

FOCUS

March 2010

Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County

UUCDC Mission Covenant Statement

As members of a welcoming, religiously liberal community, we care deeply about each other, our children, our neighbors and our Earth. Together, we provide a haven for nourishing the spirit and mind, while we strive to build a just and sustainable world. We covenant to respect our differences, and to commit our time, our treasures and ourselves to this mission.

145 W. Rose Tree Road
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E-mail:
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**Sunday Services,
Nursery Care &
Church School**
(PreSchool - 8th)
10:30 a.m. Sept.-June



FROM THE MINISTER

Spring is just around the corner! Really, it is. I promise. Looking out the window of my office at the drifts of snow piled on the deck, seeing the barren trees of the Memorial Garden it's hard to believe that soon we'll see the forsythia budding and the daffodils poking their green shoots up through the soil. This has been one tough winter, that's for sure. But soon...

One of the annual rites of spring with which you may not be familiar is the Spring Conference of the Joseph Priestley District. Like the swallows returning to San Juan Capistrano, every spring Unitarian Universalists from southern New Jersey to northern Virginia flock to the site of the District meeting to worship together, attend workshops and socialize. It's like attending General Assembly, the annual national meeting of Unitarian Universalists, only more intimate.

This year the Spring Conference will be held locally, near Valley Forge, on April 16 and 17. As one of the Conference planners, I'm particularly looking forward to this year's gathering. The Conference workshops will be linked to the theme of "Redefining the Good Life: Faith and Values for a Sustainable Future." Rev. Michael Schuler, author of *Making the Good Life Last*, will be the keynote speaker. Michael's vision of sustainability reaches far beyond an environmental ethic, and reaches us at the level of our hearts and our souls. I'll be preaching about his book on March 21 (see below), and I encourage you to pick up a copy before my sermon and the Conference.

(Continued on page 2)

March Services 10:30 a.m.

March 7: Rev. Peter Friedrichs

March 14: Rev. Peter and Irene Friedrichs, Director of Religious Education -- A Multigenerational Fund Drive Kick-off Service!

March 21: Rev. Peter -- "Making the Good Life Last" (for details, see page 5)

March 28: Rev. Elizabeth Ellis -- Palm Sunday: "Would You Like a Chariot or a Donkey?" (for details, see page 5)

Who's Who**Staff**

Rev. Peter A. Friedrichs,
Minister

Chris Schroth,
Music Director

Irene Friedrichs,
Director of
Religious Education

Rina Jurceka,
Administrator

Chrissy Drummond,
Administrative Assistant

Jason Schafer-Valerius,
Accompanist

Marge Caton,
Event Coordinator

Jack Shaffer, Sexton

Meghan Pomeroy,
Katie Klem, Danielle
Deady, Child Care

Board of Trustees

Mark Bernstein,
President

Donna Harris,
Vice President

Julie Chuplis,
Secretary

Peter Cooke
Marylin Huff
Mike Mitchell
Jane Seelaus
Jean Wallace

From the Minister

(Continued from page 1)

We're also holding a "Coffee House" on Friday night, April 16, featuring the music of Rev. Dan Schatz, who received a Grammy nomination this year and who is releasing a new CD in the spring. The JPD Spring Conference is sure to be inspiring, entertaining and informative. You'll find registration information on page 10, or you can visit the District's website, www.jpduua.org.

The connections we have with other congregations through the Joseph Priestley District and the Unitarian Universalist Association are vital links to our movement. Because each of our congregations is an independent entity, we can easily feel like we're free-floating in space, left to our own devices. But this isn't the case. The District and the UUA help to link our congregations to each other to share resources and knowledge. Staff at the local and national level are there to support us as we maneuver the ever-changing landscape of faith in the 21st Century. In the past, consultants from the UUA have given us guidance on issues from fundraising to fair compensation, from conducting a ministerial search to maintaining healthy relationships in the congregation. Last month's "Start-Up Weekend" for our Lifespan Religious Education program was presented by Pat Infante, a member of the Joseph Priestley District staff.

We here at UUCDC are particularly blessed to have several direct "pipelines" to the JPD. Mark Bernstein is the Director for Growth for the District, Jody Malloy serves as Director for Lay Leadership Development, and Marge Caton is a co-chair of the District Youth Steering Committee. Don and Regina Pound serve as our "in-house" Denominational Affairs representatives, keeping abreast of events and opportunities to link us to our wider movement.

In addition to the annual District Conference and the national General Assembly, there are numerous opportunities to learn and grow from events and activities coordinated and sponsored by the District and the UUA. One cutting-edge vehicle for delivery of knowledge and skills is the "webinar." With a webinar you sit in the comfort of your own home or office and attend workshops using a combination of telephone and computer. The UUA and the District offer dozens of webinars every year on topics of interest to congregational leaders and would-be leaders.

