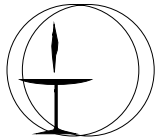


UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP OF WEST CHESTER  
501 S HIGH ST  
WEST CHESTER PA 19382



# the FELLOWTARIAN

*Newsletter of the Unitarian Fellowship of West Chester*

Telephone: 610-692-5966 Web: [www.ufwc.org](http://www.ufwc.org)

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**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.*

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

April 2010

**April 4**

**THE RITES OF SPRING**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

Easter brings the awakening of new life, new hopes, and new dreams. It is a time of renewal acted out, lived out in many ways and by many traditions. The Easter story is probably one of the most dramatic but surely not the only one.

**April 11**

**WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE**

**Rev. Ralph Mero**

This morning's service will look at meanings behind some of what we do on Sunday morning and at one of the major justice issues in religion today. Persons attending on April 11 are asked to review beforehand the UUA website, [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org), and refresh their familiarity with *Leviticus* chapters 17 through 20. Also, come prepared to sing, or at least hum. Rev. Ralph Mero has been engaged in the Unitarian Universalist ministry for 45 years, serving congregations, community organizations, and at our denominational headquarters.

**April 18**

**WISE TALES**

**Rev. Deborah Mero**

Our faith draws from many traditions to add to our spiritual richness. We will look at several wisdom tales from around the world today to give us food for thought.

**April 25**

**UUSC JUSTICE SUNDAY**

**Social Justice Committee**

This year the topic is Economic Justice. There are many paths to accomplish this around the world on all five continents. Join us for several stories, concluding with UUSC's push to raise the minimum wage in the United States to "\$10 in 2010".

**Services and Babysitting at 9 AM and 11 AM. Religious Education at 9 AM only.**

## THE SONG OF DEBORAH

Spring has sprung – in a hurry! From snow storms to sitting in the sun, it has been quite a dramatic change. It is a different experience sitting on the back deck looking out on the still barren trees in 70 degree weather from what will surely come – the leaves, the heat, the bugs.

There are as yet no sounds of leaves moving in the wind, only the cars off in the distance, the neighborhood dogs barking, a chain saw or two engaged in cleaning up the pine boughs broken by the snow. The crocuses (croci?) are popping up, the seeds in our seed trays already want to be planted in the ground, they are so tall. It is surely a time heralding new beginnings, new hopes, new signs of green and growth.

I spoke of my love for Autumn last October. I have a hard time trying to fit us into categories of being Spring people or Autumn people, as each season has its splendors. Right now it feels great to get out into the fresh air, out of the stuffy warmish (not quite warm enough) house to reconnect with nature and the earth and growing things.

I hear that we will have new opportunities to grow things this year for the food cupboard. We are receiving some offers of land to work, and that fills me

with joy. I hope that many of you will want to pitch in.

At the Religious Council of Greater West Chester these past months various members have been speaking about how our faiths call us to help those in need. We have had lessons in scripture, lists of our denominations' good works and words, and evidence of what one another's congregations have been doing in the community. We are blessed to be encircled by caring and acting groups of people who share what they can and do what they do.

I continue to be surprised by the strong affirmations we get from local agencies who benefit from our generosity. I'm not surprised that we are acknowledged, for I know we do what we can. The surprise is that we seem to be doing more than would be expected from a group our size – to which I can only respond with pride and gratitude that we are able to play such a role in the community.

At the dedication of the new floor of the Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter it felt wonderful to see our name on a poster list-

ing the partners in the community that contributed to "raising the roof." The single, homeless women in our community now have a clean, steady place to spend the night.

We do tend to congratulate ourselves a lot. Affirmation for good works is a good thing. At the same time, I'm sure we have people in need among ourselves. Whether the need is finan-

cial, spiritual, emotional, or the need is just to be with others and share the bumps along the journey, I hope you feel that you can bring those needs to me and to your friends at UFWC. This is a caring community in so many ways. As new needs arise we manage to find ways to meet them.

We have spent two Sundays and a Saturday sharing with one another the things that motivate us to be part of this congregation. We have talked about what we might add or do differently. The ideas have been flowing, and many of them will become reality over time. All of this is because we have a mission that takes us into and beyond ourselves. It reminds me of the words of Rabbi Hillel, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am not for others, what am I? And if not now, when?"

I think the members and friends of this congregation understand what Hillel was saying.

