current and future needs. This is another aspect of keeping our congregation healthy. The Board and the Executive Team will provide more opportunities throughout the year to engage you in building our community.

Most of next year, our minister, Rev. Deborah Mero, will be on sabbatical. In her absence many ministers from neighboring congregations have been invited to lead our Sunday services. This will give us a wonderful opportunity to experience a wide variety of styles and messages. During the year, the Committee on Ministry and the Religious Services committee will be seeking feedback from you on the sermon topics and styles that you appreciated the most. With this information, we hope to better target topics and speakers whom are of interest to you.

Our Religious Education program is well run and provides an enriching experience for our children and their parents, but it may also be our best kept secret. We see that perhaps we have not done a good job integrating the program into more aspects of congregational life. Over the coming year, our Executive Team will investigate how we can be more supportive to parents and inclusive of our children.

There are many projects which we began this year that are still in process. This makes it more difficult to take up the new tasks identified at the Town Meeting. However, I feel that we have made significant progress on most of last year's Board tasks and have a preliminary course of action in place for our new topics. I ask you to attend the annual meeting on June 2 at 6:30 p.m. (5:30

for the potluck) to vote on the slate of officers and the 2013-14 budget. In the coming week, look in your email or mail for the annual report which contains all the congregation's officers and committees' annual reports. Reading the annual report will inform you of our myriad accomplishments and activities. Attend the congregational meeting to be part of our congregation family; it is part of the process of supporting our congregation through the upcoming year.

If you were unable to attend the Town Meeting and wish to share your joys and concerns regarding the congregation, your comments are still welcome. Here are questions that might help you frame your comments. What is it that you value most about our congregation? What keeps you from being more engaged/active in congregational life? Contact us at email: board.

– Mary Yeager

President of the Board of Trustees

ANNUAL MEETING

Join us on Sunday, June 2, for our Annual Meeting. The potluck starts at 5:30 p.m., which will be immediately followed by the meeting.

A list of agenda items will be emailed or mailed to you this week.

Your presence is important. Come and enjoy good company and good food, while helping decide how your contributions are spent.

Babysitting will be provided if you give us advanced notice (email: board).

REmarks

Too “woo-woo” for UU? Discovering Spiritual DNA

In my annual DRE Report for this year, you’ll see that one of the things I did while on sabbatical was to be trained as a [SoulCollage®](#) facilitator. I highlight that experience because a collage I did while first exploring this process about a year ago, shows an image of a bright red carp poised above a rushing stream, looking down as if gauging its re-entry. At the time, I didn’t know why I made the collage or what it meant; there was just something about the fluidity and energy of the images that I loved.

It wasn’t until I was about halfway through my two-month leave that I discovered that in a very “woo-woo” kind of way, the card had predicted my sabbatical. Like the fish, I was out of my normal element. The stream of RE was flowing along, but I was outside it, getting a different perspective before diving back into the waters again.

All through April, that card sat out on my kitchen counter, inspiring my time and reminding me of my mission: to explore other UU RE models, and come back with new ideas and perspective. I could fill many columns with details of what I learned. But first, I want to talk about one of the “intangibles” of my journey.

With the support of the RE Team like a boat beneath me, and with the blessing of the congregation like wind in its sails, on March 3 I headed out into the unknown waters of Sabbatical. On my journey I had planned “island stops” at congregations in the Joseph Priestley District. These were the known destinations; my anchor points. I knew I would learn a lot from these experiences, and be able to bring home some “tangibles” for our RE program.

Yet while I relied on those points to keep me grounded and directed, I longed for at least one unplanned adventure—something that would make me feel that I had truly been away, even though physically I would not be traveling farther than

Bethesda, Maryland. Surprisingly, that “away” experience happened closer to home than I could ever have imagined; in fact, just 20 miles up Route 113.

Some of you already know that my dear aunt, who died last August in California, had planned a celebration of her life to take place at the Zion Mennonite Church in Souderton; the church in which she had grown up.