In the cold, bleak mid-winter we may have the tendency to "hunker down" and isolate ourselves from each other. Becoming involved in District and UUA activities is a great way to battle that syndrome, and attending the District's Spring Conference is sure to lift your spirits and heal your soul. I look forward to seeing you there.

Love,
Peter

FOCUS INFO:**Editors:**

Bette Austin
& Neil Goldstein

Production:

Rina Jurceka

The deadline for April

is March 15. Please
send your text
via email to:

Focus@uucdc.org

or put it in Rina Jurceka's
mail slot, in the church
office.

BOARD PERSPECTIVES: MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC TOGETHER

Mark Bernstein, President

It was one of the first super-groups of rock, a “Who’s Who” of talented musicians: Steve Winwood, Eric Clapton, Ginger Baker and Rick Grech. The group made only one album, which debuted in August 1969, and disbanded within a year of its creation. Its name was Blind Faith and its music still haunts me to this day.

I wanted to write this column on the topic of faith, and I immediately thought of this group and its album, featuring songs such as “Presence of the Lord,” “Can’t Find My Way Home,” “Had to Cry Today” and “Sea of Joy.”

As the story goes, the band’s manager, Robert Stigwood, believed that the super-group would reap millions of dollars and be worshipped by throngs of youth across Europe and North America. Two of the band members, Baker and Grech, bought into that image. Clapton, ever the perfectionist, was dubious, and named the band Blind Faith presumably as a way of tweaking his mates for believing that their presence alone, without commitment and hard work, would be enough to achieve success.

As we look to 2010 and beyond, we as a church community can see great success looming. It promises to be a momentous time, with the prospect of two Sunday worship services, the continued movement toward becoming a practicing Fair Compensation Congregation, growth initiatives inspired by the work of the Terrapin Project, and the development and endorsement of a long-range strategic plan.

Some say that it will take a great deal of faith to accomplish all this and more. The question is whether it will be blind faith.

Will we expect that success will happen just because we say it will, or will we make a commitment to give of our time and our ideas and to work together to put our faith into action?

Eric Clapton knew that the only way to reap true rewards from the collaboration with his fellow band members was to work hard and to perform well. It is the same with us. We cannot expect to become great as a congregation without the willingness to make it happen.

The faith that we need as we look to the future is the faith that deepens our Unitarian Universalist identity, both individually and as a community. The faith that we need is one that strengthens our belief in and commitment to each other. The faith that we need is one strong enough to overcome conflict, brave enough to take risks, and clear enough so that we never lose confidence in who we are as a congregation and what we can become.

The band Blind Faith made one album and disappeared in less than seven months. The music we make together today and tomorrow will reverberate in our hearts and in our minds for years to come. I have faith.

With love and respect,

Mark

Heads Up for Inside FOCUS Articles

General Assembly, page 6.

March 12! Circle the date, page 7.

JPD Spring Conference, page 10.

Emma’s Revolution, page 10.

Board Notes: February Update

The focus was on the future at the Board's February meeting. Trustees discussed:

The Terrapin Project. Bryan Boosz and Lisa Grieco visited to present key findings from their draft report for this growth-planning project for the church. The Terrapin team (see names below) developed a well-researched set of recommendations to build church membership, including new ways to attract visitors, increase the number of visitors who join as members, and retain lifelong members. Next steps for the project team are to finalize the report, share findings with church leaders and members, and develop an implementation plan.

Annual goals for Rev. Peter. Under policy governance, the Board is responsible for conducting an annual evaluation of the lead minister. This includes assessing Rev. Peter's performance relative to agreed-upon "SMART" (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-limited) goals. The Board and Rev. Peter agreed on his four main goals for the year ahead, which are to: 1) transition the Congregation to two services, 2) implement growth recommendations from the Terrapin Project, 3) deliver a long-range Strategic Plan to the Congregation, and 4) develop an intentional leadership development program.

Progress toward the Board's annual goals and tasks. With the church year more than half over, the Board reviewed progress on its annual goals set at its August retreat. A number of goals have been met, such as creating a vision statement for the Board and spearheading a strategic planning initiative. Others are not yet finished, and this discussion will continue next month, when the Board will talk about how best to measure the success and impact of policy governance.

