

# FOCUS

November 2009

Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County

UUCDC is a liberal religious community where young and old, partnered and single, gay and straight, skeptic and believer, people diverse in background and race, come together to build a better world for ourselves, our children and the larger community. We invite those who share these values to join us for Sunday services and for events listed in this newsletter.

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Media, PA 19063  
(610) 566-4853  
www.uucdc.org

**E-mail:**  
[churchoffice@uucdc.org](mailto:churchoffice@uucdc.org)

**Sunday Services,  
Nursery Care &  
Church School**  
(PreSchool - 8th)  
10:30 a.m. Sept.-June



## FROM THE MINISTER

The universe works in such mysterious ways! I was contemplating how I might discuss the question of volunteer service in the church this month in my newsletter column. Then, just this morning, I reached into my mailbox and pulled out the latest issue of "Congregations" magazine. There on the cover was an article titled "From Stressed to Blessed: Transforming Volunteer Service in the Congregation." Who says that our prayers go unanswered?

In this article, Larry Peers writes that "the most poignant task of our religious communities is to help others connect with their own unique call and purpose in ways that can serve their lives as well as their congregation." I could not agree more.

It is a well-worn axiom that people don't come to church looking to join a committee. They are looking for opportunities to make deep and meaningful connections with others, to reach out beyond themselves, and to discover the ground of their being. The church helps people achieve these goals through a variety of experiences: through transformative worship, through personal spiritual practices, through study and reflection, and through meaningful service to others.

Sometimes the structures of the congregation make the opportunity to serve more a burden than a fulfilling personal experience. Many of us have felt captive to monthly committee meetings without apparent purpose or direction, where it feels like the same issues are hashed out repeatedly without resolution or progress. Unfortunately, sometimes service to our church can feel more like a job. As Peers writes in his article, "A congregation does not add

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Sunday Services in November (10:30 a.m.)

November 1: Association Sunday: Guest speaker Rev. John T. Crestwell, associate minister of UU Church of Annapolis, MD. (See related article, page 4.)

November 8: Rev. Peter Friedrichs

November 15: Special Music Sunday, UUCDC Chorus and others.

November 22, Multigenerational Thanksgiving Services with pumpkin bread and cider communion.

November 29: Guest speaker Michael Barnett, member of Buxmont UU Fellowship. (See related article, 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)

any significant value to the lives of its members if it replicates patterns of deception, burnout, overwhelming expectations, and demand they are experiencing elsewhere.”

We are therefore presented with a particular challenge: On the one hand, we want to present opportunities for service that are meaningful and fulfilling so that our members do not feel burdened or burnt out. On the other, there are many tasks at church that need to get done.

We have countless opportunities for service here at UUCDC. Sometimes there are so many that it can be difficult to know where to go, whom to talk to, and how to get involved. For this reason, and because we want to minimize the negative experiences that Peers refers to, we are attempting to reduce the number of committees in the church and begin focusing on our five “Ministry Teams:”

- ◆ Membership Participation and Vitality
- ◆ Congregational Care
- ◆ Community Outreach
- ◆ Spiritual Growth and Enrichment
- ◆ Stewardship

Each of us is called to serve in some capacity, to minister to each other or to our community. Through service we not only make a valuable contribution in the lives of others, but we ourselves learn, grow and find fulfillment. In the coming weeks, you will learn more about our five Ministry Teams and the activities they engage in. And you will be asked to serve on at least one Ministry Team. I invite you to consider the ministry to which you are called. Perhaps it involves caring for other members of our congregation when they are in need. Or maybe your passion is to see that our buildings and grounds are properly maintained. Or you may feel pulled to engage in community outreach activities. No matter how you wish to serve, through our Ministry Team structure we can provide a vehicle for you to express your need.

Our goal is to have every member of our community engaged with at least one Ministry Team (you can participate in more than one!). And our goal is to provide you with meaningful opportunities to serve our community and the wider world. In that way, we will all join together in the ministries of this wonderful community of faith!

Love,  
*Peter*

### FOCUS INFO:

#### Editors:

Bette Austin  
& Neil Goldstein

#### Production:

Rina Jurceka

***The deadline for December is Nov. 12.***

Please send your text  
via email to:

**[Focus@uucdc.org](mailto:Focus@uucdc.org)**

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

## BOARD PERSPECTIVES: TAKE ME OUT

Mark Bernstein, President

It's Game Four of the National League Championship Series, Phillies-Dodgers, bottom of the ninth, Phils trailing 4-3, two on and two out. As the ball hit by Jimmy Rollins screams up the gap toward the right-field wall, sure to bring home the go-ahead run and a miraculous Phillies win, all I can think about is our Covenant of Right Relations.