Peace and gratitude be with us all.

– Deborah

*We seem to be doing more than would be expected from a group our size – to which I can only respond with pride and gratitude.*

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

501 S. High St., West Chester, PA 19382

Web: [www.ufwc.org](http://www.ufwc.org)

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Pam Baxter, Dir. of Religious Ed ..... email: dre

Steve and Linda Sander, Editors ..... email: fellowtarian

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Over forty people attended the Building Meaningful Connections Workshop on Sunday, March 14, after the second service. The purpose of this meeting was to explore the following end statements:

- *At the UFWC people feel welcome, dialogues flourish, and relationships develop through good times and bad.*
- *We use our resources, time, and energy to make a positive impact in our community.*
- *We maintain intentional involvement with diverse populations and promote diversity within our congregation.*

Our discussion focused on four questions:

- *What are the healthiest, most life-enhancing aspects of the relationships among people at our fellowship?*
- *What distinguishes the quality of relationships between people in our congregation from the relationships you have in other settings?*
- *What activities do we do at the UFWC that make you feel connected and incorporate these qualities?*
- *What activities would you like to see done that would incorporate these qualities?*

Throughout the afternoon, there was an overflowing of energy and creativity. After identifying the unique elements in our connections at the Fellowship, we were able to list pages of activities that we already do to make us feel connected. These range from small group activi-

ties, music programs, game night, committee work, social justice activities, coffee hour conversations, adult RE – just to name a few. We are doing a lot. Suggested new activities incorporating these qualities include:

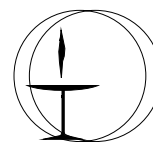
- Revitalizing the Caring Committee
- Establishing programs with other churches
- Communicating open forum “Things to Do” emails to more members
- Providing adult sharing in the evenings
- Hosting movie nights
- Initiating more family outings, hikes, etc.
- Establishing a men’s group
- Hosting more concerts
- Expanding focus on diversity
- Building a Labyrinth
- Providing opportunities for yoga, qigong, etc.
- Establishing a theatrical group “UFWC Players”
- Connecting with West Chester University student “University of the Soul”
- Inviting all to open celebrations, theater outings, etc.

If you were not able to attend, your input is still important. Please relay your suggestions to a member of the Board. The Board’s job is to monitor what the members of the congregation propose with regard to our mission and ends. Many thanks to all the members and friends who participated in our three

workshops. I sincerely appreciate the time and effort that you gave in support of our mission and helping us continue to be a thriving congregation.

Where do we go next? These ideas will be given to the executive team and the Fellowship Council for implementation. But we can’t do everything. Priorities will be set, and volunteers will be enlisted to make these ideas a part of our community. I am looking forward to moving ahead and seeing all of our efforts materialize.

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



### **NEWCOMER ORIENTATION PART 1**

**AN OPEN INVITATION  
SUNDAY, APRIL 18  
12:30 P.M.**

If you are new or want a refresher, Deborah will offer an introduction to Unitarian Universalism, theology and history. It’s also a chance to get to know new people a bit. A light lunch will be provided so please RSVP to the office. Part 2 will be scheduled, and will involve various members of the leadership to talk about UFWC, its history, and what we do and how we do it.

## REmarks – RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

*“This is the church of open minds, loving hearts and helping hands.”*

We say these words every Sunday during Children’s Worship when we light the chalice together. The words are simple, but they point to the qualities we most want to enhance in our children through our religious education program. On any given Sunday, we are likely to see one, two or even all three of these qualities expressed in the short hour between 9 and 10 a.m. Here is just one example, shared by Heidi Frayer, a volunteer teacher in the first and second grade class.

*Our unit today was learning about parables such as those told by Jesus, and why they are useful tools for teaching important lessons. I explained that some Christians believe that the parables recounted in the Bible are true, such as the story of the loaves and fishes, in which Jesus is said to have fed thousands with only enough food for a few. I also explained that many people believe the story is not true, but is told for the purpose of teaching a lesson about giving and receiving and the way we should treat others.*

*One child in the class asked, “Do you mean that we can believe what we want to believe?” I said yes, it’s OK to believe what you want. This was in the context of our discussion, and I know she understood that I meant belief about what is true and what is fiction.*

*Her eyes lit up and she said (I’m paraphrasing here), “Good! I’m going to tell my friend. She says I HAVE to believe in Jesus, but I don’t believe the way she does.” This led to a discussion about how it is sometimes hard to stand up for what you believe is right, but that being honest about how you feel is important. The other children at the table were very engaged about this topic, and I could tell that the message was delivered and received. It was a wonderful moment.*

### HELPING HANDS NEEDED

On May 16 children in Pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade will prepare the evening meal for the Safe Harbor homeless shelter. We will need some extra adult hands to help us that day. Please let me know if you would like to join us. Thank you. Contact me at email: RE.

