

 **the FELLOWTARIAN**

Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester

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SUNDAY SERVICES July and August, 2005

July 3

CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS

July 10

DEATH WITH DIGNITY

Social Justice Committee

Because UUs believe that human life has inherent dignity, this service will examine the right to die in accordance with one's own choice. A panel of the Fellowship's physicians and attorneys will discuss this timely issue, and samples of end-of-life documents will be available.

July 17

REVERENCE FOR LIFE/AWARENESS OF DEATH

Robin Garrett

How do we balance reverence for life with realities such as abortion, war and the use of animals for food?

July 24

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

Mary Ellen Case Giess

As a product of Religious Education at UFWC, as a soon to graduate Religious Studies major focusing on the historical and sociological contexts of Christianity, as a young person who has many dear friends telling her of the imperatives of Christianity, as a citizen observing the current political landscape — all these together tug at Mary Ellen as she ponders the question: What is a Christian?

July 31

TOPIC TO BE ANNOUNCED

Rabbi Eric Rosen

Rabbi Rosin is visiting us today from Keshet Israel Congregation in West Chester. The topic of his sermon was not available at press time, but it will be advertised via email in the week before the service.

August 7

SIXTY YEARS AND COUNTING

Rev. Larry Smith

Sixty years ago the United States began the nuclear era by dropping the first nuclear bomb on the city of Hiroshima, Japan. Since then the "nuclear family," those nations with nuclear warheads in their arsenal, has grown to encompass nations all over the world. As we commemorate the Hiroshima bombing we will consider some of the religious and ethical questions that nuclear weapons present.

August 14

NATURE BASED SPIRITUALITY

John Orban

Many of us need look no further than the natural world around us to find ultimate meaning and inspiration. Today's service celebrates this source of spiritual strength — come join us.

August 21

AFRICAN DANCE

Janet Peck

Experience the expressive power of African dance! Connect with your heart as Janet Peck and the Unitarian drummers inspire you to be your fullest YOU!! Come in comfortable clothes and prepared for fun!

August 28

SPECIAL SERVICE -- THE FIRE OF COMMITMENT

Rev. Tom Chulak

There are times in our Unitarian Universalist history when the larger culture is calling powerfully for our response. Now is such a time. This service will be a call to action. It will challenge us to activate the fire of our commitment for the sake of our values and a larger vision. Rev. Chulak has 25 years in the ministry and is a UUA growth consultant.

Service, Religious Education & Babysitting at 10:30 AM

FROM YOUR INTERIM MINISTER

Last month I promised to complete an annual report for the 2004-2005 church year. This column will serve that purpose.

During the 2004-2005 church year I led three or four Sunday services each month with one additional Christmas eve service, officiated at two memorial services, two adult religious education classes, attended countless committee meetings, counseled those troubled in mind, body and spirit, and maintained correspondence both inside the congregation and outside the congregation.

In terms of the work of the interim ministry, the congregation has come to terms with some of its recent history through a meeting dedicated to discussing the previous president's departure. The congregation has renewed connection with the Unitarian Universalist Association by participating in the Joseph Priestley District Annual Meeting and examining its Unitarian Universalist identity. In the past year the congregation has begun to embrace a new identity by rewriting its purpose statement and examining barriers to growth through the "What Size Shall We Be?" video and discussions. By studying and deciding to go to two services in the autumn the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester chose to commit itself to membership growth and pursued a new vision of its ministry.

What remains to be done? Surprisingly, I think that the congregation is well ahead of where it would normally be in an intentional two-year interim ministry. I believe though that the congregation would be helped by a short afternoon session on its history and mission. When I first arrived at West Chester I said that the congregation had little mice, nothing

major, but many small issues nibbling at its overall ministry. Since that sermon, many of the mice have disappeared and the congregation seems organized to realize its mission. For that energy and dedication, I thank the many church cats who have dutifully made this church less mouse-friendly.

