

THE SONG OF DEBORAH

Before we know it all of the intense holidays of the season will be fully upon us. Though I write this in anticipation of it all, being many weeks away it makes me think about how much of our holiday experience is really about anticipation. I know that I, for one, always have in my mind a picture of what I want an event, a season, a holiday, a vacation to look like. The reality never

reflects the picture. Sometimes it brings with it a let-down. Sometimes gifts that I never could have imagined come my way —and I

don't mean tangible store-bought kinds of gifts.

As I age, I find that my anticipation produces less anxiety as I let things be what they will be with more ease than I could have in the past. The need for perfection in planning everything down to the last detail so that the result is "perfect" is gone from my psyche. What a relief!!!!

A year ago we were worried about the economy and how it might come crashing down around us. We are now discovering what the new normal may bring us. We have members of our community who have sustained themselves, their families, and their jobs with little change in their lives and others for whom reality is starkly different than it was even a year ago.

I hope we can hold one another up and cherish the good as well as the challenges, find ways to reach out and learn

what is really essential. As the Little Prince said, "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly. What is essential is invisible to the eye." In a season when so much seems to be visible with the lights, the sparkle, the displays, the sounds, I hope we can all take the time and the patience to look at one another and the world around us with our hearts.

I hope we can hold one another up and cherish the good as well as the challenges, find ways to reach out and learn what is really essential.

I would like to personally invite you to two events that we will be having at the fellowship. The first is December 6. We will spend the day together, worshipping, eating and dreaming ourselves into the

real work of our community — making our mission real and tangible. We know it is a lot to ask — asking you to give up the better part of a whole Sunday to spend with us. And yet we are asking you to do so.

Many of you give up an inordinate amount of your time for the sake of making this a solid welcoming religious and spiritual home for yourselves and others. We wouldn't ask if it

weren't important. Please read what Diane Cohle wrote and PLEASE plan to come. We will make arrangements for parents to be able to fully join us, we know how important your voice is to the whole of who we are and what we do. We need you as you need the community.

I would also like to invite those of you who have had a hard year of it — have lost someone you love, a job, a part of yourself, or are just struggling to get through the holidays for whatever reason — to join me for a Vespers service on Sunday evening December 13 at 6 p.m. Please talk with me if you want to know more or wish to join us.

No matter how any of us feels about the darkening time of the year, may we honor the dark that enfolds us and gives us rest. But also may we know that inside each one of us resides a spark of light, a spark of divinity. Know that when we come together, our individual sparks make a mighty flame to warm us in the cold and light our way forward.

Blessings, Peace, and Joy to all!

— Deborah



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

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

We want and need your help, support and energy. We have a mission that defines what good the congregation means to do, whom it hopes to benefit, and how. Our works together focus on creating an environment for spiritual growth, building meaningful connections, advancing peace and justice in the world, and keeping our facilities safe and welcoming. These goals are not mine, or the Board's, or the minister's.

They are ours. As a congregation, we need to continue to work together to accomplish our purpose.

There are two ways that you can help. First, please take time to fill out the survey conducted by the Committee on Ministry. To access the survey on line, go to <http://www.ufwc.org/com-survey.htm> and click on the survey link. If you prefer to take the survey on pa-

per, please call Barbara Robinson at 610-692-5966. This information will help us know what to concentrate on going forward. We are very interested in finding out what all our members and friends have to say.

Second, please participate in the three Ends (Goals) Workshops. The first gathering will be on Sunday, December 6 (12:30-6 p.m.). This will start with a lunch potluck, and the focus will be on

It is through meaningful discussion together as a community we will move forward...

"Spiritual Growth". The second date is Saturday, January 30 (9 a.m.-3 p.m.), when "Social Justice" will be discussed. A lunch will be provided. There will be a snow date of February 13 if needed. The third date is Sunday, March 14, called "Community Building" which will be from 12:30-6 p.m. and will be a potluck lunch. During the workshops, we will ask you

to delve into discovering when you felt most engaged in your spiritual journeys in the Fellowship or beyond. You will be asked to dream of what programs and events would look like to create your continued engagement and excitement. Finally, we will design how we will accomplish our dreams.

You are encouraged to attend all three so you can determine where you envision your commitment, ideas and action might be. Let us discover, dream, and design together. This is your chance to put your words into action.

This is an exciting time for us. It is through meaningful discussion together as a community we will move forward and succeed in accomplishing our mission. We have a well deserved reputation as a "can-do congregation." We can and we will. It's who we are.

