



# Quest

August 2010

## Josh's Journal

I have just returned from General Assembly in Minneapolis. It has been a couple of years since I had been to one. I cannot tell you the excitement you feel at being in the same room with 3000 UUs. It is a rush that will keep you coming back for years to come.

The big issue this year was GA itself. The 2012 General Assembly is scheduled to occur in Phoenix, Arizona. As you know Arizona has recently passed laws that openly discriminate against immigrants, and some argue against Hispanics in general. There was some consideration given to moving GA out of Arizona. However a compromise was reached, and GA will be in Phoenix in 2012.

Probably the best part of GA is learning what other folks are up to around the UUA. Our friends nearby in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, were named a "Breakthrough Congregation." This is a great honor given to congregations of all sizes who have made important contributions to Unitarian Universalism in some way. As usual there were good workshops, and I came away with new ideas around growth, money, social action, policy governance, and renewed purpose.

If you ever get a chance to go to GA, I highly recommend it. See you all at Ingathering next month.

May You Be Blessed Always,

Rev. Dr. Joshua Snyder

*Sunday morning services begin at 10:30;  
Adult Religious Education classes at 9:30 a.m.*

*Children: July 4 - August 8*

*Kindergartners - Fifth graders: Join Alison in the Youth Center  
Newborns - 5 years: Join Toyia in Room 7*

*August 15 through September 5*

*Kindergartners through Fifth graders: meet in the Youth Center  
10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Explore Unitarian Universalist beliefs through  
worship, Stories and Activities.*

*Newborns through Five Year olds —Join Toyia in room 7*

## CARING AND SHARING

Bill Weir had successful surgery on his arm, our thoughts and prayers are with him.

Long-time member Margaret Scott will celebrate her 90th birthday on August 18th. Her daughter, Cindy, called and said Margaret would be thrilled to hear from her First U friends. They both remember this church home very fondly. Cards (include a photo if you like) can be sent to: Margaret Scott, Shell Point Village, 3623 King's Crown Court, Fort Myers, FLA 33904

## Upcoming Sunday Services

**August 1: "Salvation Right Now" Led by Rev. Barbara H. Gadon.** First in Rev. Gadon's series on Unitarian Universalist perspectives on the themes of traditional religion. What saves us? From what do we need to be saved? Come and find out!

**August 8: "Embracing Being a Heretic for Love" Led by Rev. Rebekah Montgomery.** The word "heresy" comes from the Greek word for "choice" and as UU's, we seek to understand our spiritual and communal response as "heretics for love". She welcomes you to come and refresh your resolve to engage turbulent times by standing on the side of love.

*Rev. Rebekah Montgomery is a community minister, affiliated with the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation. She is also an active duty army chaplain with the Army National Guard, stationed in Arlington, Virginia. She has recently completed a tour of duty in Iraq.*

**August 15: "Music in our Lives" Led by Scott Ward, Hon. Minister of Music.** What impact does, or can music have in our daily life, and in our church life. Scott will explore this broad topic with essays and stories.

**August 22: "A More Interesting God" Led by Rev. Barbara H. Gadon.** Second in Rev. Gadon's series on our faith's perspective on traditional religious themes. *Is there a Unitarian Universalist notion of God? What heresy is this?*

**August 29: "The Rapture for Progressives" Led by Rev. Barbara H. Gadon.** Third in Rev. Gadon's series. The rapture is a teaching of the religious right, and is the most well-known (and terrifying) image of the "end times" in American popular religion. What could this concept mean for a progressive faith like ours?

## Leap of Faith

### Free Tibet

You may have seen the article in the News Journal last month about the 8 people who walked from Philadelphia to Washington, DC in the hottest week of the year – to call attention to the occupation of Tibet and the persecution of Tibetans. We gave them room in our church to sleep for two nights. (Most of the churches offering shelter on the walk were Unitarian Universalist. That's got to make you proud.) We held a small, impromptu question-and-answer session, and about a dozen of you came out to meet them. Terry Walls, our Building Supervisor, worked overtime to make sure they had what they needed on the first night. Jenn Phillips and Jack Walker stayed overnight with them on the second. Jenn made an early-morning coffee and donut run – and they were gone.

