

September 5, 2010
This Week at



FIRST
UNITARIAN
CHURCH
OF WILMINGTON

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 Forum

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

Today, September 5: Religion and Ethics Newsweekly – First Sunday of Every Month. This fascinating PBS series explores world events from the perspective of a variety of world religions, as well as the current-day tribulations and triumphs within communities of faith. Meet 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. in Brunner Chapel. Led by Jim Davis.

Next Week, September 12: The “Lost Christianities: Christian Scriptures and the Battles over Authentication” lecture series begins with “The Divinity of Early Christians.” In this series, Dr. Bart D. Ehrman guides us on a journey into the confusion that often existed among early Christians and how the church moved from there to the point of “orthodoxy.”

Sunday: Worship 10:30 a.m.

TODAY, September 5: “Medium Music Sunday” –Led by Scott Ward, Honorary Minister of Music. Today we celebrate the music of G. Puccini with mezzo soprano Andrea Rea, bass Martin Hargrove, tenor Scott Ward and pianist Linda Henderson. With readings read by Evan Krape.

NEXT SUNDAY, September 12: “To Boldly Go along the Path of Renewal” – The Rev. Dr. Joshua Snyder: Come celebrate our annual Ingathering service. As we begin the new church year of small groups, worship services, social action projects, and religious education classes we ask, “How will we do this work together?” Shall we be bold or mild? Why do this work in the first place? Join us for a renewal of the spirit, the community, and the world.

Thought for the Week:

Inspiration is an awakening, a quickening of all man's faculties, and it is manifested in all high artistic achievements.

~ *Giacomo Puccini*

REGISTER FOR CYRE NOW!

Our new CYRE year begins on September 19, 2010. Please be sure to register your children for an exciting year ahead. Visit the table in Parish Hall or go online to our web site at www.firstuuwilm.org to register electronically!

Last Call: 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!

Ingathering Sunday! **September 12**

Join us for a celebratory service led by The Rev. Dr. Snyder and Rev. Gadon, with special music at 10:30 to be followed our annual all-Church picnic!

This year, if your family's name begins with **A - K** please bring salads to share. If your family's name begins with **L - Z**, please bring sandwiches to share.

Bring your food to be shared to the kitchen.

Caring and Sharing

Our condolences and heartfelt sympathy go to Diane Wills on the death of her husband, Bill, on Aug. 31.

General Assembly Report There is a link online on our web site, or, if you are viewing this in an electronic format, please click here to see Jeff's report: "[Jeff Lott's General Assembly Report 2010.](#)"

ONE-DAY ZEN MEDITATION RETREAT

On Saturday, September 25, 2010 the Open Heart Zen Group (www.openheartzen.org) will be hosting a meditation retreat in the Brunner Chapel. The retreat is \$35.00 and will be held from 8:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and will consist of chanting, sitting & walking meditation, & a vegetarian lunch. Register by calling the church office.

The retreat will be led by José Ramírez, the Guiding Teacher and abbot of the Delaware Valley Zen Center (www.dvzc.org), which he helped found in the Spring of 1999.

Please join us for a day of tranquil mindfulness!



Open Circles

If you've been thinking about joining an Open Circle, this is the month! On September 19, we will have a sample for you to try at 9:30 before worship, led by veteran facilitator Paul Pinson. We will kick off our groups with a luncheon on September 26 after church. Watch for available times in an e-blast and in the e-news in the coming weeks.

First U President's Blog

Read and comment on "Envisioning the BEST YEAR EVER." in Nancy Pinson's blog this week:

<http://walkingspiritualpractice.blogspot.com/>

- Nancy Pinson, First U President

Thank You!

We received \$263 for the 8/29/10 special collection for Murray Grove Assoc. Thanks!

Alliance: Looking Ahead

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

Register Now for the Fall Retreat!

Saturday, October 2 at 9:00 a.m. through Sunday, October 3 at 12:00 noon at YMCA Camp Tockwogh – Worton, MD 21678. Register in the church office or online via our website: www.firstuuwilm.org

A Greener First U is In Sight! Now, We Need Your Help to Make It a Reality

Would you like our church to be more comfortable and more energy efficient? Would you like First U to achieve status as a Green Sanctuary church? One of the first steps is to have a professional energy audit of the church buildings. We have selected an energy auditing company out of a field of six companies based on best price and expertise and they are ready to begin.

A church member has agreed to match the funds raised from groups and individuals within the church to pay for the energy audit. First U's Channing Society and the Coalition for Climate Change, Study and Action (C3SA) have already made contributions toward the \$3300 that we need. Can you or your organization help reach the goal? Checks should be made out to First Unitarian Church with "energy audit" written on the memo line.

Contact the Green Sanctuary co-chairpersons, Randy Windle at 302-764-4322 or randy.judyw@verizon.net or Donna González at 302-479-0425 or DLG579@verizon.net for more information.

Bulletin Board Procedure Reminder

As part of our effort to provide a welcoming and attractive environment, we need to keep our bulletin boards organized. In order to maintain this standard, we created a procedure last year that requires ALL postings to bulletin boards in the church be approved by a member of the Program Team (Rev. Josh, Rev. Barbara, Scott, Catherine, Susan) or the Executive Team (the ministers or Marina). Please do not post items without approval. The procedure has been posted to the web site, and is also posted on blue signs on each bulletin board.

The process is simple: Show any one of us your flyer, and if we agree it's appropriate, we will initial it so you can post it. Or, if you can't find any of us, just leave one of us a note with your posting. We will then initial the flyers, and put them on the board.

Thanks for helping us keep our bulletin boards current and attractive.

Marina VanRenssen, Business Manager

CLEAN CURRENTS—A WIN-WIN SITUATION!

Now you can do good for First U and the environment, lower your electric bills and make a \$10 contribution to the church energy audit fund without spending a penny. Clean Currents, a wind and solar energy company will make a \$10 contribution for each home that signs up for wind power as your choice of electric power in Delaware or for PPL customers in Pennsylvania. Clean Currents provides access to clean energy at your house by supporting wind farms across the country (by default, now you are supporting coal and nuclear). For more information, see our broadcast email for this week dated 9/3 (a link is on our web page.)

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