– Committed to working with you to achieve our mission,
Diane

SUNDAY SERVICES December, 2009 (Continued)

December 24 at 5 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

**Rev. Deborah Mero
and Pam Baxter**

Come join in the singing, listen to the choir and hear Christmast stories, traditional and not so traditional. There's something about being with your own faith community to celebrate the new dawn of hope made visible in the birth of a child. Join us.

**December 27 at 10 a.m. RAMEN NOODLES, RED BULL,
Single Service AND A SLEEVE OF OREOS**

Michael Werner

Last May, a large contingent of our high school seniors graduated, an event we celebrated in a special Bridging Service. At this service, we will interview these returning graduates to learn where life's journeys have taken them. Two years ago, the service title was the answer to the following major life question: "What was the most interesting meal you have prepared for yourself since graduating from high school?" Come and celebrate another of life's transitional steps, and bring your questions. SINGLE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:00 a.m.

REmarks – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

If you grew up in a faith tradition, what do you remember? Did you go to Sunday school classes? Attend Catechism? Take Hebrew lessons? What are the things that stick in your mind? The fragrance of incense during mass? A particular hymn or prayer? Singing in the choir?

Lifelong Unitarian Universalists have their own memories. In her book, “Full Circle,” “lifer” Kate Erslev lists what people shared during her research of people who grew up UU. The most mentioned positive memories were Sunday RE classes, a sense of belonging and friends, Choir/Singing, Holiday Pageants, and Family Camping. Other positive memories included Bible Stories, Youth Worship, Church Suppers/Potlucks, Science and Nature Activities, Exploring the Building, and Social Action Projects.

When RE Committee members recently shared what their children enjoy about coming to UFWC, we added a few other things to the lists in the book: lighting the chalice, taking part in skits and pageants, making ornaments, and this spring’s Alice In Wonderland-themed service. Older children cited singing “This Little Light of Mine.” Children also remember passing the flame from candle to candle during our Christmas Eve service and singing Silent Night together.

In asking the “what do you remember” question, events fall into two main categories – events remembered by virtue of repetition and ritual, and individual events of unusual impact. Both are important. The regularity of Sunday RE classes, and the rituals of lighting the chalice and candles of sharing. Revisiting social action projects: Safe Harbor meals; raising money

for the Heifer Project. Our annual Youth Group service, RE Sunday, and the Bridging and Coming of Age Ceremonies. Also important are those deeply experienced one-time events such as summer camping, with the intensity of being together in the same place for a long time, cooking over a fire, sleeping out in nature, inventing games and playing well into the dark, and singing around the campfire. Both the smaller, repeated activities and the larger, one-time events leave enduring positive memories.

As memorable as these events may be, they only take on their deepest meaning and impact in community. And so Erslev suggests that “We need to include more about the life of the community in religious education curricula.” Our children gain much from ritual and repetition, and from larger events; but they also benefit from being with each other and from being in the larger church community. Things impact us differently when we experience them as part of a group.

Looking for fun UU things to do this holiday season? I encourage you to come to our Christmas Eve service. There is an indescribable feeling that comes from us all being together at this special time of year, lighting candles of peace and hope. If you plan to attend a holiday Open House, look for one that is “kid friendly,” and find out if any of your child’s Fellowship friends will also be there.

For something you can do at home, consider adding “Chalica” to your holiday observances. Started two years ago, Chalica is a seven-day event that creates opportunities to live each of our UU Principles. To learn more, go to our website (www.ufwc.org), click on “Religious Education,” and then

click on “Chalica” at the bottom of the RE Download section on the right.”

However you observe it, I wish you a wonderful holiday season and look forward to celebrating with you. And I invite you to ask your children what they remember about their church experiences, and to share what you learn with me.

**Happy
Christmasolstikwanukkah!**

– Pam Baxter
Director of Religious Ed.

Note: Prior to the merger in 1961, people grew up either Unitarian or Universalist. But it was easier to write this as if the two faiths have always been one.

YOUTH GROUP

What have our UFWC teens been up to, you ask? Last month we had an amazing, thought-provoking, and fun discussion of ethics, morality, and biotechnology. We also sent a contingent to Baltimore for the JPD Fall CON.

In December, don’t miss out on our movie overnight at UFWC on Saturday, December 12. (Watch your e-mails.) On December 27, we’ll have the chance to ask about life after high school – really, it exists! – at the annual Q&A service with young adults from UFWC families. It promises to be a great conversation and a reunion with “old” Youth Group friends. There is a single service that morning, with no regular YG meeting.