After a process that took many months, we finally passed this important document at our special Congregational Meeting in mid-October. In simple terms, a covenant reminds us of the promises that we make to one another as Unitarian Universalists, surrounded by common beliefs and mutual goals, and committed to standing on the side of love. A covenant involves the promises that people make in mutual responsibility and agreement.

As in any agreement between individuals, there will be times when we fail to live up to those promises. But the nature of covenant means that we grant one another the right and responsibility to call us back to the promises we have made.

Some in our congregation have questioned whether the establishment of a Covenant of Right Relations is a response to perceived problems in communication or cooperation among members of UUCDC.

The answer is that this document is not reactionary. It is proactive and intended to create a loving and gentle environment that facilitates communication and right relationships so that disharmony is minimized and resolved openly and honestly when it does occur.

Let's be clear. Our Covenant of Right Relations is not prescriptive, nor is it a cure-all. We enter into this covenant voluntarily, knowing that a document cannot solve all our problems, and that true community and fellowship take hard work, attention to detail, and a commitment to one another.

I urge you to keep the Covenant of Right Relations near you and to read it periodically so that the words on the page become convictions of the heart.

So what does this Covenant of Right Relations have to do with the hit by Jimmy Rollins? Why would I be thinking about our commitment to each other and to Unitarian Universalism during one of the most dramatic moments in Phillies history?

Well, those who know me know that I am a life-long New York Mets fan. As a result, my other religion, the religion of baseball, forbids me from rooting for the Phillies. Yet I must live in a world of Phillies fans, demonstrating compassion, sharing open communication, and expressing my love to them despite the gap that divides us. So I figure that if I can live out the tenets of our Covenant of Right Relations in my interactions with members of UUCDC who cheer for the "Pfightins," then living this covenant with the rest of the world will be a piece of cake.

Play ball!

With love and respect,

*Mark*

### Heads Up for Inside FOCUS Articles

Nov. 8 Forum on Growth , page 7.

Board Positions Opening, page 8.

Calling all Bakers for Nov. 22 Service, page 10.

Auction: Coming Nov 14, Page 11.

YUCKI Pie Sale Order Form, Page 15.

## Board Notes: October Update—Irene Friedrichs Is New DRE

They say that good things come to those who wait— and the Board’s October meeting was a welcome case in point. In a joyous culmination to the Search Committee’s lengthy search for a new Director of Religious Education (DRE), the Board voted to approve the committee’s recommendation to hire Irene Friedrichs as our new DRE.

Given the importance of the DRE within the church, the Board devoted most of its meeting to reviewing Irene’s qualifications and discussing the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Group that was put into place shortly after the Search Committee recommended Irene for the position. This group’s role was to consider the administrative and accountability measures that should be considered given the unusual circumstance of a married couple serving as DRE and Minister. The board discussed and agreed on a framework to support Irene’s tenure, and these guidelines are available as a short report (See article “Administrative Process” for New DRE, page 8.)

The Board and Rev. Peter also would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for sharing their time, talent and treasures within the church community:

The DRE Search Committee, for their hard work and excellent recommendation: Claire Brill, John Jurceka, Maria Koenig, and Jean Lenke.

The Ad Hoc Group of Donna Harris, Paul Schlenker, Mary Beth Hoffman, Rich Cairncross, John Jurceka, Claire Brill and Don Pound, for their work in seeking to address the questions and concerns related to hiring Irene and making their recommendations to the Board.

Tabby Parsons, who served most excellently as our Coordinator of Religious Education and who will work with Irene to ensure a smooth transition of services.

Brad Randall, for working with our contractor to identify and resolve problems with our fire alarm system.

Bob McClennen, for purchasing and installing the four additional visitor parking signs.

Leigh Mitchell, for helping to throw what male UUCDC’ers heard was “a helluva party” for the women of the church.

*Jean Wallace*

for the Board

## Association Sunday November 1!

This year we are celebrating Association Sunday on November 1. With the funds raised by Unitarian Universalist congregations across the globe, we will continue our efforts to build the beloved community. Through this year’s Growth in Diversity funding initiatives, we will:

1. Expand the multicultural Building the World We Dream About curriculum and associated resources and training,
2. Support congregations that are working to create a Unitarian Universalism that is racially, culturally and economically diverse; a part of this support will be in the form of grants, and,
3. Enable UU congregations and districts to minister effectively to youth and young adults who identify as people of color or multiracial, and to their families, in the areas of spiritual development, racial/cultural identity development, and leadership development.