Finally, the Board and Rev. Peter acknowledge and thank the following individuals for sharing their time, talent, and treasures within the church community:

- Bryan Boosz and Lisa Grieco, for their committed and creative leadership as co-chairs of the Terrapin Project, with strong support from the Attraction Group (Claire Brill, Marge Caton, Elizabeth Musewicz, Neil Goldstein, Phil Freedman, and Bonnie Burns); the Conversion Group (Leigh Mitchell, Natalie Silver, Elek Fenyes, and Geoff Veith); and the Retention Group (Gabe Small, Gary Hendrix, Penny Bartlett, Michele Yerger, Cheryl Schlenker, and Warren Saunders).
- Marilyn Huff and her team for coordinating a successful "Awakening the Dreamer" program on January 30.
- Mardys Leeper for coordinating the Homer Jack Speaker series speaker, Salome Thomas-EL on February 14.
- Loretta Orndorff for her years of service as the coordinator of the Adult RE program.
- Michele Yerger, for her leadership on the Hunger Task Force.
- Tiffany Hanulec, for her leadership with the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

—Jean Wallace
for the Board

*Caring Committee**Details About the March 21 and 28 Services***March 21**

Rev. Peter will share his reflections on a recent book by Rev. Michael Schuler titled *Making the Good Life Last: Four Keys to Sustainable Living*.

Rev. Schuler is the senior minister of the First Unitarian Society of Madison, Wis. He will be the keynote speaker at the Spring Conference of our Joseph Priestley District, April 16 and 17 (see page 10), and the conference will use his book as its theme.

Rev. Peter encourages congregation members to read the book and to attend the conference (and, of course, to attend our service on March 21!). You may buy Rev. Schuler's book through Amazon.com, Borders Books and your local bookseller. It is also available at the UUA bookstore, www.uuabookstore.org. You may learn more about the topic at Rev. Schuler's website, www.makingthegoodlifelast.com.

March 28:

We think of Palm Sunday as a time when things were going well for Jesus, at least temporarily. The people cheered as he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. But he was on a donkey, after all, while Pontius Pilate rode into town in a chariot pulled by fine horses, with legions of soldiers in a full regal procession. We might call the paths that they followed the Way of Empire, or the Way of the Donkey. Which do we choose today?

Rev. Elizabeth Ellis is a retired Unitarian Universalist minister who spent most of her professional career in urban ministry. She is a friend of our church who is offering a Bible study class.

Carpooling for a Green Sanctuary

Carol Getty has stepped forward to help UUCDC on its road to becoming a Green Sanctuary. Here is what she has written:

"In the interest of "greening" our Sanctuary, lowering our carbon footprint and easing the parking pressures, I'd like to make an effort to coordinate carpooling among our members and friends. If anyone is interested in assisting me, please the church office

Winter Is the Perfect Time to Think About Summer, and General Assembly, in Minn.

March is an excellent time to start planning to attend the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly, June 23-27 in Minneapolis. Registration will open March 1, so it is time to look at air fares and other expenses for this important meeting.

Note that two GA events are particularly important to our congregation:

Rev. Peter and Joyce McKee will be on a panel of presenters at a workshop focused on revitalizing Small Group Ministry programs. Also, Rev. Peter will be formally awarded Final Fellowship during the Service of the Living Tradition.

In addition, the congregation in Harrisburg, PA, will be named a Breakthrough Congregation for its pattern of growth during the last several years -- something to which our church might aspire.

Minneapolis (known as the "Mini-Apple") is an ideal setting for GA. Not only is it a progressive, culturally diverse, LGBT-friendly city, it is also rich in cultural arts and boasts a stunning natural environment.

The Local Volunteer Committee has put together four pre-GA tour packages ideal for singles, couples and families. All tours will take place on June 22 and were created by UUs in the tourism biz.

There are also many housing options, at a variety of price points. The GA Planning Committee offers

Discussing the Past, Present and Future Of Our Religious Education Program

On Feb. 12-13, the church held a Start-up Weekend for Irene Friedrichs, our new Director of Religious Education. The Start-up Weekend is a way for the church to celebrate the new director and to focus efforts for improving the RE program. Pat Infante, from the Unitarian Universalist Association's Joseph Priestley District, facilitated the event.

More than 25 church members attended the potluck dinner on Feb. 12. They discussed the history of Religious Education at our church, what they appreciate about RE, and the characteristics of someone who has experienced an ideal Religious Education Program. The next day, almost 20 church members attended and participated in focused discussions of strengths and challenges of

some scholarships, and there may be other financial aid available if you start planning now.

But the biggest draw is General Assembly itself -- the largest assemblage of Unitarian Universalists (thousands of them) from congregations large and small. You'll experience wonderful worship services with glorious music and inspiring messages. Networking with UUs from other congregations, attending panel discussions, workshops and lectures, and shopping in Exhibit Hall all make GA an experience UUs treasure.

Special activities include an opening celebration and banner parade featuring singer, songwriter and UU Peter Mayer; the Ware Lecture by Winona LaDuke, a renowned Native American activist; and participation in the Twin Cities' Pride Festival and Parade, with the UUA's Public Witness event a part of this celebration.

There are resources available to offset a portion of the expense. Volunteers at GA receive a reduced registration and scholarships are available to cover part of other expenses. Information about these resources is at www.uua.org/ga.