JOIN US downstairs in the Youth Room at 10:45 on Sunday mornings. Questions? Want to get on our e-mail list? Please e-mail: youth-group.

CHOOSE TO BE EMPOWERED

HELP US TO FULFILL OUR MISSION DECEMBER 6

I want tell you a story about a small but highly memorable episode in my life. We were an Air Force family, always moving. I was the oldest of four children and had moved the most. One school, one friend, one neighborhood after another. I was 13, and I knew another relocation was imminent. My father came to me and asked, "Rick, where do you want to live the next three years – Spain, Germany, or Japan? Tell me tomorrow."

I was a little confused, but the next day, after looking the three countries up in my school library (I also checked with my mom, who liked warm weather), my unequivocal answer was Spain. Two weeks later, my father announced to us that based on advice from me and the needs of the Air Force, we should start packing for Spain. Because he was actually quite convincing, I have never felt as empowered and as much a valued part of my family as I did that day. I truly felt that I had influenced my family's future and had helped my father make an important decision.

Now you have an opportunity similar to mine. After a potluck lunch following the December 6 service, we will hold the first of three "Ends Workshops" (really, "funshops"). By participating, you will help your congregation and Board chart the first phase of our mission-journey toward greater spiritual growth and development. When complete, you will feel empowered and know you helped ensure that we all live life more fully.

We need you at the workshop...please join us.

– Rick Marts, Board Member

FINANCIALLY YOURS

It was gratifying to note that UFWC has so far avoided some of the financial turmoil that has afflicted some of our neighboring UU congregations. Income from pledges is on budget (33% for 33% of the fiscal year) and expenses are slightly below budget. Thanks to a large carryover from last year and income from expected and unexpected gifts, our cash position is excellent with two plus months cover for expected expenses.

So far so good, but let's not become complacent. Some one-time expenses are approaching and other expenses like insurance are increasing. Also for the first time in memory, we missed our previous year's pledge income (2008-2009) by more than our planned discount. (We always anticipate that some pledges will not be paid, but more of last year's pledges went unpaid than expected.) The good news is that there is still time for people to complete last year's pledge and get a tax deduction for this year. This also holds true for those who want to reduce 2009 taxes by paying one time gifts and pledges before the end of the year.

Believe it or not, it's already time to start thinking about next year's budget. Getting a jump on this planning will greatly benefit our stewardship efforts now being planned. Committees should start thinking about funds they need to sustain current activities and implement new programs and capabilities.

Thanks again to the members of the Finance and Stewardship Committees for their hours of service. If you have financial inclinations and talents and a few hours a month that you can share, we need you. Please see me or Pam Sapko, and tell us what you'd like to do.

– Mike Miller, Executive Treasurer.

FULFILLING THE MISSION

A WORKSHOP IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

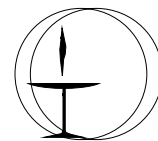
Join us Sunday, December 6, for worship and then, from 12:30 – 6 p.m., a potluck lunch and an afternoon workshop for you.

Who should plan to come?

- Anyone who has children in the Religious Education program
- Anyone who has taken part in an Adult class
- Anyone who has been part of a Small Group Ministry
- Anyone who would like to be involved with Adult learning
- Anyone who has an interest in improving our worship experience
- Anyone who is involved in music in the congregation
- Anyone who wants to expand his/her spiritual growth in any way
- Anyone who is interested in opening up new avenues for spiritual growth for others
- Anyone who is invested in the vitality of the UFWC
- Youth and Young Adults who are looking for a spiritual home base

...in short — we hope you will all want to be there. It will be a fun, inspiring and inspiriting day.

This is Your Chance to Chart the Course Ahead



STONES IN THE SAME WALL -- SOCIAL JUSTICE

GLOBAL WARMING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The American Clean Energy & Security Act, (HR 2454) narrowly passed the U.S. House in June. The Senate companion bill, Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (S.1733), was passed by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on Nov. 5. Arlen Specter, a committee member, voted yes. The bill will be sent to the full Senate after input from the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and Agriculture, Commerce, Finance and Foreign Relations panels.

Both bills were designed to "create clean energy jobs, promote energy independence, reduce global warming pollution, and transition to a clean energy economy." For more information, go to <http://kerry.senate.gov>.