Our guest preacher for Association Sunday is the

Reverend John T. Crestwell, associate minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Annapolis, MD. In his sermon, “Why I Am a Unitarian Universalist,” John will tell us why he loves this faith and what it requires of us.

John is formerly the minister of Davies Memorial UU Church in Camp Springs, MD, where he assisted the congregation in expanding into a multiracial congregation. Under his leadership, Davies was 40 per cent racially diverse. Other than his duties of preaching, teaching and counseling at Annapolis, John leads the Pathwork Adult Religious Education program, as well as overseeing social justice initiatives.

Can’t make it to Association Sunday? You can still make a donation to the fund. Look for the envelopes on the desk just outside the office. UUCDC will still get credit for our contributions, the UUA will receive the funds, and you’ll feel good for having donated.

## Monthly Statement: Financial Update as of September

Many thanks for the feedback on the format of this summary of our financial status.

Several changes will be incorporated through the year: To give some context of the relative position on income and expense versus budget, we will present the equivalent position at this time last year. That will be in a graph rather than text, and we are working on publishing the detailed financial statements on the members database.

At the end of September, total income was \$75,428, which was \$22,178 behind the year-to-date budget. Total expense was \$80,737, or \$19,292 less than the budget. The combined effect of these two components is that we have a year-to-date shortfall of \$5,309.

Statements of your individual pledge payments and outstanding balances will be sent out in the near future. However, you can check the status of your pledges at any time by visiting your personal profile on Church DB (to access that website, go to [uucdc.org](http://uucdc.org) and click on Church Members Only).

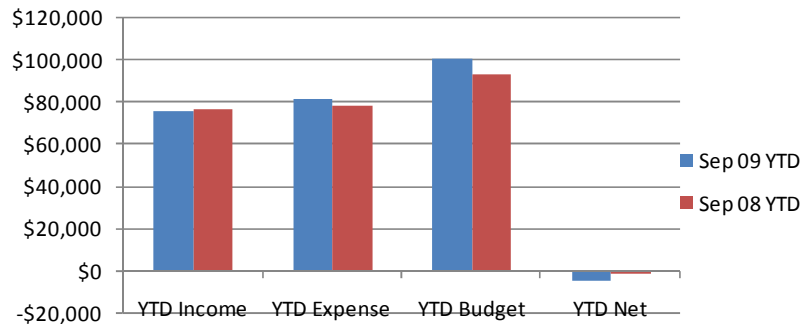
### *Michael Barnett Is Guest Speaker November 29*

Margaret Fuller Unitarian, transcendentalist, feminist, social justice activist and revolutionary is Guest Speaker Michael Barnett's subject for the Sunday Service, November 29.

A member of the Buxmont Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Barnett holds a Master of Divinity degree from Moravian Theological Seminary and a Master of Education degree from Gwynedd-Mercy College where he taught religious studies.

An enthusiast of Transcendentalists, such as Emerson, Theodore Parker, Thoreau, and poets Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman, Barnett has a special "passion" for Margaret Fuller, who had an impact on

### Comparison of UUCDC Financials 2009 v 2008



Please contact Peter Cooke at [cookelp@comcast.net](mailto:cookelp@comcast.net) with any questions, comments or suggestions.

*Peter Cooke*

Treasurer

society and culture in the 19th century. In the 1840's she was recognized as a brilliant and outstanding literary critic. She was the first woman social and literary critic for Horace Greeley's New York Tribune, and became the first woman foreign correspondent while fighting for the Italian democratic cause.

Beyond his Transcendentalist interests, Barnett is a teaching artist for the Lehigh Valley Arts Council, where he works with at-risk youth seeking their GEDs at the Program for Women and Families. This fall he is teaching "The Heart of Poetry" and "Journaling with Joy and Reflection" in Continuing Education at Montgomery County Community College.

### Results of Oct. 18 Special Congregational Meeting

On Oct. 18, congregation members gathered in the Sanctuary after the worship service to once again live out UU Principle Number 5: the use of the democratic process in our congregation.

We dealt with two agenda items, both of which had been tabled at our May meeting. The first, approval of the Covenant of Right Relations, was approved unanimously. The second, authorization to secure a Line of Credit of up to \$70,000, was defeated when the measure failed to gain a two-thirds majority of

the voting members.

President Mark Bernstein also took the opportunity to welcome Irene Friedrichs as our new Director of Religious Education.

Please consult a Board member if you have any questions about the meeting. The Board members' names are listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

# LIFESPAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Irene Friedrichs, Director of Religious Education

November has always been one of my favorite times of year. The last of the beautiful foliage still brightens the days until the leaves finally fall, the promise of the holidays to come hangs in the air, and the memories of Thanksgiving dinners past and of those to come fill my days.