During the church year this congregation faced many challenges—studying the feasibility of going to two services, studying barriers to membership growth, the mid-year resignation of your congregational president due to a corporate move, the extraordinarily successful canvass and the adjustment to an entirely new minister with a different style and personality from your previous settled minister of seventeen years. The congregation met these challenges with relatively few difficulties. Two committees, the Membership and Social Justice Committees, started the year with entirely new programs and adapted to the new ministry especially well.

As I reflect upon this past year I am amazed at this congregation's ability to change and to grow. You are not the same church that you were last year. This powerful dedication to your shared ministry in terms of sweat, time, and money, tells me that you are a congregation dedicated to our common faith. I must confess that I underestimated your dedication and ability to change when I first arrived. I now realize that this congregation will succeed at any reasonable effort it undertakes.

In closing, I would like to thank the leadership of this congregation for being so willing to take on so many projects this year. The work of the church must seem infinite but we are about changing our

corner of the world and making a space for the shared life. I would also like to thank your previous settled minister, Rev. Kate Rohde, for her years of devotion to this church. Her ministry with you prepared you for many of the changes you have undertaken. In the end, I thank you, the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester, for permitting me to share this time of transition and for welcoming me into your ministry.

— In faith,
Larry W. Smith



USHERS AND GREETERS THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING — WE COULD USE MORE HELP

First, I would like to thank all the volunteers who have signed up to be Ushers and Greeters! You are all wonderful.

We have a core group of six or seven people for each role and service. We would like two in each role each Sunday. I am asking the congregation to step into the second Usher and Greeter spots each week without being assigned. And for those few times that come up and no one is covering the Usher/Greeter, which should be very, very rare, we welcome your assistance by stepping in.

We can make this our best year ever. Thank you for your help.

— Mark Steel
Membership Co-Chair

FROM THE 2005-06 PRESIDENT

As some of you know, I am a 21-year member of the Fellowship who served on the Board and as President from 1986 to 1992, during Rev. Kate Rohde's early years with us. During my relatively long tenure with the Fellowship, I have seen us successfully work through many difficult challenges with energy and enthusiasm. However, I have never seen the level of energy and commitment that exists today. It inspires me and gives me complete faith that we will reach our goal to transition into a larger, program-sized congregation. The spirit of cooperation that has energized us over the past year will be essential to this effort. Neither I nor the Fellowship Board can do it alone; we will be calling on you for help and support over the course of the year.

Speaking generally, I want you to know that the Fellowship leadership will be using the "Bridging" term in relation to various activities as we progress through the new year. You will recall that "Building a Bridge" was the theme of our recent highly successful stewardship campaign. We want to stay with it as we "Cross the Bridge" into program size.

Here are the specific priorities your Board will address in the coming summer months:

- As Mary Hepokoski reported to you at the annual meeting, we have the opportunity to enter into a multi-year growth consultancy with the Joseph Priestly District of the UUA. This consultancy normally has a cost associated with it but is being offered to us free of charge as part of the JPD's recent growth initiative. It will involve Tom Chulak from the JPD working with a Fellowship "Bridging Team" to fine tune our existing long-range plan and otherwise guide us

through this critical time. The Board was completing the application for the consultancy in late June. We have a reasonable assurance that the application will be approved.

- We are planning to launch the consultancy with a service on August 28 at which Tom Chulak will speak on "The Fire of Commitment." This will be one service, at our current 10:30 a.m. time, with the summer Religious Education activities program offered. It will be well advertised both internally among our members and friends and externally through the press. Because it will occur at a time when newcomers to the community are "church shopping," we hope to attract visitors to this gala celebration of our commitment to grow. We encourage you to "bring a friend" if you wish.

- We are also looking at our options for a Chalice Lighters grant. The timing for submitting our application and the specific program/growth initiative it would finance are still being discussed. Depending upon what we decide, we may need to take the unusual step of calling a congregational meeting in July. If so, you will be advised via letter and I urge you to attend if you are "in town."

- The various fellowship committees - building, religious education, membership, religious services, fun and fellowship - have been and will continue to plan for the implementation of double services in September. We will be monitoring their progress over the summer and keeping the membership updated as much as possible. Their hard work at a time when many of us are relaxing on vacation is very much appreciated.