I had no way of knowing that reconnecting at the service with one of the few remaining family members of my mother’s generation would put me on a trajectory of exploring my Mennonite roots. But it did, and what a journey it turned out to be! Through two remarkable books, I know that in 1727, at the age of 20, my ancestor John Valentine Kratz left the German Palatinate and sailed to the colonies from Rotterdam on the *Friendship*. He was part of a continuing exodus of tens of thousands of Anabaptists, fleeing from religious persecution. I know that after a four-month voyage, he arrived safely at Philadelphia. I even know how many acres of farmland he purchased in what is today Montgomery County. Thanks to the detail in the genealogies, I also know in which Mennonite cemeteries eight generations of ancestors are buried.

It was fascinating in itself, of course, to read into the history of my mom’s family. But there were several “woo-woo” aspects to the exploration. One was the two-by-four-to-the-head awareness that some really deep family roots lie just across the county line from where I just happened to settle and then spend the past 28 years of my life.

Reading about these people who emigrated from Germany and Switzerland, I saw how many were farmers. No surprise there. And also how many were ministers. That was something I hadn’t known. Woo-woo #2: unlike any of the other family members of my generation, I have felt since childhood a fierce connection to the land and an unexplained passion for growing vegetables. And though I

did not follow the Christian path, I’m the one who is involved in ministry.

Woo-woo #3: it occurred to me that my Protestant ancestors share that deep, sometimes dangerous, heretical conviction that informs our UU faith. Somehow, being UU no longer feels like a faith that I adopted, but which I evolved into—my family past somehow linking me to the present, and enriching my current faith. It informs my devotion to the right for each of us to decide what we believe, how we worship, and how we live a life that brings our faith into action.

Not woo-woo but with a certain poignancy to it, on my last Sunday before returning to UCWC, I attended the service at the Vincent Mennonite Church just up the road from me. That’s another whole story to tell!

Finally, I want to let you know how good it feels to be back at UCWC again. I look forward to sharing more of my sabbatical experiences with you.

– Blessings, Pam



HELP CELEBRATE OUR TEACHERS

After the service on Sunday, June 2, the Religious Education Committee invites you to join us for our traditional Enhanced Coffee Hour to honor our dedicated and creative RE teachers. We would greatly appreciate it if friends and members, especially this year’s non-teaching parents, would bring in some kind of brunch-type treat that morning: muffins, scones, coffee cake, bagels & cream cheese, quiche or bake-ahead egg dishes, fruit, juice, milk, etc. A link to a Signup Genius site will be sent soon to parents. If you’re not on the parent email list and wish to contribute something, please contact Jen Roth no later than Thursday, May 30, to let her know what you are bringing, so we can fill in any gaps.

FINANCIALLY YOURS

April 2013 was a typical month for this time of year. Expenses ticked up slightly compared to April 2012. This was due to payment of dues to the UUA which were budgeted but not yet paid, and sizable reimbursements for professional expenses, also budgeted, but not paid. Also there were a few more committee expenses this month—not a bad thing. Income tapered off during the month as expected resulting in expenses exceeding income by \$7,742. This drew down our available for operating cash to just under \$35,000.

Other significant expenses for the month were \$6,683.50 and \$1,787.50 for our new sign and its installation. This money came from our Capital Projects reserve fund. Work will be starting on the sign very soon.

We should have sufficient cash to complete the remaining two months of the current fiscal year, but we are starting to eat into the savings that we used to balance this year's budget. You can help stem the erosion of our savings by completing your current pledge before June 30.

Our Income Treasurer, Tom Townsend, will send out reminders of giving and pledging very shortly. Or if you are uncertain of the amount remaining on your pledge, and you can't wait, contact us at email: treasurer. Last year we had an excellent completion rate for pledges, and we'd like to do as well or better this year.

