

NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

AUGUST &
SEPTEMBER

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

**SUNDAYS IN
AUGUST
AND
SEPTEMBER
1996**

This Newsletter is a double issue for the months of August and September. READ IT! SAVE IT! POST IT!

August 4 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject: "Finally, Friends." This will be the last Sunday Ray and Barbara Pontier will be at Innisfree (we will be at the Anniversary Brunch on August 11th.) It will also be the final sermon/talk that Ray will be giving at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. See more about the Pontier's move to Florida in this issue of the Newsletter.

August 11 - Hope to see all members and friends at our Anniversary Lunch to be held at the Lackawaxen House. The cost is a reasonable \$10 a person, including tax and tip. Children under 8 pay half price. The buffet has an extensive selection, including vegetarian dishes. If you have not signed up, call Barbara Pontier at 914/252-7553 promptly.

AUGUST 18 - Every once in awhile we have to put our heads together and plan for future Sunday programs. This is one of those times -- and we will have a "Planning Meeting" to schedule Sunday programs for the next several months. We need the help of all members and friends!!

August 25 - There will be a Play-reading about Michael Servetus, Unitarian Martyr in the 16th century. A leader is needed to arrange for whom shall read the various parts. Volunteers step forward!

September 1 - A "Nature Walk" is scheduled for this first day and Sunday in September. A decision has to be made as to the leader and the place.

September 8 - There will be "Shared Readings" for this Sunday -- unless another plan is made at the August Planning Meeting. A popular program.

September 15 - "Some Pro's and Con's about the Presidential Candidates." This is a program that should invite some healthy discussion. All members and friends are invited to share their thinking and opinions -- remembering that Unitarian Universalists have very high regard for diversity of opinion and for rationality of thought.

September 22 - Our newly elected Vice President, Robin Clemens, will be leading a program on "Prayer in Public Schools." This is an issue that seems never to go away. It was back in the 1950s that the United States Supreme Court ruled against both "officially" sponsored prayers in public schools, as well as the practice of bible-reading. President Clinton recently issued a statement about what might be considered permissible. So what do you think?

September 29 - As we head into the fall season, we take an opportunity to enjoy the beauties of our area by visiting Joe Walker's place -- 573 Buck Brook Road, Roscoe, NY. His phone is 914/482-5049. Call him if you need directions.

W H O ' S

W H O

A T T H E

U U

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a listing of members and friends of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. If there are any errors, omissions, or corrections, blame it on Ray Pontier. They were purely inadvertent. This is the most recent list, so please save it! If there are others who should be on the list, or want to be, please contact the Fellowship President, Joe Walker.

The new address of Barbara and Ray Pontier is in the enclosed list. Just a reminder that after August 17th we will be at:

1112 West Beacon Road #42
Beacon Hill Colony
Lakeland, FL 33803
(Phone 941/688-9656)

A few observations about our move are on the next page.

"BE OURS A RELIGION WHICH LIKE SUNSHINE, GOES EVERYWHERE; ITS TEMPLE, ALL SPACE; ITS SHRINE, THE GOOD HEART; ITS CREED, ALL TRUTH; ITS RITUAL, WORKS OF LOVE; ITS PROFESSION OF FAITH, DIVINE LIVING." (Theodore Parker)

He drew a circle that shut me out,
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win.
We drew a circle that took him in.
Edwin Markham

ON MOVING SOUTH

Barbara and I have mixed emotions about leaving this area and heading for Florida. We will not miss the cold -- but we will miss the unique beauty of the Upper Delaware Valley. There is nothing to match it -- either in Florida or few other places, either.

We will deeply miss the friends we have made here in the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. The most interesting people, the most compatible people, the most caring people, are those we have come to know here in this community of Unitarian Universalists. Only here could we be part of such a wonderful gathering of people who share the free and open values of our free faith.

And, of course, we will miss this Fellowship as a Fellowship. We will be attending a larger UU Church in Florida, but nothing will quite replace the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Over the years we have lived in Narrowsburg it has provided us with a religious community that respects our intelligence, reinforces our values, and encourages growth. We have looked forward each Sunday to being at Innisfree for our Sunday gatherings.

We leave here with a certain sense of regret and loss -- and concern. The Fellowship now continues "without benefit of clergy." In the years since we organized in 1987, I have tried to provide some leadership and nurture. It has been a labor of love, gladly given because of my commitment to the concept of Unitarian Universalism. Over those years we have discovered a wealth of talent and leadership within the Fellowship. It is now up to that leadership and talent to carry on positively and aggressively, continuing the good work that has been ongoing for all these years.

When our Fellowship first started, I remember saying to the small organizing group: "You can have a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship if you really want it strongly enough!" But it takes commitment. It takes dedication. It takes loyalty. It takes "hanging in there" in good times and bad..

Barbara and I thank you for the good years in this Fellowship -- and wish you well in the years ahead.

Ray Pontier

BRIEFLY NOTED Barbara Lutz will be putting out periodic Newsletters.

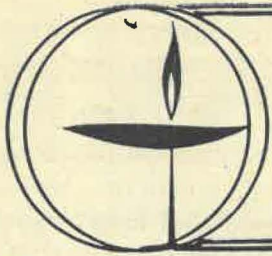
Grace Eno has also offered to help. A Newsletter has several stages of production: Preparing the copy on typewriter or word processor; running off copies on a copier; folding and sorting and mailing completed copies. The Newsletter is an important part of publicity and keeping in touch. Other may be willing to share the load! ***Newspaper publicity is also important. Barbara Pontier has been doing this, sending out monthly notices to area newspapers about our Sunday services. Not hard, but requires some time.*** So good to see Marc and Lorna Hollander (and two children) at our recent service. Marc teaches school in New York City, and they have a second home in Shohola. ***Also good to have Lloyd Johnson attending our services recently. He lives in Roseland, NJ, but has a summer home in Shohola. ***Recently had a wonderful letter from Eve Murphy -- informative and upbeat -- even though she has been diagnosed with kidney disfunction and is in dialysis three times a week. She and Gerry are enjoying retirement in Arizona. Their Address:
Eve & Gerald Murphy
11425 East University #93
Apache Junction. AZ 85220

UPPER DELAWARE UU STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We, the members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, are gathered into a committed relationship:

- **To make possible a caring and supportive community in which each individual will feel free to chart her or his spiritual journey in the search for ultimate meaning in life;
- **To create an atmosphere in which each person will be able to share convictions, express doubts, and explore new dimensions of truth and reality;
- **To provide a community in which there will be no divisions because of class, ethnic origin, race, or sexual orientation;
- **To offer a place and climate for regular worship, which includes such things as fellowship, meditation, learning, and a free and open pulpit;
- **To work for the vision of a better world by standing for the cause of social justice and human rights, support efforts for world peace, and seek to protect the earth's environment through respect for the interdependent web of all living things;
- **To join with others in the tradition of free and open religion in affiliation with the Unitarian Universalist Association;
- **To bear witness to our convictions as Unitarian Universalists in this entire region by giving our support to the Upper Delaware Fellowship through the dedication of our energies and time and finances, knowing that unless the local group is strong and healthy, little else can be accomplished.

(Adopted in 1990) ~



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

MAY
1996

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



"They caper, they dance, they have eyes of youth, they speak holiday, they smell April and May."

(Shakespeare: Merry Wives slightly adapted.)

April was more like November, and Spring seemed far off. But May holds promises -- of warm days, of green trees, of blooming flowers of the dispelling of gloom. With the Winter behind us, we hope to see each and every one of you at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship Sunday mornings at 11:00 o'clock!! Interesting programs. Good fellowship.

May 5 - Barbara Yeaman will be speaking on the subject: "The Conservation Ethic." Barbara is one of the leading champions of environmental issues in our entire area. Plan to be with us! Barbara's talks are always informative, vital, and interesting.

May 12 - It is time for a "Planning Meeting"! As we look over the summer months ahead, we need to decide what kinds of programs we will be having. Your ideas, suggestions, and input are valued. So please come on this Sunday as we put our heads together for future planning.

May 19 - Our program will deal with "Planned Parenthood" -- and hoping to have a speaker from that group. The Planned Parenthood organization has been under vicious attack by "right-to-lifers," the Christian Coalition, and other right-wing factions. This is an important program which deserves our support.

May 26 - As Spring settles in, we will go on a "Nature Walk" to be led by our President, Joe Walker. This activity has proved to be popular the past several years -- and we anticipate a good response this time around. More details about the walk will be given on Sundays at the Fellowship.

**Love is the spirit of this fellowship
and service is its law.**

This is our great covenant:

To dwell together in peace.

To seek the truth in love,

And to help one another.

MEDITATION GROUP

Thanks to Barbara Lutz, a Meditation Group will be meeting regularly at the Fellowship on Sunday mornings preceding our regular program. Barbara says this about meditation and the new group:

"Progressive relaxation and visualization are methods which can be used to promote inner peace and spiritual growth. Those interested can join us before the regular meeting at 10:00 A. M. starting May 5th. This will allow time for discussion. During May we will utilize Bernie Siegel's guided visualization tapes. All welcome!"

RAMBLING REFLECTIONS Barbara and I were sorry to miss all of you at the Upper Delaware Fellowship over the winter. You are an important part of our lives! But we were not at all sorry to miss the cold and the snow that plagued the northeast! Florida was cool this winter, but not **cold**. In any event, congratulations are due to all who kept this Fellowship alive and well through February and March.

While in Florida, we were active and involved in the Lake Region UU in Lakeland, about ten minutes from where we live. It is a Fellowship of about 100 members, recently called a part time minister, and maintains a strong program. On Wednesdays they have a midweek forum -- and in February Barbara led one of them with a program on May Sarton. It was well-received. On the last Sunday of March I was asked to speak at a Sunday service -- and I had previously spoken there in November of 1995.

One of the remarkably fine things about UUs is that in spite of their diversity and individuality, they are amazingly alike in their religious and social liberal and open spirit. In my relatively few years as a UU, I have found there is a common thread of spirit that holds us together. Barbara and I have felt very much at home in our three UU experiences: Wayne, NJ, Milanville, PA, and Lakeland, FL. What we have is not to be found in traditional, orthodox religious groups!

Raye Porter

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

-- Margaret Mead

UPPER DELAWARE UUs

ON THE RADIO In case you did not know, two of our members can be heard regularly on the Radio:

JESSE BALLEW can be heard every Saturday on PBS Station WJFF from Jeffersonville. His show is on every Saturday from 1:00 to 2:30 P. M. and is called "Jambalaya" and as a DJ he plays Blue Grass and Country Music.

GLENN PONTIER is on WVOs from Liberty five days a week. He gives local area news at 4:00, 5:00, and 6:00 Monday through Friday. On Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:00 PM he has a program called "Open Mike," with guests and call-ins. Every Thursday (at 7:15 AM, 12:15 PM, and 5:15 PM) he gives a personal commentary..

Tune them in on the RADIO! A great break from television.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

GENERAL ASSEMBLY The 35th Annual General Assembly of the UUA will convene on Thursday, June 20th and will end on Tuesday June 25th in Indianapolis, Indiana. Our Fellowship is entitled to one official delegate, plus the minister. An alternate delegate and observers are also welcome. General Assembly is a gathering of the clan, a chance to meet UUs from all over the nation and Canada, and to share the excitement and dynamics of having almost 3,000 UUs together in one place. Anyone interested should speak to Ray Pontier.

UPPER DELAWARE UU ON THE INTERNET

Thanks to Tom and Carmen for donating space on the Internet's World Wide Web.

According to Tom Rue, part of the page's text is based on a brochure written by the Rev. Raymond Pontier. Another paragraph describes the annual Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Social Justice held each October, as well as directions to Innisfree and the phone number. Other links included are websites for UUA districts and congregations, a searchable database of UU Fellowships throughout the world, and other UU and world religion links compiled by Tom Rue.

The web address of the page is:
<http://www.zelacom.com/~hawthorn/uduuf.htm>

SOME ODDS AND ENDS Yes, we do have expenses as a Fellowship! There is no such thing as a free ride, even for a religious group. We do depend on the regular giving of our members and friends. ***Many thanks to all the people who provide refreshments on Sunday mornings. Take a turn. They need not be elaborate -- just enough to give reason to stand around and talk.***A belated thanks to all who took part and gave in the Bud Rue Walk for Justice -- again raising over \$4,000! ***The Rowe Camp and Conference Center is just one of many such centers run by and for Unitarian Universalists. Some of the catalogs and materials are on the table at the Fellowship. Check them out! ***Sunday morning services are the heartbeat of our Fellowship. It is in community that we grow and thrive. Attending on a Sunday is important, not only to the Fellowship, but to each of us individually ***WELCOME to Robin Clemens who signed our Membership Book on April 21st! Robin lives at 50 Fourth Street in Narrowsburg, NY 12764. We hope others will register their commitment as members of our liberal religious Fellowship here along the Delaware.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

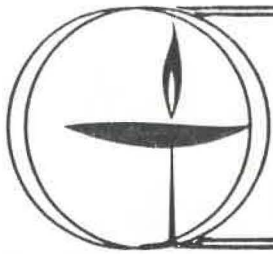
P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553

Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

JULY
1996

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



SUNDAYS IN JULY

11:00 A. M.

July 7 - We start this month of July with "Shared Readings." This is always a popular program, with each person invited to share a reading of choice -- poetry or prose, contemporary or ancient, serious or humorous. No readings, no program. So dig into your files or memory for something to share with the group.

July 14 - Barbara Pontier will be leading the program on "Facts and Myths About the Family." The big phrase in political and many religious circles is "family values." Has the family fallen apart? Divorce is at an all-time high; teen-age pregnancy continues to rise; child and spousal abuse is prevalent; single parent families are on the increase. Should we/can we return to some golden age of the past? A vital program that should provoke a vital discussion.

July 21 - We will be having a speaker from the Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center in Monticello, with Joe Walker in charge of the program. Both drugs and alcohol have had a devastating effect on tremendous number of people, destroying lives and families, with disastrous effects on society as a whole. This is a program that should evoke widespread interest.

July 28 - Barbara Lutz will be leading a program and discussion on "Ralph Waldo Emerson." Emerson was a leading literary figure of the 19th century, a poet of some stature, but known best for his Essays. A life-long Unitarian, he served a church for several years as a Unitarian minister before devoting his life to writing and traveling the lecture circuit. Come and learn about this influential Unitarian.

This Church is dedicated to the
proposition
that behind all our differences,
beneath all our diversity,
there is a unity which makes us
one
and binds us forever together,
in spite of time, and death,
and the space between the stars.
We pause in silent witness to that
unity.

Amen
Rev. David Burnbaugh

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MEETING On Sunday, June 9, 1996, the members of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship met at Innisfree in Milanville for its Annual meeting. The meeting, led by President Joseph Walker, approved the following items of business:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

President - Joseph Walker
V. President - Robin Clemens
Secretary - Sharon Paige-Lisenbee
Treasurer - Ann Rue

Also elected to the Board of Trustees was Tom Lisenbee. In addition to the officers above, the immediate Past President, and the Consulting Minister, the full Board includes the following elected Trustees:

Barbara Lutz - term of 1997
Laurel Mason - term of 1998
Tom Lisenbee - term of 1999

THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996-1997

Use of Innisfree:

Meeting Hall utilities	\$ 660.00
Insurance	256.00
Childcare and Religious Education	500.00
Photocopy (newsletter, etc.)	150.00
Postage (mostly Newsletter)	175.00
UUA - Annual Fund Fair Share (based on \$36 a member)	612.00
Metro District Dues (\$10 member)	170.00
Northern Metro Cluster	30.00
Coffee Hour	50.00
Office Supplies	25.00
Literature	50.00
Sunshine	25.00
Speakers and Program	100.00
Miscellaneous	50.00

Total approved budget \$ 2,803.00

OTHER BUSINESS included the approval of the Lackawaxen House for our Anniversary Dinner to be held on Sunday, August 11th at 12:00 Noon. DISCUSSION was held about renewing our program of Childcare; advertising; and finding someone to take over the Newsletter.

Our approved budget is modest, minimal, and necessary if we are to function as a Fellowship. We meet our budget by the regular giving of members and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our congratulations and best wishes to two of our members for achievements in higher education:

Laurel Mason, who after her years of hard work and study, received her degree as a Registered Nurse (RN) from Luzerne County Community College.

Sharon Paige Lisenbee received a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Psychology from Brooklyn College of City University of New York. Sharon says that this completed a journey of 13 years.

We are proud of both of them!

WHAT DO WE STAND FOR? WHAT DO WE AFFIRM? WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

UUA PRINCIPLES

We the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part....

COME TO OUR ANNIVERSARY DINNER

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 1996 at the
Lackawaxen House**



ALL members and friends are invited to join us as we celebrate our 9th Anniversary as a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Be sure to sign up, or call Barbara Pontier ahead of time at 914/252-7553. The Lackawaxen House is on the Pennsylvania side of the Roebling Bridge. We will meet promptly at 12:00 Noon at the restaurant. There will be no regular meeting at Innisfree that day.

The total cost is \$10 a person (this includes tax and tip), with children under 8 paying half price. The Buffet Menu will include the following:
Meatless Lasagna, Honey dipt fried chicken, Broiled fish, Sausage & Peppers.
Also: Potato salad, Three-bean salad, Tossed green salad, fresh fruit bowl.

Rolls and butter, as well as coffee or hot tea are also included. Soft drinks, iced tea, or alcoholic beverages are not included, and you are responsible for the extra cost. (AND almost forgot! Chocolate Mouse for dessert.)

Come and help us celebrate our 9th Year as a UU Fellowship! It was 9 years ago in August 1987 that a small group gathered at the Pontier home to organize a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Later that month we began meeting in Innisfree -- and we have been meeting ever since! In October of 1990 we were officially accepted as a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association. Today we remain as the only liberal religious group in at least a fifty mile radius. We invite, we want, we need new people to come to participate and join with us as we meet every Sunday at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa.



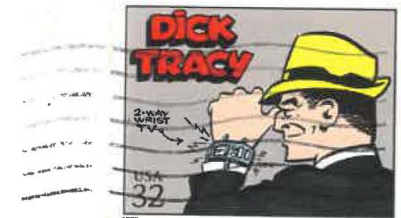
Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443



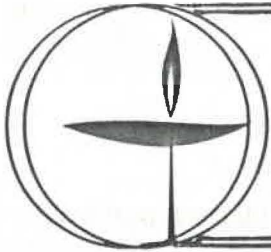
MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
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Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701





NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

WINTER/SPRING ISSUE
1996

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

HOLD ON TO THIS NEWSLETTER! Save it. Post it. Read it. Here are the Sunday programs for the three months of February, March, and April -- coming to you from the sometimes sunny and warm climes of Florida. While you folk up North have had your blizzard, we have had a cold snap with temperatures dipping down to 40 degrees. Mostly, however, we have had 60 and 70 degree weather -- along with considerable rain.

THE FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

February 4 On this first Sunday after our January "winter-break we will have a program of "Shared Readings." Plan to bring and share a reading of whatever interests you -- prose or poetry, inspirational or motivational, serious or humorous. The choice is yours. Or just come and listen.

February 11 - Our own Tom Lisenbee will have a program on the subject: "Economics and Morality." A timely topic during our times when Congress is battling over the budget. Tom and Sharon Paige Lisenbee are residents of Brooklyn and Lackawaxen, and long-time members of our Fellowship.

February 18 - John Paul Hudson will be leading a program on "Faith and Politics." Another vital topic during a coming Presidential year. John Paul Hudson is a frequent attender of our Fellowship, and adds much by his gracious presence and thoughtful insights.

February 25 - An audio tape on the subject of "Welfare" will be listened to and discussed. Another hot topic! The tape is part of a series by Progressive Magazine on the issues of our times. They are informative and provocative. A good program.

THE MARCH PROGRAMS

March 3 - John Paul Hudson will have a program about "The Reality of Satan." In our world of much evil and wrong, the devil has made a comeback in some circles. A scholarly new book on "The Origin of Satan" has recently been published (which your Newsletter Editor is reading).. So what do you think?

[More "March" in next column]

March 10 - Another Progressive audio tape in which Howard Zinn discusses some issues of our time. Howard Zinn is a professor, author, lecturer -- and well-known for his book, "The Peoples History of the United States." His talk is certain to stimulate discussion.

March 17 - "Are Gay Rights a Threat to Traditional Family Values?" The Christian Right condemns all homosexuality as sin and contrary to Biblical teaching. The Unitarian Universalist Association, which has an Office of Gay and Lesbian Concerns, abhors all forms of homophobia. Come and share your thoughts and feelings.

March 24 - In a society where human rights is a subject of much discussion, Barbara Lutz will have a program on "Animal Rights." Cruelty to animals is not new, but there is a new awareness about it.

March 31 - On this fifth Sunday of March, Joe Walker, our Fellowship President, will lead a discussion on "This I Believe." A time for sharing, thinking, and rethinking.

THE APRIL PROGRAMS

April 7 - On this Easter Sunday, there will be a program on "The Music of Easter." Barbara Lutz will be the leader. Barbara is one of our more active members, always enriching us with her ideas and spirit.

April 14 - Our program will deal with "Classical Homeopathy" and is to be led by Colleen Clarke who is knowledgeable and active in this field. Colleen lives in Milanville.

April 21 - "Remembering May Sarton" will be the program led by Barbara Pontier. The program will include an excellent video about May Sarton, as well as recollections of correspondence Barbara had with Ms Sarton.

April 28 - Ray Pontier will speak about "Martin Niemoller and Resistance to Tyranny." Brave men and women have always stood up to oppose what is wrong -- in government, business, society, etc. Niemoeller needs to be remembered as one who dared to oppose Hitler. A fascinating person.

EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOME TO THE
SUNDAY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS OF THE
UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP AT ELEVEN A. M. AT INNISFREE
IN MILANVILLE, PA.

A BIT OF
THIS
AND
THAT

As I write this on January 8th, Barbara and I have been in Florida a little over a week. During that time the weather has been spotty. Some torrential rains. Fairly warm most of the time, in the high 60s and 70s -- until today! It is now midday, and the thermometer reads a cool 44 degrees. Maybe frost tomorrow, but a promised warmth by Thursday. Not too long I hope before we can use the pool -- where the water is now heated.

We miss you people at the Upper Delaware UU. But we do not miss the bitter cold and deep snow of the River Valley. We watch television news about the blizzard of '96 and are not too sad when it is 45 or 50 degrees here

The programs starting in February sound good. As I was typing it, I thought what a creative bunch of people we have in our Fellowship. It is encouraging to see so much participation, not only in the planning, but in leading the programs. We attended the UU here in Lakeland yesterday, where a speaker talked about Humanism. A fairly large Fellowship with a part time minister, and we are very comfortable with them. But there is something special about the closeness and intimacy of our small Fellowship.

Until we return, our best to each of you.

Keep the faith!

Ray

Our Florida Address:

1112 West Beacon Road, #42
Lakeland, FL 33803

(Phone 941-688-9656)

T E N G O O D R E A S O N S

=====

(For joining or belonging to a UU Congregation)

- ¶ Because here we join with open hearts and minds to worship together, seeking what is sacred among us.
- ¶ Because here we are part of a long liberal tradition of reason and tolerance, of hope and liberation.
- ¶ Because here we honor our Jewish and Christian roots and also reach out to know the great truths found in other religious expressions.
- ¶ Because here we acknowledge that revelation is never sealed and empower ourselves to search for new truths.
- ¶ Because here we nurture our children's enthusiasms and encourage their questions.
- ¶ Because here we welcome diverse people and views.
- ¶ Because here we join our strength with others' to create a more just society.
- ¶ Because here we respect the whole self -- mind, body, and spirit working together.
- ¶ Because here we encourage each other to be true to ourselves.
- ¶ Because here we build a supportive community that eases our loneliness and opens our hearts.

(from varied sources)

When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint.

When I ask why the poor have no food, they call me a communist.

Dom Helder Camara



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



SERIALIZED JAN 13 1996



*Tom & Carmen
P.O. Box 706
Monticello N.Y.
12701*

MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

OCTOBER
1993

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

IN

11:00 A.M.

OCTOBER

October 3 - "What Does It Mean to be Homophobic?" Sharon Paige Lisenbee will lead the program in which we will test some of our own feelings and attitudes. In our society in which Gays and Lesbians are seeking and receiving greater acceptance, how do we fit in? What are the stereotypes and prejudices we may hold? It is hoped that we will engage in an honest and positive sharing of views and feelings.

October 10 - About the most hopeful news recently was the signing of the Mutual Recognition Agreement between the Palestinian Liberation Organization and the Israeli Government. Speaking about this new hope for peace in the Middle East will be Bert Feldman who will share some of his own opinions and views. Bert Feldman is known to most of us as a regular columnist for The River Reporter who is not afraid of controversial subjects. He has spoken to our Fellowship several times previously.

October 17 - "Martin Luther's Unfinished Reformation" will be the Rev. Raymond Pontier's subject. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his "95 Theses" to the church door in Wittenburg, Germany -- and unleashed the forces leading to the Protestant Reformation. It is a fascinating story that led to a religious revolution out of which Unitarians and Universalists emerged. Plan to be with us as we celebrate some of the roots of our own religious tradition.

October 24 - A program on our "Outreach" as a Fellowship will be held, with four representative of groups we intend to support telling us of their work: Habitat for Humanity, UU United Nations Office, Victims Intervention Program, and Interfaith Outreach United. This is also the day of our "Walk for Justice." See more in next column!

October 31 - A Program By, For, and About our Religious Education Program, Our Director and Teacher for this program since September is Colette Ballew, a member of our Fellowship.



A WALKATHON FOR JUSTICE

Date & Time - Sunday, October 24th starting at 1:30 P.M. at the Library in Narrowsburg.

The Walk - Starting at the Library, across the bridge to Pennsylvania, up River Road to Innisfree in Milanville. (10 kms)

The Purpose - To raise money for four groups serving human needs:

- *Victims Intervention Program (VIP)
- *Habitat for Humanity
- *UU United Nations Office
- *Interfaith Outreach United (IOU)

We invite all members and friends of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship to join the walk, as well as members and friends of any of the organizations listed above. All monies raised will be divided among these four groups.

Sponsors. All who walk are asked to get people to "sponsor" them at a fixed rate per kilometer -- 50¢, \$1.00, etc. Monies collected are to be turned over to the Walk Chairperson, Glenn Pontier. For further information and for Sponsor Sheets, contact Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626 or 252-7414.

WHAT SHALL CHILDREN STUDY?

All that quickens sympathetic imagining,
that awakens sensitivity to other's feelings,
all that enriches and enlarges understanding of the world,
all that strengthens courage,
that adds to the love of living;
all that leads to developing skills
needed for democratic participations --
all these put together are the curriculum
through which children learn.

We invite families seeking religious instruction for their children seriously consider the R.E. of the Upper Delaware Fellowship.



NOVEMBER 7TH We look
PROGRAM forward
to the
return of Chief David
Two Wolves Smith as our
speaker. He is a tradi-
tional Native American
priest, and sub-chief of
the Eastern Delaware
Nation. We look forward
to having him with us!



ON CHURCH/FELLOWSHIP GROWTH

If you want to build up your church, I must you as an old pro in church-building that you cannot build an active, attractive, enriched, enriching church life for yourself or others two-thirds of you, on any given Sunday, are unshelled, disconnected, unrepresented, gone.

Not ten dozen meetings of membership Committees or boards will promote the health and growth of your church as much as a full house on Sunday mornings.

The Number One way of attracting newcomers and visitors, or re-enlisting the inactive, is the sight and feel of a live and vibrant congregation. Conversely, if you want to turn off visitors, show them the sure-fire advertisement of your empty seats. your absences echo, dear friends, quite literally. They resonate with your message of inactivity, unconcern, disregard. If you decide to marshal yourselves on Sunday, your institutional problems will melt into manageability within months, because there's strength in numbers and joy in a full house.

I want you to do exactly what you want on Sunday mornings. But I want you to know the consequences of your wants for the life of the church.

(The Rev. Clark Wells, UU Minister)

BITS AND PIECES Our very best wishes to Mark and Lorna Hollander as they undertake the process of adoption! ***Reminder to all parents: we do have programs of Religious Education and Childcare during the hour of our Sunday service. We are most pleased to have Colette Ballew as our R.E. Director and Teacher. ***Did you know that three of our most active couples live and work in New York City but spend weekends in the Upper Delaware area? ***You do know that our Fellowship depends on the pledges and giving of members and friends for financial support.

COMING → ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

On Thursday, November 25th, the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites members and friends to its Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner to be held at Innisfree in Milanville. Hardly seems possible, but this will be our 7th Annual Thanksgiving Day dinner! More about it in our next Newsletter.

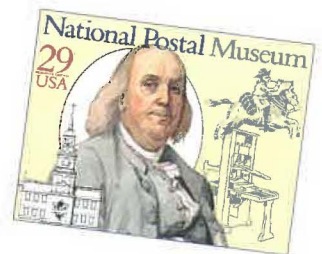
BERTRAND RUSSELL'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. Do not feel absolutely certain of anything
2. Do not think it worth while to produce belief by concealing evidence, for the evidence is sure to come to light.
3. Never try to discourage thinking, for you are sure to succeed.
4. When you meet with opposition, even if it should be from your children, endeavor to overcome it by argument, and not by authority, for a victory dependent upon authority is unreal and illusory.
5. Have no respect for the authority of others, for there are always contrary authorities to be found.
6. Do not use power to suppress opinions you think pernicious, for if you do the opinions will suppress you
7. Do not fear to be eccentric in opinion, for every opinion now accepted was once eccentric
8. Find more pleasure in intelligent dissent than in passive agreement, for, if you value intelligence as you should, the former implies deeper agreement than the latter
9. Be scrupulously truthful, even when truth is inconvenient, for it is more inconvenient when you try to conceal it.
10. Do not feel envious of the happiness of those who live in a fool's paradise, for only a fool will think that it is happiness



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443



Religious
to Program
Fellowship.

SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

97 or. 914/252-7553

CARMEN + TOM RUE
PO Box 706
MONTICELLO
NY 12701

THOUGHTS ON BEING A MEMBER

New members and their integration into the life of the institution constitute, over the long haul, the life blood of the liberal church. So welcoming new members is always a satisfying event: we experience community and hope, strength for future years, the satisfaction of survival.

At the same time any minister knows that not all new members will stick it out for the long haul. My hunch is about half who join our congregations across the United States and Canada will eventually drop out, the Church having served a purpose or need no longer felt. It's been said, jokingly and not so jokingly, that Unitarian Universalism is for many a way station en route from Methodism to the golf course.

I think those most likely to pull out after a few months or a few years are new members who are especially excited about one or two aspects of their newly discovered church: its social action program, its religious educational approach, the style of a particular minister, or those exhilarated momentarily by the discovery of theological freedom from narrow moralisms and creedal straitjackets. Or ones who have found "their kind of people," and the immediate pleasure that goes with being in a community that mirrors one's own values and enthusiasms.

But the ones who stick, who join with their whole life, the ones who become pillars without whom the church would not last for a generation they are a different breed. They are not better people. They are not worse people. They are just different. They tend to be quieter... They are not emotional or enamoured or energetic, or if they are, the emotion is less flashy, below the surface....

They are not as idealistic as they could be. They do not expect the Church to solve all their problems or change the world that much. They carry long memories, do not demand, are tolerant of ambiguity, accepting of real difference, knowledgeable about limitation. They also zero in where they are needed. They usher a lot, worry about Church property, start endowments. They work on Church financial problems, not for one year, or two, but decades. They look after other members, make hospital calls. They are there in good times, giving out rather than consuming; they are there in bad times, mediating crises rather than causing them. They may take off on Easter; you'll see them in Church the low Sunday after.

As I look back on the years I've had a part in welcoming new members to Unitarian Universalist societies, my hopes have now little to do with numbers, I've serviced Churches where we took in fewer than two a year and Churches where over a hundred a year was par. What I look for, what I hope for, regardless of how many join, is that we luck into a few Churchwomen and Churchmen, institutionalists who know what it takes to keep a Church going, who join with their whole lives, who join for keeps.

Rev. Clarke Wells

* * * * *
* * * * *

"ALL I MAINTAIN IS THAT ON THIS PLANET THERE ARE PESTILANCES AND THERE ARE VICTIMS, AND IT UP TO US, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, NOT TO JOIN FORCES WITH THE PESTILANCES."

(Albert Camus)

FELLOWSHIP

BRIEFS

A Memorial Service was held for Bud Rue on Saturday, October 30th

at 2:00 P. M. at the Milanville United Methodist Church with Ray Pontier as the minister. Family and friends shared in the service.***We offer our love and caring to Ann Rue and to all the members of the family. Call on us if and when we can be of help. ***Gil Mende has been in England for the past month or more. He will be returning here the early part of November. ***Eve Murphy is in Arizona for the winter (Does anyone have her address out there?) We miss her. ***Do come to our Thanksgiving Day Dinner at Innisfree! But please sign up or call to let us know if you are coming ***Yes, we do have a Religious Education Program at 11:00 A. M. every Sunday, with Colette Ballew as our teacher. We also provide childcare for younger children. ***On Christmas Eve we will again have our Candlelight and Carol service here at Innisfree. Save the date and bring the children. ***We do have ongoing expenses as a Fellowship -- and need your ongoing and regular financial support. ***We received a nice Certificate of Appreciation from the UU Association for being "An Honor Society in support the the Annual Fund Program in 1992-1993." The Certificate is displayed at Innisfree. ***The next Newsletter deadline is November 21st. Get notices, etc. to Ray Pontier.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

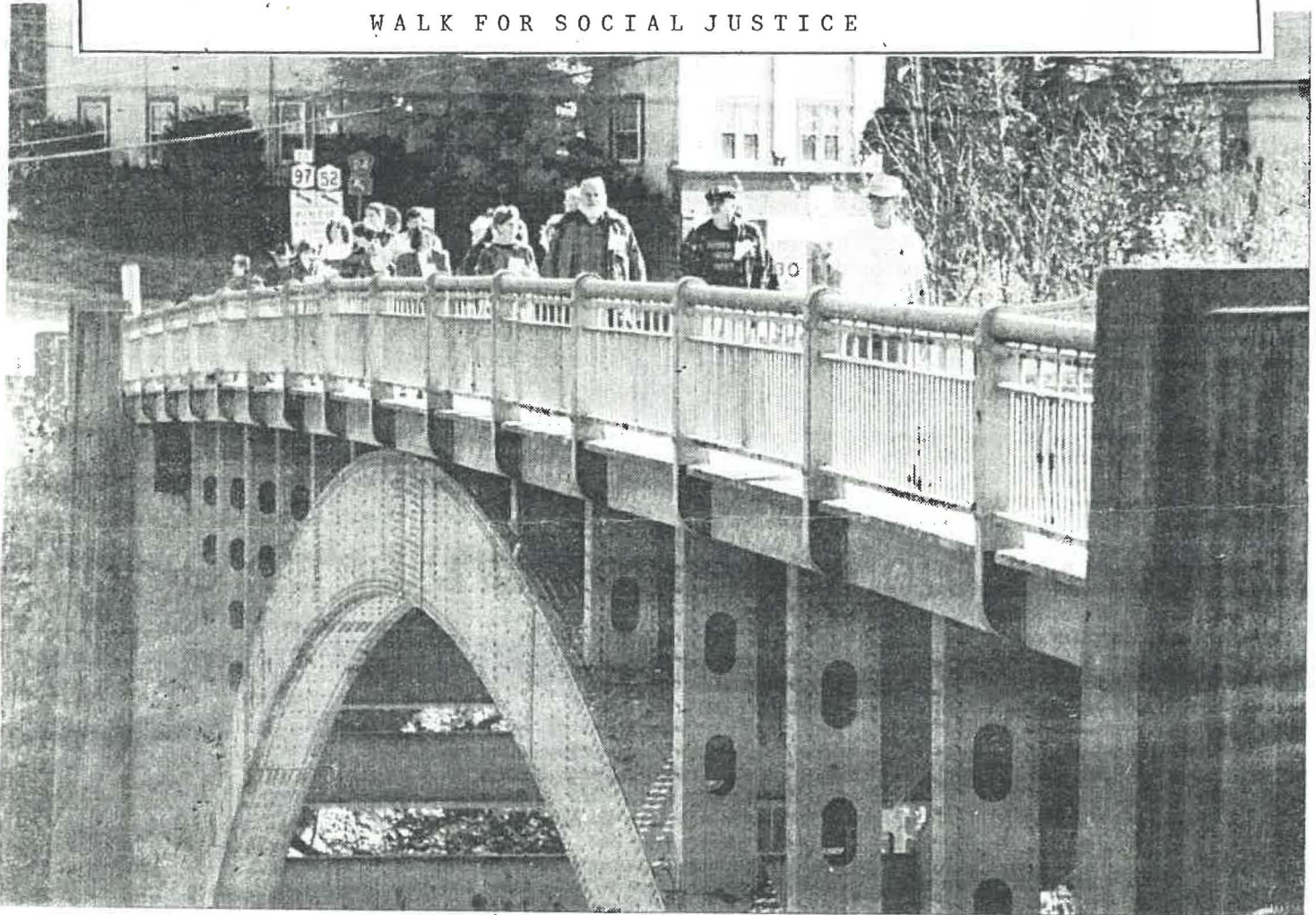
P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553

THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



Walkers cross the bridge from Narrowsburg to Milanville, Pa., during a 10-kilometer walkathon to raise funds

for human service organizations in Sullivan County and Wayne County, Pa., yesterday.

FRANCIS SPECKER/The Record

THE WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

THOSE WHO WALKED

Bud Rue	John Pritchard	Barbara Lutz
Dina O'Brien	B. J. O'Brien	Laurie Stuart
Glenn Pontier	Colette Ballew	Sharon Paige
Liz Huntington	Jesse Fisher	Peg Rosenberg
Dale Rosenberg	Tom Van Orden	Jane Van Orden
Shelley Wozniak	Stacy Miller	Marc Tempkin
Eveline Tempkin	Hugh McCammon	

MANY, MANY THANKS

To all the Walkers, to all who sponsored the Walkers, to all who provided special good things to eat for the Walkers when they returned to Innisfree. Very special thanks to Jesse Ballew who posted Walkathon signs on River Road, took care of children during the Walk, and helped set up the meeting room. Barbara and Ray Pontier drove a follow-up car for the Walk.

PURPOSE AND RESULTS OF THE WALKATHON

The Walkathon came out of Bud Rue's suggestion that our Fellowship give at least 10% of our budget to meaningful causes outside of the Fellowship. With our modest budget, this came to \$400. Before the Walk started, Chairperson Glenn Pontier, announced that we would raise at least \$1,000!! And more can be expected.

This money will be distributed among the four groups voted on by the Fellowship: the Victims Intervention Center of Honesdale, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach United of Callicoon, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nation Office.

AT SUCH A HIGH COST!

The sudden death of Bud Rue on the Walk was a tragic and painful blow. This issue of the Newsletter is dedicated to him.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

DECEMBER
1992

Newsletter

SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

December 6 - Glenn Pontier and Laurie Stuart will be with us for a program of "Stories and Songs. Both of them are highly talented people, and anyone who was at their last program will not want to miss this one. The children of our Religious Education Program (and other children) are invited to attend.

December 13 - South Africa, with its battle over apartheid, is constantly in the news. We are privileged to have Dan Tufts, who is knowledgeable on the subject, as our speaker. His topic is: "South Africa and the United States: More Alike Than You Might Think." The talk will focus on such things as housing and social attitudes.

December 20 - Ray Pontier will be our speaker on this Sunday before Christmas, with his subject: "Role Models -- Martin, Malcolm, and Jesus." In a time of renewed racial, ethnic, and cultural hates and violence, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, and Jesus have much to say to us. The focus will be on Malcolm X who is much in the news over the motion picture about him.

December 24th - Christmas Eve. Join us for our Annual Christmas Eve Program at Innisfree starting at 7:30 P. M. See extended notice in opposite column.

We invite members, friends, guests and visitors to be with us every Sunday at 11:00 A. M. The Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, now in its sixth year, is the only liberal religious group in a wide area. As a non-creedal community, we emphasize the right of the individual to do her or his own thinking.

To develop understanding, you have to practice looking at all living beings with the eyes of compassion. When you understand, you love.

Thich Nhat Hanh



OUR JANUARY RECESS AND WINTER BREAK

In deference to the cold weather, possible snow storms and freaks of nature, the Upper Delaware Fellowship will not meet during the month of January! The Christmas Eve Service will be our final service until February. Be sure to be with us when we resume our regular Sunday services and programs on February 7th. The program for that day will be "Shared Readings."

CHRISTMAS EVE AT INNISFREE

ON CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24th at 7:30 P.M. we invite everyone to join us for a program of Candlelight and Carols. Some of the old stories will be read, with Christmas songs old and new to be sung. All members and friends are invited. Be sure to bring the children!



There will be light refreshments after the service. It will be appreciated if some of our members and friends bring a small package or a dozen or so cookies.

REFRESHMENTS & SERVICE LEADERS FOR DECEMBER:

- December 6th - MarJeana Howard, Refreshments
Barbara Pontier, Service
- December 13th - Loren Shlevin, Refreshments
Bud Rue, Service
- December 20th - Barbara Pontier, Refreshments
Ray Pontier, Service
- December 24th - Colette Ballew, Refreshments (with
a little bit of help)
Ray Pontier, Service

WELCOME!

A very warm welcome to SHARON PAIGE LISSENBEE who signed our Membership Book on November 11. Her address is: Box 172, Lackawaxen, PA 18435. Phone: 717-685-2714



Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE BOXES are to be returned to the Fellowship on Sunday, December 20th or on December 24th at our Christmas Eve service.

When you return your box (or contribution) please be sure to include your name and address. Fill out the tab that is on the box.

All money goes to the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee -- including the United States, Asia, Africa, Central America and the Caribbean.

It is not too late to start using a box for your family! Boxes are available at the Fellowship. This is a positive and meaningful way of showing concern and compassion to be people who are really suffering.

HANUKKAH

Did you know that the Jewish Festival of Hanukkah begins on December 20th and continues for eight days.

The Festival commemorates the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem to the faith of Israel in 165 B. C., after the Maccabees had defeated the armies of the Syrian Greeks in a war for religious liberation.



AFTERTHOUGHTS

Those people taking a turn for refreshments at Sunday Coffee-Hour are asked to bring some kind of juice for R. E. children! And, as you know, we need different people to take turns each Sunday.

SOME FACTS OF LIFE

About Finances, that is. Did you know that our Fellowship's share of meeting at Innisfree (heat, light, insurance) is \$57 a month or about \$14 a week? Did you know we send the Unitarian Universalist Ass'n \$29 a year for each member we report? Did you know that every active member receives a free subscription to the "UU World"? Did you know that it costs between \$30 and \$40 a month for the printing and postage of our Newsletter? (Labor is free.) Did you know that we pay regularly for Sunday childcare and are budgetted to pay for an RE Director? And did you know that we get no federal subsidy, no foundation grants, no free rides? We pay our own way. Which means that what we spend is what our members and friends contribute. Are you carrying your own weight and paying your fair share?

BRIEFLY Some 40 people attended our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Innisfree. **NOTED** Thanks to all who shared, and especially to Ann and Bud Rue for special efforts. ***Most encouraging has been the consistently good attendance and interest on Sunday mornings! Invite a friend to come with you. ***As part of a good UU tradition, we have resumed the habit of wearing name-tags. Thanks to Ann Rue who prepared the name tags and to Ray Pontier who made the name-tag board. ***The next Newsletter will be the February issue. But please get notices to Ray Pontier by December 14th. ***Barbara and Ray Pontier plan to drive down to Florida after Christmas for the month of January or beyond. ***Special thanks to Loren Shlevin and Ann Rue for making possible our Religious Education program!! We are still looking for a Director. Call Glenn Pontier for details if you are interested.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18743



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN
Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553

Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



Upper Delaware

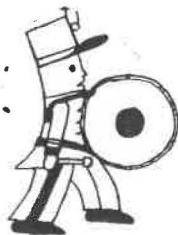
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

FEBRUARY

1993

WELCOME BACK



After our brief winter hibernation, the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship resumes its Sunday Services and Programs on Sunday morning, February 7th, 1993 at 11:00 A. M.

We hope to see all of our members and friends as we gather together in our liberal religious community. New folk are most welcome! The list of our February programs is as follows:

February 7 - For this first gathering of the new year, we plan a program of "Shared Readings." Those attending are invited to bring a reading to share with the group -- poetry or prose, serious or humorous, modern or ancient. Or, of course, you can just listen in. Readings should be of moderate length, but the subject is up to you.

February 14 - A musical program is on tap for this Sunday, with Colette Ballew planning to have a singing group with us. We will have more details later (watch The River Reporter!), but you can count on a Sunday program that will be most worthwhile.

February 21 - Loran Shlevin will have a program on the subject of "Violence Against Women." In a society where the reports about violence against women (physical, sexual, mental) are ever on the increase, this is an important program. Loran is Vice President of our Fellowship and a practicing attorney in our area.

February 28 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject, "In Praise of Unitarian Universalism!" This might be called a UU "self-esteem" talk -- with a focus on the positive and meaningful aspects being part of the Unitarian Universalist tradition. Having come out of Protestant orthodoxy, Ray makes a clear choice for our liberal religious faith.

We invite, encourage, urge anyone who has not attended our services, to give us a try in February. Join us at 11 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa.

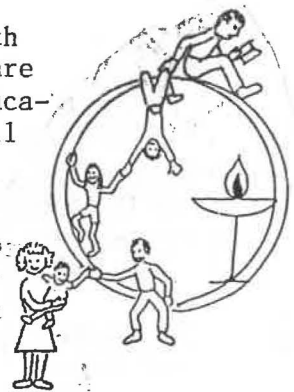
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE

LET US REMIND all families with children that the Upper Delaware Fellowship has a religious education program every Sunday at 11 A. M. -- the same time as our Sunday Service.

This program is open to children ages three through ten. The focus of the program is on ethical values in an atmosphere of cultural, philosophical, and doctrinal tolerance.

WE ALSO PROVIDE Child Care for smaller children who are not old enough to participate in our regular Religious Education program.

WE ENCOURAGE all families to take advantage of these opportunities. You can really attend the Fellowship as a family!



TEACHER WANTED!

Thanks to the talents and the good graces of Loran Shlevin and Ann Rue, the load of teaching in our Religious Education Program has fallen on their shoulders.

They do an excellent job! But they promised to do it temporarily until a regular teacher was found.

The program is too important to give up. So we continue to look for a regular teacher -- someone who identified with our UU values of reason and freedom and diversity. There is a nominal compensation of \$100 a month.

If interested, call Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626 -- or speak to either (or both) Loran Shlevin or Ann Rue.

You say the little efforts that I make will do no good.
That they will never prevail to tip the hovering scale where justice hangs in the balance.
Well, perhaps I never thought they would.
But I am prejudiced beyond debate in favor of my right to choose which side the scale shall feel the stubborn ounces of my weight. Amen.
Bonaro Overstreet

ABOUT THE NEW

UU HYMNBOOK

Bud Rue has sent in an order for 15 of the new UU Hymnbooks, "Singing The Living Tradition." All of them have been contributed by members and friends. We will not receive them until May or June -- and then we will have some programs to familiarize ourselves with the book and to do some singing.

Those contributing books are asked to make sure they give Bud Rue the necessary information as to how they want the book or books they purchased should be dedicated or memorialized. A plate to that effect will be in each book

Anyone else who might want to contribute a hymnbook for the Fellowship can do so at a cost of \$30 each. Order forms are also available for anyone who wants a book for her or his personal possession and use.

I N B R I E F A very belated thank you to Greg Pontier and Laurie Stuart for leading the singing on Christmas Eve. Thanks also to the children of the R. E. Program for their recitation of "The Night Before Christmas." ***Barbara and Sharon Pontier will be in England the week of February 14th to visit Sharon's daughter, Aimee, (and our Granddaughter) who is taking her Junior year at Rutgers in England. ***During the January "time off" of the Fellowship, Ray and Barbara Pontier spent the month in Florida with visits to a number of friends from the Lakeland UU Fellowship. ***Coffee-Hour is part of our regular Sunday ritual. Please sign up to take a turn to prepare refreshments! *** Hope to see all of you On Sunday, February 7th!

Our Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Adopted by the 1984 and 1985 General Assemblies.

SUNDAY SERVICES

AND PROGRAMS

Our Sunday services and programs have been quite consistently interesting, provocative, stimulating, and inspirational. We try for variety, and make use of both local and outside speakers and talent.

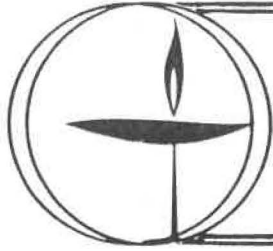
We are constantly seeking new ideas, so if you have suggestions for programs and speakers, please let us know! Don't underestimate your own abilities, so if you have a program to offer, speak up. Much of what we offer on Sunday is your doing.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18643



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone: 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443

President of Fellowship, Barbara E. Pontier 914-252-7553

March 31, 1993

This letter is being sent to all those people who signed the original Articles of Agreement between The River School and the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, as well as to the current Coordinator of The River School, Chris Harting, regarding our continued sponsorship and relationship.

At a special meeting of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship on March 28, 1993, the following motion was made and passed unanimously:

"The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship will not renew sponsorship of The River School for a number of reasons, including: the lack of a viable board and the failure to meet Section 3 of the Articles of Agreement. However, reconsideration may occur upon meeting with The River School Board and authorized representatives to decide a list of requirements mutually agreeable in order to renegotiate the terms of sponsorship."

We invite The River School Board and/or qualified representatives to meet with members of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship at Innisfree in Milanville on Sunday, April 25, 1993 at 12:15 P. M. to deal with the following concerns of the Fellowship:

1. Reaffirm the spirit of the existing Articles of Agreement, and clarify them where necessary.
2. Guarantee a functioning River School board or committee, with ~~no~~ fewer than six meetings a year with a quorum present.
3. Provide the Upper Delaware UU with a list of board or committee members and officers.
4. Give evidence of a signed contract with a head teacher by July 15, 1993.
5. Provide a guarantee of The River School's financial obligation and responsibility through some form of collateral.
6. Provide monthly proof of the payment of all taxes and outstanding bills, along with a River School financial statement each month.
7. Present the UU Fellowship with a projected budget for the ensuing year by July 1, 1993. showing both projected income and expenses.
8. Provide the Fellowship with a school calendar for the year, as well as a list of enrolled students by August 30, 1993.
9. Secure and pay for Directors and Officers Insurance for the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.

The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is interested in meeting with your representatives in order that we may discuss the terms and conditions set forth herein. Please advise us if you wish to convene with us at the proposed meeting on April 25th.

Sincerely yours

Barbara E. Pontier, President

UPPER DELAWARE VU FELLOWSHIP

1993 PROGRAMS

February 7 Shared Readings

14 Singing Group
(Colette)

21 Violence Against Women
(Loran Schlemm)

28 RGP

March 7 Song + Dance + Poetry
(Sami)

14 ~~Ray Potter~~

21 Barbara Freeman } snow - cancelled

28 Glenn Porter - ozone layer

April 4 Parvum Sedon
Teppich

11 (Easter) RGP

18 Shared Readings - Program
Planning

25 Take me out to the
Ballgame

Write:

for w/c Vernon Osei Ugdah
re. end of August

history, ~~social~~ sacred writings, culture,
contemporary Islam - what it is
and what it is not.

May 2 ~~Loran Schlemm - violence vs. g~~
~~Bill Wolden - baseball~~

9 Barbara Freeman

16 Dave Two Wolves - Native American
way of life

23 ~~RSP~~
~~Loran Schlemm - violence vs. g~~

30 ~~RSP~~
Bill Wolden - baseball

June 6 Annual Meeting / potluck

13 ~~"What I believe" (parade)~~
~~Annual Meeting / Potluck~~

20 Cynthia Paken - Riverkeeper

27 @A?? readings?

July 4 Gays in the Military
Lt. Col. Bob Brown (letter)

11 So. Africa: More Like the US
Than Unlike: Rev. Dan Tyeft

18 Report on GA
by delegation

25 Music program: Celebrating
our herb legends

August 1 RSP

8th Annual Bruch

15

22

29

UPPER DELAWARE VU FELLOWSHIP

1993 PROGRAMS

February 7 Shared Readings
14 Singing Group (Colette)
21 Violence Against Women (Loren Schlemmer)
28 RGP

May 2 ^{Sacrosanct} No. 1000 T & C
9 Barbara
16 Marjorie
23 R. Partridge
30 ^{Paul} No. 1000 T & C

March 7 Song + Dance + Party (Sammie)
14 ~~Ray Porter~~
21 Barbara Heman { snow cancelled
28. Glenn Porter - ozone layer

June 6 Annual Meeting
13 Waffle & Believe
20 Andy Partridge
27 NO T & C

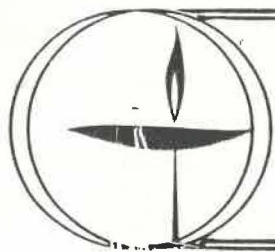
April 4 Parson Aedon Teppich
11 (Easter) RGP
18 Shared Readings - Program Planning
26 Take me out to the Ballgame

July 4 Gay's in the Military
11 Rev. Dawn
18 R. G. Assembly
25

August 1 Rally
8 Anniversary
15
22
29

Possible Programs

- ✓ Bill Erdos - on Congress of UU African Americans
- ✓ Report on General Assembly - Rules & Postiers
- ✓ Anniversary Lunch/Brunch - in August
- ✓ Programs on UU Principles - Different members & friends taking a principle & leading a discussion
- ✓ Programs on New UUA Hymnbook
- ✓ Program on UU Service Committee
- ✓ 200th Anniversary of Universalism
- ✓ Right to Die / Assisted Suicide
- ✓ Gay-Lesbian Concerns - homophobia
- ✓ Programs on Other Religions - Islam, Buddhism, etc.
- ✓ UU Women
 - Lucretia Mott, Dorothea Dix, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Clara Barton
 - Louisa May Alcott, Mary Livermore, Beatrix Potter, Margaret Fuller,
 - Harriet Beecher Stowe, Julia Ward Howe, Olympia Brown, etc, etc.
- ✓ UU Men
 - Channing, Emerson, Parker, Thomas Jefferson, Tom Paine, John Adams,
 - Joseph Priestley, Francis David, Abner Kneeland, Thoreau,
 - John Murray, Hosea Ballou, PT Barnum, Horatio Alger, James Reeb, etc, etc.
- ✓ Outside Speakers - Bert Feldman, etc
- ✓ What Do We Believe? God, Jesus, Bible, Prayer, etc.?
- ✓ What Does it mean to be "Spiritual"?
- ✓ What Does Separation of Church/State mean?
 - ✓ LOCAL TALENT - MEMBERS + FRIENDS LEAD PROGRAMS!!



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

NOVEMBER
1993

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SUNDAY MORNINGS IN NOVEMBER

November 7 - Returning again, by special request, will be David Two-Wolves Smith, sub-chief of the Eastern Delaware Nation. Chief David is a traditional Native-American priest. There was a large crowd when he was here before, so we suggest that you "get to the church on time."

NOVEMBER 14 - John Rue will be leading our program, with his subject: "Social Activism: What Can I Do?" This is a program dedicated to his father, Bud Rue. For Bud, religion was a matter of doing, and his life was always a matter of being involved in causes concerning the needs of people.

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BORN JUNE 6, 1993

Adopted by Lorna and Marc
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We met Thomas in October at the
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WE DEDICATE THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER TO BUD RUE

Remembering Bud Rue

By **RAYMOND J. PONTIER**

Somewhere I remember reading these lines written by John Gardner: "Some people strengthen us just by being the kind of people they are."

Bud Rue was one of those people.

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A math teacher by profession, he retired from a New Jersey school district just a couple of years ago to live along the Upper Delaware which he loved.

His legacies to the river valley are

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His was a goodness found in qualities so easily lost in our self-serving, mean-spirited and violent age — the qualities of caring and compassion and self-giving. Bud was too modest to lay claim to it, but he really understood what Jesus meant when he said, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Bud Rue will be deeply and terribly missed. He cannot be replaced. His wonderful family will miss him most of all, but his many friends also share in the grief of his loss. I know of my own personal sense of loss, for I count Bud Rue as one of the best friends I have had anywhere.

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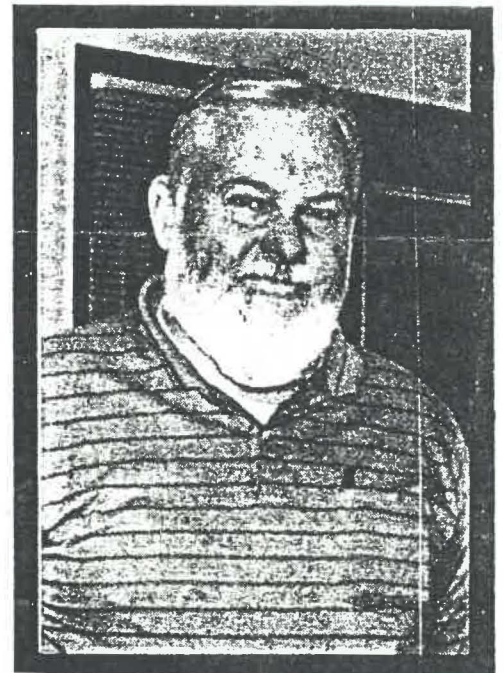


TRR Photo by Barbara Pontier

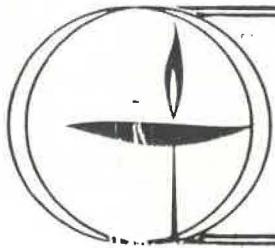
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CLYDE B. RUE



1934 - 1993



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

NOVEMBER
1993

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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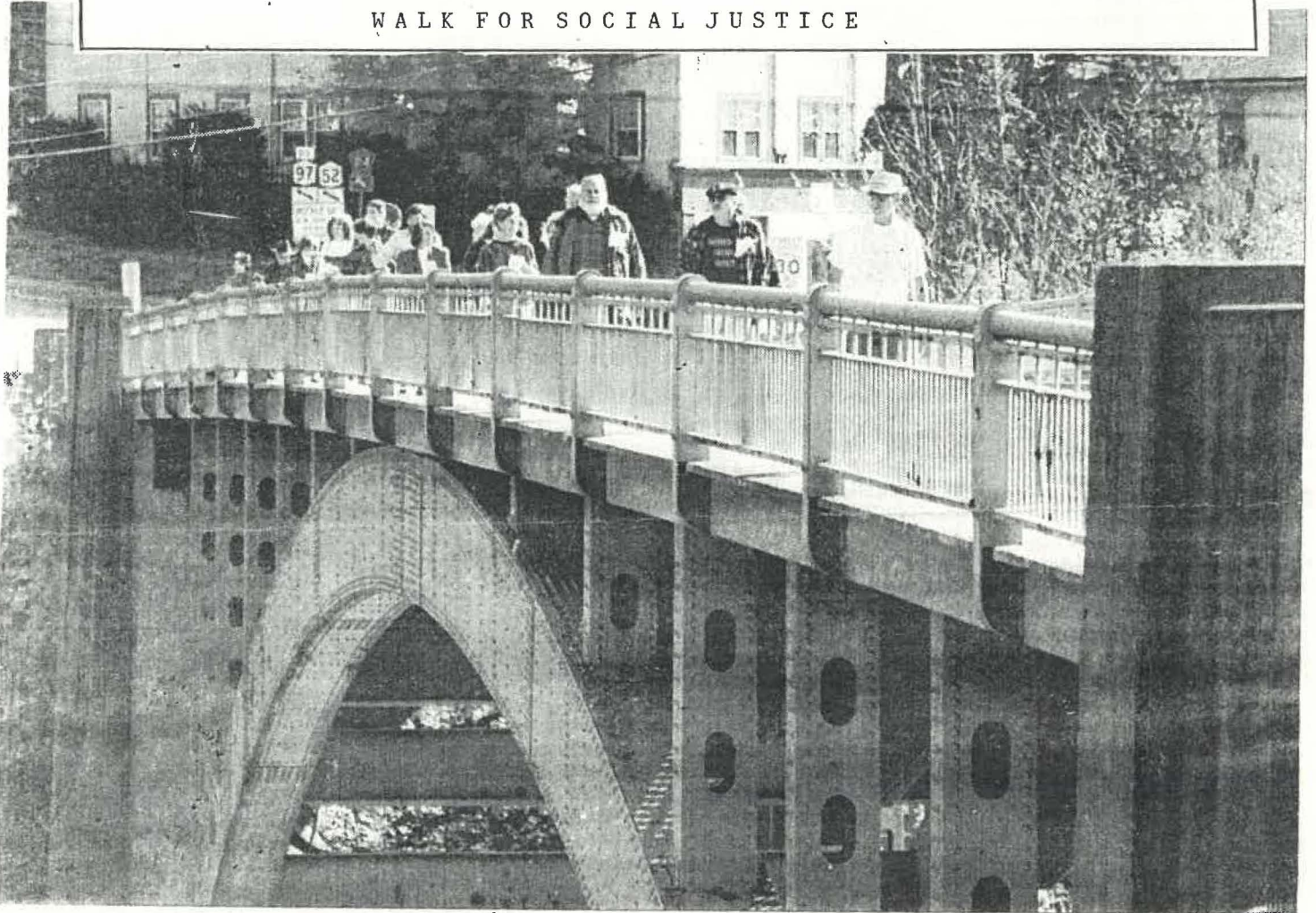
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CLYDE B. RUE



1934 - 1993

THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



FRANCIS SPECKER/The Record

Walkers cross the bridge from Narrowsburg to Milanville, Pa., during a 10-kilometer walkathon to raise funds for human service organizations in Sullivan County and Wayne County, Pa., yesterday.

THE WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

THOSE WHO WALKED

Bud Rue	John Pritchard	Barbara Lutz
Dina O'Brien	B. J. O'Brien	Laurie Stuart
Glenn Pontier	Colette Ballew	Sharon Paige
Liz Huntington	Jesse Fisher	Peg Rosenberg
Dale Rosenberg	Tom Van Orden	Jane Van Orden
Shelley Wozniak	Stacy Miller	Marc Tempkin
Eveline Tempkin	Hugh McCammon	

MANY, MANY THANKS

To all the Walkers, to all who sponsored the Walkers, to all who provided special good things to eat for the Walkers when they returned to Innisfree. Very special thanks to Jesse Ballew who posted Walkathon signs on River Road, took care of children during the Walk, and helped set up the meeting room. Barbara and Ray Pontier drove a follow-up car for the Walk.

PURPOSE AND RESULTS OF THE WALKATHON

The Walkathon came out of Bud Rue's suggestion that our Fellowship give at least 10% of our budget to meaningful causes outside of the Fellowship. With our modest budget, this came to \$400. Before the Walk started, Chairperson Glenn Pontier, announced that we would raise at least \$1,000!! And more can be expected.

This money will be distributed among the four groups voted on by the Fellowship: the Victims Intervention Center of Honesdale, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach United of Callicoon, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nation Office.

AT SUCH A HIGH COST!

The sudden death of Bud Rue on the Walk was a tragic and painful blow. This issue of the Newsletter is dedicated to him.

THOUGHTS ON BEING A MEMBER

New members and their integration into the life of the institution constitute, over the long haul, the life blood of the liberal church. So welcoming new members is always a satisfying event: we experience community and hope, strength for future years, the satisfaction of survival.

At the same time any minister knows that not all new members will stick it out for the long haul. My hunch is about half who join our congregations across the United States and Canada will eventually drop out, the Church having served a purpose or need no longer felt. It's been said, jokingly and not so jokingly, that Unitarian Universalism is for many a way station en route from Methodism to the golf course.

I think those most likely to pull out after a few months or a few years are new members who are especially excited about one or two aspects of their newly discovered church: its social action program, its religious educational approach, the style of a particular minister, or those exhilarated momentarily by the discovery of theological freedom from narrow moralisms and creedal straitjackets. Or ones who have found "their kind of people," and the immediate pleasure that goes with being in a community that mirrors one's own values and enthusiasms.

But the ones who stick, who join with their whole life, the ones who become pillars without whom the church would not last for a generation they are a different breed. They are not better people. They are not worse people. They are just different. They tend to be quieter... They are not emotional or enamoured or energetic, or if they are, the emotion is less flashy, below the surface....

They are not as idealistic as they could be. They do not expect the Church to solve all their problems or change the world that much. They carry long memories, do not demand, are tolerant of ambiguity, accepting of real difference, knowledgeable about limitation. They also zero in where they are needed. They usher a lot, worry about Church property, start endowments. They work on Church financial problems, not for one year, or two, but decades. They look after other members, make hospital calls. They are there in good times, giving out rather than consuming; they are there in bad times, mediating crises rather than causing them. They may take off on Easter; you'll see them in Church the low Sunday after.

As I look back on the years I've had a part in welcoming new members to Unitarian Universalist societies, my hopes have now little to do with numbers, I've serviced Churches where we took in fewer than two a year and Churches where over a hundred a year was par. What I look for, what I hope for, regardless of how many join, is that we luck into a few Churchwomen and Churchmen, institutionalists who know what it takes to keep a Church going, who join with their whole lives, who join for keeps.