Finally, I want to thank Mary Hepokoski for stepping in as President over the last few months. She worked countless hours, got our Search Committee off the ground, and generally kept us moving in the right direction. I also want to thank Kora Stahl, who has been a consistent face on the Board over the last four years and who took over as vice president at a critical time. Devon Miller has also stepped down from the Board after serving a two-year term. The dedication, and commitment to the Fellowship on the part of these hard-working Board members are greatly appreciated.

I wish all of you a happy and relaxing summer. I hope to see you on August 28, if not sooner!

— Flo Miller



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

As the Small Group Ministry wraps up three years of activity, many of us find it to be a meaningful way to experience a more intimate smaller group activity. In the fall, at least two of the groups will continue to meet, and starting a new group would be a positive opportunity for members of this congregation.

If you think you might be interested, pick up a blue pamphlet in the lobby or speak with Alan Pittinger or Gerry Giess, email: SGM. Watch for more info in the September *Fellowtarian* and attend the September 4 service, which will explore a Small Group ministry discussion topic.

NOTES FROM UNDERGROUND -- RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE RE SUNDAY

Thanks again to everyone who participated in RE Sunday on June 12, in particular:

- Nancy Artus and members of the 4th/5th grade class who presented a short play on Universalist George de Benneville: Emma Bixler, Tessa Butler, Justine Faucher, Kelsey Heiss, Sondra Hoganson, Erin Steel and Alex Vogt
- All the class members who helped create banners
- Cellists Todd Archey, Ford Faucher, Connie Eichenberg, Jennie Steinen, David Werner, and soloist Sondra Hoganson
- Drummers Debby Kern, Jeff Kreibel, Juan Leon and David Werner
- Erin Steel, and RE Co-chairs Cathy Vogt and Heidi Frayer for their help during the service
- Teachers Pam McKamey, Dianne Herrin, Heidi Frayer, Nancy Artus, Dylan Williams and Sandy Schaal for making class presentations
- Cathy Vogt for organizing the Teacher Appreciation Brunch
- And everyone who brought brunch contributions

This was a great way to wrap up the RE year.

SUMMER RE

We are planning programming for children on the following Sundays: July 10, 24, 31 and August 7, 14, 21 and 28. We have some great crafts and activities planned. Our annual camping outing at French Creek State Park is scheduled for Saturday/Sunday, July 16/17. For details, see

elsewhere in the Fellowtarian or check with Dan Meyer.

BASEMENT PROJECT

By June 19, we will have started packing up everything in the classrooms in preparation for floor painting. It is many years since the basement floor was painted and we're looking forward to a much-needed upgrade. Many thanks to the Building Committee and all the volunteers who are helping with this enormous undertaking. Due to the project – everything that is downstairs will be moved upstairs – the Fellowship will be closed for the July 4th weekend.

COMING THIS FALL – WAY COOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting this fall when we go to double services, we will be changing the curriculum in the RE Program to a model called Way

Cool Sunday School that alternates curriculum Sundays with Social Action projects and Group RE/Worship. (Details were given in the June Fellowtarian.) This allows us to continue educating our children through curricula, but expands the program to include more hands-on projects that help others in our church and in the community.

While this approach eliminates putting an extra burden on classroom teachers (we will still have the same total number of classes), we will need people to help as aides on Group RE and Social Action Sundays. If an RE Committee member contacts you and asks if you can volunteer some of your time, please give it serious thought – we need commitment from everyone to make this work.

— Pam Baxter
Director of Religious Ed.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES JUNE 15, 2005

The Board approved the formation of an ad hoc committee to review the files, videos, and photographs in the Fellowship office. The goal will be to retain items of historical interest and discard others. The committee will consist of five long time members to be chosen at a later date.

A motion was passed to approve the formation of another ad hoc committee. This committee will review and establish procedures to ensure the security of the Fellowship building. Policies will be enacted regarding the distribution of keys and the locking up of the building after all events.

