

# THE FELLOWTARIAN

Newsletter of the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester

December 2019



## NOTES FROM REV. DAN

What will your gift be in this season of giving?

I'm not talking about a gift you'll receive, neatly wrapped in bright paper with a bow, or tucked under a tree, or even passed to you by a relative with the words, "It's time you had this." These are wonderful gifts. They are important gifts. But they are not the gifts I'm talking about.

Nor am I talking about the presents you've spent all year (or all month, or the day before Christmas) picking out, or making, or finding for the people you love. These gifts are often deep, meaningful, and heartfelt. But they are not the gifts I'm talking about.

What will your gift be in this season of giving?

All of us have them. We carry our gifts with us, dispensing them to the people around us, sometimes without

even knowing we are doing it. When we respond to a friend who is hurting by listening to them and being with them, we are giving a gift. When we treat people with consideration and respect — whether or not we know them personally — we are giving a gift. When we see someone ill-treated by society and ask both why and what we can do, we are giving a gift. When we live our lives in a way that will make the world better for children yet to be born, we are giving our gifts.

Such gifts don't have to be grandiose, and they are usually better if they are not. They don't require money, or even time. These are the gifts we give with our personhood, and all of us have them. Giving them is simply a matter of letting that part of ourselves unabashedly into the world.

What will your gift be in this season of giving?

In faith, Dan

*These are the gifts we give with our personhood, and all of us have them. Giving them is simply a matter of letting that part of ourselves unabashedly into the world.*

## 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.*

## About that Town Hall...

More than 40 people came to the UCWC Town Hall between services on November 17 to offer comments that will help guide our search for a Director of Lifespan Faith Development (better known in shorthand as "RE director").

Many were grateful for the chance to have their voices heard, and the sanctuary was abuzz with fruitful discussion. Among the questions participants considered were: "What do you appreciate about our RE program (adult and youth)? What would you like to see in our RE program, if we had the space and resources?"

If you missed the town hall, you can share your thoughts by contacting Sarah Hyson (email: [DLFD-search](mailto:DLFD-search)), our search committee chair.



A Welcoming  
Congregation

501 South High Street  
West Chester PA 19382  
610-692-5966  
[office@ucwc.org](mailto:office@ucwc.org)  
[www.ucwc.org](http://www.ucwc.org)

# Sunday Services

Religious Education  
and Babysitting  
at both services



*We gather, aspiring to be a thriving, caring, and welcoming community that supports each person's spiritual journey, embraces diversity, challenges us to live responsibly, and is a catalyst for a just and compassionate world.*

## Men's Group

The Tuesday evening men's group will meet on December 3 at 7:00 pm downstairs in room 4. All men are welcome. Because of low attendance there are no Saturday men's group meetings in the foreseeable future. Contact Dirk Troltenier, email: [mens-group](mailto:mens-group).

**Dec 1**  
**10:00 am Single Service**

**EARTHWORMS**

**Chris Hyson**

What do we have in common with earthworms? Although our biology is exceptionally different (we're not even in the same phylum), when it comes to stepping out of our comfort zones, we have a lot more in common than you might think.

**Dec 8**  
**9:15 and 11:00 am**

**ALL OF OURSELVES**

**Rev. Dan Schatz**

What do we bring with us into a Unitarian Universalist sanctuary?

**Dec 15**  
**9:15 and 11:00 am**

**WHEN DOES THE SERVICE BEGIN?**

**Rev. Dan Schatz**

A newcomer came to a Unitarian Universalist congregation and asked an ordinary question. The answer surprised them.

**Dec 22**  
**9:15 and 11:00 am**

**A SOLSTICE SONG**

**Rev. Dan Schatz  
and UCWC Musicians**

Come to this very special celebration of the winter solstice in song and story.

**Tue Dec 24**  
**4 pm**

**ALL-AGES  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**Rev. Dan Schatz  
and Congregants**

Join us for a very special participatory Christmas Eve service as we tell the age-old story of a birth and the holiness of every child. There will be easy roles for all ages (including very young children), and no rehearsal is required. Please plan to come at 3:30 to get a costume (but you can still have a role even if you didn't come early). Very young children who wish to be animals may bring their own costumes as well. This very special service has become a beloved annual tradition in many Unitarian Universalist congregations, and we hope people of all ages will take part.