### **Children’s Library addition:**

At last year’s Christmas Eve service, we heard a story about a young girl who had a tendency to blurt out whatever came to her mind. She was encouraged to ask herself three questions before speaking: Is it true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?

Our newest book is by Byron Katie, titled *Tiger-Tiger, Is It True?* In the story, Tiger-Tiger is having a Very Bad Day and is convinced that no one cares about or loves him. A series of questions from Turtle helps Tiger-Tiger discover what is really going on. Reminder: when you borrow a book please sign it out, and return it within two weeks.

### **Recent highlights:**

- Pre-K/K explores the interconnected web, learning about spiders and how important they are to the balance of life.
- 3rd/4th graders act out a story demonstrating the wisdom of King Solomon and have a lively discussion about how to resolve disputes.
- 5th and 6th graders learn how the parables of Jesus have become incorporated in the fabric of our culture. Also, how to build resiliency, using the example of W Mitchell ([www.wmitchell.com](http://www.wmitchell.com)).
- Following in-class units on Quakerism and Judaism, the 7th/8th graders visit the Westtown Friends Meeting and Keshet Israel synagogue.
- The Coming of Age class members are meeting with their mentors, working on their statements of faith, and planning for their trip to Boston at the end of April to investigate some of our Unitarian and Universalist roots.

– Pam Baxter. Director of Religious Education

## FINANCIALLY YOURS

We are in the final stages of our Stewardship campaign, which we kicked off with a wonderful Sunday service conducted by Rev. Mero and her brother, folk singer/songwriter, David Roth. Thanks to them we got off to a good start, but we have a way to go.

If you have not yet made a pledge for our 2010-2011 financial year, we've made it even easier for you to do so. First we have sent out pledge cards with stamped return envelopes. Simply complete the card, put it in the envelope with the return address showing, and drop it in the mail. What could be easier? We're glad you asked, because thanks to Steve Sander, we now have an online pledge form that is easy to use and completely painless. You can find the link to this form on the home page of our website at [www.ufwc.org](http://www.ufwc.org). Simply fill in the information on the form and click on "Send to UFWC" at the bottom of the page. Your pledge will be sent to the treasurer, and you will automatically receive an acknowledgement of your contribution by email.

Please help us complete our campaign by the end of March, and please consider stretching your budget a bit to help us reach our pledge goal. In these economically difficult times some members and friends are struggling financially, so if you are so fortunate enough to be able to do so, please increase your pledge to help us maintain our programs and facilities.

And thanks for your help.

– Mike Miller,  
Treasurer

## CHOIR/MUSIC SUNDAY - MAY 16

On May 16 we will have a special Choir/Music service that Sunday morning, featuring our newly-named Spirit Singers and a variety of musical talent from the Fellowship. We invite one and all to join the choir in singing some special music.

We will start rehearsing on Thursday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. and will practice each Thursday night until the service. If you've ever thought about giving the choir a try, or if you've had a lapse for whatever reason, this would be a great time to make some beautiful music while having a wonderful time.

Also, please let us know if you might be interested in contributing your musical talent that morning. We are looking for musicians of all ages and flavors, whether you play the accordion or the autoharp. (We could go all the way to the end of the alphabet, but you get the picture.) Wouldn't it be great to form our own UFWC Orchestra for that day? Contact Helen Meacham at email: [choir](mailto:choir) as we plan this joyful service.

– Helen Meacham, Director  
Spirit Singers



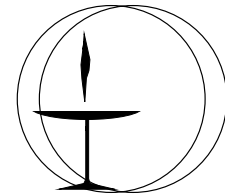
## GOING PLACES TOGETHER

One of the goals created by the crowd attending the Community Building Workshop was to find a way to organize outings of various kinds with fellow members. As it turns out, we already have a vehicle to make that happen – the "Things-to-do" email list. We just need to revitalize it a bit – i.e., get lots of us to join.