Although giving thanks is part of my daily spiritual practice, I find that I spend a little more time in November counting my blessings. Sitting in the Director of Religious Education office at the church, I feel especially blessed! This church has been so fortunate in those who have come before me, helping to shape the dynamic program we have today -- Jean Campbell, Janet Boosz, Kate Ramos and others.

Tabby Parsons has been a blessing to the church as Coordinator of Religious Education (and congregant), and has been a tremendous help in

making the transition run smoothly. I am so thankful for her commitment to RE, and for all those who teach, assist, plan, sing and lead our youth each week. I look forward to working with everyone.

Finally, I feel an overwhelming sense of joy that I am part of this church and that I can help play a part in growing our faith. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to serve this congregation.

What are your blessings?

Blessings to you,

*Irene*

### **DRE Office Hours:**

*9:30 a.m to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by appointment.*

## *What's Been Happening in the Religious Education Program*

### **Elementary Religious Education**

Large RE prepared sugar skulls as part of the Oct. 25 Day of the Dead service. Everyone enjoyed learning about the Day of the Dead and the symbolism of the skulls, and all enjoyed decorating their own sugar skulls. Thanks to the Parsons family for making all 55 skulls.

In October the Kindergarten class discussed the family home and what takes place in it by comparing it with a beehive. The students discussed beehives, how bees enter them, what they do inside them, how they divide work, and the functions of the hives. The kids found many parallels between our homes and bee homes.

The word for the day was *beehive*, and the class revisited the ideas of "threshold" and "ritual." The children learned a short rhyme with hand motions, glued together bee parts, and colored them to make their own bees. They discussed why those bees might be heading back to their beehives, after which we attached the bees to the picture of the beehive.

The final activity was making the snack, a Honey Parfait, made with sliced bananas, vanilla yogurt, granola and honey.

### **Youth Religious Education**

Nicole Jurceka reports that the 10<sup>th</sup>-to-12<sup>th</sup>-grade youth group has welcomed this year's new participants and soon will implement a few fundraising events. Keep an eye out for the Annual Pie Sale information in Orders of Service and Digests (order form included in this FOCUS). On Nov. 1 the group will host a Soup Lunch after church.

### **Adult Religious Education**

The fall program is in full swing. Check out the church website for a full list of programming ([www.uucdc.org](http://www.uucdc.org) - Life Learning - Adult RE).

The Adult RE Team is planning spring programming. If you have a great idea for the spring, please contact Loretta Orndorff at 610-585-5704.

## CARING CORNER

As we enter this fall season, a few UUCDCers have been laid low by various ailments.

Riddle Memorial Hospital hosted some of our members. John Ashbrook is home following a hospital stay with pneumonia. Bill Vaughan was briefly there, but fortunately sent home. However, Bill's wife, Erika, has had a stroke and is at HUP. She is recovering, but has some distance to go. Nell Hardy also paid a visit to the hospital, where they dealt with a broken wrist following a fall. In all of these cases, cards would certainly be appreciated.

The Caring Committee continues to organize rides to church for Sol Blecker, who lives at Crosslands. Ellen Blosser, who also lives there, sometimes takes advantage of these rides as well. If you can help, please contact Laura Fetterman or Lucille Mathis.

UUCDC members and their families have not been

immune to the Novel H1N1 virus. It is moving swiftly enough that mentioning names is likely to be out of date by the time this is read. We encourage you to stay home if you or anyone in your family is unwell. The CDC recommends that those affected not return to public circulation until seven days after symptoms appear. For everyone else, please take preventive measures to reduce the likelihood of infection, such as frequent hand-washing and sneezing/coughing into a tissue or sleeve rather than hands. Remember, if someone declines to shake hands or hug during this time, it doesn't mean they don't hold you in high esteem, but rather they value your health and theirs.

If you, or someone you know, needs attention from the Caring Committee, please call Laura Fetterman (484-354-0787) or Lucille Mathis (610-325-0547).

### *Growing Our Church and UUism – Speak Up at Nov. 8 Forum*

The Terrapin Project, our growth think-tank, has been busy developing ways to attract people to our church and to keep them coming back. Now it's *your* turn!

After the service on Nov. 8, the project will present an adult religious education forum titled "Does Unitarian Universalism Have a Future?" The forum will address how, like little terrapins struggling in a rapidly changing world, we are trying keep up with the American religious community and changing religious ideas and habits.

The population of the United States has grown dramatically in the last 50 years. UUism hasn't. Why not? Is it us – as Unitarian Universalists – or is it religion? We like to think of ourselves as the church of tomorrow, but many tomorrows have come and gone and we haven't grown.