Rev. Clarke Wells

* * * * *
* * * * *

"ALL I MAINTAIN IS THAT ON THIS PLANET THERE ARE PESTILANCES AND THERE ARE VICTIMS, AND IT UP TO US, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, NOT TO JOIN FORCES WITH THE PESTILANCES."

(Albert Camus)

FELLOWSHIP

BRIEFS

A Memorial Service was held for Bud Rue on Saturday, October 30th

at 2:00 P. M. at the Milanville United Methodist Church with Ray Pontier as the minister. Family and friends shared in the service. ***We offer our love and caring to Ann Rue and to all the members of the family. Call on us if and when we can be of help. ***Gil Mende has been in England for the past month or more. He will be returning here the early part of November. ***Eve Murphy is in Arizona for the winter (Does anyone have her address out there?) We miss her. ***Do come to our Thanksgiving Day Dinner at Innisfree! But please sign up or call to let us know if you are coming ***Yes, we do have a Religious Education Program at 11:00 A. M. every Sunday, with Colette Ballew as our teacher. We also provide childcare for younger children. ***On Christmas Eve we will again have our Candlelight and Carol service here at Innisfree. Save the date and bring the children. ***We do have ongoing expenses as a Fellowship -- and need your ongoing and regular financial support. ***We received a nice Certificate of Appreciation from the UU Association for being "An Honor Society in support the the Annual Fund Program in 1992-1993." The Certificate is displayed at Innisfree. ***The next Newsletter deadline is November 21st. Get notices, etc. to Ray Pontier.



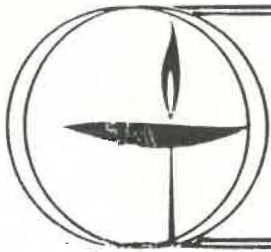
Upper Delaware
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P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



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December 5 - Our speaker will be Susan Worth who will be coming from Monticello to speak to us about The National Organization For Women -- best known as NOW. The National Organization For Women is a pioneer in the field of Women's Rights. Efforts are being made to revitalize the NOW Chapter in Sullivan County.

December 12 - Edris Artis, a member of our Fellowship, will be speaking about "A Three Generational Odyssey." Edris, her daughter and grandson, recently returned from a tour to Europe, India, and Japan -- and she will share some of their experiences. Edris and her husband Bill live in New York City and in Narrowsburg. Be sure to come!

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SEASON'S GREETINGS



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But available all days, all year,
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There a star shines in spite of ourselves and the absurdities and the ironies of our existence.

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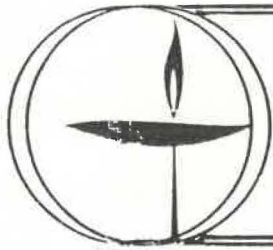
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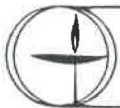
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Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

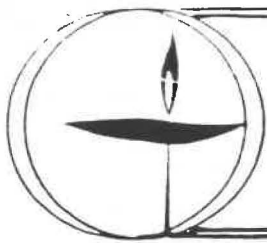
P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



Ann Rue
P.O. Box 47
Millanville
PA 18443

MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553

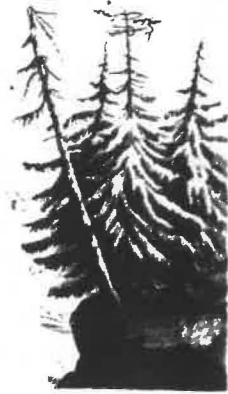


NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

WINTER 1998



EVERYONE IS INVITED AND WELCOME TO THE SUNDAY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS OF THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP, MEETS AT 11 AM, SUNDAYS, INNISFREE (LIBRARY BLDG), RIVER RD, MILANVILLE, PA. FOR INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS, CALL: 914-482-5049 OR 717-729-7197

PROGRAMS FOR THE NEXT 3 MONTHS

JANUARY 4: Shared Readings. It's a new year! Bring a story, poem, reading or your thoughts about the new year - a time of renewal and rebirth. Or, just come and listen.

JANUARY 11: Gerry Eno will speak about what U.U.'s believe about the Bible. What do you believe? Come and share your thoughts.

JANUARY 18: Today Frank Higdon begins an eight part discussion series on Joseph Campbell's Myths. Are you fascinated by symbolism and mythology? Come, listen, participate!

JANUARY 25: The Ethics of Hunting will be presented by our own Don Hamilton, an employee of the National Park Service. This is bound to be a controversial discussion for our mixed group of hunters and those who believe it is unethical to take a life.

FEBRUARY 1: Who's To Blame? This inspiring sermon was written by Fredric J. Muir, minister, U.U. Church of Anapolis, Md., and will be presented by Barbara Lutz. It is based on the biblical story of the prodigal son. (Luke 15:11-32)

FEBRUARY 8: The Faith of Our Founding Fathers will be presented by Grace Eno.

FEBRUARY 15: Part 2 of Joseph Campbell's Myths will be presented by Frank Higdon. (See Jan 18)

FEBRUARY 22: Democracy Re-examined is today's topic, presented by Tom Lisinbee, who's talks are always intelligent and thought provoking.

MARCH 1: Video: God's Dogs - Conversations with Coyotes. A look at Native American insight into U.U. theology.

MARCH 8: PLANNING MEETING. Please come, bring your ideas for future programs, volunteer to read a prepared talk, or to lead a R.E. program. If you can't come, call someone with your ideas. We welcome everyone's participation.

MARCH 15: Frank Higdon presents part 3 of Joseph Campbell's myth. (see Jan 18)

MARCH 22: Movie Review. Joe Walker will discuss the movie, Amistad. Have you seen the movie? What are your thoughts?

MARCH 29: Shared Readings. It's finally spring! Bring a favorite story, poem, essay or your thoughts to celebrate the new season.





CALLING ALL U.U. MEMBER'S

When it's time to pay our U.U. dues, we are having a hard time figuring out our actual membership figure. Some long-time members have moved away, but still support us financially; other's have signed the membership book, but rarely attend. To clarify this situation, we have decided to reaffirm our membership annually. We are asking that all fellowship participants who consider themselves members sign the membership book for 1998. Since our fellowship is asked to pay a set amount for each member to the central U.U. organization, we ask each member to attempt to make your annual contribution at least this amount, if you are able. (check with Treasurer Frank Higdon for the actual amount). If you can't afford it, that's fine -just do what you can.

CABIN FEVER DINNER GROUPS FORM


Last month, Frank Higdon suggested forming dinner groups so that we could learn more about each other, and enjoy each others company outside of our usual Sunday morning meetings. The idea was for a group of people (8-10) to visit each others homes for an evening meal once a month for 4-6 months or longer. The "host" for the month would prepare the main course, while others in the group would bring salad, dessert, bread or beverages. Seventeen people signed up, and have been divided into 2 groups. If you'd like more information, contact Frank at 717-129-1012.

BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALKATHON

At last count, this years walk netted around \$900- \$1000, however contributions are still coming in.

UUCES PROGRAMS FOR YOU!

Lighting ways to a richer life is the theme of the winter/spring UUCES workshops (offered by the U.U. Counseling and Education Service, and the Metro District). Five programs for individuals and couples, designed to help you realize more fully your potential for growth, include: THE COUPLE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, Jan. 31-Feb. 1, Belle Mead, NJ, \$235 per couple; BUILDING YOUR OWN SELF-ESTEEM, Feb. 21, Morristown, NJ, \$45; SEXUAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM, March 7, Belle Mead, NJ, \$45; A WOMEN'S RETREAT OF REST AND RENEWAL II, March 14, Montclair, NJ, \$45; DEALING WITH CONFLICT AND ANGER, Mar. 21, Morristown, NJ, \$45. For more detailed information and registration form see the bulletin board (location) or speak to (minister's name) or (religious educator's name) or (president's name) or call Fred Ward of UUCES, (908) 359-2097.


Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
P.O. Box 123, Millerville, PA 18443



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701

MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN





Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

APRIL

1993



THE SUNDAY SERVICES IN APRIL

This is the month of high and holy days for both Jews and Christians -- with Passover and Easter in close proximity.

We will be doing our own Unitarian Universalist observance of both of them.

April 4 - Naomi Teppich will be leading us in an observance of a Passover Seder. This is usually celebrated in Jewish homes with readings of the story of the escape of the Israelites from Egypt. Passover begins on April 6th this year, and is celebrated for seven days as a memorial to freedom.

Our modified observance will include a pot-luck luncheon as part of the Seder meal. Please bring a covered dish! Bring what you want -- but some might want to bring variations of a Seder: red wine, matzoh ball soup, salad, vegetables, potatoes, gefelte fish, bread, macaroons for dessert.

April 11 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will have a UU approach to Easter as he speaks about "Issue of Life and Death." For the Christian world, this is Easter Sunday -- the climax of Lent, leading to the crucifixion of Jesus and his resurrection. As Passover celebrates freedom, Easter celebrates the enduring values that give meaning to life. As Passover says No to oppression and tyranny, Easter says No to hate-mongers, gun lobbies, and purveyors of violence.

April 18 - This Sunday is a double-header. Members and friends are invited to bring something for a time of Shared Readings -- and then we ask for suggestions for our Sunday Programs for the coming months. An important Sunday! We need your input.

April 25 - On the lighter side -- with our program: "Take Me Out to the Ballgame!" No one needs be a fan to enjoy this. Is baseball and other sports our Roman Circus? Does it need to be regulated? Are the days of Babe Ruth, Lou Gerhig, Jackie Robinson lost and gone? Has Little League taken the fun out of bseball? Come join the discussion!

GENTLE REMINDER Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead on Saturday April 3rd! Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, April 4th. We want to make sure that you get to the Fellowship on time.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Innisfree will host The Habitat Pot-Lock Dinner Club the first Sunday of each month at 5:00 P. M. at the Innisfree Recreation Hall in Milanville. The suggested donation of \$5.00 per adult will go totally to the Wayne County Chapter of Habitat for Fumanity. All members and friends of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship are invited. But please call 717-729-7197 to reserve a place and to indicate what you will bring: a vegetarian dish, a meat or poultry dish, a salad, or a dessert. The Rues will provide hot and cold drinks and paper service. Jot down the first Sunday of each month.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

GENERAL ASSEMBLY The 32nd Annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association will convene on Thursday, June 24th, with the opening celebration at 8:30 P. M. The meetings will conclude on at noon on Tuesday, June 29th the Installation of New Officers and concluding business.

Although anyone may attend, our Fellowship is entitled to one official (and voting) delegate, plus one alternate delegate. Both Bud and Ann Rue are planning to attend, as are Ray and Barbara Pontier. Ann will be the official delegate of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship, and Ray Pontier will be a delegate as Minister Emeritus of the Lakeland UU Fellowship in Wayne, NJ.

General Assembly is a gathering of the clan! Up to 2,000 UUs may attend and go to some of the 300 events planned -- including workshops, lectures, worship services, and business meetings. Information about the General Assembly can be found in the UU World.

Not so incidently: the General Assembly is being held in Charlotte, North Carolina!!



SOME UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
HAPPENINGS

April 3 - Susquehanna Valley Area Council (Joseph Priestley District) Spring Conference from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at UU Congregation in Kingston, PA.

April 16-17 - Joseph Priestley Spring Conference at Main Line Unitarian Church in Devon, PA.

April 25 - March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights.

May 2-4 - Unitarian Universalist Workshop on Social Justice in Washington, D. C.

Among the Special Events at General Assembly in June:

**Election of a new President of the UUA -- either John Buehrens or Carolyn Owen-Towle. Presidency is a full-time job with a six year term.

**Introduction of the new Unitarian Universalist Hymn Book.

**Celebration of 200 years of Universalism.

**The Service of the Living Tradition and the Ware Lecture.

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE Our Fellowship received a nice thank you from Richard Scobie, Executive Director of the UU Service Committee, for our gift of \$168.45 from our Guest at Your Table Boxes. He noted that our gift will go toward helping children in Nicaragua, the Sudan in Africa, and in poverty areas in the United States.

NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO SIT DOWN AND FEEL HOPELESS. THERE'S TOO MUCH WORK TO DO. (Dorothy Day)

ATTENTION PLEASE

Our asking is much less than \$5,000, but considerably more than 25 cents! Our Fellowship, along with every religious or secular organization, has certain expenses -- light and heat, Newsletter, postage, insurance, Religious Education, along with our fair share to the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Joseph Priestley District. For the UUA alone we have been asked to give \$29 for each member of our Fellowship. These are bare bones expenses.

This is the time of year when every UU Church or Fellowship has some kind of an annual pledge campaign -- as every Newsletter from other groups indicate.

We are quite low-key. But not silent! Several of our members make regular weekly or monthly pledges -- and this is a gentle reminder to please bring those commitments up to date.

We hope others will make regular pledges or commitments. But to those who feel they cannot, we urge that there be a regular and meaningful pattern of giving. You can help us become a dynamic liberal religious group in this entire area.

BECOMING A MEMBER

We invite any of our visitors and friends to become one with us by signing our Membership Book. Speak to our President, Barbara Pontier, or to any of the members about this -- or if you want to know more.

DON'T FORGET OUR PASSOVER SEDER ON SUNDAY APRIL 4TH. Please bring a covered dish!

BE WITH US EVERY SUNDAY -- TO LEND YOUR SUPPORT TO OUR FELLOWSHIP -- AND SHARE IN GOOD PROGRAMS.



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Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Newsletter

MARCH
1993

SUNDAY SERVICES IN
MARCH



Join us every Sunday morning at 11:00 A. M. for our services and programs as we meet in Innisfree on River Road in Milanville, just over the bridge at Skinners Falls. A Religious Education program for children ages 3 through 10, as well as childcare, is provided at the same hour.

March 7 - Be with us for a very special program of "Music and Interpretative Dance" to be presented by Laurie Stuart and Karen MacIntyre. We look forward to a most unique and meaningful morning. A program not to be missed!

March 14 - For the Christian world, this is the Second Sunday of the Lenten Season -- a time of preparation among Christians to seek the meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The Cross, in particular, is the central symbol of Christianity. Although most UUs reject orthodox/conservative theology about the death of Jesus on a cross, the meaning of his death has continuing validity. Ray Pontier will attempt to recapture some ongoing truth as he speaks about: "A UU Looks at the Meaning of the Cross."

March 21 - We welcome Barbara Yeaman as our speaker -- always interesting and inspirational! Barbara is a strong advocate of the environment, and will speak on some aspect concerning us all. John Burroughs once wrote: "The longer I live the more my mind dwells upon the beauty and wonder of the world. . . . I am in love with this world." This typifies Barbara Yeaman.

March 28 - Glenn Pontier, who lights a candle each Sunday for the Ozone Layer, will speak about this subject which is of vital concern to everyone. Carl Sagan said: "If we do not speak for Earth, who will? If we are not committed to our own survival, who will be?" Glenn is the editor of The River Reporter.

ASSORTED THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP
AND UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM IN GENERAL
=====

- °°°In August of this year our Fellowship will celebrate its 6th Anniversary, having organized in August 1987. We are the only Liberal Religious Group in a 50 mile radius.
- °°°On October 26, 1990 our Fellowship was officially accepted as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, one of a 1000 such congregations in the United States and Canada. We are also part of a regional body called the Joseph Priesly District.
- °°°The Unitarian Universalist Association is a merger of the Unitarians and the Universalists in 1962, both historic denominations dating back to the 17th century in America. This year Universalism celebrates its 200th anniversary.
- °°°The Annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association will be held this year at Charlotte, North Carolina from June 24 to 29.
- °°°The Officers of our Upper Delaware Fellowship are: President, Barbara Pontier; Vice President, Loran Shlevin; Treasurer, Bud Rue; Secretary, Colette Ballew. The Trustees include MarJeanna Howard, David Koepke, Jesse Ballew, and Tom Rue as Past President. The Consulting Minister is the Rev. Raymond J. Pontier.
- °°°Services and Programs of the Fellowship are held every Sunday (except January) at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree on River Road in Milanville, PA.
- °°°A Religious Education Program is held Sundays at 11:00 for children ages 3 through 10, as well as childcare for smaller youngsters. Many thanks to Ann Rue and Loran Shlevin who made this program possible! We are looking for a regular teacher and offer a nominal compensation of \$100 a month.
- °°°Every Sunday we have a "Coffee-Hour" when members and friends stay for light refreshments, fellowship and conversation. We need people each week to take a turn!

The Unitarian Universalist approach to religion has a fundamental difference from that of more orthodox churches. Instead of asserting that the ultimate truth about the nature of life has been revealed to us, we assume that, together, we must engage in a search for those things which can give meaning and importance in our lives. Ours is a vital religion; one of inquiry and growth, rather than one of preconceived answers.

Our search is not blind. It is informed by the great religious traditions, including our own Judeo-Christian heritage and liberal religious roots. It is also informed by other insights of both past and present—the richness of the arts, the knowledge of the sciences, the wisdom of experience.

I know of no other religious institution taking such an approach. Here is both a respect for the past and an openness to the future . . . a sharing of adults and children in a serious, yet joyous search.

Douglas Gallager

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR MARCH

If March has a dubious reputation--and it does--it is not wholly without reason. There is a hint of madness in the mere mention of the March hare. Dark deeds are somehow inherent in the Ides of March. There is March mud, there are March floods, there are the winds of March, and there is the lion-lamb tradition."

There is more to it than such items, however. The whole story of March includes the vernal equinox, daylight at last exceeding darkness. It includes red-winged blackbirds, back from the South, clamoring in the stream-side tree-tops. It includes pussy willows in fat, silvery catkin. Not today, not even a week from today, but one day before March ends in April. And there will be those unpredict-

able days when the March air is warm, the March breeze is gentle, the March sun is friendly as late April. And somewhere March is boys playing marbles, girls playing jacks and hopscotch. Maybe we give March a dubious reputation because we are an impatient kind of animal.

We haven't yet learned that the trip often is more important than the destination. With February out of the way, we want May, or April at the least; and the only way to April or May is through March. And March insists on being March, neither sinister nor mad, but a mixture of old endings and new beginnings.

New York Times (Editorial)

NEVER DOUBT
◆◆ THAT A
SMALL GROUP OF
THOUGHTFUL
COMMITTED
CITIZENS ◆◆
CAN CHANGE
THE WORLD;

◆ INDEED
IT'S THE ONLY
THING THAT
EVER HAS. ◆

Margaret Mead

MORE THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UPPER DELAWARE FELLOWSHIP AND UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

- °°° We support ourselves by the voluntary giving of members and friends. A number of members make regular pledges.
- °°° On Sundays we try to observe a good old UU tradition of wearing Name Tags. Cooperation requested.
- °°° On Sundays we pass around a "sign-up sheet" for anyone willing to take a turn for refreshments and leading the morning worship. We are a do-it-yourself group. What happens, happens because you make it happen!
- °°° Ray Pontier edits the monthly Newsletter. Deadline for notices, etc. is third Sunday of each month.

- °°° We give a very warm welcome to visitors. We rejoice when someone wants to sign our Membership Book!
- °°° A Board of Trustees meeting is held the last Sunday of the month after the service. Any member or friend of the Fellowship is invited to attend.
- °°° Anyone who would like to know more about Unitarian Universalism is welcome to take literature from our Literature Rack -- or speak to the Rev. Pontier.
- °°° We are more than happy to put people on our Newsletter mailing list. But if someone is no longer interested in receiving it, we'd appreciate hearing from you.

**Some people make the
world, the rest just come along
and live in it. Edna Ferber**



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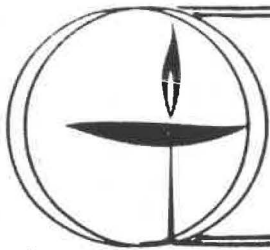
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JANUARY 5: An organizational meeting was held. We agreed to join the Church of the Larger Fellowship. Also discussed planning some Saturday night activities - films, poetry readings and book discussions were some of the suggestions.

JANUARY 12: A prepared speech on Four Letter Words, from the Quest, will be read by Barbara Lutz.

JANUARY 19: Gerry Eno will lead a discussion on the 10 Unitarian principles. Do we all agree with all of the principles? Come and find out!

JANUARY 26: A speaker will be invited to discuss OxFam America and the work they are doing in our area.

FEBRUARY 2: We will use a video or printed sermon. The topic? Wait and see!

FEBRUARY 9: Tom Lisinbee, who gave an interesting talk on UU history, will lead today's program.

FEBRUARY 16: In honor of Valentine's Day, we will discuss love- who we love, what we love, what love has meant in our lives. Come and share!

FEBRUARY 23: Planning meeting. Do you have ideas for future programs or speakers? If you can't come, please call someone with your suggestions. Everyone's input is needed!

MARCH 2: Joe Walker will try to obtain a UU divinity student to speak to us.

MARCH 9: Laurie Stuart, who presented our beautiful Christmas program, will lead today.

MARCH 16: Who was Confucius and what did he teach? John Pritchard will discuss this topic.

MARCH 23: Shared Readings. What have you been reading that you'd like to share with the group? Or just come and listen!

MARCH 30: EASTER SUNDAY! We will have an easter egg hunt and some seasonal music. Bring the children and the child within you!



THE ROSY CROSS

AN APOLOGY - to everyone who come to a meeting to hear a particular topic and found that the topic had been changed. Since we plan our programs 3-4 months in advance, sometimes changes do have to be made. However, we will try to stick closer to our schedule in the future.

MAILING LIST

Our mailing list now includes a lot of folks we haven't seen in years. In the interest of saving money and paper, we are in the process of thinning our mailing list. If you haven't been around in awhile but still want to be on the mailing list, please let us know. Better yet, come to a meeting, look up old friends and meet some new friends!

OUR PRAYERS AND LOVE go out to Edris Ardis, Eve Murphy and Barbara Yeaman, all of whom had to deal with illness or injury over the last year. May the New Year bring you good health and happiness.

THE BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALKATHON

Although all the pledges aren't in yet, it is projected that last October's walk will bring in \$2500-\$3000, to be divided among the 5 agreed upon charities.

Symbols and Meditation



To use an archetypal symbol, such as the rosy cross, as a focus for meditation, gaze at it, blinking only when your eyes start to burn. Try to avoid judging any thoughts that arise while focusing on the symbol, and allow it to enter your consciousness as if it is communicating with a rosy cross that is already there. As the mediation progresses and your inner image of the cross becomes clearer, close your eyes and feel yourself going deeper and deeper into your visualization, as if you are going on a journey into yourself. With time and patience, the image will begin to release a rush of intuitive ideas.

From The Secret Language of Symbols

The mountains, I become part of it...
The herbs, the fir tree, I become part of it.
The morning mists, the clouds, the gathering waters,
I become part of it.
The wilderness, the dew drops, the pollen...
I become part of it.

Navajo Chant
From Earth Prayers



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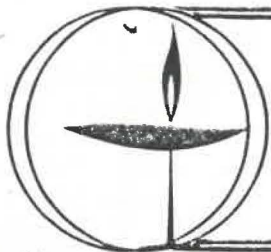
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HANUKKAH USA 32



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN



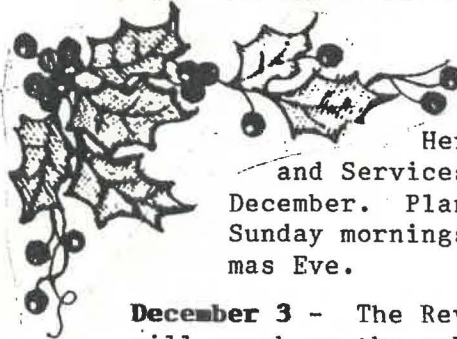


NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

DECEMBER
1995

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



**HAPPY HANUKKAH!
HAPPY KWANZAA!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Here are our Programs and Services for the month of December. Plan to be with us on Sunday mornings and also Christmas Eve.

December 3 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will speak on the subject, "The Wit and Wisdom of Jesus of Nazareth." Most Unitarian Universalists are not high on the theological and doctrinal abstractions about Jesus -- but are attracted to the wisdom, values, and enduring truths coming out of his life and teaching. The talk will highlight some of those values.

December 10 - Gil Mende will talk about and lead a discussion on the topic, "Challenging the Radical Right." This is a resolution to be acted upon at the 1996 General Assembly -- and a source of deep concern as a group like the Christian Coalition gains power in our nation. Their assault on the separation of church and state, on a woman's right to choose, on Gays and lesbians, among other things, is most alarming. A most vital morning.

December 17 - Our morning service will be given over to a Planning Meeting -- primarily to arrange programs for the early part of 1996. This is your chance to to present your ideas and desires, and to help formulate the content of what we do on Sunday mornings. It is most important that YOU be with us.

December 24 - There will not be a morning Service -- but at 7:30 P. M. we will have our Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service. Plan to be with us -- with your family. Take note: this will be our last service until the first Sunday in February. January is our Winter Break!

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE If you have been using the Guest at Your Table Boxes (and we hope you have), we are asking that you return them at the Fellowship by Sunday, December 17th or on Christmas Eve at our service. The money collected goes for the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee which is an arm of compassion in our world of so much pain.

BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALK FOR JUSTICE



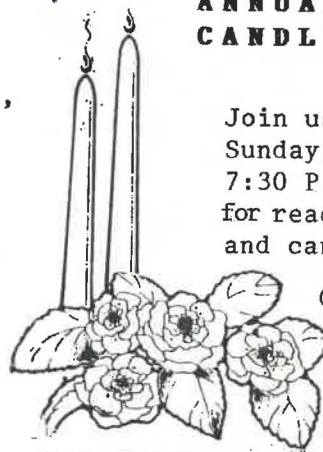
On October 22nd some forty people were part of the third annual Walk for Justice sponsored by the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. The Walk is in recognition and in memory of Bud Rue who always "walked tall" and helped to teach us to care for those who need a helping hand.

The returns are still coming in, but Ann Rue, our treasurer, estimates that we will have raised \$4,000. The money will be given to five groups: Wayne County and Sullivan County Habitat for Humanity, Victim's Intervention Program, Interfaith Outreach United, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office.

Our most sincere thanks to all who walked the ten kilometers and to all those who sponsored walkers by donations of money.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & CAROL SERVICE

Join us on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th at 7:30 P. M. at Innisfree for readings and singing and candlelighting.



Greg Pontier and his guitar will again lead us in our singing. Everyone is invited, young and old!!

OUR WINTER BREAK

In deference to Winter, our Fellowship will not have Services during the month of January! Christmas Eve will be our final official gathering until February and December 17th will be our last Sunday morning gathering. Please take note!!

FOOD PANTRY

Donations for our Food Pantry can be made on any Sunday. Your donations of canned good, dried foods, cereals, etc. go to people with dire needs.



SUGGESTIONS FOR A HEALTHY CONGREGATION

1. Always be kind to one another, even if you think meanness is justified.
2. Always attribute the best possible motives to another, even when you do not understand another's words or actions.
3. Promise to each other only what you really intend and are capable of doing.
4. Be very quick to praise and very slow to criticize.
5. Defend one another, but not yourselves.
6. Accept one another's gifts with gratitude, accept one another's deficiencies with grace.
7. Do not tell another how to feel. Remember that feelings are facts, and treat them accordingly.
8. Greet each day with expectation and each hour of rest with thanksgiving.
9. Laugh and cry together, sharing both your joys and your heartaches.
10. Let your eyes light up when you come into one another's presence.
11. See possibilities and not just problems in new endeavors.
12. Remember that other people have different spiritual needs. Accept one another's differing religious pilgrimages.

(From various UU Newsletters. Add your own!)



Did you know that a Unitarian started the customs of Christmas Trees in America?

Dr. Charles Follen grew up in Germany, where it was the custom to decorate a tree at Christmas time. Now, in the year 1832, he was a professor in the United States at Harvard University. His little son, Charley, was two years old, and Christmas was coming. How Dr. Follen longed for the Christmas trees of his own childhood, and the magic of their glowing candles!

A few days before Christmas, he went into the nearest woods and cut down the most beautiful spruce tree he could find. He brought it home and set it in a wooden tub, filling the tub around the tree with soft, damp green moss.

BITS AND PIECES Thanks to Gerry Eno for providing the ACLU video on religion and public schools and leading a fine program ***Also thanks to John Pritchard and Barbara Lutz for the thought-provoking program on Buddhism. ***Thanks again to all the people who supported the Walk for Justice -- & special thanks to Ann Rue for doing the chores of finances, for the Walk and Fellowship. ***It was good to see Kaare Gunderson at Fellowship some weeks ago. Our best to him, and especially to his wife who has been ill. Kaare lives at 843 Moose Street, Scranton, PA 18505. ***Our best wishes to Gil Mende who will soon be leaving for Texas (and other parts). Our loss as a Fellowship! He will be around these parts at least through December. ***Barbara Lutz is now a full time Milanville resident, having taken a job in an area hospital. ***Barbara and Ray Pontier head back to Florida shortly after Christmas. ***Charter-member Helen Sidwell sent a note from Florida wishing us well and saying she appreciates getting the Newsletter.

For the next few days he hid the tree in his study, while he secretly decorated it with colored paper ornaments, tiny toys, and gilded egg cups filled with candies.

On Christmas Eve, he carefully fastened small candles to the tips of its branches. Then, (with a bucket of water on hand for safety) he called his family. Little Charley clapped his hands and leaped for joy when he saw the wondrous tree!

The Follen family invited all the children of the neighborhood to gather with them around the Christmas tree. A house guest wrote about the tree in a magazine, and soon many other families in America adopted this delightful custom.

Dr. Follen later became a Unitarian minister and an abolitionist.

(From the UU Kids Book)



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443

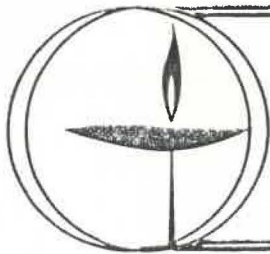


MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

SEPTEMBER
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER ELEVEN O'CLOCK

We hope to see you every Sunday at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship, meeting at Innisfree in Milanville

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In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

John Wesley

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That without dust the rain-
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Easy as one, two, three! Any questions, ask Barbara Pontier or Ann Rue. Sign up in advance when sign-up sheet is passed around. And thanks!

I N B R I E F Not much of anything for an In Brief column, so if you have anything of interest, send it on to Ray Pontier. ***Someone did send me this story -- about a \$20 bill and a \$1 bill who were being pulled from circulation and were on their way to the shredder. The \$20 bill says to the \$1, "I can't complain. I've had a good life. I've gone to dinner, nice bars, parties, casinos." The \$1 bill, feeling depressed, says to the \$20 bill, "Boy, you can talk. All I've done is go to church, go to church, go to church!" ***As we come to September and head into the fall season, let's make this a good time for our Sunday programs by giving them our regular support. ***For your calendars: mark October 23rd for the Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Justice.

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VICTIMS INTERVENTION WORKSHOPS The Victims Intervention Program of Wayne County is holding two Workshops on September 7th and 8th from 8:30 to 4:30 at the Ellen Memorial Health Center, Golf Hill Road in Honesdale. There is no charge for the Workshops, but each person pays her or his own lunch.

On September 7th the Workshop will be on Domestic Violence, and on September 8th the Workshop will deal with Sexual Assault.

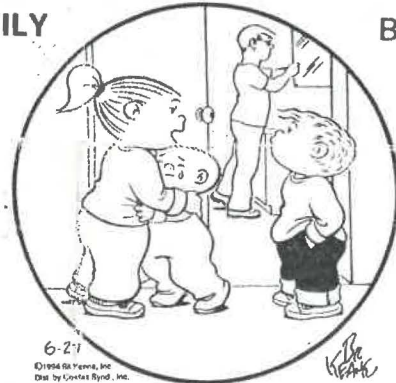
In suggesting "Who Should Attend," a flyer says: "Clergy, pastoral counselors, religious educators, and members of faith communities interested or concerned about the religious response to violence against women and children."

If any of our members or friends are interested, you can sign up by calling VIP at 717-253-4401 or sending your name to: Victims Intervention Program, PO Box 986, Honesdale, PA 18431.

VIP, as you know, is one of groups our Fellowship supports.

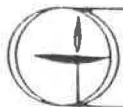
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

Bil Keane



6-27
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"Aspirin is okay for headaches, but lovin' is best for heartaches."



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

DECEMBER
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAY SERVICES IN DECEMBER

There will be four services during the month of December, including our Christmas Eve gathering. We hope all of our members and friends will be with us each week. Needless to say, our Sundays are enriched when you are here!

December 4 - On this first Sunday of the month we will have A PLANNING MEETING. If this does not sound exciting, be assured that it is most important! It is essential that we plan our programs for the first three or four months of 1995. It is equally important that we have your input of desires and ideas. This is a good time to think about where we have been and where we are going.

December 11 - Leading a program on "Music, Poetry, and Meditation" will be our own Tom Lisenbee. Tom and Sharon live in Brooklyn, NY during the week, and are at their home in Lackawaxen most weekends. We really look forward to hearing Tom and sharing in his program!

December 18 - On this Sunday before Christmas, the Rev. Raymond Pontier will be the speaker, with his subject: "Jesus and the Disinherited." The title is from a book by a black preacher, Howard Thurman -- and the focus will be from another current book called "The Bell Curve," a book fast becoming the "bible" of sophisticated racists. "Jesus," wrote Thurman, "stood with those who have their backs against the wall."

December 24 - Our Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service at 7:30 P. M. See notice in the opposite column -- and join us!

WINTER BREAK There will be no Sunday services or programs during the month of January. The December 24th Christmas Eve program is our last gathering until February 5, 1995.



CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS & CANDLELIGHT AT INNISFREE

Everyone is invited to attend our Annual Candlelight and Carol Service to be held at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. The service will begin at 7:30 P. M.

Come and hear some of the old stories, sing some favorite carols, light a candle in a circle of friendship. We hope to have Greg Pontier and Laurie Stuart lead us in the singing. Children are urged to participate along with their families.

Following the service there will be light refreshments. It will help if some of our members and friends bring some cookies or cake for sharing.

See you Christmas Eve at 7:30 P. M.!

THE BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALK FOR JUSTICE

Our Bud Rue Memorial Walk was held on a rainy Sunday afternoon on October 23rd, with a large contingent of members, friends, and supporting groups braving the weather. Ann Rue has made a collage of photos and news articles from The Walk -- posted at our meeting place in Innisfree.

Returns are still coming in, but at this point over \$2,000 has been raised from The Walk. This is in addition to the \$600 raised from the Square Dance. The money will be divided equally among Habitat for Humanity, Victims Intervention Program, Interfaith Outreach United, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office. Again, thanks to all who walked and all who gave!

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS

When the song of angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the Shepherds are back with their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:

to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the brothers,
to make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman



SEASON'S GREETINGS

**EACH NIGHT A CHILD IS BORN
IS A HOLY NIGHT**

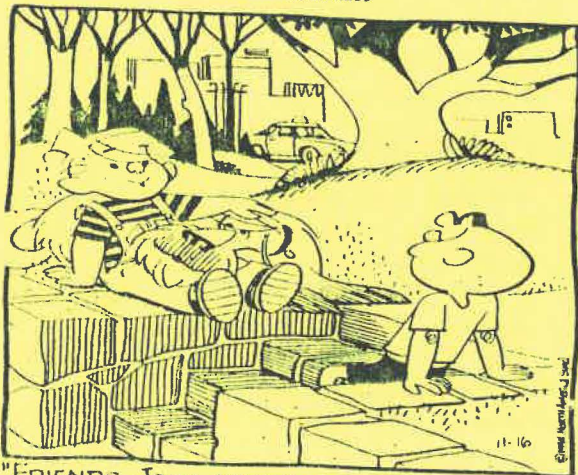


For so the children come
And so they have been coming.
Always in the same way they come . . .
Born of the seed of man and woman.
No angel heralds their beginnings.
No prophets predict their future courses.
No wisemen see a star to show where to find
the babe that will save humankind.

Yet each night a child is born is a holy night.
Fathers and mothers . . .
Sitting beside their children's cribs . . .
Feel glory in the sight of a new life beginning.
They ask, "Where and how will this new life
end?
Or will it never end?
Each night a child is born is a holy night . . .
A time for singing . . .
A time for wondering . . .
A time for worshipping.

(Sophia Lyon Fahs)

Dennis the Menace



"FRIENDS, JOEY, ARE PEOPLE WHO KNOW YOU
REALLY WELL, BUT STILL LIKE YOU."

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

Those who took "Guest At Your Table" boxes are reminded that they can be returned to the Fellowship on either December 18th at our Sunday service, or on

December 24th at our Christmas Eve service. Those who did not take boxes are invited to write a check payable to the UU Service Committee. All the money contributed goes for the work of the UU Service Committee

ABOUT

THIS AND THAT For the past few years, Ray and Barbara Pontier have been going to Florida for the month of January. Last year was an exception, for we stayed an extra three weeks after unexpectedly buying a mobile home in Lakeland, Florida. This year we intend to be in Florida through the end of March -- and to really beat the worst of the winter. Our plans, at the moment, are to leave here shortly after Christmas. Our Florida address is:

Beacon Hill Colony
1112 West Beacon Road, #42
Lakeland, FL 33803

In the meantime, we are confident that the Fellowship will continue to function in its usual fine fashion. We have strong leadership in Jesse Ballew as Vice President and Ann Rue as Treasurer, along with a good core membership. It is highly important, of course, for the members and friends of the Fellowship to give active support through involvement and participation on Sunday mornings. ***Thanks to Fellowship members who have taken Sunday programs recently: Edris & Bill Artis, Gil Mende, Tom Lisenbee. Also to outside speakers: Susan Keiser and Bert Feldman.Be sure to attend the planning meeting on December 4th. We need your suggestions. What have you liked best -- or least?

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Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

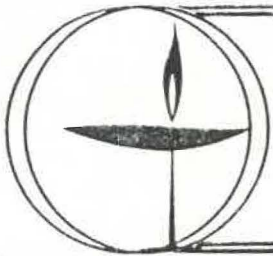
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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

OCTOBER
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



**OCTOBER SUNDAY
MORNINGS
AT
ELEVEN**

October 2 - "My Religious Roots." This will be a sharing of religious/spiritual journeys.

Where did you come from and where are you now in your thinking and feeling about your pilgrimage in life? Why, or maybe why not, are you a Unitarian Universalist? Everyone is invited to join in an informal discussion and sharing. Come and be part of a meaningful and interesting program!

October 9 - Leading our program this Sunday will be Edris Artis -- who shares membership with both our Fellowship and All Souls UU in New York City. Edris is a vital person who is active in many UU activities, travels widely, has attended world gatherings of the International Association for Religious Freedom. The exact title of her program will be announced -- but you can be sure it will be of interest to all of us.

October 16 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "Theodore Parker and Our Prophetic Heritage." Parker, who died at the age of 50 in 1860 (just before the Civil War), was far ahead of his time as a religious and social liberal. For a time he was ostracized, even in Unitarian circles, for his opposition to slavery, his call for women's rights, his support for decent wages and housing, his liberal interpretation of religion -- and more.

October 23 - This is the Sunday of our Walkathon!! DETAILS ABOUT IT ARE IN THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER. We will meet for our Sunday Service at 11:00 A. M. as usual, with representatives from organizations we will sponsor to tell about their work. COME TO THE SERVICE! JOIN IN THE WALK!

October 30 - This is the month for the Artis family -- and we are delighted to have Bill Artis as our speaker. He will be dealing with the subject: "The State of Race Relations Today." Bill, a labor leader and an active Unitarian Universalist, has spoken to us before. We look forward to his return.

THE BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALKATHON

THE DATE - Sunday October 23, 1994

THE TIME - Gather at Tuston Library in Narrowsburg by 1:30 P. M.

THE ROUTE - From the Tuston Library in Narrowsburg, NY to Innisfree in Milanville, PA. (10 Killometers)

WHY WE WALK-----

We walk, most surely, to remember our much loved Bud Rue, who wanted our Fellowship to be a caring community and who started our first Walk a year ago. This year we walk to support the same four groups as last year:

VICTIMS INTERVENTION PROGRAM:

Provides emergency assistance for battered and/or abused individuals while attempting to resolve difficulties through legal and counseling channels.

INTERFAITH OUTREACH UNITED:

Serves area within 15 miles of Callicoon. Helps families/individuals in crisis or need through emergency funds for necessities such as food, temporary housing, heat, etc. Offers a food pantry and Christmas toy distribution for families in need.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF WAYNE COUNTY, PA

Builds homes with low income families with no interest mortgage and no profit. Families must put up "sweat equity" and assist with construction, fund raising, or other tasks of the organization.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST UNITED NATIONS OFFICE

Offers youth and adults training and educational opportunities through seminars, conferences and dissemination of materials to UU districts and societies. Arranges group visits to the U. N. It is a non-governmental agency that seeks to influence the U.N. with UU hopes and dreams.

ON GETTING SPONSORS FOR YOUR WALK-----

A Sponsor Sheet is included with this Newsletter. It is hoped that all Walkers will secure sponsors. A dollar a Km would be nice, but any amount will be accepted. Ask your friends, neighbors, relatives, etc.

**ALL WALKERS ARE ASKED TO SIGN-IN
at Tuston Library before the Walk.**

Rain or shine, we walk!



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND OUR FELLOWSHIP

Starting in October, Colette Ballew, with help from parents, members and friends, will begin a new curriculum called "Peace Experiments." It is of high relevance in this age of increasing violence on television, in movies, and through society. A quote from the curriculum notes,

"Learning to be a peacemaker
Within ourselves and
in our interactions
shows respect
for ourselves,
others, and
the world in which we live."

Child care will be provided on Sundays for younger children. The program is held each week at 11:00 A.M. -- the same hour as the UU Fellowship holds its services and programs. For further information speak to or call Colette Ballew, Ann Rue, or Barbara Pontier. A welcome is extended to all who come!

UNITAIAN UNIVERSALIST COUNSELING AND EDUCATION SERVICE

This is a program of the Metro New York District, with the Rev. Fred Ward as the Director. Each year it runs a wide variety of enrichment programs for individuals. In November four programs are scheduled:

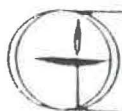
- "Dealing With Conflict and Anger"
- "Leadership of Men's Groups"
- "Living More Simply"
- "Your Passionate Path"

Program sites include Morristown, Paramus, Ridgewood, and Summit (all New Jersey). The costs run \$39 for each program. Further information available at the Fellowship.

BRIEFLY NOTED Several of us enjoyed being at Joe Walker's "Open House" on September 3rd. It was at the beautiful A & W Farm in North Branch where Ost-riches will be raised. ***Gil Mende is off to England for several weeks. We wish him a good and safe trip! ***Starting September 24th, Naomi Teppich is having an exhibit called "Landscape Visions" at Oogies on 22 Main Street in Narrows-burg. You can go any Saturday through October 15th from 5:00 to 8:00 P. M. ***Our thanks to June Gillespie, Metro District Trustee of the UUA, who traveled from afar to speak to us on September 11th about what's happening in the UUA. ***Thanks also to Barbara Yeaman for an interest-ing presentation about "Landtrust," given Sept-ember 18th. ***Ray and Barbara Pontier were sorry to miss John Rue's Play-Reading on September 25th, but Ray spoke at the UU Fellowship in Newton, NJ that day. ***The Pontiers, by the way, will be in Florida for a few weeks in November, but will be back for our Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner at Innisfree. ***Be sure to save November 24th for our 7th Fellowship Thanksgiving Dinner. Look for details in the next News-letter. ***Also reserve December 24th for our Annual Christmas Eve Carol and Candle-light Program.

1994-95 ANNUAL DUES

A letter to Ann Rue, our Treasurer, from Metro New York District indicates that our Annual Dues to the District is \$9 a member for a total of \$153. Also our Annual Dues to the UUA is \$32 a member for a total of \$544. We can be pleased (even proud) to say that we have con-tributed our fair-share of annual dues to the UUA each year. This is one way in which we support Unitarian Universalism in a larger way as our liberal movement reaches out to make itself known and to grow in the wider reaches of society.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

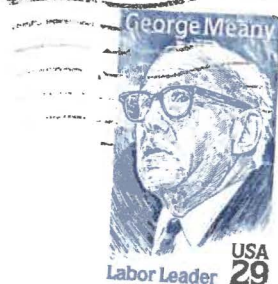
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BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALKATHON

SPONSORED BY THE UPPER DELAWARE
UNITARIAN/UNIVERSALIST
FELLOWSHIP

DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1994
TIME: 1:30 P.M.

ROUTE: FROM THE TUSTEN LIBRARY, NARROWSBURG, N.Y.
TO INNISFREE, MILANVILLE, PA (10 kilometers)

TO BENEFIT:

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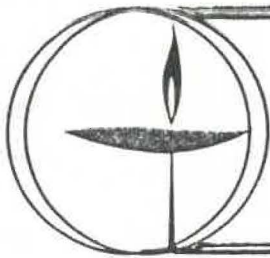
The walkathon will benefit the following organizations: Victims Intervention Program, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach, and the United Nations Unitarian Universalist Office **

NAME OF WALKER: _____

<u>NAME OF SPONSOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT PLEDGED</u>	<u>AMOUNT RECEIVED</u>
1. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
6. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
7. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
8. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
9. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
10. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
11. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
12. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
13. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
14. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
15. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
16. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
17. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
18. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
19. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
20. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Neither the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship nor any member(s) of its board of trustees will be held liable for any injury or accident suffered by any walker during the course of the walkathon.

** The Walkathon is 10 Kilometers in length. Suggested giving level is one dollar per Kilometer, but any contribution will be gratefully accepted.



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

SEPTEMBER
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



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By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

John Wesley

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Langston Hughes (1902-1967)

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1) When your turn comes, bring refreshments (doesn't have to be fancy), milk, and something for children to drink. The coffee is provided. 2) Get to Fellowship ahead of time to make the coffee and set up the refreshments. Check to see if there are cups, napkins, etc. 3) After coffee-hour, pull plugs on coffee-maker, wash the coffee-maker and cups.

Easy as one, two, three! Any questions, ask Barbara Pontier or Ann Rue. Sign up in advance when sign-up sheet is passed around. And thanks!

I N B R I E F Not much of anything for an In Brief column, so if you have anything of interest, send it on to Ray Pontier. ***Someone did send me this story -- about a \$20 bill and a \$1 bill who were being pulled from circulation and were on their way to the shredder. The \$20 bill says to the \$1, "I can't complain. I've had a good life. I've gone to dinner, nice bars, parties, casinos." The \$1 bill, feeling depressed, says to the \$20 bill, "Boy, you can talk. All I've done is go to church, go to church, go to church!" ***As we come to September and head into the fall season, let's make this a good time for our Sunday programs by giving them our regular support. ***For your calendars: mark October 23rd for the Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Justice.

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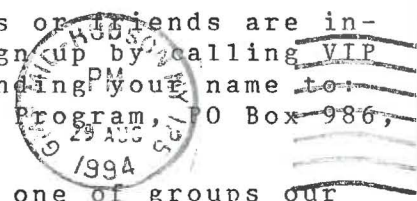
VICTIMS INTERVENTION WORKSHOPS The Victims Intervention Program of Wayne County is holding two Workshops on September 7th and 8th from 8:30 to 4:30 at the Ellen Memorial Health Center, Golf Hill Road in Honesdale. There is no charge for the Workshops, but each person pays her or his own lunch.

On September 7th the Workshop will be on Domestic Violence, and on September 8th the Workshop will deal with Sexual Assault

In suggesting "Who Should Attend," a flyer says: "Clergy, pastoral counselors, religious educators, and members of faith communities interested or concerned about the religious response to violence against women and children."

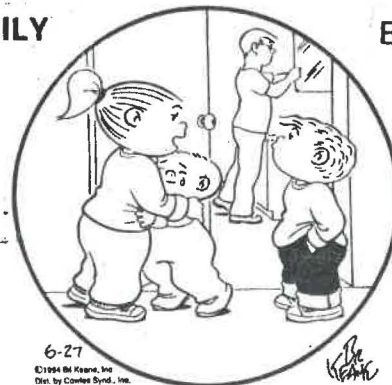
If any of our members or friends are interested, you can sign up by calling VIP at 717-253-4401 or sending your name to: Victims Intervention Program, PO Box 986, Honesdale, PA 18431.

VIP, as you know, is one of groups our Fellowship supports.



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

Bill Keane



6-27
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"Aspirin is okay for headaches, but lovin' is best for heartaches."



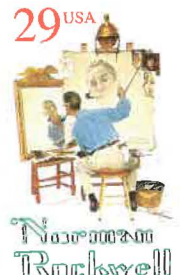
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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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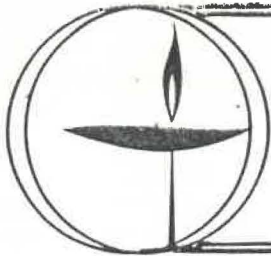


MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

NOVEMBER
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

THE SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER—11 A. M.

November 6 - "Problems of Sexual Harrassment" will be the subject of a program by Susan Keiser, an attorney from Livingston Manor. This vital program has been arranged by Gil Mende.

November 13 - Another vital program, also arranged by Gil Mende, will be about "Assisted Suicide." How much control does a person have over her or his own final end in life? Is life to be prolonged beyond the point of meaning? What are the moral and ethical issues? What are the rights of the individual who is suffering? Come and share your opinions.

November 20 - This is the month for provocative questions and concerns. On this Sunday Bert Feldman will deal with the question: "What About Legalized Gambling" Our nation is on a gambling binge and both New York and Pennsylvania are toying with the idea. We welcome Bert Feldman with us again. Most of us know him as a regular columnist for The River Reporter.

Thursday, November 24 -- Our community Thanksgiving Dinner at Innisfree. See the notice in oppositve column!

November 27 - There will be no Service or Program on this Sunday after Thanksgiving!

December 4 - Taking a peek into December, our program speaker/leader will be our own Tom Lisenbee. His topic will be announced.

FOR THE SAKE OF OTHERS

Strange is our situation here on earth. Each of us comes for a short visit, not knowing why, yet sometimes seeming to divine a purpose. From the standpoint of daily life, however, there is one thing we do know: that each is here for the sake of others, for the countless unknown souls with whose fate we are connected by a bond of sympathy. Many times a day I realize how much my own outer and inner life is built upon the labors of other people, both living and dead, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received and am still receiving.

Albert Schweitzer.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER AT

INNISFREE All members and friends (and their families) are invited to the Thanksgiving Day Dinner of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship to be held at Innisfree in Milanville on Thursday, November 24th.

GATHERING TIME IS 1:00 P. M. for wine, juice, and snacks. Dinner will follows shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish in sufficient quantity for sharing with several people. Salads, potatoes, vegetables, desserts, etc. will be needed, as well as wine and juice. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Fellowship on Sundays, otherwise call 717-729-7197.

Fellowship members and friends are most welcome! But it is important to have a reasonable count of how many are coming. So please sign up or call so we know how many are coming from your family or group. Hope to see you!



Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

A Guest at Your Table
A Guest at Your Table
A Guest at Your Table

Again this year "Guest At Your Table" coin boxes are available to those who want to share in this project of

the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The boxes are available at the Fellowship, and are to be returned either the Sunday before Christmas or at the Christmas Eve Service. When you return them, please fill out and return the name & address form on the box.

The idea is to use the box daily, putting in a quarter, a dollar, or whatever you want -- with the money going for the work of the UU Service Committee in Haiti, in India, in the United States. The Service Committee is the Unitarian Universalist arm of compassion out in the world.

You say the little efforts that I make will do no good.

That they will never prevail to tip the hovering scale where justice hangs in the balance.

Well, perhaps I never thought they would.

But I am prejudiced beyond debate in favor of my right to choose which side the scale shall feel the stubborn ounces of my weight. Amen.

Boñaro Overstreet

**THE BUD RUE MEMORIAL
WALKATHON FOR
JUSTICE**

This Newsletter is being written just prior to the Walkathon -- a time when we remember Bud Rue who died while leading the Walk just a year ago. Those who knew Bud Rue were privileged to know a very wonderful human being. Bud was a dynamic presence in our Fellowship, who not only helped organize it but gave it a sense of meaning and vitality. He always wanted the Upper Delaware Fellowship to be one that reached out to meet the needs of other people, to serve the cause of justice and human need. So the Walk was one way of remembering Bud Rue and of keeping his spirit alive.

As this Newsletter is written it is not known how much we have raised for the groups we are sponsoring (Habitat for Humanity, Victims Intervention Program, Interfaith Outreach United, UU United Nations Office) but final results will be announced at the Fellowship and will be in the December Newsletter. Many thanks to all who participated: the many Walkers and the many who contributed.

THIS IS MY FELLOWSHIP. It is composed of people like me. We make it what it is. I want it to be a Fellowship that is a lamp to the path of pilgrims leading them to Goodness, Truth, and Beauty. It will be if I am.

It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and community, if I bring them. It will be friendly, if I am. It will be a Fellowship of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith if, if I who make it what it is, am filled with these.

**ABOUT THIS
AND
THAT**

Tom and Carmen Rue proudly announce the marriage of Janesa Fernandez to David Walter on October 16th, 1994. ***Congratulations to The River Reporter for winning its libel case against a former Monticello Village attorney and village justice who instituted the suit against the paper. A big score for the First Amendment and a free press! *** We look forward to the return of Gil Mende from his trip to England any day now. ***Barbara and Ray Pontier left for Florida on October 24th. They plan to stay for a couple of weeks, and will be back in this area in time to be at the Thanksgiving Day Dinner at the Fellowship.***A list of Fellowship members and friends has been printed and is available at the Fellowship. Check it out for any errors or omissions. ***As we are busy raising money for others, let us not forget the needs of our Fellowship. We pay for the expenses of our meeting place whether you are here or not. ***Any notices, announcements for the Newsletter? Get them to Ray Pontier.

WE BID

WELCOME On Sunday, October 23rd we were delighted to have two people sign our Membership Book:

David and Laurel Mason
PO Box 137
Rowland, PA 18457
(Phone 717-685-4634)

Membership represents a desire to share in and support the liberal principles and purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association, as well as being supportive of the local UU Fellowship. Anyone interested in becoming a member by signing the Membership Book can speak to any of the current members or to the President, Barbara Pontier.



*Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship*

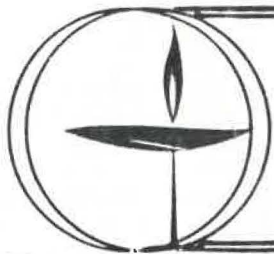
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Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

JULY
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN JULY

Before doing anything else on Sundays in July, come to the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship at 11:00 A. M. Join us for good fellowship and stimulating programs!!

July 3 - "Censorship -- Pro and Con." Do we draw a line on freedom of speech? Is it OK for racists and anti-semites, for neo-nazis and ku klux klaners and skin-heads to poison the atmosphere? Come and hear John Rue and Glenn Pontier engage in a debate, a dialogue, an interchange on this subject.

July 10 - Colette Ballew will be leading a program on "A Healthy Start in Life." Did you know that "3,600,000 babies will be born into poverty; 1,080,000 babies will be born at low birth rate; 143 thousand babies will die before their first birthday?" Colette will deal with some of the problems and possible solutions.

JULY 17 - Barbara Pontier will lead a program about "Humanism," using the "Humanist Manifesto" as a basis. The first Humanist Manifesto, first issued in 1933, caused great controversy at the time. What do you know about humanism? What do you think about humanism? Would you consider yourself a humanist?

JULY 24 - "What I Have Learned After 20 Years in the Ranks of Unitarian Universalism." Ray Pontier will deal with this rather long title. Some thoughts, feelings, and observations will be shared about 30 years as a minister in the Reformed Church in America and 20 years as a Unitarian Universalist minister.

JULY 31 - We wind up the month with an important "Planning Meeting." Do be with us to arrange our schedule and topics.

NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

At our Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 12th, a variety of old and new business was discussed and approved:

**The Budget (as printed in June Newsletter) was accepted with a \$200 increase.

**The Social Action/Concerns Report was accepted -- including a Square Dance to be held August 19th (more on this in Newsletter), and the Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Justice to be held Sunday, October 23rd.

The following Officers and Trustees were elected:

President - Barbara Pontier
Vice President - Jesse Ballew
Treasurer - Ann Rue
Secretary - Sharon Paige-Lisenbee

Trustee John Rue 1995
Trustee MarJeana Howard 1996
Trustee Barbara Lutz 1997

COME

COME

THE DATE IS AUGUST 19TH

TO

THE

SQUARE

DANCE!

THE PLACE IS THE BEACH LAKE FIRE HOUSE

LOCATED ON ROUTE 652 (5 or so miles from Narrowsburg Bridge)

THE COST IS \$5.00 A PERSON.

Proceeds/profits from the dance will go to the Social Action Fund. Liz Huntington is Chairperson. Call her for further information. EVERYONE INVITED!

CONGRATULATIONS

To Sharon Paige-Lisenbee for receiving a "Humanitarian Award" on June 15th from the Red Hook Lions Club!

To Glenn Pontier for being honored at a Testimonial Dinner on June 11th!

When you go to a garden
do you look at thorns or flowers?
Spend more time with roses and
jasmine.

IF YOU ARE ...

If you are looking for a religious community in which to seek spiritual growth...

If you are eager to consider religious questions with others who are not always certain they have all the answers, but who are determined to keep searching for them...

If you would like the fellowship of others for celebration and worship, discussion and education, friendship and mutual support...

If you want children to be helped to develop their own religious beliefs...

If you wish to preserve and extend the traditions of personal freedom and human dignity against the dangers they face today...

You should get to know us. Let us get to know you!

Name _____

Address _____



**BUDGETS
MONEY
AND
YOU & ME**

Our membership is relatively small, our budget is modest, but our continued survival and health depends on meeting it.

Last month's Newsletter printed the budget in detail. (Copies available if you mislaid it.) The total comes to less than \$4,000 for the fiscal year 1995-96 which starts on July 1st. The budget does include our annual commitment to the Program Fund of the Unitarian Universal Association and of the Metro District (our Fair Share). The bulk of the budget is for operating expenses -- use of Innisfree, Religious Education, Newsletter and postage, Sunday program, etc.

We meet our budget through the pledged commitments of our members and friends. We do not tell anyone what to give; there are no minimums or maximums. Each person or pledging unit gives as she or he is able and according to the importance and value placed upon the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. Pledge cards are available at the Fellowship or from our Treasurer, Ann Rue. And we do hope, of course, that every member and friend will respond.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS
COMMITMENTS**

Among the many vital legacies

given by Bud Rue, was his insistence that our Fellowship give to other people. At the Annual Meeting it was voted to continue to include in this year's giving the same four groups we supported last year: Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach United, Victims Intervention Program, and The UU United Nations Office.

And this is what you shall do:
Love the earth and the sun and
the animals, despise riches,
give alms to everyone that asks,
stand up for the stupid and
crazy, devote your income and
labors to others, hate tyrants,
argue not concerning God, have
patience and indulgence toward
the people, take off your hat to
nothing known or unknown
or to any (one) or any number,
go freely with powerful un-
educated persons and with the
young and with the mothers of

families, read these leaves in
the open air every season of
your life, re-examine all you
have been told at church or
school in any book, dismiss
whatever insults your soul, and
your very flesh shall be a great
poem and have the richest
fluency not only in its words but
in the silent lines of its lips and
face, and between the lashes of
your eyes, and in every motion
and joint of your body.

Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

BRIEFLY

NOTED

Mark your Calendar! On Sunday, August 14th our Fellowship will "Eat out" to celebrate its 7th anniversary. This will be instead of our Sunday meeting at Innisfree. The place will be announced. ***Also Reserve Saturday, August 19th for the Square Dance at the Beach Lake Fire House! ***Of future interest: On October 14th and 15th the New York State Convention of Universalists will hold its 166th Annual Session at the UU Church in Middletown, N. Y. More details will be coming. ***The General Assembly of the UUA met in Fort Worth, Texas from June 23rd to 28th. Watch for details in the next issue of The UU World. ***If any of our members or active friends are not receiving The UU World, speak to Ray Pontier. ***Please get notices for the next Newsletter to Ray Pontier -- in writing. Deadline is July 17th.

Lord of the springtime, . . . of flower, field
and fruit, smile on us in these earnest days
when the work is heavy and the toil is wearisome;
lift up our hearts, O God, to the things worthwhile—
sunshine and night, the dripping rain, the song of
the birds, books and music, and the voices of our
friends. Lift up our hearts to these this night, O God,
and grant us thy peace. Amen.

W.E.B. Dubois
PRAYERS FOR DARK PEOPLE



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443

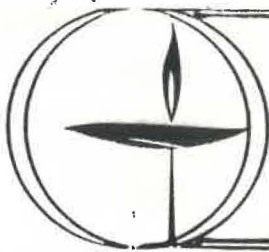


Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

AUGUST
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAYS IN AUGUST A "cool" place to come during the hot days of summer is the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship on Sunday mornings. We meet at Innisfree in Milanville at 11 A. M. Plan to be with us.

August 7 - We will be having one of our occasional programs of "Shared Readings." Those attending are asked to bring a reading of some kind, prose or poetry, serious or humorous, contemporary or old -- to be shared for inspiration, information, or just for listening. No one must bring a reading. Some of our members and friends prefer just to come and listen.

August 14 - This is the date of our Annual Anniversary Dinner. Instead of meeting at Innisfree at 11:00 A. M., we eat out -- and this year we go to Pete's Pub, located on Route 52 in Lake Huntington. See more details in notice in the next column.

August 21 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject, "Why Bother to Be Good?" This question, as old as humanity, has continuing relevance. Is there any value in values? What is the virtue of virtue? Theologians and politicians join in the debate. Dan Quayle made it a central focus in the last election. What kind of goodness do we applaud, and what kind of values do we value?

August 28 - Colette Ballew will be leading a program to help raise sensitivity to the needs of others. We will be engaging in an assortment of roles, typifying people from first and second and third world countries. Be sure to come for this challenging program.

This is my creed.

Reason is the only torch.

Justice the only worship.

Humanity the only religion.

Love the only priest.

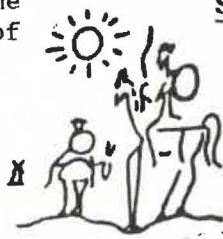
Happiness the only good.

The time to be happy is now.

The place to be happy is here.

The way to be happy is to help make others so!

Robert Ingersoll



SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

When - August 14th at 12:00 Noon

Where -- Pete's Pub on Route 52 in Lake Huntington

Cost -- \$10 for adults (incl. tip & tax)
\$6 for children age 6 to 12
Children 5 and under eat free.

Menu -- Buffet style, with wide assortment.

Plan to be with us as we celebrate the beginning of our 7th year as a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

DID YOU KNOW? Our Fellowship was started in August 1987 after several meetings at the home of Barbara and Ray Pontier. Thanks to Bud and Ann Rue we began meeting in the Recreation Hall at Innisfree. In late August more than 20 people signed the Membership Book, and sometime later (thanks to Tom Rue) our Fellowship became incorporated as a religious body. We also applied to the Unitarian Universalist Association, the national body, to become a member congregation. In October 1990 our application was approved, officially accepting us as one of over a thousand churches and fellowships of the UUA in the United States and Canada. Over the past six years (going on seven) our Fellowship has met faithfully every Sunday, with a wide variety of programs and activities. In its brief history, the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship has provided the impetus for the start of Habitat for Humanity and The River School, as well as what will soon be The Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Justice. Until recently we have been part of the Joseph Priestley District (a regional UU body) but are now part of the Metropolitan New York District. As we celebrate the principles of Individual Freedom, the Use of Reason, and Diversity, we are proud to be the only liberal religious group in at least a 50 mile radius.

WE BID

WELCOME

It is a real pleasure to welcome into our Membership:

JOSEPH H. WALKER

Box 83

Callicoon, NY 12723

Joe signed our Membership Book on June 26th of this year.

AND

WELCOME

FRIENDS

We love to see newcomers, friends, and visitors. So it has been good to have George and Eleanor Bond with us for several Sundays. George and Eleanor live in Greeley, PA.

ATTEND THE SQUARE DANCE!! SATURDAY AUGUST 19TH -- AT REACH LAKE

**COME TO THE
SQUARE
DANCE**

Everyone is invited to attend the Square Dance to be held on Saturday, August 19th at the Beach Lake Fire House on

Route 652 -- about five miles from the Narrowsburg Bridge.

The cost is \$5.00 a person, with proceeds to go to the Social Action Fund of the Upper Delaware Fellowship.

Liz Huntington is Chairperson of the Dance. If you have any questions, call her or John Rue. Plan to attend -- and spread the word to others.