Flo Miller, Bob Scott, Erach Patel, and Rev. Larry Smith are meeting to formulate the application for a Chalice Lighter's Grant.

Tom Chulak, the UUA consultant on Growth, met with Mary Hepokoski, Flo Miller, Fred Frayer, and Rev. Larry Smith in May. He will give the sermon on Sunday, August 28th. A leadership retreat will occur that afternoon.

— Paul Sapko, Secretary

LIVING UP TO OUR VISION

The main concern of Vision Committee members was to arrive at a truly enabling vision—one that would guide future Fellowship actions toward what we believe we should be. We didn't want to produce just another pretty sign on the wall.

The input from the congregation to committee members, on the website, during stewardship meetings and finally at a well-attended workshop produced an abundance of ideas about everything we do, can do, could do, might do, and should do. These served as the building blocks for the final vision statement.

Every suggestion was transcribed and this wealth of ideas has been shared with the board, RE Director, building committee, ministerial search committee and religious services committee. This is a first step towards implementing what we say we want to do. The next step is for everyone to pitch in and make all of it happen.

Thanks again to the Vision Committee members, to Rev. Larry Smith and Rev. Libby Smith, and to all of you, for helping us to arrive at our new vision:

***Our purpose is 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.***

P.S. Thanks to Steve and Linda Sander and Cyndy Bullaughey for producing the attractive framed vision statement now on the wall of our foyer. May we live up to it!

CHRISTIAN INTEREST GROUP

"Jesus turns controlling religion, with its inflexible laws and requirements, on its head. The point isn't obeying the rules (an act of the will), but in producing good fruit (and overflow of the heart). Our hearts are changed only when we realize God's unconditional love for us and embrace our responsibility to love others unconditionally. We don't need to accept Jesus into our hearts; we need to have the same heart as Jesus." (If God Is Love, p. 117)

Sharing and discussion are valuable processes for the growth of our own spirituality. For the next few meetings, please bring a short reading you've found personally inspirational that you would like to share with the group. Also bring a question for the group to discuss.

Here are some recent books that members have found interesting: *If God Is Love* by Philip Gulley and James Mulholland, and *Understanding the Bible, an Introduction for Skeptics, Seekers, and Religious Liberals* by John A. Buehrens

Join other UUs in discussing Christian topics. The group is coordinated by John Gangwisch and Phyllis Kryven and meets the fourth Wednesday each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship (July 27 and August 24).

Contact John Gangwisch if you need a ride to the meeting or are homebound and would like to call into the meeting.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY

In the recommended UUA model, as a minister works with the congregation, he/she is provided support and guidance by a "Committee on Ministry" (COM).

The minister provides input to the COM, the membership provides input to the COM, and the COM works together collaboratively with the minister to ensure that the ministries of the church are effective. A healthy COM ministers to the minister, but it does more. In trying to define what a COM does the Rev. Amy Freedman says, "Where the governing board oversees the operations of the church, the COM oversees the quality of our relationships."

Today our COM consists of Kora Stahl, Shelly Case, Mary Hepokoski, and John Orban. You can talk to any of the members of the COM if you have a concern about our ministries, or you can email the entire COM at email: COM.

A good resource for further reading on the role of a COM and the relationship of the Minister to the COM can be found in the Interconnections Article on the UUA website: <http://www.uua.org/interconnections/membership/vol7-1-membership.html>

CARING CORNER

Two of our members, our President Flo Miller and board member Devon Miller, underwent shoulder surgery on Thursday. Both are recovering well. Show your support and share your wishes with Flo and Devon for their speedy recoveries!