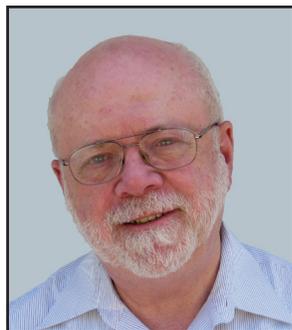
Our stewardship campaign started well with a good response to our e-mail solicitation at the beginning of the month, but it has now stalled as we go into the final days before our annual meeting on June 2. We've targeted pledge income of \$210,000 for next year but are currently only at \$194,000.

NOTES OF APPRECIATION: MIKE MILLER

Mike Miller can't stop moving. Whether it's hiking in the mountains, jetting around the world as part of his profession, playing his beloved Martin six-string, finding jobs around the home, or—of prime interest to us—contributing to the life of UCWC, Mike is a whirlwind of activity.

After many years at Main Line Unitarian Church (including a term as Board President and as a GA rep), Mike came to us in 1985. He immediately immersed himself in congregational doings. He served as Treasurer in the 1990s. He chaired the committee that brought Rev. Patrick O'Neill to the Fellowship. He served as a GA delegate here as well.

But Mike is not all business. He was a founding member of the Folk Singing group, and the song book he brought from Main Line became the core of our present, now extensive, book.



He was a guiding force behind the Bicarb Bistro, and he wrote numerous skits to advertise it—appearing in homemade costumes as the Energizer Bunny and as a Teletubby.

With Ed Cohle, he served as auctioneer for the annual service auction, and he wrote the "Service Auction" catalog song that is usually sung as an advertisement each year. He and his wife Flo ("I go with the Flo.") have hosted numerous Fun and Fellowship parties.

Mike is currently ending two consecutive terms as executive treasurer—he steps down in June. In that capacity he has chaired the Finance Committee and been intimately involved in our stewardship campaigns serving as chair for several years. These jobs require attention to detail, a keen financial eye, and, needless to say, many, many hours of volunteer work. Mike has done all this while traveling extensively as Chief Operating Officer of Whitford Corporation, a position from which he only recently retired. His business travel has taken him to every continent except Antarctica – over a million miles.

Mike and Flo celebrate their 49th anniversary this June. They have two children, Chris, who heads a research unit in North Carolina, and Jenny, who operates a private counseling practice in Massachusetts. They have two granddaughters.

It has been said that, if you want to get something done, ask a busy man. Over the years much has been asked of this very busy man, and much has been done by him. Be sure to thank Mike next time you see him.

– Steve Sander
For the Board

We would really like to hear from every one regarding their intention for making a pledge for the 2013-14 fiscal year. The simplest way to make a pledge is by visiting the Membership & Giving page of our website, ucwc.org. Click on the "Your Pledge" bar on the left of the

page and enter the information. Just note that your pledge should be entered as so much per month. Everything else is pretty straight forward. Please give until it feels good, and thanks for your consideration.

– Mike Miller

STONES IN THE WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

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

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

THIS MONTH'S SUGGESTED ITEMS: PASTA AND RICE

Our [monthly food collection](#) is Sunday, June 2. Look for collection baskets in the lobby. We participate in the "Circle of Giving" program that assures the [West Chester Food Cupboard](#) of specific items on any given month according to a schedule provided by the food cupboard. For this month's needs, see above headline – of course, other items are appreciated as well. Please be sure that the date on food items has not expired.



We encourage members to bring in items the first Sunday of each month, but if you forget, we will accept non-perishables at any time. You can also put a check in the collection plate, payable to "UCWC" with "WC Food Cupboard" in the memo line on any Sunday.

Thank you for participating in this project and helping neighbors in our community. Contact Shelly Case at email: food-cupboard.

SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

The Social Justice Committee's [Share-the-Plate](#) program raises money to give to local non-profit organizations who are trying to improve life for Chester County residents. We are pleased to announce that the share-the-plate recipient for June 19 (third Sunday of the month) is Maternal and Child Health Consortium of Chester County.