Our church should have six official delegates in addition to Rev. Peter, but others can attend. If you're interested please notify Rev. Peter and Administrator Rina Jurceka, and read all about GA 2010 at www.uua.org/ga.

our program, and identified responsibilities of the DRE and other church members for various aspects of running the program.

The Religious Education Council was happy with the attendance and the ideas that came out of discussions. The council will process the information gathered and work with Irene to implement a vision for improvements.

If you were unable to participate but want to provide your thoughts about strengths and challenges of our RE program, recommendations for improving it, or other ideas, please contact Irene (uucdcre@gmail.com).

March 12! Circle the Date for UUCDC's Annual Fund Drive Kick-Off

That's the date for the fabulous, fantastic and festive party kicking off UUCDC's all-important Annual Fund Drive on Friday, March 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Media Community Center. (Enter from the parking lot on 4th Street between N. Jackson and N. Monroe Streets.)

If you were smart enough to attend last year's night of fantastic food, cool entertainment, refreshing beverages and, of course, outstanding company, you won't miss this year's party. No formal dinner, just a happy combination of friendly informality and good food served by members. You may even find an apron being tied around your waist and recruited as a smiling server.

It's just possible Kick-off 2010 may surpass last year's event that received extravagant praise. Did someone say there were too many balloons last year? There are never too many balloons. UUCDCers aim for the superlative at all levels and that means your generous support, too.

Child care will be provided in a nearby room, so the whole family can come, with food for the small fry. Call Connie Roggio, 610-212-2561 or croggio@gmail.com, to give her the number and the ages of children who will attend. Connie also welcomes contributions of finger food or petite desserts. Let her know what you plan to bring.

The Fund Drive Committee welcomes all members and friends and hopes no one misses this

Monthly Statement: Finances as of January

At the end of January, total income was \$241,623, which was \$13,873 ahead of the year-to-date budget. Total expense was \$203,824, or \$23,926 less than the budget. The combined effect of the two components is a year-to-date surplus of \$37,799. That compares to a net surplus of more than \$50,000 at the equivalent time last year.

As we move into the Fund Drive cycle for the 2010-11 church year, please note that you can set up your pledge for next year as an automated payment. Your Fund Drive Visitor will be able to provide details of this option. Clearly, the greater the proportion of pledge income we receive in this way, the easier it is to balance income and expenditures throughout the year.

Also note that you can comment on the current budget process through Church Members Only section of the church website, <http://uucdc.org>.

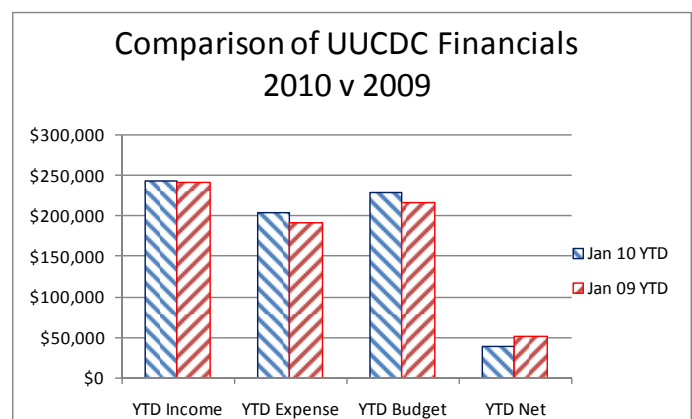
Please contact Peter Cooke at

very special evening and event for the future of UUCDC.

You will soon receive your Kick-Off invitation and Fund Drive brochure by mail. Two days after the Kick-off party, the Annual Fund Drive will begin. Read carefully the brochure accompanying the invitation. This is the time to reflect on what the church means to you, and the values you wish to support, and to consider your financial pledge.

The Fund Drive team addresses the financial issues of the church openly. It presents UUCDC's budget needs clearly and asks members and friends to help pay for our minister, staff, building expenses, commitments to the UUA and JPD, and our valuable programs. The process is a friendly one that will afford you the opportunity to speak openly with the Fund Drive visitor about the things that please you, your commitment, your questions and your concerns.

Expect a telephone call and a friendly request for a visit. It will surprise you how easy it is to have an open conversation about the church's finances with a fellow Unitarian Universalist and someone who shares your values.



cookelp@comcast.net with any questions, comments or suggestions.

LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

After the Start-Up

Irene Friedrichs,

Director of Religious Education

It was wonderful to see so many people ready to discuss religious education at the Start-Up Weekend in February! It is this dedication to Lifespan RE that will build a strong foundation of Unitarian Universalism in each one of us, old and young alike.

Of particular interest was construction of an "RE-Topia." Participants were asked to name the qualities of a person who was born into the church and has received a life-long Unitarian Universalist religious education. What we discovered was our hope that such a person would be empathetic, spiritually grounded and open-minded -- and a person who is called to be a social activist, to embrace diversity, and attend a UU church!