**Tue Dec 24**  
**7 pm**

**CANDLELIGHT  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**Rev. Dan Schatz  
and Spirit Singers**

We will gather for a traditional Christmas Eve service with readings, carols, music from the Spirit Singers, a Christmas reflection from Rev. Dan Schatz, and the singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight.

**Dec 29**  
**10:00 am Single Service**

**ENDING AND  
BEGINNING**

**Kathy Beatty**

A ritual of letting go, intention, and hope. Within a traditional service of readings and music, we will again provide a burning bowl and candles for each of us to privately examine what we want to let go from the past year and our hopes and intentions for the new year to come.

**NOTE:** On the Sundays after Thanksgiving and Christmas — December 1 and December 29 — we will hold single services, at 10 am. We return to 9:15 and 11 am services on December 8 and January 6.

## From the President

This month I will be leading the first of our series of monthly Q&A sessions, aimed primarily at relatively new members and UU curious visitors, but all are welcome. You might call it “Everything you wanted to know about UCWC and Unitarian Universalism but didn’t know who to ask.” [Join us December 15, after either service, in the meditation room.]



To prepare, I’ve been reading up on likely questions. This being December, I figured I should expect a question about Christmas. If we are Unitarian, and don’t believe Jesus was the human embodiment of God on earth, why do we celebrate his birth? On the website of the Unitarian association of Great Britain, I found an answer that resonated with me:

***Christmas marks the birth of a religious leader of seminal importance. ... It stands for the perennial rebirth of innocence and hope in every new child. It calls to mind the values of peace and goodwill that should be with us all the year.***

With so much focus on the religious aspects of Christmas, it’s easy to forget there was an important political dimension to Jesus’ life and work. The British Unitarian FAQ notes this:

***His challenge to a corrupt priesthood in the Jerusalem Temple made him powerful enemies. These found common cause with the ruthless Roman authorities. The result was his crucifixion, a supreme example of human***

***integrity and faithfulness in the face of human evil.***

This point is one reason my list of favorite Christmas songs includes Jackson Browne’s “The Rebel Jesus,” a biting critique of the overwhelming commercialism of the season.

For me, Christmas is also a time for reaffirming connections to loved ones. When I lived in Alaska, Christmas was a powerful force that drew me to haul my two young boys all the way to the East Coast to visit family, where the odds were good that any joy of the season would be soured by dysfunctional family dynamics.

Those Christmas trips back East were also an escape from Alaska’s long winter darkness. It’s not a coincidence that Christmas is celebrated close to the shortest day of the year. Early Christians astutely decided to piggyback their new religious celebration on existing pagan festivals held around the winter solstice, like Roman Saturnalia. Some UUs celebrate the solstice instead of, or in addition to, Christmas. In many of those dark Alaska winters, I was happy to join them.

As UUs, we are each free to have our own reasons for celebrating, or not celebrating, Christmas. I certainly don’t subscribe to the literal Biblical story of Christ’s birth and life. I’m among those, who in the words of that British Unitarian FAQ writer, are “willing, for the season, to suspend disbelief, enter into the Christmas myth, and find at its heart a message of love for a world that needs it.”

— Matt Zencey

## Committee on Ministry

The Committee on Ministry (COM) of UCWC is charged with observing, evaluating and supporting all of the various ministries of our congregation. Our members are Paul Heck (chair), Jim MacFadyen, Shelly Case, and Emily Sweet.

The Bylaws direct that the COM engage in an assessment process that reviews our minister’s impact on our congregation on a periodic basis, as well as “the health of all the Ministries of the Congregation.” (UCWC Bylaws Article IX.C.1)

The COM has designed a process to collect key experiential information from a cross section of our congregation. The goal of this process is not to create a “score,” but rather to construct a comprehensive picture of our spiritual community. To that end we

will focus our questions on individual experiences at UCWC and then determine how we can use your feedback to further the goals of Rev. Dan’s ministry and the larger set of ministries that comprise our mutual relationships at UCWC.

While we cannot speak with every member to ask our questions, we will certainly work diligently to identify a true cross section of members. If we contact you with a request to participate in this essential process in support of our community’s continued spiritual health we hope that you will enthusiastically say “Yes!”

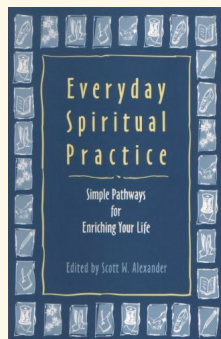
We expect to begin our process early in the new year so watch for more information. The committee can be contacted at email: **COM**.