The [Maternal and Child Health Consortium of Chester County](#) provides bilingual, bicultural Family Health Advocates in Chester County who provide prenatal and postpartum home visiting, health insurance enrollment, health education, medical interpretation services, transportation assistance and connections to community resources to increase self-sufficiency.

Thank you for your generosity to last month's recipient, Stop Hunger Now in the amount of \$545.

ARE YOU CURRENT WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES?

The Social Justice Committee operates two email lists that can keep you informed on the latest UCWC social justice activities.

Social Justice List

Information about all UCWC Social Justice activities and issues.

Sustainable Living List

Tips, events, advocacy alerts, and cooperation to promote a more sustainable world.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to either list, send a request to Steve Sander at email: email.

A GLEANING GARDEN OF OUR OWN

Saturday, May 25, is our first major day in the garden. Our sweet potato plants will arrive any day now, and the ground is being tilled in preparation for the sweet potato slips. Join us this Saturday or any Saturday till October from 4:30 to 6 p.m. as we plant, weed, mulch, and/or harvest lettuce, sweet potatoes, beets, broccoli, and edamame for the [Chester County Food Bank](#).

This week we will celebrate our hard work (weather permitting) with a bonfire and weenie roast (marshmallows too!). This will be fun and fulfilling work for us as we help our neighbors in need. For the bonfire, bring hotdogs and rolls for yourself – we will provide the rest. If you want to be on the gleaning email list please contact us at email: [gleaning](#), so that you can get any messages such as reminders and cancellations due to the weather.

EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK GROUP END OF YEAR POT LUCK CELEBRATION

The [Exploring Diversity Book Group](#) will gather for a Pot Luck Celebration and planning session on June 8 at 10:30 a.m. at Pat Shorten's home. If you would like more information or have questions please contact either Ruth MacFadyen or Shelly Case or email: [diversity-book-group](#).

The group will meet again at its regular time on September 8, the second Sunday of the month, from 7-8:30 p.m. at UCWC. All are Welcome. We are pleased to announce our new Co-Leaders for the coming year: Lorrie McKinley and Pam Sapko.

UUSC

"What I love about our human rights community is the way we walk our talk. All over the world, UUSC, with your help, brings justice and hope to the forgotten and oppressed. And we do it with love, humility, and tireless effort."

– Bill Schulz
President and CEO, UUSC

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is our charity and human rights organization. It is supported by individual donations. We are helping people in places like:

- Darfur, where we are helping safeguard women and girls from sexual assault
- Haiti, where we are providing housing and hope by expanding our innovative eco-villages
- Kenya, where we are helping vulnerable communities build lives of justice, dignity, and self-reliance
- The United States, where we are championing the rights of exploited workers struggling to survive in the dark underbelly of our economy

We are proud to be members of UUSC, and we are proud that members of UCWC have always given UUSC strong support. If you are not a member, or your membership has lapsed, please join today. Click [HERE](#) to join. Please be sure to write our congregation name in the space provided.

Our membership in UUSC slipped to just over 50% last year. If you join by June 30, you can help us raise that number this fiscal year.

Membership donations of \$100 or more will be matched by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, New York.

UUSC does charity the UU way. We empower people.

Thank you.

– Linda Sander and
Tom Townsend
UUSC Local Representatives

TOWELS AND BLANKETS FOR PUPS

The UCWC Animal Ministry encourages us to donate old towels, blankets, and sheets to one of the animal shelters rather than throwing them out. Many dogs that go to rescues and shelters are scared in their new surroundings, and they usually have to sleep on cold cement floors because there is no room in the budget for bedding.

Our old towels and blankets can provide one small source of comfort to these frightened former pets. On Sundays in June, Animal Ministry members will collect items brought to UCWC and donate them to the Chester County SPCA or the Francisvale Home for Small Animals in Radnor.