SOCIAL JUSTICE UPDATE

- On July 1 OUR charity, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), will increase its yearly membership dues for the first time in more than 20 years. But until that time you can still join at \$25 per adult, or \$10 per student or senior. This human rights organization does the work we believe in every day in the U.S. and around the world defending civil liberties, promoting environmental justice, and opposing economic injustice. So if you're not a member, please join today. Just go to the website (www.uusc.org) and click "Join UUSC now". Be sure to indicate that you're with UFWC because currently more than 75% of our members also belong UUSC, and we're striving for 100%.
- The Social Justice Committee is sponsoring the July 10th service entitled "Death with Dignity". At this service a panel of the Fellowship's physicians and attorneys will address end-of-life issues, answer questions, and provide information about your rights in Pennsylvania.
- The Social Justice Committee is also sponsoring the

August 7th service commemorating the 60th anniversary of Hiroshima. The Rev. Larry Smith, who believes strongly in preventing similar holocausts in the future, will return from vacation to lead this service.

- UUSC is sponsoring a "Call for Justice Weekend" on September 24, 25, and 26 in Washington to help end U.S. involvement in torture, and you are invited to attend and participate. After the grim revelations of the last year regarding U.S. torture and abuse of detainees in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo, there can be little doubt that our nation faces an extraordinary moral crisis, and we must act. More information will be forthcoming at UFWC, but in the meantime visit the UUSC website (www.uusc.org) and click on the STOP Torture symbol (shown here).

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Again we had a beautiful day for our Habitat for Humanity Work Day Saturday, May 21. Juan Leon (See Juan's picture from the *Daily Local News* posted on the bulletin board in the sanctuary.), Bob Radcliffe, Chris Radcliffe, and Chuck Vogt were "first-timers." John Maxwell and I were "repeaters. We all did a variety of jobs, which included measuring, cutting and putting up siding, and installing door-stops in a home almost ready for occupancy. I had a last minute request for help with the grand reopening of the Habitat for Humanity Restore in Coatesville. Tom Townsend and Deanna Koepke were gracious enough to volunteer. Our next workday will be next fall and has not been scheduled yet. Look for details in the September *Fellowtarian*.

Thank you for all the help.

— Mary Hepokoski
Social Justice Committee

YOUTH GROUP

This year's Youth Group finished the year with an excellent Battle of the Bands on the Friday Night before Memorial Day. We've got a few things planned for the summer — canoeing, a picnic, an outing at the Reading Phillies with the Fun and Fellowship Committee, and the JPDYSC Summer CON in Paint Branch, Maryland.

Watch your e-mails for updates, specific event schedules, and other cool stuff. If you have any questions, please contact Michael or David Werner, email: youth-group. Enjoy your summer, hope to see you at an event, and be prepared for a HUGE 2005-2006 youth group season.

-- Michael Werner,
Youth Group Coordinator

PARKING AT VERIZON

For years, Verizon has been kind enough to let our members park in their lot on evenings and weekends. Lately there have been concerns raised by Verizon employees who could not exit that lot during recent after-work or weekend hours because their vehicles were blocked. We suspect that Fellowship members did not cause the problem; other people also use the lot. Still, we ask that you exercise caution to be sure you do not block in any vehicles when parking in the Verizon lot.



LEAVE THE BUILDING AS YOU FOUND IT

Our Fellowship office/administrative assistant, Diane Vely, sometimes finds papers lying on the table next to the copying machine. She does not know whether these are extra copies of committee materials that can be discarded or important papers that a Fellowship member inadvertently left behind. As a result, the papers collect on the table and use up valuable space.

Also, folks sometimes get out folding tables or chairs and do not put them down when a meeting is over, leaving that chore to Diane. Although she can and does put the tables and chairs away, it is not really her job to do so and it takes time away from other tasks.

We're all very busy people. In the rush of concluding a committee meeting or other activity, it's easy to leave things behind or forget to clean up. As we get larger, however, this problem can only get worse. Let's all make a mental note to be sure to "pick up and put away" at the end of a meeting. It will keep things in better order and make life easier for Diane.

— Flo Miller

NO SUMMER YOGA

Yoga classes on Thursday nights at the Fellowship will be discontinued for the months of July and August. Alternative options are available by contacting Mira Tryon. Classes will resume in the fall depending on members' interest and feedback.