It is clear to me that we are already doing a good job in reaching many of the goals with our children and youth (and with adults in Adult RE), but it is going to take all of us -- the whole village -- to reach "RE-Topia"! So ask how you can help to make this dream come true for yourself and for the youth of the church. And let's keep talking.

Irene

Elementary grades: During February, children learned about meditation and prayer. They also learned a new song, "Magic Penny," and celebrated Chinese New Year, making lanterns and learning about the Chinese Zodiac. They heard many stories about the life of St. Valentine and made appreciation Valentines to share. Children exercised their right to vote (Principle 5) on the charity they wish to support through their chapel offerings. Coming in March: Start saving your pennies, as Stewardship Sunday is coming up.

Youth: The retreat to review the Coming of Age program was postponed due to snow and was rescheduled for Feb. 28. Now is the time to think about mentoring one of the church's young people during 2010-1011. You could be a part of a youth's spiritual journey during this exciting time

in his or her life. To find out more, please contact my office for information.

YUCKIs: Super kudos to the high school group and its leaders for donating \$500 plus a portion of the February Soup Lunch to Doctors Without Borders for Haiti Relief! The LepreCon youth conference at UUCDC is almost here and the YUCKIs have been busy planning workshops, food, worship and games to make the event a real success.

Adult RE: Several spaces are left for the two **Labyrinth Workshops**, March 10 and April 20. Each workshop is unique; you can come to both or choose the one you want. Come walk the meandering path of the labyrinth, uniting your mind, body, and spirit!

Other coming adult classes:

Drumming With Doc, May 8 from 2 to 4 p.m. Doc will teach you how to drum. He has instruments for people who do not have drums but want to join the fun.

Readers Theater/Improv Workshop, May 25 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. This is an introductory session with Robb Hutton. In the past, UUCDC had Readers Theater but not Improv, and this workshop will describe both forms. Participants can plan a course on either Readers Theater or Improv for the fall. So as usual, you make it happen!

Contact Chrissy Drummond at Assistant@uucdc.org to register for the Labyrinth courses, Drumming or Readers Theater/Improv.

ARTS, BOOKS & MUSIC

"The Sorcerer" Continues on March 3, 5, 6, and 7

Following its February productions, *Thespis, Etc.*, will present four final performances of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *The Sorcerer* in March.

The dates are: Wednesday, March 3, 8 p. m.; Friday, March 5, 8 p. m.; Saturday, March 6, 8 p. m.; Sunday, March 7, 2 p. m. at UUCDC.

The musical comedy concerns Alexis and Aline, a young couple deeply in love, who, wanting others to experience the same joy, hire a sorcerer to slip a love potion into tea at a party. The result is that a host of unlikely couples fall in love. This is entertainment for the whole family, so join the fun and meet one of the world's best sorcerers on hand

to bewitch and delight you.

Tickets purchased in advance: adult, \$15; youth through high school, \$10; tickets at the door, adult, \$18; youth through high school, \$10. Bruce Wyman will be selling advance tickets after services on Sundays before the performances.

Payback Time for the Book Club

The Book Club is reading, *Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth*, by Margaret Atwood for its March discussion, Friday, March 26, 7:30 p. m. in the Lounge.

Atwood is better known for her novels, but in this book she explores the morality of debt and views of the debtor-creditor relationships throughout history. In talking about debt Atwood also talks about forgiveness, justice, religion, myth, and how we care for our planet. And she doesn't write only about financial debt, but with wit and humor discusses all sorts of debt relationships: for example, debts of gratitude, debts of kinship, and debts of fealty.

In February, the Book Club read the delightful collection of short stories, *Unaccustomed Earth*, by Jhumpa Lahiri. Lahiri is an American author with

Bengali ancestry. Her stories in this collection revolve mostly around second- and third-generation parents and children who are further removed from the Old World in India in which their parents and grandparents grew up and lived.

The Book Club meets once a month. This co-ed reading group welcomes anyone in the habit of reading for pleasure and edification. We particularly invite you to grab Atwood's book and join us for the March discussion. To see our full reading list, see the church bulletin board or look up the Book Club on the church website.

Opera Gala Celebrates 12th Year on March 20

Bringing operatic arias and duets to entice the ear, UUCDC's annual Opera Gala marks its 12th year March 20, 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

This year's performance is dedicated to Dot Magargal with the gala's grateful thanks for her past support and encouragement. Last year's gala was almost sold out thanks to her ideas and efforts.

Elegantly dressed and coifed, the classically-

trained singers will stir love and appreciation for the music that will range from Bellini to Verdi, Vivaldi to Beethoven, Gounod to Mozart. All of this will occur in the informal, candlelit cabaret setting.