BECOMING A FORCE FOR JUSTICE

Workshop: Training UUs to Be Effective Allies of Restaurant Workers in Pennsylvania
Date: Saturday, June 1
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Location: First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia. 2125 Chestnut Street

Click [HERE](#) for flyer with more details and registration instructions.

If you have read *Beyond the Kitchen Door* or heard Rev. Deborah or Tom Townsend's sermons on the topic of restaurant workers pay and working conditions, you might be interested in becoming trained to identify restaurants that treat their employees well. This workshop sponsored by UUPLAN, UUSC, and the Restaurant Opportunities Center (ROC) will cover the following topics:

- Latest developments from ROC on local, state, and national strategies
- How to extend ROC's reach to workers in your community
- How to identify potential "high road" establishments for the Diners Guide.

At 12:30 we'll walk together to a nearby "high road" eatery, to support workers and management where fair wages and conditions prevail. Arriving as a group in support is "carrot mobbing" in ROC lingo.

Advance Registration Please. Contact UUPLAN Campaign Team Leader, Jamie Preston (jp Preston915@aol.com) to let us know you are coming and for any questions. *There is no registration fee, but please come prepared to buy your lunch.* Please let me know if you plan to be part of the UCWC contingent. Thanks.

– Linda Sander
email: uusc

FAIR TRADE COORDINATOR WANTED

If you like buying fair trade coffee and tea at UCWC, and you are looking for a job to do for the Congregation, you might like to be the fair trade coffee coordinator. The job is fairly simple. It involves keeping track of the inventory and ordering coffee and tea for the sale and coffee and cups for Sunday services from Equal Exchange. Contact Shelly Case at email: fair-trade for details or Linda Sander at email: social-justice to volunteer.

GETTING TO KNOW UU COFFEE

Are you intrigued by what you've seen at the UCWC? Do you want to learn more about being a UU? Join other seekers along with some "old timers" to learn about what the UCWC has to offer you.

It's a great opportunity to get to know UU and us a bit better, and for us to get acquainted with you. It will be held June 16 in the upstairs office at 11:15 a.m. immediately following the service. For more information feel free to contact Barbara Long at email: membership. Meanwhile, enjoy the summer.

GROW YOUR SPIRIT

During your quiet, contemplative times this summer, keep in mind that in September we will offer two opportunities to enhance your spiritual life. This past year ten people got together for two nights a month to read and discuss *Soul to Soul*, a guide written by a UU minister.

The format is to prepare for each session by reading that chapter and reflecting on it. At the gathering, we observe a ritualistic "space setting", brief check in and short meditation. Each person then has an opportunity to share his/her thoughts on the topic. Learning to listen to each other is very important.

Since the concept and topics were so well received, we will again present *Soul to Soul* on two Saturday mornings a month. We will discuss a similar book by the same author, *Heart to Heart*, on the second and fourth Tuesday nights.

If you have any questions, talk to Harriet Singer or Mira Tryon (email: soul-to-soul). Your Spirit will thank you.

BEADING, NEEDLEWORK, SCRAPBOOKING, CRAFTING, PARTY

There will be lots of fun and great conversation at this month's Crafting Party. BYO supplies and tools, but we're sure we'll end up trading ideas and goodies from our caches. Come join us on Saturday, June 22, from 10 a.m. till noon at UCWC. RSVP to email: fun, or tell Lauren Kelly or Debby Kern.



GAME NIGHT

This month Game Night will be Friday, June 7 with low key fun for all ages. You can come by yourself, bring a friend, or bring your whole family. Starts with potluck and rolls into games. Recently, we played Domino's, Take the Hat and Bananagrams. Sometimes we try something new, but there are always people wanting to play old favorites too.

Come and join the fun. Bring what you like to play.

Don't worry about dinner. If you don't have time to cook, pick up a pizza or cookies on the way. (Everybody loves pizza/chocolate chip cookies.) Don't worry if you are late, we will let you join the game or start a new one. Just come. It is a great way to end the work week and start the weekend. Bring a dish and a beverage (for example a 2-liter bottle of soda or a half gallon of milk) to share as well as any game you would like to play).