# Lifespan Faith Development

## Everyday Spiritual Practice Discussion Group Tue, Dec 3 7-9 pm Meditation Room

In our busy, 21st-century lives, it can be a real challenge to find time for a personal spiritual practice. Having the best intentions of starting or keeping up a practice might not be enough to see us through. But it may be that we just haven't discovered the spiritual practice that is the best fit. And what is a spiritual practice, anyway?

Our three-session exploration of spiritual practice uses the book, *Everyday Spiritual Practice: Simple Pathways for Enriching Your Life* by Scott W. Alexander, as our guide. At this first session, we'll focus on



The Basics, which includes individual short essays on Balance, Listening to Our Lives, The Middle Way, Eclectic Spirituality, and A Spiritual Maintenance Schedule. Each essay is fairly short, and we encourage you to read all of them. If you are super short on time, please do at least read the section, "Listening to Our Lives," as we will focus the most on this.

The second and third sessions will be on February 4 (Engaging the Soul: Creativity) and April 7 (Engaging the Mind: Contemplation). We hope you'll be able to join us for all three.

Note: The book is available at the usual online vendors including the [UUA Bookstore](#). There are electronic and paperback editions. The Adult RE Committee has purchased two books to lend out. Please let Pam know if you'd like to borrow a copy (email: [DLFD](#)).

## REmarks: Religious Education Update The Strength of Ritual

As you can imagine, with my retirement just months away, I'm noting "the lasts." In September, my last Ingathering Service as your DLFD. In November, my last Bread Communion. And this month, my last Christmas Eve family service and pageant. Behind the usualness of each of these events there's a little bittersweet feeling. Yes, I'm looking forward to retirement, but there are so many things I'll miss.



At the same time, it's grounding to think of the bigger picture, and that is that these events will go on. They're part of our UCWC tradition, rituals that we look forward to each year. The person who is leading or helping to lead these services isn't the important thing. The important thing is that we do them.

And by our doing them each year, they serve to build and expand our sense of community as a congregation.

My departure next year will probably feel like a big deal, at least for a while. But, in fact, due to a variety of life events, there are departures regularly from a congregation. We look like solid entities—and we are—but there is always this fluidity. It's just more noticeable when it's a staff member who's moving on.

Our rituals — from our regular Sunday services, to Child Dedications, our game nights, coffee hour, our annual picnic, service auction, MLK Day of Service, lighting the chalice, speaking our Unison Affirmation — these elements all serve as the foundation, the backdrop against which people come and go. It's steadying to know that of course they'll continue.

— Pam Baxter

**Director of Lifespan Faith Development**

## Monthly Q&A Sessions Start in December

Curious about Unitarian Universalism? Got a question about UCWC? We've got answers. The third Sunday each month, we will host a Q&A session for anyone who would like to learn more about Unitarian Universalism or about our congregation.

Our first session will be held on December 15, after each service: 10:30 and again at 12:15. Grab your social hour refreshment and join us. We will meet in the meditation room, located on the first floor, by the name tag board. Led this month by **Matt Zencey**.



## Finance Update

### Restoring Budget Cuts

At the Annual Meeting the Congregation passed an operating budget with selective cuts but empowered the Board to restore them if possible. We ended the fiscal year with a larger balance than anticipated. Several members promised one-time gifts, and we learned we could count on the unexpected fulfillment of some previous pledges. With these increases the Board restored all the committee cuts plus the \$5,000 cut to the building maintenance fund. They did not restore the \$3,000 cut for a religious education consultant, deciding instead to wait to see whether a consultant is needed.

### How Are We Doing Now?

Stewardship pledges are ahead of schedule, which is not unusual at this time of the year. Rentals are much improved over last year, already at 74% of budget. The recent Service Auction, our largest fundraiser of the year, is projected to raise at least \$9,400.

Gift cards income, our second biggest fundraiser, is below budget. Soon Panera and Starbucks gift cards will be available in addition to Giant, Acme and Shoprite. Gift cards are on sale in the back of the sanctuary every Sunday between services or after single services. Please support this fundraiser, which can add much needed funds to our budget (5-8% of card value).

### Capital Campaign

We are now in the fourth and final year of our Capital Campaign.

