

First Unitarian E-News – Worship and Events

Friday, November 6, 2009

Check out our website at www.firstuuwilm.org

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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 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. after the service.

Visiting families are welcome!

1. TONIGHT! FIRST FRIDAY AT FIRST U PRESENTS: THE OWLTALKER TRIO

Friday, November 6, at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Gadon will lead our next “alterna-service” in Brunner Chapel. We feature local artists and poets, exploring spiritual themes. This month, we will feature “Owltalker Trio”, with the amazing Scott Davidson (whom we heard in worship October 18) with more percussion and a Native American flutist. Rev. Gadon will preach on “Letting Go.”

2. SATURDAY WORKSHOP: “GROWING FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH ONE CONNECTION AT A TIME”

How do churches grow? What would it mean for First Unitarian Church to grow? These are important questions that members and leaders alike are asking themselves. In this morning workshop, Rev. Josh Snyder will explore what growth looks like and how to manage it. He will be drawing upon literature from the UUA and the Alban Institute, the church’s unique situation, and his own experience in leading growing congregations. This workshop is free to everybody. Come join us in the Parish Hall on **Saturday November 7, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.**

3. 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:

November 8: “East Asia Before the Axial Age”

Join us at 9:30 a.m. in Brunner Chapel as we discuss this creative and influential era and how its developments continue to impact our spiritual lives. (Next week, Nov 15: The World of Confucius.)

4. THIS SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 8: “WHAT TO DO ABOUT LAZARUS”

The Rev. Barbara Gadon: The gospel story of Lazarus has great characters, an intriguing plot, and runs the gamut of emotion - hope, despair, sorrow, rage and wonder. It also has a powerful message about death and rebirth for Unitarian Universalists.

5. 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 a.m. at their classroom. All children in the classrooms at 11:50 a.m. will be escorted to the Youth Center for Childcare. Childcare ends at 12:30 p.m. All children must be picked up by 12:30 p.m.

6. COUNTERPOINT MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

This is the fourth and last Sunday of the Counterpoint Membership Drive. Your participation will enrich our congregation's life this year. Please visit the Counterpoint table during coffee hour to learn more.

7. MINDFULNESS MEDITATION CLASS

Taught by James Walsh Ph.D., this is a four-session class introducing meditation. One class remains and all are welcome to join in on Sunday, **November 8, at 9:00 a.m.** Jim is a Pastoral Counselor in private practice in Newark, DE and is an Assistant Professor at Wilmington University. He has had extensive training at the University of Massachusetts Medical School's Center for Mindfulness in Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction, a method taught by Jon Kabat-Zinn. He guides an interfaith group in regular meditation practice in Wilmington. Sign up at the Adult Religious Education Table in the Parish Hall or the church office.

8. ANNUAL PHYLLIS WYNN MEMORIAL CONCERT

November 8, 7:30 p.m. we will again host The Annual Phyllis Wynn Memorial Concert featuring The Wister Quartet, this year with special guest Cellist Yumi Kendall. Music by Schubert and Boccherini. Tickets available at the door, \$10

9. CARING AND SHARING

Marina VanRenssen, our business manager, would like to thank everyone for their heartfelt condolences after the loss of her mother. She feels very loved by this community – thanks so much.

We welcome several new members recently. We hope you will seek them out and give them a warm welcome. They include: Donna Gonzalez, Vivian Gray, Glenn Redden, Dolly Scarborough, Janet Tillman, and Richard Speck. Welcome!

10. WINE AND CHEESE RECEPTION WITH THE BOARD – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 6:30-8:30 P.M. IN PARISH HALL.

Come join in the fun and bring the family. We'll share findings from the Long Range Planning Committee and gather your feedback in creative and fun ways. If you need childcare please RSVP to boardeventsrsvp@firstuuwilm.org or call the church office (302-478-2384) to let us know how many children to expect.

11. SOCIAL DEVIANCE FILM SERIES

Saturday, November 14 at 7 pm, see the David Lynch's classic "The Elephant Man" as part of First U's film series on "social deviance." Co-led by Rev. Barbara Gadon and Dr. Alan Horowitz, professor of sociology at the University of Delaware. We will discuss cultural questions like, How are people with physical deformities and disabilities looked at? How have we come forward – or not – since the late 19th century, or even 1980, when this film was made?

12. NEXT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 15: "IT COULD NEVER HAPPEN HERE" THE REV. DR. JOSHUA SNYDER

There are many different ways to think of social action or social justice. What compels Unitarian Universalism to put social action at the heart of our faith? Social action is not only something done "out there to them." We do it for us too, for the inner transformation such activities cultivate. The recipients of that action can be closer than you realize.

13. NEWCOMER CLASSES IN NOVEMBER

If you are new among us and would like to learn more about our free faith, our next series of newcomer classes begins on Sunday morning, **Nov 15th, at 11:45 a.m.** with a class entitled *Exactly Who Are We? The Concept of Free Religion and Personal Theology*. This class, facilitated by Membership Coordinator Susan Madison, will specifically address the concepts of religious authority, institutional freedom, and covenantal living.

The remaining three class sessions will be combined into one and held on **Saturday, Nov 21st, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30p.m.** At that workshop our ministers will discuss our history as a denomination, the concept of shared ministry, and the meaning of membership. In addition, Rev. Gadon will conduct a tour of the church highlighting some of its history.

At the end of the morning, an opportunity will be provided for you to sign the Membership Book and officially join the church!

Registration for the series may be made at the Welcome Table on Sunday mornings or by emailing Susan directly at susan@firstuuwilm.org. We hope you will join us to meet other newcomers and ask questions about our “uncommon denomination.”

14. JOIN US FOR A POT LUCK DINNER, MOVIE AND SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION!

We'll enjoy a meal together and then watch a family friendly movie. After the movie, we will break into small groups and have a brief UU discussion about the movie. Join us, November 20, 2009. Dinner: 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m., Movie: 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (*Movie title to be announced by Friday, November 13.*) Discussion: 8:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Click the link below to R.S.V.P. or call the church office at (302)478-2384. [R.S.V.P. Movie Night link.](#)

15. HOLIDAY SHOPPING MADE EASIER WITH BOOSTER CARDS!

Did you know the church earns money on the booster cards we sell at coffee hour? You can use them to purchase gifts and groceries for the holidays and support the church at the same time! If you are considering shopping with booster cards this year, we carry a variety of stores in addition to grocery stores, including Starbucks, Williams Sonoma, CVS, Walgreens and others. We can also do special orders. Just fill out the special order form at coffee hour and include payment. The church office will process the order. Many different stores are available. **Get your special orders in by no later than November 17th, for pick up in December.**

16. A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT, NANCY PINSON:

My daily spiritual practice involves a nice long walk with time to contemplate. I hope you will take the time to read my new blog from time to time - I expect to update it about once a week, usually on Sundays. Here's the link: <http://walkingspiritualpractice.blogspot.com/>. In Faith, Nancy

17. THIS SUNDAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

OFFICE: Rita McWhorter
GREETERS: Dee Burdash, Barbara Lenahan, Suzanne Perry
USHERS: Peggy Cairncross, Eleanore Morrow, Jenn Phillips, Jackie Watson
WELCOME TABLE: Barbara Marrs
BOOSTER CARDS: Suzanne Proud
BOOK CORNER: Debbe Krape
COFFEE HOUR: The Denominational Growth Committee hosts coffee hour today.
FIRST U LIBRARY: Open Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m. to noon, in the RE wing.

18. THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

“It ain't over 'til it's over.” – *Yogi Berra*