REACH OUT THROUGH THE CARING COMMITTEE

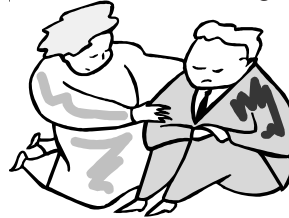
Have you ever needed a ride to Sunday services, found yourself wanting a visitor and home-made meal, or needed someone to drive you home from the doctor's office? If so, you know how much it can mean

to have a caring community of people to turn to. The UFWC Caring Committee now has a roster of new members as well as a new co-chair to be there for you in times of need and provide support in times of transition and celebration.

We believe that community is central to our fellowship, and we want to help when we can. In this vein, we have created a list of tasks that we can do. So you know when you can turn to us, here they are. We:

- Communicate news of personal events, upon your approval, to our community in general, with the aim of creating an environment of awareness and support.
- Send sympathy cards to

those affected by a death in the immediate family (e.g., mother, father, sibling, child) as well as congratulatory cards (e.g., marriages/unions, birth of a child, graduations).



- Support members/friends in crisis; e.g., meal preparation/delivery, transportation to physician's office, grocery shopping.
- Find drivers for Sunday services for those in need of transportation.
- Match visitors for the homebound (that is, create visiting schedules so you can expect visits).
- Support/reach out to those in need of engagement during coffee hour and social activities.

If you know someone who wants help or could benefit from a card, note or supportive phone call, please approach any one of us. We can only help when we are aware of the needs.

Finally, we do not necessarily perform these tasks ourselves, but we connect members and friends who can help with members and friends in need. Over the years, we have never come up dry. This is a beautiful, compassionate, sharing and caring fellowship!

The Members of the Caring Committee: Deanna Koepcke, Co-Chair, Dianne Herrin, Co-Chair, Fatima Patel, Krystaleve Snow, Heidi Buss, Amy Crawford-Faucher, Diane Cohle, and Marie Rufe. Contact the committee, email: caring, or the members individually.

CCPM FILM NIGHT

The next Chester County Peace Movement Film Night is Friday July 8, 7:30-9:30 in the sanctuary. *Lost Boys of Sudan* is an astonishing tale of two boys who, like thousands of other children, were orphaned and turned into refugees by Sudan's brutal 20-year civil war. Bring food/refreshments to share if you like. Discussion follows. There will be no CCPM Film Night in August.

RE SURVEY OF CONGREGATION BELIEFS

In May, the 4th/5th grade Religious Education class distributed a survey asking those present at the service about their religious backgrounds and current beliefs. Out of 75 surveys distributed, 65 were returned. For most questions, more than one answer was possible. A summary of the responses follows.

In what faith(s) did you grow up? Twenty different religious traditions were identified, including “none.” “Roman Catholic” was the religion mentioned most often (21). The combined responses for major Protestant denominations (Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, UCC, and Presbyterian) totaled 27. Three reported Jewish, one in the Islamic faith. Thirteen listed a variety of other religious backgrounds. Only one respondent reported growing up UU, and four said they had no religious background.

What other faiths have you tried? The most frequently reply was “none” (24). Twenty-one specific religious traditions were mentioned, with “Quaker” having the most responses (8).

At what age did you start questioning your religious background? The average was 17 years.

At what age did you decide to become a UU? The average was 39 years.

Which category or categories best fit your beliefs now? The majority of respondents (41) selected “Humanism” as the best fit. The number of responses for each of the other categories include “God is nature, instead of

HAVE YOU MET PAT OERTHER?

Mix together a nature lover, domestic dabbler, humble humorist, free spirit and inspired clinician, and what you get is a snapshot collage of Pat Oerther. Want to know more? Seek her out at the Fellowship and introduce yourself if you haven’t already.

But chances are you have. It’s that kind of welcoming that causes people like Pat to compare attending the Fellowship to returning to family. “I joined because I felt a sense of belonging,” says the Glen Mills resident who signed the membership book April 15. “It is like coming back to my roots.”

Pat is a speech-therapist in an early intervention program whose caseload includes children, 3-6 — an age group she loves. “Each day is new and exciting,” she says. “The work is never boring.”