If you are interested in going with UFWC friends to a movie, play, concert, hike, picnic, community fair, or any event of your choosing, here's all you need to do:

1. Contact Steve Sander (at email: [email-coordinator](mailto:email-coordinator)) asking him to put you on the **Things to Do Email List**. Then you'll receive all of the list's postings.
2. If you want to post an event, just send a message to email: **things-to-do-list**.
3. Any replies you make to list messages go to the person who sent the original email. If you "Reply to All", the reply will go the entire list.
4. You can continue your planning from there.

Join today and find lots of new ways to play.



## NEW MEMBER PROFILE: HAVE YOU MET AMANDA LIPNACK?

Some people exude so much warmth that it travels right through an e-mail, out of a monitor, and practically gives a stranger a welcoming hug. Amanda Lipnack is one of those people.

Self-described as a warm and generous friend, and someone who loves meeting and learning about others, it's no wonder Amanda is moonlighting as a life coach. By day, the 37-year-old Malvern resident and Chester County native is an IT manager at a small



software company in Conshohocken. "But by night and by passion, I am a life coach helping people build the lives of their dreams," she says. "My coaching work is truly my passion and where I hope to be full-time in a few years."

Funny, shy at times, and an appreciator of sarcasm as well as "the truly silly moments in life," Amanda has a penchant for learning

and trying new things.

"We just took a cake decorating class that was a lot of silly fun," she says. "And we can often be found trying new wines and beers at new restaurants." She also loves knitting, photography, traveling, reading, music, art, and especially politics.

"I have a freakish love of politics – particularly, electoral politics," she says. But her big (and exciting) focus right now? "To survive and enjoy the process of planning our wedding and honeymoon in Ireland," she says. She's tying the knot to fiancé Pat on July 24 in Media, Pennsylvania.

After attending the UFWC on and off since 2004, Amanda became a member in January. "I finally signed the book and joined, because I felt it was important to not just attend services, but to say publicly that this place has an importance to me and is something I want to be a part of," she says. "I love the diversity of experience and belief, and I love that there is a purposeful space for exploring the unknown."

So what inspires such an inspirational person? Two mottos stand out: "Do unto others as you would have done unto you," Amanda shares, and, "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

– Sharon Breske

### QUICK HITS

Favorite book: *A House Like A Lotus*  
by Madeleine L'Engle

Favorite place: Seattle – "It's my heart's home."

Favorite (famous) person: Mary Cassatt

## YOUTH GROUP

The month of March was dedicated to preparations for our Youth Sunday service, with great enthusiasm for sharing the Youth Group's playwriting, humor, creativity, music, and presence with the broader UFWC community.

Coming up in April is the JPD SpringCON at Main Line Unitarian Church in Devon, April 16-18. Watch your e-mail for details. We're also planning another discussion/debate, so fire up your brains and spirits for some lively exchange.

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

## DELIBERATE LIVING

Our next meeting is April 11, the second Sunday, instead of our usual first Sunday, in order to avoid Easter. We meet at 12:30 p.m. downstairs after the second service.

In living deliberately, we have asked ourselves questions: What are some of the pathways toward reaching our authentic core, and how do we live it out? These pathways have many dimensions.

Scott Tarlo will lead us this time on the topic of forgiveness. These discussions are significant opportunities for new friends and members to integrate with our larger membership via a reflective and personable atmosphere. Come and 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.

## JOIN UUS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY AT THIS YEAR'S GA

Registrations are now being taken for General Assembly (GA), the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalist congregations from across the United States. This year's event will be held June 23-27 in Minneapolis.

For newcomers to UUism, GA is an exciting and energizing combination of worship, workshops, lectures, and social opportunities, presented in combination with Plenary Sessions where the business of our denomination is conducted. Highlights include the Service of the Living Tradition, where those who have received fellowship or credentialed status from the UUA over the past year are recognized with those who have completed active service. Leaders of our denomination who have died during the past year are also remembered. The sermon is delivered by a minister regarded as a leader (and leading preacher) in the denomination.

Another highlight is the Ware Lecture, where persons who share our UU ideals and who have made a major impact on the world deliver challenging and enriching messages. Winona LaDuke, a Native American activist, environmentalist, economist, and writer will deliver the lecture this year.