To support this legislation, thank Senator Specter for his committee vote and ask Senator Casey to support the final bill (www.senate.gov).

FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION

Canned meats are the suggested donation to the West Chester Food Cupboard for December.

Our monthly food collection is Sunday, December 6. Look for baskets in the lobby.

UFWC belongs to the Circle of Giving for the West Chester Food Cupboard. This is a group of organizations who rotate which food items they will collect each month in order to keep the food bank shelves stocked with the items that are most needed.

Our suggested items for the next few months are: January – canned fruit, February – personal care (diapers, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues), March – peanut butter and jelly. Of course, donations of non-perishable items that are not in our category for the month will also be gladly accepted.

Please check the expiration dates of anything you donate. (Expired items must be thrown away.)

The volunteers who run the food cupboard are very appreciative of all the help from UFWC - volunteers, food donations, and gift cards. Thank you.



Global Warming Tip of the Month: The greenest energy is the energy that was never produced! The consulting firm, McKinsey & Co., estimated that 40% of the pollution reduction needed to prevent catastrophic global warming can be achieved through efficiency improvements alone (*NY Times*, November 29, 2006).

Households can improve their energy efficiency by using fluorescent bulbs, weather stripping, EnergyStar-rated appliances, buying locally produced food, shopping with re-usable bags, lowering the thermostat and driving slower on properly inflated tires.

GROCERY STORE GIFT CARD DONATIONS

REMINDER: You can donate grocery store gift cards to the West Chester Food Cupboard by putting a check in the collection plate.

Write the check to "UFWC" with "West Chester Food Cupboard" written in the memo line.

Gift cards are really appreciated because they can be used to buy whatever is needed most.



SHARE THE PLATE

On Sunday, December 20, we will donate one half of our collection to the Friends Association. The Friends Association is dedicated to the care and protection of children. Located at 206 North Church Street in West Chester, the organization provides short-term housing for six mothers and their children who would otherwise be homeless.

Our October Share the Plate collection raised \$355 for Children Creating Bridges.



UUSC UPDATE

UUS CHOOSE JUSTICE THROUGH “FAIR TRADE”

UUSC cooperates with Equal Exchange, the originators of the “Fair Trade” concept. Since the “Fair Trade” project was launched in 2001, hundreds of UU congregations have made the initiative a huge success — representing the highest participation rate of any denomination in Equal Exchange’s Interfaith Program. In 2008 alone, UUs purchased 45.3 tons of fairly traded products; since 2001, well over 250 tons. So please buy some coffee, tea, cocoa, and chocolate bars today at the Fellowship for yourself and for gifts.



Of course, we are selling UUSC Holiday cards again this year and at a reduced price — just \$10 for packages of 10 cards. There are six designs; two of them are new, and no “square” cards that require extra postage.

And speaking of participation rate, because UFWC has been *one of the top 10 congregations* in the U.S. in Holiday card sales, UUSC has chosen us to offer you a “Holiday Bazaar”, a chance to purchase hand-made gift baskets (in 3 sizes) filled with “Fair Trade” coffees, teas, and chocolates; UUSC baseball caps; UUSC aluminum water bottles; hand-made scarves from India; “Home for the Holidays”—a share of an ox and plow to give to Kenyans, and more. Please come by the UUSC bazaar at the back of the sanctuary after services.

GO GREEN WITH THE EMAIL *FELLOWTARIAN*

To all members, friends and visitors who receive the paper *Fellowtarian* by mail:

UFWC continues to move forward in our effort to become a more green organization. By choosing to receive the *Fellowtarian* by email, you help us use less paper and energy and to have a smaller environmental footprint. It also saves the Fellowship money and volunteer time.

If you do not have access to a computer, or still prefer paper, we will continue to mail you the paper *Fellowtarian* if you **OPT-IN**. To opt-in, please fill out the attached slip and send to UFWC by **December 30**.

If we do not hear from you we will automatically take you off the paper *Fellowtarian*. If we have your email address, we will switch you to email delivery.* (You can either read it on your computer or print a hard copy for yourself.) The switch to email delivery begins with the March issue.

***NOTE:** We will use the same address to which we email *Connections*. If you think we do not have your correct email address, send a message requesting email delivery of the *Fellowtarian* to **email: office**

POINSETTIA AND WREATH FELLOWSHIP FUNDRAISER



Please support the Fellowship’s holiday poinsettia and wreath mini-fundraiser by buying plants and wreaths for gifts, for your home, for work, or for the Fellowship Sanctuary.