ABOUT THIS AND THAT Some of our members are off on summer trips -- with Ann Rue in Alaska for two weeks, and Tom and Sharon Paige-Lisenbee wandering up to Nova Scotia. *** A new group has been formed: The Innisfree Festival of New Plays. John Rue is serving as Artistic Director, and if you want more information or to contribute financial support, give John a call. We wish him and the group our very best. ***Sad news! Collette Ballew has resigned as Religious Education Teacher/Director because of the pressure of business. We thank her greatly for serving in this capacity for the past year. Now we are looking for a replacement! We offer a modest compensation of \$100 a month. Speak to Barbara Pontier if you are interested. ***Do you have any good news to include in our Newsletters, about people or happenings? Send it along to Ray Pontier. Like the NY Times, we print everything fit to print. The next Newsletter deadline is August 21st.***Be sure to attend our Anniversary Dinner on Sunday, August 14th at 12:00 Noon at Pete's Pub. If you have not signed up, it would help if you called Barbara Pontier (914-252-7553) so she can let the restaurant know.

3rd ANNUAL AUCTION

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

at

KINZINGER'S COUNTRY AUCTION

Rte. 191 South of Honesdale

Flea Market begins at 8 AM

Auction begins at 1

Call us at 253-3581 or 729-8895 if you have something to donate. Pickup can be arranged.



*the member congregations
of the Unitarian Universalist Association,
covenant to affirm and promote*

*The inherent worth and dignity
of every person*

*Justice, equity,
and compassion
in human relations*

*Acceptance of one another and
encouragement to spiritual growth
in our congregations*

*A free and responsible search
for truth and meaning*

*The right of conscience and
the use of the democratic process
within our congregations
and in society at large*

*The goal of world community
with peace, liberty,
and justice for all*

*Respect for the interdependent
web of all existence
of which we are a part.*



*Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship*

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443

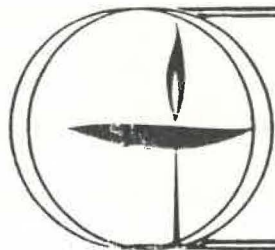


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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

DECEMBER
1993

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



SUNDAY SERVICES DURING THE CHRISTMAS AND HANUKKAH SEASON

Join us each Sunday morning at 11:00 A. M. for our services and programs. Our liberal religious Fellowship meets at Innisfree in Milanville every week. A religious education program and childcare is provided during the hour of our programs and services.

December 5 - Our speaker will be Susan Worth who will be coming from Monticello to speak to us about The National Organization For Women -- best known as NOW. The National Organization For Women is a pioneer in the field of Women's Rights. Efforts are being made to revitalize the NOW Chapter in Sullivan County.

December 12 - Edris Artis, a member of our Fellowship, will be speaking about "A Three Generational Odyssey." Edris, her daughter and grandson, recently returned from a tour to Europe, India, and Japan -- and she will share some of their experiences. Edris and her husband Bill live in New York City and in Narrowsburg. Be sure to come!

December 19 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will speak on the subject: "Getting Behind the Mythology of Christmas and Hanukkah" Did the Hanukkah lamp never go out? Did Wise Men and Shepherds visit the manger? Was there a guiding star in the east? The talk will try to separate reality from myth, fact from fiction. We will light the Hanukkah Menorah and an Advent Wreath.

December 24th - Christmas Eve. Join us for our Annual Christmas Eve Program at 7:30 P. M. See notice in next column!

REMINDER!! There will be no service on December 26th -- and no services during the month of January. We resume Sunday services and programs on Sunday, February 6th with John Rue as our speaker.

CHRISTMAS EVE

AT INNISFREE

You are invited to our annual Candlelight and Carol Service on Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7:30 P. M. at Innisfree In Milanville, PA. Hear some of the old stories, sing some favorite carols, light a candle in a circle of fellowship. We hope to have Greg Pontier and Laurie Stuart lead in the singing.

All members and friends are invited. Be sure to bring the children.

Following the service there will be light refreshments. It will be appreciated if some of our members and friends bring a small package or a dozen or so cookies for sharing.



WALK FOR JUSTICE FUND

As this Newsletter gets written, the total received for The Walk For Justice Fund amounts to \$2,800. More may be received. But at this time it means that each of the four groups will be given \$700: Habitat for Humanity, Victims Intervention Program, Interfaith Outreach United, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office. This is indeed a tribute to Bud Rue, the inspiration and motivation for the Walk. It has been suggested by several that the Walk continue as an annual event as "The Bud Rue Memorial Walk." The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship will be discussing and planning for next year.

SOCIAL

ACTION

COMMITTEE

Following John Rue's talk on October 14th, it was decided to form a Social Action Committee to discuss the involvement of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. Serving as Co-Chairpersons are John Rue and Liz Huntington. Offering to serve on the Committee are Jesse Ballew, Tom and Carmen Rue, and Ray Pontier. Others are invited.

An initial meeting of the Committee will be held on Sunday, December 5th, following the service.



SEASON'S GREETINGS



Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE Part of our concern for social justice includes the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee -- which is the arm of compassion of Unitarian Universalism throughout the world.

Members and friends can be supportive by joining in the "Guest at Your Table" project. Boxes are available at the Fellowship for families to give something each meal or day toward the work of the Service Committee. Boxes are to be returned the Sunday before Christmas, December 19th, or at the Christmas Eve service. The money received will be directed toward work in Guatemala, India, and inner-city projects in the United States.

DID YOU KNOW? In addition to the UU Service Committee, the Unitarian Universalist Association, seeks justice and expresses compassion through the UU United Nation Office in New York City, through a Department for Social Justice at the Boston Offices, and through an Office for Social Justice in Washington, D. C. It also shows its concern through its Office for Gays and Lesbians in Boston, a Unitarian Universalist Peace Committee, and strong support for the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights. Unitarian Universalists have always been at the vanguard of social justice and action.

It's a bit embarrassing to have been concerned with the human problem all one's life and find at the end that one has no more to offer by way of advice than: "Try to be a little kinder."

Aldous Huxley

We have come here seeking Christmas,
searching outside ourselves for what can be found
only within.
We will not find Christmas here unless we have
brought it with us.

Christmas is
a season of the spirit,
a habit of the heart,
not reserved for designated days in December,
But available all days, all year,
lighting our way through the darkness and the
dullness of the winters of our souls to the
Bethlehem that dwells in each of us.

There a star shines in spite of ourselves and the
absurdities and the ironies of our existence.

We need to be reminded, now and then, of that star's
abiding presence and persistence in each one of us.

HOW ABOUT IT!! We are a small Fellowship, but we make an impact in our area far beyond our numbers. We are a special Fellowship, for we represent the only real liberal religious body in at least a 50 mile radius. As a religion more interested in reason than revelation, we welcome those who are searching for answers, people with questions and doubts and open minds.

We know there are a lot of folk around who think and believe as we do. We hope many of them will come to our Sunday gatherings. We also hope that more will sign our Membership Book and make a commitment to our Fellowship. We would like to grow in numbers so we can share what we have -- and also to increase our effectiveness in the area. Get to know us -- and become one of us!

Remember ! No services in January.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

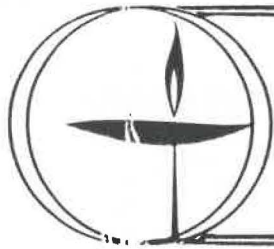
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Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701

MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

APRIL
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

IT'S APRIL! PUT AWAY THE SNOWSHOVEL & GET OUT THE UMBRELLA -- AND JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT INNISFREE!

April 3 - On March 27th, thanks to Naomi Teppich, we observed a Passover Seder, celebrating some of the enduring values of this Jewish festival. Today, on this Easter Sunday, the Rev. Raymond Pontier will speak about some of the enduring meanings and values of the Christian celebration of Good Friday and Easter, the cross and resurrection.

April 10 - Our time and attention this Sunday will be focused on making plans for our Sunday programs and services during the months ahead. What kind of programs do you want? What has appealed to you or met your needs in the past? What our weaknesses and what are our strengths? The input of every member and friend is needed and valued. So please be with us to help plan the weeks and months ahead!

April 17 - Liz Huntington, who has been involved in our Fellowship and R. E. program will be speaking to us about "Amnesty International." Did you know that there is a local chapter of Amnesty International meeting at Innisfree? Did you know that Amnesty International is the most important and significant voice speaking on behalf of political prisoners throughout the world? And did you know that the Rev. William Schulz, recent President of the UUA, has just been named as Executive Director of Amnesty International? Join us for an informative program.

April 24 - In August and September of 1993 an historic Parliament of the World's Religions was held in Chicago, Illinois -- the same place the first Parliament was held 100 years ago. The Parliament was attended by delegates from most of the world's major and minor religions. On this Sunday we will show a video tape of some of the highlights of the Parliament which were produced by ABC-TV.

Speak only the truth; do not yield to anger; when asked to do so, give of the little thou hast. With these three steps thou shalt approach the gods. Buddha



REFLECTION ON OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP

While in Florida Barbara and I attended a couple of UU Fellowships. We were pleased to find Unitarian Universalism alive and well in Florida, and it was good to be with some very nice UUs.

Both of us, I believe, were rather disappointed with the tenor of the worship service. The leader was much too casual and chummy to lend it any dignity.

Most of all he was unprepared. I assumed that he first thought of what he was doing when he stepped up to the lectern. Not, I felt, a very inspired performance.

I have always valued a saying I learned when I was a minister in the Reformed Church: "All things should be done decently and in good order." although this can apply to most things, it has a special relevance to a Sunday service and program. If we are to be more than a lecture series, our Sunday service and program should have a sense of dignity and a pattern that helps lift our minds and spirits.

No one needs to be a professional to conduct a Sunday service of worship. Anybody can do it. We rely upon our members and friends to share in this responsibility. But it does take some preparation beforehand -- familiarity with the order of service, selection of opening and closing words and a possible reading, choice of a hymn or hymns, Our Hymnbook has a wealth of resources, and "A Scrapbook for UUs" is also available.

By and Large, we have tried to use the following order for our Sunday services:

- Lighting of the Chalice
- Opening words
- Hymn (optional)
- Announcements and welcome
- The Candlelighting and meditation
- A Reading
- Hymn (optional)
- Speaker/Talk/Program
- Dialogue/Discussion
- Closing hymn (optional)
- Closing words

Freedom is not worth having if it does not connote freedom to err. Mohandas Gandhi

**MOVING
TO THE
NY
METRO,
DISTRICT**

At a special meeting of our Fellowship on Sunday, March 20th after the service, it voted unanimously to request the UUA Board of Trustees to transfer our

Fellowship from the Joseph Priestley District to the Metropolitan New York District.

While we have not been unhappy as part of the Priestley District, we are simply too far from the center of things to have any participation in the meetings, conferences and workshops. Most JPD gatherings range from Harrisburg to points south, making attendance difficult or impossible..

The Metro NY District is not all that near. Nothing is. But it is more accessible, with New York City or points in New Jersey withing two or so hours away. The Rev. Howell Lind, who helped us when we first organized, is District Executive. We believe the UUA Board will approve our request.

**SOCIAL
ACTION
COMMITTEE**

John Rue, Chairperson of the Social Action Committee has called for a meeting of the Committee on Sunday, April 10th after our morning program.

Any of the members and friends of the Fellowship are invited. John also reminds us that there is a need for a Secretary for the Committee. Volunteers welcome!

*We who prayed and wept
for liberty from kings
and the yoke of oppression
accept the tyranny of things
we do not need.
In plenitude too free,
we have become adept
beneath the yoke of greed.*

Wendell Berry

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND
OTHER
GATHERINGS**

The 33rd Annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association will convene in Fort Worth,

Texas on Thursday, June 23rd and will conclude on Tuesday, June 28th. Although we are entitled to one delegate, anyone can attend. Last year Ann and Bud Rue, Barbara and Ray Pontier attended in Charlotte, North Carolina. Information about registering, costs, etc. is available.

Closer to home, the Joseph Priestley District Spring Conference will be held on April 8, 9, and 10 at the Unitarian Church in Rockville, Maryland.

From April 15 to 17 there will be a Conference on Religious Education Administration, sponsored by the JPD District, and held at the UU Church of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

From July 17 to 24 a Unitarian Universalist Leadership School (called UNILEAD) will be held at the Kirkridge Conference & Retreat Center in Bangor, Pennsylvania -- near the Delaware Water Gap. Registration deadline is April 15th. This is sponsored by both the Joseph Priestley and the Metro New York Districts.

**IN
BRIEF**

Now that April is here, we hope all of our members and friends can come out of hibernation after a long and hard winter. We look forward to seeing you on Sundays!! ***Expenses continue in good or bad weather, so it is hoped all of you catch up on your financial commitments. ***A new budget item has been added. The Fellowship voted on April 10th to rent and heat a room in what was The River School building to be used for our religious education program. ***See you in church/Fellowship!



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

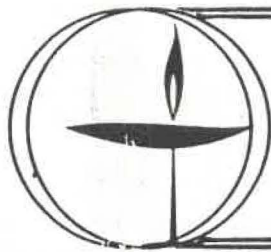
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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

MAY
1994

SUNDAY SERVICES IN MAY

Join us every Sunday at 11:00 A. M. as we meet at Innisfree in Milanville, PA. Everyone is welcome! Parents with children are reminded that there is a religious education program for children during the same hour as our service -- directed by Colette Ballew. Following each service there is a coffee-hour, with a time for visiting and discussing.

May 1 - We will have a round-table discussion on the general theme: "What Are Your Resources For Dealing With Life." What helps you to cope with both good times and bad times? Quiet times, meditation, inspirational writers, family, friends -- or what? We do not expect facile answers -- just a sharing of what has been helpful.

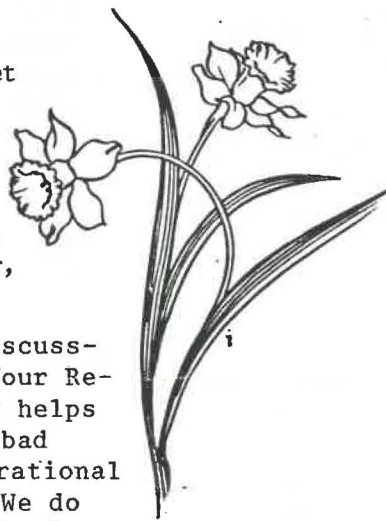
May 8 - Barbara Pontier will lead a program (previously scheduled for March) on "Three Admirable Women." The three, all Unitarians, are Florence Nightengale, Frances Willard, and Jane Addams. The program, in the form of a play-reading, provides us with some of the inspiration that comes out of our heritage as UUs.

May 15 - Join us for a "Sing-a-long" program, with Laurie Stuart at the keyboard! This is by popular request -- as we turn to our new UU hymnbook to sing something old and something new. Do you have any requests? Let Laurie or Ray Pontier know.

May 22 - Gil Mende, our returning traveler, will have a program titled "The Seat of the Soul" -- based on a book written by Gary Zukav. Gil informs us that there will be discussion and member participation.

May 29 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will speak on "The Wild West Returns -- or the Insanity of Our Gun-Crazed Society." As the flamboyant title indicates, the talk is about Guns and Killing and Gun Control. Along with the cigarette-makers, the National Rifle Association is under attack. In the ongoing debate, is there a middle ground for dealing with our national shame over guns?

Any questions? About our Fellowship? About UUs? About our programs. Speak to Barbara Pontier or any member.



IN TIME OF SILVER RAIN

In time of silver rain
The earth puts forth new life again,

Green grasses grow
And flowers lift their heads,

And over all the plain
The wonder spreads

Of life, Of life, Of life.

In time of silver rain.

The butterflies lift silken wings
To catch a rainbow cry

And trees put forth
New leaves to sing
In joy beneath the sky.

When spring

And life
Are new.

Langston Hughes

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE

A letter from Richard Scobie, Executive Director of the UU Service Committee, thanks our Fellowship for its contribution of \$149.10 for the work of the Service Committee. This money came from our Guest At Your Table Boxes which were collected at Christmas -- so thanks goes to all those who helped fill them.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Social Action Committee will be on Sunday, May 22nd, after the morning service. John Rue is Chairperson. Everyone invited.

"Men (sic) should no longer degrade themselves under such appellations as Christian, Mohammedan, Agnostic, Monist, etc. Men are the universe becoming conscious: the simplest man should consider himself too great to be called after any name."

(By poet John Davidson 1909 -- and contributed by Liz Huntington)



Potter Meeting House,

Murray Grove, NJ

Where John Murray
preached the first
Unitarian sermon
September 30, 1770

To love our neighbor as ourself is such a fundamental truth for regulating human society, that by that alone one might determine all the cases in social morality.

John Locke

TO BE NOTED

On June 12th we will have our Annual Meeting to be held during the hour of our Sunday service. There will be election of officers, approval of budget, plus other necessary business. A potluck lunch will follow.

On August 14th we will celebrate our 7th Anniversary as a Fellowship. We first organized in August 1987 at Barbara and Ray Pontier's home, and in September we began meeting at Innisfree. On October 26, 1990 we were officially received as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The place for our Anniversary Celebration will be announced.

We also remind members and friends that June is the month when we ask for your financial commitments. We have a modest budget and a small membership, so we depend on each of you to carry the load. More on this later!

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted; musicians denoted; cowboys deranged; models deposed; tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?

(From Northern Hills UU, Cincinnati, OH)

"Life has nothing to do with what has happened; it has to do with what you do with what has happened."

(From a Nightline interview)

"As one goes on, it is the things one doesn't believe, and finds one doesn't have to believe, which are as liberating as the things one does."

(Bishop John Robinson)

CONCERN FOR THOSE WITH AIDS

The Rev. John Edmonds of the Monticello Episcopal Church, has been organizing "services of worship, prayer, and praise . . . for those with AIDS and HIV infection, their friends and families, loved ones, and those who care." The services are held once a month at different churches in the area. The following schedule has been arranged:

May 8 (Sunday) at 3:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church in Jeffersonville.

June 10 (Friday) at 8:00 P. M. at Redeeming Love Church of God in Christ on West Broadway in Monticello.

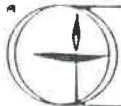
August 14 (Sunday) at 3:00 PM at the United Methodist Church in Liberty.

There is coffee and fellowship after each service. Everyone is welcome.

AN INVITATION

On Saturday, June 11th a group of friends and supporters of Carmen Pontier, Editor of The River Reporter, are planning to hold a Testimonial Dinner for him at Kuester's Hotel in Beach Lake, PA. This is a time to recognize him for his important work as Editor of The River Reporter and for his significant stands on important issues.

The cost is \$12.50 a person. The dinner will be at 7:00 PM, with a Cash Bar and hors d'oeuvres after 6:00 P. M. for those wanting to come earlier. For tickets, contact any of the Committee: Alex Cherviok, Victor Gordon, Grace Johansen, Barbara Pontier, Ray Pontier, Ann Proyect, Ann Rue, Laurie Stuart, Barbara Yeaman.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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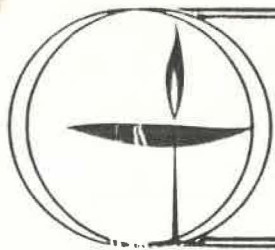
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NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER
1993

Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SUNDAY MORNINGS IN NOVEMBER

November 7 - Returning again, by special request, will be David Two-Wolves Smith, sub-chief of the Eastern Delaware Nation. Chief David is a traditional Native-American priest. There was a large crowd when he was here before, so we suggest that you "get to the church on time."

NOVEMBER 14 - John Rue will be leading our program, with his subject: "Social Activism: What Can I Do?" This is a program dedicated to his father, Bud Rue. For Bud, religion was a matter of doing, and his life was always a matter of being involved in causes concerning the needs of people.

November 21 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will have as his subject: "Watch Your Language!" Language is our primary way of communicating or confusing. More than ever we need to watch what we say and how we say it -- especially in our day and age of liberation movements. Join us as we analyze (and perhaps raise) our own level of sensitivity.

November 28 - There will not be a Sunday Service or program on this Sunday after Thanksgiving. **INSTEAD** we invite you to attend our Thanksgiving Dinner at Innisfree on Thursday, November 25th. **SEE NOTICE!**

A GREAT BIG WELCOME TO
THOMAS ANTHONY HOLLANDER
BORN JUNE 6, 1993

Adopted by Lorna and Marc
Hollander on Sept. 13, 1993.

We met Thomas in October at the
Fellowship

WE DEDICATE THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER TO BUD RUE



THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER

AT All Members and
INNISFREE friends (and their
families) are in-
vited to the Seven-
th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner
of the Upper Delaware UU Fellow-
ship to be held at Innisfree on
Thursday, November 25th.

Gathering time is 1:00 P. M. for wine, juice, and snacks. Dinner will follow shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish in sufficient quantity for sharing with several people. Salads, potatoes, vegetables, desserts, etc. will be needed, as well as wine and juice. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Fellowship on Sundays, otherwise call 914-252-7553 or 717-729-7197.

Fellowship members and friends are invited to be with us. But it is important to know how many are coming. So please let us know how many will be attending from your family or group by signing up at the Fellowship or calling one of the above numbers. Hope to see you!

WELCOME A GUEST AT YOUR TABLE



Again this year, "Guest At Your Table" coin boxes will be available to those who want to share in this project of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The boxes are to be returned either on Christmas Eve or the Sunday before Christmas -- with the money given to go for the works of compassion and justice by the Service Committee.

Our hope for creative living in this world house that we have inherited lies in our ability to reestablish the moral ends of our lives in personal character and social justice. Without this spiritual and moral reawakening we shall destroy ourselves in the misuse of our own instruments.

Martin Luther King Jr.

Remembering Bud Rue

By **RAYMOND J. PONTIER**

Somewhere I remember reading these lines written by John Gardner: "Some people strengthen us just by being the kind of people they are."

Bud Rue was one of those people.

His sudden and untimely death on the "Walk for Social Justice" this past Sunday was symbolic of his life. It has been said that most people are content in life to just "go about." But then there are those who find contentment only as they "go about doing good." That was Bud Rue.

In his quiet and unassuming way he provided inspiration and leadership to those seeking ways to bind up the wounds and hurts of people. He was not out to save the world, but he was determined to do what he could to make life more humane and liveable here in the Delaware Valley. He supported every good cause in our area.

A math teacher by profession, he retired from a New Jersey school district just a couple of years ago to live along the Upper Delaware which he loved.

His legacies to the river valley are

many.

The Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is indebted to him, not only for helping to organize it, but for providing space at Innisfree for the fellowship to meet on Sundays.

Habitat for Humanity, his greatest love, owes its existence in Wayne County to his concern for the homeless and to his persistent organizational efforts.

The Upper Delaware Chapter of Amnesty International found Bud among its charter members. In March he walked in the St. Patrick's Day Parade at Yulan carrying the group's banner.

The River School, a noble but unfulfilled experiment, was made possible because of Bud's interest and the provision of a meeting place at Innisfree.

Innisfree itself, begun as an earlier experiment to help find a way for children and young adults to discover themselves and the world around them in a meaningful way, was operated over the years as a hostel and retreat center.

There are many other legacies.

Bud Rue was one of the finest human

beings I have been privileged to know. He was a good person in the very best sense of the word. There was no pretense about him, nothing sanctimonious or pious or self-righteous. He was plain-spoken and honest, a man who enjoyed life and lived it fully.

His was a goodness found in qualities so easily lost in our self-serving, mean-spirited and violent age — the qualities of caring and compassion and self-giving. Bud was too modest to lay claim to it, but he really understood what Jesus meant when he said, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Bud Rue will be deeply and terribly missed. He cannot be replaced. His wonderful family will miss him most of all, but his many friends also share in the grief of his loss. I know of my own personal sense of loss, for I count Bud Rue as one of the best friends I have had anywhere.

It is tough to have the bond of friendship cut off so quickly and finally. It is helpful and hopeful to have good memories of a good friend. Who he was and what he has done shall not be forgotten.

THE RIVER REPORTER OCTOBER 28, 1993

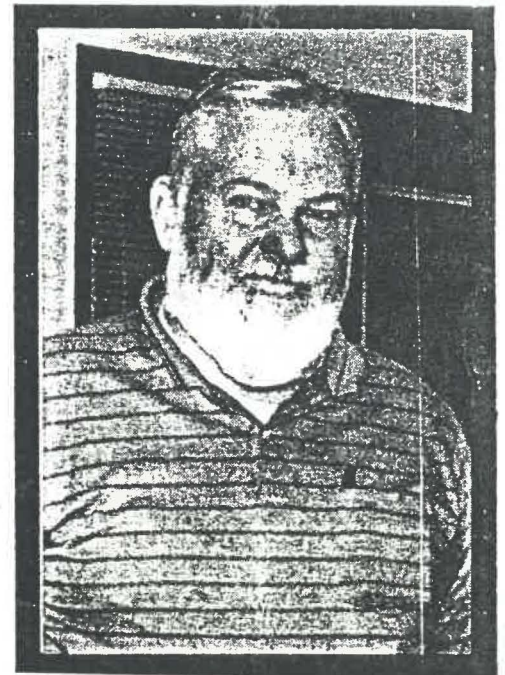


TRR Photo by Barbara Pontier

Area residents joined with members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to raise money in a "Walk for Social Justice." The idea originated

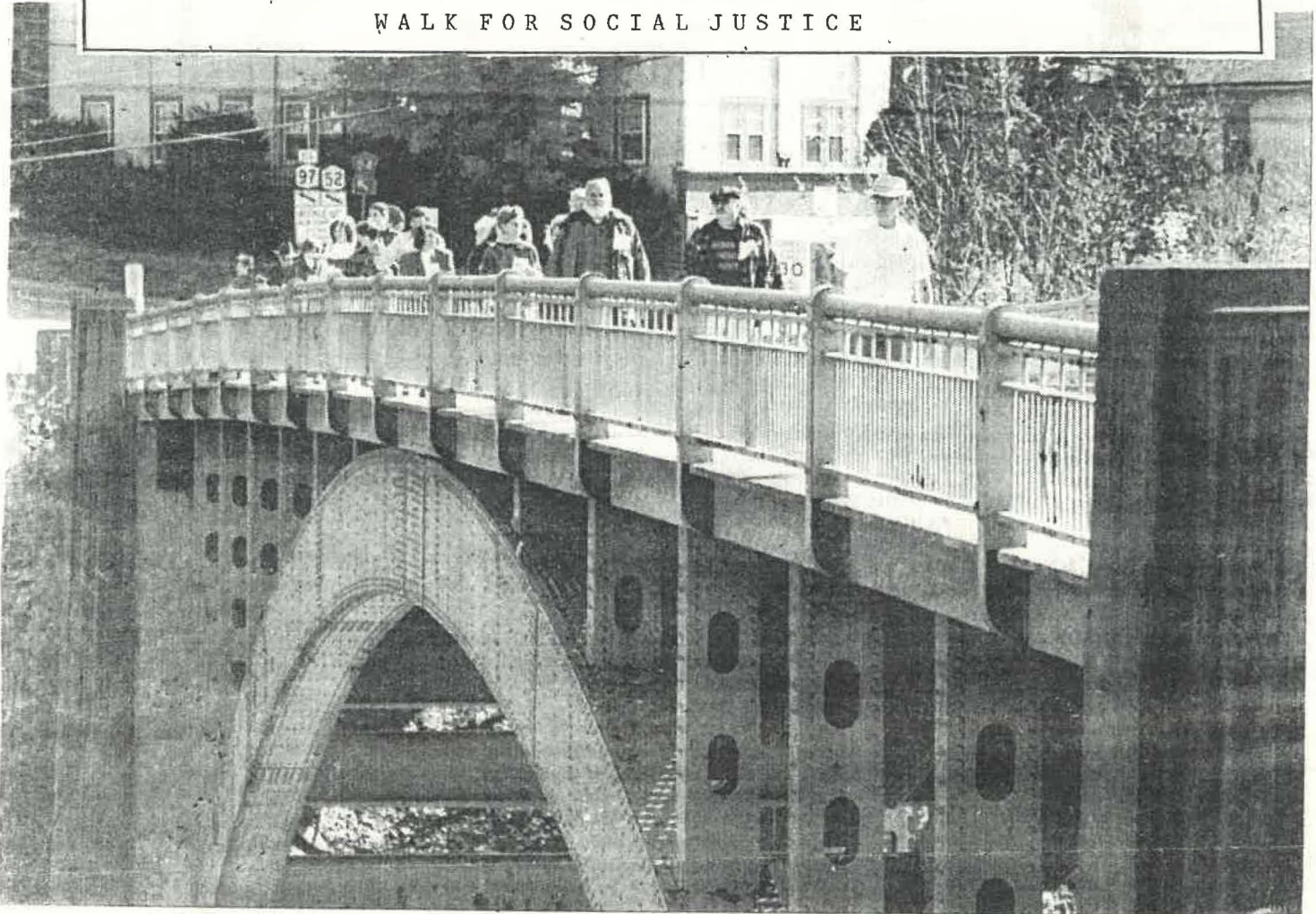
with Bud Rue (7th from right, in back with gray beard) who died during the walk.

CLYDE B. RUE



1934 - 1993

THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



FRANCIS SPECKER/The Record

Walkers cross the bridge from Narrowsburg to Milanville, Pa., during a 10-kilometer walkathon to raise funds for human service organizations in Sullivan County and Wayne County, Pa., yesterday.

THE WALK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

THOSE WHO WALKED

Bud Rue	John Pritchard	Barbara Lutz
Dina O'Brien	B. J. O'Brien	Laurie Stuart
Glenn Pontier	Colette Ballew	Sharon Paige
Liz Huntington	Jesse Fisher	Peg Rosenberg
Dale Rosenberg	Tom Van Orden	Jane Van Orden
Shelley Wozniak	Stacy Miller	Marc Tempkin
Eveline Tempkin	Hugh McCammon	

MANY, MANY THANKS

To all the Walkers, to all who sponsored the Walkers, to all who provided special good things to eat for the Walkers when they returned to Innisfree. Very special thanks to Jesse Ballew who posted Walkathon signs on River Road, took care of children during the Walk, and helped set up the meeting room. Barbara and Ray Pontier drove a follow-up car for the Walk.

PURPOSE AND RESULTS OF THE WALKATHON

The Walkathon came out of Bud Rue's suggestion that our Fellowship give at least 10% of our budget to meaningful causes outside of the Fellowship. With our modest budget, this came to \$400. Before the Walk started, Chairperson Glenn Pontier, announced that we would raise at least \$1,000!! And more can be expected.

This money will be distributed among the four groups voted on by the Fellowship: the Victims Intervention Center of Honesdale, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach United of Callicoon, and the Unitarian Universalist United Nation Office.

AT SUCH A HIGH COST!

The sudden death of Bud Rue on the Walk was a tragic and painful blow. This issue of the Newsletter is dedicated to him.

THOUGHTS ON BEING A MEMBER

New members and their integration into the life of the institution constitute, over the long haul, the life blood of the liberal church. So welcoming new members is always a satisfying event: we experience community and hope, strength for future years, the satisfaction of survival.

At the same time any minister knows that not all new members will stick it out for the long haul. My hunch is about half who join our congregations across the United States and Canada will eventually drop out, the Church having served a purpose or need no longer felt. It's been said, jokingly and not so jokingly, that Unitarian Universalism is for many a way station en route from Methodism to the golf course.

I think those most likely to pull out after a few months or a few years are new members who are especially excited about one or two aspects of their newly discovered church: its social action program, its religious educational approach, the style of a particular minister, or those exhilarated momentarily by the discovery of theological freedom from narrow moralisms and creedal straitjackets. Or ones who have found "their kind of people," and the immediate pleasure that goes with being in a community that mirrors one's own values and enthusiasms.

But the ones who stick, who join with their whole life, the ones who become pillars without whom the church would not last for a generation they are a different breed. They are not better people. They are not worse people. They are just different. They tend to be quieter... They are not emotional or enamoured or energetic, or if they are, the emotion is less flashy, below the surface....

They are not as idealistic as they could be. They do not expect the Church to solve all their problems or change the world that much. They carry long memories, do not demand, are tolerant of ambiguity, accepting of real difference, knowledgeable about limitation. They also zero in where they are needed. They usher a lot, worry about Church property, start endowments. They work on Church financial problems, not for one year, or two, but decades. They look after other members, make hospital calls. They are there in good times, giving out rather than consuming; they are there in bad times, mediating crises rather than causing them. They may take off on Easter; you'll see them in Church the low Sunday after.

As I look back on the years I've had a part in welcoming new members to Unitarian Universalist societies, my hopes have now little to do with numbers, I've serviced Churches where we took in fewer than two a year and Churches where over a hundred a year was par. What I look for, what I hope for, regardless of how many join, is that we luck into a few Churchwomen and Churchmen, institutionalists who know what it takes to keep a Church going, who join with their whole lives, who join for keeps.

Rev. Clarke Wells

* * * * *

"ALL I MAINTAIN IS THAT ON THIS PLANET THERE ARE PESTILANCES AND THERE ARE VICTIMS, AND IT UP TO US, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, NOT TO JOIN FORCES WITH THE PESTILANCES."

(Albert Camus)

FELLOWSHIP

BRIEFS

A Memorial Service was held for Bud Rue on Saturday, October 30th

at 2:00 P. M. at the Milanville United Methodist Church with Ray Pontier as the minister. Family and friends shared in the service.***We offer our love and caring to Ann Rue and to all the members of the family. Call on us if and when we can be of help. ***Gil Mende has been in England for the past month or more. He will be returning here the early part of November. ***Eve Murphy is in Arizona for the winter (Does anyone have her address out there?) We miss her. ***Do come to our Thanksgiving Day Dinner at Innisfree! But please sign up or call to let us know if you are coming ***Yes, we do have a Religious Education Program at 11:00 A. M. every Sunday, with Colette Ballew as our teacher. We also provide childcare for younger children. ***On Christmas Eve we will again have our Candlelight and Carol service here at Innisfree. Save the date and bring the children. ***We do have ongoing expenses as a Fellowship -- and need your ongoing and regular financial support. ***We received a nice Certificate of Appreciation from the UU Association for being "An Honor Society in support the the Annual Fund Program in 1992-1993." The Certificate is displayed at Innisfree. ***The next Newsletter deadline is November 21st. Get notices, etc. to Ray Pontier.



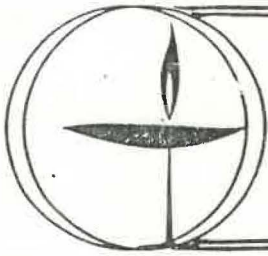
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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

A P R I L

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

THE SUNDAY SERVICES IN APRIL

Assuming that all of you have carefully saved your last Newsletter and posted it on the refrigerator, this may be somewhat redundant. In any event, it is long past time for a new Newsletter to appear, along with the advent of Spring. So we hope to see all of our members and friends as we come into this new season of renewal. Be with us for good programs and good fellowship.

April 2 - A program on "India" will be presented by Maggie Matthews. A friend of Jesse and Colette Ballew, Ms. Matthews is to speak out of her own experiences as one who has spent time in the Provinces of India.

April 9 - A UU Service Committee video called "Toxic Sunset" will be used for the program. It deals with the environmental record of the American military in the Philippines -- a tragic legacy of toxics and hazardous wastes left at former U. S. military bases.

April 16 - Easter and Passover come close together -- with this being Easter Sunday and Passover being the day before on Saturday, April 15th. We plan to have a "Passover Seder" on this Sunday, to be led by Naomi Teppich. There will be a Covered Dish/Pot Luck lunch -- and you are asked to bring a dish for sharing.

April 23 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will speak on the subject, "The Politics of Compassion." The talk is motivated in large part by the current politics of meanness we are seeing in our nation -- and is a reaffirmation of what is brightest and best in the legacy of the liberal spirit.

April 30 - A very necessary and important "Planning Meeting" will be part of our service. Come with your suggestions, ideas, thoughts, as we look ahead to the months ahead.

All of our Sunday services are held at Innisfree at 11:00 A. M. Child care is provided. Everyone is welcome.

SPECIAL FLORIDA EDITION

Barbara and Ray Pontier will be back in Narrowsburg the first week in April -- and plan to be at the Fellowship on Sunday, April 9th.

Although we have been attended our members and friends at the Upper Delaware Fellowship. As the song says, "We've grown accustomed to your face." The UU Fellowship here in Florida is considerably larger -- but bigger does not mean better. The same UU spirit is here and the programs are reasonably good. But there is something special about the Upper Delaware Fellowship. We miss the intimacy that comes with smallness, the unique ceremony we have of candlelighting, the dialogue that is part of every service. We hope all of our members and friends appreciate the good things we enjoy as a Fellowship! Not to be able to come home to this Fellowship, not to have it around, would be nothing short of a disaster.

While in Florida we were pleased, proud, and thrilled to receive the announcement that our Fellowship gave away \$4,000 -- a \$1,000 each to four different groups! It struck me that we've given more to others than our entire budget for our own uses. In addition to the \$4,000, we meet our annual fair-share to the UUA, to the Metro District, and also give to the UU Service Committee through the Guest at your Table program. We shouldn't be self-righteous (or get swelled heads) about this, but I doubt that there many, if any, other UU groups that can equal that.

Being away has made me realize how important and necessary the Upper Delaware UU is. I do hope that this realization is shared! Barbara and I hate to leave the warmth and sunshine of Florida, and we have no love for Upper Delaware winters. But since Spring is here (or around the corner), it will be very good to get back.

**There is never an instant's truce
between virtue and vice. Goodness
is the only investment that
never fails.**

Henry David Thoreau

NORTHERN
AREA
COUNCIL

The Northern Area Council (of which our Fellowship is part) will have its Annual Meeting on Saturday,

April 22nd from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM

at the UU Society of Orange County in Rock Tavern, New York (near Newburgh). There will be six workshops, three in the morning and three in the afternoon.

The Northern Area Council is part of the Metro District of the UUA. It would be good if we could have several members attend! A full notice is posted on the bulletin board. Those attending are asked to bring their own lunch, with beverages provided. It is suggested that participants donate \$5.00.

CREATING A JUBILEE

WORLD
WORKSHOP

On Saturday, May 6th from 9 AM to 4:30 PM, the Metro District is sponsoring a Workshop called "Creating a Jubilee World."

It will deal with both personal and institutional racism.

A flyer is posted on the bulletin board. There is a registration fee of \$10, which includes lunch. A group from our Fellowship might consider attending, and then help create a program for our Fellowship about it.

The Workshop will be held at the Unitarian Church in Westbury, Connecticut.

THE RIVER REPORTER

FEBRUARY 23, 1995

Unitarian Universalists put feet where mouth is

By TOM RUE

MILANVILLE — Representatives from local human service organizations recently accepted \$4000 raised by a religious fellowship in Milanville.

The money was raised during a July square dance and an October walkathon sponsored by the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Hundreds of local people contributed to these efforts.

Fellowship treasurer Ann Rue said the four beneficiaries share a commitment to the ideals of social responsibility and human freedom. The money was evenly divided among the following groups: Interfaith Outreach United (IOU), a Callicoon-based agency that provides emergency relief to western Sullivan County; Habitat for Humanity of Wayne County, a grassroots ministry dedicated to building decent, affordable housing for all; Victim's Intervention Program (VIP), a Wayne County agency providing services to victims of domestic violence; and the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office, which provides humanitarian advocacy worldwide.

The fellowship's support of humanitarian efforts was initiated by Bud Rue of Milanville who died participating in the 1993 walkathon. To honor his charitable works, the fellowship plans to continue sponsoring the Bud Rue Memorial Walk for Social Justice as an annual fall event, Ann Rue said.

Participants walk the stretch of River Rd. between Narrowsburg and Milanville. Most of the organizations benefit-

ting from the walk sent their own contingents to participate.

Peg and Dale Rosenberg of Honesdale appeared for Habitat for Humanity, which they said is now beginning construction of its second house. The Wayne County chapter was co-founded by the late Bud Rue and is now helping to create a new affiliate in Sullivan County.

Carolyn Hubers of IOU said the \$1000 came at a particularly good time because the organization is having a busy February. "The work of IOU goes on all year, not just at the holidays," she said.

Speaking of clients who have survived physically abusive relationships, VIP board member Linda Rose said, "Instead of being physically abused, it's nice to be helped by other people's physical exertion."

Fellowship member Gil Mende began the program by inviting anyone so inspired to light a candle in the name of a particular object or thought, or to do so silently. Rue lit one in memory of her late husband, who she said "focused our attentions on becoming more socially responsible to our fellow people."

A video entitled *Sharing a Vision of Justice* portrayed the work of the Unitarian Universalists' organizational work in aid of human freedom dating back to its response in 1939 to Nazi atrocities.

The fellowship meets at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday at Innisfree in Milanville. Its chief founders are the Rev. Raymond, consulting minister, and Barbara Pontier of Narrowsburg, who are expected to return to the area in early spring.

For more information call Ann Rue at 717/729-7197.



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

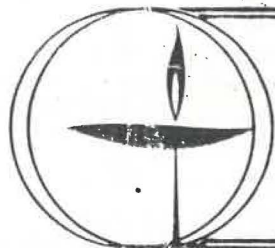
P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443



Ann Rue

MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

JUNE
1994

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAYS IN JUNE AT THE UPPER DELAWARE FELLOW- SHIP -- 11:00 A.M.

JUNE 5 - John Rue and Jesse Ballew will do a dramatic reading from a portion of the play/movie "Inherit the Wind." William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow return to debate the issue of evolution, marking the conflict between science and biblical literalism. As religious fundamentalists continue to plague our society, this program is of continuing relevance.

JUNE 12 - This is the Sunday when our Fellowship holds its ANNUAL MEETING during the hour of our regular Sunday Service. Please read more details in the next column of the Newsletter. And please, be sure to come!!

JUNE 19 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "I Never Promised You A Rose Garden." Remember the book and the song by that title? Using the book as a starting point, the talk will focus on the need to face up to some of the hard realities in an often difficult and dangerous world. So how can we, how do we, manage to cope when "life tumbles in"?

JUNE 26 - Jesse Ballew will be leading our program about "Famous Unitarian Universalist Men." There will be four participants assuming the roles of Joseph Priestley, William Ellery Channing, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Theodore Parker. All four of them made major contributions to Unitarianism during formative years in the first part of the 19th century. This is a good Sunday, to get to know more about our roots.

AND ON JULY 3RD there will be a debate, a dialogue, and interchange between John Rue and Glenn Pontier on the question "Censorship -- the Pro's and Con's". A great subject for the 4th of July weekend.

LOOKING AHEAD Reserve Sunday, August 14th as our Fellowship celebrates its 7th Anniversary by "eating out" at an area restaurant. This will be instead of our Sunday service -- with the place and exact time to be announced. We have reason to celebrate! Join with us!



NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP

All members and friends are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship to be held on Sunday, June 12th at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville, PA.

After a brief opening worship, the business of the Fellowship will be conducted. This will include the election of officers and trustees, the approval of a budget, a report from the Social Action Committee, plus such other business as may be necessary.

It is our intention to complete the business of the Fellowship by or before noon. Following the business meeting, there will be a pot-luck lunch for all who attend. Members and friends are asked to bring a covered dish in sufficient quantity for sharing.

This is an important gathering. We hope that all of our members and friends will be with us.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 1994 to JUNE 30, 1995.

Use of Innisfree:	
Meeting Hall utilities	\$ 660.00
Insurance	169.00
Religious Ed Utilities	240.00
Religious Education:	
Teacher/Director	1,200.00
Materials	200.00
Childcare	150.00
Photocopy (Newsletter, etc.)	150.00
Postage	150.00
UUA Annual Fund	512.00
Metro District Dues	119.00
Coffee Hour	50.00
Office supplies	50.00
Literature	50.00
Sunshine	35.00
Speakers and Program	200.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total Proposed Expenses	\$ 3,372.00

This budget is open to discussion and possible revision at the meeting. The regular giving of members and friends will be necessary to meet this or any other budget which is approved.

I brought food to the hungry, and people called me a saint; I asked why people were hungry, and people called me a communist.

--Bishop Dom Helder Camara

We do not choose to be born.
 We do not choose our race or gender.
 We do not choose our parents.
 We do not choose our time and history
 or the country of our birth or the
 immediate circumstances of our
 upbringing.
 We do not choose, most of us, choose
 to die
 Nor do we choose the time or
 conditions of our death.
 But within this realm of choicelessness
 We do choose how we shall live,
 Courageously or in cowardice
 Honorably or dishonorably
 With purpose or adrift.
 We decide what is important and what
 is trivial in life.
 We decide what makes us significant
 With either what we do or refuse to do.
 But no matter how indifferent the
 universe may be to our choices and
 decisions
 They are ours to make.
 We decide, we choose and as we
 decide and choose
 So our own lives are formed.
 In the end, forming our own destiny is
 what life is all about.
Choices, Joseph Epstein

**SOCIAL ACTION
COMMITTEE
CONCERNS**

The Social Action Committee, with John Rue Chairperson, met on Sunday May 22nd after the service. MarJeanna Howard agreed to act as Secretary of the Committee

After some discussion, the Committee agreed to two proposals for events to raise money for social action and concern projects. These will be submitted to the Annual Meeting for final approval.

1) On August 25th there will be a square dance sponsored by our Fellowship to be held at the Beach Lake Fire House in Beach Lake. Liz Huntington will serve as Chair of this event. Final details as to time, cost, etc. are to be worked out -- and will be announced and publicized well in advance.

2) On Sunday, October 23rd following our service, there will be The Bud Rue Memorial Walkathon For Justice. This ten kilometer walk from the Narrowsburg Bridge to Innisfree was Bud Rue's idea, a man who constantly inspired and motivated us as a Fellowship to reach out to serve others. It is hoped that this Walk will be a time of significant tribute to Bud. Although final decisions as to where the money raised shall go is to be determined by the members at our Annual Meeting, the Committee recommends the same groups as last year: Habitat for Humanity, Victims Intervention Program, Interfaith Outreach United, and the UU United Nations Office.

MORE "TALK" Our fiscal year ends June 30th. Please bring your pledge up-to-date! *** It's not too late to make a reservation for the June 12th Testimonial Dinner for Glenn Pontier! *** Thanks to all the people who have led or are leading Sunday programs on Sundays: Gil Mende, Ann Rue, Barbara Pontier, John Rue, Jesse Ballew, Colette Ballew, Glenn Pontier, Barbara Yeaman, Liz Huntington, Laurie Stuart on piano. Much talent!!

**"TO TALK OF
MANY
THINGS"**

We are now part of the Metro New York District! A welcoming letter was sent by June Gillespie, Metro NY District Trustee. We thank the Joseph Priestley District for its help over the years, and we leave only because Metro NY is a bit closer. ***Correction! Last Newsletter said "John Murray preached the first Unitarian sermon" at Potter House. It should be the first Universalist sermon! ***Ray and Barbara Pontier thank the Fellowship for its remembrance at the time of my brother Jack's death recently.***At our meeting of the Social Action Committee, Edris Artis suggested a tour UU United Nations office and the UN. She would arrange it. Anyone interested??



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443

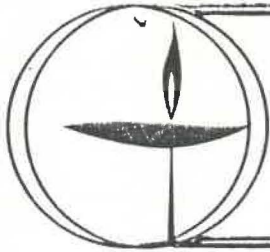


Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701

MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553





NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

JUNE
1995

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

THE
SUNDAYS
IN
JUNE
AT
ELEVEN

*i thank you god for most this
amazing day
for the leaping greenly spirit of
trees
and a blue true dream of sky
and for everything which is
natural
which is infinite
which is
yes!*

ee cummings

June 4 - Our program leader for this first Sunday in June will be our own Barbara Lutz. Barbara is planning a group discussion on the concerns regarding AIDS -- a ravaging disease touching all parts of the world. You are urged to come with any articles, information, opinions you have. Do you know anyone who has been struck with AIDS?

June 11 - Ray Pontier will lead a program on "The Rituals of our Lives," to be based somewhat on a new book by Robert Fulgham called "From Beginning to End." Are rituals important in your life? or an encumbrance?

JUNE 18 - This is the Sunday our Fellowship holds its ANNUAL MEETING during the hour of our regular Sunday Service. Please check out the details in the next column of this Newsletter. Please be sure to attend!!

JUNE 25 - More about Habitat for Humanity. For the past two years our Fellowship has given \$1,000 to the Wayne County Habitat for Humanity. Now a new branch is being formed in Sullivan County in New York State -- and someone will be here to tell us about it. This is a good time to refresh our memories about the purposes of Habitat -- and to consider later on if this Sullivan County chapter is to be added to our group of Bud Rue Walk recipients.

RESERVE! Sunday, August 6th for our Annual Fellowship Brunch/Lunch to celebrate our 8th Anniversary. This is instead of our Sunday Service.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP

All Members and Friends are invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to be held on Sunday, June 18, 1995 at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa.

Following a brief opening worship, the business of the Fellowship will be conducted. This will include the election of officers and trustees, the approval of a budget, reports from any committees, plus any other business as may be necessary. All business should be completed by noon.

Following the business meeting, there will be a pot-luck luncheon for all who attend. Members and friends are asked to bring a covered dish in sufficient quantity for sharing.

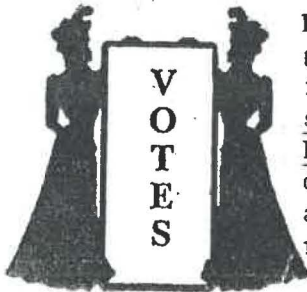
This is an important meeting -- and we urge all of our members and friends to attend!

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 1995 TO JUNE 30, 1996

The budget as printed below is a duplicate of the 1994-95 budget of this past year. It is given for information, and is subject to discussion, change and revision.

Use of Innisfree:	
Meeting Hall utilities	\$ 660.00
Insurance	169.00
Religious Ed Utilities	240.00
Religious Education:	
Teacher/Director	1,200.00
Materials	200.00
Childcare	150.00
Photocopy (Newsletter, etc.)	150.00
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Office supplies	50.00
Literature	50.00
Sunshine	35.00
Speakers and Program	200.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total Proposed Expenses	\$ 3,372.00

What is the use of a house if you
haven't got a tolerable planet to put it
on?
Henry David Thoreau



DID YOU KNOW? Some groups are celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote on Sunday, June 4th. The actual date of the ratification of the 19th Amendment was August 26, 1920 --

after long years of dedicated effort by people like Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone, and countless other women. Stanton believed that "the main obstacle to women's equality was the church and organized religion," which used the Bible as the rationale for the subjugation of women." **AND DO YOU KNOW?** The use of the vote by both women and men is of critical importance as we face the onslaught of the radical religious and political right who would turn back the clock, not only on women's rights, but on most human rights.

DAILY BREAD AND OUR FOOD BOX Someone suggested that an item be included in this Newsletter about our box for collecting food for those who are in real need. The Box, located in the entrance way, has been there for years. Hard to miss, but easy to forget. So this is a gentle reminder to members and friends, urging each of you to remember.

The food that is collected is given on alternate months to food pantries in Wayne and Sullivan Counties. We collect non-perishables: canned goods of all kinds; dried soup-mixes, etc; all varieties of cereal. Even before Gingrich and company cut help for the poor and the needy, there are a lot of people out there who cannot make ends meet. So our food box is one small way of helping a few who are struggling.

DO UNTO OTHERS As members of the new Congress prepare to cut help for people on welfare, for education, for medicaid and medicare for the poor and elderly, for food lunches in schools, for all kinds of "people" programs, the following about the "cutters" is of interest: (From: "Congressional Directory & Action Guide")

The annual salary of a member of Congress is \$129,500. For a low monthly premium, a member can have a generous life insurance policy, and a retirement system offers liberal pension benefits.

In addition, a member of Congress receives free office space with furnishings, machines, and supplies. Funds are provided for staff salaries, phone bills, trips home, and operation of home offices.

Printing and radio-television broadcast taping facilities are provided. Banking facilities are available in the Capitol and free parking is provided.

Office complexes have gym facilities, dining facilities, and post offices. An attending physician is in the Capitol, and congresspersons can take advantage of a complete laboratory, x-rays, pharmacy, physiotherapy, and electrocardiographic service. Along with a health insurance plan, medical care is available at Walter Reed Army and Bethesda Naval Hospitals.

It's the little deaths before the final time I fear.

The blasé shrug that quietly replaces excited curiosity,

The cynic-sneer that takes the place of innocence,

The soft-sweet odor of success that overcomes the sense of sympathy,

The self-betrayals that rob us of our will to trust,

The ridicule of vision, the barren blindness to what was once our sense of beauty--

These are deaths that come so quietly we do not know when it was we died.

Max Coats



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

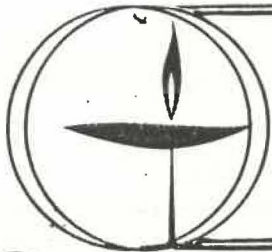
Phone 717-729-7197 or

914-252-7553



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701





NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

SEPTEMBER
1995

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN SEPTEMBER

VACATIONS OVER! BACK TO WORK,
BACK TO SCHOOL, BACK TO FELL-
OWSHIP. JOIN US SUNDAYS AT
ELEVEN!



September 3 - On this first Sunday in September, Barbara Yeaman will be leading us on a Nature Walk. Our last walk was very popular -- and this has a special attraction to have refreshments after at the home of Barbara Lutz and John Pritchard. (See notice and directions in opposite column.)

September 10 - Ray Pontier will lead the program on the subject, "When Bad Things Happen -- How Do Unitarian Universalists Cope?" Because of our general refusal to blindly and blithely accept orthodox speculations and assumptions, it is sometimes said that UUs lack the resources for dealing with hard times. Not so, of course! But we'll talk about it -- with some reliance on Rabbi Kushner's book, "When Bad Things Happen to Good People."

September 17 - Every few months we have to catch up with what we will be doing over the next few months for Sunday program. This is Catch-Up Sunday! Be with us as we have a Program Planning Meeting to decide what we will do for the balance of 1995. Your ideas, suggestions, and general input is valued and needed.

September 24 - We will hear and discuss a taped presentation by Jeff Cohen about the media coverage of the Oklahoma bombing and also about his new book, "The Way Things Aren't: Rush Limbaugh's Reign of Error." Jeff Cohen is Executive Director of the media watchdog organization FAIR -- acronym for "Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting."

And looking ahead: On Sunday, October 1st, Jesse Ballew will be speaking about "Public Radio." Jesse, our Vice President, has a regular program on Station JEFF.

A SEPTEMBER 3RD

INVITATION

Following our Nature Walk on September 3rd, everyone is invited for refreshments at Barbara Lutz and John Pritchard's place in Milanville.

Directions: Follow Beach Lake Road to right turn on Calkins Road. Barbara and John live about a quarter of a mile up, on the left side of the road, (just past the sign on mailbox for Leonard Rolston's place). It is a white house with a red barn. Within walking distance of Innisfree.

BEGINNING

OUR EIGHTH YEAR

On Sunday, August 6th, 24 of our members and friends gathered at Lackawaxen House for a delicious brunch to celebrate the beginning of our 8th year as a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. As we continue our journey, these words from The Community (UU) Church in New York City, are a good guide:

Ours is a free church, dedicated to the search for truth and the love of humankind.

We believe in knowledge, for there is no help in ignorance;

We believe in reason, for without it a person surrenders to the blind forces of falsehood and prejudice;

We believe in compassion, for revenge and hatred destroy the spirit;

We believe in love, for it is life's most creative power;

We believe in community, for no one can flourish alone.

There is no dogma in this Fellowship. We seek to grow in the search for truth, knowing that there is no end to its revelation. We seek fulfillment of our highest hopes, our deepest needs, in this beloved community where no person is a stranger.

NEWS

At a special meeting on August 13th after the service, it was voted to include the Sullivan

NOTE

County Habitat for Humanity as a recipient of funds from the 1995 Walk for Justice.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!! THE BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALK FOR JUSTICE WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1995 starting at 1:30 P. M. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

UPPER DELAWARE UU STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We, the members and friends of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, are gathered into a committed relationship:

- **To make possible a caring and supportive community in which each individual will feel free to chart her or his own spiritual journey in search for ultimate meaning in life;
- **To create an atmosphere in which each person will be able to share convictions, express doubts, and explore new dimensions of truth and reality;
- **To provide a community in which there will be no divisions because of class, ethnic origin, race, or sexual orientation;
- **To offer a place and climate for regular worship, which includes such things as fellowship, meditation, learning, and a free and open pulpit;
- **To work for the vision of a better world by standing for the cause of social justice and human rights, support efforts for world peace, and seek to protect the earth's environment through our respect for the interdependent web of all living things.;
- **To join with others in the tradition of a free and open religion in affiliation with the Unitarian Universalist Association;
- **To bear witness to our convictions as Unitarian Universalists in this entire region by giving our support to the Upper Delaware Fellowship through the dedication of our energies and time and finances, knowing that unless the local group is strong and healthy, little else can be accomplished.

(Adopted June 17, 1990 by the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship)

THIS STATEMENT OF PURPOSE WAS APPROVED AFTER MANY HOURS OF THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION. IT IS REPRINTED AS A REMINDER OF SOME EARLIER RESOLVES AND HOPES — AND FOR REAFFIRMATION AS WE MOVE INTO THE FUTURE.

OTHER AFFIRMATIONS

I believe in the Creative Power at work in the Universe,
 In the mystery and wonder of life,
 In the redemptive power of love,
 In the increase of knowledge through the use of reason,
 In the honoring of those who fought for new ideas,
 In the possibility of a better world,
 In respect for my own thoughts,
 In taking responsibility for my own actions,
 And in reverence for all that is good and true and beautiful.

(Harold Dean, UU minister)

MY CREED

To love justice,
 to long for the right, to love mercy,
 to pity the suffering, to assist the weak,
 to forget wrongs and remember benefits,
 to love the truth, to be sincere,
 to utter honest words, to love liberty,
 to wage relentless war against slavery in all of its forms,
 to love (family) and friend, to make a happy home,
 to love the beautiful in art, nature,
 to cultivate the mind, to be familiar with the mighty thoughts that genius has expressed, the noble deed of all the world;
 to cultivate courage and cheerfulness,
 to make others happy, to fill life with the splendor of generous acts, the warmth of loving words;
 to discard error, to destroy prejudice,
 to receive new truths with gladness,
 to cultivate hope, to see the calm beyond the storm, the dawn beyond the night,
 to do the best that can be done and then be resigned.

This is the religion of reason, the creed of science.

This satisfies the brain and heart.

Robert G. Ingersoll



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Home 717-729-7197 or
914-752-7553



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



THE BUD RUE MEMORIAL WALKATHON FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

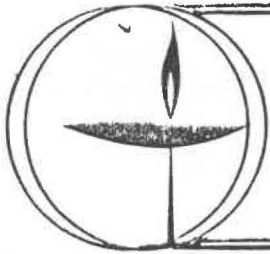
The walkathon will benefit the following organizations: Victims Intervention Program, Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach, and the United Nations Unitarian Universalist Office **
Sullivan County Habitat for Humanity

NAME OF WALKER: _____

<u>NAME OF SPONSOR</u>	<u>AMOUNT PLEDGED</u>	<u>AMOUNT RECEIVED</u>
1. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
5. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
6. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
7. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
8. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
9. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
10. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
11. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
12. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
13. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
14. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
15. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
16. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
17. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
18. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
19. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
20. _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Neither the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship nor any member(s) of its board of trustees will be held liable for any injury or accident suffered by any walker during the course of the walkathon.

** The Walkathon is 10 Kilometers in length. Suggested giving level is one dollar per Kilometer, but any contribution will be gratefully accepted.



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

JULY
1995

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



A MONTH OF SUNDAYS IN JULY

Join us each week as we meet at Innisfree on River Road in Milanville, PA at 11:00 A. M. -- Just across from the Skinners Falls Bridge.

JULY 2 - Our program will be SHARED READINGS. On this 4th of July weekend, as we celebrate a nation born out of dissent and rebellion, we might share readings on the meaning of patriotism, the place and techniques of dissent in a democracy, what it means to be an American, etc. Just a thought. But bring any reading that appeals to you for sharing with the group. Or just come and listen.

July 9 - We are pleased to have Edris Artis as our program leader. Her subject will be "The United Nations: A Personal Odyssey." Both Edris and her husband Bill live and work in New York City but also have a home in Narrowsburg at Luxton Lake. Both are active Unitarian Universalists. Edris is very much involved in ecumenical affairs, and is active the the UU United Nations Office. It is always a pleasure to have her speak to us.

July 16 - Barbara Pontier will be leading a program on "Welfare Reform." This is a big item on the agenda of the current congress. How much is welfare needed? Who receives it? What are some facts and fictions about those who receive welfare? Should all welfare recipients be compelled to work? Where are the jobs? Assuming that welfare needs to be reformed, what are some of the basic requirements? Come and discuss. We will not resolve all the problems, but we will try for an objective approach.

July 23 - Glenn Pontier, a Vietnam-era war protester, will discuss Robert McNamara's book in which he says of the Vietnam War: "We were wrong, wrong, wrong!" Why this late repentance, after 60,000 young men died and many went to prison?

July 30 --In this month of Pontiers, Ray Pontier will discuss Betty Friedan's new book, "The Fountain of Age." We all get older! and the concerns of aging are universal. Some of Ms Friedan's research and ideas will be discussed. Come with your concerns and to share ideas with others.

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday, June 18, 1995 the members of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship met at Innisfree in Milanville, PA for its Annual Meeting. The meeting, led by Barbara Pontier, was followed by a most excellent pot-luck luncheon. Among other matters, the following items of business were approved:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

President - Joseph Walker
Vice President - Jesse Bailew
Secretary - Sharon Paige-Lisenbee
Treasurer - Ann Rue

Also elected to the Board of Trustee was Laurel Mason. In addition to the officers noted above, the immediate Past President, and the Consulting Minister, the full Board includes the following elected Trustees:

Marjeanna Howard -- Term of 1996
Barbara Lutz - Term of 1997
Laurel Mason - Term of 1998

Following the elections, warm expressions of thanks were given to Barbara Pontier for her dedicated and efficient leadership during her three terms as the Fellowship President.

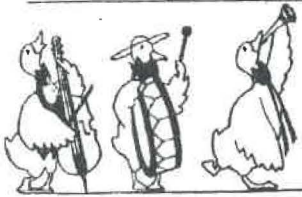
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1995-1996

Use of Innisfree:	
Meeting Hall Utilities	\$ 660.00
Insurance	169.00
Religious Education and Childcare	500.00
Photocopy (primarily Newsletter, but also program, fliers, etc.)	150.00
Postage (mostly for Newsletter)	175.00
UUA - Annual Fund Fair Share (Based on \$34 a member)	578.00
Metro District Dues (based on \$10 a member)	170.00
Coffee Hour, etc.	50.00
Office Supplies	25.00
Literature	50.00
Sunshine	25.00
Speakers and Program	100.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total Proposed Budget	\$2,702.00

This is a minimum, bare-bottom, budget! It is based on 17 active members, plus a number of contributing friends. We regret cutting the Religious Ed budget so drastically, but hope to restore it if we have more children. We will, however, continue childcare on Sunday mornings. The continued financial support of each member and friend is needed!!

LET US CELEBRATE OUR EIGHTH

ANNIVERSARY!



It was eight years ago, in August of 1987, that a small group of people met at the home of Ray

and Barbara Pontier to help organize a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. A short time later, thanks to Bud and Ann Rue, we began meeting at Innisfree. In October of 1990 we were officially accepted as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Almost since our beginning we have established a tradition of "eating out" at a restaurant in the area during the month of August.

This year our Anniversary Dinner will be held on Sunday, August 6th. As this Newsletter is being written, we will be going to one of two places: Kuesters Restaurant in Beach Lake or Lackawaxen House in Lackawaxen. A firm decision will be made at the June 25th meeting of the Fellowship -- and will be announced at subsequent meetings and in the next Newsletter. The cost will be about \$10 a person. The Dinner Meeting will be instead of our regular gathering at Innisfree,

Please sign up if you will attend the dinner! A sign-up sheet will be at the Fellowship each Sunday. Plan to be with us as we celebrate this Anniversary of an avowed liberal religious group in our entire area.

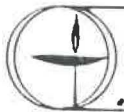
R At our Annual Meeting it was agreed that
E our Upper Delaware Fellowship meets a real
F need for many people. If everybody who
L attends occasionally all came on the same
E Sunday, our meeting room would be packed!
C In reality, we depend upon a core group
T of a relatively small number of people
I who carry the load in such things at
O attendance on Sundays, finances, and
N leadership

S There were expressions of concern at the meeting because of some of our core members and friends (reliable, dependable) who are not being seen all that often. Part of our problem is that many of our members and friends come from New York City and have a second home up here. It is not always possible for them to be with us. It was also noted at the meeting that many travel a long distance to attend, making regular attendance difficult. Then, of course, there are always personal conflicts that get in the way: family gatherings, business obligations, etc.

But is there something we are doing wrong, or not doing, as a Fellowship? It was suggested that we have a meeting in the near future to reevaluate who we are, what we are doing, and where we are going.

In the final analysis, of course, our Fellowship will be here, grow, and prosper, because a number of people are determined to make it happen. If ever it disappears, it will be because not enough people really cared.

*Our earth is but a small star
in the great universe.
Yet, of it we can make if we choose,
a planet unvexed by war,
untroubled by hunger or fear,
undivided by senseless distinctions
of race, color or theory.
Stephen Vincent Benet*



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

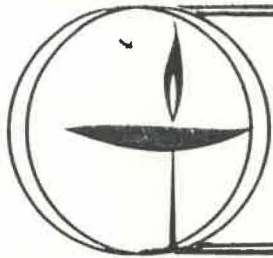
P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553

Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

AUGUST
1995

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Here we enter a Fellowship.
Sometimes we will agree to differ,
But always we will resolve to love
and unite to serve.

