

First Unitarian E-News – Worship and Events

Friday, October 2, 2009

Check out our website at www.firstuuwilm.org

Included in this issue are:

1. **FIRST FRIDAY'S AT FIRST U!**
2. **JPD "COALITION BASED COMMUNITY ORGANIZING" WORKSHOP**
3. **SUNDAY – COME EARLY FOR THE HYMN SING!**
4. **SUNDAY: ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION**
5. **THIS SUNDAY – OCTOBER 4: "ON THE WAY TO MINDFULNESS" – THE REV. DR. JOSH SNYDER**
6. **SUNDAY ~ CYRE**
7. **BOOK CORNER TO OPEN ON OCTOBER 4TH**
8. **"JOURNEY TOWARD MEMBERSHIP" CLASS THIS SUNDAY**
9. **LOST/FOUND**
10. **Special Offering: EDUCATE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL**
11. **WOMEN'S ALLIANCE MEETING**
12. **REMINDER**
13. **CARING AND SHARING**
14. **OPEN CIRCLES**
15. **LAST CHANCE: FALL RETREAT- SPIRITUAL PRACTICES SAMPLER**
16. **CLASSROOM CONNECTION PARTIES**
17. **NEXT SUNDAY -- October 11: "It's Not About You" — Rev. Barbara H. Gadon.**
18. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR – A CONCERT!**
19. **FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH AND OUR DENOMINATION**
20. **THE JPD "POLICY GOVERNANCE FOR CHURCHES" WORKSHOP**
21. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER**
22. **FALL FESTIVAL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!**
23. **ILYA**
24. **THIS SUNDAY'S VOLUNTEERS**
25. **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday morning services begin at 10:30

Children's Religious Education starts at 10:45

Childcare is available in the Youth Center from 9:30 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. before the service
and 11:50 am - 12:30 pm after the service.

Visiting families are welcome!

1. FIRST FRIDAYS AT FIRST U!

It's here! **October 2 at 7:00 p.m.**, we start worship in a new way at First U. First Fridays at First U are alternative evening services that are lively and feed the soul through the arts. We will feature poets, artists, musicians and other performers in Wilmington and the surrounding area. This month we will explore "The Zen of Seeing", featuring the eclectic musical sounds of our own Jack Walker and the stunning photos of Lindsey Kling. Rev. Barbara will share a message.

2. JPD "COALITION BASED COMMUNITY ORGANIZING" WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 3, 2009, 10:00 am to 4:00 p.m. here at First Unitarian Church of Wilmington.

3. SUNDAY – COME EARLY FOR THE HYMN SING!

This Sunday - come to church early so you can join Scott and the Choir for a hymn-sing! Every first Sunday of the month will feature a hymn sing before the service. Sing old favorites; learn new tunes, all in fun!

4. SUNDAY: ADULT RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Join our Sunday morning lecture series “Religions of the Axial Age; An Approach to the World’s Religions.” Our lecture series and discussion on the Axial Age (800-200 B.C.E.) and the faiths it spawned continues:

Oct 4: No Class

Oct 11: The Noble Path

Oct 18: From Buddha to Buddhism

Oct 25: Jainism

Join us at 9:30a.m. in Brunner Chapel as we discuss this creative and influential era and how its developments continue to impact our spiritual lives.

5. THIS SUNDAY – OCTOBER 4: “ON THE WAY TO MINDFULNESS” – THE REV. DR. JOSH SNYDER

Our theme for this month is “Prayer and Spiritual Practice.” Although sitting meditation is the most well-known form of mindfulness meditation, there are many, many other ways to “wake up.” How do we move from practice to the performance in our day to day life?

6. SUNDAY ~ CYRE

All ages are invited to begin in the sanctuary. After the Time for All Ages, the children will be sung out to their classes. Please pick up children in the Nursery through Fifth Grades by 11:50 am at their classroom. All children in the classrooms at 11:50 am will be escorted to the Youth Center for Childcare. Childcare ends at 12:30 pm. All children must be picked up by 12:30 pm.

7. BOOK CORNER TO OPEN ON OCTOBER 4TH

The First U Book Corner will reopen on Sunday October 4 - New Books! New Books! Greeting Cards, too!!

