



March 2011

# The Sojourner

newsletter of the Unitarian-Universalist  
Fellowship of Pottstown

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[www.uupottstown.org](http://www.uupottstown.org)

*There will be a 15 minute period of silent meditation before services.  
Please enter the sanctuary quietly.*

## Sunday, March 6, 2011

### Keeping Your Brain in Shape

Speaker/ Lay Leader: Lisa Jokiel

Lisa will present Part Two of her program about cognition, begun on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. She will consider ways in which all of us can keep our brains happy and healthy.

In addition, there will be handouts relating to Part One, "Present Reality Is Not Always the Most Important Thing."

The renowned UUFPA Ladies Quartet will reprise "Lean on Me" from its show-stopping debut at the Valentine Social.

## Sunday, March 13, 2011

### The Lottery

Rev David Farrington

A short story of the same title was published by The New Yorker in 1948. To this date it has received more reader response than any other story ever printed by that magazine. It is a somewhat disturbing story with an important message: we often take for granted customs that have been in place for generations even though they may be harmful to some. Using that as a springboard, we will assess customs of the UUFPA as forward looking or otherwise.

## Sunday, March 20, 2011

### Loaves and Fishes

Rev David Farrington

In the parable of loaves and fishes, Jesus feeds a multitude of thousands seemingly from a few loaves of bread and a couple of dried fish.

Parables seek to reveal a truth, even more than they attempt to tell a truth. This parable speaks to the often dichotomous thinking of scarcity in the presence of abundance. We will look at our Fellowship and discuss our own potential for miracles.

*3rd Sunday potluck will follow the service.*

## Sunday, March 27, 2011

### The Goldilocks Church

Rev David Farrington

The Reverend Peter Friedrichs has given me permission to use his sermon, *A Fairy Tale Church*, in which Goldilocks is looking for her ideal church and in the process encounters many of the dynamics that seekers might find in our churches. Looking through the "Goldilocks lens" we will then assess a new visitor's experience coming to UUFPA for the first few times.



## *From the Minister's Desk*

Back by popular demand! *Build Your Own Theology* is a four part course that seeks to walk participants through their own religious thinking. Each of the thirty topics has stand-alone capability and progresses from such basic theological ideas as the existence and/or nature of God, prayer and meditation and life after death. As the courses progress we come to topics which help define a particular Unitarian Universalist faith. Truth and authority: what do we know for sure, unity in diversity, what is holy, sin and salvation, the problem of evil, the meaning of suffering and the like.

Each participant is encouraged to begin with a "credo" a statement of his or her beliefs and then make changes as we progress. The final product will be a highly individualized statement of your personal belief system. The operative word here is "system." A great benefit of theology in general and this learning opportunity in particular, is that it helps organize one's beliefs into a coherent system. It also goes a long way towards helping many of us through the awkwardness of trying to explain our UU beliefs to those of other faith traditions.

Of course your privacy is assured - you share with other participants on what you are comfortable sharing.

This course is being offered on a continuing basis. We will finish the three lesson plans from last year's study and then start the series anew. Meetings will be at the Fellowship starting at 7:00 P.M on Thursday, March 16th, 23rd and 30th.

One of our members recently told me how taking a course in the Bible as literature was transformative. I have long contemplated putting together a course, or perhaps more properly a discussion group, with the end of providing a more broadly based literary understanding of Judeo-Christian scripture.

We are taught at an early age that the Bible is a kind of blueprint for living a proper and upright life. Yet when we attempt to read it, it is anything but clear how so much of it can even be stretched to such a purpose. Taking a decidedly "areligious" or secular approach to the Bible can be enormously enlightening for it contains a broad variety genres and subtleties - although, in the end, it can be viewed as a coherent whole.

The Bible contains beautiful poems. It also has proverbs and parables - distinct literary genres. Even the greatest biblical scholars cannot agree if the parables are allegorical or otherwise. But why leave such stimulating questions to the halls of academia?

If you think you might be interested in exploring the Bible as literature please let me know. If there is a sufficient number we will look for a time that is convenient for as many as possible and give it a go.

Blessings,

*Dave*



## *Religious Education*

February is treating us to all kinds of weather! I personally am in favor of the warmer days but I love the snow!! Maybe we can invent warm snow!!!

February was a time of fun and creativity in the Elementary class. Valentines frames were painted and crafted, Jon Price helped the children plant beans... come look in our window to see how they are doing. At this writing more fun is planned as Christine Burnley helps the children create yarn pictures Huichol Mexican style.

We had many happy faces in the nursery as they were joined by Tara Boroson, Bev Jensen, Reverend Dave, Laurie Young and myself.

The Teen class continues to grow under the dedicated tutelage of Deni and Bob Gross. This month they are planning to continue their discussion about super heroes! Feel free to fly by and join in the discussion!