(From E. Stanley Jones' Ashram)

JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK

August 6 - Our Anniversary Dinner will be held at Lackawaxen House, just across the Roebing Bridge in Lackawaxen, PA. Please note! we meet at the Lackawaxen House at 12 Noon. There will not be a service at Innisfree on this Sunday. The cost is \$9.00 a person, including tax and tip. If you want to attend, and have not signed up, please call Barbara Pontier at 914/252-7553 to make a reservation. Everyone welcome!

August 13 - Joe Walker, the new President of our Fellowship, will lead a program on the subject: "What I Believe." This will be a time for our members and friends to do some sharing about personal beliefs or doubts about such things as God, prayer, Jesus, or anything else. Let us talk about what we really do believe, not only about what we are told to believe. Following the service there will be a short Fellowship meeting.

August 20 - Somewhat in line with the previous Sunday, our program will be, "Unitarian Universalism: An Heretical History." There will a showing of a 30 minute video that "Traces the history of Unitarianism and Universalism, from their roots 2000 years ago up to the merger in 1961. . . . It will touch on stories of Francis David, Michael Servetus, Joseph Priestly, Hosea Ballou, Susan B. Anthony, and others. It is an excellent overview both for long term members and newcomers.

August 27 - Our program leader for this Sunday will be our own Gil Mende. His subject will be announced -- but we can be sure he will be both relevant and interesting. We looking forward to hearing him on this Sunday. Gil, as you may know, is one of the charter members of our Fellowship.

BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR OUR
ANNIVERSARY DINNER

SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP MEETING On Sunday, August 13th, a special meeting of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship will be held following the regular eleven o'clock service. All members and friends are asked to stay for this short meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and act on the proposal of the Board of Trustees regarding the distribution of funds from the coming Bud Rue Memorial Walk in October. In essence, the Board recommended that the newly formed Sullivan County Habitat for Humanity be added to the list of recipients of the Walk. It also recommended that the previous recipients of the Walk be continued: Wayne County Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Outreach, the Crisis Intervention Program, and the UU United Nations Office.

This is an official notice of the meeting to be held on August 13, 1995 at about 12 Noon.

REMEMBERING MAY SARTON

On July 16, 1995, May Sarton -- Poet, Novelist, Individualist, and Feminist -- died in Maine at the age of 83. Two years ago Barbara Pontier gave a program about her and corresponded with her. Unitarian Universalists have claimed her as one of their own, and in 1982 she spoke and read poetry at the UU General Assembly. The following poem reflects some of the ambivalence she (and most of us) have regarding death:

GESTALT AT SIXTY (excerpt)

I am not ready to die,
But I am learning to trust death
As I have trusted life.
I am moving
Toward a new freedom
Born of detachment,
And a sweeter grace--
Learning to let go.

I am not ready to die,
But as I approach sixty
I turn my face toward the sea.
I shall go where tides replace time,
Where my world will open to a far
horizon
Over the floating, never-still flux and
change.
I shall go with the changes,
I shall look far out over golden grasses
And blue waters....

May Sarton

SEE HOW THEY GROW!

The following piece was written by the Rev. Clarke Wells, recently minister of the UU Fellowship in Lakeland, Florida:

If you want to build up your church, I must tell you as an old pro in church-building that you cannot, I repeat cannot, build an active, attractive, enriching church life if half or two-thirds of you, on any given Sunday, are unmarshalled, disconnected, not present, gone.

Not ten dozen meetings of your membership committee will promote the health and growth of your church as much as an enthusiastic attendance on Sunday mornings. The Number One way of attracting visitors, newcomers and re-enlisting the inactive, is the sight and feel of a live congregation.

Conversely, if you want to turn off visitors, show them the sure-fire advertisement of your empty seats. Your absences echo, dear friends, quite literally. They resonate with your message of inactivity, disregard, unconcern.

Groups achieve power as they are bound and driven by regular and common sharing from a nurturing center. That center, that reality, is being in body together on Sunday morning. If you decide to marshall yourselves on Sunday, your institutional problems will melt into manageability within months. And that is simply because there's strength in numbers and joy in a full house.

Do exactly what you want to on Sunday mornings. But be aware and know the consequences of your wants for the future life of your church.

ASSORTED THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP

**We are 8 years old this month!
At our Anniversary Dinner we celebrate our formation in August of 1987.

**At a Sunday Service late in August, 20 people signed our Membership Book, making us eligible to apply for membership in the Unitarian Universalist Association.

**On October 26, 1990, after meeting basic requirements, our Fellowship was accepted as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, one of over a thousand such congregations in the United States and Canada,

**We also became part of a regional body, called a District. Initially we were part of the Joseph Priestly District, but later transferred to the Metro New York District.

**Every year since our affiliation with UUA, we have been an Honor Society, meeting our fair share of the Annual Fund of the UU Association.

**Through the initiative of Bud Rue, our Fellowship helped in the formation of the Wayne County Habitat for Humanity. We were also instrumental in the organization of the late and lamented River School.

**We are one of the few UU Fellowships that "take time off" in the winter (January) rather than the summer.

**As frequently noted, the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is the ONLY liberal religious body in at least a fifty mile radius. We do not march to the drum beat of a particular orthodoxy, but cherish the freedom to think, to question, to choose for ourselves

**As we begin our 8th year, we extend an invitation to any and all who are seeking a faith that respects their intelligence and gives them the freedom to grow.



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone: 717-729-7197 or
914-252-7553



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701





Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Newsletter

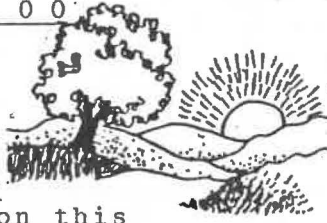
MEETING AT INNISFREE
MILANVILLE, PA
SEPTEMBER
1992

SUNDAYS AT 11:00

IN

SEPTEMBER

September 6 - As we head out of the summer and into the fall, our program on this



first Sunday of September will be one of Shared Readings. Members and friends are invited to bring a favorite reading on a theme of their choosing -- poetry or prose, serious or humorous. Or, of course, you can just come and listen. This is your program!

September 13 - Among the many courses Glenn Pontier teaches regularly at .. Elderhostels is one on "American Pacifists." He will share some of his thoughts on this subject with us on this Sunday. Glenn is Editor of The River Reporter. Much of what he has to say comes out of his experience as a resister to the Vietnam War who spent a year in Federal prison for the sake of conscience and principle.

September 20 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "Liberals, Conservatives, and Extremists." In the last Presidential election, and continuing in this, was a knee-jerk reaction against the word "Liberal." Similar reactions are also seen against Conservatives and Extremists. So how do we define these terms? And do we have to be squeezed in one ideological box?

September 27 - Our speaker will be Alice Scott from the Job Corp in our area. She will be talking about "A Second Chance For Disadvantaged Youth." A significant topic during these times of unemployment and underemployment.

SINGING THE LIVING TRADITION - A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HYMNBOOK

The first UU Hymnbook in over 30 years will be available in 1993, with over 400 hymns and songs, plus 318 readings. Pre-publication price is \$25 until December 15th (\$30 after that date).

It is hoped that our Fellowship can buy a minimum of ten copies, and we invite members and friends to purchase one or more copies for the Fellowship. Copies can be given in memory of someone or dedicated to someone.

At the present time we have seven copies promised:

- 2 from Ann & Bud Rue
- 2 from Barbara & Ray Pontier
- 2 from Gil Mende
- 1 from Sharon Paige-Lissenbee

We hope others will join in! Checks can be sent to Bud Rue, Treasurer, payable to the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. Also be sure to indicate exactly how the Hymnbook is to be dedicated. A dedication-plate will be placed in each book. Please do it soon so we can meet the December 15th deadline.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Now that kids will soon be back to school, we hope members and friends will be thinking of the program of Religious Education here at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.



The program is held each Sunday at 11:00 A. M. for children age 3 to 10. (There is also child-care for younger children.) For information, call Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626.

IF YOU ARE ...

- If you are looking for a religious community in which to seek spiritual growth...
- If you are eager to consider religious questions with others who are not always certain they have all the answers, but who are determined to keep searching for them...
- If you would like the fellowship of others for celebration and worship, discussion and education, friendship and mutual support...
- If you want children to be helped to develop their own religious beliefs...
- If you wish to preserve and extend the traditions of personal freedom and human dignity against the dangers they face today...

You should get to know us. Let us get to know you!

Name _____ Address _____

A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS COVENANT

Mindful of truth ever exceeding our knowledge
And compassion ever exceeding our practice,
Reverently we covenant together,
beginning with ourselves as we are,
To share the strength of integrity
and the heritage of the spirit
In our unending quest for reality,
justice and love.

adapted, Walter Royal Jones, Jr.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Sometimes bad things happen and yet something good comes from the bad. We don't have enough perspective on life in any given instant to be able to say with certainty whether, over time, a particular event will be beneficial or harmful in our lives. I am reminded of an old Chinese story of wisdom that a friend once told me, so I will relate a short variation of the wise tale.

A farmer awoke one morning to find a wild horse had wandered onto his farm looking for food. He put the horse in with his horses and his neighbors exclaimed how lucky it was that such a fine horse had come to him. He replied, "Maybe it is, maybe it isn't." The next evening the horse broke the fence and all his horses ran away. Was this bad? "Maybe it is, maybe it isn't." Then the government came through to tax all the property and the domestic animals, but his tax was low because of the lack of horses. Later his horses came back, including the wild one -- was this good? "Maybe..." except that his son was then motivated to tame the wild horse, so it wouldn't run away again -- and in the process was thrown and broke his arm and was laid up in bed and couldn't farm. Was it bad? "Maybe..." But then the army came through and conscripted all able young men in the village, but left the son laid up in bed. Was this good or bad? "Maybe..." and the story continues.

Some people say there is a silver lining in every cloud; others are afraid that good will only bring disaster. There is also the idea that the Universe is oblivious to good and bad -- that these are just our own perceptions. Perhaps the wisdom of the story is that we take what comes, and recognize that our opinion of "good" or "bad" may change as time unfolds.

From *The First Unitarian Church* Richmond, VA, Robert F. Renjilian, minister:

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN
Phone 717/729-7191 or 914/252-7553

WE JOIN IN THE WELCOME AND BEST WISHES!!
(From Weekly Almanac 7/31/92)

Melinda Ruth Koepke Arrives, And Oh, What A Greeting Was Waiting for Her

Melinda Ruth Koepke recently arrived to her parents, David R. and Jill G. Koepke of Honesdale.

She was born Jan. 23, in Guatemala where her parents, through an arrangement with Today's Adoption Agency, met and brought her into their lives.

The maternal grandmother, Eloise Glasgall of Hoboken, N.J., kept the family restaurant, the Harvest Cafe in Honesdale, perking for the few days the Koepkes

were away. Melinda is Mrs. Glasgall's first grandchild.

The paternal grandparents are, Milton E. Koepke of Leesburg, Florida, and the late Ruth Koepke.

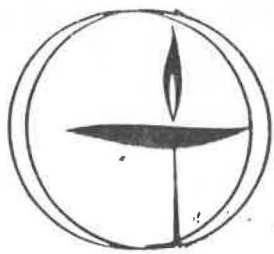
Melinda is Mr. Koepke's 11th grandchild.

After a long flight home from Guatemala City, the family was greeted by many cards, balloons, flowers and well-wishers who came to the restaurant.

A B O U T On Sunday, August 16th, twenty members and friends of the Fellowship gathered at the Beach Lake Hotel for a delicious Brunch to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Fellowship. It does not seem possible that we are beginning our sixth year as a liberal religious group! We have an important role to play in the Delaware Valley, and we thank all who have supported it so faithfully. ***Among our travelers: John Rue has returned from his trip to England -- and Eve and Jerry Murphy are taking off for their visit to England. Gil Mende will be going to warmer climes as soon as cold weather hits our area. Laurie Stuart and Zachary recently returned from Switzerland after a visit with Laurie's grandmother. ***Keep in mind: We need your sustained financial support! The Deadline for next Newsletter is September 20th. SEE YOU AT FELLOWSHIP!!



Carmen and Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Newsletter

OCTOBER
1992

SUNDAYS

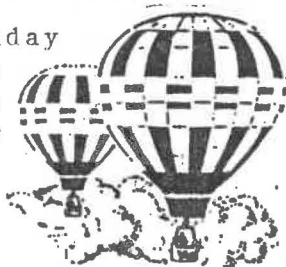
IN Join us every Sunday at 11 A. M. as we meet at Innisfree in Milanville for a time of inspiration, reflection, and fellowship.

OCTOBER 4 - Kicking off our October schedule will be Tom Kane -- who has a fascinating background. Presently working for the Community Resource Center of Sullivan County, a writer and opera singer by avocation, Tom Kane was formerly a Roman Catholic priest and a member of a Catholic Order. He says: "After much soul-searching and disillusionment with the Catholic Church leadership, I left the priesthood and the community." Tom will share some of his religious pilgrimage with us. Don't miss it!

October 11 - And you will not want to miss this program either! Our speaker will be Kevin Ardis, a student who spent time in Ghana during the summer. Africa is very much in the news -- and Kevin will share something about his visit and his thinking. Kevin is the son of Bill and Edris Ardis.

October 18 - A third winner for October will be Barbara Yeaman who will deal with some aspect of an environmental concern. Barbara really needs no introduction, She hails from Milanville, is a frequent writer for The River Reporter, along with having many of her photographs printed. It will be a pleasure to have her speak to us again.

October 25 - Winding up the month will be the Rev. Ray Pontier who will speak on the subject: "Pat Robertson and Other Assorted Right-Wing Fundamentalists." In "embracing" Robertson and similar religious extremists, Bush and the Republicans are aiding and abetting the enemies of democracy and the First Amendment. The talk will deal with some of the characteristics of fundamentalism in our time.



**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS
AND COFFEE HOUR**

One of the common rituals in just about every Unitarian Universalist congregation is the Coffee-Hour following the morning service. It is a time for more than coffee or tea, but an occasion to visit, to get to know one another better, and to continue any discussion of the program of the day.

To make our Coffee-Hour possible means having someone take a turn on a Sunday morning. Not hard to do! Directions are as follow:

- 1) Put on a pot of hot water before the service.
- 2) Provide cookies or cake for the refreshments. Make it simple.
- 3) Bring milk or creamer for the coffee.
- 4) Clean up after the Coffee-Hour.

Coffee, tea, cups, and napkins are already at the Fellowship, so there is no need to bring them. And in case you forget milk, we will try to have dried coffee-creamer on hand.

WHEN THE SIGN-UP SHEET COMES AROUND,
TAKE A TURN!

HOW ABOUT NAME TAGS! The majority of UU Fellowships use name-tags. So much easier for those of us who have faulty memories! We did it for awhile, but somehow stopped. It may be time to revive the practice. In recent months we have had an increase in visitors and new people attending -- and for their sake, especially, the use of name tags would be most helpful. Let's hear your views!

BOARD MEETINGS It has been decided that a short Board Meeting will be held the last Sunday of each month. All Board members are urged to attend, but all other members of the Fellowship are invited to attend and to share their opinions.

WAYNE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

TV PHONE AUCTION

The Fund Raising Committee is currently planning an auction in conjunction with Channel 6 of Honesdale. Donated articles will be listed on Channel 6 and viewers will be invited to bid on these items. After an item has run for three weeks, the highest bidder will be the lucky buyer. The item for sale will remain in the hands of the contributor until the sale is completed. Since Channel 6 is making no charge to us for broadcast time, the entire proceeds of the auction will go to Habitat.

NEEDED:

1. Volunteers to solicit goods and services.
2. Contributions of goods--check your attic, closets, basement, and garage.
3. Contributions of services--consider your talents that might be of marketable value which you could donate to the Habitat auction.

CONTACTS:

Marjean Howard (717)253-3742
Mary Bajda (717)685-7601

ON BEING A MEMBER

Becoming a member of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is not difficult. It takes place by the simple act of signing our Membership Book which is prominently displayed at Innisfree. Just speak to our President, Barbara Pontier, the minister, or one of the members.

Membership, of course, is a commitment, not just a whim. Several things are implied:

- 1) A commitment to the basic principles of liberal religion as expressed through Unitarian Universalism. It is suggested that you read the Principles & Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association, as well as the Statement of Purpose of our Fellowship.
- 2) A commitment to support the services and programs of the Upper Delaware Fellowship. We don't keep score or ask the impossible -- but the local Fellowship is the heartbeat of our movement -- and without member support and participation it will fail and die.
- 3) Regular financial support. Not even liberal religion lives on good will or good intentions. We have a modest but necessary budget. It needs the sustained support of all who are members and supportive friends.

WE WELCOME—

Edris Artis who recently signed our Membership Book. She and her family have dual addresses:

Luxton Lake, Narrowsburg, NY 12764
and

420 East 120 Street, New York, NY 10035

THE UU HYMNBOOK — Barbara Lutz, as well as Eve & Gerry

Murphy have signed up to purchase UU Hymnbooks -- making a total of ten hymnbooks for the Fellowship. Anyone else interested is urged to speak to Ray Pontier or Bud Rue. Be sure to indicate how a book is to be dedicated. Hymnbooks will be delivered in the summer of 1993. 'Till December \$5 the pre-publication price is \$25.00 a copy.

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Name _____ Address _____

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

MARCH
1993

SUNDAY SERVICES IN MARCH



Join us every Sunday morning at 11:00 A. M. for our services and programs as we meet in Innisfree on River Road in Milanville, just over the bridge at Skinners Falls. A Religious Education program for children ages 3 through 10, as well as childcare, is provided at the same hour.

March 7 - Be with us for a very special program of "Music and Interpretative Dance" to be presented by Laurie Stuart and Karen MacIntyre. We look forward to a most unique and meaningful morning. A program not to be missed!

March 14 - For the Christian world, this is the Second Sunday of the Lenten Season -- a time of preparation among Christians to seek the meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The Cross, in particular, is the central symbol of Christianity. Although most UUs reject orthodox/conservative theology about the death of Jesus on a cross, the meaning of his death has continuing validity. Ray Pontier will attempt to recapture some ongoing truth as he speaks about: "A UU Looks at the Meaning of the Cross."

March 21 - We welcome Barbara Yeaman as our speaker -- always interesting and inspirational! Barbara is a strong advocate of the environment, and will speak on some aspect concerning us all. John Burroughs once wrote: "The longer I live the more my mind dwells upon the beauty and wonder of the world. . . . I am in love with this world." This typifies Barbara Yeaman.

March 28 - Glenn Pontier, who lights a candle each Sunday for the Ozone Layer, will speak about this subject which is of vital concern to everyone. Carl Sagan said: "If we do not speak for Earth, who will? If we are not committed to our own survival, who will be?" Glenn is the editor of The River Reporter.

ASSORTED THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP AND UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM IN GENERAL

- °°°In August of this year our Fellowship will celebrate its 6th Anniversary, having organized in August 1987. We are the only Liberal Religious Group in a 50 mile radius.
- °°°On October 26, 1990 our Fellowship was officially accepted as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association, one of a 1000 such congregations in the United States and Canada. We are also part of a regional body called the Joseph Priesly District.
- °°°The Unitarian Universalist Association is a merger of the Unitarians and the Universalists in 1962, both historic denominations dating back to the 17th century in America. This year Universalism celebrates its 200th anniversary.
- °°°The Annual General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association will be held this year at Charlotte, North Carolina from June 24 to 29.
- °°°The Officers of our Upper Delaware Fellowship are: President, Barbara Pontier; Vice President, Loran Shlevin; Treasurer, Bud Rue; Secretary, Colette Ballew. The Trustees include MarJeanna Howard, David Koepke, Jesse Ballew, and Tom Rue as Past President. The Consulting Minister is the Rev. Raymond J. Pontier.
- °°°Services and Programs of the Fellowship are held every Sunday (except January) at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree on River Road in Milanville, PA.
- °°°A Religious Education Program is held Sundays at 11:00 for children ages 3 through 10, as well as childcare for smaller youngsters. Many thanks to Ann Rue and Loran Shlevin who made this program possible! We are looking for a regular teacher and offer a nominal compensation of \$100 a month.
- °°°Every Sunday we have a "Coffee-Hour" when members and friends stay for light refreshments, fellowship and conversation. We need people each week to take a turn!

The Unitarian Universalist approach to religion has a fundamental difference from that of more orthodox churches. Instead of asserting that the ultimate truth about the nature of life has been revealed to us, we assume that, together, we must engage in a search for those things which can give meaning and importance in our lives. Ours is a vital religion; one of inquiry and growth, rather than one of preconceived answers.

Our search is not blind. It is informed by the great religious traditions, including our own Judeo-Christian heritage and liberal religious roots. It is also informed by other insights of both past and present—the richness of the arts, the knowledge of the sciences, the wisdom of experience.

I know of no other religious institution taking such an approach. Here is both a respect for the past and an openness to the future . . . a sharing of adults and children in a serious, yet joyous search.

Douglas Gallager

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR MARCH

If March has a dubious reputation--and it does--it is not wholly without reason. There is a hint of madness in the mere mention of the March hare. Dark deeds are somehow inherent in the Ides of March. There is March mud, there are March floods, there are the winds of March, and there is the lion-lamb tradition."

There is more to it than such items, however. The whole story of March includes the vernal equinox, daylight at last exceeding darkness. It includes red-winged blackbirds, back from the South, clamoring in the stream-side tree-tops. It includes pussy willows in fat, silvery catkin. Not today, not even a week from today, but one day before March ends in April. And there will be those unpredict-

able days when the March air is warm, the March breeze is gentle, the March sun is friendly as late April. And somewhere March is boys playing marbles, girls playing jacks and hopscotch. Maybe we give March a dubious reputation because we are an impatient kind of animal.

We haven't yet learned that the trip often is more important than the destination. With February out of the way, we want May, or April at the least; and the only way to April or May is through March. And March insists on being March, neither sinister nor mad, but a mixture of old endings and new beginnings.

New York Times (Editorial)

NEVER DOUBT
◆◆THAT A
SMALL GROUP OF
THOUGHTFUL
COMMITTED
CITIZENS◆◆
CAN CHANGE
THE WORLD;
◆ INDEED
IT'S THE ONLY
THING THAT
EVER HAS.◆

Margaret Mead

MORE THOUGHTS ABOUT THE UPPER DELAWARE FELLOWSHIP AND UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

- °°°We support ourselves by the voluntary giving of members and friends. A number of members make regular pledges.
- °°°On Sundays we try to observe a good old UU tradition of wearing Name Tags. Cooperation requested.
- °°°On Sundays we pass around a "sign-up sheet" for anyone willing to take a turn for refreshments and leading the morning worship. We are a do-it-yourself group. What happens, happens because you make it happen!
- °°°Ray Pontier edits the monthly Newsletter. Deadline for notices, etc. is third Sunday of each month.

- °°°We give a very warm welcome to visitors. We rejoice when someone wants to sign our Membership Book!
- °°°A Board of Trustees meeting is held the last Sunday of the month after the service. Any member or friend of the Fellowship is invited to attend.
- °°°Anyone who would like to know more about Unitarian Universalism is welcome to take literature from our Literature Rack -- or speak to the Rev. Pontier.
- °°°We are more than happy to put people on our Newsletter mailing list. But if someone is no longer interested in receiving it, we'd appreciate hearing from you.

Some people make the world, the rest just come along and live in it. Edna Ferber



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

JUNE

1993

THE JUNE SERVICES

SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

No more beautiful spot to be than at Innisfree on a June Sunday morning! Join us at our liberal religious gathering -- nice people, good programs, stimulating discussions.

JUNE 6 - Following our usual opening, we will share in our Annual Business Meeting as our program.

This has to do with the practical and necessary end of running a Fellowship. We will elect officers and trustees, discuss and approve a budget, and take up any other business that may be necessary. This is important! We urge all members as well as friends to make a special effort to be with us. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the meeting there will be a pot-luck lunch. Please plan to bring a covered dish for sharing.

JUNE 13 - "What I Believe -- About God, the Bible, Jesus, Prayer, etc." This will be our own round table discussion about our individual thoughts and feelings about any or all of these things. Everyone is invited to participate; no one has to. So come to talk or to listen as we share some convictions and doubts. As UUs we have no official creeds or dogmas.

JUNE 20 - Those who live along or near the Upper Delaware River enjoy one of the most beautiful areas in the northeast. Keeping it beautiful is a fulltime job! To help us do that there is a Delaware River Keeper -- by the name of Cynthia Poten. Cynthia, whose office is in Lambertville, NJ, will be our speaker. All who care about our river area are urged to be with us.

JUNE 27 - While the Rues and Pontiers are away this weekend at General Assembly, the Fellowship will have a program of "Shared Readings." Plan to bring a favorite reading -- poetry or prose, serious or humorous, secular or sacred. Always a good program!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR

We are delighted to announce that Colette Ballew has consented to become the Religious Education Director for our Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. Colette and her husband Jesse are members of the Fellowship, and live in Damascus, PA with their two children. Having Colette take charge is a big plus for our Religious Education program. She is a sensitive and caring person who is fully in tune with the UU philosophy of religious education.

Many, many thanks go to Ann Rue who has carried on our RE Program as a labor of love for a long time. Thanks also to Loran Shlevin who gave of her time for the program over much of last summer.

We invite parents to enroll their children in the program. And we also ask that parents and other Fellowship members offer their assistance to Colette in making the program effective..

THE

HYMNBOOKS

The latest word is that the UU Hymnbooks we ordered will be delivered sometime in the middle of July!! This new Hymnal, "Singing the Living Tradition," is the first in over 30 years and is an important event in the life of the UU Association as well as for our Fellowship. When they arrive, we plan a service to introduce and celebrate them. Laurie Stuart has promised to help us learn and sing some hymns.

UPPER DELAWARE ANNUAL MEETING

Don't forget that our Annual meeting of the Fellowship is on Sunday, June 6th at 11:00 A. M. It really is important for you to be with us as we elect officers, prepare a budget, and discuss our future. Be sure to bring a covered dish for our pot-luck lunch following the service and meeting.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This will be the first time our Fellowship will have members attending the UU General Assembly! Ann Rue as delegate, Barbara Pontier as an alternate delegate and Bud Rue and Ray Pontier attending. The meetings are in Charlotte, NC from June 24th to 29th.

A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PHILOSOPHY OF
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In a culture where religion is defined by specific doctrinal beliefs, how do we help our children be confident in upholding their identity as Unitarian Universalists when challenged by their more orthodox friends?

The religious education program is value centered, based on the Principles and Purposes as defined by the members of the Unitarian Universalist Association in democratic assembly. It is child centered, in the tradition of progressive education. It is based on a progression of children's religious growth. Our littlest ones need love, acceptance, trust and a feeling of being at home in this religious community. As they get older we add expression of wonder at all of creation and the need to develop friendships. At 6 or 7 children begin to learn about others, to stand in their shoes. By 8 or 9 they add UU traditions and being part of a larger religious movement. The focus for 11 year olds and up is on moral reasoning, decision-making, and issues of personal identity.

In a world of conflicting orthodoxies, we encourage inclusiveness, understanding, tolerance, and acceptance. We teach for self-confidence, curiosity, caring, and responsibility. The curriculum content includes Judeo-Christian heritage, UU history, and world religions. The context, the curriculum behind the text, is the larger issue of living moral and ethical lives, keeping alive the wonder about the miracle of life itself, and developing a sense of responsibility of making the world a better place than when we came into it. "Religious education is, for us, a creative conversation carried on between our children, ourselves, and the life that surrounds us. . . . It is an on-going adventure that has as its purposes the molding of a certain kind of person . . . who can think fully and act responsibly . . . who possess strong inner resources of courage and hope . . . and who will become persons of broad sympathies and deep compassion for all people."

This is an enormous task -- it takes all of us working together. As the African saying goes, "It takes a whole village to raise a child."

(From Carol Haag, R. E. Director of UU Church in Summit, N. J.)

BRIEFLY NOTED

Our continued best wishes for Kaare and Ruth Gundersen who have been ill! ***Welcome home to Gil Mende. So good to have him at our services on Sunday. ***Looking ahead: on Sunday, July 4th Bob Brewer will be taking the program on the subject, "What About Gays and Lesbians in the Military?" ***Did you know that Amnesty International meets the 3rd Sunday of each month at Innisfree from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. Anyone who is interested is invited. ***Also, the first Sunday of each month Habitat for

Humanity has a pot-luck supper at Innisfree at 5:00 PM. ***Are you taking your turn -- to bring refreshments, lead a service, do publicity. We are a do-it-yourself group! ***We had a record crowd on May 16th when Chief David Two Wolves Smith spoke. Hope many of the visitors will return! ***Please get notices for next Newsletter to Ray Pontier by June 13th. Must be early because of General Assembly.

When we dream alone, it is only a dream. When we dream together, it is the beginning of reality.

Dorn Felder Camara

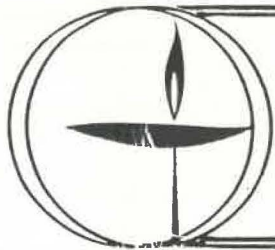


Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN
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NEWSLETTER

Upper Delaware

AUGUST
1993

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

SUNDAYS IN AUGUST AT 11 A. M.

August 1 - Plan to be with us as we celebrate our Sixth Anniversary at the Beach Lake Hotel. The cost for our Anniversary Dinner is \$10.95, plus tax and tip for a total of \$13.50. Please call Bud Rue at 717-729-7197 or Barbara Pontier at 914-252-7553 for reservations. Be sure to note the time! Be at Beach Lake Hotel at 12:00 Noon. There will be no meeting at Innisfree.

August 8 - After some postponements, we will have the Rev, Dan Tufts as our speaker. His topic will be: "South Africa and the United States: More Alike Than You Might Think." Mr. Tufts is most knowledgeable on the subject of South Africa and racism. This is a program of real concern.

August 15 - Our program will consist of "Shared Readings" -- and each member and friend is invited to bring a favorite or special reading to share with the group. The choice is yours: poetry or prose, serious or light, contemporary or old. For that Sunday we need someone to lead the worship and moderate the readings. If you are willing, please speak to Barbara Pontier.

August 22 - "The Value of Values" will be Ray Pontier's subject. Much talk of "traditional values" or "family values" have often been code words of the religious right. But values are not a monopoly of the right-wing, and the talk will focus on some enduring values needed in this and every time. The talk is partly motivated by Marian Wright Edelman's book "The Measure Of Our Success: A Letter to My Children & Yours"

August 29 - Elizabeth McAllister will present an environmental program as she talks about the "Basherkill Wetlands." An important program in a time of continued desecration of the earth.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

As Habitat for Humanity works to complete its first home, there is a need for funds. Members and friends of the Fellowship can help supporting two upcoming events:

August 20th there will be a Theater Party at the Catskill Actors Theater (CAT) in Highland Lake. Noel Coward's "Blithe Spirit" will be presented, with part of the proceeds going to Habitat. Tickets are \$20. Call 717-729-7197 to reserve a ticket.

August 28th a Habitat Auction will be held at "The Country Auction" from 1:00 to 5:00 P. M. -- located on Route 491, south of Honesdale. If you have something to donate for the auction, call 717-729-7197 -- or just come and buy.

OUR NEW HYMN BOOK Our New Hymnbooks (Singing the Living Traditions) arrived, and on Sunday, July 18th we had a good old-fashioned hymn-sing, with Laurie Stuart at the keyboard. It was great fun.

The following people gave the books to the Fellowship:

Edris Artis one copy
Colette & Jesse Ballew - one copy
Robert & Muriel Brewer - one copy
Barbara Gavurnik - One copy
Sharon Paige Lissenbee - two copies
Barbara Lutz - one copy
The Rev. Harold Mante - one copy
Gil Mende - two copies
Eve and Gerry Murphy - two copies
Barbara & Ray Pontier - two copies
Ann & Bud Rue - two copies
Helen & Tom Sidwell - one copy

All who gave books are asked give Bud Rue information as to how name plates shall be enscribed. Others wishing to purchase hymnbooks for the Fellowship can do so by calling Bud Rue.

It is here, where we stand, that we should try to make shine the light of the hidden divine life.

Martin Buber

THIS IS MY CHURCH/FELLOWSHIP

This is my church. It is composed of people like me. We make it what it is. I want it to be a church that is a lamp to the pathway of pilgrims, leading them to Goodness, Truth, and Beauty. It will be if I am.

It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into worship and community, if I bring them. It will be friendly, if I am. . . . It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, if I who make it what it is am filled with these.

Therefore I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all of those things I want my church to be.

(The Unitarian Church of Scarborough, England)

UU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On July 25th Ann & Bud Rue, Barbara & Ray Pontier reported on their week at the UU General Assembly in Charlotte, NC from June 24th to 29th. A good, interesting and busy week. Three thousand UUs attended, 1,700 of whom were delegates; many interesting workshops to attend; excellent programs and speakers; a fascinating exhibit and book area. A highlight of the General Assembly was the election of a new UU President to replace Bill Schultz after eight years in office. In a closely contested race, the Rev. John Buehrens won out over the Rev. Carolyn Owen-Towle by the slim margin of 99 votes.

All of us who went were proud to represent the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship -- and highly recommend attending G. A. to others.

MORE ABOUT THE NEW HYMNBOOK

The Rev. Bruce Southworth of Community UU in New York City wrote the following piece a year ago. It is reprinted

because it offers a fine description of a book we will now be using at our Fellowship

A year from now, the Unitarian Universalist Association will be offering a new hymnal for sale, and I find it an exciting prospect.

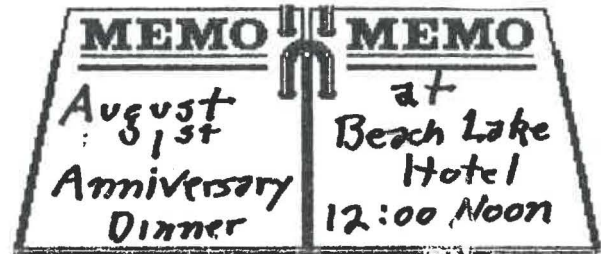
Titled *Singing the Living Tradition*, 55% of the music and 80% of the readings will differ from the present hard-bound U.U.A. hymnal, *Hymns for the Celebration of Life* (the blue book, which was published in 1964.)

Overall the new hymnal will include approximately 400 hymns and 300 readings. The color is slate gray, and the book will be somewhat larger than the present one and thus allow for larger type.

The hope is that its diversity will allow its use by all U.U. congregations. It will include familiar hymns from our tradition, favorite classics from Christian tradition, newly commissioned works, chorales, spirituals, and folk tunes from many cultures. As a letter from the Hymnbook Resource Commission notes, "there is something here for every musical taste: from Vietnamese folk songs to Duke Ellington, from the Bible to Holly Near...."

"Hymns and readings will contain male, female and neuter pronouns when referring to God and humanity. They encompass theistic and non-theistic material, transcendent and human centered spirituality."

Singing the Living Tradition will be a wonderful resource for our worship, and I imagine that many may want to purchase personal copies for your own home use. Five years of work by the Hymnbook Resources Commission is bearing fruit, and I look forward to its arrival in just about a year.

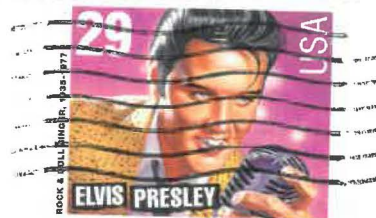


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Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701





Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

JULY

1993

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN

JULY

We hope to see you each Sunday as we meet at Innisfree at 11:00 A.M.

July 4 - "What About Gays and Lesbians in the Military?" This will be the subject of Bob Brewer's talk and group discussion on this 4th of July Sunday. Bob and his wife

Muriel are members of our Fellowship. During the 2nd World War Bob served as an officer, commanded a black regiment, and attended the Nuremberg Trials. Join us for a provocative morning!!

July 11 - "Travels With Gil!" During most of the fall and winter season, Gil Mende spent six months traveling in Australia and New Zealand, along with other stops. On this Sunday Gil will share his adventures with us. Gil Mende, an active member of our Fellowship, is our own world traveler. We look forward to this opportunity to hear Gil.

July 18 - "Report on General Assembly." This year, from June 24th to 29th, five members of our Fellowship attended the UU General Assembly in Charlotte, North Carolina. Ann and Bud Rue, Barbara and Ray Pontier, and Edris Artis went -- with Ann Rue the official delegate from our Fellowship. On this Sunday there will be a sharing of experiences and impressions.

July 25 - "Singing the Living Tradition!" On this Sunday we will celebrate our new Unitarian Universalist Hymn Book -- with the program led by Laurie Stuart and Ray Pontier. We hope to have our copies of the hymnbook early this month

MEET OUR NEW OFFICERS

The following were elected at the Annual meeting to serve the 1993-94 term:

- President - Barbara Pontier
- Vice President - Loran Shlevin
- Treasurer - Ann Rue
- Secretary - Sharon Paige

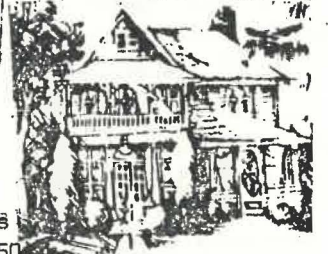
Bob Brewer was elected to fill an unexpired term, with the Trustees as follows:

- 1994 Term - Bob Brewer
- 1995 Term - Jesse Ballaw
- 1996 Term - MarJeanna Howard

=====

ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH

Beach Lake Hotel



WHEN: August 1st at 12:00 Noon sharp!

COST: \$10.95 a person, plus tax & tip (total \$13.50)

MENU: All-you-can-eat buffet.

All members and friends are invited as we celebrate the 6th year since we organized in August 1987. The Beach Lake Hotel is located off Route 652 in Beach Lake. Reservations are important -- so call Bud Rue (717-729-7197) or Barbara Pontier (914-252-7553). There will not be a meeting at Innisfree, so come directly to the Beach Lake Hotel by 12 Noon.

OUR 1993 - 1994 BUDGET

At our Annual Meeting, June 6, 1993, the following budget was unanimously approved by the members of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship for the fiscal year of July 1, 1993 to June 30, 1994.

Projected Expenses	
Use of space at Innisfree:	
(Heat, light, insurance, etc.)	\$ 829.00
Religious Education:	
(Director \$1,100, Materials \$200)	1,300.00
Sunday childcare	180.00
Photocopying for Newsletter, etc.	210.00
Postage for Newsletter, etc.	300.00
Sunday Speakers and Program	200.00
Unitarian Universalist Association	
Annual Fund	510.00
Joseph Priestley District dues	109.00
Coffee Hour expenses	150.00
Office Supplies	50.00
Unitarian Universalist Literature	50.00
Social Concerns (To be designated by the Fellowship)	400.00
Sunshine	100.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total Projected Expenses	\$ 4,438.00

TURN PAGE FOR MORE ON THE BUDGET!!

Any gift made in the spirit of service to humanity is indeed a prayer.

Lao-Tse

HOW TO MEET

Our budget for 1993-94, as approved at our Annual Meeting, is modest and minimal -- containing items necessary for the functioning of our Fellowship and the continued presence of our liberal religious witness in this area.

OUR BUDGET

This budget of around \$4,000 will be met only if members and friends respond with financial pledges and commitments. No one is told what to give -- but we do suggest that members, in particular, have a responsibility to support the Fellowship. And we hope that many of our good friends will do so also.

So how do we meet a \$4,000 budget with our relatively small membership? To do so means we need an average income of about \$77 a week -- something well within our reach. There are several ways of doing this, based on the committed giving of individual or family units. For example:

- *17 units at \$5.00 a week equals \$85 or \$4,420 a year
- *8 units at \$10.00 a week equals \$80 or \$4,160 a year
- *20 units at \$4.00 a week equals \$80 or \$4,160 a year
- *7 units at \$50 a month equals \$350 a month or \$4,200 a year.

A variety of combinations can be suggested, all adding up to the fact that we need dedicated commitment. Not all individuals or families have the same financial circumstances or have the same ability to make a commitment. But we do hope that everyone will make some kind of basic commitment or pledge. No group, including ours, can function or exist by occasional or sporadic giving. To want the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship to be here 52 weeks a year means there must be 52-week-a-year financial commitments.

So please, respond to our budget! Ann Rue, our Treasurer, has commitment/pledge forms. Respond out of your own circumstances and ability, but give your support as generously as possible.

MAKE OUR FELLOWSHIP A SUNDAY PRIORITY!



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 123, Millanville, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN
(Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553)

NEW MEMBERS It is always a pleasure to welcome new members to our Fellowship. Among those who signed our Membership Book in recent months are:

Muriel Brewer
Lakeville, PA 18438

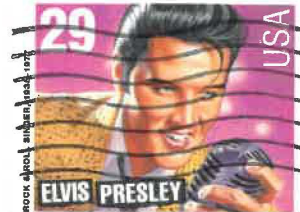
Tom Lissenbee
Lackawaxen, PA 18435

Any of our friends who are interested in becoming a member of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is invited to speak to Barbara or Ray Pontier or any of the members about signing our Membership Book.

*It's a good thing I'm not in charge here.
I could never have thought of a pine cone
or a pomegranate or a porcupine,
And even if I'd thought of one, how on earth
Would I have engineered a comet
Or organized life in a pond,
And where would I have found the energy
To make each and every snowflake different.
(It's more like me to come up
With one or two passable models,
Make a mold, crank 'em out).
And it's not like me at all to finish up
An entire mountain range, then go back
And carefully touch up with tiny forests of
moss
On the north side of every stone.
I've got a pretty good head for details
But it does seem likely that I'd have
Left off the dots on a ladybug's back,
And neglected to tie in each and every
Strand of silk to every kernel
Of every ear of corn;
Why, I lived in a house for two years
before I hung the curtains in the bedroom--
I'd probably never get around
To making a waterfall.*

Evi Seidman

REMEMBER: Our Fellowship has a Religious Education program and Childcare every Sunday.



Carmen & Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



Upper Delaware
 Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Newsletter

NOVEMBER
 1992

NOVEMBER SUNDAYS Some top-notch programs are planned as we meet each Sunday at 11 A. M. at Innisfree. Join us!



THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER AT INNISFREE

you and your family are invited to the Sixth Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship to be held at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. on November 26th.

Gathering Time is 1:00 P. M. for wine and snacks. Dinner will follow shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish for the meal -- salads, potatoes, vegetables, desserts, etc. will be needed. There will be a sign-up sheet at Fellowship; otherwise call 717-729-7197 or 914-252-7553.

November 1 - Barbara Pontier will present a provocative program about "May Sarton - Poet and Author." Claimed by UUs as one of their own, May Sarton has written 46 books, consisting of poetry, novels, journals and memoirs. Speaking out of her own experiences, she writes about life and living, the world and nature, good times and crisis times. Don't miss this presentation by the President of our Fellowship.

November 8 - Bill Ardis will speak to us about "Unitarian Universalists and Afro-Americans." He will be sharing his reactions to a recent conference he attended on this subject. Bill gave an informative and interesting talk last month about his trip to Cuba.

NOVEMBER 15 - "Election Postmortem!" Win or lose, joyful or sad, we will take this time to share our thoughts and feelings about the results of the November elections. Come and share!

November 22 - Getting a bit theological, Ray Pontier will speak about "God and the Unitarian Universalists." Bush made God a campaign issue, the Boy Scouts refused to accept an atheist. So what do we/you think? Does believing or not believing in God really matter?

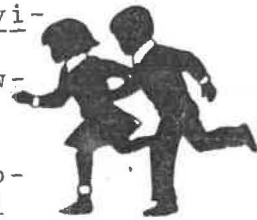
November 29 - The Honorable Joel M. Proyect, a South fallsburg attorney, will speak about his arrest and sentencing for growing and possessing marijuana. Mr. Proyect will discuss his case, which has received national attention, as well as federal mandatory sentencing law which says he must serve 5 years in prison. His case is under appeal. We should have a record crowd to hear him!

Fellowship members, family and friends are invited to be with us. But it is important to know about how many will attend! So please let us know how many will be coming in your party by signing up at the Fellowship or calling one of the above numbers. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A reminder and invitation! The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship

has a regular program of religious education for children ages three to ten. The program is held each Sunday at 11 A. M., with the focus on ethical values in an atmosphere of cultural, philosophic and doctrinal tolerance. Child care is also provided for younger children.



Let it be known that we are looking for a regular teacher! someone who identifies with the UU values of reason, freedom, and diversity. There is a nominal compensation of \$25 a week. If interested, call Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626.

In the meantime, our deepest appreciation to Loren Shlevin and Ann Rue who are volunteering their time and talents -- and doing a first-rate job! And, of course, continued thanks to Erin Howard who has been in charge of child-care for a long time.

P.S. - PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING AFTER NOV. 15TH SERVICE. PLEASE STAY!

BE SURE TO VOTE NOV. 3!

WELCOME A GUEST AT YOUR TABLE



Again this year "Guest At Your Table" coin boxes will be available to those who want to share in this project of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The boxes are to be returned either on Christmas Eve or the Sunday before Christmas -- with the money given to go for the works of compassion and justice by the Service Committee.

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HYMNBOOK

At the moment we have a total of 12 Hymnbooks being contributed by the following people:

Colette & Jesse Ballew
Bud & Anne Rue
Barbara & Ray Pontier
Gil Mende
Sharon Paige-Lissenbee
Barbara Lutz
Eve & Gerry Murphy
Helen & Tom Sidwell

The cost, until December 15, is \$25 a copy; after that \$30. Copies purchased for the Fellowship can be dedicated to or given in honor of anyone the donor chooses -- with such designation on the nameplate. If you are interested, speak to Bud Rue or Ray or Barbara Pontier.

This new UU Hymnbook is the work of many years, and contains over 400 hymns and songs, along with more than 300 readings. It will be available in May 1993. Now is the time to order!

BRIEFLY Helen and Tom Sidwell have sold their home in Eldred and are moving to Florida as permanent residents. Tom and Helen are Charter Members of the Fellowship. We will miss them very much -- and send them our very best! ***Our world traveler, Gil Mende, is off on another exotic trip to Australia, New Zealand, and Hawaii. Not to return here until April. Follow his travels in The River Reporter! ***Encouraging!! Attendance at the Fellowship has been twenty or more for several weeks in a row. Tell others about our fine Fellowship and great programs. ***Reserve 24th of December for our annual Christmas Eve service & program. Next Newsletter deadline is December 15th. Get notices, etc. to Ray Pontier.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE SIGNED UP FOR REFRESHMENTS -- TAKE NOTE:

November 1 -- Carmen & Tom Rue
November 8 -- Bud Rue
November 15-- Colette Ballew
November 22-- Barbara Pontier
November 29-- Ann Rue
December 6 -- MarJeana Howard
December 13-- Loren Shlevin
December 20-- Barbara Pontier
December 24 (Christmas Eve) Colette Ballew

SUGGESTION: POST THIS NEWSLETTER ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR DOOR OR BULLETIN BOARD.

"Don't walk in front of me.
I may not follow.
Don't walk behind me,
I may not lead.
Walk beside me
And just be my friend."

(Camus)

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443

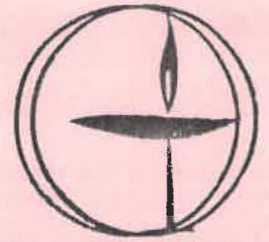


MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553

FEBRUARY

Newsletter 1992



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

Welcome Back! Sunday Services For February -- 11:00 A. M.

Now that our January recess is at an end, the Upper Delaware Fellowship resumes its regular services on the first Sunday of February. Give your support to this liberal religious fellowship by being with us every week!

February 2 - Each year, the UUA asks congregations to discuss a number of study resolutions to be presented to the General Assembly. One of them is titled, "Children Held in Custody by the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service." This program, about children who are considered "Illegals," will be led by Tom Rue.

February 9 - Maybe not glamorous, but our very important subject for this Sunday will be "Program Planning." This is the opportunity for every member and friend to offer her/his input regarding Sunday services for the months ahead. We need and want **your** ideas and suggestions --so please come and share!

February 16 - On this Sunday our ever-popular program of "Shared Readings" will be held. We will not hold you to it, but if possible bring a reading from a Black poet, author, writer. In any event, join in by reading whatever suits your mood and desire.

February 23 - Glenn Pontier, editor of **The River Reporter**, will be our speaker on the subject, "What Is The News?" Come and share the reflections of a local editor as he deals with the news of the Upper Delaware.

March 1 - A look ahead to a program by Sandra Proctor and her reservations about the Pennsylvania law regarding living will requirements in hospitals.



TOWARD A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a letter regarding a potential religious education program for the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. If you are a parent, please make a special effort to read the letter, give it serious thought -- and then return the short questionnaire printed below. Please clip it and

return to:

Upper Delaware UU Fellowship
Innisfree - River Road, Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443

What Shall Children Study?

All that quickens sympathetic imagining,
that awakens sensitivity to other's feelings,
all that enriches and enlarges understanding of the world;
all that strengthens courage,
that adds to the love of living;
all that leads to developing skills
needed for democratic participations --
all these put together are the curriculum
through which children learn.



PLEASE CLIP & MAIL

UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP

Are you interested in having a liberal religious education program for your children?

Yes No

I have children who might attend. Their ages are _____, _____, _____

I would be willing to take a turn helping or teaching:

Yes No

I will attend a meeting at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship on Sunday, March 8th at 11 A. M. to discuss plans for a religious education program

Yes No

PLEASE RETURN! Your response is an indication of interest, not a commitment.

**OPPORTUNITY
KNOCKS**

The Susquehanna Valley Area
(part of Joseph Priestley
District) is calling for vol-
unteers in two areas:

First, speakers are wanted for a Speakers
Bureau to be available to newer and small-
er congregations in the Susquehanna Valley.
Anyone interested is asked to speak to Tom
Rue or Ray Pontier.

Second, an Envoy is wanted for the Susque-
hanna Area. An Envoy is essentially a con-
tact person for the Area -- to relate news
and happenings of the Area back to the home
congregation. Again, if someone is inter-
ested, get in touch with Tom or Ray.

"We believe in a fellowship that shall
unite people, not in bonds of Confuc-
ian, or Mohammedan, or Christian love,
but in the holier bonds of human love,
going down, beneath all that separates
and estranges, to the principles of
freedom and understanding; below reli-
gions to religion; . . . a union,
not of religious systems, but of
free souls united to build up, on
the basis of truth, justice, and
love, the divine Commonwealth of
Humanity."
(--Alfred Martin)

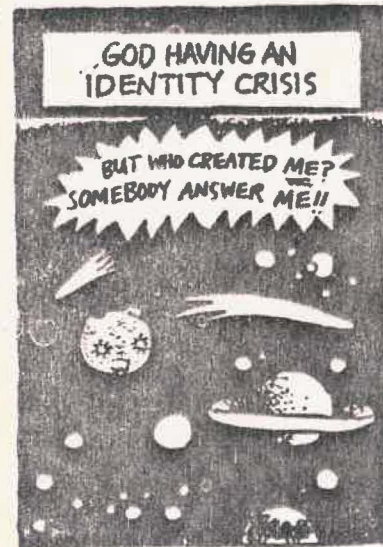
Yet it is not our part
to master all the tides
of the world,
but to do what is in us
for the succor of those
years wherein we are set,
uprooting the evil in the
fields that we know,
so that those who live
after us may have clean
earth to till.

What weather they shall have
is not ours to rule.

J.R.R. Tolkien

**BITS 'N
PIECES**

Have you been reading Gil
Mende's letters in **The River
Reporter**? They appear period-
ically and are most interesting. ***The
River School has received the much-needed
check for \$4,500 from the Unitarian Univer-
salist GRants Panel -- thanks to the Upper
Delaware UU Fellowship. ***Barbara and Ray
Pontier never made it to Florida in January
because of a few health problems. ***Dead-
line for next Newsletter is February 16th.
Get notices, etc. to Ray Pontier -- write it
down! ***Your regular financial support of
the Fellowship is needed. Expenses continue,
even when we take a month off. ***Did you
know that on Sunday, April 5th there will be
a huge MARCH FOR WOMEN'S LIVES in Washington,
D. C. -- in support of Freedom of Choice for
women. An especially critical gathering in
view of the possible reversal of Roe v. Wade
by the Supreme Court.



WE HOPE TO WELCOME YOU
BACK ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY
2ND AT ELEVEN A.M.!!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
MEETING AT "INNISFREE" -- RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

PO Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443

consulting minister, Rev. Raymond J. Pontier
president of fellowship, Thomas S. Rue

Re: A Religious Education Program at
the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship

Dear Friends:

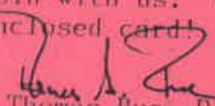
At a recent meeting, the members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship decided on a major commitment to develop a program of religious education for children and young people. As you probably know, the Upper Delaware Fellowship meets every Sunday at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville. It is our intention to have the Religious Education Program held during this same hour, using the facilities of the Recreation Hall as well as some space in the River School.

We believe there is a definite desire and need for such a program of liberal and non-dogmatic religious education. But before we make plans, it is essential that we have indications of interest from parents. You can help by taking a few minutes to fill out and return the enclosed card. Please return the card even if you are not interested. What we need is a sense of the potential number of children who might attend.

Unitarian Universalism is quite unique in the spectrum of religious groups, for it has no binding creeds or dogmas. We believe that the ethical insights of religion are more important than abstract doctrines, and that the use of reason takes precedence over special revelations. Our first concern is the development of the child as a confident and creative individual, with a sense of her/his worth and dignity. In view of this, Unitarian Universalist curriculum material includes the following premises:

- **Assumes that life is good and is worth living, and that people are basically good
- **Does not deal with the supernatural, but regards religion as part of the natural world.
- **Is based on current insights into child development and child psychology.
- **Recognizes the age and ability of each individual child.
- **Deals with the child's world, with religion at his/her own level.
- **Teaches the Bible only when the child is old enough to understand it, and then from the viewpoint of modern scholarship.
- **Asks questions more than it tries to answer them. Aims at helping children learn to answer the questions for themselves.
- **Helps ideas to grow and develop; encourages independent thinking.
- **Recognizes that there is truth in most churches, most religions, and helps the child look for this truth.

In order to provide more information, we invite you to attend a special program regarding a religious education program to be held Sunday, March 8th at 11:00 A. M. to be held at Innisfree in Milanville. If you see the need for such a program and identify with our goals and objectives, we do hope you will join with us. Come with your questions and suggestions. And please, return the enclosed card!


Thomas Rue, President


Raymond J. Pontier, Minister



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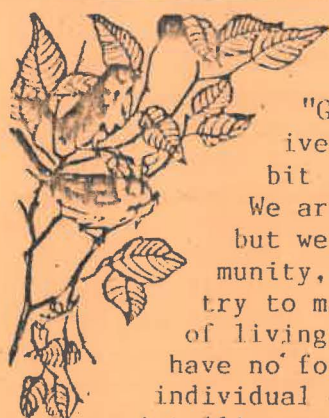
FREEDOM
REASON
DIVERSITY

M A Y

Newsletter 1992



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



THE SUNDAYS IN MAY

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.....

central to our movement.

"Going to church" with Unitarian Universalists on a Sunday morning is a bit different from more orthodox modes. We are less formal, less liturgical -- but we try to be high on a sense of community, on friendliness, but above all we try to make sense of religion and business of living. We defend no sacred cows, we have no forbidden questions. The right of individual conscience, the use of reason and intelligence, and diversity of thought are all

So come to church with us on Sunday at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville. Listed belows are our programs for the month of May.

May 3 - "Some Pro's and Con's of Capital Punishment." The number of people in prison is on the rise, the number of executions is on the rise, and the amount of crime everywhere is on the rise. So are there any answers? More prisons, more arrests, more people executed in electric chairs and gas chambers? The program will consist of a brief presentation by Ray Pontier and followed by a discussion and sharing of opinions by those attending.

May 10 - Someone from Planned Parenthood will speak about this very fine organization that has worked so hard for the needs of women. Planned Parenthood is about much more than abortion, but is concerned with a broad range of the needs of women in our society. This is a meaningful program for this Mothers Day Sunday.

May 17 - Shannon Robbins will deliver remarks entitled "Witchcraft in Daily Life." A resident of Monticello, Shannon is an ordained minister of the National Alliance of Pantheists, a religious group based near Boston. Some may remember Shannon, her husband Carl, and their family when they attended our annual Thanksgiving meal in November.

May 24 - "An Introduction to Ralph Waldo Emerson" will be the program led by the Rev. Raymond J. Pontier. We will have some background on the life of this famous Unitarian and also listen to one of his essays.

May 31 - The ever-popular program of "Shared Readings" will be featured this Sunday. Suggestion: bring a reading dealing with women's rights. Or, of course, read whatever appeals to you for that date!

UNITARIANS SEEK RELIGIOUS TEACHER

MILANVILLE — The Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is now accepting teacher applications for a youth religious education (RE) program slated to begin June 7.

In addition to preparing and teaching the 1½ hour Sunday curriculum, the position involves obtaining materials, coordinating volunteers, working in cooperation with the religious education committee, and handling finances. The ideal applicant would have a teaching background as well as some familiarity with Unitarian Universalism, although this is not required. Cultural, philosophical and doctrinal tolerance, and an ability to communicate these and other ethical values to children, are essential requirements.

The deadline for applications is April 26, when interviews will be conducted by the RE committee. The 11-month position will be salaried at \$1200 per year.

The fellowship meets at Innisfree in Milanville.

Applicants, or parents interested in enrolling their children, may call RE chair Glenn Pontier at 914/252-7414 or fellowship president Tom Rue at 914/791-7014.

IF YOU, OR ANYONE YOU KNOW, IS INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION AS AN R. E. DIRECTOR, PLEASE RESPOND!

UNBIASED CHILDREN?

Parents tell me continuously that they do not give their children any religious training, from the feeling that it is taking unfair advantage of the child. They say, "I propose to let my children grow up as far as possible unbiased."

If you do not bias the children, the first one that they meet on the street, or in the school, or among their companions, will begin the work of biasing, of impression, of education, for this is a continuous process. Whether you will or not, it is something over which you have no choice. It is something that will be done either wisely and well, or unwisely and ill.

adapted from Minot Savage
Minister, Church of the Messiah
1896-1906

ALBERT EINSTEIN: "You cannot simultaneously prevent and prepare for war."

On Wednesday, May 6th at 7:30 P. M. there will be a meeting to form a chapter of Amnesty International. The meeting will be held in the Recreation Hall at Innis-free in Milanville, PA.

Amnesty International is a vital organization that shows special regard to prisoners of conscience and political prisoners throughout the world.

Anyone who is interested is invited to attend the meeting. For more information, call Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626.

WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING:
VIEWS ON RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

The great end in religious instruction, whether in the Sunday School or family, is, not to stamp our minds irresistibly on the young, but to stir up their own; not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own; not to give them a definite amount of knowledge, but to inspire a fervent love of truth; not to form an outward regularity, but to quicken and strengthen the power of thought; not to bind them by ineradicable prejudices to our particular sect or peculiar notions, but to prepare them for impartial, conscientious judging of whatever subjects may, in the course of Providence, be offered to their decision; not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules which rest on no foundation but our own word and will, but to awaken the consciousness, the moral discernment, so that they may discern and approve for themselves what is everlastingly right and good.

(From an 1830 talk. Still valid!)

MAINTAIN THE BOND OF FELLOWSHIP.
SUPPORT OUR LIBERAL RELIGIOUS
COMMUNITY. BE WITH US SUNDAYS!

BRIEFLY NOTED Bon Voyage to Bud and Ann Rue who are heading to England and adjacent areas for several weeks in May. Best wishes! ***The last we heard of Gil Mende was that he was in France, and will be meeting up with Ann and Bud later. ***Ray and Barbara Pontier will not be here for the May 17th program. Ray will be giving the Charge to the Minister at the ordination of the Rev. Robin Capoor, his successor at the Lakeland UU Fellowship in Wayne, NJ. ***Thanks to Greg Pontier and his guitar, we had great singing at our Easter Sunday service. It would be great to have such singing often! ***Did you know that both Unitarian and Universalists originated at the time of the Protestant Reformation? And did you know that the Unitarians and the Universalists merged as one denomination in 1962? ***Would you like to know more about history and beliefs of Unitarian Universalism? Ray Pontier is willing to lead several sessions on Sundays before our regular service, starting about 10 A. M. If interested, let him know.



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
River Road, PO Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443-0123





Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

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J U L Y
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SUNDAY MORNINGS IN JULY

Meet with us every Sunday morning at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. -- just across the bridge at Skinners Falls. Join us for good programs, good fellowship, and spiritual and intellectual stimulation.

July 5 - "Around The World in 180 Days (More or Less)." Our own Gil Mende will share some of the highlights of his six to seven month trip to ports and cities all around the world. Some of you may have read his fine articles in The River Reporter while he was away. He has just recently returned to this country, after ending up in England, and has consented to tell about some of his adventures. Make a special effort to attend this program which promises to be of high interest!

July 12 - "Values According to Murphy Brown, Vice President Quail, or Who?" We are all concerned about value systems -- but what are the ingredients and who determines them? We will have a chance to discuss them, and to see where Unitarian Universalists place their emphases.

July 19 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject: "Concerning Relationships and Friendships." No one is an island. We share our space with other people. We develop relationships, good and bad. We have and need friendships. The talk will deal with varied aspects -- with some insights from an Essay by Emerson.

July 26 - "The Presidential Candidates: Pro's and Con's" Everybody else is talking about them, so let us do our own analysis. Three brief presentations will be given: Loren Shlevin on Perot, Ann Rue on Clinton, and Ray Pontier on Bush. Everyone will be given the chance to throw in their two or three cents worth.

COMING IN AUGUST: our Annual Anniversary Dinner at an area restaurant. Maybe on August 2nd -- but date and details will be in next Newsletter. We will celebrate the beginning of our sixth year as a UU Fellowship!

The best portion of a good life is found in little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness.

Wordsworth

BEGINNING OUR PROGRAM OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Starting Sunday

July 12th



We are new at it -- but on Sunday, July 12th at 11:00 A. M. we will initiate our program of liberal, child-centered, religious education. We invite parents who are concerned about meaningful values in our complex society to consider having their child/children attend.

We are pleased and fortunate to have Loren Shlevin as the person who will direct the program over the summer months. Loren is a member of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship, and a practicing attorney who lives and works in the Delaware River Valley. In asking for some personal data, she said that "she believes in the principles embodied in the Unitarian Universalist philosophy which reflect the spiritual, intellectual and philosophic approach needed for a fully integrated life and purpose." She also noted that she volunteered to help organize this R. E. program because of her belief in and respect for children.

As we begin our program we continue to look for three things:

1) Children of parents who are interested in a liberal approach to religion. Without children, of course, there can be no program.

2) Parents and members of the Fellowship who will take turns assisting on Sundays in the program. Probably no more than once a month. Loren cannot do it alone!

3) Someone to take on the position of a Director of Religious Education for a nominal compensation. Hopefully to start in September.

Our Fellowship feels this is an important venture. We hope many families agree with us. We invite your participation! If you have questions, call Loren Shlevin at 914-932-8781 or Glenn Pontier (Committee Chair) at 914-252-6626.

BRIEFLY NOTED On a recent June Sunday we were pleased to see Gil Mende, home from his trip around the world; Ann and Bud Rue back from Ireland and England; Helen and Tom Sidwell here from Florida for the summer. ***John Rue is currently in England and will be back in August, *** Barbara and Ray Pontier spent a long weekend at American University in Washington, DC to attend a Bertrand Russell Conference. ***At our annual business meeting in June, new officers and trustees were elected -- too late to be printed in this Newsletter, but will be listed in the next issue. ***Laurie Stuart was recently the featured singer at The Orchard Inn. ***Did you know that Glenn Pontier teaches four courses at an Elderhostel at The Koinonia Conference Center -- on Journalism, the Delaware River, the Art of Storytelling, and American Pacifists. ***

Wanted! More items of interest for the Newsletter: personal or otherwise. Get them and all notices to Ray Pontier on or before August 16th. In writing! ***The River School is taking registrations for the fall semester. ***The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is a small group of people committed to the principles of liberal religion. We welcome others who share our concerns for a faith built on Reason, Individual Freedom of Conscience, and Diversity. Give us a try some Sunday soon. ***We were happy to have Loren Shlevin sign our Membership Book recently! We welcome her to our Fellowship as a member.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Glenn Pontier, Chair, Ann Rue, Colette Ballew, Loren Shlevin and Carmen Rue.

HOPE TO SEE YOU SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN!

ON BEING PART OF A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

The following guest column is by the Rev. Bruce Southworth, minister of the Community UU Church in New York City. We share some of his thoughts about our liberal religious tradition as Unitarian Universalists.

What does it mean to be part of a religious community—a liberal religious community? Answers are as varied as each member, but themes emerge.

We seek wholeness (traditionally called salvation.) Freedom to be who we are, to discover our best selves, to grow our souls, to think for ourselves about religious living—such freedom encourages us in the search for wholeness. Celebration of Life arises.