Tickets cost \$10 per person at the door and include snacks and beverages, with BYOB permitted.

Hear Emma's Revolution and SheWho on March 27

Our church's Interweave Group is sponsoring the first of what it hopes are many concerts here by artists who stand for diversity and justice.

First up, at 7 p.m. March 27, is Emma's Revolution, the nationally recognized folk-pop duo of Pat Humphries and Sandy O. With such favorites as "Bound for Freedom," "Swim'n to the Other Side" and "Peace, Salaam, Shalom," they will bring life and energy to the UUCDC stage. Their songs are imbued with hope, warmth and the power to bring the house to tears and laughter. You don't want to miss them.

The female vocal group SheWho will open the show with their diversity, beauty and power.

Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$22 at the door. They are available online at www.brownpapertickets.com or can be purchased after Sunday services from Bonnie Burns or Jean Lenke. ("Barter tickets" are available to concert volunteers.)

Interweave is dedicated to the spiritual, political and social well-being of Unitarian Universalists and others who are confronting oppression as lesbians; gay men; bisexuals; transgender/transsexual, questioning and intersex persons; and their heterosexual allies.

Redefining 'The Good Life' at JPD Spring Conference, April 16-17

"Redefining 'The Good Life': Faith & Values for a Sustainable Future."

That's the theme of this year's Spring Conference of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Joseph Priestley District, April 16-17 at the Clarion Hotel Park Ridge in King of Prussia.

The keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Michael Schuler, author of *Making the Good Life Last: Four Keys to Sustainable Living*. (See related article on page 5.)

Registration fees have been decreased by 15 per cent, and hotel-room rates are down by \$40.

Conference highlights:

- ◆ Outstanding worship by leading JPD ministers
- ◆ Friday night coffeehouse with Rev. Dan

Schatz, Grammy-nominated JPD minister

- ◆ 29 workshops to choose from
- ◆ Bookstore with up-to-date offerings
- ◆ Exhibits from diverse UU organizations
- ◆ Food-filled Friday-night reception with a cash bar; come meet the JPD Board, Staff and your fellow UUs
- ◆ Family-friendly track programming
- ◆ Celebration service involving youth to close the conference

For more information, go to <http://www.jpduua.org/>.

A Blog Posting Highlights a Lecture at UUCDC

Mardys Leeper, a longtime congregant, is helping to spread the word about our church via the blogosphere.

After the Feb. 14 Homer Jack Series talk here by educator Salome Thomas-EL, which Mardys organized, she blogged about it in a heartfelt piece on The Swash Zone website. You can read all about it at <http://swashzone.blogspot.com/2010/02/breath-of-fresh-air-swept-through-my.html>.

Thanks, Mardys!

IN OUR BACK YARD

Drum for Joy Workshop at Main Line

Women's groups at Main Line Unitarian Church will sponsor a "Drum for Joy" workshop March 13, 10 a.m. to 3 p. m., at the church, 816 Valley Forge Road, Devon.

Jacqui McMillan, who says, "If you can say it, you can play it," is workshop leader. The workshop is suitable for all levels of drummers.

JPD Women and Religion and Soul Sisters of the church are groups sponsoring the event. Cost, if mailed by March 1, is \$20 per person, \$10 for guests 16 and under; at the door, \$25 for adults and \$15 for 16 and under. Drummers are invited to bring a friend, neighbor, sister, daughter or granddaughter over 10 years.

For more information, call Laura Paligo, 410-942-1292, before 8 p.m. Flyers are also on UUCDC's bulletin board.

Lois Morrigan

Workshop on Story of Jesus Planned for Easter Weekend

Elizabeth Ellis will co-lead a workshop, "It's All About Resurrection -- Body and Soul," Easter week end, April 2-4, at Pendle Hill, the Quaker retreat center at 338 Plush Mill Road, Wallingford. Participants will look at the movement of their own lives in light of the story of Jesus, particularly around the themes of Jesus' last week: success, community, disappointment, friendship, betrayal, loss, and new, surprising life.

Co-leader is Amanda Hoffman, who will lead gentle yoga as participants attend to the spirit of the whole self and celebrate the constant and continuing resurrection in our lives. The workshop begins with dinner, Friday, April 2, at 6 p.m. and ends with lunch, Sunday, 1 p. m.

It's possible to stay at Pendle Hill or commute. If two people who are newcomers, sign up together, they receive a special rate. For additional details: www.pendlehill.org or Elizabeth Ellis: reveke@verizon.net.

Songs of New Jersey History and Folklore Presented at Murray Grove

Valerie Vaughn, songwriter and performer, will present songs about New Jersey history and

folklore, Wednesday, March 10, 7-9 p.m., at the Murray Grove Retreat and Conference Center, Lanoka Harbor, NJ.