Who were they? They were Americans, organized by IMIT, the International Tibet Independence Movement. (Go to their website at [rangzen.com](http://rangzen.com).) Five were of Tibetan ancestry, and three were European Americans. They were committed Buddhists, and revered the Dalai Lama, whom they simply referred to as "His Holiness." They considered themselves to take a harder line than the Dalai Lama on Tibet, who is now asking for more rights and better treatment of Tibetans rather than demanding sovereignty. But it is clearly his light – his resilience, his courage, his generous compassion – that guides them. They ranged in age from 18 to 70, five men and two women. And they were people who cared so passionately about Tibet that they marched in 100 degree heat, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., for days.

What were they trying to do? They counted honks. Two hundred and seventy-three drivers responded in one day to their "Honk for Tibet" sign. They talked to people they met. They hoped for dialogue with Chinese nationals. The Dalai Lama urged them to connect with the Chinese in a search for common ground, and to separate the ordinary folk from the government who were responsible for the imprisonment, torture and general restriction of Tibetans. So far, they had no such encounters. They would attempt to deliver a letter to the Chinese Embassy in Washington, a task they usually failed to perform in previous walks because of security.

Here's the question most of us would probably ask: Was it worth it? Yes, according to Jigme Torbu, who happens to be the nephew of the Dalai Lama, and who has done the yearly walk for Tibet since 1995. He said the goal was to simply encourage the Tibetans in their struggle, for them to know that others were supporting them. They also encouraged themselves, and many others around the world who care about Tibet, to still believe that change is possible. That sort of patience and spiritual maturity is hard for your average American to grasp. It was an honor to witness and support.

*In Faith, Rev. Barbara*

## UU201

Watch for a chance to deepen your faith as a Unitarian Universalist this fall.

**On Sunday mornings** you can learn about spiritual practices from people who connect them to their own faith as UUs.



Janet Tillman will help introduce a variety of practices, such as yoga, meditation and walking, along with enthusiasts of each practice.

Then we will learn about Unitarian Universalists Who Made a Difference – drawing from history as well as contemporary UUs who show us how to live our faith out in the world.



**On Wednesday evenings in October**, Rev. Barbara and Susan Madison will co-teach a class on UU theology and where we each find ourselves within our tradition. Check it out!

## Help With the Job Search

**F**irst Unitarian has a new group focused on helping people with the challenge of looking for a job.

Led by Rev. Barbara Gadon and others, the Job Search Work Team will be a task-oriented group that keeps job-seekers company, as well as on track with sending resumes, making contacts, and staying positive in the job search. They will use the book, "The Unwritten Rules for the Highly Effective Job Search" by Orville Pierson, which will be provided for members.



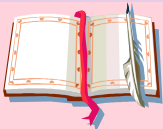
The group will meet weekly on Fridays, 11:30 a.m.— 1:00 p.m.

For further information, call Rev. Gadon at 478-2384.



## Susan's Membership Message

Joining a Unitarian Universalist community brings with it a certain amount of anxiety. *How much should I pledge? What group should I join? How do I go about helping? Where am I on my spiritual journey and what's next? What constitutes UU theology and how do I discern a personal theology?* These are just a few of the conscious (and sometimes unconscious) questions that new members wrestle with. What they often don't know is that many of us long-time members still wrestle with the same ones!



The hardest questions for newcomers to answer often have to do with theology—both collective and personal. For that reason, it's up to us to help them explore those questions. Rev. Barbara Gadon and I have talked often about how best to do this, not only for new members, but for long-time members as well.

This fall we will launch an adult religious education series to tackle these theological questions and we hope you will consider joining us. Using *A House for Hope* (authored by John Buehrens and Rebecca Parker) as a foundation, we will examine the classic topics of theology from a progressive vantage point. We will use the metaphor of the house to better understand what frames our theological grounding, and we will provide time for you to explore your own personal responses to the questions we pose.

Watch for information in the QUEST and on the bulletin boards for further details. We are excited to be bringing this course to life and hope you will help us make it an educational success.