We seek principles to guide our living. Religious traditions from around the world inform our lives, and we weave them with the lessons of history, science, art, literature—all realms of human endeavor. The searching – critical, appreciative mind leads to self-understanding and leads us to those principles of caring, compassion and action that contribute to spiritual health and wholeness.

We seek companionship and community. Interdependence is the reality of all life, and the spark of the divine within

each of us responds to the spark within one another. We need not be all alone if we learn to risk vulnerability, dare to be open, and welcome the new. It becomes safe to be different and to become who we can be in our fullness and vibrancy. We know we can transcend the moments of brokenness and reclaim the health within us.

Here kindred spirits work at trusting Life's goodness and beauty to overcome our fear of its pain and heartache. Here we help transform the world.

*Wholeness and celebration
Freedom and liberation.
Principles to live by.
The searching, critical, appreciative mind.*

*Companionship and community
Interdependence and individuality.
Trust and transformation.*
For me these elements of religious community (which are by no means

exhaustive) distinguish the liberal religious adventure. For me, they are absolutely essential for my life.

Out of them arise courage, hope and vision, and I share with you again words of my colleague, Greta Crosby:

Ultimately our trust is in the spirit that will not be quelled forever, that rises up in people from some mysterious source, energy that comes again to affirm that people matter, their needs and aspirations matter, and that the conditions of people's flourishing is the cultivation of truth and love.

The cultivation of truth and love—there is no better place than here to plant and tend the seeds of truth and love, and thus with joy to grow our souls.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



MEETING AT INNISFREE
SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

NOVEMBER

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAY SERVICES

IN NOVEMBER

Robert Burns speaks of this month as a time "When chill November's surly blast/ Made fields and forests bare." We invite you to brighten up the days ahead by joining us at our services every Sunday at 11:00 A. M.

November 3 - We will have one of our favorite do-it-yourself programs of "Shared Readings." You may read whatever suits you, but the focus will be on some aspect of Unitarian Universalism. Dig through some past UU Worlds or some of the resources available at the Fellowship.

November 10 - Dorothy Cameron and Tom Oliva, who recently signed our Membership Book, will be leading a program: "Meditation and Religion in the Artist's Life." Dorothy and Tom offer weekend programs at Innisfree. We look forward to having them with us and to their presentation.

November 17 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "The Therapy of Thanks." During this month of a National Thanksgiving Day, we need to remember that being thankful is an attitude and frame of mind, not just a ceremonial occasion. The talk will explore some of the implications of Thanksgiving and giving thanks.

November 24 - The Rev. Sidney Peterman, District Consultant for the Joseph Priestley District of the UUA, will be our speaker. Syd is most knowledgeable about the churches and fellowships in the Unitarian Universalist Association, and will be helpful in our situation as a new Fellowship. He is coming all the way from Wilmington, Delaware just to be with us -- so please make every effort to attend!!

Thursday, November 28 - Upper Delaware UU Thanksgiving Dinner. See the notice in the next column.

THANKSGIVING DAY

DINNER

AT INNISFREE

This is your invitation to the 5th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to be held at Innisfree in Milanville on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November the 28th.

Gathering time is 1:00 P. M. for wine and snacks. Dinner will follow shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish for the meal. Someone will be in touch with you to suggest what you should bring and to make certain that there will be a variety.

Fellowship members, family, and friends are invited to be with us for the dinner. But it is important to know approximately how many will attend! So we ask you, please let us know how many will be coming in your party by signing up at the Fellowship on Sunday -- or calling Innisfree at 717-729-7197, or Carmen and Tom Rue at 914-791-7014, or Barbara and Ray Pontier at 914-252-7553.

We look forward to a great day!

THE RIVER SCHOOL

OPEN

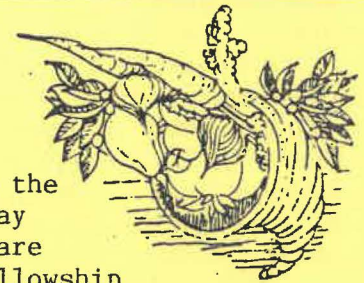
HOUSE

On Saturday, November 2nd, from 11:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. the River School will hold an Open House at its new facilities at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa.

Anyone who is interested is invited to come and see the school, enjoy refreshments, along with entertainment for young people.

The River School is parent-run, and is under the auspices of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.

Thank you, dear God, for this good life
and forgive us if we do not love it enough.
Garrison Keillor



BRIEFLY

NOTED

Our very best wishes to Tom and Helen Sidwell who have headed to Florida for the winter. Their address: 1225 N. W. 21st Street, Stuart, FL 34994. ***Margaret Bryant, we really miss you! Please get well soon. ***Many thanks to Muriel Brewer who recently gave a big box of candles to the Fellowship for our Sunday use. ***Upper Delaware UU's have been in the news recently. Tom Rue had an excellent letter in area papers about our Upper Delaware Fellowship, The Weekly Gazette in Honesdale had a very nice profile of Gil Mende, and in that same paper Ray Pontier had a pro-choice article. ***The deadline for the next Newsletter is Sunday, November 17th. It will be appreciated if you get notices, in writing, to Ray Pontier. ***Looking ahead: on Christmas Eve at 7:30 PM, the Upper Delaware UU will again have a program of candlelight and carols. Mark your calendars.***The cartoon below is dedicated to Barbara & Sharon Pontier who have been wrestling with higher math -- as well as to all math illiterates.

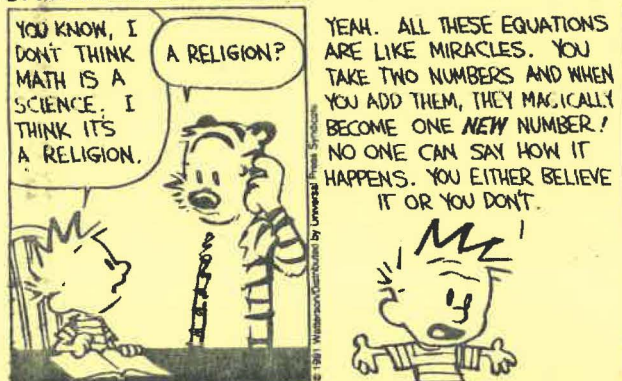
UNBIASED CHILDREN?
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 adapted from Minot Savage
 Minister, Church of the Messiah
 (Unitarian Minister) 1896-1906

On December 8th we will be discussing our need as a Fellowship for a viable religious education program for children. Very important for our future as well as for young people!

We don't do a lot of talking about money. But it is a real need if we are to have a meaningful Fellowship with creative programs. It is hoped that every member and friend will contribute regularly.

BE SURE TO BE WITH US TO HEAR SID PETERMAN!!

CALVIN AND HOBBS



Bill Watterson



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
 Meeting at "Innisfree" - River Road, Box 123
 Milanville, PA 18443



For Information: 717-729-7197
 914-252-7553

DECEMBER

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



THE DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES

We invite you to join us during this month of high holy days for Jews and Christians who celebrate Hanukkah and Christmas.

December 1 - Jill Koepke will be in charge of a program dealing with "Hanukkah" which begins on Monday, December 2nd. Jill and Dave Koepke live in Honesdale, and are relatively new members of our Fellowship.

December 8 - Unitarian Universalists talk a lot about "R. E." which is shorthand for Religious Education. Our Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is particularly interested in starting an R. E. Program for children and youth. We will discuss what such a program will mean to our Fellowship, what resources are available, and what it will take to start one. Please be with us. We need your input!

December 15 - Edris Artis will conduct a program on "Reflections on Interracial Issues and Concerns." Edris lives in New York City and has a home in Narrowsburg. She frequently attends our Fellowship when in this area. She will be discussing a very vital issue out of personal experiences.

December 22 - Ray Pontier, Consulting Minister for the Fellowship, will speak on the subject: "Jesus the Man, Human and Humanist." Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus. UUs part company with orthodox Christians when it comes to concepts of Jesus' divinity -- and this talk will relate to the meaningful aspects of a very human Jesus.

December 24th at 7:30 P. M. our Fellowship will have a Christmas Eve Program of carols and candlelight. Everyone invited!

CHRISTMAS EVE

AT
ooo

INNISFREE

On Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7:30 P. M. you are invited to join us for a program of Carols and Candlelight. All members and friends are invited. Be sure to bring the children!



OUR JANUARY RECESS & WINTER BREAK

In deference to the cold weather, possible snow and freaks of nature, the Upper Delaware Fellowship will not have Sunday Services and programs during the month of January. Regular programs and services will be resumed on Sunday, February 2nd. The program leader for that Sunday will be Tom Rue.

WE

WELCOME A bit late -- but we bid a very warm welcome to Beverley Sacks who signed our Membership Book on October the 27th of this year. Beverley lives at:

Box 5
White Lake, NY 12786
(914-583-7772)

GUEST
AT
YOUR
TABLE



Unitarian Universalist
Service Committee

It is hoped that most of our members and friends will participate in "The Guest at Your Table" program which runs from Thanksgiving to Christmas. Boxes for your daily sharing are available -- with the money going to help people in such places as El Salvador, Jamaica, the Sudan, the Philippines, and India. The UU Service Committee is one of the most respected service organizations in the world. Boxes are to be returned to the Fellowship on Christmas Eve or a Sunday before. Please sign your name and address on the cover portion of the box.



RIVER SCHOOL TO GET GRANT FROM UUA

The Unitarian Universalist Grants Panel recently voted to support The River School with a grant of \$4,500. The River School is a UU-sponsored parent-administered Montessori elementary school located at Innisfree. The school educates the children of the community in accordance with the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship's Statement of Purpose. The grant was given to assist in renovation of the school building.

According to a letter to our Fellowship president, Tom Rue, from UU Funding Program grants administrator Katherine Kelly The River School's proposal was one of 31 received. Over \$368,000 in funding was requested. All told, the panel made grants to 15 projects for a total of \$104,550.

The only "string" attached to the grant was that ". . . all communications, publicity and publications connected with [The River School] include the following or equivalent acknowledgement: "This project is funded in part by the Fund for Unitarian Universalism." This is in addition to the statement which the school has already agreed to make in its promotional material affirming sponsorship by the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.

Ms Kelly stated a check should arrive from the UUA around the middle of December. After that, and after the terms of the Articles of Agreement between the Fellowship and the school have been signed and finalized, Fellowship treasurer Carmen Rue will turn the amount over to River School treasurer in a public ceremony.

Many thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Association -- and congratulations to The River School!

UUA ANNUAL

PROGRAM

FUND

At the Annual Meeting of our Fellowship it was voted to pay our Fair Share Contribution to the Annual Program Fund of the UU Association. Money from the Annual Fund goes to support and advance the work and outreach of the UUA in the United States and Canada. It includes, incidently, as subscription to the UU World for each member or family of a UU church or fellowship -- and in a larger way it assures that cause of liberal religion is kept alive and well.

The Fair Share for this year is \$26.00 a member -- and based on twenty members, our total will come to \$520 for the year.

Nothing is really free in this life or world -- including religion. If we want a vital Fellowship and believe our Unitarian Universalist heritage is worth keeping and spreading, then we need to support it. The Fair Share, of course, comes to only 50 cents a week per member, but support for our local Fellowship is considerably more. Realistic commitment means more than an occasional dollar or so in the tambourine but provides resources for the long haul.

IN

Gil Mende is off and flying for his BRIEF trip around the world. We wish him well! ***Barbara and Ray Pontier will be heading for Florida after Christmas -- for all of January and perhaps beyond. ***Thanks to all who participated in the Thanksgiving Day Dinner. Thirty or more attended, according to pre-dinner sign-ups. Don't forget: no Sunday services in January.

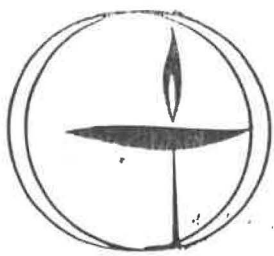
MERRY CHRISTMAS!
HAPPY HANUKKAH!
JOYFUL WINTER SOLSTICE!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
MEETING AT "INNISFREE" -- RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443

Season's Greetings

For Information: 717-~~727~~-7553
914-252-7553

729-7197



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

OCTOBER
1992

SUNDAYS

IN

OCTOBER

Join us every Sunday at 11 A. M. as we meet at Innisfree in Milanville for a time of inspiration, reflection, and fellowship.



OCTOBER 4 - Kicking off our October schedule will be Tom Kane -- who has a fascinating background. Presently working for the Community Resource Center of Sullivan County, a writer and opera singer by avocation, Tom Kane was formerly a Roman Catholic priest and a member of a Catholic Order. He says: "After much soul-searching and disillusionment with the Catholic Church leadership, I left the priesthood and the community." Tom will share some of his religious pilgrimage with us. Don't miss it!

October 11 - And you will not want to miss this program either! Our speaker will be Kevin Ardis, a student who spent time in Ghana during the summer. Africa is very much in the news -- and Kevin will share something about his visit and his thinking. Kevin is the son of Bill and Edris Ardis.

October 18 - A third winner for October will be Barbara Yeaman who will deal with some aspect of an environmental concern. Barbara really needs no introduction, She hails from Milanville, is a frequent writer for The River Reporter, along with having many of her photographs printed. It will be a pleasure to have her speak to us again.

October 25 - Winding up the month will be the Rev. Ray Pontier who will speak on the subject: "Pat Robertson and Other Assorted Right-Wing Fundamentalists." In "embracing" Robertson and similar religious extremists, Bush and the Republicans are aiding and abetting the enemies of democracy and the First Amendment. The talk will deal with some of the characteristics of fundamentalism in our time.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS AND COFFEE HOUR

One of the common rituals in just about every Unitarian Universalist congregation is the Coffee-Hour following the morning service. It is a time for more than coffee or tea, but an occasion to visit, to get to know one another better, and to continue any discussion of the program of the day.

To make our Coffee-Hour possible means having someone take a turn on a Sunday morning. Not hard to do! Directions are as follow:

- 1) Put on a pot of hot water before the service.
- 2) Provide cookies or cake for the refreshments. Make it simple.
- 3) Bring milk or creamer for the coffee.
- 4) Clean up after the Coffee-Hour.

Coffee, tea, cups, and napkins are already at the Fellowship, so there is no need to bring them. And in case you forget milk, we will try to have dried coffee-creamer on hand.

WHEN THE SIGN-UP SHEET COMES AROUND,
TAKE A TURN!

HOW ABOUT NAME TAGS! The majority of UU Fellowships use name-tags. So much easier for those of us who have faulty memories! We did it for awhile, but somehow stopped. It may be time to revive the practice. In recent months we have had an increase in visitors and new people attending -- and for their sake, especially, the use of name tags would be most helpful. Let's hear your views!

BOARD

MEETINGS

It has been decided that a short Board Meeting will be held the last Sunday of each month. All Board members are urged to attend, but all other members of the Fellowship are invited to attend and to share their opinions.

WAYNE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

TV PHONE AUCTION

The Fund Raising Committee is currently planning an auction in conjunction with Channel 6 of Honesdale. Donated articles will be listed on Channel 6 and viewers will be invited to bid on these items. After an item has run for three weeks, the highest bidder will be the lucky buyer. The item for sale will remain in the hands of the contributor until the sale is completed. Since Channel 6 is making no charge to us for broadcast time, the entire proceeds of the auction will go to Habitat.

NEEDED:

1. Volunteers to solicit goods and services.
2. Contributions of goods—check your attic, closets, basement, and garage.
3. Contributions of services—consider your talents that might be of marketable value which you could donate to the Habitat auction.

CONTACTS:

Marjean Howard (717)253-3742
Mary Bajka (717)685-7601

ON BEING A MEMBER

Becoming a member of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is not difficult. It takes place by the simple act of signing our Membership Book which is prominently displayed at Innisfree. Just speak to our President, Barbara Pontier, the minister, or one of the members.

Membership, of course, is a commitment, not just a whim. Several things are implied:

- 1) A commitment to the basic principles of liberal religion as expressed through Unitarian Universalism. It is suggested that you read the Principles & Purposes of the Unitarian Universalist Association, as well as the Statement of Purpose of our Fellowship.
- 2) A commitment to support the services and programs of the Upper Delaware Fellowship. We don't keep score or ask the impossible -- but the local Fellowship is the heartbeat of our movement -- and without member support and participation it will fail and die.
- 3) Regular financial support. Not even liberal religion lives on good will or good intentions. We have a modest but necessary budget. It needs the sustained support of all who are members and supportive friends.

WE WELCOME

Edris Artis who recently signed our Membership Book. She and her family have dual addresses:

Luxton Lake, Narrowsburg, NY 12764
and

420 East 120 Street, New York, NY 10035

THE UU HYMNBOOK — Barbara Lutz, as well as Eve & Gerry Murphy have signed up to purchase UU Hymnbooks -- making a total of ten hymnbooks for the Fellowship. Anyone else interested is urged to speak to Ray Pontier or Bud Rue. Be sure to indicate how a book is to be dedicated. Hymnbooks will be delivered in the summer of 1993. 'Till December \$5 the pre-publication price is \$25.00 a copy.

IF YOU ARE ...

If you are looking for a religious community in which to seek spiritual growth...
If you are eager to consider religious questions with others who are not always certain they have all the answers, but who are determined to keep searching for them...
If you would like the fellowship of others for celebration and worship, discussion and education, friendship and mutual support...
If you want children to be helped to develop their own religious beliefs...
If you wish to preserve and extend the traditions of personal freedom and human dignity against the dangers they face today...

You should get to know us. Let us get to know you!

Name _____ Address _____

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553

Carmen and Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Newsletter

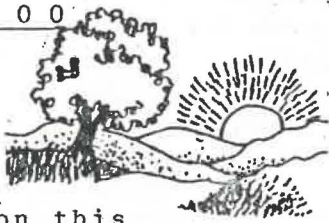
MEETING AT INNISFREE
MILANVILLE, PA
SEPTEMBER
1992

SUNDAYS AT 11:00

IN

SEPTEMBER

September 6 - As we head out of the summer and in the fall, our program on this



first Sunday of September will be one of Shared Readings. Members and friends are invited to bring a favorite reading on a theme of their choosing -- poetry or prose, serious or humorous. Or, of course, you can just come and listen. This is your program!

September 13 - Among the many courses Glenn Pontier teaches regularly at Elderhostels is one on "American Pacifists." He will share some of his thoughts on this subject with us on this Sunday. Glenn is Editor of The River Reporter. Much of what he has to say comes out of his experience as a resister to the Vietnam War who spent a year in Federal prison for the sake of conscience and principle.

September 20 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "Liberals, Conservatives, and Extremists." In the last Presidential election, and continuing in this, was a knee-jerk reaction against the word "Liberal." Similar reactions are also seen against Conservatives and Extremists. So how do we define these terms? And do we have to be squeezed in one ideological box?

September 27 - Our speaker will be Alice Scott from the Job Corp in our area. She will be talking about "A Second Chance For Disadvantaged Youth." A significant topic during these times of unemployment and underemployment.

SINGING THE LIVING TRADITION - A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST HYMNBOOK

The first UU Hymnbook in over 30 years will be available in 1993, with over 400 hymns and songs, plus 318 readings. Pre-publication price is \$25 until December 15th (\$30 after that date).

It is hoped that our Fellowship can buy a minimum of ten copies, and we invite members and friends to purchase one or more copies for the Fellowship. Copies can be given in memory of someone or dedicated to someone.

At the present time we have seven copies promised:

- 2 from Ann & Bud Rue
- 2 from Barbara & Ray Pontier
- 2 from Gil Mende
- 1 from Sharon Paige-Lissenbee

We hope others will join in! Checks can be sent to Bud Rue, Treasurer, payable to the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. Also be sure to indicate exactly how the Hymnbook is to be dedicated. A dedication-plate will be placed in each book. Please do it soon so we can meet the December 15th deadline.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Now that kids will soon be back to school, we hope members and friends will be thinking of the program of Religious Education here at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.



The program is held each Sunday at 11:00 A. M. for children age 3 to 10. (There is also child-care for younger children.) For information, call Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626.

IF YOU ARE...

- If you are looking for a religious community in which to seek spiritual growth...
- If you are eager to consider religious questions with others who are not always certain they have all the answers, but who are determined to keep searching for them...
- If you would like the fellowship of others for celebration and worship, discussion and education, friendship and mutual support...
- If you want children to be helped to develop their own religious beliefs...
- If you wish to preserve and extend the traditions of personal freedom and human dignity against the dangers they face today...

You should get to know us. Let us get to know you!

Name _____ Address _____

A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS COVENANT

Mindful of truth ever exceeding our knowledge
And compassion ever exceeding our practice,
Reverently we covenant together, beginning with ourselves as we are,
To share the strength of integrity and the heritage of the spirit
In our unending quest for reality, justice and love.

adapted, Walter Royal Jones, Jr.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Sometimes bad things happen and yet something good comes from the bad. We don't have enough perspective on life in any given instant to be able to say with certainty whether, over time, a particular event will be beneficial or harmful in our lives. I am reminded of an old Chinese story of wisdom that a friend once told me, so I will relate a short variation of the wise tale.

A farmer awoke one morning to find a wild horse had wandered onto his farm looking for food. He put the horse in with his horses and his neighbors exclaimed how lucky it was that such a fine horse had come to him. He replied, "Maybe it is, maybe it isn't." The next evening the horse broke the fence and all his horses ran away. Was this bad? "Maybe it is, maybe it isn't." Then the government came through to tax all the property and the domestic animals, but his tax was low because of the lack of horses. Later his horses came back, including the wild one -- was this good? "Maybe..." except that his son was then motivated to tame the wild horse, so it wouldn't run away again -- and in the process was thrown and broke his arm and was laid up in bed and couldn't farm. Was it bad? "Maybe..." But then the army came through and conscripted all able young men in the village, but left the son laid up in bed. Was this good or bad? "Maybe..." and the story continues.

Some people say there is a silver lining in every cloud; others are afraid that good will only bring disaster. There is also the idea that the Universe is oblivious to good and bad -- that these are just our own perceptions. Perhaps the wisdom of the story is that we take what comes, and recognize that our opinion of "good" or "bad" may change as time unfolds.

From *The First Unitarian Church, Richmond, VA*, Robert F. Renjilian, minister:

WE JOIN IN THE WELCOME AND BEST WISHES!!
(From *We* v Almanac 7/31/92)

Melinda Ruth Koepke Arrives, And Oh, What A Greeting Was Waiting for Her

Melinda Ruth Koepke recently arrived to her parents, David R. and Jill G. Koepke of Honesdale.

She was born Jan. 23, in Guatemala where her parents, through an arrangement with Today's Adoption Agency, met and brought her into their lives.

The maternal grandmother, Eloise Glasgall of Hoboken, N.J., kept the family restaurant, the Harvest Cafe in Honesdale, perking for the few days the Koepkes

were away. Melinda is Mrs. Glasgall's first grandchild.

The paternal grandparents are, Milton E. Koepke of Leesburg, Florida, and the late Ruth Koepke.

Melinda is Mr. Koepke's 11th grandchild.

After a long flight home from Guatemala City, the family was greeted by many cards, balloons, flowers and well-wishers who came to the restaurant.

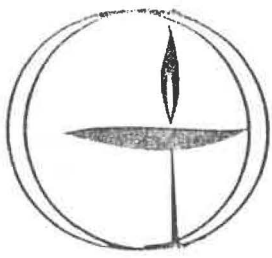
A B O U T On Sunday, August 16th, twenty
T H I S members and friends of the Fellowship gathered at the Beach Lake
A N D Hotel for a delicious Brunch to
T H A T celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Fellowship. It does not seem possible that we are beginning our sixth year as a liberal religious group! We have an important role to play in the Delaware Valley, and we thank all who have supported it so faithfully. ***Among our travelers: John Rue has returned from his trip to England -- and Eve and Jerry Murphy are taking off for their visit to England. Gil Mende will be going to warmer climes as soon as cold weather hits our area. Laurie Stuart and Zachary recently returned from Switzerland after a visit with Laurie's grandmother. ***Keep in mind: We need your sustained financial support! The Deadline for next Newsletter is September 20th. SEE YOU AT FELLOWSHIP!!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



MEETING AT INNISFREE SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN

Phone 717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553



Upper Delaware
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Newsletter

MEETING AT INNISFREE
MILANVILLE, PA

AUGUST
1992

SUNDAYS IN AUGUST



Join us every Sunday at 11 A. M. for meaningful services and programs. We meet at Innisfree in Milanville, PA, just across the bridge at Skinners Falls.

August 2 - "Songs and Stories by Laurie Stuart and Glenn Pontier." Look forward to a great morning! Both Laurie and Glenn are well known around the area for their singing and story-telling talents -- and are in much demand. This is a Sunday for young and old -- and it is suggested that children from the R. E. program (and other children) join with us.

August 9 - Sorry, Folk, but there is work to be done! On this Sunday we will have a short business meeting and complete some program-planning. The business meeting offers two By-Laws amendments/additions:

- 1) Include the Consulting Minister as a member of the Board of Trustees.
- 2) Include an immediate past president to a one-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees.

The Program Planning is needed to fill out the balance of our year schedule.

August 16 - Anniversary Brunch at Beach Lake Hotel! Seen announcement opposite.

August 23 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will be the speaker on the subject: "Latest Threat to Public Schools -- The Voucher Schemes." And also a threat to separation of Church and State! Bush, along with others, have been pushing for payments to parents so their children can attend private and parochial schools. This should be the concern of every citizen!

August 30 - "A Sharing of Personal Religious Journeys." Unitarian Universalists see religion as a continued quest and search for meaning in life. We come from varied backgrounds and have been on different journeys. What brings you/us here? We hope many of our members and friends will join in some sharing of experiences.

MEET THE NEW OFFICERS!

The following were elected at the Annual Meeting of the Fellowship on Sunday, June 28, 1992:

- President - Barbara Pontier
Vice President - Loren Shlevin
Treasurer - Bud Rue
Secretary - Colette Ballew

Trustees of the Fellowship

- 1993 Term - MarJeanna Howard
1994 Term - David Koepke
1995 Term - Jesse Ballew

The Following Committee Chairpersons were named:

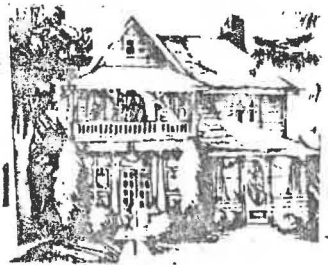
- Religious Education - Glenn Pontier
Social Concerns - Tom Rue
Newsletter Editor - Ray Pontier
Finance - Bud Rue
River School Representative - Carmen Rue,
with Bud Rue as Alternate

ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY

BRUNCH AT

the

Beach Lake Hotel
a country inn



Date & Time: Sunday,

August 16th at 12:00 Noon sharp!

The Cost: \$9.95 a person, plus tax and tip.

The Menu: A fabulous all-you-can-eat buffet!

The Beach Lake Hotel is a very special place, located off of Route 652 in Beach Lake. Please let us know on Sunday at the Fellowship if you want to go -- or call Bud Rue at 717/729-7197. Reservations are important.

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF
OUR 6TH YEAR!!

W i t h

To Tom Rue for his service as

T h a n k s

President and a member of the Executive Committee since we or-

ganized; to Carmen Rue for her faithful work as Treasurer; to Ann Rue for her service as Secretary -- and to all newly elected officers and Trustees, along with all who support our Fellowship.

THAT'S WHERE OUR MONEY GOES!

On June 28, 1992, the members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship approved the following budget for the fiscal year of July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993.

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Religious Education:	
(Director \$1,200, Materials \$300)	\$ 1,500.00
Use of space at Innisfree:	
(Rent \$540, Insurance \$148)	688.00
Postage (mostly for Newsletter)	500.00
Photocopying for Newsletter	250.00
Childcare	175.00
Speakers	250.00
Unitarian Universalist Association	
Annual Fund	400.00
Stationery	50.00
Sunshine and special contributions	100.00
Literature	50.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total Projected Expenses	\$ 4,013.00

PROJECTED INCOME (as of 6/28/92)

Balance in Fleet Bank, Narrowsburg	\$ 477.10
Pledged contributions to be paid during fiscal year of 1992-93	2,953.00
(*See note below on pledges)	
Total Projected Income	\$ 3,430.10

SUMMARY

Projected expenses	\$4,013.00
Projected income	<u>3,430.10</u>
Projected deficit	582.90

*NOTE ON PLEDGES: Nine family units made pledges for 1992-93 totalling \$2,953, for an average of \$328 for the fiscal year. The high pledge was \$960; three between \$500 and \$600; and a low one of \$50. It is not too late help meet our deficit!

Pledges and/or contributions can be sent to The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship, PO Box 153, Millville, PA 18443 -- c/o Bud Rue, Treasurer.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>	<u>SERVICE LEADER</u>
August 2nd	Barbara Pontier	Ray Pontier
August 9th	Gil Mende	Gil Mende
August 16th	E A T	O U T
August 23rd	Barbara Pontier	Ray Pontier
August 30th	Colette Ballew	Edris Artis

ETCETERA
 ETCETERA
 ETCETERA

Very special thanks to Loren Shlevin who volunteered to be our Religious Education teacher over the summer! ***The R. E. Program is open to children ages three to ten on Sundays at 11:00 AM. There is also childcare for smaller children. ***Did you know that in 1993 Unitarian Universalists will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Universalism in America? Unitarians and Universalists merged as one group in 1962. Initial celebrations will be held at the 1992 General Assembly. ****Also did you know that Unitarian Universalist House in Philadelphia provides both residential and skilled nursing care? It is run by the UU Joseph Priestley District. For information call 215-843-0809. ***The Unitarian Universalist Annual Fund is one way the UU Association stays alive and vital as a national body, maintains our liberal religious witness, and provides us as a Fellowship with a variety of services. Each Fellowship and Society is asked to support the Fund to amount of \$25 for each reported member. ***For several years the UUA has been working on a new hymnbook called "Singing The Living Tradition." Containing 409 hymns and songs, plus 318 readings, it will be ready in May 1993. Prepublication cost until December 15 is \$25; after that it will be \$30. We don't do much singing, but maybe this would inspire us! How about 10 (or more) of us buying a copy (or two) for the Fellowship -- perhaps in memory of someone. Barbara & Ray Pontier will start it in memory of their parents. ***Next Newsletter deadline is August 23rd. ***Don't miss the Anniversary Brunch! You'll be sorry if you do! Call Bud Rue or sign up on Sunday.

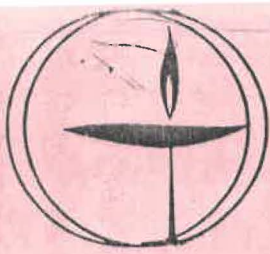
"The world is a kind of spiritual kindergarten where millions of bewildered infants are trying to spell God with the wrong blocks." (Edward A. Robinson)

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
 RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
 MILLVILLE, PA 18443-0123



M E E T I N G A T I N N I S F R E E
 S U N D A Y S A T E L E V E N

717/729-7197 or 914/252-7553



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Newsletter

=====
JULY
1992
=====

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN JULY

Meet with us every Sunday morning at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. -- just across the bridge at Skinners Falls. Join us for good programs, good fellowship, and spiritual and intellectual stimulation.

July 5 - "Around The World in 180 Days (More or Less)." Our own Gil Mende will share some of the highlights of his six to seven month trip to ports and cities all around the world. Some of you may have read his fine articles in The River Reporter while he was away. He has just recently returned to this country, after ending up in England, and has consented to tell about some of his adventures. Make a special effort to attend this program which promises to be of high interest!

July 12 - "Values According to Murphy Brown, Vice President Quail, or Who?" We are all concerned about value systems -- but what are the ingredients and who determines them? We will have a chance to discuss them, and to see where Unitarian Universalists place their emphases.

July 19 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject: "Concerning Relationships and Friendships." No one is an island. We share our space with other people. We develop relationships, good and bad. We have and need friendships. The talk will deal with varied aspects -- with some insights from an Essay by Emerson.

July 26 - "The Presidential Candidates: Pro's and Con's" Everybody else is talking about them, so let us do our own analysis. Three brief presentations will be given: Loren Shlevin on Perot, Ann Rue on Clinton, and Ray Pontier on Bush. Everyone will be given the chance to throw in their two or three cents worth.

COMING IN AUGUST: our Annual Anniversary Dinner at an area restaurant. Maybe on August 2nd -- but date and details will be in next Newsletter. We will celebrate the beginning of our sixth year as a UU Fellowship!

The best portion of a good life is found in little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness.

Wordsworth

BEGINNING OUR PROGRAM OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Starting Sunday

July 12th



We are new at it -- but on Sunday, July 12th at 11:00 A. M. we will initiate our program of liberal, child-centered, religious education. We invite parents who are concerned about meaningful values in our complex society to consider having their child/children attend.

We are pleased and fortunate to have Loren Shlevin as the person who will direct the program over the summer months. Loren is a member of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship, and a practicing attorney who lives and works in the Delaware River Valley. In asking for some personal data, she said that "she believes in the principles embodied in the Unitarian Universalist philosophy which reflect the spiritual, intellectual and philosophic approach needed for a fully integrated life and purpose." She also noted that she volunteered to help organize this R. E. program because of her belief in and respect for children.

As we begin our program we continue to look for three things:

1) Children of parents who are interested in a liberal approach to religion. Without children, of course, there can be no program.

2) Parents and members of the Fellowship who will take turns assisting on Sundays in the program. Probably no more than once a month. Loren cannot do it alone!

3) Someone to take on the position of a Director of Religious Education for a nominal compensation. Hopefully to start in September.

Our Fellowship feels this is an important venture. We hope many families agree with us. We invite your participation! If you have questions, call Loren Shlevin at 914-932-8781 or Glenn Pontier (Committee Chair) at 914-252-6626.

BRIEFLY On a recent ~~Jan~~ Sunday we were
NOTED pleased to see ~~Bill~~ Mende, home
from his trip around the world;
Ann and Bud Rue back from Ireland and Eng-
land; Helen and Tom Sidwell here from Flor-
ida for the summer. ***John Rue is current-
ly in England and will be back in August,***
Barbara and Ray Pontier spent a long weekend
at American University in Washington, DC to
attend a Bertrand Russell Conference. ***At
our annual business meeting in June, new
officers and trustees were elected -- too
late to be printed in this Newsletter, but
will be listed in the next issue. ***Laurie
Stuart was recently the featured singer at
The Orchard Inn. ***Did you know that Glenn
Pontier teaches four courses at an Elder-
hostel at The Koinonia Conference Center --
on Journalism, the Delaware River, the Art
of Storytelling, and American Pacifists. ***

Wanted! More items of interest for the News-
letter; personal or otherwise: Get them and
all notices to Ray Pontier on or before Aug-
ust 16th. In writing! ***The River School is
taking registrations for the fall semester.
***The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is a small
group of people committed to the principles of
liberal religion. We welcome others who share
our concerns for a faith built on Reason, In-
dividual Freedom of Conscience, and Diversity.
Give us a try some Sunday soon. ***We were
happy to have Loren Shlevin sign our Member-
ship Book recently! We welcome her to our
Fellowship as a member.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Glenn Pontier,
Chair, Ann Rue, Colette Ballew, Loren Shlevin
and Carmen Rue.

HOPE TO SEE YOU SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN!

ON BEING PART OF A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

The following guest column is by the Rev. Bruce Southworth, minister of the Community UU Church in New York City. We share some of his thoughts about our liberal religious tradition as Unitarian Universalists.

What does it mean to be part of a religious community—a liberal religious community? Answers are as varied as each member, but themes emerge.

We seek wholeness (traditionally called salvation.) Freedom to be who we are, to discover our best selves, to grow our souls, to think for ourselves about religious living—such freedom encourages us in the search for wholeness. Celebration of Life arises.

We seek principles to guide our living. Religious traditions from around the world inform our lives, and we weave them with the lessons of history, science, art, literature—all realms of human endeavor. The searching – critical, appreciative mind leads to self-understanding and leads us to those principles of caring, compassion and action that contribute to spiritual health and wholeness.

We seek companionship and community. Interdependence is the reality of all life, and the spark of the divine within

each of us responds to the spark within one another. We need not be all alone if we learn to risk vulnerability, dare to be open, and welcome the new. It becomes safe to be different and to become who we can be in our fullness and vibrancy. We know we can transcend the moments of brokenness and reclaim the health within us.

Here kindred spirits work at trusting Life's goodness and beauty to overcome our fear of its pain and heartache. Here we help transform the world.

Wholeness and celebration

Freedom and liberation.

Principles to live by.

The searching, critical, appreciative mind.

Companionship and community

Interdependence and individuality.

Trust and transformation.

For me these elements of religious community (which are by no means

exhaustive) distinguish the liberal religious adventure. For me, they are absolutely essential for my life.

Out of them arise courage, hope and vision, and I share with you again words of my colleague, Greta Crosby:

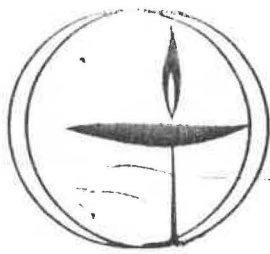
Ultimately our trust is in the spirit that will not be quelled forever, that rises up in people from some mysterious source, energy that comes again to affirm that people matter, their needs and aspirations matter, and that the conditions of people's flourishing is the cultivation of truth and love.

The cultivation of truth and love—there is no better place than here to plant and tend the seeds of truth and love, and thus with joy to grow our souls.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



MEETING AT INNISFREE
SUNDAYS AT ELEVEN



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

MEETING AT INNISFREE

MILANVILLE, PA

JUNE

Newsletter 1992

A MONTH OF

SUNDAYS

IN

JUNE

Contrary to the practice of many UU groups, the Upper Delaware Fellowship has Sunday services throughout the summer.

(We take off in January when the snow flies.) So we invite and urge all members and friends to be with us during these beautiful days along the Delaware! A great time to invite a visitor or vacationer. We meet at 11 A. M. -- just across the bridge from Skinners Falls.

June 7 - Bob Schell, from the Joseph Priestley District, will speak about the Unitarian Universalist United Nation Office. Did you know that UUs are represented at the United Nations in New York by a staffed office as a non-governmental agency. Come and learn what is happening.

June 14 - Plan to join us for a program of Shared Readings This is a "do it yourself" program -- so bring something of reasonable length to read and share -- poetry or prose, contemporary or old, serious or humorous. This always makes for a good morning.

June 21 - Ray Pontier will speak on the subject: "Everything You Wanted to Know About Universalism, But Didn't Know What To Ask." We are Unitarian Universalists. Most people know about the Unitarian half -- but what about Universalism? The talk will be an attempt at clarification.

June 28 - On this last Sunday of June we will hold our Annual Meeting. Officers will be elected, a budget approved, and such other business conducted as may be necessary. In past years we have had a covered-dish luncheon -- so plan to bring a covered dish to share as we break bread together after the meeting.

We... must carry on a lover's quarrel with the world so that when... we depart this life, we leave behind a little more truth, a little more justice, a little more peace, a little more beauty... a little more, a little more...

William Sioane Coffin, Jr.

Religious education Update

The Religious Education Committee has been hard at work -- and

after several interviews states that there will be an announcement soon regarding a Director of Religious Education and the beginning of the program on Sundays.

For information about any aspect of the RE Program, call Glenn Pontier, Chairperson, at 914-252-7553.

Our Fellowship is excited at the prospect of offering a value-centered program of religious education for children in the area. It is a big undertaking for our rather small Fellowship, and we will need the support of members and friends.

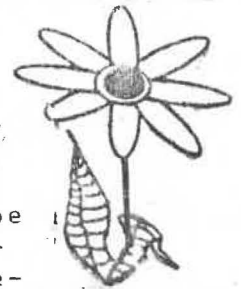
ON SUPPORTING LIBERAL RELIGION

All members and friends recently received that very fine letter from

Ann Rue asking for financial support for the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. We hope you will respond. We hope you see the need and value of a liberal religious presence in this area. Fundamentalist groups grow because conservatives really support them. If liberal religion is to have a significant role, then it needs some of that same kind of support. If you believe in our Principles, give us your support!

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part



BITS AND

PIECES

Bud and Ann Rue are in Ireland and England for three wonderful weeks! They will be returning at the same time as Gil Mende who is finishing up his trip around the world. ***If you have not read Gil's articles in The River Reporter, you missed out on some interesting stories. ***Both Carmen Rue and Ray Pontier recently served on Jury Duty in Monticello ***Barbara and Ray Pontier were in Wayne, NJ to attend the Ordination Service of Ray's successor at the Lakeland UU Fellowship where he gave the Ordination Charge to the Minister. ***The Unitarian Universalist General Assembly will begin on June 25th in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Someday when GA is closer, it is hoped that our Fellowship will be represented. ***The next Newsletter deadline is June 21st. We would really appreciate items of interest from members and friends. Get them -- in writing -- to Ray Pontier. ***Our thanks to Tom and Carmen Rue who see to it that the Newsletter is printed and mailed each month. ***We do have some fine programs Sunday mornings; good speakers and interesting topic. But we need your support! Plan to be with us Sundays at Eleven O'clock. ***Thanks to Ann and Bud Rue, we are most fortunate in having such a fine meeting place at Innisfree. ***Special Update! On Sunday, May 31, Bill Klaber will be speaking at our Fellowship about JFK. An interesting subject. Bill is active with Station JEFF and The River School. ***The River School is in the process of taking registrations for its fall term.

I'm for truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice no matter who is for or against. I'm a human being first and foremost, and as such I'm for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY, Malcolm X

LOS ANGELES

and voices from

the past

HARLEM

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up
like a raisin in the sun?
Or fester like a sore—
And then run?
Does it stink like rotten meat?
Or crust and sugar over—
like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags
like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

Langston Hughes

The limits of tyrants

Those who profess to favor freedom,
and yet deprecate agitation,
are men who want crops without
plowing up the ground.
They want rain without thunder and lightning.
They want the ocean without the awful roar of its waters.
This struggle may be a moral one;
or it may be both moral and physical;
but it must be a struggle.
Power concedes nothing without a demand.
It never did, and it never will.
Find out just what people will submit to,
and you have found out the exact amount of injustice
and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and
these will continue until they are resisted
with either words or blows, or with both.
The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the
endurance of those whom they oppress.

Frederick Douglass
August 4, 1857

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



5/21 Sunday program:

Who killed JFK?

Will Bill Klaber tell us?

FREEDOM
REASON
DIVERSITY

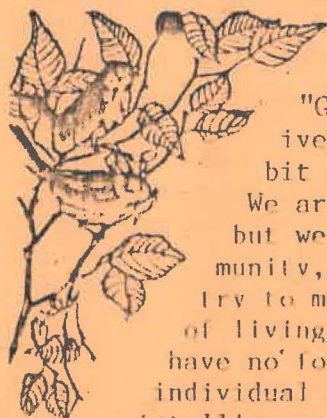
MAY

Newsletter

1992



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



THE SUNDAYS IN MAY

oo

"Going to church" with Unitarian Universalists on a Sunday morning is a bit different from more orthodox modes. We are less formal, less liturgical -- but we try to be high on a sense of community, on friendliness, but above all we try to make sense of religion and business of living. We defend no sacred cows, we have no forbidden questions. The right of individual conscience, the use of reason and intelligence, and diversity of thought are all central to our movement.

So come to church with us on Sunday at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville. Listed below are our programs for the month of May.

May 3 - "Some Pro's and Con's of Capital Punishment." The number of people in prison is on the rise, the number of executions is on the rise, and the amount of crime everywhere is on the rise. So are there any answers? More prisons, more arrests, more people executed in electric chairs and gas chambers? The program will consist of a brief presentation by Ray Pontier and followed by a discussion and sharing of opinions by those attending.

May 10 - Someone from Planned Parenthood will speak about this very fine organization that has worked so hard for the needs of women. Planned Parenthood is about much more than abortion, but is concerned with a broad range of the needs of women in our society. This is a meaningful program for this Mothers Day Sunday.

May 17 - Shannon Robbins will deliver remarks entitled "Witchcraft in Daily Life." A resident of Monticello, Shannon is an ordained minister of the National Alliance of Pantheists, a religious group based near Boston. Some may remember Shannon, her husband Carl, and their family when they attended our annual Thanksgiving meal in November.

May 24 - "An Introduction to Ralph Waldo Emerson" will be the program led by the Rev. Raymond J. Pontier. We will have some background on the life of this famous Unitarian and also listen to one of his essays.

May 31 - The ever-popular program of "Shared Readings" will be featured this Sunday. Suggestion: bring a reading dealing with women's rights. Or, of course, read whatever appeals to you for that date!

UNITARIANS SEEK RELIGIOUS TEACHER

MILANVILLE -- The Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is now accepting teacher applications for a youth religious education (RE) program slated to begin June 7.

In addition to preparing and teaching the 1½ hour Sunday curriculum, the position involves obtaining materials, coordinating volunteers, working in cooperation with the religious education committee, and handling finances. The ideal applicant would have a teaching background as well as some familiarity with Unitarian Universalism, although this is not required. Cultural, philosophical and doctrinal tolerance, and an ability to communicate these and other ethical values to children, are essential requirements.

The deadline for applications is April 26, when interviews will be conducted by the RE committee. The 11-month position will be salaried at \$1200 per year.

The fellowship meets at Innisfree in Milanville.

Applicants, or parents interested in enrolling their children, may call RE chair Glenn Pontier at 914/252-7414 or fellowship president Tom Rue at 914/ 791-7014.

UNBIASED CHILDREN?

Parents tell me continuously that they do not give their children any religious training, from the feeling that it is taking unfair advantage of the child. They say, "I propose to let my children grow up as far as possible unbiased."

If you do not bias the children, the first one that they meet on the street, or in the school, or among their companions, will begin the work of biasing, of impression, of education, for this is a continuous process. Whether you will or not, it is something over which you have no choice. It is something that will be done either wisely and well, or unwisely and ill.

adapted from Minot Savage
Minister, Church of the Messiah
1896-1906

ALBERT EINSTEIN: "You cannot simultaneously prevent and prepare for war."

IF YOU, OR ANYONE YOU KNOW, IS INTERESTED IN THIS POSITION AS AN R. E. DIRECTOR, PLEASE RESPOND!

On Wednesday, May 6th at 7:30 P. M. there will be a meeting to form a chapter of Amnesty International. The meeting will be held in the Recreation Hall at Innis-free in Milanville, PA.

Amnesty International is a vital organization that shows special regard to prisoners of conscience and political prisoners throughout the world.

Anyone who is interested is invited to attend the meeting. For more information, call Glenn Pontier at 914-252-6626.

WILLIAM ELLERY CHANNING:
VIEWS ON RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

The great end in religious instruction, whether in the Sunday School or family, is, not to stamp our minds irresistably on the young, but to stir up their own; not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own; not to give them a definite amount of knowledge, but to inspire a fervent love of truth; not to form an outward regularity, but to quicken and strengthen the power of thought; not to bind them by ineradicable prejudices to our particular sect or peculiar notions, but to prepare them for impartial, conscientious judging of whatever subjects may, in the course of Providence, be offered to their decision; not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules which rest on no foundation but our own word and will, but to awaken the consciousness, the moral discernment, so that they may discern and approve for themselves what is everlastingly right and good.

(From an 1830 talk. Still valid!)

MAINTAIN THE BOND OF FELLOWSHIP.
SUPPORT OUR LIBERAL RELIGIOUS
COMMUNITY. BE WITH US SUNDAYS!

BRIEFLY NOTED Voyage to Bud and Ann Rue who are heading to England and adjacent areas for several weeks in May. Best wishes! ***The last we heard of Gil Mende was that he was in France, and will be meeting up with Ann and Bud later. ***Ray and Barbara Pontier will not be here for the May 17th program. Ray will be giving the Charge to the Minister at the ordination of the Rev. Robin Capoor, his successor at the Lakeland UU Fellowship in Wayne, NJ. ***Thanks to Greg Pontier and his guitar, we had great singing at our Easter Sunday service. It would be great to have such singing often! ***Did you know that both Unitarian and Universalists originated at the time of the Protestant Reformation? And did you know that the Unitarians and the Universalists merged as one denomination in 1962? ***Would you like to know more about history and beliefs of Unitarian Universalism? Ray Pontier is willing to lead several sessions on Sundays before our regular service, starting about 10 A. M. If interested, let him know.



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
River Road, PO Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443-0123





APRIL

Newsletter 92



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS Plan to be with us every
IN Sunday at 11:00 A. M.
APRIL for vital programs, in-
teresting discussions,
and good fellowship.

April 5 - "What About Montessori Education?" The program will be led by Jean Kammer and Andrew-Darcy Martin from The River School. There are many similarities between the Montessori approach and that of Unitarian Universalism.

April 12 - Passover and Easter are in close proximity this year, with Passover on April 18 and Easter on April 19. In observance of Passover, Jill Koepke of our Fellowship will talk about Passover and explain the Seder service and meal. What are the meanings and values Unitarian Universalists appropriate from this custom and ritual?

APRIL 19 - On this Sunday, Ray Pontier will deal with the question: "Are There Any Enduring Meanings For UUs in the Christian Easter Story?" It has been the custom of Unitarian Universalism to explore the meanings of the high and holy days of different religions, including both Judaism and Christianity.

April 26 - Our speaker for the morning will be Debra Solak who will be talking about "Aids And The Aids Epidemic." Few things are of greater relevance or of more urgent concern than this modern plague that is sweeping the world. Come to learn and discuss.

And on May 3rd we will have a program on prisons and prison reform. Did you know that the United States has more people in prison than any other western nation?

I'm scared,
I don't know whether the
world is full of smart
people bluffing, or
imbeciles who mean it.
Morrie Brickman

INDIRA GANDHI: "You cannot shake hands with a
clenched fist."

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



On Sunday, March 8th members and friends of the Fellowship had an intensive discussion about developing a religious education program. Those attending, including several interested visitors, were agreed on the need for such program.

To further the program a Religious Education Committee was appointed by President Tom Rue consisting of: Glenn Pontier (Chair), Ann Rue, Colette Ballew, Loran Shlevin, Carmen Rue. Ex-Officio members are: Tom Rue, President and the Rev. Raymond Pontier, Consulting Minister.

The committee is asked to look into potential curriculum materials -- and also to seek someone who can serve as a Director/Teacher. It is hoped that there will be nominal compensation for the person who will be in charge. It is also expected that a meeting place will be provided in the facilities of The River School.

Any one who may be interested in serving as a Director/Teacher is asked to contact Glenn Pontier. Depending on the number of pupils in the R. E. program, volunteers from among parents and members will be needed. All parents who are interested in a liberal approach to religious education are also invited to call Glenn or any members of the Committee.

In response to the query about what we seek to teach and what the children study, someone has written this:

All that quickens sympathetic imagining,
that awakens sensitivity to other's feelings,
all that enriches and enlarges understanding of the world;
all that strengthens courage,
that adds to the love of living;
all that leads to developing skills
needed for democratic participations —
all these put together are the curriculum
through which children learn.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

HAPPENINGS

The mail brings a steady stream of notices about meetings, conferences, etc. for UU members and friends. Here are some of the coming events:

April 9-11 -- Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office will hold its Annual Seminar in New York City on the theme: "A Stronger United Nations to Shape a Global Agenda."

April 3-4 -- Annual Spring Conference of Joseph Priestley District in Columbia, Maryland.

May 3-5 -- 16th Annual UU National Workshop on Social Justice to be held in Washington, DC. The theme: Democracy in Crisis: Reclaiming Our National Values."

June 25-30 -- UUA General Assembly to be held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. This is an annual event attended by some 2,000 delegates and observers.

July 12-18 -- This is a UU leadership school called UNILEAD and to be held at Kirkridge in Bangor, PA. There is a limited enrollment.

Information also comes about programs at various UU Conference and Camp sites -- including Rowe, Ferry Beach, Murray Grove, The Mountain, along with others.

There is much going on in larger UU circles! If anyone is interested in learning more, speak to Ray Pontier or Tom Rue. Materials and flyers on many of these programs are at the Fellowship.

REMEMBER THE APRIL 5TH MARCH FOR WOMEN'S LIVES IN WASHINGTON! Buses are available.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
MEETING AT "INNISFREE" -- RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY On Thursday, April 2nd at 7:00 PM Habitat for Humanity will hold a Pot-Luck Dinner to welcome a new regional director and also to accept a gift of land and a trailer. At Innisfree! Supporters of Habitat are invited to attend. All who do attend are requested to bring a covered dish for the supper!

BITS & PIECES Had a nice note from Helen and Tom Sidwell. They are not sure yet if they will make it to Eldred this spring. ***Both Tom and Bud Rue had surgery recently -- and both are home and doing well. ***Now that the calendar says spring is here, we hope some of our hibernating members and friends will be with us Sunday mornings! We miss and need you. ***Deadline for next Newsletter is April 19th. Get notices to Ray Pontier -- in writing. ***The saga of Gil Mende continues to appear in The River Reporter. Very interesting. ***A gentle reminder that we need the regular financial support of every member and friend. Not even liberal religion is cost-free!



*A Good Life
The best portion of a good life is found
in little, nameless unremembered acts of
kindness.*

Wordsworth



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, Pennsylvania)



Sunday services for March 1992, 11am:

✓ March 1. Honesdale physician Sandra Propst-Proctor will share some of her thoughts on a proposed Pennsylvania law regarding **"living will"** requirements for hospitals. Dr. Proctor has reservations about certain aspects of the proposed bill. This should be an interesting topic, with legal and ethical considerations.

March 8. Rev. Raymond Pontier will lead a discussion on what is involved in structuring a Sunday morning **religious education program** at the Fellowship. Presently, childcare by fellowship member Erin Howard (such as coloring in a corner of the meeting-room or playing outdoors, while parents participate in UU services). The nature and curriculum of a more formal program would be determined by interested youth and parents. (A **SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS WILL FOLLOW THIS SERVICE. SEE NOTICE AT THE BOTTOM OF NEXT COLUMN**).

March 15. Rotarian Bob Rue of Niantic, CT will describe a service project he is engaged in involving **shipment of pigs to indigent farmers in Haiti**. The younger brother of Fellowship member Bud Rue of Milanville, Bob is a retired college president.

March 22. Rev. Raymond Pontier will give a talk entitled **"On Stewardship,"** concerning the financial aspects involved in maintaining an ongoing liberal religious presence. The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship has been meeting in Milanville since August 1987, on a shoestring budget. Right now, that string is more like a thread. Anyone who wants to see the Fellowship continue and grow will be interested in this vital discussion.

March 29. Bring something you have either written or read, which you found particularly meaningful, for **Shared Readings** on the subject of spirituality. Selections might include poetry or prose capturing what **"spirituality"** means to you, describing a particular peak spiritual experience, etc.

April 5. A look ahead: Teachers Jean Kammer and Andrew Darcey-Martin will describe the **Montessori educational philosophy**, as they implement it at The River School. For the past year, the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship

has provided corporate sponsorship of this parent-run school which rents space in the former Innisfree dormitory building. This is a time for members of the Fellowship to learn more about daily activities at the school, as well as a chance for parents of children, age 6 to 12, to ask questions about enrollment opportunities for the 1992-1993 school year. Plan to invite your friends.

PLEASE CLIP & MAIL

UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP

Are you interested in having a liberal religious education program for your children?

Yes ___ No ___

I have children who might attend. Their ages are ____, ____, ____

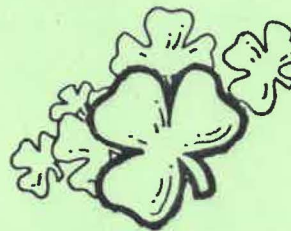
I would be willing to take a turn helping or teaching:

Yes ___ No ___

I will attend a meeting at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship on Sunday, March 8th at 11 A. M. to discuss plans for a religious education program

Yes ___ No ___

PLEASE RETURN! Your response is an indication of interest, not a commitment.



SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS to consider renewing sponsorship of The River School

All members of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship, Inc. are urged to attend a special meeting on March 8th at noon. Renewal of corporate sponsorship of **The River School** will be considered and voted upon. After this any other business may also be taken up. **This meeting is open to all UU members.** River School PTA treasurer Gerry Bilick has also been invited to answer any financial questions.

ANIMAL RIGHTS VIDEO TAPES ON LOAN

The Honesdale chapter of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), through UU member Laura DeSimone, has loaned the Fellowship the following VHS video tapes, which are available in the meeting room:

- A Voice in the Wilderness (No date). Profile of Luke Dommer, founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. 27 minutes.
- Chronicle: March for the Animals (1990). An account of a march on Washington, June 10, 1990. 50 minutes.
- The Question is About Animals (1987). Funded by the Washington Commission, and National Endowment, for the Humanities.

In the event of a last-minute schedule change or no-show speaker (which has actually only occurred once since the Fellowship began meeting 4½ years ago), one of these tapes might be used as a springboard for discussion; or one could be planned as a Sunday morning program.

Members are always invited to use the Fellowship meetings as a forum for topics which are of spiritual, ethical or humanistic interest. If you wish to make a presentation, or host an outside speaker, feel free to bring it up during the Announcements portion of any Sunday meeting.



UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Innisfree, River Road, near Skinners Falls Bridge)
P.O. Box 123
Milanville, Pennsylvania 18443-0123

BITS 'N With the Reverend
PIECES Raymond and Barbara Pontier in Florida, this newsletter is produced by Fellowship president Tom Rue. * * * The Pontiers are expected back by the time this is mailed out. Announcements for the April newsletter should be given to Ray by March 22. * * * Carmen and Tom Rue will celebrate the second anniversary of their handfasting on February 24th. They have been together 4 years.



FEBRUARY

Newsletter 1992



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

Welcome Back! Sunday Services For February -- 11:00 A. M.

Now that our January recess is at an end, the Upper Delaware Fellowship resumes its regular services on the first Sunday of February. Give your support to this liberal religious fellowship by being with us every week!

February 2 - Each year, the UUA asks congregations to discuss a number of study resolutions to be presented to the General Assembly. One of them is titled, "Children Held in Custody by the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service." This program, about children who are considered "Illegals," will be led by Tom Rue.

February 9 - Maybe not glamorous, but our very important subject for this Sunday will be "Program Planning." This is the opportunity for every member and friend to offer her/his input regarding Sunday services for the months ahead. We need and want **your** ideas and suggestions --so please come and share!

February 16 - On this Sunday our ever-popular program of "Shared Readings" will be held. We will not hold you to it, but if possible bring a reading from a Black poet, author, writer. In any event, join in by reading whatever suits your mood and desire.

February 23 - Glenn Pontier, editor of **The River Reporter**, will be our speaker on the subject, "What Is The News?" Come and share the reflections of a local editor as he deals with the news of the Upper Delaware.

March 1 - A look ahead to a program by Sandra Proctor and her reservations about the Pennsylvania law regarding living will requirements in hospitals.



TOWARD A LIBERAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a letter regarding a potential religious education program for the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. If you are a parent, please make a special effort to read the letter, give it serious thought -- and then return the short questionnaire printed below. Please clip it and

return to:

Upper Delaware UU Fellowship
Innisfree - River Road, Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443

What Shall Children Study?

All that quickens sympathetic imagining,
that awakens sensitivity to other's feelings,
all that enriches and enlarges understanding of the world;
all that strengthens courage,
that adds to the love of living;
all that leads to developing skills
needed for democratic participations --
all these put together are the curriculum
through which children learn.



PLEASE CLIP & MAIL

UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP

Are you interested in having a liberal religious education program for your children?

Yes No

I have children who might attend. Their ages are , ,

I would be willing to take a turn helping or teaching:

Yes No

I will attend a meeting at the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship on Sunday, March 8th at 11 A. M. to discuss plans for a religious education program

Yes No

PLEASE RETURN! Your response is an indication of interest, not a commitment.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS The Susquehanna Valley Area (part of Joseph Priestley District) is calling for volunteers in two areas:

First, speakers are wanted for a Speakers Bureau to be available to newer and smaller congregations in the Susquehanna Valley. Anyone interested is asked to speak to Tom Rue or Ray Pontier.

Second, an Envoy is wanted for the Susquehanna Area. An Envoy is essentially a contact person for the Area -- to relate news and happenings of the Area back to the home congregation. Again, if someone is interested, get in touch with Tom or Ray.

"We believe in a fellowship that shall unite people, not in bonds of Confucian, or Mohammedan, or Christian love, but in the holier bonds of human love, going down, beneath all that separates and estranges, to the principles of freedom and understanding; below religions to religion; . . . a union, not of religious systems, but of free souls united to build up, on the basis of truth, justice, and love, the divine Commonwealth of Humanity."

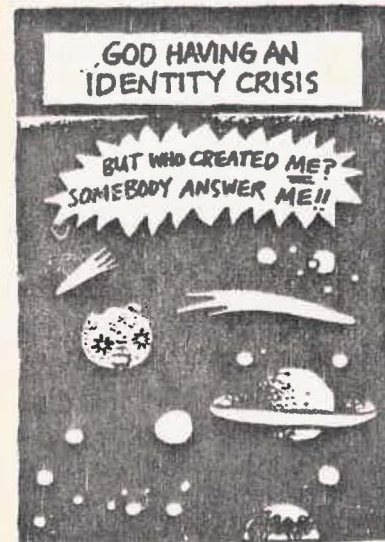
(--Alfred Martin)

Yet it is not our part
to master all the tides
of the world,
but to do what is in us
for the succor of those
years wherein we are set,
uprooting the evil in the
fields that we know,
so that those who live
after us may have clean
earth to till.

What weather they shall have
is not ours to rule.

J.R.R. Tolkien

B I T S ' N P I E C E S Have you been reading Gil Mende's letters in **The River Reporter**? They appear periodically and are most interesting. ***The River School has received the much-needed check for \$4,500 from the Unitarian Universalist Grants Panel -- thanks to the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. ***Barbara and Ray Pontier never made it to Florida in January because of a few health problems. ***Deadline for next Newsletter is February 16th. Get notices, etc. to Ray Pontier -- write it down! ***Your regular financial support of the Fellowship is needed. Expenses continue, even when we take a month off. ***Did you know that on Sunday, April 5th there will be a huge MARCH FOR WOMEN'S LIVES in Washington, D. C. -- in support of Freedom of Choice for women. An especially critical gathering in view of the possible reversal of Roe v. Wade by the Supreme Court.



WE HOPE TO WELCOME YOU
BACK ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY
2ND AT ELEVEN A.M.!!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
MEETING AT "INNISFREE" -- RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



Upper Delaware

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

PO Box 123, Milanville, PA 18443

consulting minister, Rev. Raymond J. Pontier
president of fellowship, Thomas S. Rue

Re: A Religious Education Program at
the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship

Dear Friends:

At a recent meeting, the members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship decided on a major commitment to develop a program of religious education for children and young people. As you probably know, the Upper Delaware Fellowship meets every Sunday at 11:00 A. M. at Innisfree in Milanville. It is our intention to have the Religious Education Program held during this same hour, using the facilities of the Recreation Hall as well as some space in the River School.

We believe there is a definite desire and need for such a program of liberal and non-dogmatic religious education. But before we make plans, it is essential that we have indications of interest from parents. You can help by taking a few minutes to fill out and return the enclosed card. Please return the card even if you are not interested. What we need is a sense of the potential number of children who might attend.

Unitarian Universalism is quite unique in the spectrum of religious groups, for it has no binding creeds or dogmas. We believe that the ethical insights of religion are more important than abstract doctrines, and that the use of reason takes precedence over special revelations. Our first concern is the development of the child as a confident and creative individual, with a sense of her/his worth and dignity. In view of this, Unitarian Universalist curriculum material includes the following premises:

- **Assumes that life is good and is worth living, and that people are basically good
- **Does not deal with the supernatural, but regards religion as part of the natural world.
- **Is based on current insights into child development and child psychology.
- **Recognizes the age and ability of each individual child.
- **Deals with the child's world, with religion at his/her own level.
- **Teaches the Bible only when the child is old enough to understand it, and then from the viewpoint of modern scholarship.
- **Asks questions more than it tries to answer them. Aims at helping children learn to answer the questions for themselves.
- **Helps ideas to grow and develop; encourages independent thinking.
- **Recognizes that there is truth in most churches, most religions, and helps the child look for this truth.

In order to provide more information, we invite you to attend a special program regarding a religious education program to be held Sunday, March 8th at 11:00 A. M. to be held at Innisfree in Milanville. If you see the need for such a program and identify with our goals and objectives, we do hope you will join with us. Come with your questions and suggestions. And please, return the enclosed card!


Thomas S. Rue, President


Raymond J. Pontier, Minister

DECEMBER

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



THE DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES

We invite you to join us during this month of high holy days for Jews and Christians who celebrate Hanukkah and Christmas.

December 1 - Jill Koepke will be in charge of a program dealing with "Hanukkah" which begins on Monday, December 2nd. Jill and Dave Koepke live in Honesdale, and are relatively new members of our Fellowship.

December 8 - Unitarian Universalists talk a lot about "R. E." which is shorthand for Religious Education. Our Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is particularly interested in starting an R. E. Program for children and youth. We will discuss what such a program will mean to our Fellowship, what resources are available, and what it will take to start one. Please be with us. We need your input!