Four generous families made bridge loans totaling \$172,000, so the contractors could be paid before obtaining the mortgage. We still owe \$58,000 on these member loans, due at the end of 2020. All contributions to the capital campaign (both pledges and gifts) go toward paying the member loans, but current projections leave a shortage of as much as \$16,000. If everyone who can fulfill as much of their pledge as possible, we can beat this projection. Gifts to the Capital Campaign are also very welcome and will reduce the shortfall as well.

*We are doing amazing things at UCWC thanks to each of you.  
What an incredibly generous congregation we have!*

## Paying Your Pledge

There are multiple ways to pay your pledge or make other donations. The most common is by check. Using your bank's auto bill pay is easy to set up and ensures a steady income stream for UCWC. If you donate cash, make sure to identify that it's from you.

If you are over 70½ and taking a required minimum distribution from an IRA, all or part of your distribution may be donated to UCWC to avoid income tax. Consult your investment advisor to learn how to make a "charitable distribution".

Appreciated investments such as stocks, bonds, and mutual fund shares may also be donated to avoid the capital gains tax. The unsold securities must be transferred to UCWC's Vanguard account to receive the tax benefit.

Some people use a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) for charitable contributions. You get the tax deduction when you put money into the account and then donate from it over multiple years.

Recent tax law changes increased the personal deduction, which makes it harder to realize a tax savings from charitable giving. One way you can mitigate this change is by timing your giving. For example, the calendar year overlaps parts of two fiscal years at UCWC (July 1 to June 30). If you donate for one fiscal year in the spring and then for the next fiscal year in the fall, you will double your charitable giving for that calendar year making it easier to meet the personal deduction amount.

Please contact Wayne Bullaughey at email: **finance** for more information.

## Pledge Statements Coming Soon

If you made a pledge to the Stewardship or Capital Campaigns, watch your email for your pledge statement. Please make sure that all your pledge contributions are reflected on your statement.

To request a paper copy, contact Cyndy Bullaughey at email: **admin-treasurer**.



## **Stones in the Wall: Social Justice**

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

**DECEMBER  
IS UUSC'S  
GUEST AT  
YOUR TABLE  
MONTH!**



## **2019 UUSC GUEST AT YOUR TABLE**

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
SERVICE COMMITTEE



### **Stories of Hope**

2019-2020

*Women Leaders, Strong Communities*



← Pick up a brochure in the  
lobby and learn more.

2019-2020 Theme

### **Women Leaders, Strong Communities**

UUSC supports  
human rights around  
the world with over 75  
grassroots partners.

**Join UUSC Today!**



Contact Charlot Barker  
[UUSC@UCWC.ORG](mailto:UUSC@UCWC.ORG)

## **Final Immigration Studies Seminar - Sun, Dec 8 from 2:00 - 3:30 pm**

The final meeting will cover Parts 4-6 of the book, *No Human Is Illegal* by Mulligan Sepulveda.

It is one thing to learn about a situation and another to take action and try to change things. We were presented with two opportunities to make changes, to support an effort to allow undocumented persons to get Driver's Licenses and to try to get the Berks Detention Center closed.

The Driver's License initiative is to guarantee that all drivers have insurance (for everyone's protection) and have passed a test of driving ability with the side

benefit that no one can be deported because they are driving without a license at a mundane traffic stop or as a victim of profiling. The second, the closing of the Berks Center, has been a contentious situation for several years.

There may also be new initiatives of which members of the study group have become aware, that we as a congregation or as individuals should pursue.

Contact Barrie Eichhorn, Sanctuary Congregation Team Co-Chair at email: [sanctuary](mailto:sanctuary).

## Share-the-Plate Generosity

The Social Justice Committee's **Share-the-Plate** program raises money to give to local non-profit organizations which are trying to improve life for Chester County residents. We are pleased to announce the share-the-plate recipient for December 15 (third Sunday of the month), **Domestic Violence Center of Chester County**.

The Domestic Violence Center addresses one of the major problems in modern society, violent and sexual abuse of women and children. This organization has been operating in West Chester since 1976, and has helped over 30,000 survivors of domestic abuse, usually on a shoestring budget. It provides food and shelter to families in danger, and helps them transition to a safe place, as well as providing education, advocacy and programs for prevention and reduction of domestic abuse. It remains hidden to protect the families. There is no organization providing a more urgent and important service in our community.