**Susan Madison,**

## Adult RE Classes August 2010

### The Sunday Adult Forum schedule of topics for August are:

**August 1:** "Religion and Ethics" series continues the discussion of the "War on drugs" hosted by Jim Davis  
The UUA Green Sanctuary Program is encouraging congregations to view and discuss a documentary called *Renewal: Stories from America's Religious-Environmental Movement*. It is inspired by the many Americans who are answering a spiritual call to confront the enormous challenges of environmental degradation. With great courage, they are re-examining what it means to be human and how we choose to live on this planet. Come see how Christians, Jews, Buddhists and Muslims are finding ways to become caretakers of this Earth. Each story is 10-18 minutes long with discussion following:



**August 8:** *Ancient Roots*- The Teva Learning Center and Adamah bring environmental education to children and young adults together with Jewish tradition-discussion led by Donna González

**August 15:** *Food for Faith*- Muslim tradition and charity forge bonds between urban communities and sustainable farms- discussion led by Jim Davis

**August 22:** *Interfaith Power and Light*- Across America people of all faiths mount a religious response to global warming- discussion led by Chad Tolman

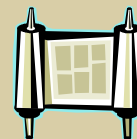
**August 29:** *Compassion in Action*- Green Sangha, a Buddhist community, leads a campaign to save trees- discussion led by Donna González

Forum classes are held in Brunner Chapel on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. The presentations and discussions are open to all.

## SUNDAY ADULT FORUM—*Lost Christianities: Christian Scriptures and the Battles over Authentication*

In the first centuries after the death of Jesus, early Christians read and fervently followed a wide variety of Scriptures—many more than we have today. Relying on these writings, they held beliefs that today would be considered bizarre. Some believed that there were two, twelve, or as many as thirty gods. Some Christians claimed that Jesus was not really a human being, while some believed Jesus was not divine at all. Many maintained that Christ's death and resurrection had nothing whatsoever to do with salvation.

*Lost Christianities* is a course that considers the varieties of belief and practice in the early days of Christianity--before the church had decided what was acceptable and determined which books should be included in its canon of Scripture. Part of the struggle over belief and practice in the early church was over what could be legitimately accepted as "Christian" and what should be condemned as "heresy." This course considers the struggle for *orthodoxy* (that is, right belief) and the attempt to label, spurn, and overthrow *heresy* (that is, false belief.) In particular it tries to understand Christians who were later deemed heretical on their own terms and to explore the writings that were available and could be appealed to in support of their views.



In the series, Professor Bart D. Ehrman of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (and author of more than 20 books including *Misquoting Jesus* and *God's Problem*) guides us on a journey into the confusion that often existed in the early church and how the church moved from there to the point of "orthodoxy." The course focuses on the remarkable fact that many of the struggles of early Christians were not against pagans or other nonbelievers but against other Christians.

The Sunday Adult Forum will reconvene on Ingathering Sunday, September 12; it will meet weekly from 9:30 to 10:15a.m. in Brunner Chapel. No registration is required.

## A Look at Our Coming of Age Program

**J**une 13th was a wonderful day for our family! Our son Domenic, and 11 other thirteen and fourteen year olds, participated in a service celebrating their completion of the Coming of Age program. Each young person read their personal credo. It was an impressive and powerful presentation.

Coming of Age was a turning point for us in the church. At first our son was hesitant about giving up Sunday evenings, writing down thoughts, spending a day of personal reflection in the woods – but he agreed to give it a try. As he participated in the classes, retreats, and fund raising, he began to look forward to the commitments. He also formed friendships with the other Coming of Agers and relationships with adults in our congregation. It was great seeing him engaged and enjoying the program.



A parent group was held simultaneously, and became a small group where my husband and I began to build friendships. We shared on parenting issues and, like the kids, formed real fellowship and support.

We hosted family meals to get to know each other's parents/Coming of Agers which were fun, ending the year with an intergenerational party at the Sheehy's home (1-year-old to grandparents attended). It was a wonderful afternoon. Bob and I felt a sense of community, and our son was right in the mix of kids with whom he shares an obvious bond.

We've attended First U for over four years, but this experience was the key to forming relationships, growing in fellowship on a more personal and challenging level, and watching a wonderful transformation in our son.

A highlight of this experience for us was the men and women's circles. All generations of church members joined the students in sharing and ceremony to discuss "big questions" of young adulthood. Bob and Domenic report that they really enjoyed the men's circle. Personally, I loved the women's circle. Having no daughters, it was an opportunity to share life experiences with the young women of First U – exploring each other's ideas, wisdom, and ongoing questions.

On June 13, the Coming of Agers spoke in front of the congregation and shared their many and varied beliefs – we have some strong candidates for future membership to both UU Christians AND the Godfrees! Our children's views were powerful and very diverse, each respectfully received and celebrated.