At the plenary we will vote on a Statement of Conscience regarding "Peacemaking" and choose a Study/Action Issue for individual congregations to research and discuss over the next three years.

My husband Mike and I will attend GA this year. We'd love to have company. More complete information is available at the UUA website ([www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)). Click on "General Assembly" under the Events link. Housing information and registration forms are available on this link. You can also obtain more detailed information about the Study/Action Issue and Statement of Conscience process. (Click on "business" within the text of the General Assembly information, then on "Social Witness Opportunities" on the list on the left hand side.)

The Fellowship is entitled to four voting delegates at GA. With Mike and me, we have only two. Will you join us? Contact me at email: [denominational-affairs](mailto:denominational-affairs).

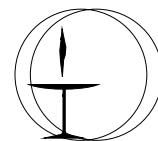
– Flo Miller  
Denominational Affairs Chair

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees conducted its regular monthly meeting on March 9, 2010. (Note that February's Board meeting was cancelled due to snow storms.) Discussion led by Bob Scott focused on our ongoing work in establishing policy governance, particularly in the area of the role of the Board once we have established the Ends statements that will guide the work of the congregation.

The Ends team reported on planning for the March 14 workshop on new ways to live our Mission in the area of Building Community. Sue Johnston and Jim MacFadyen from the Committee on Ministry presented a summary of the congregational survey. Mark Steel presented estimates for replacing windows and remediating the mold problem in the building. Other topics of discussion for this month included delegates for the JPD conference: Mark Steel, Mike Miller, Pam Baxter and Diane Cohle are planning to attend; and the date for the annual meeting has been set as June 6.

Members and friends of the Fellowship are encouraged to share comments and concerns with Board members, as well as to attend Board meetings if interested. The Board meets the second Tuesday of the month, in the office. Meeting minutes are posted to the members section of the UFWC website after Board approval.



### COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY PRESENTATION

On Sunday, April 11, the Committee on Ministry ("COM") will present a short slide show between services detailing the results of the recent congregational survey. Whether or not you participated in the survey, come and find out what UFWC members and friends are thinking.

## STONES IN THE SAME WALL – SOCIAL JUSTICE

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

A number of new projects have been suggested by you, the congregation, at a recent Board workshop held to refine the ends (goal) statements involving social justice. Many great ideas came out of the meeting and have been reviewed by our committee. In order to make them “come alive”, we need people to work on the ideas further. There are four main areas that need a group of volunteers to develop and implement activities, events, and/or projects. A fifth area regarding building usage is being referred to the Fellowship Council for further action. Please contact us (email: social-justice) to let us know to which of these efforts you would like to commit some of your time, organization skills and creativity. Keep in mind that these ideas can only be implemented with your help. Only those that garner support in terms of your time will go forth. We will also be contacting those of you who attended the meeting and worked on the initial ideas. This is where the “rubber meets the road” as they say. Here are the four areas of interest.

1. **Providing Food to People in Need** – Ideas that are already in progress include gleaning/gardening efforts, food collection Sunday, and providing meals to Safe Harbor. Expansion ideas include offering nutrition classes to people in the community, and an expansion of our food collection program to include neighborhoods.

2. **Anti-racism, Anti-oppression, and Multicultural Issues** – This group has suggested that we go on a personal journey to look inward by using curricula available from the UU Association, looking at our congregation as a whole to understand why we are not more diverse (as the first step in becoming more diverse), and then looking at the wider community especially by forging more relationships and collaborations with diversity in mind. Other congregations have made significant strides in becoming more diverse; so can we.

3. **Supporting the Local West Chester Library** – Did you know that the library in the borough has been receiving less funds than in the past. Local financial support has not been strong. The library represents access to materials, the internet, or even a person who can help find information. People with sufficient income can access these through their own private means, but those without the funds may not. This group wants to advocate for this library, do fundraising, and work with legislative candidates.

4. **Establishing Mentoring/Tutoring Programs** – This group felt that there is much knowledge to share by members and friends to those outside our congregation. They want to research what the need is. Ideas like teaching English as a second language (ESL), GED tutoring, managing money skills, hobby skills, and a mentoring program are only a few of the creative ideas discussed. The group wants to identify groups of concern as well as identifying potential partners in our efforts.