Although growth is a problem for UUism overall, we want to focus on why our own church isn't raising new buildings and welcoming crowds of people who want a new way of finding meaning their lives. Your ideas can help shape the strategies that the Terrapin Project will recommend to the congregation when it releases its report in February.

To help your thinking about growth, we encourage you to read these two articles from the UUWorld before the forum:

"Imagineers of the Soul," by Christine Robinson

<http://uuworld.org/ideas/articles/128959.shtml>

"Reach Out to Become a Public Church," by Michael Durall

<http://uuworld.org/ideas/articles/145381.shtml>

Those articles look at who Unitarian Universalists are and outline visions of how we might get to the future we have longed for. In addition, you may wish to read the Pew Forum's survey of the contemporary American religious landscape: <http://religions.pewforum.org/reports>. It's an interesting snapshot of which religions are thriving and who is going to church.

Please join us for an engaging discussion, and donate your two cents to our effort to make our religious community a place people cannot resist.

*Bryan Boosz*

## Administrative Processes for New Director of Religious Education

Based on the recommendations made by the ad-hoc group charged with reviewing administrative, accountability and other structures that should be put in place given the unusual circumstance of a married couple serving as Director of Religious Education and Minister, the Board of Trustees approved the following language, contained in both the contract and job description for Irene Friedrichs.

### *PERFORMANCE EVALUATION*

The performance of the DRE shall be reviewed annually by a committee selected by the Board of Trustees, which will be charged with this task. Formal input will be sought from the Minister, Personnel Committee and RE Council.

### *GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE*

At times, the DRE may need a sounding board, discuss issues or initiate a grievance discrete of Minister. In such cases, the RE Council will address program related items and the Personnel Committee will address employment related items.

Any disagreement between the DRE and the Church staff or membership should be brought to the Minister, RE Council or Personnel Committee. In the event of a disagreement between the DRE

and either of the before mentioned parties, every effort shall be made to settle the matter through joint informal discussion. If, after such informal action, the issue cannot be resolved, it shall be formally presented to and adjudicated by the Personnel Committee. In the event the employee is still not satisfied, she may request resolution by the Board of Trustees. The Board decision shall be final and binding.

In addition, after consultation with the Joseph Priestley District Compensation Representative, the Board accepted the ad-hoc group's recommendation that Irene's salary be set in accordance with Fair Compensation guidelines as a Credentialed Religious Educator and in concert with both the UUCDC plan to become a practicing Fair Compensation Congregation and the commitment to ensure internal equity with all employees during this implementation.

If you have any questions related to the above, please talk with a Board member.

*Mark Bernstein*

## *Cooking Up the Chili, Etc., Challenge for Jan. 23*

Now that we've felt the full flush of autumn, the Chili, Chocolate, Homebrew Challenge is just around the corner, calendar-wise.

In only a few short months -- on Jan. 23 -- you'll be competing again for those coveted prizes in the three categories. Chili heads and chocolate bakers, dust off your favorite recipes, watch the movie *Julie and Julia* for inspiration, and start experimenting. Brewers, start your yeast!

Penny Bartlett ([pennyb@comcast.net](mailto:pennyb@comcast.net)), Kelli

Schweitzer ([schweitz11@yahoo.com](mailto:schweitz11@yahoo.com)) and Irene Friedrichs ([iefriedrichs@gmail.com](mailto:iefriedrichs@gmail.com)) **need your help in the planning and preparation of the festivities.** So if you have expertise in organization, planning, food prep -- or just want to have lots of fun working on this all-church fundraiser -- please send an e-mail or see us at church.

Look for the sign-up board in the lobby. We look forward to your support.

## *Board Positions Open for Fall 2010 Term*

Several Board positions will be opening up for the next term. If you would like to be considered, please notify Kate Ramos ([ramoskg@hotmail.com](mailto:ramoskg@hotmail.com)), the Chair of the Board's Nominating Committee, by Nov. 15. Include a short paragraph outlining the gifts, strengths and talents that you would bring to the Board.

This is a wonderful opportunity to help set the future course at UUCDC and to participate in the democratic process with other committed members of the congregation. Give serious thought to serving UUCDC.

## IN OUR BACK YARD

### Thomas Paine UU to Host Workshop to Strengthen Social Justice Programs

The Unitarian Universalist Association is offering a one-day training workshop on effective social justice programs that are working in other congregations.

The date is Nov. 14 at Thomas Paine UU Fellowship, 3424 Ridge Pike, Collegeville, PA.

This Social Justice Empowerment Cluster Workshop aims to help congregations in launching or strengthening social justice programs.