At our coffee hour reception we celebrated the Coming of Agers accomplishment and there was a true sense of pride – not just among the parents, the Coming of Agers who worked so hard, or their very dedicated adult advisors – but in people we'd never met before, coming up and saying "wow!"

After almost five years, I finally felt like a part of this community and signed the book a few weeks prior to this celebration. The Coming of Age program marked my child becoming a youth in the Unitarian Church and confirmed in me that this is a place where I need to commit myself.

Many thanks to Catherine for running this program, and to the adult volunteers who truly made an impact on our youth's lives. Look out, Unitarian Universalists, we have some remarkable young adults coming our way!

*Submitted by Maria Massington*

## Join together for this Autumn RE ~ Treat

Saturday, October 2 at 9:00 a.m. through Sunday, October 3 at 12:00 noon  
YMCA Camp Tockwogh — Worton, MD 21678



We will go on a retreat for all ages at Camp Tockwogh, on the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland. Join in outdoor activities, UU activities, worship, a bonfire and more! Camp is organized and sponsored by Rev. Barbara Gadon, Catherine Williamson and the Family Ministry Team.

**Plan to take one weekend off from the usual hustle for an enriching and spiritual experience.**

Join us for: WORSHIP — GROUP BONDING — UU FUN and GAMES — ARCHERY — CANOEING — NATURE HIKES  
Come play and worship with your UU friends. This is going to be a great time for all ages!

Cost: \$60.00 per person\* includes: meals, activities, lodging in the "rustic" cabins

(a short walk to a shared bathroom & shower house) \*There is an opportunity to "upgrade" your sleeping quarters and pay a little extra if you would like a closer or more private bathroom.

For more information about this event check out the Fall Retreat Information on the web site ([www.firstuuwilm.org](http://www.firstuuwilm.org)) or talk to one of the Family Ministry Team members at coffee hour on Sunday. Registration information will be available soon.  
The Family Ministry Team: Edris Harrell, Amy Gunderson, Becky Laster, Travis Laster, Carl Leshock, Georgianne Sheehy, Rev. Barbra Gadon, Catherine Williamson

*\*It is our intent that all children, youth and families have the opportunity to participate in all First Unitarian Activities regardless of ability to pay. If you and/or your family are unable to pay the fee please contact Catherine Williamson, DRE, or one of the First Unitarian Ministers regarding scholarships.*

## New Procedures for Requesting Childcare for your church event or activity

Radical Hospitality includes making events family-friendly, and that sometimes includes child care or babysitting arrangements for special events, committee meetings and other activities. If you are planning an event and want to offer childcare, we now have a process in place to help you do that. The complete procedure is posted on our web page, under the link "How we do things at First Unitarian Church" in the Members' Area, and hard copies are available in the church office. Highlights:

1. The committee chair or event coordinator is responsible for contacting the DRE, Catherine Williamson, that childcare is needed at least two weeks before the event.
2. The DRE provides a list of approved providers to the event coordinator.
3. The event coordinator contacts and schedules the childcare provider for the event.
4. The event coordinator oversees and assists childcare providers during the event.
5. The event coordinator approves and signs the childcare provider timesheet at the end of the event.
6. Event coordinators should ask parents to RSVP if childcare is needed so they can plan accordingly. The ratio of childcare providers is 1:4. Parents should sign children in and out on childcare attendance sheets.

Funding to pay for childcare providers may come from a line item in the budget, or from committee funds, or another source. If you are not sure, ask Marina, the church Business Manager or the Program Team staff person in charge of your team.

## An Invitation to all who like to sing!

On Saturday September 11, we will have a choir retreat.

Anyone who likes to sing is welcome.

We will have a light brunch, starting at 9:00 a.m.. followed by a brief worship service led by Rev. Gadon, then yoga led by Robert Gadon, basic vocal training led by Marcie Schiff, a hymn sing led by Scott, a sight reading session and quickie music reading lesson, led by Scott, and a brief rehearsal for Ingathering Sunday!

All from age 12 and up are welcome!

## Join the Summer Choir!



The second meeting of the Summer Choir will be Thursday, August 19, and sing for the service August 22. Even if you have never sung with the choir, you are welcome.