Please note the following as you prepare your donation:

- If you want the money to go toward your pledge, you must write **"pledge"** in the memo line.
- If you want the money to go entirely to the charity, you must write **"all to charity"** in the memo line.
- If you want us to split the money with the charity, you must write **"50/50"** in the memo line.
- **If there is nothing in the memo line**, 100% will go to UCWC as a general donation— not as a pledge.

Thank you for your generosity to October recipient, Act in Faith, in the amount of \$602.50. Contact Emily Sweet at email: **share-the-plate**.



## Gun Violence Prevention

We had our monthly UUPLAN gun violence prevention call on November 19 in the wake of several high-profile shootings.

On the positive side, Sandy Hook families won the right to take their case against Remington —manufacturer of the AR-15 — to the Connecticut Supreme Court. Remington appealed to the US Supreme Court to throw out the case based upon a law that protects manufacturers and retailers from lawsuits. The Court rejected their request. If they win, it may lead to a flood of lawsuits that could make the country safer.



Our main issue in Pennsylvania is advocating for ERPOs (extreme risk protection orders), which would take guns away from someone deemed to be a danger to themselves or others. Though stalled in Harrisburg, ERPO was passed in Pittsburg, and Philadelphia City Council just passed its own ERPO bill. Though Pittsburg was challenged in court, Mayor Peduto stated "If you try and stop us from passing good gun laws we will appeal over and over until common sense prevails." We can all take heart in his determination.

Please join us December 17 at 7 pm for our monthly teleconference on Gun Violence Prevention. Contact Tom Buglio, email: **gun-safety**.

## Defenders of Democracy

**Defenders of Democracy** are happy to report that there has been progress in Pennsylvania related to good governance, pro-democracy issues.

- A law was enacted that permits voters to vote by mail 50 days in advance of the 2020 election. This should increase participation.
- There is a decent chance to get a gift ban law passed this session. It has been voted out of committee. The ban would prevent state officials from accepting anything of value from lobbyists.

Also, the impeachment inquiry is moving forward and exposing Presidential actions that are way beyond the boundaries of the constitution. There is a feeling that activism for democracy is having some effect in Washington and Harrisburg.

All are invited to our next meeting Sunday, December 1, at 6:30 pm at UCWC, where we will explore how to help spread the word to voters concerning the logistics of mail-in balloting, and other issues.

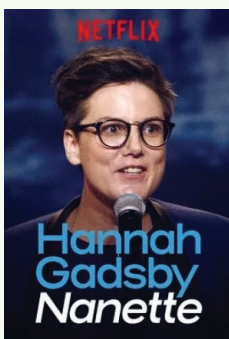
Contact Tom Buglio at email: **democracy**.



## Diversity Book Group

Our December meeting is Movie Night at Pat Shorten's house on Sunday, December 8, at 6:30 pm. Note the time change to make time for the movie and discussion.

The movie is **Nanette**. Please RSVP early to email: **diversity-book-group**, since Pat has room for only ten of us. If we get more than 10 RSVP's, we will meet in the Social Room at the UCWC.



### Pastoral Care

The **Pastoral Care Team** contact for this month is **Eleahn Kahn**



## Small Group Ministry

Small Group Ministry is a way to gather with other Unitarian Universalists twice a month for community, conversation and connection. Each session is organized with a theme and includes a chalice lighting, readings, and questions to spark discussion. Groups are led by trained facilitators who meet regularly with Rev. Dan. Currently, our congregation has five groups which meet at different times and places. If you are interested in joining a group, please contact Pam Baxter, email: **DLFD**.

## First Sunday

### Food Collection

**This Month's Suggested Items:**  
**Canned Meat and Fish**

Our **monthly collection** for the **West Chester Food Cupboard** is Sunday, December 1. Look for the white collection basket in the coat closet.

In addition to the suggested items above, other non-perishable foods, personal care items, and household items are welcome — please be sure that items have not passed their expiration date.



Another important way to support the Food Cupboard is to put a check in the collection basket. This gives the Food Cupboard the flexibility to purchase items in short supply and to take advantage of sales. Make your check payable to "UCWC" and write "WC Food Cupboard" in the memo.

The West Chester Food Cupboard is a 100% volunteer organization, so you know that 100% of your contribution will go to fight food insecurity. The Food Cupboard helps people right here, right now, because, "No one should go hungry."