A special thanks goes out to Michelle Effgen and CJ Rhoads. Michelle has been helping with the search for a Nursery staff person and CJ has been helping organize people and is volunteering in both the Elementary class and the nursery. Thanks to all of you for helping to create a wonderful RE program.

Our RE program wouldn't be as wonderful as it is without our current children and students.

Hail and Welcome:

Maggie, Casey, Kelly, Talia, Anika, Tyler, Nyeemba and Aiden !!!!!!!!!!!

We'd like to extend an official welcome to little Lorelei!

With appreciation and thanks,

*Linda*



## *Meditation Moment...*

*"Experiencing the stability and joy of our mind eventually becomes much more appealing than listening to our mental chatter. "*

*- Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche*

Simply Sitting meets on Mondays at 7:30 pm. Visitors always welcome.

**Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation is offered on first Mondays of the Month.**

## Popcorn Theology



### "Despicable Me"

When a criminal mastermind (voiced by Steve Carrell) uses three orphan girls as pawns for a grand scheme to steal the moon, he finds himself profoundly changed by the growing love between them.

This animated comedy was nominated for a Golden Globe and nine other prestigious awards. It is 95 minutes long and was first introduced at the Los Angeles Film Festival in June 2010.

Join us for a viewing and discussion of this delightful family movie.

Friday, March 18 at 7 pm at the UUFP.

*Bring a snack and a drink - and a friend!*



## Coffee, Coffee, Coffee...

Don't miss the opportunity to buy the same wonderful fair trade coffee we serve at our Sunday morning Coffee Hour to enjoy at home.

Whole coffee beans, regular and decaf drip grinds are available as well as tea and four different kinds of chocolate bars.



Our most popular candy bars are Dark Chocolate with Orange, the Dark Chocolate with Almonds, and the Dark Chocolate Crunch with Sea Salt.

We're featuring a new product this month; look for our Dark Chocolate Minis. They're great for a quick treat.

**Find the Coffee Kiosk after Sunday Service at Coffee Hour.**



## Dick and Lisa Jokiel in Recital

On Sunday afternoon April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, at 3 PM at the Fellowship, the Jokiel duo will present a vocal and piano encore program of favorites. Dick's vocals will include some German folk songs, Schubert Lieder, The Holy City, Road to Mandalay, and some Broadway tunes, concluding with Old Man River. Lisa will present Rustle of Spring and Clair de Lune. The program will take an hour, with no intermission.

Coffee and goodies will follow.

Sometime after a break, for the truly dedicated classical fans, Lisa will play her not-quite-ready-for Carnegie Hall version of the entire Moonlight Sonata. It is a fifteen minute piece; the friends of the truly dedicated classical fans can visit in the Social Hall during that time!

Invite a friend or two!

We are asking a free will donation to benefit the Fellowship.

# Music OUT Loud - Concerts for Everyone!

– Sponsored by INTERWEAVE: LGBTQ & Friends

## Tret Fure with Cassendre Xavier opening the show!



**TRET FURE**

March 26th, 2011, 7:30 - 10 pm, Doors Open at 7 pm.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County  
145 W. Rose Tree Road, Media, PA 19063  
[www.uucdc.org](http://www.uucdc.org)

Recording her first album in 1973, **Tret Fure** is one of the most prolific artists in the contemporary singer-songwriter arena and she has been major player in the Women's Music genre since the 80's. A master of musical technology, experienced engineering and producer with her own label - Tomboy Girl Records - Tret is a teacher, an incredible vocalist, a gifted instrumentalist and she has recently re-established herself in the folk world winning prestigious songwriting awards and the Jane Schliessman Award for Outstanding Contributions to Women's Music. Tret continues to turn out marvelous albums, with universal appeal. Her most recent release, "The Horizon", is her most personal work yet with something there to pull on each and every heart-string.

**Cassendre Xavier** has co-billed with Alix Dobkin, Lucie Blue Tremblay, Toshi Reagon, Pat Humphries of emma's revolution, Ubaka Hill, and Anne Rabson of Sapphire: Uppity Blues Women. Under her Serious Creature Music label, she released 6 original recordings described as "a cross between Tracy Chapman, Sade, and Enya" (Steven M. Wilson, Borders), and her album "Live at Tin Angel" was honorably mentioned by Philadelphia City Paper's M. J. Fine as the number 9 of "Top 21 Local EPs of 2007". WXPB 88.5's Amazon Country host Debra D'Alessandro has said, "Her stage presence is one part sex kitten serenading in heels, two parts powerhouse kick-ass feminist troubadour poet. In concert with Cassendre Xavier, there is never a dull moment."



**CASSENDRE XAVIER**

Advance Tickets \$10 & \$18 at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com). Door price: \$22.00. Student tickets \$10 at the door with ID. Children 12 & under, free. Please be aware that there are no refunds if the concert is held.