In her spare time, you may see Pat serving as an usher/greeter during Sunday services, or pursuing her interest in small group ministry. You may also find her quilting, knitting, reading and, more recently, breaking out the bicycle to pedal through the great outdoors. “The chance to be surrounded by nature fills me with pleasure and awe,” says Pat, a self-proclaimed cycling “novice at best.” She jokes, “I have to be careful only to glance [at surrounding sights], and not look for long.”

Her hobbies also include tinkering around her farmhouse, which she affectionately calls “the money pit.” “I love the charm of the old house,” says Pat, who has lived there for 18 years, “but at times the size of the house and property are overwhelming.” Fortunately (or perhaps unfortunately, she jests), there’s a tasty tradeoff in walking distance: Bruster’s Ice Cream.

On the family front, Pat has two sons who live in the South: Mike is a math teacher, and Mark works in a program for troubled youth. When visiting them, she not only enjoys plodding about in the resort-like communities, but spends time with her three grandchildren, including 3-year-old twins. She also is the happy owner of her fifth dachshund, Leiby, “a complete joy.”

As for Pat’s future plans? Retiring next June is on her list. But that doesn’t mean she’ll stop seeing, doing and simply enjoying. “I really want to travel, quilt — and just get out on my bike.”

— Sharon Breske



supernatural,” 27; “Ethical Christianity/UU Christian,” 7; “Christian,” 0; “Paganism,” 11; “Mysticism,” 21; “Agnosticism,” 21; “Atheism,” 3; “Other,” 10.

The students found the diversity of religious backgrounds interesting and discussed what they knew about their own families’ religious journeys. The

belief categories sparked lively conversations about the freedom to find one’s own religious “truths” within the UU tradition, without judgement from others.

The class would like to thank all participants for their candid answers.

EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

New Day: 3rd Sunday/Month
Same time: 7:30-9:00 p.m.
Book List for the 2005-2006

September 18: *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko, led by Sandy Schaal.

October 16: *There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America* by Alex Koltowitz, led by Nancy Robinson

November 20: *The Tortilla Curtain*, by T C Boyle, led by Kerri Petterson

December 18 and January 15: Movies to be announced!

February 19: *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides, led by Judy Finkel

March 19: *Small Island: A Novel* by Andrea Levy, led by Dena Beeghley

April 16: *Searching for Hassan: A Journey to the Heart of Iran* by Terence Ward, led by Nakhostin "Niki" Javidani

May 21: *The Namesake: A Novel* by Jhumpa Lahiri, led by Fatima Patel

Join us on the third Sunday at 7:30 p.m. downstairs at the Fellowship starting September 18 — all are welcome! Please contact Ruth MacFadyen or Shelly Case, email: diversity-book-group.

**Reminder: Our annual
camping trip is
July 16-17.**

Contact Dan Meyer or Eileen Kelly, email: camping. See the June *Fellowtarian* for more information.

HIKE THE PINNACLE

Mike and Flo Miller will lead a hike to the Pinnacle on the Appalachian Trail up by Hawk Mountain on Saturday, August 20. There is no rain date — rain cancels the outing.

This is approximately a 9-mile hike, with an initial uphill then a flat trail out to a cliff overlook. If the group is more ambitious, we can take a longer hike but still reach the Pinnacle. We will leave our house at 8 a.m., be back by about 5 p.m.

Folks need to carry lunch, snacks, and water. Hiking boots are preferred, but walking shoes in good condition will do. The hike is do-able by children over 8. Dogs are welcome, as long as they get along with people and other dogs.

To sign up or to ask questions, contact Flo Miller. Please sign up in advance so that they can contact you with pertinent information. This event is part of the "Fun and Fellowship" planned for the summer.



ROCK ON!

Sweatin' with the Oldies

On Saturday, July 9, "Who Needs Nigel?" takes the stage for another evening of mayhem and music. Festivities start at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and run to 10:00 p.m. Dress comfortably for a summer dance. Or just groove and let the band sweat it.