– Ed Cohle  
Social Justice Chair

### FIRST SUNDAY FOOD COLLECTION PROJECT

Our monthly food collection is Sunday, April 4. Look for collection baskets in the lobby. Please read your *Connections* the week before the collection to see what items are most needed. Reminder: Please check expiration dates. Items past expiration cannot be distributed. As always, other donations are gratefully accepted, too.

### SHARE-THE-PLATE GENEROSITY

The share-the-plate collection in support of the Friends Association’s program to help women who might otherwise be homeless raised \$480. Thanks to all who contributed. The recipient on April 18 (third Sunday of the month) is Open Hearth. Open Hearth provides innovative programs to help people end the cycle of homelessness and achieve financial self-sufficiency. The organization supports and empowers people as they acquire affordable housing and a means of transportation and teaches valuable savings habits.

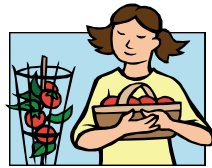


## SUSTAINABLE LIVING SUBCOMMITTEE

Please join the Sustainable Living committee in a **Global Day of Service**. We're joining with other local environment groups in celebrating the **40th Anniversary of Earth Day** by participating in cleaning up Goose Creek in the West Chester Borough on April 17 (<http://crcwatersheds.org/events/view/68>).

We'll meet in West Chester inside the Public Works Garage at 205 Lacey Street. Afterwards, we may go to the Henderson High School Environmental Club for their inaugural Earth Day Fair and unveiling of their 2KW Solar Panel installation.

Watch for changes to our bulletin board, labels on recycling bins at the Fellowship, and our survey so we can learn what our Fellowship members and friends would like us to achieve. Contact Charlot Barker at email: [sustainable-living](mailto:sustainable-living).



## GARDENING, GROWING AND GLEANING, OH MY!

Again this year UFWC will participate in gleaning projects carried out by the Chester County Food Bank. These projects involve the actual growing and harvesting of food to be given to the food bank for those in need.

In addition, there will be two projects of our own: one to grow sweet potatoes and the other to grow spinach and kale. Volunteers are needed occasionally to assist in planting, weeding, and harvesting. If you are interested and have a couple of hours free (mostly on weekends), please contact Tom Townsend at email: [gleaning](mailto:gleaning).

## EXPLORING DIVERSITY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

*The Commoner: A Novel* by John Burnham Schwartz, takes us into the closed world of the Japanese monarchy as we follow the story of Haruko, a commoner who in 1959 marries the Crown Prince. Although she is an accomplished young woman from a good family, she is not an aristocrat and struggles to survive her loss of personal freedom in the private and often cruel world of palace society. Our discussion this month will be facilitated by Dena Beeghly.



Please join us on April 18 at 7 p.m. upstairs in the Fellowship office. Contact Shelly Case or Ruth MacFadyen at email: [diversity-book-group](mailto:diversity-book-group). All are welcome.

## UUSC UPDATE

This just in: Over \$1.6 million has been raised by UUSC to date for their Haiti relief fund. As you know, UUSC helps mostly the "forgotten", those at the margins of society that other human rights organizations overlook.

You, too, can help those who need it most here in the U.S. and around the world by joining UUSC. Contact Robin Garrett or Linda Sander. Or join on-line at [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org) – don't forget to mention that you are affiliated with UFWC. We're "stuck" at 74% membership, and we'd like to improve that.



P.S. Although Charlie Clements, M.D. will be sorely missed as President of UUSC, we're in very good hands with the Interim President, Bill Schulz, past president of Amnesty International (U.S.) and, before that, president of the UUA.



**Sustainable Living Subcommittee Tip of the Month:** The next Household Hazardous Waste Dropoff is Saturday April 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2010 CAT-Pickering Campus, 1580 Charlestown Road in Phoenixville. Computers will be accepted. For more information see [www.chestercountyswa.org/HHW.asp](http://www.chestercountyswa.org/HHW.asp) or phone 610-273-3771.

## FLEA MARKET

### HOW TO SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE, SUPPORT UFWC AND BENEFIT THE WEST CHESTER COMMUNITY ...ALL AT THE SAME TIME

Once a year UFWC holds a bazaar – our annual Flea Market – to which members and friends donate “stuff” they no longer need or want. Sales support the UFWC operating budget, and unsold leftovers are donated to area charities for their use or re-sale. The flea market makes low cost items available to our congregation and to our many West Chester neighbors who come to shop every year while it honors the reduce, re-use, re-cycle philosophy.