Pre-order for the best selection at ufwc.org/poinsettias.htm, where we have order forms in two formats – printable PDF and auto-calculation fill-in Excel. Wreathes, poinsettias and cyclamen will also be available for sale at the Fellowship between and after services on December 6.

Contact Pam Sapko at email: poinsettias.

Opt-In For The Paper *Fellowtarian*

- I want to continue to receive the paper *Fellowtarian*.

Name _____

Address _____

Return this slip to: UFWC -- Barbara Robinson
501 S High St, West Chester PA 19382

HOLIDAY PARTIES

We will have plenty of fellowship cheer this holiday season with four in-home parties lined up. Below are the hosts, dates, times, addresses, and RSVP information. To help our hosts with their planning, please try to RSVP a week in advance if you plan to attend, but you are still welcome if you forget to RSVP or decide at the last minute to go.

Directions will be available in the back of the sanctuary and as a link from the Connections emails. Many internet mapping websites do not have the Singers' street and give the wrong location for the Sweitzers' home. It is best to use the directions that we provide and take the host's phone number in case you get lost.

All of the parties are pot-luck. The hosts will provide beverages and one dish, and all guests are asked to bring a dish. Finger food and hors d'oeuvres are preferred since we do not eat at a table.

All UFWC members and friends are welcome to any or all of the parties. Youth members Liedeke, Natasha, Jolene and Kendra Sweitzer extend a special invitation to the youth group and other teens to their party.

For those of you with allergies to pets, be aware that the Sweitzers have a dog and three outdoor cats. There will be more information on the New Year's Day party in the January *Fellowtarian*. For general information about UFWC holiday parties contact Nancy Artus at email: holiday-potlucks.



Saturday, December 12 7:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Hosts: Bob and Harriet Singer
500 Downing Ct.
Exton

Friday, December 18 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Host: Sharon Sweitzer
438 Gum Tree Rd.,
Coatesville

Saturday, December 19 6:00 p.m.

Hosts: Mike and Flo Miller
1143 Fielding Dr.,
West Chester

Friday, January 1 4 p.m. until whenever

Hosts: Chic Bach
629 Norway Rd
Chadds Ford
Bring musical instruments

— The Fun & Fellowship Committee

EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

DECEMBER 20 7-8:30 PM

This month's book, *The Book of Salt*, is a brilliant first novel by acclaimed Vietnamese-American writer Monique Truong. It is narrated by Binh, a Vietnamese cook, who talks about his life in Paris with his two American employers, Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas and his youth in French-colonized Vietnam.

The *Los Angeles Times* called it, "An irresistible, scrupulously engineered confection that weaves through history, art and human nature.... Truong has, after much deliberation, cultivated a veritable feast." Our discussion facilitator will be Fatima Patel.

Please free to contact us at e-mail: diversity-book-group, or call Shelly Case or Ruth MacFadyen. All are welcome.

January's book is *The Art off Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein.



DECK THE HALL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 11 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Children of ALL ages are invited to join us as we decorate the sanctuary, decorate Christmas cookies, and let our creative spirits have some fun with the season and one another. Bring a bag lunch if you wish.

BILLY JONAS BENEFIT CONCERT COMING TO UFWC SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

TICKETS ON SALE STARTING IN DECEMBER

Please join us for a live concert with Billy Jonas at the Fellowship on Saturday evening, January 23. Billy Jonas is a treat to experience live. Prepare for an evening of fun.

Billy Jonas' performances will inspire, inform, and enlighten. His work is born out of respect and reverence and seeks to honor the creative energy in everyone. His original pieces are played on fanciful "industrial re-percussion" instruments made from found objects. He sings in a clear tenor voice; his guitar work is adventurous – alternately percussive and lyrical. (Note that this is not a children's concert – he's doing kids shows earlier that day at Longwood Gardens.)

Face value of tickets: \$15 each. Part of the ticket price will be donated to the UFWC Social Justice Committee. Tickets may be purchased in advance at services starting the end of December. Contact Marie Steel at email: fun.



FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, December 5, at 8 p.m. at the home of Linda and Steve Sander. All are welcome. No singing talent or experience is necessary. Capable musicians should bring instruments. Bring a munchie, if you wish. Maps are in the foyer. Contact Steve at email: folk-singing.

LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, December 11, at 11:30 a.m. at Panera Bread, 1103 West Chester Pike, near Shop Rite. Newcomers are welcome. To be added to the e-mail reminder list, contact Linda Sander at email: lunch-group. The reminders are an easy way to RSVP, so we can save enough seats for everyone. If you don't have e-mail or you change your mind at the last minute, come anyway. Everyone is welcome.

COFFEE HOUSE

There is no coffee house scheduled for December. The next coffee house will be Saturday, January 9. Contact Judy Perri at email: coffee-house.

GAME NIGHT

Our next Game Potluck night is Friday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m. at the Fellowship. Please note this is not the usual first Friday of the month. We changed the date so that we would not have the parking problems associated with An Old Fashioned Christmas. We are also changing the January date to the second Friday due to New Year's.

In the Holiday Spirit, everyone is welcome; just bring a dish and a beverage to share as well as any game(s) you would like to play. Dinner is at 6:30 followed by games usually around 7:00. Contact Mary Yeager at email: game-night.

DELIBERATE LIVING

In December we will not meet but will join the potluck and workshop after the second service.

Our next meeting will take place January 3, our usual first Sunday of the month. We meet at 12:30 p.m. downstairs after the second service.

In living deliberately, we have asked ourselves questions: What are we really after in our life? What are our deepest longings for a complete life? What are some of the pathways toward reaching our authentic core, and how do we live it out? These pathways have many dimensions.

These discussions are significant opportunities for new friends and members to be integrated with our larger membership via a reflective and personable atmosphere. Join us to be a part of our typical dynamic flow of good energy. No preparation is needed. No commitment is required, though continuity is best. Contact Heidi Buss at email: deliberate-living.

FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Dec 1 Tue** **Deadline to Complete the Survey About Our Shared Ministry.** Contact Sue Johnston, email: survey
- Dec 2 Wed** **Religious Education Committee.** 7 p.m. Youth Group room. Contact Sue Quake, email: RE
- Dec 5 Sat** **Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 9.
- Dec 6 Sun** **First Sunday Food Collection.** Lobby. See p. 6.
Poinsettia and Wreath Sale. After each service. See p. 7.
Intergenerational Choir Practice. Contact Abby McGillivray, email: intergenerational-choir
Spiritual Growth & Development Workshop. Potluck lunch and afternoon workshop. 12:30-6 p.m. See p. 5.
- Dec 8 Tue** **Board Meeting.** 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Diane Cohle, email: president
- Dec 10 Thu** **Social Justice Committee.** 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice.
- Dec 11 Fri** **Exploring Our Spirituality Book Group.** 9:30 a.m. Offsite. Contact Susan Gast or Harriet Singer, email: spirituality-book-group
Lunch Group. 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 9.
Game Night. 6:30-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 9.
- Dec 12 Sat** **Deck the Hall.** Holiday sanctuary and cookie decorating. 11-2 p.m. See p. 8.
Holiday Party. 7-11 p.m. Hosts: Bob and Harriet Singer. See p. 8.
- Dec 12-13 Sat-Sun** **Youth Group Movie Overnight.** Sanctuary. See p. 4.
- Dec 13 Sun** **Stewardship Meeting.** 12:30 p.m. Office. Contact Pam Sapko. Email stewardship.
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
- Dec 14 Mon** **Beyond War Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace room. Contact John Gribbin, email: beyond-war.
- Dec 18 Fri** **Holiday Party.** 6-11 p.m. Host: Sharon Sweitzer. See p. 8.
- Dec 19 Sat** **Holiday Party.** 6 p.m. Hosts: Flo and Mike Miller. See p. 8.
- Dec 20 Sun** **Share the Plate Sunday.** Benefits Friends Association. See p. 6.
Membership Committee. 12:30 p.m. Contact Mira Tyron or Barbara Long e-mail: membership
Exploring Diversity Book Group. 7-8:30 p.m. Office. See p. 8.
- Dec 22 Tue** **Fellowship Council.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program
- Dec 24 Thu** **Office Closed.**
- Dec 25 Fri** **Office Closed.**
- Dec 30 Wed** **Deadline to Opt-In to the Printed and Mailed Fellowtarian.** See p. 7.
- Jan 1 Fri** **Holiday Party.** 4 p.m. Host: Chic Bach. See p. 8.

Groups meeting multiple times in a month:

- Choir Practice** Generally the three Thursdays before the third Sunday (which is when they sing at services). No practice on the fourth Thursday. Contact Helen Meacham, email: choir
- Youth Group** Most Sundays, 10:45-noon. Youth Group room. Email: youth-group. See p. 4.