A variety of musicians and artists perform and present their artwork in English Folk Music Club form at Murray Grove's Musical/Artistic Coffee House every second Wednesday of the month. Performances cost \$10 per person and are preceded by a potluck supper, (BYOB) 6-7 p. m.

The Vaughn event is supported in part by a grant administered by the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission in conjunction with the New Jersey State Council of the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Rainbow Circle at Murray Grove also will hold its regular Sunday monthly meeting, March 28, 5-6 p.m., followed by dinner (\$5 per person suggested minimum donation).

The Rainbow Circle sponsors a variety of gatherings, celebrations, and training workshops for the GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender) community. For Sunday meetings, RSVP at 609-693-5558 or murraygrove@murraygrove.org.

Thinking About Food: A Film, a Fair And More in Annapolis on March 21

How far does your food travel to get to your table? Did you know you can vote three times a day with your fork?

Those and many other questions will be considered starting at 2 p.m. March 21 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis.

The main attractions of the day will be two screenings of the new documentary *Fresh*, with its director, Ana Sophia Joanes, and a talk by sustainable-farming expert Joel Salatin, who is featured in *Fresh* as well as in the book *The Omnivore's Dilemma* and the film *Food, Inc.* The screenings will be at 2:30 and 6 p.m.

A vendor/exhibitor fair from 2 to 6 p.m. will include local farmers and their food, including shrimp, oysters, beef, bison, milk, wine and

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cheese. (As this will be a no-trash/waste event, attendees are asked to bring their own utensils, cups and plates.)

Two gardening classes will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis for \$5 each (pay at the door). At 4 p.m. will be Gardening 101: Getting Started; at 5 p.m., Advanced Gardening and Composting, as well as a Q&A. To reserve spots,

e-mail replytofresh@gmail.com.

Tickets are \$12 a person. Please carpool. No child care will be available.

The church is at 333 Dubois Rd., Annapolis, Md. For more information, call Diane, 410-643-3283.

ALMOST IN OUR BACK YARD

EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT IN THE CHURCH

March 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

UU Church of Columbia, 7246 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045

www.uucolumbia.net

Cost: \$20 per person. Full Fair Share Congregations receive a \$4 discount per registrant.

Registration Deadline: March 15

The modern church depends upon a much more sophisticated leadership style to be healthy and effective. Professional and elected leaders must be able to deal with a wide range of issues within the context of staff, both paid and volunteer. This workshop will cover how to be an effective supervisor and manager in our churches.

IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT: ETHNICITY/RACE, GENDER AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

March 20, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

UU Church of Rockville, 100 Welsh Park Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

For high school age youth, youth advisors, coordinators and others working with this age group.

This day-long workshop on identity development is a response to findings in the Youth Working Group Recommendations for Youth Ministry Report and the Mosaic Project Report. The morning will be spent discussing the meaning of gender and sexual orientation. The afternoon will consist of filling in a family tree, a personal identity map, and learning about the stages of ethnic/racial identity development.

Registration deadline: March 15 to Deborah Kahn at dkahn@uucr.org.

FROM THE LARGER UU UNIVERSE

Check Out the New UUA.org

In case you haven't seen it yet, UUA.org has a new look.

The Unitarian Universalist Association's website has been redesigned to make it easier for you to find what you need, including a new "Top Picks for Social Justice" page in the Leaders section. Go there to find resources on congregational advocacy, UUA issue priorities and more (<http://www.uua.org/leaders/justice/index.shtml>).

Discuss 'The Big Squeeze' and More On March 28

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee is having a nationwide Get Together on Justice Sunday, March 28, and you're invited.

The 4 p.m. event is about the critical issues facing both white- and blue-collar workers in today's turbulent economy. You can share a meal and discuss the book *The Big Squeeze* via a conference call with the author, Steven Greenhouse, New York Times business and economics correspondent. You can also learn ways to reclaim the social contract lost over years of declining job security and vanishing pensions.

To see whether there's a Get Together in our area, go to http://www.uusc.org/get_together/find_a_get_together.

If you want to host a Get Together, go to <http://actnow.uusc.org/site/R?i=SBZO4G03emd9qvXcpN5-Q>.

When you register your session, the committee will send you a toolkit that will help you promote and organize the event. The first 20 hosts who sign up will get a free copy of Greenhouse's book.

For more information, go to <http://actnow.uusc.org/site/R?i=GufM88IOb6wOK2RWh6UJ3w>.

Support for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

As the midterm elections loom, the Unitarian Universalist Association wants to increase

pressure on Congress to take up comprehensive immigration reform (CIR) legislation.

The UUA is part of a massive network of religious and secular groups doing just that, in support of Rep. Luis Gutierrez's CIR ASAP Act (HR 4321) -- the Comprehensive Immigration Reform for America's Security and Prosperity Act of 2009.