## Office Ministration

On your mark, get set, GO! The church year is gearing up and there are many activities and committees getting ready make this our best year ever. Please be sure to get your Quest articles and schedules for September in to Karen, our Program Administrator, by August 15, so your fall activities get the publicity they need to be successful. Remember that you can request an E-News blast for your event. In any given week, we can usually produce one short E-News blast in addition to the Friday E-News. Get your request in early though. Requests are scheduled well in advance and an E-Blast cannot be sent out after Wednesday morning in any given week. You may also request a special message for our LED sign – contact either Karen or myself for more information. Sign messages are limited to 5-7 words. Remember it is very important to get the word out about your activities and events!

Taking care of business,

**Marina VanRenssen**

Business Manager

## Volunteer Checklist for church events now online!

Remember to check out our volunteer checklist which is on our web page for information on what to do if you are hosting an event at the church. Hard copies are also available in the church office. Together we can keep our building clean and welcoming to members and friends. See our web site at [www.firstuuwilm.org](http://www.firstuuwilm.org).

## Join the Ingathering Team



Ingathering Sunday, September 12, is not far off. Join Scott's Ingathering Team – many hands makes the work easy.

Starting at 9:30, we quickly set up tables, chairs, the buffet area, getting ready for our annual grand celebration.

This year includes a bubble hop!

Please contact Scott ([iamscottw@aol.com](mailto:iamscottw@aol.com))

or call the church office: 302-478-2384

## Urgent! Your Help is Needed!

Urgent! We need drivers who can transport parishioners to doctor appointments, and in some cases, to church. We've had a flurry of requests lately and don't want to burden our active list of drivers, for whom we are so grateful. If you can help at all, please call Jackie Watson at 302-764-0275. Your help is needed!



## Board Planks

The annual leadership retreat for the Board and Executive Team is set for mid-August. This year is going to be a planning event for your Church Leadership, with programming for a Friday evening get-together and a Saturday day-long meeting.

We have purchased books for board members, to serve as a resource during this year's retreat, as we craft detailed plans for some of our top initiatives for the coming year – and beyond. The book is entitled, 'Serving with Grace: Lay Leadership as a Spiritual Calling.'

In addition, the Board is doubling its efforts to bring proposed changes and updates to the bylaws before the congregation later this year. We will also be preparing a Q&A document to accompany the proposed bylaws, which will highlight the changes and, perhaps most importantly, present our rationale for making the suggested revisions.



## Unitarian Universalist Service Committee: Gulf Coast Oil Spill Disaster

UUSC is strongly recommending that we Unitarian/Universalists put our values into action with regard to the BP oil spill disaster in the Gulf by doing the following:

- 1) call, write, or email BP ([bppress@bp.com](mailto:bppress@bp.com)) and express your concerns for the environment and the livelihood of people in the Gulf region;
- 2) communicate with your Senators and Representative that you want them to support Bill S. 3305, the Big Oil Bailout Prevention Liability Act of 2010;
- 3) make it personal—if you know people in the Gulf region, give them the moral support that they may need to deal with the psychological impact of this disaster;
- 4) suggest actions that we might take as a church to assist our fellow citizens around the Gulf.

Your voice matters. BP has already responded to emails and calls from UUSC members—go to [www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org) to read the response and see what action UUSC is taking. To learn more about UUSC, or to be involved, contact Doyle Dobbins: [D.Dobbins@verizon.net](mailto:D.Dobbins@verizon.net).



## Green Sanctuary

Thanks to a generous gift from Bob Wynn, the Green Sanctuary committee is moving forward with interviewing local energy auditing companies to do a comprehensive energy audit of the church buildings. This is part of the application process for certification with the UUA as a Green Sanctuary church.

Installation of energy efficient retrofits and equipment may be funded by grants and loans through the Delaware Energize Delaware- Energy Efficiency Plus program and/or by loans from other sources. The loan(s) will be repaid through the energy savings so the church budget should see no increase.

## July & August Social Action Offering

Our Special Collection for July and August is for Murray Grove Association. Murray Grove, located in Lanoka Harbor, New Jersey (just south of Toms River) is of historical significance to our movement. There, John Murray presented in 1770 what is widely accepted as the first known Universalist sermon in the United States. Thomas Potter, the land owner, built a church on his property in Good Luck (now Lanoka Harbor) New Jersey, in hopes that someone would arrive to offer a sermon that embraced the concept of universal salvation.