Contact Steve Sander, email: **food-cupboard**.

## Minister's Office Hours

***Dan will be away from the office from  
December 26 – January 5.***

Mondays: 1 - 3 pm  
Tuesdays: By appointment  
Wednesdays: 1 - 3 pm  
Thursdays: Minister's writing day  
Fridays: Minister's Sabbath

In addition, Dan is available by appointment Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and can be reached by email or cell phone at any time.

## Community Office Hours

Periodically, Dan will host community office hours in a local bakery or coffee shop. UCWC members and friends are invited to drop in and join Dan at any time during these hours. Look for updates in *Connections*.



## Fun & Fellowship

### Fun & Fellowship Invites You to Holiday Open Houses

A beloved UCWC tradition is to celebrate the season by enjoying time and conversation together at holiday parties. We have three adult parties scheduled through the month of December and early January. In addition, there will be a holiday game night potluck for all ages. (See p. 10.)

Hosts will provide an entree, paper products and beverages. Attendees please bring a finger food dish to share. It is helpful to RSVP the host to let them know how many to prepare for. Feel free to attend any one or all of them. Happy Holidays!



## "IT'S TIME FOR HOLIDAY PARTIES!"

### SATURDAY • DECEMBER 7 • 6-9 PM

HOSTS: Jeanie and Mark Matteson  
WHERE: 1652 Yardley Court (Hershey's Mill)  
East Goshen Township  
RSVP: [holiday-party-matteson@ucwc.org](mailto:holiday-party-matteson@ucwc.org)

### SATURDAY • DECEMBER 14 • 6-9 PM

HOSTS: Kora and Tilo Stahl  
WHERE: 228 Miner Street, West Chester  
RSVP: [holiday-party-stahl@ucwc.org](mailto:holiday-party-stahl@ucwc.org)

### SATURDAY • JANUARY 4 • 5-9 PM

HOSTS: Janet and Lowell Young  
WHERE: 1019 Kennett Way (Hershey's Mill)  
East Goshen Township  
RSVP: [holiday-party-young@ucwc.org](mailto:holiday-party-young@ucwc.org)

These are adult parties...no children, please. UCWC is hosting a Family Games and Christmas Party on Friday, December 13, at 6 PM.

*"Please bring a little something...a finger food to share."*

*Thanks go to our hosts for providing the rest."*



**SPONSORED BY THE FUN & FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**  
Contact Susan Batchelor, [fun@ucwc.org](mailto:fun@ucwc.org)

## BE EXTRA CAREFUL TO DRIVE SAFELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



## Family Holiday Game Night Party

This month, Game Night will be a family holiday party — on Friday, December 13, from 6-9 pm. It's a potluck. The kids will be decorating gingerbread decorations.

Each family is encouraged to bring a dish for the potluck and candy decorations for the gingerbread. Gingerbread will be provided. Contact Joshua Sweet at email: **game-night**.



COMING TO UCWC

## TRIVIA NIGHT

FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY  
JANUARY 25

DETAILS TO COME IN THE  
JANUARY FELLOWTARIAN

## HOLIDAY FAMILY POTLUCK & GAME NIGHT



FUN FOR ALL AGES!

## Folk Singing

The next **folk singing get-together** is Friday, December 20, at 7:30 p.m. We meet 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 your instruments. Bring a munchie, if you wish. Maps are in the foyer. Contact Steve at email: **folk-singing**.



## Lunch Group

**Lunch Group** will meet Friday, December 20, at 11:30 a.m. at Panera Bread, 1103 West Chester Pike, near ShopRite. 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 if you change your mind at the last minute, come anyway. Everyone is welcome.



## Cookies, Cocoa, and Choir

Come join us to eat cookies, enjoy cocoa, and hear songs of the season from 5:00-6:30 pm on Friday, December 6, for our annual Cookies, Cocoa, and Choir Open House at UCWC during West Chester's Old-Fashioned Christmas evening. (The Christmas parade starts uptown at 7 pm.)

The Bayard Rustin High School Choir will provide the music. We'll have homemade holiday cookies and hot chocolate for refreshments. If you'd like to volunteer to help set up, serve cookies and cocoa, and/or clean up, we'd love to have your help.

If you love to bake, please help us by dropping off a dozen or two home-baked cookies between 7 and 8 pm on December 5 during choir rehearsal.

Let us know how you would like to help. Contact us at email: [fun](mailto:fun).