December 15 - Edris Artis will conduct a program on "Reflections on Interracial Issues and Concerns." Edris lives in New York City and has a home in Narrowsburg. She frequently attends our Fellowship when in this area. She will be discussing a very vital issue out of personal experiences.

December 22 - Ray Pontier, Consulting Minister for the Fellowship, will speak on the subject: "Jesus the Man, Human and Humanist." Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus. UUs part company with orthodox Christians when it comes to concepts of Jesus' divinity -- and this talk will relate to the meaningful aspects of a very human Jesus.

December 24th at 7:30 P. M. our Fellowship will have a Christmas Eve Program of carols and candlelight. Everyone invited!

CHRISTMAS EVE

AT
OOO

INNISFREE

On Christmas Eve, December 24th at 7:30 P. M. you are invited to join us for a program of Carols and Candlelight. All members and friends are invited. Be sure to bring the children!



OUR JANUARY RECESS & WINTER BREAK

In deference to the cold weather, possible snow and freaks of nature, the Upper Delaware Fellowship will not have Sunday Services and programs during the month of January. Regular programs and services will be resumed on Sunday, February 2nd. The program leader for that Sunday will be Tom Rue.

WE

WELCOME A bit late -- but we bid a very warm welcome to Beverley Sacks who signed our Membership Book on October the 27th of this year. Beverley lives at:

Box 5
White Lake, NY 12786
(914-583-7772)

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE



Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

It is hoped that most of our members and friends will participate in "The Guest at Your Table" program which runs from Thanksgiving to Christmas. Boxes for your daily sharing are available -- with the money going to help people in such places as El Salvador, Jamaica, the Sudan, the Philippines, and India. The UU Service Committee is one of the most respected service organizations in the world. Boxes are to be returned to the Fellowship on Christmas Eve or a Sunday before. Please sign your name and address on the cover portion of the box.



RIVER SCHOOL TO GET GRANT FROM UUA

The Unitarian Universalist Grants Panel recently voted to support The River School with a grant of \$4,500. The River School is a UU-sponsored parent-administered Montessori elementary school located at Innisfree. The school educates the children of the community in accordance with the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship's Statement of Purpose. The grant was given to assist in renovation of the school building.

According to a letter to our Fellowship president, Tom Rue, from UU Funding Program grants administrator Katherine Kelly The River School's proposal was one of 31 received. Over \$368,000 in funding was requested. All told, the panel made grants to 15 projects for a total of \$104,550.

The only "string" attached to the grant was that ". . . all communications, publicity and publications connected with [The River School] include the following or equivalent acknowledgement: "This project is funded in part by the Fund for Unitarian Universalism." This is in addition to the statement which the school has already agreed to make in its promotional material affirming sponsorship by the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.

Ms Kelly stated a check should arrive from the UUA around the middle of December. After that, and after the terms of the Articles of Agreement between the Fellowship and the school have been signed and finalized, Fellowship treasurer Carmen Rue will turn the amount over to River School treasurer in a public ceremony.

Many thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Association -- and congratulations to The River School!

UUA ANNUAL

PROGRAM

FUND

At the Annual Meeting of our Fellowship it was voted to pay our Fair Share Contribution to the Annual Program Fund of the UU Association. Money from the Annual Fund goes to support and advance the work and outreach of the UUA in the United States and Canada. It includes, incidently, as subscription to the UU World for each member or family of a UU church or fellowship -- and in a larger way it assures that cause of liberal religion is kept alive and well.

The Fair Share for this year is \$26.00 a member -- and based on twenty members, our total will come to \$520 for the year.

Nothing is really free in this life or world -- including religion. If we want a vital Fellowship and believe our Unitarian Universalist heritage is worth keeping and spreading, then we need to support it. The Fair Share, of course, comes to only 50 cents a week per member, but support for our local Fellowship is considerably more. Realistic commitment means more than an occasional dollar or so in the tambourine but provides resources for the long haul.

IN

Gil Mende is off and flying for his BRIEF trip around the world. We wish him well! ***Barbara and Ray Pontier will be heading for Florida after Christmas -- for all of January and perhaps beyond. ***Thanks to all who participated in the Thanksgiving Day Dinner. Thirty or more attended, according to pre-dinner sign-ups. Don't forget: no Sunday services in January.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
HAPPY HANUKKAH!
JOYFUL WINTER SOLSTICE!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
MEETING AT "INNISFREE" -- RIVER ROAD, BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443

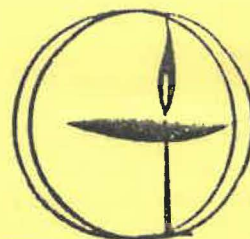
Season's Greetings

For information: (717) 729-7197
(914) 252-7553

NOVEMBER

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAY SERVICES

IN NOVEMBER

Robert Burns speaks of this month as a time "When chill November's surly blast/ Made fields and forests bare." We invite you to brighten up the days ahead by joining us at our services every Sunday at 11:00 A. M.

November 3 - We will have one of our favorite do-it-yourself programs of "Shared Readings." You may read whatever suits you, but the focus will be on some aspect of Unitarian Universalism. Dig through some past UU Worlds or some of the resources available at the Fellowship.

November 10 - Dorothy Cameron and Tom Oliva, who recently signed our Membership Book, will be leading a program: "Meditation and Religion in the Artist's Life." Dorothy and Tom offer week-end programs at Innisfree. We look forward to having them with us and to their presentation.

November 17 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "The Therapy of Thanks." During this month of a National Thanksgiving Day, we need to remember that being thankful is an attitude and frame of mind, not just a ceremonial occasion. The talk will explore some of the implications of Thanksgiving and giving thanks.

✓ November 24 - The Rev. Sidney Peterman, District Consultant for the Joseph Priestley District of the UUA, will be our speaker. Syd is most knowledgeable about the churches and fellowships in the Unitarian Universalist Association, and will be helpful in our situation as a new Fellowship. He is coming all the way from Wilmington, Delaware just to be with us -- so please make every effort to attend!!

Thursday, November 28 - Upper Delaware UU Thanksgiving Dinner. See the notice in the next column.

THANKSGIVING DAY

DINNER

AT INNISFREE

This is your invitation to the 5th Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to be held at Innisfree in Milanville on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November the 28th.

Gathering time is 1:00 P. M. for wine and snacks. Dinner will follow shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish for the meal. Someone will be in touch with you to suggest what you should bring and to make certain that there will be a variety.

Fellowship members, family, and friends are invited to be with us for the dinner. But it is important to know approximately how many will attend! So we ask you, please let us know how many will be coming in your party by signing up at the Fellowship on Sunday -- or calling Innisfree at 717-729-7197, or Carmen and Tom Rue at 914-791-7014, or Barbara and Ray Pontier at 914-252-7553.

We look forward to a great day!

THE RIVER SCHOOL

OPEN

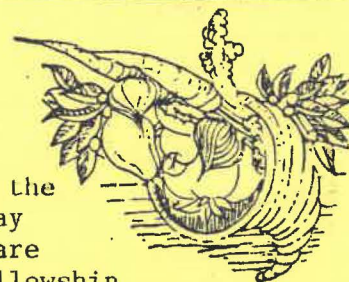
HOUSE

On Saturday, November 2nd, from 11:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M. the River School will hold an Open House at its new facilities at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa.

Anyone who is interested is invited to come and see the school, enjoy refreshments, along with entertainment for young people.

The River School is parent-run, and is under the auspices of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship.

Thank you, dear God, for this good life
and forgive us if we do not love it enough.
Garrison Keillor



BRIEFLY

NOTED

Our very best wishes to Tom and Helen Sidwell who have headed to Florida for the winter. Their address: 1225 N. W. 21st Street, Stuart, FL 34994. ***Margaret Bryant, we really miss you! Please get well soon. ***Many thanks to Muriel Brewer who recently gave a big box of candles to the Fellowship for our Sunday use. ***Upper Delaware UU's have been in the news recently. Tom Rue had an excellent letter in area papers about our Upper Delaware Fellowship, The Weekly Gazette in Honesdale had a very nice profile of Gil Mende, and in that same paper Ray Pontier had a pro-choice article. ***The deadline for the next Newsletter is Sunday, November 17th. It will be appreciated if you get notices, in writing, to Ray Pontier. ***Looking ahead: on Christmas Eve at 7:30 PM, the Upper Delaware UU will again have a program of candlelight and carols. Mark your calendars.***The cartoon below is dedicated to Barbara & Sharon Pontier who have been wrestling with higher math -- as well as to all math illiterates.

UNBIASED CHILDREN?

Parents tell me continuously that they do not give their children any religious training, from the feeling that it is taking unfair advantage of the child. They say, "I propose to let my children grow up as far as possible unbiased."

If you do not bias the children, the first one that they meet on the street, or in the school, or among their companions, will begin the work of biasing, of impression, of education, for this is a continuous process. Whether you will or not, it is something over which you have no choice. It is something that will be done either wisely and well, or unwisely and ill.

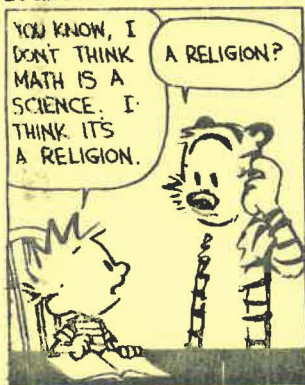
adapted from Minot Savage
Minister, Church of the Messiah
(Unitarian Minister) 1896-1906

On December 8th we will be discussing our need as a Fellowship for a viable religious education program for children. Very important for our future as well as for young people!

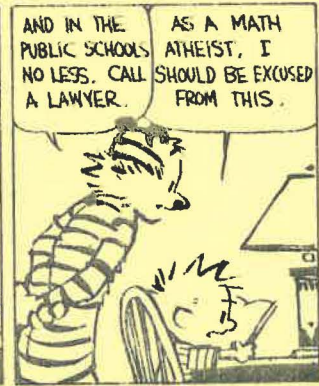
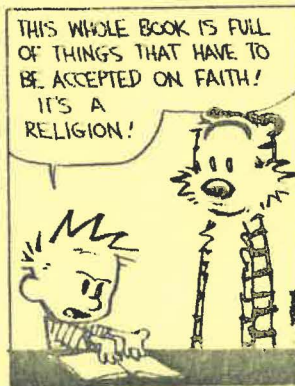
We don't do a lot of talking about money. But it is a real need if we are to have a meaningful Fellowship with creative programs. It is hoped that every member and friend will contribute regularly.

BE SURE TO BE WITH US TO HEAR SID PETERMAN!!

CALVIN AND HOBBS



YEAH. ALL THESE EQUATIONS ARE LIKE MIRACLES. YOU TAKE TWO NUMBERS AND WHEN YOU ADD THEM, THEY MAGICALLY BECOME ONE NEW NUMBER! NO ONE CAN SAY HOW IT HAPPENS. YOU EITHER BELIEVE IT OR YOU DON'T.



Bill Watterson

Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Meeting at "Innisfree" - River Road, Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443



For Information: 717-729-7197
914-252-7553

OCTOBER

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS

IN

OCTOBER

"Ye cannot rival for one hour
October's bright blue weather."
(Helen Hunt Jackson)

We look forward to seeing members and friends every Sunday at 11:00 A. M. for good programs and fine fellowship.

October 6 - Our good friend Bert Feldman will speak about "Tales of the Upper Delaware River Valley." Bert is an historian, columnist (for The River Reporter), teacher, and a man with a great sense of humor. It is always good to have Bert with us and to share his knowledge.

October 13 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will be speaking on the subject: "After 500 Years: Facts and Myths About Columbus." This is in anticipation of the big celebration in 1992 -- the 500th anniversary of when "Columbus sailed the ocean blue." Not the first to discover the new world, but the first to put it on the map. He has been alternately praised and blamed, honored and castigated. The talk will deal with some facets of a subject bound to be much discussed throughout the year.

October 20 - The program for this Sunday will deal with "Nonviolent Conflict Resolution." This is a vital program, for everyone faces conflict in one way or another -- between friends, within family, in society at large. So how best to deal with it? The leader for the program will be announced.

October 27 - Our program will consist of a dramatic reading (by members and friends) of a portion of a play called "The Heretic" -- dealing with the trial scene dramatizing the events leading to the death of Michael Servetus. "Miguel Servet" has been claimed as the first Unitarian martyr. Jill and David Koepke are in charge of this program -- and is given in response to the good reactions to the play-reading about Susan B. Anthony earlier.

RIVER SCHOOL OPENS!

Congratulations to the parents, friends, and supporters of The River School which opened on schedule at Innisfree. The School occupies two floors of what had been dormitory and housing space of Innisfree. There has been a real miracle of transformation to create a spacious and attractive area for the school. Almost endless hours of volunteer work was put into physical labor to create this new facility. The River School is a parent-controlled Montessori elementary school, representing grades one through 3 this initial year. Information about the School and pupil enrollment is available. Contributions toward its support are welcome.

WE

WELCOME

We are pleased to welcome
Dorothy Cameron and Thomas
Oliva as members of our

Fellowship, having signed our Membership Book in September.

Their permanent address is:

600 West 111th Street (Apt 14-F)
New York, NY 10025

They also rent the apartment over the Recreation Hall at Innisfree, and are here many weekends. Dorothy and Tom will be leading a program at the Fellowship on November 10th.

IN

BRIEF

Delighted to see Tom Sidwell at the Fellowship after his illness and trip to the hospital! Tom and Helen will be heading for Florida soon. ***Really sorry to hear that Margaret Bryant has not been well. We miss her! ***Also miss any of our members and friends who have not been at Fellowship recently. We need you all! ***We may not always pass the offering plate on Sundays, but we do need your financial support! ***Did you know that Ray Pontier performs weddings and uses a Unitarian Universalist ceremony? **Contributions to our Food Pantry can be made at any time. ***The deadline for the November Newsletter is October 20th. Your input is welcomed and appreciated.

A thing is important if any one think it important." (William James)

WHAT DO UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS BELIEVE?

1. We believe in the freedom of religious expression. All individuals should be encouraged to develop their own personal theology, and to present openly their religious opinions without fear of censure or reprisal.
2. We believe in the toleration of religious ideas. All religions, in every age and culture, possess not only an intrinsic merit, but also a potential value for those who have learned the art of listening.
3. We believe in the authority of reason and conscience. The ultimate arbiter in religion is not a church, or a document, or an official, but the personal choice and decision of the individual.
4. We believe in the never-ending search for Truth. If the mind & heart are truly free and open, the revelations which appear to the human spirit are infinitely numerous, eternally fruitful, & wonderously exciting.
5. We believe in the unity of experience. There is no fundamental conflict between faith and knowledge, religion and the world, the sacred and secular, since they all have their source in the same reality.
6. We believe in the worth and dignity of each human being. All people on earth have equal claim to life, liberty, and justice -- and no idea, ideal, or philosophy is superior to a single human life.
7. We believe in the ethical application of religion. Good works are the natural product of good faith, the evidence of an inner grace that finds completion in social and community involvement.
8. We believe in the motive power of love. The governing principle in human relationships is the principle of love, which always seeks the welfare of others and never seeks to hurt or destroy.
9. We believe in the necessity of the democratic process. Records are open to scrutiny, elections are open to members, and ideas are open to criticism -- so that people might govern themselves.
10. We believe in the importance of religious community. The validation of experience requires the confirmation of peers, who provide a critical platform along with a network of mutual support,

The Statement, "What Do Unitarian Universalists Believe?", was written by the Rev. David Rankin, a UU minister. -- Clip it! Save it! Post it!

o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o

P R O
C H O I C E
N O T E S

On Thursday, October 17th at 7:30 PM the Wayne County Pro-Choice Coalition will meet at Grace Episcopal Church in Honesdale. Pro-choice supporters are invited and urged to attend.

And on Sunday, October 27th at 1:00 PM there will be a pro-choice luncheon at the HoJo Inn in Wilkes-Barre, PA. The highlight of the luncheon will be Barbara Ferraro and Patricia Hussey, two Roman Catholic nuns at odds with their church over the avortion issue. They are co-authors of a recent book: No Turning Back (Two Nuns Battle With the Vatican Over Women's Right to Choose). For ticket information and directions, call Wayne County Pro-Choice Coalition 717-448-2856.

U U C E S
ENRICHMENT
PROGRAMS

The Unitarian Universalist Counseling and Education Service is sponsoring a series of eleven Enrichment Programs beginning in October and running through March of 1992.

Some programs are for one day, but several are for one or two overnights. Brochures about the programs are available at the Fellowship on Sunday. For additional information, call the Rev. Fred Ward, the Director, at 908-359-2097.



"First off, secular humanism is out."

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
MEETING AT "INNISFREE" -- RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



For information: 717-729-8720
914-252-7553

October newsletter
(insert)

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP
REGARDING SPONSORSHIP OF THE RIVER SCHOOL**

As reported in the current Newsletter, a parent-run Montessori school known as The River School, which we voted to sponsor at our August annual meeting, opened its doors right on schedule at the beginning of September. Stop by and take a look at the beautiful construction job which school parents have done, on the main level of Innisfree's former dormitory building in Milanville. Classes for children aged six to nine, and nine to twelve, are in operation. About seventeen children are presently enrolled. Contributions to the school, made through the Fellowship, are tax-deductible. They have a "wish list" available.

Articles of Agreement between Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and The River School have been substantially worked out by representative groups from both bodies, but not yet signed. The two-page draft document includes the following outlined points:

1. School will abide by relevant portions of UDUUF Statement of Purpose;
2. Fellowship will be represented on school board and membership [present UU designees include: Carmen Rue as board member; Bud and Tom Rue as members-at-large of The River School Association];
3. School will provide regular financial reports and minutes;
4. School will name Fellowship as a co-insured on liability insurance;
5. School is parent-run and will protect Fellowship board and members from liability, providing specific insurance if necessary;
6. School publicity material will affirm it "is sponsored by the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship;"
7. Fellowship requests use of school space for weekly religious education;
8. Renewal of sponsorship will be considered annually;
9. Fellowship will be held harmless for any act or omission by the school;
10. Articles of Agreement will be signed by representatives of both groups, and may be amended by mutual consent.

The Articles of Agreement will be signed by the executive committee of the Fellowship, parents' board of the school, and interested members of each group. **IF YOU WISH TO SIGN AS A MEMBER OF THE FELLOWSHIP, OR WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE FULL TEXT OF THE ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT, PLEASE CALL ME IMMEDIATELY AT (914) 791-7014.**

Congratulations and welcome to the children and parents at The River School! We invite you to visit our Sunday meetings, at 11am, and to otherwise support the Upper Delaware Fellowship. Let us grow together.

Best wishes,
UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
By: Tom Rue, President

Dated: September 29, 1991
Monticello, New York



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS IN
SEPTEMBER

" there is a harmony
In autumn, and a lustre in its
sky." (—Shelley)

Summer will be fading, vacation ending, leaves soon falling, children back to school -- and our Fellowship will continue its programs and activities. Join us every Sunday at 11:00!

✓ September 1 - We begin this new month with Gil Mende leading a program on the subject of: "Ethics and Sexuality." We really look forward to hearing Gil as he presents this topic that is of concern and interest to all. As usual, members and friends will have an opportunity to share in a discussion.

September 8 - On this Sunday we will put our heads together as we do some program planning. An important meeting. This is a time when you have the chance to let us know what kind of programs you want in the coming months. So be sure to come with your ideas. Your ideas are needed and valued.

September 15 - Always a sure-fire favorite program is to have Jack Hardy back to share his talents with us. For this program, Jack will be singing some "Political Songs" -- and perhaps have us sing along on some numbers. As you know, Jack Hardy is a man of many talents, and many of us have seen his plays, listened to him sing, and heard some of the songs he has written. Jack and his wife Angela (and their children) live in Callicoon.

September 22 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will speak on the subject, "But We Have Our Principles!" As Unitarian Universalists we have no abstract theological creeds or dogmas -- but we do have concrete principles to guide us and bind us together. The UU Principles, adopted in 1985, have to do with dreams, hopes, and ideals for humanity, not speculative, metaphysical dogmas. This is a good Sunday for all to come who want to know more about what UUs believe and stand for. Bring a friend.

September 29 - Margaret Matthews, a former Peace Corp worker in Togo, Africa, will speak about the Peace Corp. Margaret is a Quaker who lives in Liberty. She also taught English at Community College. We look forward to a very meaningful meeting. Be sure to be with us!

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Ever since our beginnings as a Fellowship, we have been working, even struggling, to become a viable religious community. Over the past four years we have come a considerable way -- including our acceptance as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association. We have also learned a thing or two.

One of the things we have learned is the very great need for a religious education program for children. Without such a dynamic program, it is doubtful that we will attract and maintain families with younger children. There are, we know, many parents who want their youngsters to have a positive exposure to religious/moral/spiritual concepts in a liberal and non-dogmatic atmosphere. As Unitarian Universalists, we are uniquely qualified to provide such a program.

To do so, however, means getting serious about the idea. An initial requirement, as I see it, is the need to offer someone a reasonable and decent compensation to serve as a Director of Religious Education for our Fellowship, and also to spend money on adequate Beacon Press R. E. materials. In my mind, this is a fundamental first step as we enter this fifth year of our Fellowship.

As a beginning, let us talk about it. How much money are we talking about? What sort of person are we looking for as a Director? How much will we offer as compensation? How much will members and friends give to make it happen!

A program-planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday September 8th. Let's talk it over then! Just how serious are we?

Ray Pontier

Note: See reprint on back page of Aims & Materials used in a UU R. E. Program.

**OUR CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM
AIMS AT DEVELOPING:**

An appreciation and understanding of self as the foundation of a confident and creative individual.

A sense of individual worth and dignity, achieved by exploring the ideas, experiences, and feeling of each child.

A deep regard and sensitivity for each child's uniqueness through using the democratic process, thereby enriching personal relationships.

A curious and questioning mind, that finds challenge in searching for truth, both alone and in company with others.

A knowledge of and reverence for the beauty and order of the universe, based on a child's natural awareness.

WHAT BOOKS ARE USED?

Most of our churches use Beacon Press materials in religious education. This is a series of books or "curriculum" which:

— assumes that life is good and is worth living, and that people are basically good and worthy of trust.

— does not deal with the supernatural, but regards religion as a part of the natural world.

— is based upon current-day insights into child development and child psychology.

— recognizes the age and ability of each individual child.

— deals with the child's world, with religion at his own level.

— teaches the Bible only when the child is old enough to understand it, and then from the viewpoint of modern scholarship.

— asks questions more than it tries to answer them. Aims at helping children learn to answer the questions for themselves.

— helps ideas to grow and develop; encourages independent thinking.

— recognizes that there is truth in most churches, most religions, and helps the child look for this truth.

**ABOUT OUR
FOOD
PANTRY**

Margaret Pontier, our Vice President, reminds us of our Food Pantry -- a project of our Fellowship to collect food for families and individuals who are in need.

Either food or a contribution of money is welcome. The food contributed should be non-perishable -- canned or dry food, cereals of all kinds, etc. We are not equipped to handle perishables such as fresh meat or vegetables.

It is suggested that you bring food to the Fellowship the first Sunday of each month. But any Sunday will do! The food is distributed through food pantries in Honesdale and Monticello on alternate months.

**BRIEFLY
NOTED**

Looking ahead on program: on October 6th, Bert Feldman will talk about

"Tales and History of the Upper Delaware River Valley." ***Our thoughts and best wishes continue to go to Tom Sidwell who has been ill. *** A nice time was had at our Anniversary Brunch at the Falls Port in Hawley on August 11th. More than a dozen people enjoyed the meal and the fellowship. *** Thanks goes to Carmen and Tom Rue who have been printing and mailing the Newsletter each month. Ray Pontier serves as editor and writes the copy. ***Do you have something you want included in the Newsletter? Write it out and get it to Ray Pontier. October deadline is September 18th. ***By the way, when in Honesdale, go to the Harvest Cafe for lunch or dinner. It is owned and run by David and Jill Koepke. ***Did you see the talented acting of Colette and Jesse Ballew at the Tusten Theater recently? Good fun! ***Plans for the River School continue, with many parents and friends working hard to raise money and to prepare the building at Innisfree for the school.***A list of Members and Supportive Friends has been prepared for use. One mistake: the box number of Ray & Barbara Pontier is 626, not 525! ***The list of Aims & Books for R. E. or Church School Program was done by the Rev. Peter Lee Scott of the Lexington, Kentucky UU Church.

Participation in Sunday programs & services makes for a strong Fellowship!

Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
River Road, PO Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443-0123



For Information call: 717-729-8720
974-252-7553



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS IN AUGUST

August 4 - The new and highly rated video "Whose Choice?" will be shown and discussed. Hosted by Sarah Weddington, this documentary presents stories of women who seek abortions, of counselors and providers, of the interfaith, bipartisan, multiculture support for abortion rights. "Abortion rights passivists must become activists. That's the central message of Whose Choice?" Ray Pontier will host the meeting.

August 11 - Anniversary Brunch at Falls Port Restaurant in Hawley. We meet in a private room at 11 A. M. See notice below!

August 18 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on: "A Unitarian Universalist Perspective About God." Although over 90% of Americans claim to believe in God, UUs do not give this belief high priority. Even so, there are those who say with the poet,

"I sometimes wish that God were back
In this dark world and wide;
For though some virtues s/he may lack,
S/he had her/his pleasant side."

The talk will seek to separate some wheat from the chaff

August 25 - "I Have A Dream." It was on August 28, 1963 that Martin Luther King J. gave his immortal speech. We will listen again to the speech -- and talk about where we are today in terms of that dream.

September 1 - Gil Mende will will lead the program on the subject, "Ethics and Sexuality."

Join us every Sunday at Innisfree in Milanville. We gather at 10:30 A. M., with the service starting at 11:00.

ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH ON AUGUST 11TH AT 11:00 A.M.

AT FALLS PORT RESTAURANT 331 MAIN AVENUE
IN HAWLEY, PA.

Adults \$8.95, Children (under 12) \$4.95, and
Senior Citizens \$7.50.

Featuring One Carved Item, Four Hot Entrees, All Your Favorite
Breakfast Items, An Array of Salads & Desserts, Top Your Own Waffles,
Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundaes and Much More.

JOIN US AS WE START OUR FIFTH YEAR!!

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP:

Take note that a brief special meeting of the Fellowship is to be held on Sunday, August 4, 1991 at 12 Noon (following the service) at the Innisfree Recreation Hall, Milanville, PA.

The Agenda for the meeting will include:

- 1) Adopt minutes of Annual Meeting of July 7, 1991;
- 2) Authorize application for a Certificate of Authority to do business in Pennsylvania as a Foreign Not-For-Profit Corporation;
- 3) Status Report on the River School;
- 4) Other matters of concern to the Fellowship.

Gil Mende, Secretary

WELCOME TO

NEW MEMBERS!

It is always a pleasure to welcome new members into our Fellowship! During the month of June the following people signed our Membership Book:

Colette Cohen Ballew
Jesse Ballew

RD 1, Box 284
Damascus, PA 18415
(717-224-6387)

MarJeana Howard

RD 5, Box 135
Honesdale, PA 18431
(717-253-8742)



1991-92 OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Thomas Rue -- President
Margaret Bryant -- Vice President
Carmen Rue -- Treasurer
Gil Mende - Secretary 7/7/91 to 1/1/92
Barbara Pontier -- Secretary 1/1/92 to term

Trustees

Jesse Ballew -- to 1992
Bud Rue -- to 1993
David Koepke -- to 1993

The above were elected at the July 7, 1991 Annual Meeting.

It is a minor miracle in a way -- and a major cause for celebration. We have survived for five years, and our prospects for the future look quite good. When I helped organize this Fellowship I had a very personal motivation -- the desire and need for a liberal religious community in this area where Barbara and I intended to retire. We are thankful that others have felt the same way, and are especially grateful to Bud and Ann Rue for making possible a place in which we can meet. Over the past four years a dedicated corp of people have enabled the Fellowship to meet regularly every Sunday, develop its own sense of identity and style, become a meaningful force in the area -- and finally, last year, to become an accepted congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

I happen to be very high on Unitarian Universalism. It is one of the only religious bodies that honors and encourages the individual search and struggle for meaning, including all the doubts and hesitations. The UU movement has been called a refuge for rebels, a haven for heretics, and a shelter for skeptics. It is all of that -- but much more. Many people who have difficulty with traditional religious groups, find the UU focus on reason and individual freedom and diversity most refreshing.

At the moment we are a relatively small group of people who maintain the Unitarian Universalist spirit alive in a radius of over 50 miles. We are hoping that many others in this area, who share our liberal religious principles, will join with us -- not only to support us but to become part of a supportive community of caring people. The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship has an important role to play. We invite the participation of others! Plan to be with us on a Sunday morning so you can get to know us. We promise a warm welcome.

RJ P

THE WORKS OF MERCY
FEED THE HUNGRY.
CLOTHE THE NAKED.
GIVE DRINK TO THE
THIRSTY. VISIT THE
IMPRISONED.
CARE FOR THE SICK.
BURY THE DEAD



THE WORKS OF WAR
DESTROY CROPS
AND LAND. SEIZE
FOOD SUPPLIES.
DESTROY HOMES
SCATTER FAMILIES
CONTAMINATE
WATER. IMPRISON
DISEASERS. INFLICT
WOUNDS. BURNS.
KILL THE LIVING

IN BRIEF Tom Sidwell is in Mercy Hospital in Port Jervis. Send a card! ***Progress is being made on The River School to be held at Innisfree. Call for information about registration. *** Did you know? Weekend retreats are held at Innisfree by Dorothy Cameron and Thomas Oliva. For info, call 212-663-1997 ***Members and friends are urged to sign up for a turn at Sunday refreshments. *** Deadline for next Newsletter is August 18th. Your input is needed and welcome. ***Your attendance at Sunday services is important!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



BEGINNING
OUR
FIFTH
YEAR

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

P.O. BOX 123, MILANVILLE, PA 18443

July 1991

Dear Members and Friends,

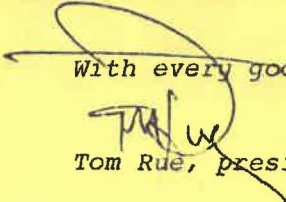
Enclosed are fellowship secretary Gil Mende's minutes of the recent fifth annual meeting of members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Also enclosed (see reverse of this letter) is a proposed budget for the coming year, put together by treasurer Carmen Rue as a result of discussion and resolutions at the annual meeting, as well as a Statement of Income Received and Expenses Paid for the year ended June 30, 1991. Please review these documents in relation to the amount you and your family regularly contribute to the fellowship. Continued financial support is vital to our functioning. If it is within your means, each family unit participating in the fellowship (voting member or not) is asked to contribute a minimum of \$150.00 per year, in order for the fellowship to meet its goal of making annual "fair share" assessments to the U.U.A. Annual Program Fund. Those who have not yet signed the Membership Book are so invited.

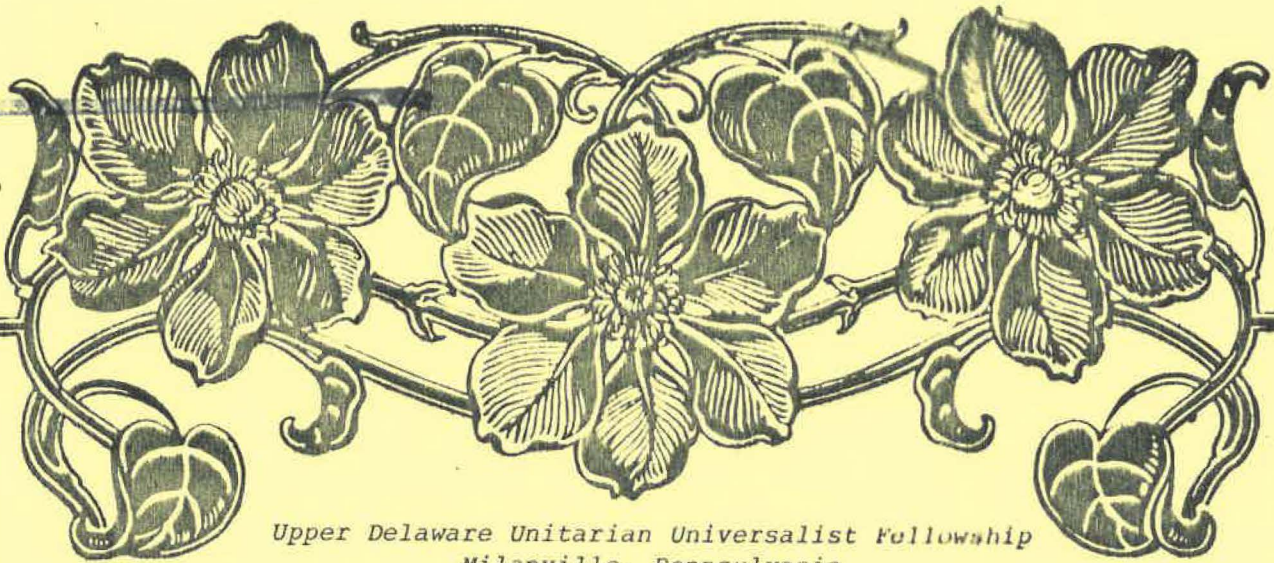
An item discussed during the pot-luck luncheon, after the meeting, concerned format of the "dialogue" portions of our Sunday services. It was agreed that in the future, at the end of speaker programs, the service leader will announce that after a 10 or 15 minute break (noon to about 12:15 p.m.), anyone interested in continuing on the topic at hand may resume discussion. Of course, anyone wishing to leave will be free to do so. But it is hoped that facilitating more dialogue and exchange of ideas will enhance the experience for those who share special interests. There have also been comments to the effect that some of us feel a need to make our programs a bit more spiritual and perhaps a bit less intellectual. This needs to be pursued too, with input from all quarters.

The most significant action taken during meeting, aside from election of the slate of officers as proposed at the bottom of the enclosed Order of Service, was approval of a proposal to sponsor a Montessori school in the Innisfree dormitory building, called **The River School**. Fellowship/school affiliation will be reviewed by both groups at the end of one year. The new program will serve 6 to 9 year-olds and 9 to 12 year-olds, starting this September. Next year, parents hope to add a 3 to 6 year-old component to the program. Curricula and day-to-day operations will remain in the hands of a parent/teacher association, while corporate responsibility will be maintained by the fellowship executive committee. Financial records for **The River School** will be kept separately from those of the fellowship, with regular statements provided. Fellowship members are free to earmark tax-deductible donations to the fellowship to benefit **The River School**. It is hoped that the fellowship and the school will reflect positively on each other, and each will benefit as the two groups grow together. The values of those people involved with the school coincide closely with those held by many of us in the fellowship. In the near future, the school group will consider accepting the Upper Delaware fellowship's statement of purpose as fundamental to their own. Such an affirmation of mutual aims will solidify our connections and agreement to work together. A copy of a written proposal for the **The River School** may be obtained by contacting the fellowship's newest board member, Jesse Ballew at (717) 224-6387, who with his wife Collette Cohen Ballew have been active in the formation of the school. We wish children, parents and staff of the new school every success as they embark on this endeavor.

Reverend Ray Pontier will continue monthly publication of fellowship newsletters, announcing upcoming programs. We look forward to seeing you soon, with hopes for growth and prosperity.

With every good wish,


Tom Rue, president



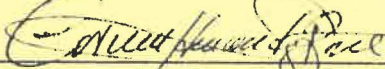
Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Milanville, Pennsylvania

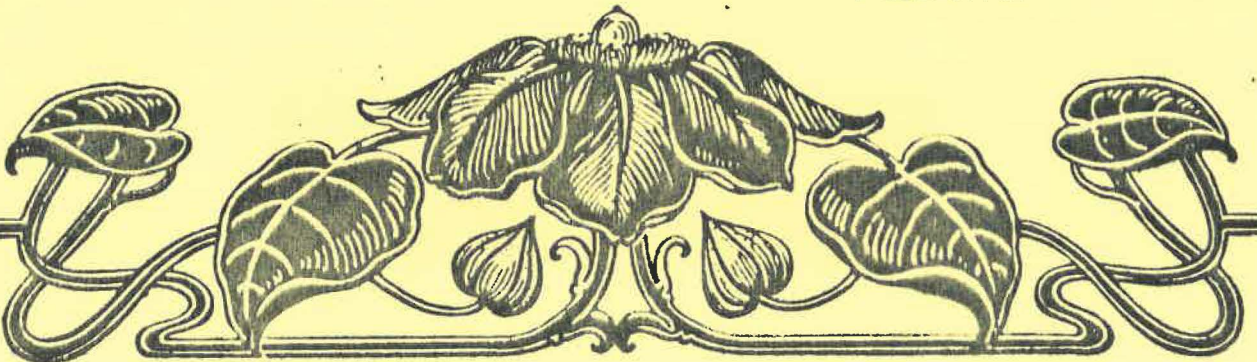
ANNUAL BUDGET

<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>90-91</u> <u>actual</u>	<u>91-91</u> <u>proposed</u>
Heat	\$ 540.00	\$ 540.00
Postage	457.16	500.00
UUA Annual Program Fund	220.00	504.00
(Balance due on 1990-1992 UUA Annual Program Fund)		284.00
Speaker honoraria	225.00	300.00
Photocopying	150.00	200.00
Public liability insurance	148.00	168.00
Annual Brunch/holidays	85.00	125.00
Candles	51.20	50.00
Stationary	38.95	40.00
Childcare	30.00	150.00
Miscellaneous	169.43	200.00
	<u>\$2114.74</u>	<u>\$3061.00</u>

The above budget was constructed during discussion at the Annual Meeting of members on July 7, 1991. In order to reach this goal, we ask that each adult member contribute \$150.00 per year.

Respectfully submitted:


Carmen Hernandez Rue, Treasurer



The River School

MILANVILLE — A new parent-run school will open its doors in Milanville this coming September. The River School will offer a Montessori based program for 6 to 12 year olds in 1991-92. The following year a 3 to 6 year old program will be added as well.

The school is located in a converted dormitory building at the Innisfree Youth Hostel on a 13 acre compound overlooking the Delaware River. It will be directed and administered by a board of parents, with a staff of teachers and aides trained in the Montessori method. Maria Montessori, the first female physician in Italy, pioneered this child-centered method of education used throughout the world today.

This educational system uses observation of a child's development to offer curriculum appropriate to that child at that stage. Learning is accomplished through a child-centered prepared environment; respect for the child's body, mind, emotions and spirit; use of observation techniques; faith in human development; freedom of choice; and through offering concrete experiences before abstract experiences.

The elementary curriculum attempts to link the child to the world and to help the child become aware of the interdependency of all things and the fundamental needs shared by all humans. The study of language, geography, history, geology, botany, mathematics and geometry are the tools used to accomplish this. The developmental goals include independence, order, concentration and coordination.

Presently parents and volunteers are involved in materials and curriculum preparation, building renovation, fundraising and enrollment.

For more information call 914/583-7767, 914/887-4504 or 717/224-6387.



Morning has broken...

Designed by Virginia Walsh of Nashville, TN. Winning design for the 1979/80 Award, given by the Religious Arts Guild and the Worship Arts Clearing House, Education Section, Department of Ministerial and Congregational Services, Unitarian Universalist Association, 25 Beacon, Boston, MA 02108. (c) VW

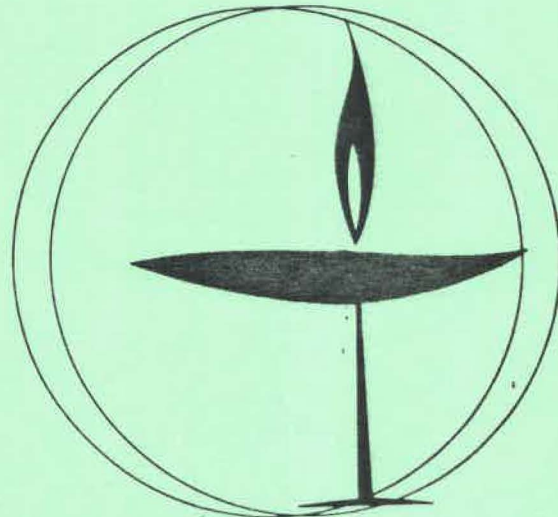


ORDER OF SERVICE

DESCENDING THE RIVER DELAWARE

"...In my Youth, I was Passenger in a little Sloop descending the River Delaware. There being no Wind, we were obliged, when the Ebb was spent, to cast anchor, and wait for the next. The Heat of the Sun on the Vessel was excessive, the Company Strangers to me, and not very agreeable. Near the river Side I saw what I took to be a pleasant green Meadow, in the middle of which was a large shady Tree, where it struck my Fancy I could sit and read, (having a Book in my Pocket,) and pass the time agreeably till the tide turned. I therefore prevail'd with the Captain to put me ashore. Being landed, I found the greatest part of my Meadow was really a Marsh, in crossing which, to come at my Tree, I was up to my Knees in Mire; and I had not placed myself under its Shade five Minutes, before the Muskitoes in Swarms found me out, attack'd my Legs, Hands, and Face, and made my Reading and my Rest impossible; so that I return'd to the Beach, and call'd for the Boat to come and take me aboard again, where I was oblig'd to bear the Heat I had strove to quit, and also the Laugh of the Company. Similar Cases in the Affairs of Life have since frequently fallen under my observation..."

-Letter of Benjamin Franklin to Unitarian minister Joseph Priestley: Paris, France; February 8, 1780. Writings, pp. 1017-1018.



July 7, 1991, 11 am Innisfree Milanville, Penna.

Annual Meeting of Members
Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Inc.

Chalice Lighting. Collette & Jesse Ballew, new members

Welcome Tom Rue, president

Announcements

Opening Words Rev. Ray Pontier, consulting minister

Candlelit Meditations

Business:

1. Election of officers and board members;
2. Financial report and adoption of budget;
3. Proposed sponsorship of The River School;
4. Other matters of concern to the Fellowship.

Closing

Pot Luck Luncheon Outdoors (weather permitting)

91-92 NOMINATIONS

- Tom Rue, President
- Margaret Bryant, Vice President
- Carmen Rue, Treasurer
 - Gil Mende, Secretary (7/7/91 to 1/1/92)
 - Barbara Pontier, Secretary (1/1/92 to term)
- Dave Koepke, Member-At-Large (three years)
- Bud Rue, Member-At-Large (two years)
- Jesse Ballew, Member-At Large (one year)

(Contingent on willingness to serve. Any further nominations may be made from the floor).

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP, INC.
1991 ANNUAL MEETING
JULY 7, 1991

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marjeana Howard
Tom Rue
Ann Rue
Eve Murphy

Ray Pontier
Carmen Rue
John Rue

Barbara Pontier
Bud Rue
Gil Mende

GUESTS PRESENT

Tom Oliva
Alice Van Etten

Dorothy Cameron

Bill Klaber

The meeting was called to order by the president, Tom Rue.

After announcements of upcoming fellowship programs; opening words by Rev. Ray Pontier, consulting minister, which included various members' reading the seven points of the fellowship's statement of purpose; and candle lighting, the business portion of the meeting began.

Two notes from Debbie Lazarus were read: a thank you card expressing her appreciation for the potluck luncheon in her honor and a note in which she resigned from the board of trustees. It was also noted that Jay Shames had made known her resignation from the board.

President Rue read the nominations submitted by the nominating committee:

Tom Rue, president
Margaret Bryant, vice-president
Carmen Rue, treasurer
Gil Mende, secretary
Barbara Pontier, secretary to succeed Gil Mende
when he departs later in the year
Dave Koepke, member at large (3 years)
Bud Rue, member at large (2 years)
Jesse Ballew, member at large (1 year)

The motion was made by Ray Pontier, seconded by Ann Rue, to accept the nominations and elect the entire slate as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

Carmen Rue, treasurer, circulated copies of the treasurer's report for the past year.

On a motion by Bud Rue, it was unanimously voted to authorize payment of the \$284 balance of the annual dues to the Unitarian Universalist Association.

A motion by Ray Pontier to budget \$50 for UU literature was also passed; he will select and order the literature.

The president requested the secretary write a letter to Unlimited News of Monticello stating that the \$36 invoice the fellowship received dated Jan. 22, 1991, for a "directory of churches advertisement" will not be paid due to the fact that the corporation did not authorize an "advertisement."

A discussion ensued regarding the redesigning of the fellowship's stationery.

That led to the subject of the fellowship's brochure, which until this time has been photostated. Tom Rue asked for a motion to update the brochurd and have it professionally typeset. It was so moved by Gil Mende with the proviso that a \$200 cap be placed on the project, seconded by Bud Rue and passed. Tom Rue offered to work up a draft copy and submit it for approval at a regular Sunday meeting of the fellowship.

Tom and Carmen Rue will also work up a projected budget for the coming year, which will be submitted for approval.

Eve Murphy made the motion, seconded by Ray Pontier, to accept the treasurer's report as presented; the motion passed.

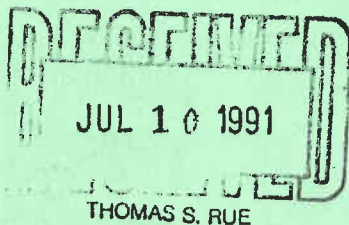
Bill Klaber was introduced and presented the concept of the fellowship's sponsoring the River School. Tom Rue read a list of his own ideas, concerns and expectations regarding the association of the fellowship and the school, emphasizing the mutuality of effort and responsibility that should be required of both parties. A long discussion ensued regarding the legal status of the fellowship in such an undertaking and the liability of the fellowship and its executive committee.

John Rue, having expressed strong reservations about both the philosophical linkage of the two groups and the lack of specific information on the liability question, moved to table a vote on the affiliation for two weeks and to establish a committee to study the two questions more thoroughly. The motion was seconded by Gil Mende and defeated by the vote of the remaining members present.

It was then moved by Bud Rue that the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship sponsor the River School for a period of one year, after which that sponsorship is to be reappraised. As amended by Ray Pontier that such sponsorship be contingent upon satisfactory liability protection being established, the motion was passed by the members present.

Ray Pontier then made the motion to adjourn.

Submitted by Gil Mende, secretary



Freedom
Reason
Diversity

JULY

Newsletter 1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS

IN

JULY

at 11:00 A. M.

July 7 - The regular Annual Meeting of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship will begin at 11:00 A. M. See notice!!

July 14 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject: "The Enduring Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi." The dreams of this man who brought India its independence from Britain is being sorely tested by the current tensions and violence. How does his message of non-violence speak to us today?

July 21 - "Celebrating Seneca Falls!" The first woman's-rights meeting in American history took place in a Methodist church in Seneca Falls, New York on July 19 and 20, 1848. We will recall a few of the events of that meeting and their significance for our time.

July 28 - Several of our members will do a dramatic reading about Susan B. Anthony, one of the influential people in the early woman's movement. The reading will focus on the confrontation of Susan Anthony in seeking the right to vote.

A REMINDER: on Sunday, June 30th we will celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Bill of Rights to our Constitution.

"THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS ARE:
POLITICS WITHOUT PRINCIPLES,
WEALTH WITHOUT WORK
PLEASURE WITHOUT CONSCIENCE,
KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT CHARACTER,
COMMERCE WITHOUT MORALITY,
WORSHIP WITHOUT SACRIFICE,
AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
WITHOUT HUMANITY."

(Mahatma Gandhi)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP:

Take note that the Annual Meeting of the Fellowship is to be held on Sunday, July 7, 1991 at 11:00 A. M. at the Innisfree recreation hall, Milanville, Pennsylvania.

The agenda at the proposed meeting will include:

1. The election of officers and Board for 1991-92.
2. Review of financial report and adoption of 1991-92 budget.
3. Proposed affiliation of the River School with the Fellowship.
4. Discussion of other matters of concern to the Fellowship.

A PDTLUCK LUNCHEON WILL FOLLOW! PLEASE ATTEND!

Ann Rue, Secretary

SIGN A

A full page ad celebrating peace will be in

P E A C E

The River Reporter the week of July 1st to counter so much yellow-ribbon patriotism.

A D !

The ad features a quote from Dwight D. Eisenhower as printed below -- and though non-confrontational, it is positive.

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children. . . . This is not a way of life, at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron. Is there no other way the world may live?

Dwight D. Eisenhower

To pay for the ad, signers are asked to contribute \$10. Send or give your name and money to Ray Pontier, RD 2, Box 626, Narrowsburg, NY or Alice Christov, Box 639, Narrowsburg, NY. The deadline for names is Sunday, June 30th!! Call 924-252-7553 for information. If there is enough money, a second ad might go into the Wayne Independent. Do it now!

"The best portion of a good life is found in little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness."
 (Wordsworth --)

THIS AND THAT It was so very good to see Helen and Tom Sidwell at our Sunday service recently. We welcome them back from Florida for the summer. ***A special farewell pot-luck lunch was held by the Fellowship for Deborah Lazarus and her family. We wish her the best when she moves down to Columbia. We'll miss her. ***Gil Mende has returned from a flying visit to England to attend a wedding. ***Barbara and Ray Pontier attended a Bertrand Russell Conference at Lehigh University the third weekend of June. ***On August 11th (Sunday) our Fellowship will be having its annual Anniversary Brunch. The details as to where will be announced -- but save the date so you can be with us. We will be celebrating our fourth anniversary as a Fellowship and beginning our fifth year. We started in 1987. ***Next Newsletter deadline is August 17th. Get news items and things of interest to Ray Pontier.

The Unitarian Universalist approach to religion has a fundamental difference from that of more orthodox churches. Instead of asserting that the ultimate truth about the nature of life has been revealed to us, we assume that, together, we must engage in a search for those things which can give meaning and importance in our lives. Ours is a vital religion; one of inquiry and growth, rather than one of preconceived answers. Our search is not blind. It is informed by the great religious traditions, including our own Judeo-Christian heritage and liberal religious roots. It is also informed by other insights of both past and present—the richness of the arts, the knowledge of the sciences, the wisdom of experience. I know of no other religious institution taking such an approach. Here is both a respect for the past and an openness to the future... a sharing of adults and children in a serious, yet joyous search.

Douglas Gallager

After long study and experience, I have come to the conclusion that (1) all religions are true; (2) all religions have some error in them; (3) all religions are almost as dear to me as my own Hinduism, in as much as all human beings should be as dear to one as one's own close relatives.

The golden rule of conduct is mutual toleration, seeing that we will never all think alike and we shall see Truth in fragment and from different angles of vision. Conscience is not the same thing for all. Whilst, therefore, it is a good guide for individual conduct, imposition of that conduct upon all will be an insufferable interference with everybody's freedom of conscience.

Gandhi



Islam



Buddhism



Christianity



Unitarian
Universalism



Judaism



Hinduism



Zoroastrianism



Paganism

DEAR NEWSLETTER READER:

WE ARE A SMALL UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP REPRESENTING LIBERAL RELIGION IN THIS ENTIRE AREA. WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN WITH US AND HELP MAKE THE FELLOWSHIP A VIABLE PRESENCE. AS WE GROW WE HOPE TO INCREASE OUR PROGRAMS, START A MEANINGFUL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM, AND HELP INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES COPE IN A DIFFICULT WORLD. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM, SPEAK TO THE REV. PONTIER OR ONE OF THE MEMBERS. WE ALSO HAVE LITERATURE FOR THE TAKING. PLAN TO BE WITH US SOME SUNDAY SOON. WE WILL WELCOME YOU!

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
 RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
 MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123

Carmen and Tom Rue
 P.O. Box 706
 Monticello
 NY 12701





JUNE

Newsletter 1991



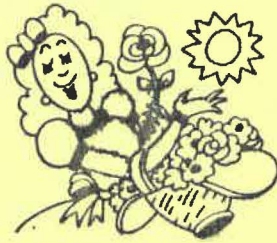
THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS

IN

JUNE

"The holy thing is the participation in those processes that give body and form to universal justice." (James Luther Adams)



✓ June 9 - Our own Ann Rue will lead a program on "Children: the Victims of Our Society." Child abuse and molestation is of alarming proportions -- and children are the first to suffer from the lack of education, inferior medical care, and broken homes. It was recently noted that over 100,000 Iraqi children will die because of American bombing. Be sure to be with us for this important program.

June 16 - "So What Else Is New? Reflections on the New Age Movement." Ray Pontier will have this for his subject as he discusses some of the pluses and minuses of the New Age movement. Shirley MacLaine has given aspects of it high visibility, and it continues to attract followers and adherents. Is it hereto stay? or just another fad?

June 23 - "Shared Readings" will constitute our program on this Sunday. Plan to bring something you want to share -- poetry or prose, modern or ancient, inspirational or provocative, serious or humorous. Or, if you want, just come and listen.

June 30 - On this Sunday preceding the 4th of July our program will deal with "The Bill of Rights" to the Constitution of the United States. This year is the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights -- and this seems an appropriate time to celebrate the first ten amendments which guarantee basic liberties.

July 7 - The Annual Meeting of our Fellowship will be held on this Sunday at 11:00 A. M. See note in opposite column!

THE ANNUAL MEETING

This is a preliminary notice of the Annual Meeting of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship to be held at Innisfree on Sunday, July 7th and starting promptly at 11:00 A. M.

Immediately following the meeting we will have a covered dish/pot luck luncheon -- and all attending are asked to bring a covered dish in sufficient quantity for sharing.

This is an important meeting -- and we urge all members (and friends) to be with us. New Officers and Trustees are to be elected, a budget will be approved, and such other business as may be necessary will be presented.

*It's a good thing I'm not in charge here.
I could never have thought of a pine cone
or a pomegranate or a porcupine,
And even if I'd thought of one, how on earth
Would I have engineered a comet
Or organized life in a pond,
And where would I have found the energy
To make each and every snowflake different.
(It's more like me to come up
With one or two passable models,
Make a mold, crank 'em out).
And it's not like me at all to finish up
An entire mountain range, then go back
And carefully touch up with tiny forests of
moss
On the north side of every stone.
I've got a pretty good head for details.
But it does seem likely that I'd have
Left off the dots on a ladybug's back,
And neglected to tie in each and every
Strand of silk to every kernel
Of every ear of corn;
Why, I lived in a house for two years
before I hung the curtains in the bedroom--
I'd probably never get around
To making a waterfall.*

: Evi Seidman

ON HEARING FROM YOU

Most people want to receive our Newsletter, for no one asked to be dropped from the mailing list when we asked last month. We did receive a nice note (and check) from Cheryl & Greg Celeskey who requested to be continued and added "Thank you for being there." It's nice to be wanted! Your comments about our Newsletter and Fellowship are appreciated.

"Religions are different roads converging upon the same point. What does it matter that we take different routes so long as we reach the same point?" (Gandhi)

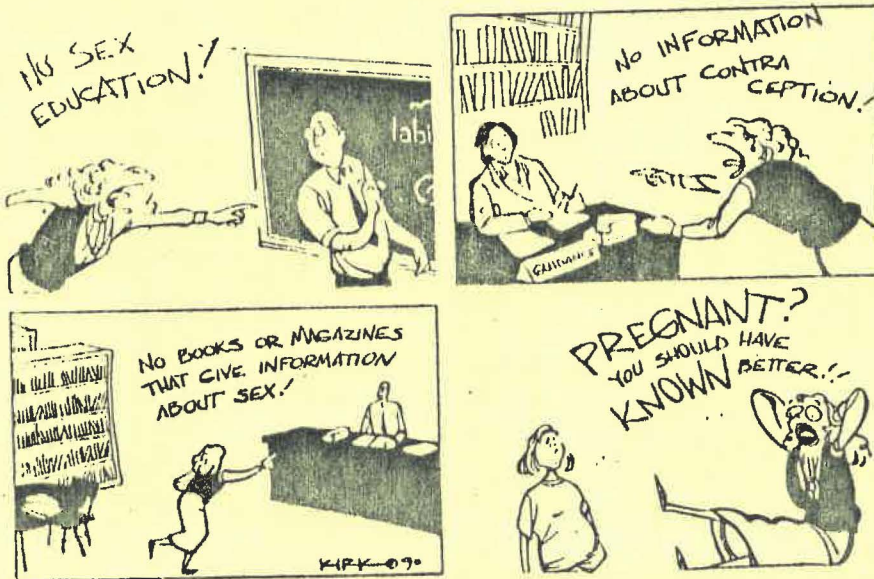
OOPS! SORRY THIS NEWSLETTER IS LATE. WE'VE HAD A MIXUP!!

AND ENDS
 an Alcohol and Drug Rehab Center in Lake Ariel which is owned and operated by Kaare and Ruth Gundersen. A very impressive facility! *** Gil Mende has moved to Milanville (at Innisfree.) His new address is PO Box 40, Milanville, PA 18443. His home phone is 717-729-8007, and his office is 717-253-0811. Mark your list. ***The floors in the Recreation Building where we meet look beautiful after having been refinished. ***On the first Sunday of May about 15 people gathered to plan Sunday programs for the Fellowship. It was an interesting and productive morning, with programs planned through the month of September. Ideas and suggestions from members and friends are always welcomed! ***Question of the month: shall our Fellowship participate in some way in the annual 4th of July parade in Narrowsburg? And are you interested/ willing to be part of it? ***The Main Street Exchange in Narrowsburg had a gala opening recently in the store next to The River Reporter. They welcome contributions of good used clothing, books, housewares, etc. Pay it a visit for real bargains.



"Let us pray. If any of you are Unitarians, do whatever it is you do."

The "Invitation" below was written by John Cummins, a UU minister. Substitute "Fellowship" for "Church".



AN INVITATION

- I invite you to join this church:
- BECAUSE it will enlarge your thinking, challenge old ideas, and suggest new ones.
 - BECAUSE it will nourish your children, encourage them to wonder, and to ask questions.
 - BECAUSE it will support you and help you in the difficult times of life.
 - BECAUSE it is a natural and reasonable religion preaching deeds, not creeds.
 - BECAUSE it reaches out to other faiths and ways and is appropriate to an age of One World.
 - BECAUSE it encourages individual freedom, and is thoroughly democratic.
 - BECAUSE it offers a community of shared values and will enrich your life.
 - BECAUSE just "earning a living" is not enough.
 - BECAUSE it is progressive, and progress requires organization.
 - BECAUSE it is a liberating faith, and deserves your support.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
 RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
 MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



(Meeting at Innisfree every Sunday)

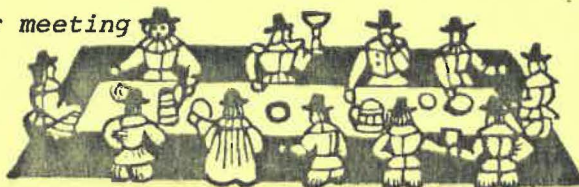
POT-LUCK LUNCHEON TO HONOR DEBORAH LAZARUS

Past fellowship president Deborah Lazarus and her family are moving to Columbia this summer, and can not reasonably be expected to make the weekly commute to attend meetings of the Upper Delaware U.U. Fellowship. Come say goodbye!

WHEN: Sunday, June 9th, noon (after meeting)

WHERE: Innisfree

BRING: Favorite covered dish



SHALL THE FELLOWSHIP SPONSOR AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT INNISFREE?

A proposal has been drafted for a parent controlled Montessori elementary school in Milanville, Pennsylvania (in the dormitory building at Innisfree), under the guidance of and in association with the Children's House of Bethany, Pennsylvania; and affiliated with the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Operation of the school is proposed to commence in September 1991!

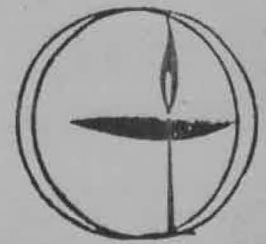
A delegation will be present to discuss the concept with us following the pot-luck lunch on Sunday, June 9th. The purpose of the discussion will be for the Children's House group to gain a sense of whether our fellowship would be interested in sponsoring the school. While it will be beyond the scope of this discussion to make a formal commitment on behalf of the fellowship, the school group needs a sense of whether we are interested in supporting their endeavor.

Among items for discussion will be: the meaning and implications of U.U. "sponsorship" of this project; and benefits in sponsorship of a school for our fellowship (infusion of new blood and energy, etc.)



M A Y

Newsletter 1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS

IN

MAY

"I am in love with
this world."

(John Burroughs)

May 5 - On this first Sunday in May we will have a program-planning session. Come and help us plan programs for the months ahead! Come with your ideas, your interests, your suggestions. We try to meet the needs and the diversity of our members and friends so that our Sunday gatherings are meaningful and worthwhile. Needless to say, this is an important Sunday!

May 12 - "Shall Drugs Be Legalized?" This critical question will be the subject for Dr. Richard Sahn, Professor of Sociology at the Pennsylvania College of Technology. In our society of many crucial problems, this is one of the most pressing. Join us for the presentation by Dr. Sahn and the discussion which follows.

May 19 - We goofed on this one, so the Sunday is open. Unless something else is decided at our May 5th planning session, we will have a program of "Shared Readings" on this date -- a program that had proved to be quite popular. So, unless you hear otherwise, come with that favorite poem or passage, ancient or modern, inspirational or provocative, serious or humorous.

May 26 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject: "Dissent -- The Higher Form of Patriotism." The talk is prompted and motivated by the weekend Barbara and I spent at Rowe Conference Center to hear Liz McAlist-er and Phil Berrigan. Phil and Liz are radical peace activists who are concerned with the fate of the world and of humanity.

Our Fellowship meets every Sunday at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. Our gathering time is 10:30 A. M.

Parents with smaller children are advised that we will have child-care during our services and programs each week. Erin Howard will provide this service two Sundays a month, with members taking turns on other weeks.

"THE HOTTEST PLACES IN HELL ARE RESERVED FOR THOSE WHO, IN TIME OF GREAT MORAL CRISIS, MAINTAIN THEIR NEUTRALITY."

(--DANTE)



WELCOME!

A very warm welcome to those who recently signed the Membership Book of our Fellowship:

Robert Brewer -- Bob, who signed the Membership Book in March, lives with his wife, Muriel, in Lakeville, Pa. 18438. Their phone is 717-226-9269.

David and Jill Koepke signed our Book in April. They live at 307 Golden Road, Honesdale, Pa. 18431, with their phone 717-253-2986. They own and operate The Harvest Cafe on 10th Street in Honesdale and serve delicious food.

SOME THOUGHTS ON MEMBERSHIP

The following comes from the Emerson Unitarian Church in Houston, Texas -- and is slightly adapted to our situation as a Fellowship:

"Choosing to become a member of the Upper Delaware UU means that this Fellowship can make a difference in your life, giving it greater direction, depth, and significance. It means that those signing the Membership Book feel a sense of belonging to this Fellowship, and a sense of commitment to the liberal religious values this Fellowship represents: recognition of a world-wide common humanity; openness and curiosity; a desire to seek the truth; tolerance and acceptance of others; and appreciation of our Judeo-Christian heritage and the insights from all world religions; a sense of wonder and delight before life's mystery and beauty; reverence for all life; gratitude and compassion and generosity.

It also means a willingness to support the Fellowship with ideas, energy, time and money, so that these values can be realized in the world.

For the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship a new member means great enrichment. Each person brings a unique mix of experience, wisdom, perspectives, questions, and talents that enliven our community and keep us growing."

You need not be a member to attend our programs and services, but we do invite you to lend your strength and support to make this a viable community in our area!

ON RECEIVING
OUR NEWSLETTER

We want our monthly Newsletter to go to everyone who wants it. It is our way of keeping in touch and informing you of our activities. We have a mailing list of around 100 people who have expressed interest in our Fellowship -- and we send the Newsletter to all who indicate they want it.

We hope you want it and read it! But if you do not want to receive it, please let us know. Drop a card to the address below or call either Innisfree at 717-729-7197 or Ray Pontier at 914-252-7553.

If you receive the Newsletter and want it, it would help much if you sent in a contribution to help cover the cost of postage. We mail first class, so our 12 month-issues costs us around \$3.60 a year for each one receiving it. And that does not include the cost of paper and printing.



We will still send it free if you really want it. But we will appreciate a little help from our friends.

**The ground so bare, so beaten by winter
Suddenly sends up delicate green,
Then blue, then yellow and red, then white:
Secrets it was saving for us,
Wealth we didn't know we had...**

**Oh, but their stillness, the standing plants,
Oh, but their coolness, the burning blossoms,
Oh, but the miracle from nowhere,
Light out of darkness, gold out of poverty,
Blessings beyond any thinkable dream.**

Mark Van Doren

The most important thing you can do for our Fellowship is to be part of our community on Sunday!

ON
SUPPORTING
OUR
FELLOWSHIP



We don't talk about money all that much. BUT we don't ignore or minimize it either. So this is the Newsletter to get it off our chests.

The fact is, the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is no different from any other group in needing money in order to function. The monthly Newsletter is one item; the cost of paying heat and light at Innisfree is another. (And we get one hell of a bargain there!) We should be paying our speakers at least travel costs, as well as a modest honorarium. So far we've been pretty cheap in this area. There should be money for good UU literature to inform newcomers -- and ourselves. And as we try to develop a religious education program, there is need to purchase adequate materials. Add to this the obligation we have to the annual program fund of the Unitarian Universalist Association -- with a fair share for each member of at least \$25 a year. Plus an annual contribution to the Joseph Priestley District.