Experienced and effective leaders will lead various

sessions. The workshop also will include small-group dialogues, presentations, worship, food, music printed materials, a post-workshop organizing strategy and formats that work.

Cost is \$200 per team (up to four people). For a team of five or more, add \$25 for each additional person. UUA will provide handbooks. For additional information, contact Dorothy Tarka, dtarka@verizon.net.

### Service and Potlucks for GLBTQQIs on Fall Sundays

Murray Grove Retreat and Conference Center will host Welcoming services and potlucks November 15, and December 6, 5 – 7 p. m., for GLBTQQI (Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning and Intersex) and their friends and supporters at the center in Lanoka Harbor, NJ.

Although future dates may vary, these events will be held on a Sunday each month. RSVP 609-693-5558 or murraygrove@murraygrove.org.

### Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New!

Murray Grove also will celebrate the New Year, with Rev. Craig Hirschberg, December 31, 2009-January 1, 2010, with a festive and spiritual New Year's overnight retreat for UU families and friends, individuals, couples and groups.

With a 1920's theme, it will include dinner, dance lessons and dance party (any level of inexperience O.K.). The ring-out-the-old/ring-in-the-new event will cost \$75 per person, children under 12, \$50. Space is limited, so RSVP as soon as possible. See above for telephone and email address.

### *It's Time for UU Service Committee Holiday Cards*

This year, you can send more than holiday greetings in the mail to loved ones – you can send support to courageous human-rights defenders around the world with Unitarian Universalist Service Committee holiday cards.

The cards are a colorful, fun way to celebrate the holidays, while promoting justice, equity and compassion in human relations. They come in a variety of designs. By purchasing them, you support UUSC program partners' work to advance human rights.

You also aid the committee's efforts to promote workers' rights, civil liberties, the human right to water, and the rights of vulnerable groups in humanitarian crises.

A pack of cards costs \$10 and includes 10 cards/envelopes (except the assortment pack, which contains 16 cards/envelopes but still goes for \$10).

To order, go to [https://secure.uusc.org/store/uusc\\_holiday\\_cards](https://secure.uusc.org/store/uusc_holiday_cards).

### What's in a Title? Some Interesting Stuff (Think Podcasts)

Ever wanted a fancy title? How about Podcast Engineer? It could be fancier, but UUCDC needs one. If you're the person for the job, you can pick your own title.

UUCDC podcasts sermons and needs someone to take over the task. The church office will provide easy-to-follow instructions and even training. It is not complicated, but it does require familiarity with computer functions.

The Podcast Engineer needs to come to church regularly to pick up the card that records the service. The info is then edited and uploaded to the church website. While this may sound complex, it's really easy. The time commitment is about 20 minutes each week. Contact the church office if you are interested.

## ARTS, BOOKS & MUSIC

### Book Club Explores Child Abuse

#### -- One Man's Experience -- for November

For its November choice, the Book Club will discuss, *My Lobotomy*, by Howard Dully, on Friday, November 20 in the Youth Room.

This is a true story about Dully's investigation into his own lobotomy at the age of 12 by Walter Freeman, the inventor of the procedure. Dully exhibited no unusual mental "symptoms," but was taken to be lobotomized by his unloving stepmother.

The story reveals how Dully was abused twice: by his own parents and by the psychiatric profession, "treating" a horrible family situation as a disease that someone – here, a child – might have.

In October, club members read the quixotic, fictional biography, *Orlando*, by Virginia Woolf.

Orlando is the central character in this imaginative

"biography" that spans three centuries. Somewhere along the way, Orlando changes from a man into a woman. Through Orlando's journey, Woolf explores the roles of sex in society and sexual identity. She also pokes fun at aristocrats and literary artists. You had to be there.

The Book Club meets once a month in the Lounge at 7:30 p.m. We are a co-ed group and would welcome you and help you get more out of your reading. Pick up *My Lobotomy* from your bookstore, library, or friend's coffee table when no one is looking and join us on November 20.

For more information contact Nancy Henderson, Priscilla Hopkirk, Len Finegold, or Lillian Finnell.

*Bryan Boosz*

### Preparations Underway for Opera Gala

Plans are already underway for UUCDC's 12th annual Opera Gala, March 20, 2010 in Fellowship Hall.

Fifteen to 20 singers, opera-lovers all, participate, with each singing a selection. An ensemble number, such as a duet or trio, is also a part of the program. Black tie for the men and evening dress for the women add to the glamour. Rehearsals are scheduled for the preceding Monday and Friday evenings.

The singers also provide refreshments and help set

up tables and chairs and store them at the end of the evening.

Admission is \$10 for public and singers. UUCDC is the beneficiary after expenses are deducted.