This year’s flea market will be **Saturday, April 24 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Its success year after year has resulted from your generous donations of items to sell, and VERY generous amounts of volunteer effort to receive, sort, price, sell, and clean up afterward.



You can drop off your donations on **Thursday evening, April 22, from 7 to 9 p.m.** at the side (Lacey Street) entrance. Best sellers are jewelry and collectibles, small appliances, kitchenware, household goods, linens, garden tools, and toys. Clothing should be of consignment store quality. Books are great sellers except for encyclopedias, textbooks, manuals and magazines, which do not sell. Something you no longer need or want will be a prized “find” for someone else. Get rid of all that “stuff” that clutters up your home and your life, and benefit UFWC and the community at the same time.

**What happens to leftovers?** After the sale volunteers will transport all leftover items to area nonprofits to use or sell, which supports the larger caring community. We welcome your recommendations of groups that can best use various types of items. For example, the SPCA welcomes towels, sheets, and blankets to use as bedding. The Habitat for Humanity “Re-Store” in Coatesville accepts hardware, construction, and home repair items. The AAUW accepts all our unsold books, which they sell to raise scholarship funds. Goodwill accepts nearly everything for their re-sale stores.

## FLEA MARKET VOLUNTEERS

### YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

The flea market succeeds only because every year there is such a general contribution of volunteer time. No special expertise is required. We pool our knowledge and figure it out as we go along (which is part of the fun). We especially encourage new members and friends to volunteer. It’s a great way to get to know people.

Join the fun by putting your name on the sign-up sheet during coffee hour or contacting us at email: flea-market.

Thu ...	Apr 22 .....	5-7 pm .....	Stack chairs, set up tables/signs
Thu ...	Apr 22 .....	7-9 pm .....	Help with drop off and sort
Fri .....	Apr 23 .....	All day .....	Sort and price (shift work OK)
Sat ....	Apr 24 .....	7:30 am-1 pm .....	Help with the sale (shift work OK)
Sat ....	Apr 24 .....	1-3 pm .....	Pack up/transport unsold goods Clean and re-set sanctuary

## FLEA MARKET DONATION GUIDELINES

**Please don’t give us anything we will have to pay a fee to dispose of** if not sold, such as TV’s, anything containing Freon, computers, and other electronics. Large furniture is also a problem.

**Don’t create a problem** for the Fellowship by donating items that might pose a **liability risk** such as baby furniture, medical or personal care items, or sports/exercise equipment.

The **Consumer Product Safety Commission** has increased emphasis on compliance by “re-sale” organizations including **church flea markets**. If we cannot ensure that products are safe we CANNOT sell them. Concern is focused especially on children’s furniture, toys, clothing, and jewelry. Even the ink in older books for children might contain lead or phthalates.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FLEA MARKET BAKE SALE



Positioned just where people are exiting the flea market will be a table full of tempting baked goodies – prepared by you. Income from the bake sale benefits the local Habitat for Humanity efforts. Bring your cookies, brownies, cakes, breads, and other pastries to the Flea Market Saturday morning. Then stay and shop.

## DANCE PARTY APRIL 17 SATURDAY NIGHT FROM 7 TO 10 P.M.



### DONATIONS TO GO TO UFWC AND WEST CHESTER FOOD CUPBOARD

#### WHO NEEDS NIGEL CELEBRATES MARK AND MARIE STEEL'S 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY WITH THE CONGREGATION

Hey! Since we were unable to have our annual Valentines Dance this year, we decided to have our 25th Wedding Anniversary Party at the Fellowship and invite you all to kick up your heels and have a good time. Everyone is invited on Saturday April 17, 7-10 p.m. This is a great chance to "shake, shake, shake yer bootie," renew friendships, and make new friends.

Music is by **Who Needs Nigel?**, our classic-rock band of six Fellowship members who have entertained UFWC for six years. Dancing isn't your thing? Just come and socialize or just bob your head or stand slack-jawed, and you'll be in good company, too.

There's no admission fee: this is just one more of them big ol' parties. Friends. Family, Dancing. **Who Needs Nigel?** The fun starts at 7 p.m. No gifts please, but donations are welcome and will be donated to UFWC and the West Chester Food Cupboard. Light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Marie Steel at email: fun.