The above are minimal. More can/should be added. But to function at around a poverty level we need the financial support of each member and/or family. Your regular commitment and your generosity can raise us above the level of the struggling poor -- and help us be a functioning, dynamic, meaningful religious group in our area. What you give is up to you. But ask yourself what it is worth to have a liberal religious community here in the Upper Delaware region! I know it means a great deal to me.

P.S. You don't have to be a member to be a regular supporter and contributor.

I D E A S ! Come with your ideas and suggestions on Sunday,
I D E A S ! May 5th. What subjects do you want presented and discussed? Social concerns, personal problems, questions of faith and belief, the roots of Unitarian Universalism and what we stand for??

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD, PO BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443-0123



The Problem of Excessive Packaging: As we are becoming more aware, a significant part of what we produce becomes waste. Much of this waste has a short life, serving no other purpose than product packaging.

The disposal of waste is a major national problem. Landfill sites are filling up years before their time, and the buried waste itself is becoming a significant source of ground water contamination.

While the development of recycling holds much promise, recycling is only a part of the solution. Glass and metals can be recycled indefinitely, but paper and plastic can only be recycled several times before they breakdown and become useless. At this point they too become waste and must be disposed of.

Along with *recycling* we must *reduce* the production of unnecessary materials. Every time we do so we preserve valuable resources and reduce the need for the energy used in production and transportation. Reducing energy consumption also reduces the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere.

A Solution Which Needs Your Help:

Photo by Phyllis Campuses of Annapolis, MD.



Procter and Gamble is a major international corporation which produces a number of brand name laundry and household detergents. The brand names include Tide, Ivory, Downy and Mr. Clean among others.

In this country, these liquid products are sold in hard plastic bottles. In Canada and in Germany these products are available in a different, more efficient form of packaging. There, Procter and Gamble offers the consumer flexible, plastic refill pouches which use 70% less plastic material in the packaging. As well as

reducing material production and waste, this form of packaging takes less volume in shipping, weighs less, and takes up less space should it end up in a landfill.

When we called Procter and Gamble to ask why this form of packaging was not available in the United States, we were told that in their view, the American consumer was not interested in the issue of packaging. We do not believe that this is the case. We believe that the American consumer simply does not know what all the options are. We believe that when the options are known the American consumer will make the right choice.

We Recommend the Following Action: On the back of every Procter and Gamble product is a *toll free number (1-800-543-0485)*. Take one minute, today or tomorrow, call and ask Procter and Gamble to offer its liquid products in the type of efficient, flexible, refill pouches that are available in supermarkets in southern Ontario. Tell them that you are very concerned about the issue of excess product packaging and the impact that it is having in your local area. Tell them that as a good corporate citizen they have the responsibility of selling their products in the most efficient form of packaging possible.

If we all take the responsibility of doing this, and we circulate this pamphlet all over the country, Procter and Gamble will make these changes tomorrow. When Procter and Gamble changes so will Lever Brothers, Arm and Hammer, and Colgate Palmolive. When it becomes established that the issue of excessive packaging is important to the American consumer, corporations will compete with each other to find more efficient forms of packaging, and we will have realized that *this type of individual action is important, and can make a difference.*

Produced by:
The Unitarian Church of Anne Arundel County
333 DuBois Road,
Annapolis, MD, 21401
(301-266-8044)

Distributed by:

UPPER DELAWARE U.U. FELLOWSHIP
RIVER ROAD - P.O. BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA. 18443-0123

(We encourage others to reproduce and distribute this pamphlet as they see fit)

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Meeting at Innisfree
Milanville, Pennsylvania

CHILDCARE/LIBERAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Families with children of any age are invited to
join us for Sunday meetings, 11:00 a.m. to noon.

Religious Education Coordinator: Ann Rue
phone: (717) 729-7197

Childcare provider: Erin Howard

Volunteers welcome!

Parents and young people are encouraged to
participate or provide input on curriculum/
format.



APRIL

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS

IN

APRIL

"I will arise and go now,
and go to Innisfree."

(--Yeats)

We invite you to join with us every Sunday at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. for our programs and services. Our gathering time is 10:30 A. M., with our program beginning shortly after.



"THE GREEN LAUGHTER OF SPRING"

I am struck dumb with wild and wordless wonder
That on this planet, hurtling 'round the sun,
The green laughter of spring rises to clothe
Our earth through cell and seed and birth
Eternally, in spite of winter's storms and cold.

Through ages of fire and of ice the flow of life
In countless deaths and multi-million forms
Has known the confraternity and miracle of birth.
This, my miracle, my "resurrection of the flesh,"
Too vast, too true for little creeds, is spring's
Unbridled mirth!

John Cummins

April 7 -- Coming all the way from Timonium, Maryland will be the Rev. Doris Alcott to lead a discussion about setting up a religious education program for children and young people. The Rev. Alcott is a Unitarian Universalist minister, and serves as consulting minister for religious education in the Joseph Priestley District. This is an important program! Let us make her long trip worthwhile by a good attendance.

April 14 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on the subject, "Was Mark Twain a Closet Unitarian?" Probably not -- but his ideas and approach to religion certainly fit into the Unitarian Universalist framework. What he had to say about life, religion and politics has continuing relevance.

April 21 - Our newest member, Bob Brewer, will be sharing some of his experiences and thoughts as an officer in the armed forces during World War II. During a time when discrimination was still rampant, he commanded a Black regiment, was part of the army of occupation, and attended the Nuremberg Trials. Although new to our group, Bob is a longtime UU in fact and in spirit. He and his wife Muriel live in Lakeville, Pa. Join us for a good program and discussion.

April 28 - We look forward to the return of folk singer Jack Hardy who will share selections of Celtic music. Jack publishes a magazine about folk music, has cut several records -- and is a playwright who produced "The Blue Garden" which was performed in March at Sullivan County Community College.

May 5 - A program-planning meeting will be held to plan for coming months. Come with your suggestions and ideas!

HAPPENINGS

For those in need: we collect food the first Sunday of the month (or any other Sunday) for distribution. Canned or dried foods, paper goods, and money are welcome. No perishables, please. ***So good to see Ruth and John Olver on a recent Sunday! ***Soon to come: The Main Street Exchange in Narrowsburg. To be located next to The River Reporter, a non-profit community store will sell affordable used and new clothing, along with other items, at a low cost. This will replace the clothing shed at the Tusten Transfer Station. Some start-up funds are urgently needed. For more information, call Laurie Stuart at 914-252-7414. ***The Annual meeting of the Joseph Priestley District is April 5th and 6th in Wilmington, Delaware at First Unitarian Church. ***The General Assembly of the UUA will be held in Hollywood, Florida on June 20th to 25th. Read the extensive notice of it in the new issue of the UU World. ***In that same UU World issue is a list of over 500 UU clergy who signed and paid for a N. Y. Times full page Peace Ad, including Ray Pontier. ***On April 19th to 21st Barbara and Ray Pontier go to Rowe Camp to attend a retreat led by Phil Berrigan and Elizabeth McAlister. Rowe Camp is a UU Conference Center, one of many. ***Newsletter deadline is April 15th. Get notices to Ray Pontier.



WHY IS MEMBERSHIP IMPORTANT?

It does not make you into a Unitarian (Universalist) by the mere fact of joining; you become one by the slow process of thought and life-experience. But it does stand as a symbol of your commitment to a liberal, inclusive, reasoned and contemporary approach to life. It enables you to take part in the democratic ordering of the policies of our congregation. It strengthens our voice and our work in a world where the illiberal forces opposing us are powerfully organized. And it brings you into full participation in a life of a fellowship we find richly rewarding in personal satisfaction.

—Phillip Hewitt, Vancouver, BC



THE MOST VIOLENT NATION

That's what the Senate Judiciary Committee said in a report recently released. The United States is "the most violent and destructive nation on Earth." Violence in this country has no equal among the world's developed countries. More than 1.8 million Americans were murdered, raped, robbed, or assaulted in 1990. Since 1960 the population of the United States has grown 41 percent, while violent crimes have increased 516 percent! Our murder rate is nine times higher than England's and 11 times Japan's. Rape here is 23 times higher than Italy and 26 times higher than in Japan. So it goes in every category of violence and crime.

Violence is everywhere. Television and movies capitalize on it. Our recent "glorious" victory in the war against Iraq, at the cost of untold billions of dollars, killed an estimated 80 to 100,000 Iraqis, laid waste cities, and spread disease and suffering. In the meantime, human needs (housing, education, etc.) remain unmet. We may have a poor trade balance, but we know how to export violence!

Domestic Violence remains pervasive. At the St. Patrick's Day Parade this year, Mayor Dinkens and the Gay contingent with whom he marched suffered the wrath of the Gay-bashers who shouted epithets and threw beer cans. Violence is everywhere -- but the poor, women, Gays, and Blacks are prime targets. Especially Blacks! The recent brutal beating of a black man by Los Angeles police is endemic -- recorded on home video and shown so all the world could watch.

Black people have known violence, police and other, for a long time. So Langston Hughes wrote years ago:

I looked and I saw
That man they called the law.
He was coming
Down the street at me!
I had visions in my head
of being laid out cold and dead,
Or else murdered
By the third degree.

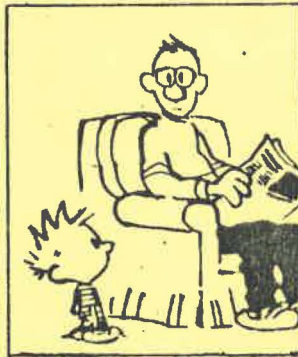
I said, O Lord if you can
Save me from that man!
Don't let him make a pulp
out of me!
But the Lord he was not quick.
The Law raised up his stick
And beat the living hell
Out of me!

Now I do not understand
Why God don't protect a man
From police brutality.
Being poor and black,
I've no weapon to strike back
So who but the Lord
Can protect me?

We'll see.

**ALVIN
AND HOBBS**

by
Bill Watterson

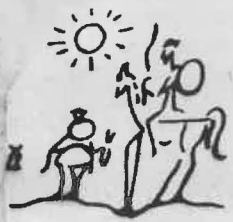


I THINK GROWN-UPS JUST
ACT LIKE THEY KNOW
WHAT THEY'RE DOING.



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Meeting at Innisfree, River Road, Box 123
Milanville, Pa. 18443-0123





MARCH

Newsletter

1991



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

THE SUNDAYS IN MARCH

We invite and welcome everyone to attend our Sunday Services and Programs at Innisfree in Milanville, Pa. Our gathering time is 10:30 A. M., with our program beginning shortly after.



March 3 - Tom Rue, the President of our Fellowship, will be speaking about child abuse, and describe counseling and other supportive services available to families locally. Tom is a National Certified Counselor and has worked in human service agencies in Sullivan and Wayne Counties. With the disclosure of the alarming rise in child abuse, this is an important subject for everyone -- parents, grandparents, relatives, and concerned people everywhere.

March 10 - Because of a cancellation, this date is temporarily open. But there will be a program which will be announced at the Fellowship and in the news media.

March 17 - Kristen Ammerman-Scotfield of Honesdale, a member of the selection committee of Wayne County Habitat for Humanity, will speak about the family selection process, as well as the progress of the group in building a home for a local family. This is a program of particular interest to our Fellowship because of our initial impetus to Habitat, but especially because of the tireless efforts of Bud Rue.

March 24 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier, Consulting minister of the Fellowship, will speak on the subject: "Enduring Values in Ancient Christian Myths." Many people have an inability to think symbolically or mythologically. There are those who would accept myths literally on face value, and those who toss all of them out as nonsense. The talk will deal with some of the enduring values and meanings in Christian mythology and, at the start of Christian Holy Week, some of those associated with Good Friday and Easter.

March 31 - On this last Sunday of the month we will have a program of "Shared Readings" -- maybe some shared wisdom. This happens to be Easter Sunday, so some may wish to talk about any personal meanings this day may have -- or about Passover which starts March 29th. In any event, bring along some prose, a poem, or your own thoughts.

JOHN HAYNES HOLMES: "From every point of view -- from the standpoint of things spiritual, as well as of things material, from the standpoint of the future, as well as the present -- war is the antithesis of life."

MARCH MADNESS

If March has a dubious reputation -- and it does -- it is not wholly without reason. There is a hint of madness in the mere mention of the March hare. Dark deeds are somehow inherent in the ides of March. There is March mud, there are March floods, and there is the lion-lamb tradition.

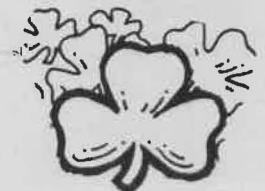
There is more to it than such items, however. The whole story of March includes the vernal equinox, daylight at least exceeding darkness. It includes red-winged blackbirds, back from the South, clamoring in the stream-side tree-tops. It includes pussy willows in fat, silvery catkin. Not today, not even a week from today, but one day before March ends in April.

And there will be those unpredictable days when the March air is warm, the March breeze is gentle, the March sun is friendly as late April. And somewhere March is boys playing marbles, girls playing jacks and hopscotch. Maybe we give March a dubious reputation because we are an impatient kind of animal.

We haven't learned yet that the trip often is more important than the destination. With February out of the way, we want May, or April at the very least; and the only way to April or May is through March. And March insists on being March, neither sinister nor mad, but a mixture of old endings and new beginnings.

(NY Times editorial - date unknown)

FOOD PANTRY In view of continuing needs the Fellowship members voted on February 10th to support area food pantry projects. It is suggested that the first Sunday of each month be set aside as a time for our members and friends to bring canned and dried food to the Fellowship -- or money. You can, of course, bring food any Sunday, but it is hoped that a focus on one Sunday a month will encourage regular participation. Jot it down on your calendar!



BRIEFLY
NOTED



A note from John Bryant extends his gratitude to the Fellowship for the generous contributions after his unfortunate fire at his home. ***For the very first time, the Upper Delaware Unitarian Univ. Fellowship has been listed in the annual UU Association Directory for the year 1991. ***While in Florida in January, Ray and Barbara Pontier had a nice luncheon visit with Tom and Helen Sidwell. They are well and send their greetings. ***Many thanks to all who participated in the program planning the last Sunday in December. Some necessary changes have been made -- and continued suggestions and ideas are still wanted. ***Thanks also to all those who continue to support the Fellowship financially. The regular giving of members and friends is essential if we are function as a Fellowship. ***Of highest priority, of course, is the regular participation of members and friends on Sunday mornings. We have many excellent programs and fine speakers. They deserve your support. ***On Easter Sunday, March 31st, Ray Pontier will be the speaker at the Lakeland UU Fellowship in Wayne. If you have notices or contributions for the Newsletter, please get them to Ray Pontier by the 15th of the month.

"Why, who makes much of a miracle?"

As to me I know of nothing else but miracles. . .

To me every hour of light and dark is a miracle,

Every cubic inch of space is a miracle."

(Walt Whitman)

UUs ARE RESPONDING TO THE WAR IN THE GULF

For information regarding the denomination-wide efforts towards peace in the Persian Gulf, and to share your local response, please call or write:



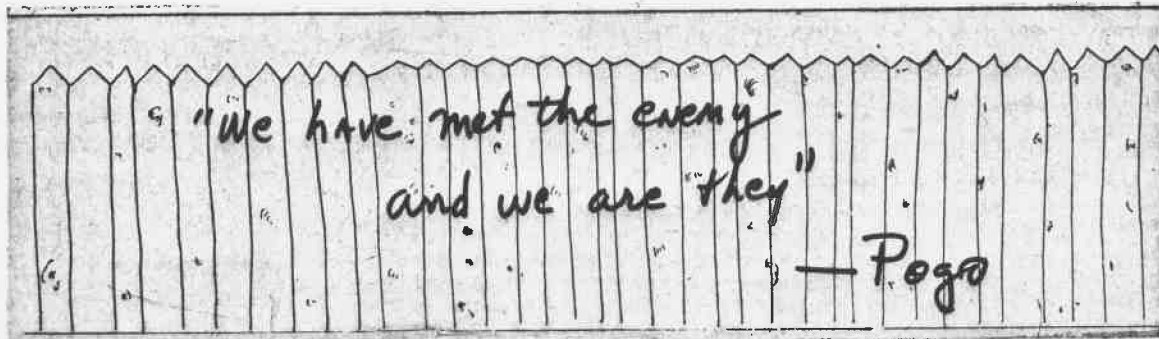
Unitarian Universalist
Peace Network
5808 Greene Street
Phila., PA 19144
(215) 843-2890

"We have probed the earth, excavated it, burned it, ripped things from it, buried things in it.

This does not fit my definition of a good Tenant.

If we were here on a month to month basis, we would have been evicted long ago."

(Rose E. Bird)



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
River Road -- PO Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443-0123





THOMAS S. RUE, M.A.

23 Fisk Avenue (P.O. Box 706)
Monticello, New York 12701

Telephone: (914) 791-7014

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 3, 1991
TO: Reverend Ray Pontier
FROM: ~~Tom Rue~~
RE: Next newsletter

Welcome back!

While you were gone, we put out one newsletter (copy enclosed). For purposes of the next issue, please note the following schedule changes:

March 24 - open (see attached letter from Tony Cellini)

April 7 - you

April 14 - Richard Singleton

April 21 - Dorris Alcott

All else remains as planned, as far as I know now.

I hope you will forgive our scheduling you to speak on particular dates without having you here to consult first. If there are problems with any of the dates we have you down for, we will do what we must to take care of it.

Thanks! See you.

tsr

Enclosures

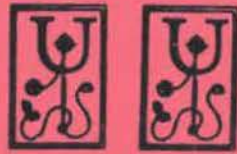
Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley



NEWSLETTER



1991



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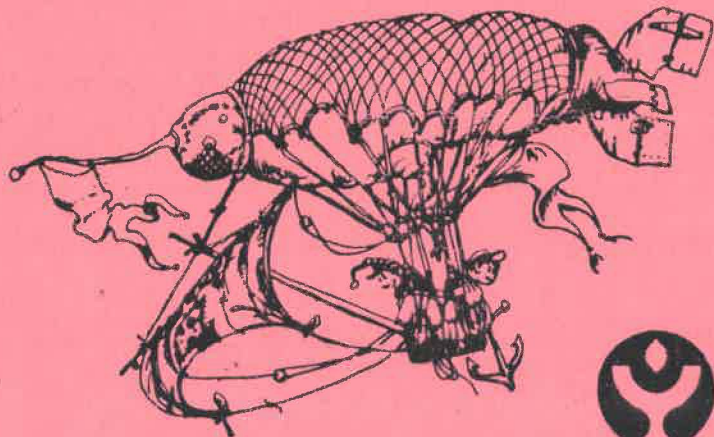
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• Jack Hardy reports a play he wrote, tentatively called "The Blue Garden", will appear at SCCC on March 22, 23 and 24. Produced by Peacemaker Players of the Hortonville Presbyterian Church, with an anti-war theme, the play is partially funded under a grant by the NYS Council for the Arts through the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance.



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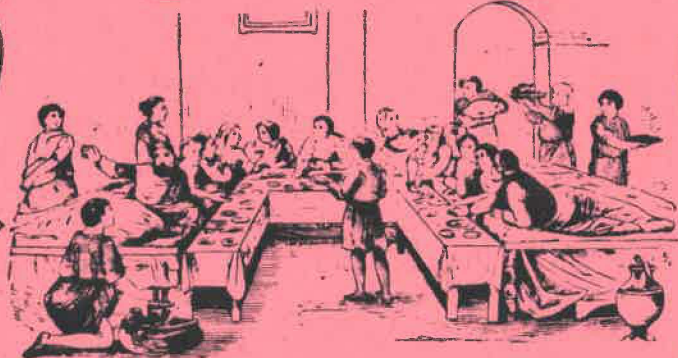
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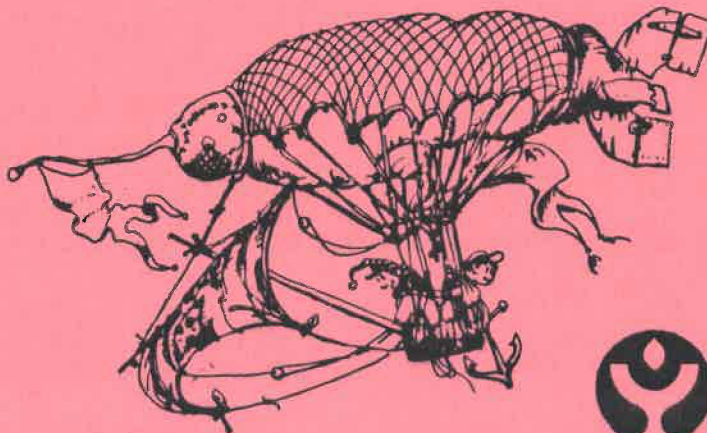
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DECEMBER
1990

Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAY SERVICES IN DECEMBER AT TEN- THIRTY



✓ DECEMBER 2 - "The Twelve Step Recovery Program of Alcoholics Anonymous" will be the subject for our program. Alcohol is the Number One substance abuse in our country, as well as in most of the world. The 12-Step Program has been the most effective means of breaking the pattern for those who want to do so. It is also a program that is translatable to other destructive patterns or habits for those wanting help.

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✓ DECEMBER 16 - This is the month of celebration for both Jewish and Christian traditions. Hanukkah begins on December 12, with Christmas observed on December 25th. Ray Pontier will explore some of the meanings of these two religious holy days. Let us talk about how Unitarian Universalists, who seek what is meaningful in many religious traditions, find meaning in Hanukkah and Christmas.

DECEMBER 23 - Take note: there will not be a morning service/program. Instead, at 7:00 P. M. we are planning a service of Christmas Carols and Candlelight. This will be instead of a similar program on Christmas Eve. Come with all the family to share in readings, singing of carols, and the lighting of candles.

DECEMBER 30 - On this last Sunday of 1990 we will have a program-planning meeting. Come with your ideas and suggestions for 1991 Sunday programs. Your input is needed.



CAROLS & CANDLELIGHT

DECEMBER 23 AT 7:00 P. M.

NO SUNDAY SERVICES JANUARY!

Some UU groups suspend Sunday services in the summer--which is our best time of the year. SO...we will take time

off in the icy winter season by avoiding part of it in January. However, a brunch will be held at Narrowsburg's Chatterbox Cafe on January 13th (or 20th, if bad weather) 10:30 a.m. More details later.

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IS

OFFICIAL

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The future is now in our hands! Our acceptance into the UUA was a sign of trust that we are serious about being a vital and active Unitarian Universalist Fellowship and that we will work to become a meaningful liberal religious presence in our area. This will happen only with the commitment of those who are now part of the Fellowship. But, beyond that, our Fellowship provides an opportunity for many people in our area to join together to make liberal religion a force it can and should be.

THANKS

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A lot of people participated, but extra special thanks goes to Ann and Bud Rue who did so much of the work. And, of course, we are continually grateful for the fact that Bud and Ann make Innisfree available for our meeting place.



BOXES

Please return your "Guest At Your Table" Boxes (or contribution) on Sunday, December 23rd at the Caro and Candlelight Service. Make sure you include your name & address with the box when returned!

All money goes for the work of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee -- in Asia, Africa, Central America and the Caribbean.

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BRIEFLY --
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Ray & Barbara Pontier will head south after Christmas for at least a month. ***Let us make 1991 a year of renewed energy and enthusiasm as we build a stronger Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. ***There is a continuing ongoing need for your regular financial commitment. If you are not able to be at the Fellowship, send your gifts to our Treasurer Carmen Rue in care of Innisfree Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! Joyous Winter Solstice!



TRR Photo by Barbara Yeaman

Deborah Lazarus, Don Stevenson, Tom Rue, Carmen Rue, Ray Pontier, Ann Rue

FOR THE SEASON

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Let us deny apathy and indifference
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The brief Season
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Let us be wise enough to be
a little foolish
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matters of the heart . . .

If only for the Season!
(--Edward Searle)



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Post Office Box 123
Milanville, PA 18443

Carmen and Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701

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*Season's
Greetings*

DECEMBER
1990

Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

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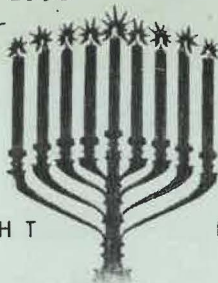
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*Season's
Greetings*

EXTRA!

Fellowship affiliates with U.U.A.



On October 26, 1990, the board of trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations in North America (U.U.A.) voted to admit to membership the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship! This was terrific news for those of us who have waited over three years for that connection to occur.

A "formal token of [that] very special relationship", in the form of a certificate signed by U.U.A. president William B. Schultz and secretary Barry Johnson-Fay, now hangs framed in the fellowship's meeting hall at Innisfree.

"We are delighted that this step has been taken. It is my pleasure to welcome you as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association and to express the Board's hope that your society will grow and prosper," Johnson-Fay wrote.

Members of the Upper Delaware fellowship will soon begin receiving copies of The World, a slick denominational magazine of which samples have been available in the meeting room for some time.

When we adopted our fellowship by-laws, we expressed it as our intent to make an annual "fair share" contribution to U.U.A. This amount is set at \$22.00 per year for each fellowship member, in order to qualify for the status of "honor society". This remains our goal for each coming year.

Joseph Priestley District

When we were accepted into membership of U.U.A., it was the recommendation of the Joseph Priestley District president Donald L. Stevenson, as well as Carl Haag, president of the Metropolitan New York District, that our group be assigned to J.P.D., as a result of our meeting place in Pennsylvania.

"We are both in agreement with the principle that district affiliation of a congregation be determined by its meeting place, and, therefore, I look forward to welcoming UDVUUF into the Joseph Priestley District. Carl and I also agreed that if, at some future time, UDVUUF moves its meeting place to New York, then it would make sense for them to transfer their district affiliation to Metro New York," Stevenson wrote in a recommendation letter addressed to the extension department of U.U.A.

Since we intended to affiliate with the Metropolitan New York District, we must now consider whether to amend our fellowship by-laws to join with J.P.D. (see enclosed notice of special meeting of the membership).

J.P.D. is one of 23 Unitarian Universalist districts, serving 58 societies in central and eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, northern Virginia, and the District of Columbia. It consists of 11,600 members in local societies, and is subdivided into four area



councils. Our fellowship lies within the Susquehanna Valley council.

The district is served professionally by Rev. Sidney Peterman, district consultant, and by Rev. Dorris Dow Alcott, consulting minister in religious education.

District program committees focus on: communications, denominational affairs, extension, financial record keeping (being developed), lesbian and gay concerns, women and religion, youth/adult, leadership development, and Annual Program Fund.

J.P.D. district president Don Stevenson, of Wilmington, Delaware, will personally welcome us into U.U.A. and the district at the NOVEMBER 18th meeting. All members and friends are strongly urged to attend. Following a sermon by our own Rev. Ray Pontier about ethical decision making, Don will lead a fellowship discussion on the subject of growth. Bring a dish for a pot-luck luncheon to follow the service.

Contributions now tax-deductible

With membership in U.U.A., contributions to our local fellowship are now officially recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as "charitable contributions", deductible from the donor's federal income tax.

"Under the current Internal Revenue Code provisions and regulations issued thereunder, churches are automatically tax exempt, I.R.C. Sections 501(a), 501(c)(3) and Sections 508(c)(1)(A)," U.U.A. executive vice president Kathleen Montgomery wrote in a separate letter.

Copies of the I.R.S. letter of determination, as well as a brief letter certifying our fellowship to be "a member congregation in good standing" of U.U.A., are available from fellowship president Tom Rue.



FELLOWSHIP THANKSGIVING DINNER PLANNED

Members and friends, as well as relatives and others, are invited to join together for our 4th annual fellowship Thanksgiving dinner, to be held at Innisfree, in the meeting room, on Thursday, November 22nd.

Plan to gather about 1:00 p.m. for wine and snacks, with dinner to follow shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish for the meal. Speak with John Rue or Gil Mende for suggestions as to what to bring.

It is important to have an idea approximately how many are planning to attend. Please sign up on the bulletin board with the number coming from your party, along with an a note concerning what you plan to bring.

The dinner will replace our regular meeting of the fellowship. No meeting will take place on Sunday, November 24th.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

OF

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE That, pursuant to the N.Y.S. Not-For-Profit Corporation Law, §603(c), a special meeting of the members of members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Inc. is hereby called to be held on Sunday, November 18, 1990 at 12:00 noon (following the regular weekly Sunday meeting which commences at 11:00 a.m.), in the Innisfree recreation hall, in the hamlet of Milanville, County of Wayne, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The purpose of the proposed meeting will be to amend the By-Laws of the fellowship to cause Article IV thereof to read as follows: "This fellowship shall be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, and of the Joseph Priestley District [changed from Metropolitan New York]..."

J.P.D. president Donald Stevenson will attend the meeting to lead a group discussion on the subject of fellowship growth, and welcome us as a member congregation of U.U.A. and the district.

A pot-luck luncheon will follow. Bring a covered dish.

Dated: Milanville, Pennsylvania

November 3, 1990

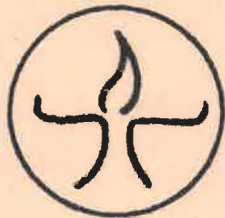


Thomas S. Rue, President

celebrate!



Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
P.O. Box 123
Milanville, Pennsylvania 18443



NOVEMBER

1990

Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS AT TEN-THIRTY

PLAN TO BE WITH US EACH SUNDAY MORNING FOR GOOD PROGRAMS AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP! HELP US MAKE LIBERAL RELIGION VITAL IN OUR AREA.



November 4 - Barbara Pontier will lead a program about "Some Unitarian Universalist Women." Over the years both Unitarians and Universalists have been at the forefront of women's rights. Not only was the first ordained woman minister a Universalist, but today the Unitarian Universalist Association has more women in the ministry than any other denomination. Join us for this informative program.

November 11 - Deborah Lazarus will be conducting a program on "What Does It Mean to be Spiritual?" In the face of so much empty piety and religiosity in our culture, UUs often have difficulty with such concepts as "spiritual" and "religious" -- at the risk of losing something. So how do we define or re-define such concepts so they have meaning and validity in our liberal community?

November 18 - "How Do Unitarian Universalists Make Ethical Decisions?" will be Ray Pontier's subject. As a religious faith without creeds or dogmas, in the absence of external authorities or mandates, how do UUs formulate their ethical and moral standards? How do we decide what is right or wrong? And why?

November 22 (Thursday) Our Annual Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner will be held at Innisfree starting at 1:00 P. M. See details in opposite notice!

November 22 - There will be no meeting of the Fellowship on this Sunday because of our Thursday dinner.

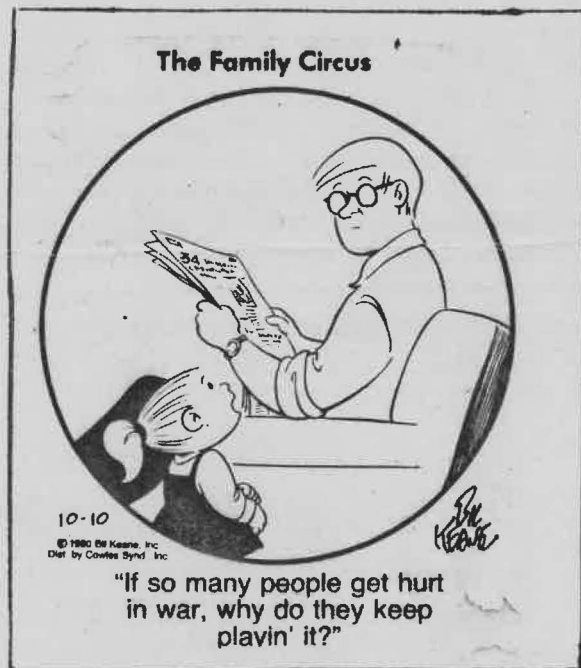
At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

THANKSGIVING DAY
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
DINNER
oooooooooooo
AT INNISFREE
oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo

You are invited to our 4th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner to be held at Innisfree on November 22nd.

Plan to gather about 1:00 P. M. for wine and some snacks, with dinner to follow shortly after. The turkey will be provided, but all who come are asked to bring a covered dish for the meal. Someone will be in touch with you for suggestions as to what to bring.

Fellowship members, family, and friends are invited to join us for the dinner. It is important, however, to know approximately how many will attend. So please, sign up at the Fellowship with the number coming from your party -- or call Innisfree at 717-729-7197, or our President Tom Rue at 914-791-7014.



We often arrogantly feel that we have some divine messianic mission to police the whole world; we are arrogant in not allowing young nations to go through the same growing pains, turbulence and revolution that characterized our history. Our arrogance can be our doom.
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Now, as we continue in our fourth year since our organization, we are about to be received as a member congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Association. This is not official as yet, but it seems most likely in view of the positive recommendations on our behalf. We should receive definite word by the first of November.

When this happens, it should be cause for great rejoicing and celebration. As a liberal religious Fellowship we will be joining with over 150,000 other Unitarian Universalists in over 1,000 congregations across the country. As denominations go, we are not large. Indeed, measured by some, we are a small speck on the horizon. But over the long years of our history, dating back to before the American Revolution, we have been influential far beyond our numbers. It has been said that where Unitarian Universalists are today, Protestantism will be tomorrow. Maybe even Roman Catholicism. We have been avante garde on such things as women's rights, civil rights, pro-choice in abortion, Gay rights, as well as the peace movement. Orthodox religion may not have caught up to us theologically, but there is movement in our direction.

As a Fellowship we represent the only truly liberal religious community in a radius of over 50 miles. The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is an important asset to this entire region. As a friend of mine once said about the previous UU Fellowship I served: "You are an oasis in a desert of conservatism." Indeed we are!

It is in the nature of a minor miracle that we have made it this far -- thanks to the dedication and commitment of a core group of people. Whether we will make it into the future remains an open question. The need is here. That is obvious. But a bright future will depend on a number of factors. More people are needed who give priority to Sunday services. More people are needed who are committed to regular financial support. More people are needed who will help us grow by reaching out to others.

As we enter this our 4th year, and as we are received into the Unitarian Universalist Association, may we make this a time for revitalization and rededication.

We have a lot to offer. Let's value it and share it!

Ray Pontier

REMINDERS

- Nov. 4th -- Worship leader: Ray Pontier
Coffee: Barbara Pontier
- Nov. 11th -- Worship Leaders: Debby Lazarus & Gil Mende
Coffee: Gil Mende
- Nov. 18th - Worship Leader: Ray Pontier
Coffee: Barbara Pontier

*All this talk of saving souls,
Souls weren't made to save,
like Sunday clothes that
give out at the seams.
They're made for wear; they
come with lifetime guarantees.
Don't save your soul.
Pour it out like rain on
cracked, parched earth.
Give your soul away, or
pass it like a candle flame.
Sing it out, or
laugh it up the wind.
Souls were made for hearing
breaking hearts, for puzzling dreams,
remembering August flowers,
forgetting hurts.
-These men who talk of saving souls!
They have the look of bullies
who blow out candles before
you sing happy birthday,
and want the world to be
in alphabetical order.
I will spend my soul,
playing it out like sticky string
into the world,
so I can catch every
last thing I touch.*

Linda M. Underwood,
St. Louis, MO

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



OCTOBER
1990

Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

THE O suns and skies and clouds
OCTOBER of June,
PROGRAMS And flowers of June together,
 Ye cannot rival for one hour
 October's bright blue weather.

 (Helen Hunt Jackson)

October 7 - "The Iraqi Crisis: Pro's and Con's." This will be a discussion program -- with John Rue and Ray Pontier sharing some background material. We've had "The war to end wars," the war "to make the world safe for democracy," the Johnson-Nixon war in Vietnam, Reagan's undeclared war against Nicaragua. Do we now have a Bush war to save feudal sheiks and cheap oil?

October 14 - This happens to be the birth date of ee cummings who was born in 1894 and died in 1962. Did you know that this poet was a Unitarian? John Rue will lead his program -- sharing some of his poetry and his background. Be sure to attend!! In 1925 cummings wrote,

"Humanity i love you because
when you're hard up you pawn your
intelligence to buy a drink."

October 21 - "Was Mark Twain A Closet Unitarian?" Probably not, for religion was not his thing. But he most certainly fits into Unitarian Universalist approaches to life. Ray Pontier will lead the program exploring some of his life and his thinking.

October 28 - Jack Hardy will present a program on "Druidism". Not much more detail at this point, but we will fill you in on one of our October Sundays.

DO WE MISS YOU WHEN YOU ARE NOT HERE
ON A SUNDAY? YOU BET WE DO! Sunday
services are the heartbeat of our
Fellowship and much of our future depends
on what happens then. Good wishes alone
cannot sustain a liberal religious group in
this area.

LOOKING AHEAD

TO

THANKSGIVING

dinner at Innisfree. We hope to do so again this year when Thanksgiving falls on Thursday, November 22nd.

As in past years, this is open to members and friends, families and children, relatives and guests, and to any strangers in our midst. A turkey will be supplied -- but we ask those attending to bring a covered dish in sufficient quantity for members of their party and to share with others. Suggestions will be made as to what to bring.

It would help to have a head-count. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Fellowship -- and/or you can call Bud and Ann Rue at Innisfree or Tom Rue, our President. 'Tis not too early to think about it!

ABOUT MONEY, FINANCES, AND SOMETHING CALLED "CASH FLOW"

it now means taking a severe penalty.

Our plight comes partly from the fact that a \$220 check was recently sent to the UUA as half of our "fair share" payment to be received into the UUA as a member congregation. This should happen in October.

In the meantime, expenses go on -- for rental at Innisfree, newsletter, stamps for mailings, etc.

So, apart from cashing the CD, what's to do? What we hope is that you, members and friends, will pay your pledge/commitment or make regular contributions to the Fellowship. As a Fellowship we depend on regular, systematic giving if we are to be a functioning organization. So, please, get off a check today or make your contribution on Sunday. A shared problem needs a shared solution.





Unitarian Universalist Counseling and Education Service

Attend a UUCES workshop. Ten programs for individuals and couples designed to realize more fully your potential for growth include: DEVELOPMENTAL ISSUES FOR MEN'S

GROUPS, Oct. 13, Rock Tavern, NY, \$39 per person; CELEBRATING OUR TYPE DIFFERENCES, Oct. 27, Mt. Kisco, NY, \$43; COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP, Nov. 3-4, Belle Mead, NJ, \$210 per couple or \$110 per person; BUILDING YOUR OWN SELF ESTEEM, Nov. 17, Morristown, NJ, \$39; PARENTING PRESCHOOLERS: STRESSES & SUCCESSES, Jan. 19, Montclair, NJ, \$39; YOU AND YOUR AGING PARENTS, Jan. 26, Plainfield, NJ \$39; MONTCLAIR II: MEN'S ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS, Feb. 2, Montclair, NJ \$39; COUPLE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM, March 1-3, Princeton, NJ, \$295 per couple; YOUR PASSIONATE PATH, March 16, Rock Tavern, NY, \$39; CARING FOR YOURSELF WHEN SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU DRINKS OR ABUSES DRUGS, April 13, Pomona, NY \$39.

(For more information and/or registration, call Fred Ward [Director] of UUCES 201-359-2097 -- or see brochure at the Fellowship)

MURRAY GROVE CONFERENCE CENTER

A fall renewal weekend for women will be held at Murray Grove October 19 to 21 on the theme: "Working the Circle: What Does Feminism Mean to Me?"

The cost for two nights and six meals is \$85 per person, plus a \$25 registration fee. This is sponsored by the Metro New York and Joseph Priestley Women's associations. (See flyer at the Fellowship)

THANKSGIVING EVE SLEEP-OVER 4th Universalist Church at 76th St. & Central Park West in New York City invites UUs to sleep over in the gym to

see the Thanksgiving Day Parade. Bring sleeping bags & pads. Donations are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children. The church is on the parade route. Call 212-595-8410 for info and to register.

I N Our application is in to the UUA for acceptance as a UUA congregation. We hope to hear in October. ***In the meantime, The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is listed in the 1990-1991 Directory of the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York. We are grouped in the Northern Area Council which includes Middletown, Kingston, Rock Tavern, Poughkeepsie, Darien, Hastings, and others. It is noted that we were not yet affiliated with the UUA in August of 1990. ***A Program meeting September 2nd outlined programs through December. We still want/need your input. ***Habitat for Humanity had a successful auction, raising over \$7,000. ***We are a "Do-It-Yourself" organization, so please take a turn for refreshment, Sunday service leadership, etc. ***Your opinion, please. Shall we close for January or February? What is your preference?

Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve. You don't have to know Einstein's theory of relativity to serve. You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics of physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

A PARABLE ABOUT THE WEIGHT OF NOTHING

"Tell me about the weight of a snowflake," a coal mouse asked a wild dove. "Nothing more than nothing," was the answer. "In that case I must tell you a marvelous story," the coal mouse said. "I was sitting on a fir branch, close to the trunk, when it began to snow, not heavily, no, just like in a dream, without any violence. Since I didn't have anything better to do, I counted the snowflakes settling on the twigs and needles of my branch. Their number was exactly 1,478,952. When the next snowflake dropped onto the branch -- nothing more than nothing as you say -- the branch broke off." Having said that, the coal mouse fled away. The dove, since Noah's time an authority on the matter, thought about the story for awhile and finally said to herself, "Perhaps there is only one person's voice lacking for peace to come about in the world."

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



Carmen and Tom Rue
P.O. Box 706
Monticello
NY 12701

SEPTEMBER
1990

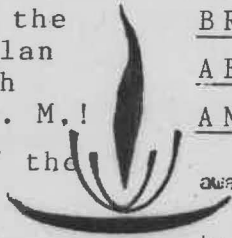
Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

As we move toward the Season of Fall, plan to be with us each Sunday at 10:30 A. M.!



September 2 - On this Sunday of the Labor Day weekend, we plan to do some work by having a "Programming meeting" during which we will discuss and plan programs for the coming months. Check out the back page of this Newsletter for various ideas -- and come with your own! This is a very important Sunday, and we want, need, and urge your attendance and participation.

September 9 - We will have a program of "Shared Readings." This will be as vital and interesting as you make it by bringing a favorite reading of a bit of poetry, prose, light or somber, philosophical or political. The choice is yours. Be sure to come.

September 16 - Ray Pontier will speak on the subject, "Sectarian Unitarianism: An Oxymoron?" The talk will deal with some aspects of UU principles of freedom and diversity -- with a focus on words of William Ellery Channing who said, "I have no anxiety to wear the livery of any party. I indeed take cheerfully the name of Unitarian . . ."

September 23 - "Conflict Resolution" will be the program put on by a group known as Ulster-Sullivan Mediation Inc. The program will deal essentially with non-judicial conflict resolution in such areas as divorce and other disputes and conflicts which can be dealt with outside of a court room.

September 30 - Eve Murphy will lead a program on "The Honesdale Affair -- and Freedom of Speech." Few things have generated more interest in this area than the efforts of "right-to-lifers" to deny a pro-choice group the right to have a table at Honesdale Sidewalk Sale Days. Eve is active in the Wayne County Pro-Choice Coalition.

BRIEFLY NOTED ABOUT THIS AND THAT

Twenty-two (or more) members and friends attended the August 12th Brunch at Settlers Inn to celebrate the Third Anniversary of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. Some photos will be available when the Pontiers finish the roll of film! ***When it comes to anniversaries, the Sidwells get the prize. On August 19th a number of folk from the Fellowship attended their Open House to celebrate Tom and Helen's 57th wedding Anniversary! We will miss the Sidwells when they leave for Florida sometime soon. ***We will also miss Ann and Bud Rue who are leaving in September for a two month trip across the country. Have a safe one! ***The big Auction for Habitat for Humanity was held on August 25th. Very special thanks goes to Bud Rue for putting in all kinds of time and energy, not only into the Auction, but into the entire Habitat project. ***So good to have Deborah Lazarus back with us after her long visit to South America! ***It was indeed a pleasure to have Kaare Gundersen's daughter, Donna, lead an interesting and informative program on August 19th about The White House, a center in Lake Ariel for the treatment of alcohol and drug dependency. ***Lest you forget. The 1990-91 officers of the Fellowship are: President, Tom Rue; Vice President, Margaret Bryant; Secretary, Ann Rue; Treasurer, Carmen Rye. ***Yes, we need the continued financial support of members and friends. Your contributions and pledges are necessary if we are to function!



"BE OURS A RELIGION WHICH LIKE SUNSHINE GOES EVERYWHERE; ITS TEMPLE, ALL SPACE; ITS SHRINE, THE GOOD HEART; ITS CREED, ALL TRUTH; ITS RITUAL, WORKS OF LOVE; ITS PROFESSION OF FAITH, DIVINE LIVING."

(Theodore Parker)

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY!

SUNDAY SERVICES & PROGRAMS: IDEAS & GESTIONS

The following program ideas are meant to stimulate thinking. Add you own. Let us know what appeals to you, what is effective and meaningful. You can voice your opinions on Sunday, September 2nd when we will have a program planning meeting. Important!

- 1) Thinking about/ dealing with the Iraqi crisis. Some pro's and con's.
- 2) Glenn Pontier speak about Delaware River story.
- 3) On October 14 celebrate birthday of Unitarian poet ee cummings. John Rue will do this.
- 4) On December 16 do a program on meaning of Hanukkah, and on December 23 do program on meaning of Christmas.
- 5) Programs on What we Believe:
 - a) About God b) About Jesus c) About the Bible d) About prayer and meditation e) about immortality f) About free will or predestination/determinism g) about other theological/philosophical ideas. You name them.
- 6) Rise of "hate" groups in America: Skinheads, Neo Nazis, Ku Klux Klan, etc.
- 7) Programs on Unitarian Universalist Personalities:
 - a) Early Founders: Channing, Parker, Emerson, John Murray, Hosea Ballou, etc.
 - b) UU Women: Abigail Adams, Susan B. Anthony, Clara Barton, Elizabeth Blackwell, Julia Ward Howe, Dorthea Dix, etc.
 - c) Other noted UUs: Horatio Alger, Alexander Graham Bell, P. T. Barnum, Luther Burbank, Charles Eliot, Horace Greeley, etc.
- 8) Series of programs on UU Purposes and Principles and/or on our own Statement of Purpose.
- 9) With no "holy" book or transcendent authority, how do UUs make ethical decisions? Or handle crisis situations: death, sickness, etc.?
- 9) Origin & meaning of The Flaming Chalice.

- 10) What does it mean to be spiritual or religious?
- 11) Personal and interpersonal concerns and problems: how to deal with them.
- 12) Remembering James Reeb -- UU Civil Rights Martyr.
- 13) Unitarian Universalism: historical backgrounds in both Europe and America.
- 14) Trying to understand other faiths: Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, etc. The pluses and minuses.
- 15) Programs/discussions on political, social, economic, environmental issues of high concern.

o o

A WORD ABOUT PROGRAMMING

There are no program miracles. Programs happen because of people who make them happen. It is great to have a good idea for a program -- but that idea must be implemented by either securing a competent speaker or having a member of the Fellowship prepare for a presentation and discussion. On Sunday, September 2nd come with your ideas and suggestions -- but also with proposals as to how "the idea can be made flesh."

Over the years we have had some excellent outside speakers, but there are limits to availability. Many programs can be done by our own members and friends who are willing to put in the necessary preparation. A number of our own people have led programs in the past, and we hope that they, plus others, will do so in the future.

Our Sunday programs should be as vital and interesting as we can make them. Nothing is more important to the future of our Fellowship than Sunday services -- and our programs need to be designed in variety and interest to make each of us want to attend on Sunday, as well as attract new people.

Help us in our September 2nd planning!!

*Far away there in the sunshine are my
highest aspirations. I may not reach them,
but I can look up and see their beauty, be-
lieve in them, and try to follow where they lead.
Louisa May Alcott*

upper delaware unitarian universalist fellowship
post office box 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



AUGUST
1990

Newsletter

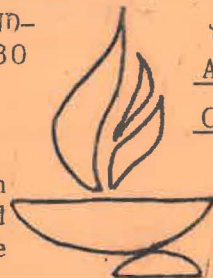


THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

SUNDAYS A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED EVERY SUNDAY AT 10:30 A. M. AT INNISFREE IN MILANVILLE, PA.

JOIN US FOR OUR
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

AUGUST 12TH



✓ August 5 - The program will deal with the concept of active euthanasia, and is motivated by the June 4th suicide of Janet Adkins who was in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease and assisted by Dr. Jack Kevoorkian. Ray Pontier will lead the discussion -- and everyone is invited to share their opinions and feelings. Copies of "The Living Will" will be available.

- August 12 - Something extra special!! All members and friends are invited to attend an Anniversary Brunch at Settlers Inn in Hawley, PA. See more details in opposite column. Come and help us celebrate the beginning of our fourth year as a UU Fellowship.

August 19 - Kaare and Donna Gundersen are in charge of a facility for the treatment of alcoholism and chemical dependency called "The White House" and located in Lake Ariel, Pa. They will tell us about the work they are doing and their philosophy of treatment.

✓ August 26 - Tom and Carmen Rue will lead a program on the subject: "Are UUs Being Invaded?" A 10 minute tape of a program on CBS on July 4th (Hard Copy) will be shown which asks if the UUA is being taken over by witches. The tape will be discussed, and Tom and Carmen will discuss modern witchcraft and the development of the group known as the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS).

In August the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship marks its Third Anniversary. It all began in August of 1987 when a group of interested people met at the home of Ray and Barbara Pontier in response to an advertisement in The River Reporter and other area papers.

As we begin our fourth year, you are invited to our Anniversary Celebration to be held at Settlers Inn in Hawley, Pa. Plan to be at Settlers Inn by 11:00 A. M. on Sunday, August 12th!!

A Sunday Brunch/Lunch will be available at a cost of either \$8.95 or \$9.95 per person, plus tax and tip. We have been promised a private room so we can be together as a group.

Everyone is invited. Members, friends, guests, occasional attenders -- anyone who feels that our liberal religious Fellowship is an asset to the Upper Delaware region. If you have any questions, call Bud or Ann Rue at 717-729-7197, Ray Pontier at 914-252-7553, or Tom Rue at 914-791-7014.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AUCTION!

This is the month! On Saturday, August 25th, Wayne County Habitat for Humanity will

hold an auction at The County Auction on Route 191 South, four miles south of Honesdale. The Auction starts at 1:00 PM, with a Flea Market beginning at 8:00 AM. Donations are still needed! Call Bud Rue for more information.

NEW MEMBERS

In addition to those listed in the last Newsletter, the following also signed the Membership Book in June:

- Jane DeEsch
P.O. Box 35, Greeley, PA 18425
- John Rue
Innisfree, Milanville, PA 18443

From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth,
From the laziness that is content with half-truths,
From the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth,
O God of Truth, deliver us."

(--Ancient prayer)

FREE IMMIGRATION COUNSELING/ADVOCACY SEMINAR

The Seminar will be held July 27th from 10 AM to 4:30 PM at Sullivan County Supervisors Chambers in the Government Center in Monticello

Among the Keynote Speakers will be Carmen Rue.

For information call: 914-791-7014

IDEAS, IDEAS, IDEAS!

Your input about Sunday services is wanted, needed, important. Let us hear your suggestions for speakers, programs, subjects. What are you interested in hearing and dealing with?

More about Unitarian Universalism? Our history & roots? Our beliefs?

More on religious concepts in general? Concepts about God, meditation/prayer, ethics and values?

More on interpersonal relations? Dealing with conflict, getting along with other people?

More about social concerns? Business and political ethics? Prejudice and discrimination, war and peace?

More cutting-edge issues -- homosexuality, abortion, euthanasia, etc.?

More or less of what? Let us know what you think!

AS WE GO INTO OUR FOURTH YEAR AS A FELLOWSHIP, WHAT DO YOU LIKE, DISLIKE, WANT IMPROVED OR CHANGED?

Nothing can strengthen our Fellowship more than being with each other on a Sunday morning.

LAST MONTH THE NEWSLETTER PRINTED "THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE" OF OUR OWN UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP AS ADOPTED JUNE 17, 1990. THIS MONTH "THE PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES" OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION ARE PRINTED, ADOPTED JUNE 1985.

**Unitarian Universalist Association
Principles and Purposes**

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;

The rights of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The living tradition we share draws from many sources:

Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;

Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;

Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;

Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;

Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit.

Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443

Sunday Aug. 12



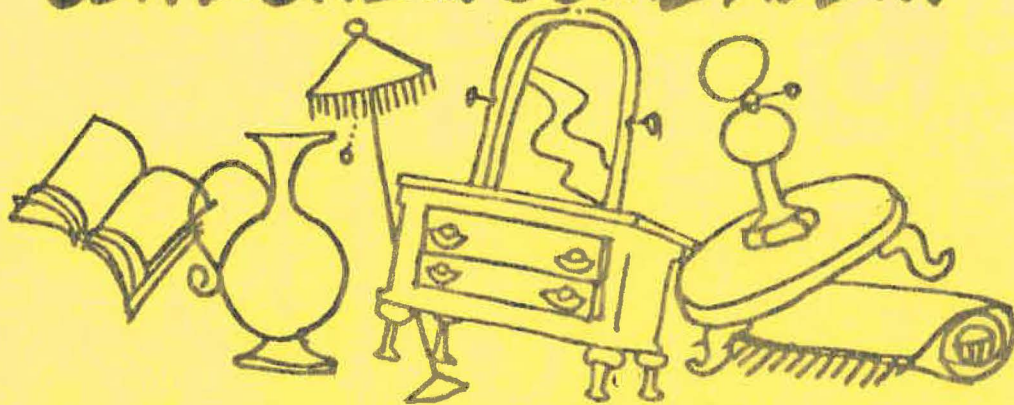
Summertime brunch of U.U. Fellowship

PLACE: SETTLER'S INN TIME: 11 AM COST: \$8.95 - \$10.95

LOTS OF GOODIES, SUCH AS FRESH FRUIT, BREAKFAST BREADS, EGGS BENEDICT OR PAN FRIED TROUT OR PERHAPS A PUFF PASTRY FILLED W/ VEGES. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE IF YOU NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CK. IN WITH A BOARD MEMBER... WE WANT EVERYONE TO BE THERE. SUMMERTIME BRUNCH REPLACES SERVICES AT INNISFREE.



COME ONE... COME ALL...



AUCTION

TO BENEFIT —

WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER

 **HABITAT** 
FOR HUMANITY

ALL DAY

SAT. AUG. 25, 1990

Flea Market
8 AM - 6 PM
Habitat
Auction
Starts at 1 PM

The Country Auction at
RT. 191 SOUTH • 4 MILES SOUTH OF HONESDALE

• FOOD ALL DAY •

• PH # 717-729-7197 ★



J U L Y
1 9 9 0

Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

THE SUNDAY PROGRAMS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY



Join us each Sunday at 10:30 A. M.
at Innisfree in Milanville for good
fellowship and stimulating programs.
(All except July 1st, that is!)

July 1 - Because special activities at
Innisfree and the July 4th celebrations
there will be no program on this date!

July 8 - The Honorable Mark Z. Zimmer,
Assistant District Attorney in Wayne
County, will speak about "Crime Victims
in Wayne County" -- with particular
focus on abuse against women and child-
ren. We are privileged to have
Mr. Zimmer speak to us on this vital
topic.

July 15 - Returning to sing and to lead
us in singing will be Maryanna T. Cass-
ells. Her program will be centered
around "Children's and Folk Songs of the
Jewish People." This is a family pro-
gram -- and you are urged to bring or
invite children and young people.

July 22 - The Rev. Raymond Pontier will
speak about "Bertrand Russell, the Pass-
ionate Sceptic." In June Ray and Barb-
ara attended a conference of the Bert-
rand Russell Society in Hamilton, Ontar-
io. Philosopher, Mathematician, Peace
activist, Nobel Prize Laureate, Member
of British House of Lords -- Russell has
continued relevance.

July 29 - "Underwater Photography" will
be the program presented by Teddy Eis-
enberg who will take us on a journey in-
to the Red Sea and the Caribbean. Mr.
Eisenberg is a local artist from the
Town of Tusten.

August 5 - Ray Pontier will lead a dis-
cussion on "Suicide and the Right to Die."
The program is motivated by the June 4th
suicide of Janet Adkins who was in the
early stages of Alzheimer's disease --
and assisted by Dr. Jack Kevorkian. Come
and share your opinions and feelings.

ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

At the Third Annual Meeting of the
Upper Delaware Unitarian Universal-
ist Fellowship, with twenty people
in attendance, the following actions were
taken:

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

The following were elected
as officers for the year

of 1990-91:

President: Thomas Rue
Vice President: Margaret Bryant
Secretary: Ann Rue
Treasurer: Carmen Rue

Elected as Trustee was Deborah Lazarus,
with the full Board of Trustees as foli-
ows:

Barbara Pontier 1991
Jay Shames 1992
Deborah Lazarus 1993

AFFILIATION WITH THE UUA

After some discussion it
was voted unanimously to
apply to the Unitarian Universalist Ass-
ociation to become affiliated as a member
society

BUDGET ITEMS

A total budget of \$2,150 was
adopted -- including such thing
as rental/heat at Innisfree, insurance,
newsletter and postage, speakers and ad-
vertising. It was also voted to contrib-
ute \$220 to the Annual Fund of the UUA
when we apply for membership.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Statement of Purpose of our Fell-
owship (as printed in the May News-
letter) was approved and adopted with minor gram-
matical changes.

Following the meeting a covered dish lunch-
eon was enjoyed by members and friends.

MANY THANKS

Very special thanks to Deborah Lazarus
who completed her term as President and
provided us with such positive leadership during
the past year.

Not everything that is faced can be
changed, but nothing can be changed
which is not faced. James Baldwin

After all else fails, we may have to
resort to reason.

Abba Eban

A VERY WARM WELCOME
On Sunday, June 17 we were delighted to have two people sign our Membership Book and become members of our Fellowship. So we welcome:

Laura DeSimone
PO Box 425, Honesdale, PA 18431

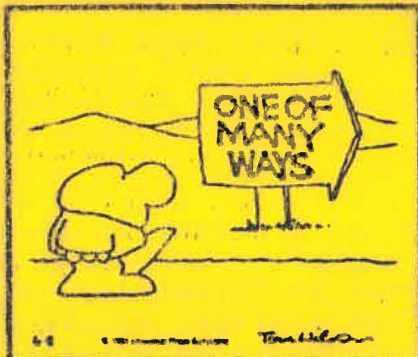
Eve Murphy
RD 3, Box 515
Honesdale, PA 18431

Membership in our Fellowship is a vote affirming the need of and desire for a liberal religious group in our area as expressed through Unitarian Universalism. We invite others to join with us and lend their support.

SUPPORT THE HABITAT AUCTION! On Saturday, August 25th, Wayne County Habitat for Humanity will hold an Auction

at The County Auction on Route 191 So., four miles south of Honesdale. The Auction will start at 1:00 PM. There will also be a Flea Market to be held from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Donations are needed! of services or of items for sale. (No used appliances or clothing, please.) For more information, call Bud Rue at 717-729-7197.



A STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We, the members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, are gathered into a committed relationship:

To make possible a caring and supportive community in which each individual will feel free to chart her or his own spiritual journey in the search for ultimate meaning in life;

To create an atmosphere in which each person will be able to share convictions, express doubts, and explore new dimensions of truth and reality;

To provide a community in which there will be no divisions because of class, ethnic origin, race or sexual orientation;

To offer a place and climate for regular worship, which include such things as fellowship, meditation, learning, and a free and open pulpit;

To work for the vision of a better world by standing for the cause of social justice and human rights, supporting efforts for world peace, and seeking to protect the earth's environment through our respect for the interdependent web of all living things;

To join with others in the tradition of free and open religion in affiliation with the Unitarian Universalist Association;

To bear witness to our convictions as Unitarian Universalists in this entire region by giving our support to the Upper Delaware Fellowship through the dedication of our energies and time and finances, knowing that unless the local group is strong and healthy, little else can be accomplished.

(The above is the Statement of Purpose as adopted on June 17, 1990 by the Fellowship)

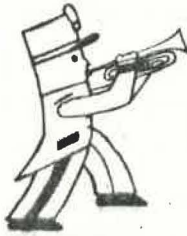
UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443

J U N E
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Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



SUNDAY PROGRAMS FOR JUNE AT 10:30 A. M.

When summer comes, a lot of UU Fellowships close until September. But not us! The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship Has Sunday programs and Services every Sunday -- June, July and August. So plan to be with us each week. Invite a friend, a summer visitor, anyone who is looking for a liberal religious community. Here is the June schedule:

June 3 - Peg and Dale Rosenburg will lead a program on "Working in Ghana With the Peace Corp" -- subtitled, "You can be Young Again!" This will be a most meaningful program, and especially so as the Peace Corp is receiving renewed interest.

June 10 - A program of "Shared Readings," originally scheduled for May 27th, will be held on this Sunday. As you may know, each person is asked to bring a relatively short reading to share with the group -- poetry, prose, inspirational, provocative, humorous, etc. Or, if you wish, you can just come and listen.

June 17 - On this Sunday our Fellowship will hold its ANNUAL MEETING, to be followed by a covered dish lunch. See details in the opposite column -- and triple-star this for attendance!!

June 24 - Laura DeSimone will conduct the program on the subject of "Animal Rights and Hunting." You can be sure that this will be a program bound to evoke a lot of discussion. Laura, an animal rights activist, is most knowledgeable on the topic. Don't miss it.

Members and friends are asked to sign up for a turn to bring refreshments and/or host and conduct a morning service. -- Also, your input is needed for suggestions for Sunday programs.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

On Sunday, June 17th at 10:30 A. M. the Annual meeting of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will be held at Innisfree in Milanville, PA.

Business will consist of the election of officers and trustees, approval of the budget, approval of "A Statement of Purpose" as it appeared in the May Newsletter, and such other items of business as may be necessary.

All members and friends are invited and are urged to attend. Although members only can vote, everyone is invited to share in the discussion.

Following the meeting there will be a covered dish luncheon. Please bring a dish in sufficient quantity to share.

ON BECOMING

A MEMBER

Of course we would like you to sign our Membership Book and become a member of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship and a full-fledged Unitarian Universalist! Easy as pie. You can sign the Membership Book any Sunday during a service -- or some convenient time in private.

Membership means that you are part of a liberal religious community that believes in such basic values as the use of reason, freedom, openness, and diversity. Out of this approach you work out your own theological and philosophical understandings and convictions. It also means, of course, that you make a commitment to work in and through the Upper Delaware Fellowship on behalf of our shared values.

A recent session on "UU Core Values and the Future of Our Movement" concluded that "Many Fellowships are not growth oriented and die." It can be hoped that we will want to grow -- because we have something to offer the larger community around us and because we need the inspiration and strengthening that comes from being in Fellowship. We invite you to join our circle! Speak to Deborah Lazarus, Ray Pontier, or any of the members about signing.

DO YOU HAVE NOTICES, INFORMATION, MATERIAL FOR THE NEWSLETTER? GET THEM TO RAY PONTIER, WHO IS SERVING AS EDITOR, BY THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH -- IN WRITING. SPACE PERMITTING, WE WILL PRINT WHAT IS SUBMITTED.

CUUPS is planning its most ambitious program to date for the 1990 UUA General Assembly, to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from June 21-26. Ecofeminist and Green Activist Charlene Spretnak will deliver the annual CUUPS Keynote address on Friday, June 22, on the topic "Gaia and the Great Transformation." Spretnak, perhaps best known to many UU's for her book *Lost Goddesses of Early Greece*, which is part of the UUA's "Cakes for the Queen of Heaven" program, is also the author of *The Spiritual Dimensions of Green Politics* and (with Fritjof Capra) *Green Politics*, and edited *The Politics of Women's Spirituality*.

Feminist Witch and internationally acclaimed flutist, composer, and healer Kay Gardner will be featured at a concert on Saturday night, June 23. The concert will include the piano version of her groundbreaking composition *A Rainbow Path*, a series of meditations for the clearing and healing of the eight chakras, as well as some of her newest works and a discussion of her ideas on music and healing.

Other programs will include a workshop led by Andras Corban, director of New England's EarthSpirit Community and a teacher of Witchcraft and Wiccan Shamanism for many years, and a "Mother Earth Communion" led by Selena Fox of Circle Sanctuary in Wisconsin. There will also be a midnight Summer Solstice ritual, and the CUUPS Annual Luncheon will feature a talk by "Cakes for the Queen of Heaven" author the Rev. Shirley Ranck.

The above article was submitted by Tom Rue who notes that the Covenant of UU Pagans quarterly Newsletter, "Pagan NUUS" can be received by sending \$8 to: CUUPS, PO Box 640, Cambridge, MA 02104

THE UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY, in addition to regular business, is a smorgasbord of varied group meetings, including along with UU Pagans, the UU Christian Fellowship, the UU Religious Humanists, the UU Service Committee, the UU Peace Fellowship, UU Buddhists, UU Lesbian and Gay Concerns, and many, many more!

oooooooooooooooooooo

THE BEST PORTION OF A GOOD LIFE IS FOUND IN LITTLE, UNREMEMBERED ACTS OF KINDNESS" Wordsworth

PRO-CHOICE COALITION The Wayne County Pro-Choice Coalition meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 P. M. at Grace Episcopal Church on the corner of 9th and Church Street in Honesdale.