8. “JOURNEY TOWARD MEMBERSHIP” CLASS THIS SUNDAY

If you are a newcomer to our church or a new member in the congregation, we encourage you to attend the first in a series of classes designed to acquaint you with our faith, our traditions, and our expectations of membership. This Sunday, Oct 4th, Membership Coordinator Susan Madison will facilitate a class is entitled “Exactly Who Are We? The Concept of Free Religion and Personal Theology.” **The class will meet after worship at 11:45 a.m. in Brunner Chapel** and will provide an opportunity for you to ask questions and interact with other newcomers.

9. LOST/FOUND

LOST: My black London Fog jacket, from coat rack near church office, on Sunday, Sept 20; has inside zipper tracks for liner. My name, address, phone number on card in inside pocket. Please return it (to the coat rack, if you wish.) Thanks, Bob Johnson, 302-235-2356, johnsrc9@comcast.net

FOUND: Black windbreaker jacket that I mistakenly took home on Sunday, Sept 20, from coat rack near church office. Jacket is a “Towncraft (Penney’s)” in excellent condition. It is now hanging on the same coat rack near the office. The owner is now free to retrieve it. Kind regards, Bob Johnson, 302-235-2356. johnsrc9@comcast.net

10. Special Offering: EDUCATE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL

The total for the 9/27/09 special collection for **Educate the Children-International** was **\$704.00**.

11. WOMEN'S ALLIANCE MEETING

Come one, come all! Join the Women's Alliance members and friends for our first meeting of the season on **Monday, October 5**, at noon in the Parish Hall. We'll bring our own lunches and the hostess of the month will serve dessert and beverages. After lunch we will discuss church activities, Fall Festival, and plans for this year. We welcome newcomers anytime. Come give us a try. **See you all on Oct. 5!**

12. REMINDER:

The Church Office will be closed from Noon to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 6th.

13. CARING AND SHARING

The following is an excerpt from the Delaware Audubon website:

“Dr. Chad Tolman will receive the Delaware Audubon Conservation Award. Tolman, now retired from a career as a physical chemist at DuPont, has been following issues of global warming and climate change for almost 20 years.

Tolman began writing a monthly electronic newsletter, *Climate Change News*, in 2004. He also started Citizens Alarmed About Global Warming, and launched the Coalition for Climate Change Study and Action in Delaware. He helped craft the Unitarian Universalist Association's 2006 "Statement of Conscience: Threat of Global Warming/Climate Change."

Tolman is the Chair of the Energy Committee of the Delaware Chapter of the Sierra Club, a member of the Advocacy Committee of the Delaware Nature Society, a member of the Energy Subcommittee of the Delaware League of Women Voters, and a member of the League of Women Voters US Climate Change Task Force, where he is currently helping to develop a Citizen's Toolkit for Energy/Climate Action.

Delaware Audubon is pleased to honor Chad Tolman for his ongoing commitment to action on behalf of humanity and his continuing dedication to the conservation and preservation of our natural world.

CONGRATULATIONS, CHAD!

14. OPEN CIRCLES

To connect with one another and experience radical hospitality, we are creating Open Circles this year. An Open Circle is a small group that meets twice a month in members' homes and discusses the important spiritual questions we are all seeking to understand: What is trust? How do we have hope? What happens when we die? What about God?

Revs. Josh and Barbara rolled out this program on Sunday, September 27. The next two weeks, October 4 and 11, there will be opportunities before and after worship for you to try a small group to see if you like it - and on October 18, we will have a special lunch for groups to have their first meeting!

We are still looking for a few good facilitators for our groups. We will offer training, and you don't necessarily have to have facilitated a group prior to this. To apply, contact either Reverend Josh or Reverend Barbara - **soon!**

15. LAST CHANCE: FALL RETREAT - SPIRITUAL PRACTICES SAMPLER

October 9 - 10, Rev. Barbara Gadon will lead us on a retreat at Temenos Retreat Center in West Chester, PA, **7:00 p.m. Friday, October 9, until 4:00 p.m. Saturday, October 10**. Four expert teachers will introduce prayer, yoga, mindfulness meditation and spiritual journal-writing in one weekend. Cost is \$145 for both days and \$80 for Saturday only. We will have worship and meals together in fellowship in this lovely retreat setting. Full payment is due in the church office by October 4. You can register online or call the church office to register: 302-478-2384.