### LUNCH GROUP

Lunch group will meet Friday, April 9, 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.

### FOLK SINGING

The next folk singing get-together is Saturday, April 24, 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.

## GAME NIGHT



Please join us Friday night, April 2, at 6:30 p.m. for Potluck & Game Night at the Fellowship. This gathering is not just for kids or families; everyone young or old is welcome.

Bring a dish and beverage to share. Paper products will be provided.

No need to call ahead; just come. Relax and enjoy the company if you wish, or you could learn a new game or play an old favorite.

Contact Mary Yeager if you have any questions at email: game-night.

## COFFEE HOUSE



The next coffee house is April 10, at 7 p.m. at the Fellowship, with our own Craig Talbot as the featured act. Come out and support this fun event.

Performers should arrive early to sign up for a time slot. Contact Judy Perri at email: coffeeshouse.

# FELLOWSHIP CALENDAR

All email addresses @ufwc.org unless otherwise noted.

- Apr 2 Fri Potluck & Game Night.** 6:30-9 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 11.  
**Apr 4 Sun First Sunday Food Collection.** Lobby. See p. 8.  
**Apr 7 Wed Adult Learning and Enrichment: *Explorations In Job*.** 7-9 p.m. Fireplace Room.  
**Religious Education Committee.** 7 p.m. Youth Group Room. Contact Sue Quake, email: RE  
**Apr 8 Thu Social Justice Committee.** 7:15-9 p.m. Office. Contact Ed Cohle, email: social-justice.  
**Apr 9 Fri Lunch Group.** 11:30 a.m. Panera Bread. See p. 11.  
**Apr 10 Sat Coffee House.** 7-10 p.m. Sanctuary. See p. 11.  
**Apr 11 Sun Committee on Ministry Survey Presentation.** Between the two services in the sanctuary.  
 Contact email: com. See p. 7.  
**Stewardship Committee.** 10:30 a.m. Office. Contact Pam Sapko, email: stewardship  
**Membership Committee.** 12:15 p.m. Office. Contact Mira Tyron or Barbara Long e-mail: membership  
**Deliberate Living.** 12:30 p.m. Fireplace Room. See p. 6.  
**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  
**Apr 12 Mon Beyond War Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Fireplace room. Contact John Gribbin, email: beyond-war  
**Apr 13 Tue Board Meeting.** 7 p.m. Office. All are welcome. Contact Diane Cohle, email: president  
**Apr 16-18 Fri-Sun Youth Group at JPD Spring CON.** Contact Kate Cuffari, email: youth-group. See p. 6.  
**Apr 17 Sat Global Day of Service.** Contact Charlot Barker, email: sustainable-living. See. p. 9.  
**Dance Party.** 7-10 p.m.at the Fellowship. See. p. 11.  
**Apr 18 Sun Share the Plate Sunday.** Benefits the Open Hearth. See p. 8.  
**Newcomer Orientation.** 12:30 p.m. Contact Rev. Mero, email: minister. See p. 3.  
**Exploring Diversity Book Group.** 7-8:30 p.m. Office. See p. 9.  
**Apr 19 Mon Women's Circle.** 7-9 p.m. Youth Group Room.  
**Apr 22 Thu Flea Market Set-up.** 5-7 p.m. See p. 10.  
**Flea Market Drop-off.** 7-9 p.m. See p. 10.  
**Religious Services Committee.** 7:30-9 p.m. Office. Contact Curt Hoganson, email: religious-services  
**First Rehearsal of Spirit Singers for May 16 Service.** 7:30 p.m. Contact Helem Meacham, email: choir. See p. 5.  
**Apr 23 Fri Flea Market Sorting and Pricing.** Starting at 9 a.m. See p. 10.  
**Apr 24 Sat Flea Market.** 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. See p. 10.  
**Habitat for Humanity Bake Sale.** During the Flea Market. See p. 10.  
**Flea Market Pack Up and Cleanup.** 1-3 p.m. See p. 10.  
**Folk Singing.** 8 p.m. at the home of Steve and Linda Sander. See p. 11.  
**Apr 27 Tue Fellowship Council.** 7-9 p.m. Office. Contact Mark Steel, email: program

## 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  
**Senior High OWL** Class meets Sundays, 6:30 p.m.  
**Youth Group** Most Sundays, 10:45-noon. Youth Group room. Email: youth-group. See p. 6.