Participation is by invitation only, but church members and friends interested in participating may contact Martha Smylie, by email: kat-isha9@comcast.net. Non-singers, but those willing to help set up, decorate and clean up afterwards, should contact Bets Melli, 610-690-5300.

### Media Chamber Chorale's November Cabaret Celebrates Fall

Media Chamber Chorale's cabaret will present "Autumn Leaves, A Fall Potpourri," November 7, 7:30 p. m. in Fellowship Hall.

The chorale will feature solos, ensembles and a variety of choral pieces, including a preview selection

from its winter concert, J.S. Bach's "Magnificat."

Loretta Orndorff is the evening's host and Lou Bickford will serve as the occasion's joke meister. It will be a pass-the-hat fund-raiser.

**Calling All Bakers (and Bread-Cutters and Cider-Pourers)!** Bakers, start your ovens! We seek volunteers to make pumpkin bread for the Nov. 22 Thanksgiving service. To join up and to get the recipe, please contact Administrative Assistant Chrissy Drummond, 610-566-4853, Ext. 4, or [assistant@uucdc.org](mailto:assistant@uucdc.org). We also need people to cut up the bread and pour cups of cider on that Sunday morning. Again, let Chrissy know that you'll be available. Thank you!

## ***The Auction is NEARLY Here!!***

# **November 14<sup>th</sup>**

## **6:30 – 9:00 PM**

We have a wonderful evening planned with something for everyone! You don't need to be a big spender to thoroughly enjoy this evening, as the best part is spending quality time with members of our community and their guests. Did you miss out on last year's laughter, "Ministerial Roast" and "Girls Night Out"? You won't want to miss these special moments, plus the addition of a Wine Bar where our own wine experts introduce a variety of vintages.

### **WHAT'S ON OFFER?**

- Dinners
- Original paintings
- Vacation homes
- Home-baked goods
- Fine wines
- Children's toys

### **WHAT ARE THE DETAILS?**

- Auction paddle (\$10)
- Silent auction 6:30 p.m.
- Live auction 7—9 p.m.
- Child care available

If you have something to offer and haven't had a chance to stop by the auction table after service, please don't delay – contact Mark Shay ([mshay@ClassicWines.com](mailto:mshay@ClassicWines.com) or 610-357-4648) with your donation

Running the auction requires many hands and the auction committee welcomes your help, so if you are interested in helping with food, setup or cleanup, please contact Kate Ramos ([ramoskg@hotmail.com](mailto:ramoskg@hotmail.com) or evenings: 610-642-2795).

The best part about the auction is that you will have a great night, and all proceeds go directly to the church. We're counting on you to make this auction the best ever, as this is an important fundraiser for our church and our success depends on your support and participation.

See you there!!

Many thanks for your contribution to UUCDC!

**- The 2009 Auction Team**



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

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# Focus

November 2009

First Class Mail  
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Permit # 107

## *Get Ready for Early FOCUS Deadlines in Nov. and Dec.*

As you prepare for the coming holidays – you *are* preparing, right? – please keep in mind that FOCUS has a present for you: *(Relatively) early deadlines!*

Due to various scheduling needs, the deadlines are **Thursday, Nov. 12**, for the December issue and **Thursday, Dec. 10**, for January.

This way, you can get your newsletter articles out of the way well before the rushes of Thanksgiving, the First of Muharram, Christmas and Kwanzaa! (True, Hanukkah starts Dec. 11, but we did the best we could.)

Any questions, please e-mail [focus@uucdc.org](mailto:focus@uucdc.org).

*Bette Austin ([bettemaustin@aol.com](mailto:bettemaustin@aol.com)) and Neil Goldstein ([neiljgold@aol.com](mailto:neiljgold@aol.com))*