16. CLASSROOM CONNECTION PARTIES

Calling all parents and all children! Want a fun way to get know other families in our church? The Family Ministry Team will be throwing grade level parties at church members' homes. This will provide an opportunity for the parents to get to know one another and for the children to play together. All children of a family are invited, whether or not they are in the same grade level. Senior youths will help supervise the children at the nursery & elementary level parties. The following grade level parties have already been scheduled. Please RSVP to the respective hosts.

- ◆ Junior Youth Group—Saturday, Oct 10th, 7 – 9 p.m. At George & Lani Zlupko's Home, 9 Weldin Park Drive Wilmington, DE; 762-1936; laniz@comcast.net
- ◆ Grades 2-5—Saturday, Oct 17th, 7-9 p.m. At David & Edris Harrell's Home, 520 Rothbury Road, Wilmington, DE; 764-5309; edrisfgh@verizon.net
- ◆ Other grade levels will be scheduled soon, so please stay tuned!

17. NEXT SUNDAY – October 11: "It's Not About You" — Rev. Barbara H. Gadon. Mary Pipher once said advertising bombards us with the message thousands of times a day that we - especially our needs and wants - are the most important thing in the universe. Buddhism and Christianity say this notion brings suffering. And yet, don't we need to find happiness and fulfillment? If it's not about us, what is it about?

18. MARK YOUR CALENDAR – A CONCERT!

October 18 -7 PM a concert by Scott Ward. *When in Doubt...Tango!* An original show with stories and songs written by Scott, sharing part of his life story. Martin Hargrove and Marina VanRenssen will join Scott. Tickets at the door, \$10.

19. FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH AND OUR DENOMINATION

What should we expect from the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Joseph Priestly District (JPD)?

What should UUA and JPD expect from First Unitarian Church? Send your thoughts in an email to Paul Pinson (paul@thepinsons.org) or call me (302-652-4299). I'll summarize and share the results. Thanks!

20. THE JPD "POLICY GOVERNANCE FOR CHURCHES" WORKSHOP

The JPD "Policy Governance for Churches" Workshop will be held here, at First Unitarian Church of Wilmington, **Saturday, October 10, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** The cost is \$25.00 per person. (Full Fair Share Congregations received a discount of \$5.00 per registrant.) Includes lunch and all materials.

21. PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Please volunteer some of your time to help make Fall Festival a success! Working at our annual fundraiser is a great way to meet new people and help the church all at the same time. Fall Festival is slated for Saturday, October 24th. Money earned this year will help fund the Children's Religious Exploration program. Below are links to worksheets showing the many ways in which you can help the

Children's Resale Boutique portion of Fall Festival--from setting up during the week of the 19th, to working the day of the Festival. To sign-up, write your name in the blocks where you can volunteer, click on File, then press Save.

[Fall Festival Set Up](#)
[Day of Fall Festival](#)

22. FALL FESTIVAL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Saturday, October 24 will be here before you know it. Fall Festival is one of our largest fundraisers. How can you participate? Start sorting through those books, CD's, movies, household goods, jewelry and kids clothes/gear and get ready to donate! Many hands are also needed to help with set up the night before, staffing the various stations during the Festival, and break down in the afternoon. We'll also need yummy baked goods and other homemade goodies. New this year: carnival type activities: face painting, scare crow making, arts 'n crafts, cookie decorating, donut bobbing and more! Lots of fun for the whole family! Contact Mary Collat at marylewc@verizon.net or 302-994-0237.

23 ILYA (INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR YOUNG ADULTS)

College "Care Package" Contact People Needed: Young Adults who have "aged out" of the foster care system are beginning college or postsecondary training. Imagine going off to school without someone to send you "care packages," encouragement or, even, birthday wishes. How about becoming a contact for a college student this year? Each contact is paired with a student to whom they send about five packages over the year. Contact Betty Wier (bwier@udel.edu) or stop by the ILYA table after church services.

24 THIS SUNDAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

OFFICE: Kathi Weiss
GREETERS: Renee and Charlie Anderson, Chris Rizzo
USHERS: Bill and Joan Flack, Robert Gadon, Jerry Okeson
WELCOME TABLE: Jan Blanchfield
BOOSTER CARDS: Jan King
BOOK CORNER: Bev Bach
COFFEE HOUR: The Book Corner sponsors the Hospitality Table this week.
FIRST U LIBRARY: Open Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. to noon, in the RE wing.

25. THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Just as a candle cannot burn without fire, men cannot live without a spiritual life." – *Buddha*