

# This Week at First Unitarian Church

November 8, 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.

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!

## 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.)

## TODAY - 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.

## 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.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"It ain't over 'til it's over." - YOGI BERRA

## 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.

## THE 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

## SOCIAL DEVIANCE FILM SERIES

This month: "The Elephant Man." 7:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, November 14.** Join Rev. Barbara and Dr. Alan Horowitz, professor of sociology at University of Delaware, to watch this classic film and discuss its meaning in relationship to our Unitarian Universalist belief in tolerance. Donation \$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.

## 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](mailto:boardeventsrsvp@firstuuwilm.org) or call the church office (302-478-2384) to let us know how many children to expect.

## NEWCOMER CLASSES

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 1:30 p.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](mailto:susan@firstuuwilm.org). We hope you will join us to meet other newcomers and ask questions about our "uncommon denomination."

## 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*

## 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! 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 17<sup>th</sup>, for pick up in December.**

## 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?

## 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!

## JOIN US FOR A POT LUCK DINNER, FAMILY 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. R.S.V.P. by calling the church office at (302)478-2384.