For more information, go to their web site: [www.murraygrove.org](http://www.murraygrove.org).

**Please be as generous  
as you can!**

## Children and Youth Religious Exploration Registration 2010/2011

### Children and Youth Religious Exploration Registration Form 2010/2011

Another great year is beginning at First Unitarian Church! You and your child(ren) don't want to miss a single day! Please click on the link to register your child(ren) for Children and Youth Religious Exploration. Registering in a timely manner helps us plan so we can provide a better program for you and your child(ren)!

[Electronic Registration link](#)

If you prefer to use paper registration forms please [click here for a printable version](#). Paper registration forms can also be obtained at the CYRE Table on Sunday mornings or by contacting Catherine Williamson, Director of Religious Exploration at [catherine@firstuuwilm.org](mailto:catherine@firstuuwilm.org) or (302) 478-2384.

## Alliance: Looking Ahead

**It's time to mark your calendars** for our annual Fall Festival on Saturday, November 6, 2010.

Start saving your donations! We'll need books, white elephant items, children's clothes and toys, plants, etc. We need lots of helpers, too. The kitchen, dining room and the shops all need willing hands. So think about how you would like to take part in this great social and fundraising event.

Everyone says the enjoyment and sociability far exceed the time and energy given. More details will be published soon.



## Social Justice at First Unitarian

First U's Social Action Team includes all who work "under the umbrella of social action." Next Quest deadline is August 10. Contact: [lynningersoll@gmail.com](mailto:lynningersoll@gmail.com)

### **Coalition for Climate Change Study and Action (C<sup>3</sup>SA):**

This summer has seen the worst oil spill in U.S. history in the Gulf of Mexico and record-breaking high temperatures over much of the East. We have already consumed the easily available fossil fuels and are now going after the stuff that is more expensive and difficult to recover and whose drilling and mining causes greater environmental damage. We're drilling in water a mile deep for oil, fracturing shale in Pennsylvania for natural gas with water containing toxic chemicals, and blasting the tops off mountains in Appalachia for coal – pushing the "overburden" into the nearest streams. To top it off – by burning all this stuff – we're causing climate change that seriously threatens the future of many forms of life on the planet as well as the lives and welfare of our own grandchildren.

The good news is that Senator Kaufman contacted some of us in the environmental community requesting a meeting on July 26 to discuss what should be included in federal energy/climate change legislation, which we see as very important to get through Congress before most of the legislators' time is consumed with trying to get reelected. If you have not already done so, please contact your U.S. Senators to let them know that you want them to support strong energy/climate legislation this year. It should end federal subsidies for fossil fuels, promote energy conservation, improve energy efficiency, and facilitate the transition from fossil fuels to sustainable and renewable energy sources like offshore wind and solar power. Find your senators' contact information here: <http://libertyandpride.com/government-contacts/senators/?type=senate&pg=1>



If you are interested in seeing how other Americans feel about climate change and the need for action, read Climate Change in the American Mind: Public Support of Climate and Energy Policies in June 2010 at: <http://environment.yale.edu/climate/files/ClimateBeliefsJune2010.pdf>. You may want to mention the study when you make the call or write the note.

Thanks for your help. Chad Tolman [chadtolman@verizon.net](mailto:chadtolman@verizon.net) and Donna González [DLG579@verizon.net](mailto:DLG579@verizon.net)

**Emmanuel Dining Room** — Feeding the Hungry at EDR: (Cooked monthly on the 19th in the church kitchen; and served on the 20th at EDR at 2nd and Jackson Streets in Wilmington.)



We've been sweating it out in the kitchen this summer! Many thanks to our dedicated team members for turning out in the summer heat to help prepare and serve our meals on the 19th and 20th.

Our August dates fall on a Thursday and Friday. If you've got some spare time let me know – we'd love to have your participation! (Contact Cindy Cohen at [cindyscohen@comcast.net](mailto:cindyscohen@comcast.net) to sign up.)

As we plan for the new church year I've been playing with the idea of adding dessert into our monthly menu. Seems like it might be a way for the youth to get involved ... will keep you posted.

Dining to Benefit EDR: (International Night dinners benefit EDR and are held monthly at 5:30 pm at the Francis X. Norton Center in Wilmington.)

