

This Week at First Unitarian Church

February 7, 2010



Welcome Visitors! After the service today, please stop by the Welcome Table in the Parish Hall to introduce yourself and find information about First Unitarian Church and its programs and activities.

Sunday: Adult Religious Exploration

Sunday, Feb. 7, 9:30 to 10:15 in Brunner Chapel a discussion of "Wall Street and Values." A short video from Religion & Ethics Newsweekly will introduce the subject. Hosted by Jim Davis.

Next week:

**Exploring the Roots of Religion:
"Myths of the Shaman"**

10:30 a.m. Service of Worship
February 7:

"Recapturing Sabbath Time"

Susan Madison: As a young child I learned that Sabbath, the seventh day of the week, was set aside for rest and religious observance. For me that meant my best dress, Sunday school, and visits with extended family. As an adult with a full productive life and an often frantic Sunday schedule at church, it has come to take on a quite different meaning. On this Sunday, I will talk about why we need to re-think our commitment to the celebration of Sabbath and share with you what I am doing to make Sabbath a part of my every day.

NEXT SUNDAY!

February 14:

"Renew Within: Spiritual Transformation"

This is the first in a three part sermon series Rev. Josh will do in February using the church's new long range vision of "Renew at First U" as a starting point. This first part will explore what we mean by the ubiquitous word "spiritual." Is it always good? How do we become spiritually mature people? Come and be renewed.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Sabbath dissolves the artificial urgency of our days because *it liberates us from the need to be finished.*"
- Wayne Muller

CYRE Art Show! Starting Sunday, February 14th there will be an art show in the hallway next to the Brunner Chapel featuring art work created by our children and youth.

So take down that work of art from the refrigerator, and submit it to Scott Ward or Catherine Williamson to be part of the show. The item(s) must be able to be hung on the wall; we will have very little space for sculptures. The piece should be titled and signed, framed if possible. Please submit artwork by February 13th. This art show is open to anyone from birth to 18. There will be a reception in the hallway Sunday, February 14, after church. The show will hang for three months. Please share your artistic talents!

Newcomer Class Whether you are a visitor or someone contemplating membership in our church, we invite you to attend our Pathway to Membership class series which begins today at 11:45 a.m. in Brunner Chapel. Today's class, facilitated by Membership Coordinator Susan Madison, is entitled "Exactly Who Are We?" In this first class, we will discuss the importance of the free-church and personal theology; in addition, we will address the concepts of religious authority, institutional freedom, and covenantal living.

The remaining two classes, conducted by Rev. Dr. Josh Snyder and Rev. Barbara Gadon, will be held on February 14th and 21st. The class series will provide an opportunity for you to meet other newcomers and to ask questions about our free faith. Even if you have not had an opportunity to register, please help yourself to a cup of coffee and join us this morning at 11:45 a.m. in Brunner Chapel.

The Group of the Week

The Adult Religious Education Committee features a UU special interest group each week at the ARE table during coffee hour. This week's featured group is the Journey Group. The Journey Group has several openings for new members. It is a small discussion group centered on spiritual and contemporary topics which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings of each month. Please stop by the ARE table after service where Jim Davis will be able to tell you more and answer your questions.

2010/11 Pledge Campaign Gets Under Way

As a church community, we strive together to do our part to promote Unitarian Universalist values at home and in the world, and to provide a compassionate and nurturing environment in which to explore diverse spiritual interests and views. As members, we each strive to do our part for our church through active participation and support.

This year the theme of our pledge campaign is "Doing Our Part." We'll celebrate with a special weekend of activities including a talent show on Friday, March 12 and a Commitment Sunday service on March 14. We'll have many more details for you soon. Keep checking the Sunday orders of service, the church Web page, as well as your mail and email.

Pacem in Terris Events

- ❖ February 18, Thursday, at 7 p.m., Grace Hall, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1506 West 13th St., Wilmington. Peter Lems, American Friends Service Committee National Program Director for Education on Iraq & Afghanistan, will speak about the connections between the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- ❖ March 21, Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1506 West 13th St., Wilmington. Afghani musician E. Shawn Quassaunee, and soloist Sharon Sable will give a concert featuring world music to benefit Pacem in Terris. Shawn will play some Afghan music as well as more familiar songs. His family will highlight some of their historical and cultural background.

Volunteer!

Want a better way to get the inside scoop on church operations? Volunteer in the office during the week.

We need dedicated individuals who can commit to a regular weekly schedule, for answering the phone and light office support. Open slots include Tuesday mornings. You can also work a morning or afternoon shift on Mondays or Wednesdays. The office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and we can work with your schedule to find a good fit. (9:00 a.m. to noon? Noon to 4:00 p.m.? A mid-day schedule of 10-2?) Please contact Marina in the church office for more information.

Share Your Talent!

On Saturday evening, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. all you sing-in-the-shower, would be stand up comics, or poets, or what ever will have a place to shine.

We are bringing back a tradition from past years. The "Doing Our Part Talent Show" will be a fun evening of entertainment and camaraderie.

Contact Scott Ward (iamscottw@aol.com) if you would like to participate. Scott is available to accompany you, and coach you. It will be fun!

Everyone will bring a dessert or fruit to share, coffee, tea and juices will be provided.

Don't be shy! Rumor has it that maybe our Senior Minister will perform!

The choir will be singing something silly, and maybe we can convince the Weddell's to dance for us (they have been taking lessons).

CORRECTION!

The incorrect date for the next Green Sanctuary meeting was published in the February newsletter, *QUEST*. The Correct Date for the meeting is Tuesday, February 9th at 7:00 pm.

Please join us!! For information, contact Maggie Duffy: mdu@verizon.net