*Note: The UUCDC concert space welcomes everyone and all ages.  
Light refreshments, T-shirts & CDs will be available for sale.*



## *Thanks for the Memories!*



The membership committee wishes to thank all who participated in the Fellowship Valentine Dinners and Deserts; hosts, bakers, decorators, singers, poets, dish washers, setters of tables .....everyone.

Forty one members and friends gathered on Saturday, February 12th to celebrate our second annual Valentine's Day event.



Here are just a few of the special moments you may remember.



*Thank you, all!!!*



### *Redner's Save-A-Tapes*

Remember to save your register tapes if you shop at Redner's. The fellowship collects a profit of 1% of the total accumulated from the tapes.

In order to qualify for this program you must sign up for a "Pump Perks" card, (this process takes about 2 minutes.) which also helps to save you money on gas. Each time you purchase groceries at Redner's be sure to use your "Pump Perks" card.

Then place your register receipts in the White Redner's box located in the fellowship room. Peggy Jones will collect the receipts, add up the total amount spent and turn in the receipts for cash.



# UUFP Calendar

## March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Yoga 7:00	4	5
6 Choir 8:30 Adult & Ch RE: 9:30 Service 10:30	7 Meditation 7:30 <i>1st Monday Intro to Meditation</i>	8	9 Membership Mtg: 7:30	10 Yoga 7:00  COSM Mtg 7:00	11 UUFP Board Mtg: 7:00	12
13 Choir 8:30 Adult & Ch RE: 9:30 Service 10:30	14 Meditation 7:30	15 <b><i>Sojourner Deadline</i></b>	16 Build Your Own Theology 7:00	17 Yoga 7:00	18 Popcorn Theology 7:00  <i>Despicable Me</i>	19
20 Choir 8:30 Adult & Ch RE: 9:30 Service 10:30 <i>3rd Sunday Potluck 11:30</i>	21 Meditation 7:30	22	23 Build Your Own Theology 7:00	24 Yoga 7:00	25	26 Tret Fure and Cassandre Xavier at UU Church of Delaware 7:00 PM
27 Choir 8:30 Adult & Ch RE: 9:30 Service 10:30	28 Meditation 7:30	29	30 Build Your Own Theology 7:00	31 Yoga 7:00		

## Who's Who at the UUFP

**Minister:** Rev. David Farrington

### **Board of Directors:**

**President:** Tara Boroson

**Vice President:** Lisa Hill

**Past President:** Clayton Mowrer

**Board Secretary:** Linda Pallay

**Treasurer:** Mary Ryan

**Board Member:** Mary Alsayegh

**Board Member:** Carla Johnson

### **Board Committees:**

#### **Committee on Shared Ministry:**

Chair: Marianne Yarnall

### **Congregational Committees:**

#### **Committee Council:**

Chair: Lisa Hill

### **Stewardship:**

Chair: Mary Ryan

Bookkeeper: Open

### **UUAction:**

Chair: Carla Johnson

### **Worship:**

Chair: Lisa Jokiel

Choir: Marianne Yarnall

### **Member Services:**

Membership: Miranda Van Horn

Greeters: Judith Van Beek

Sunday Coffee Teams: Judith Van Beek

Newsletter: Kay Price

Website Updates: Bob Gross

### **Facilities:**

Chair: Clayton Mowrer

### **Religious Education:**

Chair: Linda Pallay

## **Important email contacts:**

Minister@uupottstown.org– Rev David Farrington

President@uupottstown.org – Tara Boroson

VicePresident@uupottstown.org– Lisa Hill

PastPresident@uupottstown.org – Clayton Mowrer

BoardSecretary@uupottstown.org – Linda Pallay

Board@uupottstown.org - Board members

Committees@uupottstown.org– Lisa Hill

Office@uupottstown.org – Office staff

Mailings@UUPottstown.org–Judith Van Beek

Newsletter@uupottstown.org – Kay Price

UUAction@uupottstown.org - Carla Johnson

Programs@uupottstown.org – Lisa Jokiel

MemberServices@uupottstown.org– Miranda Van Horn

Facilities@uupottstown.org – Clayton Mowrer

Finance@uupottstown.org - Mary Ryan

Stewardship@uupottstown.org - Mary Ryan

Sharedministry@uupottstown.org: Marianne Yarnall

Webmaster@uupottstown.org – Bob Gross

**Change of email, phone or street address?** Email your new contact information to mailings@uupottstown.org or hand over new info in person to Judith Van Beek.

## **Sojourner Policy/Deadlines**

The Sojourner is the voice of the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Pottstown. Notices pertaining to the Fellowship, its activities and members, and denominational news may be submitted to the Fellowship in writing or by email. **The submission deadline is the 15th of each month. Please note the email address for the Sojourner: newsletter@uupottstown.org**

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
FELLOWSHIP OF  
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Website:

<http://www.uupottstown.org>

*Pottstown Cluster food pantry collection during service  
every second Sunday of the month.*