FOCUS co-editors

November 2009

# Calendar

## November 2009\*

Start Date	Event	Start Time	Event	Start Time	
11/1	Chorus Rehearsal	9:00 AM	Church Chorus	9:00 AM	
	Meditation	9:00 AM	Meditation	9:00 AM	
	UU101	9:00 AM	Worship Service and Religious Education	10:30 AM	
	Worship Service and Religious Education	10:30 AM	Interweave Rainbow Bake Sale	11:45 AM	
	Bible Study for UUs	12:00 PM	Bible Study for UUs	12:00 PM	
	Board Visioning Meeting	12:00 PM	Does UUism Have a Future?	12:00 PM	
	Youth Soup Lunch	12:00 PM	Personnel Committee	12:00 PM	
	Interweave - LGBTQ & Friends	12:30 PM	Rental	1:00 PM	
	Newcomers' Reception	3:00 PM	Independent Catholics	6:00 PM	
	Independent Catholics	6:00 PM	Thespi Rehearsal	6:00 PM	
	Thespi Rehearsal	6:00 PM	Yucki meeting	6:00 PM	
11/2	Voice Lesson Rental	8:00 AM	11/9	Voice Lesson Rental	8:00 AM
	Tai Chi and Martial Arts	6:30 PM		Tai Chi and Martial Arts	6:30 PM
	Religious Education Council	7:30 PM		Board of Trustees Meeting	7:00 PM
11/3	Yoga	5:45 PM	11/10	Yoga	5:45 PM
11/4	Parent as Resident Theologians	7:00 PM		Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance	7:00 PM
	Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM		Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays (PFLAG)	7:00 PM
	Terrapin Project	7:30 PM		Small Group Ministry	7:30 PM
11/5	Small Group Ministry	1:00 PM	11/11	Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM
	Church Chorus	7:00 PM	11/12	Church Chorus	7:00 PM
11/6	Rose Tree Day School Closed, In-Service Day	12:00 AM	11/13	Auction Set Up	9:00 AM
	MCC Cabaret Rehearsal	6:00 PM	11/14	Church Chorus	10:00 AM
11/7	Sexuality Education			Auction	6:00 PM
	Advocacy Training	9:00 AM			
	MCC Cabaret	6:00 PM			



Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County  
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\*Printed October 28, 2009

# November 2009

11/15	Church Chorus	9:00 AM	11/23	Voice Lesson Rental	8:00 AM
	Meditation	9:00 AM		Rose Tree Day School	
	Worship Service			Parent Visitation	10:00 AM
	and Religious Education	10:30 AM		Thespi Rehearsal	6:00 PM
	Bible Study for UUs	12:00 PM		Tai Chi and Martial Arts	6:30 PM
	Is Membership in Your Future	12:00 PM		Lay Leadership Meeting	7:15 PM
	Independent Catholics	6:00 PM		RTDS Board	7:15 PM
	Thespi Rehearsal	6:00 PM	11/24	Yoga	5:45 PM
	Yucki meeting	6:00 PM		Depression & Bipolar	
	Junto	7:00 PM		Support Alliance	7:00 PM
11/16	Voice Lesson Rental	8:00 AM	11/25	District 54 AA	7:00 PM
	Tai Chi and Martial Arts	6:30 PM		Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM
	Rose Tree Day School Board	7:15 PM			
11/17	Yoga	5:45 PM	11/26	Rose Tree Day School Closed	12:00 AM
	Celtic Reconstructionists	6:00 PM			
11/18	Membership Committee	7:00 PM	11/27	Rose Tree Day School Closed	12:00 AM
	Media Chamber Chorale	7:30 PM			
11/19	Small Group Ministry	1:00 PM	11/28	Rental	4:00 PM
	Church Chorus	7:00 PM			
11/20	UU CDC Book Club	7:30 PM	11/29	Meditation	9:00 AM
				Large RE	10:30 AM
11/21	Piano Tuning for RTC	10:00 AM		Worship Service	
	Inclement weather site for			and Religious Education	10:30 AM
	Transgender Day			Thespi set up	2:00 PM
	of Remembrance Service	4:00 PM		Independent Catholics	6:00 PM
	International Supper Club	6:00 PM		Thespi Rehearsal	6:00 PM
				Yucki meeting	6:00 PM
11/22	Church Chorus	9:00 AM	11/30	Voice Lesson Rental	8:00 AM
	Meditation	9:00 AM		Thespi Tech Week	6:30 PM
	Multigenerational			Tai Chi and Martial Arts	7:00 PM
	Worship Service	10:30 AM			
	SGM	12:00 PM			
	Rose Tree Concert Set up	3:00 PM			
	Independent Catholics	6:00 PM			
	Yucki meeting	6:00 PM			
	Rose Tree Concert	7:00 PM			

# YUCKI 2009 Pie Sale Order Form

Pick-up is Sunday, Nov. 22, after the service

Order forms are due Sunday, Nov. 15 after service, or

Email orders to [ngribbenc1@gmail.com](mailto:ngribbenc1@gmail.com) by 11/18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

1 pie, \$12

>1 pies, \$10 per pie

Pie Flavors	Qty.	Cost
Pumpkin .....	_____ pies x 10 or 12	\$ _____
Apple.....	_____ pies x 10 or 12	\$ _____
Pecan.....	_____ pies x 10 or 12	\$ _____
Blueberry.....	_____ pies x 10 or 12	\$ _____
Chocolate Dream.....	_____ pies x 10 or 12	\$ _____

Total: \_\_\_\_\_ pies                      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PAID     PAY AT PICK-UP