Please join the UUA in supporting CIR ASAP. For more information, go to http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/1272/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=2260.

Universalist Convocation Set for May 14-16 in Rochester

"Dragged Kicking and Screaming to Heaven."

That's the title of Rev. Mark Morrison-Reed's planned keynote address at this year's Universalist Convocation, May 14-16 at the First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY.

On May 15, attendees will be treated to performances by Alden Gatt, a pianist from the Eastman School of Music, and Company B, a women's vocal jazz trio.

Note that graduation for the University of Rochester is that weekend, so lodging may be tight. Contact Joyce Gilbert, jtgilbert@frontiernet.net, for more on that.

Universalist Convocations is an independent affiliate of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It describes its purpose as "... to explore and draw from the heritage of Universalist experience and faith to inform Unitarian Universalism today and help light its way toward the future."

For more information, go to nmuc.org/Convo.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County
145 W. Rose Tree Road, Media, PA 19063

Focus

March 2010

Calendar

March 2010*

Date	Event	Time		Event	Time
3/1	Rental- Courageous Conversations	4:00 PM	3/10	Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM
	Martial Arts	7:00 PM	3/11	Church Chorus	7:00 PM
	MCC	7:00 PM		Small Group Ministry	7:00 PM
	Religious Education Council	7:30 PM	3/12	Fund Drive Kick-Off (at Media Borough Hall)	6:30 PM
3/2	Yoga	5:45 PM	3/12	LEPRECON	5:00 PM
3/3	Thespi Performance	8:00 PM	3/13	LEPRECON	12:00 AM
	2 Services Staff/Team Meeting	7:00 PM	3/14	LEPRECON	12:00 AM
3/4	Small Group Ministry	1:00 PM	3/14	Meditation	9:00 AM
	Church Chorus	7:00 PM		UU101	9:00 AM
3/5	Thespi Performance	8:00 PM		I-GEN Worship Service	10:30 AM
3/6	Curriculum Planning for Sunday School	9:00 AM		Independent Catholics	6:00 PM
	Pastoral Care	9:00 AM	3/15	Martial Arts	7:00 PM
	Fund Drive Training	10:00 AM		Opera Gala Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	Thespi Performance	8:00 PM		Rose Tree Day School Board	7:15 PM
3/7	Church Chorus	9:00 AM	3/16	Yoga	5:45 PM
	Meditation	9:00 AM		Celtic Reconstructionists	6:00 PM
	UU101	9:00 AM	3/17	Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM
	Worship Service and Religious Education	10:30 AM	3/18	Small Group Ministry	1:00 PM
	Bible Study with Rev Ellis	12:00 PM		Church Chorus	7:00 PM
	Interweave	12:00 PM		Small Group Ministry	7:00 PM
	Personnel Committee	12:00 PM	3/19	Opera Gala Rehearsal	7:00 PM
	Thespi Performance & Tear-down	2:00 PM	3/20	RTDS First Aid/CPR Training	9:00 AM
	Independent Catholics	6:00 PM		The Labyrinth	9:00 AM
	Yucki meeting	6:00 PM		Principled Commitment	9:30 AM
3/8	Martial Arts	7:00 PM		Opera Gala Rehearsal and Set Up	4:00 PM
3/9	Yoga	5:45 PM		International Supper Club	6:00 PM
	Curriculum Planning for Sunday School	7:00 PM		Opera Gala (12th Annual)	7:30 PM
	Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance	7:00 PM	3/21	Church Chorus	9:00 AM
	Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays (PFLAG)	7:00 PM		Meditation	9:00 AM
	Small Group Ministry	7:30 PM		Worship Service and	



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*Printed February 23, 2010

March 2010

	Religious Education	10:30 AM		
	Independent Catholics	6:00 PM	3/28	Meditation 9:00 AM
	Yucki meeting	6:00 PM		Worship Service and
	Junto	7:00 PM		Religious Education 10:30 AM
3/22	Martial Arts	7:00 PM		Is Membership in Your Future 12:00 PM
	Lay Leadership Meeting	7:15 PM		Small Group Ministry 12:00 PM
	MCC	7:30 PM		Independent Catholics 6:00 PM
				Yucki meeting 6:00 PM
3/23	Yoga	5:45 PM	3/29	Martial Arts 7:00 PM
	RTDS In Service	6:00 PM		
	Depression and Bipolar		3/30	Yoga 5:45 PM
	Support Alliance	7:00 PM		
3/24	Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM	3/31	Media Chamber Chorale 7:30 PM
3/25	Church Chorus	7:00 PM		
3/26	UUCDC Book Club	7:30 PM		
3/27	Cancro Family Memorial Service	10:00 AM		
	Jewelry making with Rina Jurceka	10:00 AM		
	Set-Up for Concert	5:00 PM		
	Music OUT Loud with			
	Emma's Revolution	8:00 PM		