

This Week at First Unitarian Church

July 05, 2009



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.

THIS SUNDAY - July 5: Rev. Libby Smith — “Keeping Our Balance.”

The “Slow Movement” advocates a more balanced approach than most of us manage to capture in our frantic lives. In these tense times, how might we adjust the pace of our lives — even if only a little — to bring greater balance and calm

We thank Linda Henderson and Harvey Price for joining us this week. Linda will be back Sunday, September 6 for our all Bach Medium Music Sunday, including a piece for two pianos. Harvey will be back September 13, Ingathering Sunday, with the University of Delaware Faculty Jazz.

SOCIAL JUSTICE OFFERING THANKS!

The total for the 6/28/09 special collection for **Limen House** was \$716. Thanks!

STAFF HOLIDAY!

The Office is closed July 6th for the Independence Day Staff Holiday

NEXT SUNDAY - July 12: The Rev. Barbara Gadon- “The Joy of Doubt”

We all know we need faith. How else do we proceed with confidence - with anything? Doubt is often depicted as the enemy of faith, and some kinds of doubt can certainly get us stuck. Our faith, however, celebrates doubt as a necessary part of the spiritual life. Come explore the joy of doubt.

Flowers from Your Garden

Each summer Sunday we enjoy the beautiful variety of flowers that grow in our members' yards. Please contact Florence DeRosa at 302-421-8385 to pick your Sunday to provide the flowers for the worship service. Nothing fancy needed, just the beauty that is nature. Share your garden with us! Call soon so we can be sure to fill our calendar through July and August.

Join us for Summer CYRE!

- 4 year olds through entering 6th grade meet in the Youth Center starting at 10:30 am.
 - Childcare is available for Newborns through 3 year olds in room 7.
 - Please pick up children immediately following the worship service.
 - Visiting families are welcome!
- Adults, Youth and Jr. Youth: Interested in helping out this summer? Contact Catherine Williamson if interested in assisting or leading activities on Sunday mornings at catherine@firstuuwilm.org or (302) 478-2384.

QUEST IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEB SITE AT
WWW.FIRSTUUWILM.ORG.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

As we look deeply within, we understand our perfect balance. There is no fear of the cycle of birth, life and death. For when you stand in the present moment, you are timeless.

--Rodney Yee

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UUA LEADER ELECTED!

The Rev. Peter Morales, senior minister of Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, CO, was elected to be the eighth president of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations at the Association's General Assembly in Salt Lake City.

Speaking of his aspirations for Unitarian Universalism, Rev. Morales said, "I want to grow our faith, to reach all those people who are looking for non-dogmatic, liberal religious community. I look forward to working with partners in many other progressive and justice-seeking religious groups. There are tremendous issues that we'll be facing in the coming years and we're going to need one another."

Rev. Morales, the first Latino leader of the UUA, was installed in a ceremony which concluded the General Assembly, on Sunday, June 28. Rev. Morales will succeed Rev. William G. Sinkford who has served two four-year terms as President of the UUA.

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM - WE'RE COOKING UP A STORM!

We're still cooking up a storm at Emmanuel Dining Room! If you can help in the church kitchen on the 19th of the month (typically we're there from 9 am to 1 pm), or would like to help serve at Emmanuel on the 20th (11 am to 1 pm) we would love to have you. Contact Cindy Cohen (cindyscohen@comcast.net) to sign up.

VACATION PLANNING?

Don't forget to buy Booster Cards! They can be used to buy:

- GAS
- SUNSCREEN
- BOTTLED WATER
- ICED COFFEE!
- GROCERIES

It's a gift card that also gives to the church. When you purchase Booster Cards a percentage of the value of the card is donated to the church, automatically! And it costs you...Nothing! Support the church while spending money on things you already buy.

Cards are available for purchase in the Parish Hall after services every Sunday. You can also purchase them in the office during the week. Call ahead, if you can, to make sure Marina, Karen or Fran are available to complete the sale.

MEMBERSHIP IS LOOKING FOR A FEW

GOOD CHURCH MENTORS! Church Mentorship is an exciting new program in our congregation and is open to all. A Church Mentor is anyone who assists new members as they become acclimated to the church: finding their way around, meeting other members, learning about programs and activities. It may be sitting with a new member during the worship service; accompanying the new member to coffee hour and introducing them around; visiting the playground after church if the new members have children; inviting them to go with you as you participate in church activities; it may even be attending new member classes with them, just to keep them company. This is an important ministry of radical hospitality at our church, and a helpful, friendly way to welcome new members into our community. If you are interested in becoming a Church Mentor, please contact Membership Coordinator Susan Madison. (susan@firstuuwilm.org)

OFFICE IS CLOSED THE AFTERNOON OF

JULY 7TH: As you know, the budget for 2009/2010 included a cut in pay for the staff of 2.5%. This is equivalent to a half day off per month for a full time employee. In order to provide our staff some relief in the face of the salary cut, we will start closing the church office on the First Tuesday of the month at noon. This change in office hours will continue through the fiscal year 2009-2010.

We hope that continued improvement in the economic situation and growth in our congregation will help all of us ride out this difficult time. Thank you for your understanding.

Afternoon closures for the first half of the fiscal year are as follows: July 7, August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3, and December 1.

SENIOR MINISTER'S SUMMER HOURS

Rev. Josh will be on vacation from July 1- 21. He will be back in the office from July 22-August 14. During those three weeks he will have regular office hours: 9 AM to 4 PM, and will be in the office on Fridays (normally his day off). Rev. Josh will be on Study Leave for two weeks, August 17-29, preparing for the church year. He will again resume regular office hours on August 31. If you have any question about Rev. Josh's availability during the summer, please contact the church office.