This is another one of those big ol' parties — everybody's welcome, no admission fee. We're planning to have plenty of ice water and some light snacks on hand, plus lots of fun and fellowship. Bring sodas or snacks pot luck style and the evening will be complete. That is, of course, when you bring yourself and your friends!

"Who Needs Nigel?" — classic rock, oldies and progressive rock; garage style like they're meant to be!!

READING PHILLIES BASEBALL OUTING

Join your Fellowship friends at a Reading Phillies game on Saturday August 13 at 7:05 p.m. The game is in Reading against Altoona.

Tickets for the game (along the left foul line) are \$19/person — this includes a 2-hour all you can eat buffet.



We are looking into renting a bus for this event and will update those who are interested regarding the bus as we finish gathering information. There will be an additional fee for the bus if you choose to use it. We need to act quickly to ensure that we can get tickets. Give Mary Yeager a check for the tickets as soon as possible.

Make the checks payable to "UFWC" with "Baseball Outing" in the memo. Contact Mary Yeager, email: fun, if you have any questions.

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

June 26	Sat	Big Work Party. After the service. Help us get ready for all the changes to RE space during the weeks of June 26 to July 10. Contact Tilo Stahl, e-mail: building.
July 1	Fri	Lunch Group. 11:30 a.m. at Atlanta Bread Company. E-mail Linda Sander at lunch-group to be added to the e-mail reminder list.
July 8	Fri	Chester County Peace Movement's Film Series. 7:30 pm. See p. 7.
July 9	Sat	Dance Concert with "Who Needs Nigel?" 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. See p. 9.
July 10	Sun	Simplicity Circle. 12:15 after the service in the sanctuary. Contact Heidi Buss or email: simplicity. Social Justice Committee Meeting. 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Fireplace Room. Contact Tom Townsend, email: social-justice. Safe Harbor Dinner. Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. Contact Catherine Sachs, email: safe-harbor.
July 12	Tue	Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship office. All are welcome.
July 16-17	Sat-Sun	Annual Camping Trip at French Creek State Park. Sign-up sheet and information is in the lobby. See p. 7 of the June Fellowtarian. Contact Dan Meyer or Eileen Kelly, email: camping.
July 22	Fri	Potluck and Game Night. 6:30 p.m. at the Fellowship. All are welcome. See below.
July 23	Sat	Lunch for the Needy. Provided by our Fellowship at the Salvation Army. Contact Catherine Sachs, email: salvation-army.
July 27	Wed	Christian Interest Group Meeting. 7:00 p.m. See p. 5.
Aug 1	Mon	Finance Committee Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship office. Contact Erach Patel, email: finance.
Aug 5	Fri	Lunch Group. 11:30 a.m. at Atlanta Bread Company. E-mail Linda Sander at lunch-group to be added to the e-mail reminder list.
Aug 9	Tue	Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship office. All are welcome.
Aug 13	Sat	Baseball Outing to the Reading Phillies game. See p. 9.
Aug 14	Sun	Safe Harbor Dinner. Provided by the Fellowship the second Sunday of the month. Contact Catherine Sachs, email: safe-harbor.
Aug 20	Sat	Hike to the Pinnacle. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. See p. 9.
Aug 24	Wed	Christian Interest Group Meeting. 7:00 p.m. See p. 5.
Aug 27	Sat	Lunch for the Needy. Provided by our Fellowship at the Salvation Army. Contact Catherine Sachs, email: salvation-army.

POTLUCK AND GAME NIGHT

July 22 at 6:30 p.m. will be our next gathering. Everyone one is welcome. This is for individuals and families. All ages of people come. Bring a dish and a beverage to share as well as any game you have a hankering to play. This is an informal event with no

agenda other than to have a good time. Paper products are provided. There is no need to call ahead or be on time; just come!

There is a reason why we call it Potluck and Game Night and not just Game Night. People who just want to relax and chat are

also welcome.

There will not be a Game Night in August, but we will start up the first week in September. Contact Mary Yeager if you have any questions at email: game-night.