We open the doors at 6:30 p.m. and start games a little after 7. We are usually done between 8:30 and 9:45, but you can leave whenever you are ready. There is no need to call ahead, but if you have any questions contact Lauren Kelly at email: fun.

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, June 21, 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 email, or you change your mind at the last minute, come anyway. Everyone is welcome.

FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, June 1, at 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. All are welcome. No singing talent or experience is necessary, just a desire to have fun. Capable musicians should bring instruments. Bring a munchie, if you wish. Maps are in the foyer. Contact Steve at email: folk-singing.

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP PLANNING MEETING

The Fun and Fellowship committee is having a planning meeting on Saturday, June 1. We will discuss planning established events and talk about new things for us to do. If you have any ideas, for adults, youth or for families please stop by. Or send an email for us to discuss. Location and time are to be determined, but if you're interested, please contact Lauren Kelly (email:fun) for further information.

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

All email addresses @ucwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Jun 1 Sat Social Justice Restaurant Workers Workshop.** 10 a.m.-12-30 p.m. First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia. See p. 8.
Folk Singing. 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. See p. 9.
Fun and Fellowship Planning Meeting. Details TBA. See p. 9.
- Jun 2 Sun First Sunday Food Collection.** Lobby. See p. 7.
RE Enhanced Coffee Hour. After the service. See p. 4.
Annual Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 3.
- Jun 3 Mon Embracing Diversity Team.** 7-8:30 p.m. Office. Contact Eileen Kelly-Meyer, email: embracing-diversity.
- Jun 5 Wed Religious Education Committee.** 6-8 p.m. Youth Group Rm. Contact Heidi Frayer, email: RE
- Jun 7 Fri Potluck and Game Night.** Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Games start a little after 7 p.m. Sanctuary. Contact Lauren Kelly, email: fun. See p. 9
- Jun 8 Sat Exploring Diversity Book Group Pot Luck Celebration and Planning Session.** 10:30 a.m. at Pat Shorten's home. See p. 7.
Coffee House. 7 p.m. Sanctuary. Contact Judy Perri, email: coffee-house.
- Jun 9 Sun RE Summer Break Begins.**
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 11 Tue Council Meeting.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Cindy Heck, e-mail: program
- Jun 12 Wed Animal Ministry Meeting.** 7 p.m. Contact John Gribbin, email: animal-ministry.
- Jun 16 Sun Share the Plate Sunday.** Benefits Maternal and child Health Consortium of Chester Co. See p. 7.
Getting to Know UU Coffee. 11:15 a.m. Upstairs in the Office. See p. 9.
- Jun 18 Tue Board Meeting.** 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Mary Yeager, e-mail: president.
- Jun 21 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 9.
- Jun 22 Sat Crafters Party.** 10 a.m. to noon. Contact Cindy Heck email: program. See p. 9.
- Jun 27 Thu Religious Services Committee.** 7 p.m. Minister's Office. Contact Amanda Lipnack, email: religious-services
- Jun 29 Sat Bonfire and Weenie Roast.** 6 p.m. At the Yeager's. See p. 7.
- Jun 30 Sun Fiscal Year Ends.** Please complete your pledge before the end of the fiscal year. See p. 6.

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

Gleaning **Gleaning at the Yeager's.** Saturdays, 4:30-6 p.m. See p. 7.

Animal Ministry **Collection of Towels and Blankets for Pups Collection.** Sundays in June. See p. 8.

OUR NEW SIGN

Our New Sign is scheduled to be delivered June 2. The footing is being installed, and we are eagerly anticipating its arrival. We hope to dedicate it on Sunday, June 9, but since we won't know for sure if it will be ready that day, please check *Connections*, and we will let you know when we do. We wish to gather and bless it as it will be our visible face in the community.