We were able to get an additional table in July, no small coup for the most popular dinner of the year, and sixteen lucky diners attended the Tuscan Table, hosted by Dan Butler and the staff of Toscana to Go.

Some changes for August and September: The August dinner has been moved from Sunday, August 22nd to the 29th, and will be hosted by the Francis X. Norton staff. The September dinner on September 26th will now be Indian Night, hosted by the BTL Foundation for International Services. Contact David Weiss at [kdweiss1@verizon.net](mailto:kdweiss1@verizon.net) to reserve a seat.

### **ILYA (Independent Living for Young Adults)**

ILYA young adults participated in services at First U and UUCD (Unitarian Universalists of Central Delaware): Tenor Dane Cox, who was supported by ILYA during his years at the University of the Arts and since his graduation, sang for services at both churches. At UUCD, he joined another young adult Dion Inge to produce a very moving service with Family Judge Barbara Crowell. Dion, a student at Delaware State University, has been bolstered with "college care packages" from Judge Barbara and June Peterson. They also secured a grant to provide Dion with a laptop computer. If you would like to find out how to help young adults aged-out of foster care contact Betty Wier ([bwier@udel.edu](mailto:bwier@udel.edu))

### **Meals on Wheels – New at First U!**

This new program has already attracted a number of First U volunteers, but – as you can see – more are always needed. Can you make space for this rewarding effort in your weekly schedule?

To help, or to learn more, contact Bob Ulrich: [robertullrich@comcast.net](mailto:robertullrich@comcast.net)



## Church Staff

Reverend Dr. Joshua Snyder	Senior Minister <a href="mailto:Josh@firstuuwilm.org">Josh@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Reverend Barbara Gadon	Minister of Adult Programs and Pastoral Care <a href="mailto:Barbara@firstuuwilm.org">Barbara@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Scott Ward	Honorary Minister of Music <a href="mailto:iamscottw@aol.com">iamscottw@aol.com</a>
Catherine Williamson	Director of Religious Exploration <a href="mailto:Catherine@firstuuwilm.org">Catherine@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Marina VanRenssen	Business Manager <a href="mailto:Marina@firstuuwilm.org">Marina@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Fran Grubb	Administrative Assistant <a href="mailto:Fran@firstuuwilm.org">Fran@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Karen Rockhold	Program Administrator <a href="mailto:Karen@firstuuwilm.org">Karen@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Terry Walls	Building Supervisor <a href="mailto:Terry@firstuuwilm.org">Terry@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Susan Madison	Membership Coordinator <a href="mailto:Susan@firstuuwilm.org">Susan@firstuuwilm.org</a>
Reverend Dr. Robert Doss	Minister Emeritus

## Board of Trustees

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<a href="#"><u>Marilyn Hyte</u></a>	Trustee
<a href="#"><u>Jeff Lott</u></a>	Trustee
<a href="#"><u>Suzanne Perry</u></a>	Trustee
<a href="#"><u>Margaret Sheridan</u></a>	Trustee
<a href="#"><u>Michael Toll</u></a>	Trustee

## Non-Board Officer

Steve Cohen    Treasurer

### Executive Team Portfolios

- Rev. Snyder**—Membership, Leadership Development, Social Justice, Growth, Long Range Planning, Buildings and Grounds  
**Rev. Gadon**— Pastoral Care, Adult RE, CYRE, Family Ministry  
**Marina VanRenssen**—Finance, Personnel, Green Sanctuary, Communications

This *QUEST* covers August 1 to 31, 2010. The **next** *QUEST* newsletter will cover events from September 1 to 30, 2010.  
*QUEST* is a monthly newsletter publication of the First Unitarian Church of Wilmington, Delaware.

**Submission deadline for *QUEST* is by noon on the 15th of each month for events the following month.**  
Any announcement suggestions for the **Order of Service** and the **Broadcast E-news** must be in by Tuesdays at noon and may also be sent to [\*\*Karen@firstuuwilm.org\*\*](mailto:Karen@firstuuwilm.org) and will be placed according to available space. If possible, please make submissions via E-mail. Otherwise, neatly prepared copy can be submitted to Karen Rockhold's mail box in the church office.



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# August 2010

### Our Purpose:

First Unitarian Church is a caring, diverse faith community, rooted in UU principles, inspiring and celebrating lives of inclusion, justices, and love.