**UNITARIAN CONGREGATION OF WEST CHESTER**  
**501 SOUTH HIGH STREET, WEST CHESTER**  
610-692-5966 [www.ucwc.org](http://www.ucwc.org) [office@ucwc.org](mailto:office@ucwc.org)



# West Chester Old Fashioned Christmas **COOKIES COCOA & CHOIR**



Featuring the  
**BAYARD  
RUSTIN**  
High School  
Choir and  
Music Ensemble

**Friday, December 6  
5:00 - 6:30 PM**

## Coffeehouse Update

Many Thanks to all who planned, assisted, performed, and attended our November 9 coffeehouse, which raised about \$450 for UCWC's good works.

We had a wonderful mix of UCWC folks and people from the community and enjoyed a pleasant evening of music with good friends. Three hours of entertainment for \$10? Where else? UCWC.

— Craig Talbot  
email: [coffeehouse](mailto:coffeehouse).

**SEE YOU AT THE  
WEST CHESTER OLD FASHIONED  
CHRISTMAS!**



# Calendar

All email addresses  
@ucwc.org

Click [HERE](#) to access our  
website main calendar,  
which includes late  
November events.



WE WILL HAVE OUR  
TRADITIONAL TWO  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
SERVICES.

- Dec 1 Sun Single Sunday Service.** 10 am. See p. 2.  
**First Sunday Food Collection.** See p. 8.  
**Defenders of Democracy.** 6:30 pm. Room 4. See p. 7.
- Dec 3 Tue Everyday Spiritual Practice.** 7-9 pm. Meditation Rm. See p. 4.  
**Men's Group.** 7 pm. Room 4. See p. 4.
- Dec 6 Fri West Chester Old Fashioned Christmas.** Cookies, Cocoa, and Choir at UCWC. 5 pm. See p. 11.
- Dec 7 Sat Holiday Party.** Home of Jeanie and Mark Matteson. 6-9 pm. See p. 9.
- Dec 8 Sun Pick Up Equal Exchange Purchases.** See November *Fellowtarian*, p. 6.  
**Immigration Studies Session.** 2 pm. Social Room. See p. 6.  
**Safe Harbor Dinner.** 6 pm. Contact Rick London, email: [safe-harbor](#).  
**Diversity Book Group.** 6:30 pm. Home of Pat Shorten. See p. 8.
- Dec 9 Mon Religious Services Committee.** 7 pm. Meditation Room.
- Dec 10 Tue Council Meeting.** 7 pm. Lower Level.
- Dec 13 Fri Game Night and Family Holiday Party.** 6 pm. UCWC. See p. 10.
- Dec 14 Sat Holiday Party.** Home of Kora and Tilo Stahl. 6-9 pm. See p. 9.
- Dec 15 Sun Monthly Q and A.** 10:30 am and 12:15 pm. Meditation Room. See p. 4.  
**Share-the-Plate Sunday.** Benefits the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County. See p. 7.  
**SoulCollage® Sunday.** 12:30 pm. Room 7.
- Dec 17 Tue Board Meeting.** 6:30 pm. Social Room.  
**Gun Violence Prevention Teleconference.** 7 pm. See p. 7.
- Dec 20 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 am. Panera Bread. See p. 10.  
**Folk Singing.** 7:30 pm. Home of Linda & Steve Sander. See p. 10.
- Dec 24 Tue All Ages Christmas Service.** See p. 2.  
**Christmas Eve Service.** See p. 2
- Dec 25 Wed Office Closed**
- Dec 29 Sun Single Sunday Service.** 10 am. See p. 2.
- Jan 1 Wed Office Closed.**
- Jan 4 Sat Holiday Party.** Home of Janet & Lowell Young. 5-9 pm. See p. 9.

## EVENTS OCCURRING REGULARLY:

- Sundays Sunday Morning Meditation.** 8:30 am. Meditation Room. Contact email: [DLFD](#).
- Various Dates Small Group Ministry (Several Active Groups).** See [web calendar](#) or contact email: [SGM](#). See p. 8.
- Most Thursdays Spirit Singers Practice.** December 5 and 19 at 7:15 pm. Sanctuary. Contact Miriam Davidson, email: [choir](#).

*The Fellowtarian* is the monthly newsletter of the  
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Don't forget to buy  
grocery store gift  
cards between  
Sunday services.