For more information, call Eve Murphy at 253-7887. Anyone concerned about a woman's right to choose is invited to attend.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY Thanks to Bud Rue, Wayne County Habitat For Humanity is making great progress. The project, obviously, needs money -- and for this it is planning a major fund-raising project in the form of an Auction on Saturday, August 25th, to be held at The County Auction located on Route 191 South, four miles south of Honesdale. The Auction will start at 1:00 P. M., but a Flea Market will also be held from 8:00 A. M. until 6:00 P. M.

You can help, not only by attending, but by donating items and/or services. For information about the Auction and what to donate, call Bud Rue at 717-729-7197.

TO THINK ABOUT (Leo Rosten)

There is a creed to which, in my judgement, all free men and women must forever hold fast.

We must learn that those we like are not always right and those we don't like are not always wrong.

We must learn to seek change without violence -- not even in words, much less in deeds.

We must meet fanaticism with courage and idealism with caution.

We must be strong enough to be gentle.

We must have the courage to live without absolutes, without dogmas, the courage to seek imaginative escapes from the straight jackets of conformity.

We must know that life will always have unbearable stretches of loneliness and that we can never be truly understood, not even by those who love us; that we cannot completely understand someone else, no matter how we try.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

Sunday Mornings

in May -- 10:30 A. M.

Plan to be with us every Sunday morning for good fellowship and stimulating programs. We meet at Innisfree in Milanville. Always a warm welcome!



May 6 - Young adults from the All Souls Unitarian Church in New York City will be at Innisfree for the weekend -- and for our program we will have a shared service. This is a good time to meet people from one of the largest Unitarian Churches in the country.

May 13 - Barbara and Ray Pontier will lead a program about "The Shakers" -- based upon a week spent at Shakertown in Kentucky where they attended an Elderhostel in January. We will spend some time discussing the concept of communal groups which have proliferated throughout American history.

May 20 - Linda Shepper, a member of the Rock Tavern UU Fellowship, will have as her program, "A Course in Miracles." In our liberal religious group, where there is much skepticism about miracles, this should make for an interesting dialogue.

May 27 - On this Sunday our program will be one of Shared Readings. This is a do-it-yourself program -- and each person is asked to bring a relatively short reading (poetry, prose, inspirational, provocative, humorous, etc.) Somewhere out of your reading you have something to share.

AND, if this Newsletter reaches you before April 29th, be sure to come to hear Gail Starkey speak about pro-choice.



C O M M E N T S After several group meetings to discuss our purpose and our mission as the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, with much input, a committee was appointed to put the various ideas into a workable format. The Committee, consisting of Ann Rue, Deborah Lazarus, Glenn Pontier, and Ray Pontier, agreed to the Statement of Purpose as printed below. This is subject to the final approval of all the members, so if you have particular suggestions and additions, please get them to one of the committee members.

A N D

R E A C T I O N S

A STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

We, the members of the Upper Delaware Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, are gathered into a committed relationship:

To make possible a caring and supportive community in which each individual will feel free to chart her or his own spiritual journey in the search for ultimate meaning in life;

To create an atmosphere in which each person will be able to share convictions, express doubts, and explore new dimensions of truth and reality;

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To work for the vision of a better world by standing for the cause of social justice and human rights, support efforts for world peace, and seek to protect the earth's environment through our respect for the interdependent web of all living things;

To join with others in the tradition of free and open religion in affiliation with the Unitarian Universalist Association;

To bear witness to our convictions as Unitarian Universalists in this entire region by giving our support to the Upper Delaware Fellowship through the dedication of our energies and time and finances, knowing that unless the local group is strong and healthy, little else can be accomplished.

PRO-CHOICE
KEEP ABORTION SAFE & LEGAL

WE
CELEBRATED!

On Sunday, April 22nd, we took time after the service to celebrate a milestone for the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship. We are now officially incorporated! Our next step is to become affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association. In our almost four years since we began we are establishing deep roots as a liberal religious group in the Upper Delaware Valley area. Our thanks goes to all who helped make this possible -- and we invite others who share our convictions to join with us. Invite a friend, a neighbor, an acquaintance to come with you some Sunday morning.

INFORMATION For anyone wanting to know
PLEASE more about our Fellowship, here
are some people to contact:

Deborah Lazarus (Fellowship President)
914-482-3520
Bud & Ann Rue (at Innisfree)
717-729-7197
Margaret Bryant (Fellowship Vice President)
914-583-7324
Carmen Rue (Fellowship Treasurer)
914-791-7014
Raymond J. Pontier (Minister)
914-252-7553

IN A note from Helen & Tom Sidwell sends greetings to the Fellowship, and regrets that they will not be in Eldred this summer. We will miss them very much! ***Thanks to Bud Rue, Habitat for Humanity is coming along well on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware. ***Do you have information or notices for the Newsletter? Get them to Ray Pontier by at least the third Sunday of the month. ***Our expenses are modest, but we do need your regular contributions. The Newsletter, postage, costs of heat, light, etc. for meeting at Innisfree, all mean money. ***We have excellent Sunday programs -- and thank all those who have made them possible.

But when I say "God" it is poetry and not theology. *Nothing* that any theologian ever wrote about God has helped me much, but *everything* that the poets have written about flowers and birds and skies and seas and the saviors of the race and God -- whoever God may be -- has at one time or another reached my soul!

More and more as I grow older, I live in the lovely thought of these seers and prophets. The theologians gather dust upon the shelves of my library, but the poets are stained with my fingers and blotted with my tears. I never seem so near truth as when I care not what I think or believe, but only with these masters of inner vision would live forever.

John Haynes Holmes

Unitarian Minister



"This we know, the Earth does not belong to us, we belong to the Earth. This we know, all things are connected, like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected. Whatever befalls the Earth, befalls the children of the Earth. We did not weave the web of life, we are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves."

—Chief Seattle (1854)

(language modified to be inclusive)

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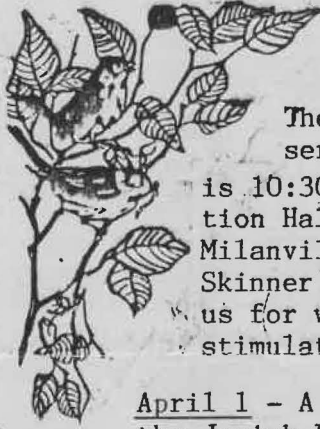


A P R I L
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Newsletter



THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



THE SUNDAYS IN APRIL

The time for our Sunday services and programs is 10:30 A. M. at the Recreation Hall at Innisfree in Milanville (across from the Skinner's Fall Bridge). Join us for warm fellowship and stimulating programs!

April 1 - A program of "Songs of the Jewish People" will be given Marianne Cassells. Ms Cassells is a well-known folk singer who is well versed in Jewish music. She has played and sung at numerous concerts both in the United States and abroad. This is a real treat. You will want to make a special effort to attend!

April 8 - It will be a privilege to have Barbara Yeaman lead a program on "Earthday After Twenty Years: A Celebration?" It is safe to say that nothing is more important than saving our planet from ourselves -- as we continue to foul our own nest. The latest issue of The UU World (March/April) has as its theme: "Faith, Action, and the Environment: Sustaining the Planet that Sustains Us." Be with us for this vital program.

April 15 - Laurie Stuart, also a well-known folk-singer and a member of our Fellowship, will lead us in a program called "A Time to Sing!" A number of people have asked for music at the Fellowship. This is your opportunity! Join in a fun morning of fellowship and singing. Laurie, as you may know, is the General Manager of that great area newspaper, The River Reporter.

April 22 - We look forward to having Bert Feldman speak about "Europe in Transition." The last time Bert was to speak here he was forced to cancel because of heart surgery. We are delighted that he has made a good recovery and is around doing things again. A lot of us enjoy his provocative columns in The River Reporter each week.

April 29 - Gail Starkey, of the Wayne County Pro-Choice Coalition, will lead a program on "Pro-Choice, Why It's Important." UUs have been leaders in the pro-choice cause!

FLASH! THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP IS NOW INCORPORATED!!

Our thanks goes to Jay Shames who has made this possible -- with special thanks to her attorney husband, Mark Shames, who supplied the legal expertise.

Our next step, now that we are incorporated, is to apply to the UUA for full membership in the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Our Fellowship President, Deborah Lazarus, suggests that we celebrate this milestone on Sunday, April 22nd after the service. Everybody, new and old members and friends plan to celebrate with us on the 22nd!

50 YEARS OF THE
UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
SERVICE
COMMITTEE

On March 11th Tom Rue showed a moti picture about some of the history and background of the UU Service Committee -- which inspired several members to suggest having a fund-raiser for the UUSC.

The possibility of having a fund-raiser on July 4th in conjunction with the 4th of July celebration in Narrowsburg was among the suggestions. To do this we need ideas as to the kind of fund-raising activity, people to work, etc. Your input is needed!

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee does significant work in Central America, including Nicaragua and El Salvador.

Why, it was wonderful! Why, all at once
there were leaves,
Leaves at the end of a dry stick, small, alive
Leaves out of wood. It was wonderful,
You can't imagine. They came by the wood path
And the earth loosened, the earth relaxed,
there were flowers
Out of the earth! Think of it! And oak trees
Oozing new green at the tips of them and flowers
Squeezed out of clay, soft flowers, limp
Stalks flowering. Well, it was like a dream,
It happened so quickly, all of a sudden
it happened --
from "The Sowing of the Dead Corn"
--Archibald MacLeish (1892-1982)

BRIEFLY NOTED Every best wish to Carmen Hernandez and Tom Rue who were married on the 6th of February. ***Congratulations to Laura Di Simone on the birth of her daughter, Christina, on February 22nd. Christina weighed in at 6 lb. and 5 oz. All this while Laura was still in a cast with a broken ankle! ***Many thanks to George Moore who gave an interesting program about Nicaragua on March 4th -- especially so because it was out of first hand experience of having lived there. ***On April 1st Ray Pontier will speak at the Newton UU Fellowship, and on April 22nd (Easter) he will be the speaker at the Lakeland UU in Wayne, NJ. ***Bud Rue continues his involvement in Habitat for Humanity -- and invites and encourages others to participate. ***Do you know of anyone who would be in charge of a Child-care program on Sundays here at the Fellowship? A reasonable wage is offered. If we are to attract families with children it is important that make some provision for caring for children during the time of our service. For details contact Bud Rue (717-729-7197) or Deborah Lazarus (914-482-3520)

UNBIASED CHILDREN?

Parents tell me continuously that they do not give their children any religious training, from the feeling that it is taking unfair advantage of the child. They say, "I propose to let my children grow up as far as possible unbiased."

If you do not bias the children, the first one that they meet on the street, or in the school, or among their companions, will begin the work of biasing, of impression, of education, for this is a continuous process. Whether you will or not, it is something over which you have no choice. It is something that will be done either wisely and well, or unwisely and ill.

adapted from Minot Savage
Minister, Church of the Messiah
1896-1906

GETTING TO KNOW THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

The Unitarian Universalist Association is a religious organization that combines two traditions: the Universalists, who organized in 1793, and the Unitarians, who organized in 1825. They merged into the UUA in 1961. Both groups trace their roots in North America to the early Massachusetts settlers and to the founders of the Republic. Overseas their heritages reach back centuries to pioneers in England, Poland, and Transylvania.

There are more than a thousand congregations (Churches, Fellowships, Societies) in the United States, Canada, and overseas -- all democratic in policy and operation and govern themselves. They unite, however, in the Unitarian Universalist Association to provide services and join in ventures they cannot do by themselves.

As a national body, the UUA is governed by a Board of Trustees who are elected by delegates (from each Church or Fellowship) to the General Assembly which meets annually in various areas of the continent. For operational purposes, the denomination is divided into 23 Districts. When we become fully affiliated we probably will belong to the Metropolitan New York District, or commonly called the Metro District.

Unitarian Universalism is a liberal religion with Jewish-Christian roots. It has no creed. It affirms the worth of human beings, advocates freedom of belief and the search for advancing truth, and tries to provide a warm, open, supportive community of people who believe that ethical living is the supreme witness of religion.

The above, somewhat edited, is taken from the Annual Directory of the UUA. It is hoped that we can soon be fully identified with this larger community of Unitarian Universalists!

DID YOU KNOW? The following Unitarians and Universalists were born in April: Dorthea Dix (1802), Edward E. Hale (1822), William Ellery Channing (1780), Abner Kneeland (1774), Hosea Ballou (1771), Edwin Markham (1852), Mary Wollstonecraft (1759), Charles Steinmetz (1865), Thomas Jefferson (1743), Alice Cary (1820) Clarence Darrow (1857)

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY!

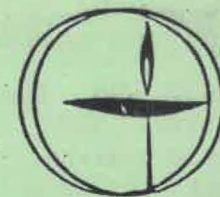
UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443



Tom Rue and Carmen Hernandez
P.O. Box 706
Monticello, NY 12701

MARCH 1990

Newsletter



UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



SUNDAY SERVICES RESUME IN MARCH!

After our Winter break for the month of February, the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship will resume Sunday morning services and programs on Sunday, March 4th.

Our Sunday services are scheduled to start at 10:30 A. M. at Milanville. Let's see if we can really get started close to the appointed hour!

We hope to see all of you March 4th -- members and friends, guests and visitors. The programs for the month, with some changes, are as follows:

March 4 - George Moore will show slides and also share experiences he and his wife had for two and a half years while living in Nicaragua. Recently moved to Narrowsburg, George and his two children, Leo and Indiana, have attended several Sunday services of the Fellowship. We look forward to this program about that vital and controversial country.

March 11 - Tom Rue will lead a program about "Sharing a Vision of Justice." This is a program to celebrate 50 years of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Started during the Second World War, the Service Committee is a highly respected arm of compassion for all Unitarian Universalists as it helps people in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Central America.

March 18 - Ray Pontier will be the speaker, with a change from a previously announced subject. His subject will be, "The Welcoming Congregation: UU's and Homosexuality." This comes out of a program of the UU Association which says, in part, "A Welcoming Congregation does not assume that everyone is heterosexual. . . . A Welcoming Congregation is inclusive and expressive of the concerns of gay, lesbian, and bisexual persons at every level of congregational life."

March 25 - We plan to polish up our "Statement of Purpose and Mission." An important program! --Following the service we will have a Pot-Luck Luncheon. Bring a covered dish.

TO ALL OF YOU OUT THERE A friend of mine once called a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship "an oasis in the desert." In a society of conservative and reactionary religious, political and social attitudes, it is all of that! Although we are small (and want to grow), the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship represents something unique and special in this entire area in terms of a religious community. Those of us who are part of it and who gather for service and programs on Sunday, find that it is almost indispensable.

Although we do not believe that large number of people are necessary for a vital community we do want to increase our numbers and our strength. We know that a lot of people in the area share our general feelings and approach to life and religion -- and we hope that many of them (you) will join with us on Sundays. We have something to give to you, and we are sure you have much to share with us. Come this first Sunday in March. You will receive a warm welcome.

GIVE ME STRENGTH

Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers, but to be fearless in facing them.

Give me strength lightly to bear my joys and sorrows.

Give me strength to make my life fruitful in service.

Give me the strength to raise my mind high above daily trifles

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high!

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;

Where words come out from the depths of truth;

Where tireless striving stretches its arm toward perfection;

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way in the dreary desert of dead habit.

Adapted from *Fruitgathering*
by Rabindranath Tagore

OUR TREASURER, Carmen, reminds us that expenses continue even when we do not meet. Hope you continued your pledge/commitment in February!



WHO ARE WE?

AND WHY ARE WE HERE?

On Sunday, January 7th, in line with the Rev. Howell Lind's suggestion, we spent time in some self-analysis and self-definition -- with the objective of forming a Statement of Purpose and/or Mission. This was a preliminary session in which we did some brainstorming about individual feelings and thoughts.

There is more to be done! On Sunday, March 25th we hope to draft a more polished statement, and we welcome new ideas from anyone who was not at the January meeting. Send any thoughts you may have to Deborah Lazarus.

In the meantime, here are some of responses at the January session to the question: "Why do you/we come to this Fellowship?" The responses are unedited and not in any order of priority.

- **To promote equality between the sexes.
- **To be part of a compatible group.
- **Looking for a group avowedly open and liberal
- **Looking for like-minded thinkers, politically and liberally.
- **Because this is a friendly, good feeling group.
- **To learn more from the speakers.
- **To associate with people of similar values and beliefs.
- **Associate and speak with people on a spiritual, political, and everyday level.
- **For a sense of community, commitment to each other.

**Acceptance within the group of diverse points of view.

**Universal ethical values for our children to grow into.

**A religious education program.

**Seek something spiritual and mystical.

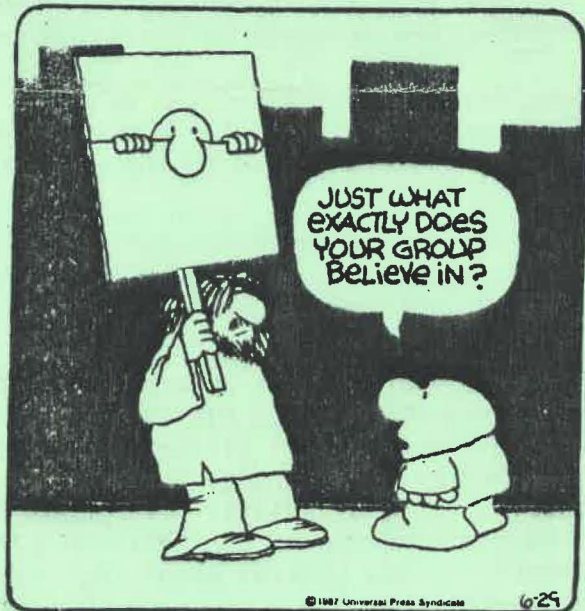
**To share yourself the way you are.

**A group that won't discriminate because of sexual orientation, race, or ethnic background.

**A musical experience.

ZIGGY

Tom Wilson



YOU ARE INVITED TO ADD OR SUBTRACT TO THE PRINTED LIST. LET US KNOW YOUR HOPES, NEEDS, AND EXPECTATION FOR THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP.

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA 18443


ADDENDUM TO MARCH 1990 NEWSLETTER

Baybysitter needed: In order to better serve families with children, and encourage attendance and diversity at meetings, the program committee is looking for a babysitter, to supervise children Sunday mornings. A reasonable wage will be paid, regardless of whether any children are present. If you know of a teen or adult who would be interested in providing this service, contact Bud Rue at (717) 729-7197; or Deborah Lazarus at (914) 482-3520.


Habitat for Humanity: Bud Rue reports that Habitat is alive and well in Wayne County. Habitat International's mid-Atlantic regional director, James Tyree, spoke at the January community meeting of Wayne County Habitat for Humanity in Honesdale. One of the important issues on which he spoke was Habitat's "Christian base" and ecumenical involvement. As long as those who are not of a Christian faith are motivated by a desire to help Habitat accomplish its stated purpose, they are encouraged to help in any way, at any level.

Sullivan County seems to have stalled on the idea of a local chapter, for a number of reasons not all of which are entirely clear.

The Candlelighters



It is the candlelighters of the world
that via us hope in these afflicted
and bleak times
those who staff soup kitchens patiently
to feed the poor
or rehabilitate old buildings
nurse persons with A.I.D.S.
minister to those society forgets
conveniently
the alcoholic's spouse
the drug-inflicted child
a parent lost to Alzheimer's disease
who try to bridge the
ever-widening gap of racism
by caring concern
as well as dialogue.



The candlelighters
these are simple folk
who take responsibility
for lighting one single
candle in the dark
Blessed Be the candlelighters
of the world.

Treasurer's report: Fellowship treasurer, Carmen Rue, reports a 2/17/90 checkbook balance of \$788.83. Those who have not yet made their annual pledge are invited to do so.

Why folks have to work

FEBRUARY 15, 1990 THE RIVER REPORTER



Contributed Photo

Hernandez and Rue marry

MONTICELLO — Carmen Betsabe Hernandez and Thomas Scott Rue were married on the afternoon of February 6 in Monticello by Thompson town justice Burton Ledina. The couple will host a reception on March 24 at Mr. Willy's Restaurant in Monticello.

The bride is the daughter of Carlos and Eugenia Hernandez. She holds a nursing degree from Universida Viarreal in Lima, Peru. She is employed by Right Finishing Co. of Monticello and Sylvia Schachnovosky of Kiamesha Lake. Her three children are: Janesa at Russell Sage College, Eduardo and Caroline in the 4th grade at the K.L. Rutherford Elementary School.

The groom is the son of Bud and Ann Rue of Milanville. He is employed as a family therapist with Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth. He holds a masters degree in counseling services from Rider College and a bachelors in psychology from Trenton State College.

The family will make their home in Monticello.

around the edges, threw the rest over his shoulder, and walked on down the road just as happy and dumb as anything you've ever seen. Well, the sky didn't say a word, but with a great roar, the sky lifted itself up as high as it could, and that was pretty high.

When the people realized what was happening, they began crying and pleading with the sky to come back. They promised that they would never do it again, but the sky acted like it didn't hear a word.

The next day, the people didn't have a thing to eat, and they had to go to work to feed themselves, and that's why folks are working to this very day.

[As told by Julius Lester (1969) in *Black Folktales*, New York: Grove Press, pp. 38-41]

U.D.U.U.F., Incorporated: a status report

At the June 1988 annual meeting, the fellowship membership took the steps necessary to incorporate. At that time, attorney Mark Shames (of the Manhattan firm of Sbeglia & Shames) volunteered to do the paperwork, pro bono. The papers were completed by Mr. Shames, and turned over to an incorporation service to file. According to a spokesperson for the service, the papers were filed some time ago in N.Y.S. Supreme Court, Sullivan County, and are awaiting signature. The judge's secretary there, however, says the documents were never received. The service now says the papers will be filed again.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY
1990

Newsletter



UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)



WE CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR OF NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY!

JOIN WITH US EACH SUNDAY
FOR OUR JANUARY SERVICES
AND PROGRAMS. WE MEET AT
10:30 A. M. AT INNISFREE
IN MILANVILLE.

January 7 - When Howell Lind spoke here, he suggested that we develop our own Statement of Purpose and Faith. Who are we? What do we stand for? On this first Sunday of the New Year we will do some brainstorming about our own self-definition. Old and new members and friends are urged to help us in this process. It should be interesting and fun. This is a change in program, with Ray Pontier to speak later in the year.

January 14 - Laura DeSimone will speak to us on the subject of "Animal Rights." Laura has been active in the movement and is knowledgeable about the issues. Did you know there is a group called UFETA, Unitarian Universalists For Ethical Treatment of Animals? Their purpose states: "We acknowledge and affirm the kinship and interdependence of human and animal kind and adopt the ethics of interspecies compassion as an integral component of our liberal religion. Laura comes from Honesdale and is an active participant in our UU Fellowship.

January 21 - The inimitable and often controversial Bert Feldman will speak on the subject, "What In the World Is Happening!" He will talk about the remarkable new developments and happenings in Eastern Europe and the new demands for democracy. Bert is known to many of us as a regular columnist for The River Reporter. Plan to be with us for a most interesting discussion!

January 28 - The ever-popular program of "Shared Readings" will be the program. You are asked to bring a favorite reading.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

There will be no Sunday services or meetings of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship during the month of February!

Most Unitarian Universalist Fellowships close for the summer month. In deference to the cold weather in our area it was decided to take February off.

Regular Sunday Services and Programs will be resumed in March. A listing of the March programs can be found on the back page of this Newsletter.

A PRAYER FOR ANIMALS BY ALBERT SCHWEITZER

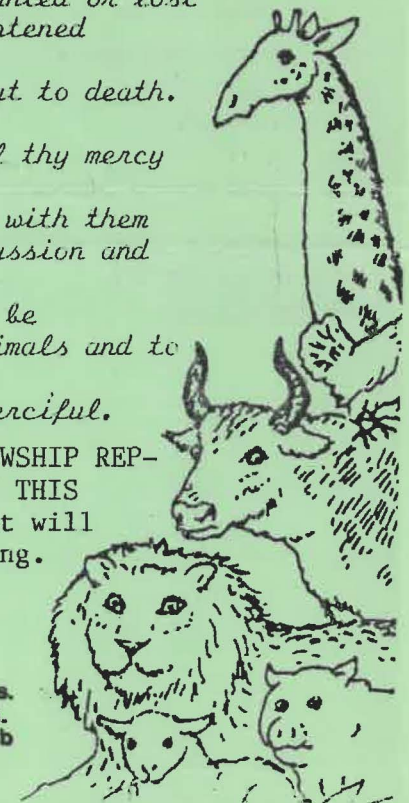
Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends the animals,
Especially for animals who are suffering;
for the many who are hunted or lost
or deserted or frightened
or hungry;
for all that must be put to death.

We entreat for them all thy mercy and pity;
and for those who deal with them we ask a heart of compassion and gentle hands.
Make us, ourselves, to be true friends to the animals and to share the blessings of the merciful.

THE UPPER DELAWARE UU FELLOWSHIP REPRESENTS LIBERAL RELIGION IN THIS ENTIRE REGION! Your support will help make it vital and strong.

* * * * *

Treat the Earth well.
It was not given to you by your parents.
It was loaned to you by your children.
Kenyan proverb





LOOKING AHEAD TO
MARCH PROGRAMS

March 4 - This is a repeat/request program -- with Teddy Eisenberg to show and talk about "Underwater Photography." You will see beautiful slides from the Red Sea, the Caribbean, and other places.

March 11 - Tom Rue will lead a program on "Sharing a Vision of Justice." This is a program to celebrate 50 years of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Started during the Second World War in 1940, the Service Committee is a highly respected arm of compassion as it helps people Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Central America.

March 18 - Ray Pontier will speak on the subject: "Don't Buy The Brooklyn Bridge." Unitarian Universalists have a healthy scepticism which does not succumb to every religious or secular huckster who wants to see some new panacea or ism. We try to be selective buyers.

March 25 - A popular and frequently repeated program of "Shared Readings" will be held on this Sunday. Each member and friend is invited to bring a favorite of meaningful reading -- poetry, humor, news item, editorial -- whatever prompts you. Make it not too short and not too long -- so everyone has a chance to share.

R E M I N D E R - No services or programs in February! Plan to be with us every Sunday in January -- and be sure to return in March!

SAVE AND POST THIS NEWSLETTER! Put it on your bulletin board or refrigerator. The next Newsletter not due out until March.

SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT THE UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP! LEND YOU SUPPORT! INVITE A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR! ATTEND THE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS ON SUNDAY!

We meet each Sunday (except February) at Innisfree in Milanville -- in the Recreation Hall pictured below. We are most fortunate that Ann and Bud Rue have made this available for our use.



oo
o Ours is a free faith, dedicated to the search o
o for truth and the love of humankind. o
o We believe in knowledge, for there is o
o no help in ignorance; o
o We believe in reason, for without it o
o a person surrenders to the blind o
o forces of falsehood & prejudice; o
o We believe in compassion, for revenge o
o and hatred destroy the spirit; o
o We believe in love, for it is life's o
o most creative power; o
o We believe in community, for no one o
o flourishes alone. o
oo

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." (Margaret Mead)

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
MILANVILLE, PA

Tom Rue
P.O.Box 706
Monticello, NY 12701

DECEMBER 1989

Newsletter



UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
(Meeting at Innisfree, Milanville, PA)

THE SUNDAY PROGRAMS

Plan to be with us each week at 10:30 A. M. for meaningful programs and services on Sunday. Here is the December schedule:

December 3 - Deborah Lazarus will lead a program on "Dealing with Stereotypes." We all have our stereotypes -- about teen agers or senior citizens, people on welfare and even the wealthy, minorities of all kinds, etc. etc. You can depend on Deborah to lead a provocative program!

December 10 - Have you had a Mormon missionary knock on your door recently? On this Sunday, Tom Rue will speak about "Mormonism." Tom will speak out of experience. Although now a Unitarian Universalist, he was formerly a Mormon Elder and active in the movement. So what is it that makes the Mormons one of the fastest-growing religious bodies in the world? Come to hear and discuss.

December 17 - "Conscientious Objection in Two Wars" will be the subject -- with Richard Lazarus speaking about his experience as a conscientious objector in World War II, and Glenn Pontier talking about his conscientious objection during the Vietnam War. This is a truly significant program. It would be great to have some young people attend!

December 24 - On this Christmas Eve Sunday there will be no morning service. However, a Candlelight and Carol Service is planned for 7:00 P. M. that evening. Please note the special notice on this page!

I TELL THE ANCIENT STORIES
OF HOPE MADE MANIFEST; DEFTLY PREPARE THE FEAST
PACK LOVE AND TINSEL INTO EVERY GIFT.
MOST MAGICAL OF ALL, I LIGHT A CANDLE --
MY ACT OF FAITH, TO GUIDE THE
SUN'S RETURN.

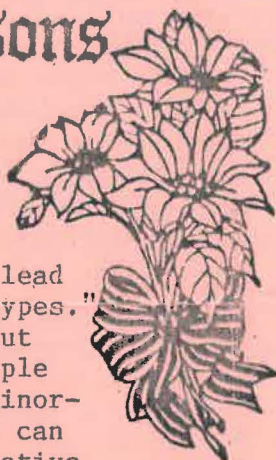
(--Eileen Karpeles)



"We are in this world only once, so we might as well get the hang of it." (Annie Dillard)

[PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL NOT BE A SERVICE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH!]

Seasons



Greetings

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT AND CAROL SERVICE

With Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday, it was decided to have something different by holding a Candlelight and Carol Service at Innisfree.

The Time is 7:00 P. M. on December 24th.

The Place is Innisfree in Milanville.

Ray Pontier will lead the program. There will be readings relating to Christmas and Hannukah. There will be singing -- and it is expected that Greg Pontier will lead it on his guitar -- singing everything from traditional carols to "Jingle Bells."

We hope all members and friends, guests and visitors will join in our celebration on this Christmas Eve. Come with the Children Stay, if you can, for some refreshments and fellowship. We hope to see you!

WELCOME A GUEST AT YOUR TABLE



Coin Boxes for the annual program of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee are available on Sunday at Innisfree. It is suggested that each family take a box -- and put in anywhere from a quarter to fifty cents a meal from Thanksgiving until Christmas.

The money collected goes for the work of the UU Service Committee in Central America, Africa, and the United States. This year the Service Committee is celebrating its 50th anniversary. It was started in 1939 to help victims of the war which was beginning in Europe. Since then it has become the Unitarian Universalist arm of caring and compassion.



A THANKSGIVING POSTSCRIPT

Saying No to Columbus

At a recent conference in Mexico City spokespersons for the World Council of Indian Peoples (CMPI) condemned projected celebrations of America's "discovery" in 1492, estimating that more than 90 million Indians have been killed resisting conquest in the subsequent 500 years: "For Spain, the date symbolizes opening up a New World and offerings of bounteous riches. For the Indian people, however, [it is] as a date of mourning, as it brings memories of massacres, destruction and the loss of the best material and cultural values that were passed down to them by their ancestors." Jorge Valiente Quiplidor, a Kolla from northern Argentina and vice-president of CMPI, added that "no group of people wants to celebrate such widespread genocide."

On October 5 the Colorado Conference of Churches called upon congregations to participate in a "service of confession, repentance and reconciliation" in 1992 in recognition of the oppression Native Americans have suffered since Columbus's arrival.

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT OUR FELLOWSHIP

It is in the nature of a minor miracle to note that the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is now in its third year. There are a number of reasons why it has continued, chief among them is the commitment of a few people who have given time and energy to make it happen.

Very high on the list of reasons is the fact that this kind of an open and liberal Fellowship is needed in this area! There are many other religious groups all around which serve real needs for some people. But I cannot think of a single orthodox/traditional religious group around that would be free and open to talk about such subjects as we regularly deal with and discuss. In recent months we have dealt with (or will deal with) such things as Abortion, Homophobia, Women's Rights, and Conscientious Objection. I venture to say that these things are hardly touched on in orthodox circles. We do more, to be sure, than tackle cutting edge issues but you can be sure we will always be willing to deal with them. For me, this reason alone is enough to make me value this community and want to work for its continuance and growth.

I deeply hope that there are many more out there who share my feeling. If you do, we urge your support for this Fellowship. If we are to move into the future, if we are to continue, we need the help and support of all who feel a liberal religious presence is important in our area. We invite you to help make the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship a significant and meaningful community.

Ray Porter

LOOKING AHEAD
TO JANUARY

The following programs have been planned for
January 1990:

January 7 - Ray Porter will speak on the subject: "Don't Buy the Brooklyn Bridge!" Unitarian Universalists have a healthy scepticism which does not succumb to every huckster (religious or otherwise) who wants to sell some new panacea or "ism." We are selective buyers.

January 14 - We look forward to having Laura DiSimone present a talk and discussion about "Animal Rights." Laura comes from the Honesdale area and has been attending the Fellowship. This is a subject of special interest to her -- and one about which she is knowledgeable.

January 21 - The inimitable Bert Feldman, River Reporter columnist, will speak about the new happenings in Eastern Europe and the new cries for democracy. Bert has his own perspectives as he speaks about "What In the World Is Happening!" January 28 - Shared Readings.

IF ONLY FOR THE SEASON . . .

THE BRIEF SEASON
OF LIGHT,
LIFE,
LOVE,

LET US BE WISE ENOUGH TO BE

A LITTLE FOOLISH
ABOUT CANDLELIGHT AND
CHILDREN AND MATTERS
OF THE HEART . . .

IF ONLY FOR THE SEASON!

(--Edward Searl)

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
POST OFFICE BOX 123
CLANVILLE, PA 18443

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER



COMING PROGRAMS:

July 16 - Group discussion in which members are invited to share spiritual turning points in their lives.

July 23 - Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on a topic to be announced.

July 30 - Deborah Lazarus will speak about personal and social racism.

August 6 - Linda Cellini will describe how Project Share works. Members present will decide whether the Fellowship should participate as an organization in this program.

August 13 - Shared readings.

August 20 - Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on a topic to be announced.

August 27 - Group discussion: what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist.

September 3 - Jerry Ebert of Teamsters Local 445 (Sullivan County public employees) will lead the fellowship in some old union hymns.

September 10 - Barbara Van Horn of Habitat for Humanity will meet with all parties interested in forming a local chapter.

September 17 - Carmen Hernandez, Deborah Lazarus, Margaret Bryant and Tom Rue will present a group reading entitled "Goddesses, Witches, and the Paradigm Shift", a program released by the Women and Religion Task Force, Pacific Central District, Unitarian Universalist Association.

September 24 - Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on a topic to be announced.

INCORPORATION STILL MOVING ALONG

As of this writing (7/9), the fellowship's Certificate of Incorporation was lacking three signatures before it could be filed with the N.Y. Secretary of State.

Following incorporation, formal organizational affiliation with U.U.A. is anticipated.

NEW PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The following people were elected to the Program Committee at the June 18, 1989 annual meeting of the fellowship, pursuant to the By-Laws:

- o Deborah Lazarus, president
- o Margaret Bryant, vice-pres.
- o Tom Rue, secretary
- o Carmen Hernandez, treasurer
- o Bud Rue
- o Jay Shames
- o Barbara Pontier

Other items discussed at the meeting were the Habitat project, fund raising (see "Liberty Day" this page), incorporation status, treasurer's report (current bank balance = \$282.81), and adopting the following 89-90 budget:

Heat.....	\$600.00
UUA contribution.....	350.00
Speaker honoraria.....	300.00
Insurance.....	150.00
Advertising.....	150.00
Postage.....	150.00
Copying.....	100.00
Coffee/food supplies..	75.00
Stationary.....	75.00
TOTAL	\$1985.00

All members must contribute an annual minimum of \$18.00 in order to meet this budget.



SUPPORT UU AT "LIBERTY DAY"!

The Upper Delaware UU Fellowship will sponsor a fund-raising booth at the September 9th "Liberty Day" celebration in Liberty, N.Y.

The plan is to sell soda and possibly fruit cups.

Seventy-five percent of the proceeds benefit the fellowship, with a portion of that amount going to Habitat.

Contact Deborah Lazarus or Bud Rue for more information.

UU NOTES

[To include your announcements in this section, give a brief written summary to Tom Rue.]

Yoga classes by Susan Sullivan in the meeting room at 8:30 a.m. Sundays. Also, Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. First session free, \$5 thereafter. Bring a mat (or blanket), wear loose comfortable clothing. For more information, call Susan at (717) 729-8645.

"UU TIME" IS NOW CLOCK TIME

Sunday meetings of the fellowship will now begin promptly at 10:30 a.m.

A clock has been hung on the meeting room wall.

UU radio announcements: Listen to WDNH, Honesdale, 95.3 FM. "Community calendar" runs at 9:00 a.m., according to Susan Sullivan.

The fellowship meets at 10:30 a.m. Sundays in the recreation hall at Innisfree, River Road, Milanville, PA (near Skinners Falls on the Upper Delaware, 4 miles upriver of Narrowsburg, NY).

New P.O. Box: The new mailing address of the Upper Delaware UU Fellowship is:

P.O. Box 123
Milanville PA 18443

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

P.O. Box 123
Milanville PA 18443



NORNS

Like other ancient female divine triads, the Scandanavian "Norns" (Become, Becoming, and Shall Be) are left over from the original feminine form of the Holy Trinity (also represented as a Moon Goddess: Maiden, Mother, Crone).

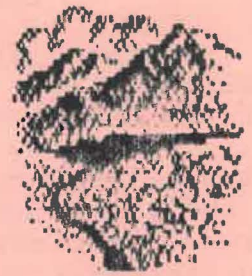
De-assimilation within one's soul of the evils of patriarchy is a valid path toward what Jung called individuation.

Sandra Bem may have discovered one aspect of this when she described psychological androgyny, in 1974. (Ill. by Barbara Walker, 1988).

QUESTIONNAIRE ENCLOSED

Please complete and return the enclosed questionnaire at your earliest convenience.

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley NEWSLETTER



PROGRAM OUTLINE

May 21 - Worship sharing; topic:
"The power of love" (dialogue).

May 28 - Pot-luck picnic.

June 4 - Shared readings: bring a favorite piece of writing, whether by yourself or another, which you find particularly meaningful.

June 11 - Barbara Van Horn will speak about Habitat International.

June 18 - Annual Meeting of the Fellowship. Members, as well as "friends" of the Fellowship are urged to attend. A pot-luck luncheon will follow.

June 25 - To be announced.

July 2 - NO MEETING (Have a happy Fourth!).



* * *

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Fellowship's membership is scheduled to be held Sunday, June 18th at 11:00 a.m.

This is when we elect officers, chart goals for the coming year, discuss program interests, and receive an annual fiscal report.

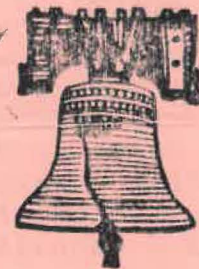
Members are specifically urged to attend, and all others are invited. Your presence may be needed to provide a quorum, but your input is what is particularly needed.

Please attend.

QUESTIONNAIRE COMING

The Reverend Raymond J. Pontier, the Fellowship's part-time minister, has agreed to construct and mail a questionnaire concerning **your** interests for the group's direction, program topics, speakers, and other matters.

Your assistance is sincerely appreciated.



INCORPORATION MOVING ALONG

A special meeting of the membership was held on April 30th, upon advice of legal counsel. The purpose was to reaffirm our intent expressed last June.

Unanimously, those present voted to "take whatever steps are or may become necessary to affiliate...with the Unitarian Universalist Association, and the Metropolitan New York District thereof."

In addition, By-Laws previously adopted were reaffirmed.

Counsel expressed a desire these steps be formally re-taken due to the time lapse since last June's annual meeting, when they were originally done.

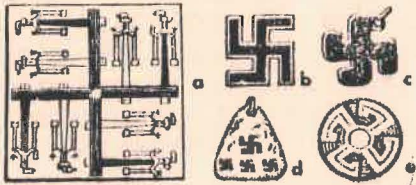
Minutes of both meetings, as well as a copy of the By-Laws are filed in the Membership Book, in the meeting room.

THE SWASTIK

Before the Nazis corrupted its meaning, the swastika, or hooked cross, had other meanings.

According to Winston's Cumulative Encyclopedia (1915), it is a religious symbol used by early races from Scandinavia to Persia and India to represent the sun, associated with the worship of Apollo and Odin.

Similar devices occur in the monumental remains of the ancient Mexicans and Peruvians, and on objects



SWASTIKA
a. Navaho Indian. c. Caucasian.
b. Indian. d. Siberian.
e. Pima Indian.

exhumed from prehistoric burial mounds in the United States.

Reportedly, the symbol (also called a gammadion) dates to the Bronze Age in Europe, and still exists as a religious symbol in India, Persia, China, Japan, and among North, Central, and South American Indians: believed to be a token of good luck or blessing (Funk & Wagnalls, 1970, with illustrations).

UPPER DELAWARE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
P.O. Box 47
Milanville PA 18443



NOTES

[To include your announcements in this section, give a brief written summary to Tom Rue.]

N.O.W.: Membership applications for the Sullivan County chapter, National Organization for Women (N.O.W.), are available at the table beside the literature rack.

Humanism seminar: A seminar entitled "What is Secular Humanism?" will be hosted by the editors of Free Inquiry, August 17-20, SUNY-Buffalo at in Amherst (admission \$150). Write: Box 5, Buffalo NY 14215-0005.

C.A.C.H.E.: Fellowship members Carmen Hernandez M. and Tom Rue have been seated on the board of directors of the Community Action Commission to Help the Economy (C.A.C.H.E.), representing United Way of Sullivan County.

UU radio announcements: Listen to WDNH, Honesdale, 95.3 FM. "Community calendar" runs at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., according to Susan Sullivan.

Yoga classes are offered by Susan Sullivan in the recreation hall at 8:30 Sunday mornings. First session free, \$5 thereafter. Bring a mat (or blanket), wear loose comfortable clothing. Call Susan at 717/729-8645.

The fellowship meets 11:00 a.m. Sundays at Innisfree, River Road, Milanville, PA: (717) 729-7197.

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER



March 5 - Rita Spilken of Liberty and Nancy Januza of Bethel, former staff members of the Sullivan County Alternatives to Family Violence program, will speak on domestic assault and mental health.

March 12 - Bobbi Panna of Callicoon will speak about psychic and spiritual phenomena. A spiritualist who has performed readings for police and individual clients, Panna will meet privately following the meeting with anyone interested in a personal reading.

March 19 - Margaret Bryant of Smallwood will lead a discussion based on the UU feminist "thealogy" curriculum entitled Cakes for the Queen of Heaven.

March 26 - A representative of Covenant House, a well-known runaway shelter for teens in NYC, will speak about the agency's services.



COVENANT HOUSE
G.P.O. 5039
New York, New York 10087-5039

April 2 - James Kalbaugh, general manager of The Wayne Independent, will speak about firearms control.

April 9 - Dr. Michael J. LaMastro, D.C., of Milford will speak about the chiropractic lifestyle and philosophy, in remarks entitled "A drugless approach to health".

April 16 - Susan Sullivan of Milanville will speak about (and demonstrate) yoga, relaxation, and breathing techniques. Loose clothing is recommended.

April 23 - The fellowship will join the Lakeland UU Fellowship in Wayne, NJ.

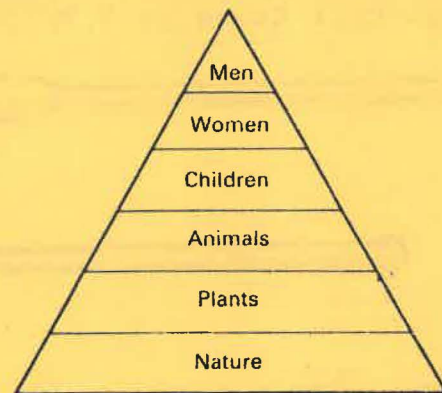
April 30 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will deliver a sermon on a topic to be announced.

May 7 - Siyabonga Makitini of Durban, South Africa will lead a discussion apartheid and conditions in his native country. The meeting will include a viewing of the full-length motion picture, Cry Freedom. Service to be held in Innisfree main lodge, and of extended duration.

May 14 - Bert Feldman of Mongaup Valley will speak about religious liberty, in remarks entitled "The First Amendment vs. the church: Is there a separation?"



GOD



World map of patriarchy

"This is a term which came into currency in the early 1970s, though it had been used before. It seemed that we had to have a word which spoke of the whole system with all its levels, and 'patriarchy' did just that. It connected the political with the personal, it spoke of the conscious and the unconscious, it included the language with which we criticised patriarchy was itself patriarchal." (John Rowan, The Horned God, 1987, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul).

A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Newsletter: The last two issues hereof were produced by Bud Rue. This one is once again brought to you by Tom, on his new word-processor. Rev. Ray Pontier indicated he may be willing to assume this responsibility upon his move to the river valley this June.

Credit: A signed piece of artwork, from Harvest: A neo-pagan journal, reprinted in the October-December issue of this newsletter was not properly credited. Apologies to Morven, editor thereof; and the artist. Harvest, by the way, is recommended reading for anyone with spiritual leanings in the wiccan direction. (Published 8 times a year on each of the Sabbats, Solstices, & Equinoxes; send \$11 to: PO Box 228, South Framingham, MA 01701).

UU radio announcements: Listen to WDNH, Honesdale, 95.3 FM. "Community calendar" runs at 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., according to Susan Sullivan.

Yoga classes are offered by Susan Sullivan in the recreation hall at 8:30 Sunday mornings. First session free, \$5 thereafter. Bring a mat (or blanket), wear loose comfortable clothing. Call Susan at 717/729-8645.

The fellowship meets 11:00 a.m. Sundays at Innisfree, River Road, Milanville, PA: (717) 729-7197.

Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputation and social standing never can bring about a reform.

Those who are really in earnest must be willing to be anything or nothing in the world's estimation, and publicly and privately, in season and out, avow their sympathies with despised and persecuted ideas and their advocates, and bear the consequences. (Susan B. Anthony).

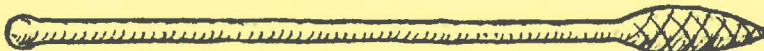
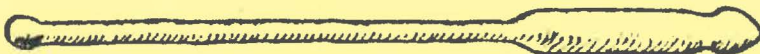
Program ideas: If you or someone you know have an interesting topic for a fellowship discussion, feel free to bring it up during the "announcements" period of the service or speak to a member of the program committee.

Handfasting planned: Carmen Hernandez and Tom Rue, both of Monticello, are planning to be married this summer.

Carmen is the mother of Janessa, Carolina and Eduardo. They are looking for a small puppy to occupy an historic structure (doghouse) formerly owned by a New York State Supreme Court Justice.

The United States has a population density of 68 people per square mile.

"Priapic wands" were used in some pre-Christian spring rituals. The offspring of Dionysos and Aphrodite, Priapos was considered by Romans a fertility god of gardens, bees, goats and sheep.



UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
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Milanville PA 18443



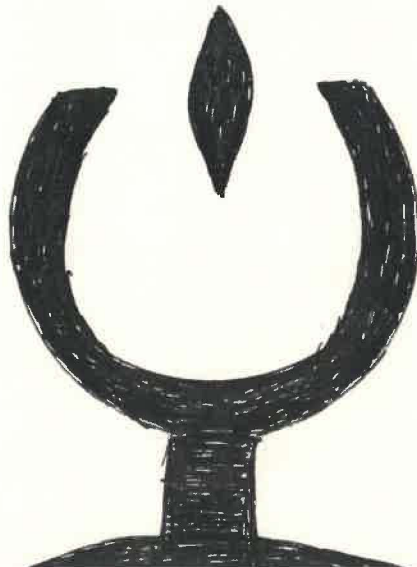
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP of the
UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY

Coming attractions:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| January 29 | Surviving Suicide in the Family
Deborah Lazarus |
| February 5 | Cakes For the Queen of Heaven
Margaret Bryant |
| February 12 | Rev. Ray Pontier |
| February 19 | Listening to Nicaragua
Rev. Dan Tuft |
| February 26 | Photographing the World Down Under
Teddy Eisenberg |

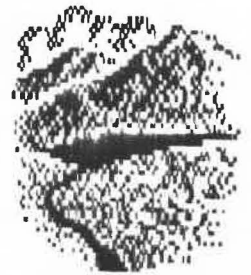
The programs for the month of march have not yet been scheduled. If you have suggestions either speak up at the meeting or call Bud at (717) 729 7197 on weekends.

If these announcements are important to the people receiving them, it follows that it is important that assistance be volunteered from members of the Fellowship to put together, copy and mail them. If it is not important---so be it.



Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER



Announcements

October 2 - "Our Spiritual Journeys" will be the topic of a group discussion

October 9 - Glenn Pontier, editor of The River Reporter, will discuss conditions at the Sullivan County Jail.

October 16 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will on a topic on of his choosing.

October 23 - Discussion of hospice programs locally. Would you like to become involved or just hear about the concept?

October 30 - Halloween theme. Come in costume if you wish.

November 6 - Bud Rue will lead a group discussion on the Presidential Election. VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE
VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE
VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE VOTE!!!

November 13 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on a topic of his choosing.

November 20 - To be announced.

2nd Thanksgiving dinner - Date (Thursday or Sunday) to be announced. Covered dish. Family and friends welcome.

December 4 - Panel discussion: Local journalism.

December 11 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will speak on a topic of his choosing.

December 18 - To be announced.

December 25 - Happy Yule!

Babysitter wanted! - In an effort to encourage family attendance, the program committee has voted to pay a reliable teenager or adult to attend our meetings regularly and be responsible for babysitting any small children who may attend (in an adjacent room or outside). If no such children are present, the person would be paid a smaller sum and be free to leave or participate in the service. See Tom Rue.

Watch local papers - Most local newspapers are extremely cooperative in publishing press-releases issued by religious and other nonprofit organizations, which we appreciate tremendously.

Support the Fellowship - All are invited to attend "program committee" meetings, especially if you have someone you would like to invite to speak; or have other ideas and creative energy. If anyone out there would be interested in taking care of this newsletter, see the present editor. A person is also being sought to regularly mail regular press-releases to local newspapers; or play the Harold Wagge Memorial Piano occasionally on a Sunday morning.

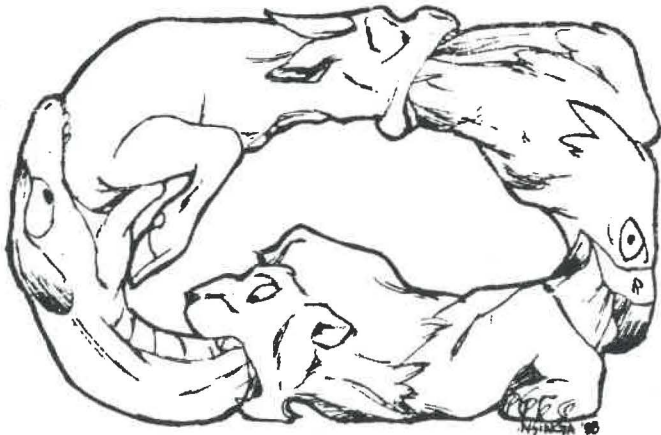
Interfaith Outreach United - Jay Shames represents our Fellowship to this river-valley based organization. It is designed to address the needs of the area's homeless and poverty-stricken. For information, call Jay at (914) 557-6269.

George Bailey - George writes he is alive and well, living peacefully in a winterized cabin on the Allegany River. His two-bedroom house faces a protected island with more than 40 wild turkeys. He sends the following new address: 109 Hemlock Street, Warren PA 16365; (814) 726-0100 (near Lake Erie).

Literature rack - Published information is available from the Fellowship's literature rack on a variety of subjects, including a broad selection of Unitarian-Universalist tracts. Speakers are invited to leave literature, posters, etc.

Milanville General Store - Grateful acknowledgement to the Milanville General Store for allowing regular display of this newsletter in their window, as well as the donation of a greeting card cabinet for literature display (see above). If you need gas on or just about anything else on a Sunday morning, stop in. They close at 3:00 pm; 8:00 pm weekdays. Less than a quarter-mile from Innisfree. (Rocky & Maryann Degori)

A Guest at Your Table - Collection boxes and information on this UU-sponsored clearinghouse for financial contributions to aid the needy in Third World countries may be obtained from Jay Shames.



UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
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Halloween - Boo.

Thanksgiving - The program committee recently decided to host the 2nd Annual Upper Delaware UU Fellowship Thanksgiving Dinner on a date in November to be announced. Members, family, friends, and acquaintances are invited to attend. Bring a covered dish, and fellowship. Watch local papers, or contact a committee member for details.



Gil Mende - Gil called recently and said he may not be back. He just received word the work visa he's been waiting for should be available by mid-October. He will teach English as a second language. Although he said he will "be in touch" and send a better address after he settles, Gil may be reached by writing:

c/o Michael E. Morris
Etxebeste Kalea (Okendo Bi)
1.-esku
Zarautz, Gipuzkoa
Spain

*

Salt and sea
Of ill stay free,
Fire and air,
Draw all that is fair.
Around and around,
The circle is bound.

-Starhawk



Newsletter announcements - If you have anything you would like announced in this newsletter, see Tom Rue.

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER



PROGRAM OUTLINE

July 10 - Fellowship members Katherine and Deborah Lazarus of Jeffersonville will speak about the international travel/exchange organization, Servas.

July 17 - Bilingual sing-along with 20 to 25 members of the Chinese choir of Transfiguration Church, Chinatown, N.Y.C. They are visiting Innisfree for the weekend, and expressed an interest in joining the fellowship in song. Sheet music provided.

July 24 - Karen Greenhill of Lake Huntington will speak about her craft and display samples of crystalline pottery.

July 31 - To be announced.

✓ August 7 - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will talk about "being a reverent agnostic". In a world in which there are so many question marks, there remains great mystery and wonder. We stand with awe and reverence, even though we have no easy answers to many of life's dilemmas.

August 14 - To be announced.

August 21 - Malcolm Brown of Hortonville will discuss Radio Catskill, WJFF Jeffersonville, of which he is a principal founder; and his hydroelectric dam recently constructed in Jeffersonville. He is a professor at S.C.C.C.

August 28 - "Alternatives in Education" - panel discussion including: Bud Rue of Innisfree; Marsha Comstock of the Homestead School, Glen Spey; Peter Comstock of the Eldred board of education; and Geraldine Vernon of the Sullivan County B.O.C.E.S. in Liberty.

September 4 - Union organizer Jerry Ebert of Teamsters Local 445, Newburgh, will speak about the labor movement, past and present - OR - The Rev. Raymond J. Pontier will entitle his remarks "Jesus the man - human and humanist".

Announcements

PROGRAM COMMITTEE ELECTED

At our annual meeting, held June 26th, the following people were elected to serve on the Executive Committee, in the offices indicated:

- Jay Shames - President
- Irving Krongel - Vice-pres.
- Tom Rue - Secretary
- Deborah Lazarus - Treasurer
- Margaret Bryant - Board member
- Glenn Pontier - Board member
- Bud Rue - Board member

All members of the congregation are invited to attend meetings of the executive committee, or suggest topics of interest for future speakers.

In other business at the meeting, we adopted By-Laws, resolved to incorporate under the laws of the State of New York and voted to formally affiliate with the Unitarian Universalist Association. By unanimous voice, the Rev. Raymond J. Pontier was "appointed and fully accepted by the Fellowship" to continue as part-time minister for another year.

If you do not yet belong to the fellowship and would like to join, speak with the secretary about signing the Membership Book. Some people elect not to "join", and still attend regularly. All are welcome.

Fellowship member Harold Waage of Greentown, retired lecture curator of the Princeton University physics department, is in the process of restoring and tuning the upright grand piano donated to Innisfree last year by Jean Kerrigan of Narrowsburg. While Mr. Waage describes himself as "a rank amateur at piano tuning", the project seems to be moving right along.

Can anyone out there play?

INTERFAITH OUTREACH UNITED

Jay Shames of Barryville, recently elected president of the Fellowship, has for several months represented our group to Interfaith Outreach United, an ecumenical group concerned with needs of the region's homeless. At our recent annual meeting, we voted to make a group contribution of \$50.00, in addition to organizing a fund-raising dance or similar activity sometime in the coming year. Information about I.O.U. is posted on the bulletin board. Call Jay with any questions at (914) 557-6269.

"People often ask me if I believe in the Goddess. I reply "Do you believe in rocks?" It is extremely difficult for most Westerners to grasp the concept of a manifest diety. The phrase "believe in" itself implies that we cannot know the Goddess, that She is somehow intangible, incomprehensible. But we do not believe in rocks - we may see them, touch them, dig them out of our gardens, or stop small children from throwing them at each other. We know them; we connect with them. In the Craft, we do not believe in the Goddess - we connect with Her; through the moon, the stars, the ocean, the earth, through trees, animals, through other human beings, through ourselves. She is here. She is within us all. She is the full circle: earth, air, fire, water, and essence - body, mind, spirit, emotions, change."
(Starhawk, The Spiral Dance, Harper & Row: New York, 1979, pp. 77-78.)

NEWSLETTER

This newsletter was constructed by Tom Rue and addressed by Helga Andkjar. Please give any address corrections to Tom.

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
P.O. Box 41
Milanville PA 18443

~~George Bailey
RD #4, Box 650~~

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

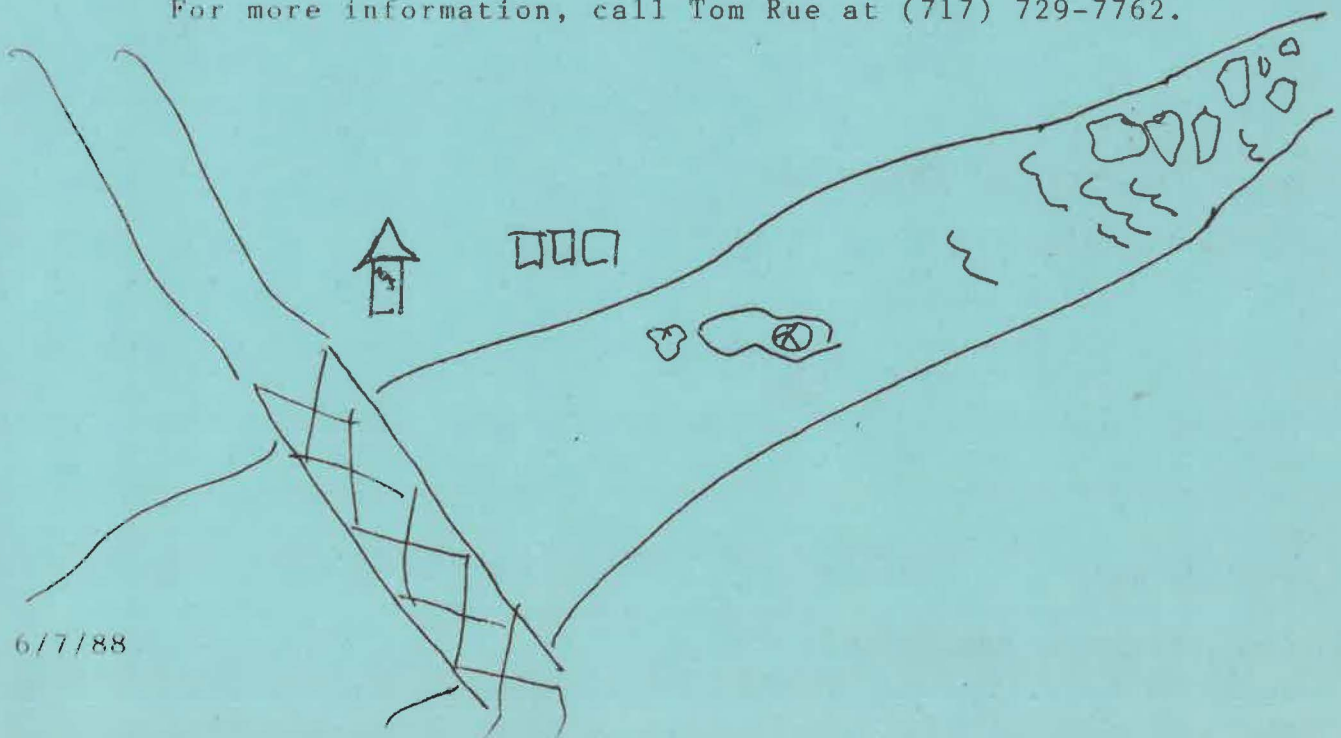
Celebrate summer!

You and all your friends are cordially invited to join the Upper Delaware U-U Fellowship in a celebration of the summer season by joining us for a pot-luck picnic at the SKINNERS FALLS rapids, this Sunday, June 12th. We will meet at the Innisfree rec hall at 11:00 a.m., and go down as a group.

The fellowship treasury is chipping in \$25 for non-alcoholic beverages and salads. Hopefully, there will be enough to share that all will go away filled.

Don't forget your bathing suit and towel. You can change at Innisfree, or come as you are. The hostel has "river shoes" (old sneakers) for anyone who desires them. In case of unsuitable weather, which of course will not occur, we will take our picnic into Innisfree's brown main lodge building.

For more information, call Tom Rue at (717) 729-7762.



6/7/88

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
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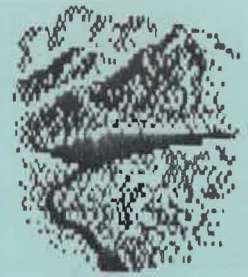
TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER



PROGRAM OUTLINE

April 24 - Gil Mende of Honesdale, who has lived and traveled extensively around the world, will speak about world poverty.

May 1 - An open forum for sharing of poetry, prose, other readings, or spontaneous thoughts.

May 8 - Rev. Ray Pontier will speak about the life and work of William Ellery Channing, a forerunner of modern Unitarian-Universalism.

May 15 - Phil Nuernberger, Ph.D., psychologist, author, and presently a director of the Himalayan Institute in Honesdale, will discuss yoga meditation, offering explanations that transcend apparent differences between Eastern and Western views of mind, body, and brain.

May 22 - Tim Curtis and Helena Guindon of Newfoundland will speak about their experiences in Central America. While this discussion/slide show will be a continuation of their April 17 presentation, you need not have been present.

May 29 - Andrew Futterman of Honesdale, a counselor at Sullivan County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services, will speak about recovery from addiction.

✓ June 5 - Daniel Cohen of Port Jervis, author of 138 books and former editor of Science Digest will speak about paganism as it exists today. Mr. Cohen points out he himself is not a pagan, although as a journalist, he has made an extensive study of its history.

June 12 - In celebration of the summer season, we will share a pot-luck picnic lunch at the Skinners Falls rapids, meeting first at Innisfree. Be sure to dress appropriately for the location. In case of rain, we will meet in the main lodge.

June 19 - To be announced.

June 26 - Rev. Ray Pontier will speak on a topic to be announced.

NOTE: If you or someone you know would like to speak on a topic of interest, please speak to a member of the Program Committee or attend a business meeting, which begin an hour before the Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. in the Rec Hall living room.

Announcements

BUSINESS MEETINGS/PROMPTNESS

In order to encourage more participation, business meetings will be held at 10:00 a.m., before service. This will strictly limit the amount of time they can consume, as we have resolved to commence services promptly at 11:00 a.m., rather than operating on "UU time".

NEWSLETTER

This newsletter was constructed by Tom Rue, and addressed by Helga Andkjar. Please give any address corrections, etc. to Tom. Contributions or announcements are always welcome.

FELLOWSHIP BOOKSHF

Gil Mende donated a shelf where congregation members may borrow books which have special meaning or significance to their owners. The shelf is located in the front left corner of the meeting hall. Some people have already placed books there, on loan. A sign-out system will be established.

INNISFREE LIBRARY

Innisfree has a semi-organized library of several thousand books on the ground level of the large white Dorm building, in the two rooms inside the front porch. The policy is generally that anyone may take books which interest them, and are invited to make donations from their own collections.

PROGRAM SELECTION

If you have a particular topic you would like to hear about at a Sunday service, or a speaker to invite, please mention it to someone who attends program committee meetings.

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
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GET LL, KRONGELS!

Since Irving Krongel's heart attack on his way home from Fellowship, March 27, he seems to be recovering and has been back to meetings. But now Sophie has been under the weather too. We wish them both well.

MAILING LISTS AVAILABLE

Lists of Fellowship members and past guests who have signed the register, all of whom receive this newsletter, are available from Tom Rue. The lists include the addresses and phone numbers of about 60 individuals/families.

*"If fifty million people say
a foolish thing,
it is still
a foolish thing."
— ANATOLE FRANCE*

UUA PRINCIPLES & PURPOSES

An 8-1/2" x 11", framable expression of Unitarian-Universalist "principles and purposes" are available in the meeting hall. They cost \$2 each, so an appropriate donation in the tamborine would be appreciated.

TO:

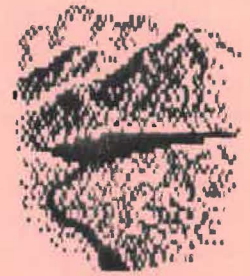
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Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER

OUTLINE FOR JANUARY AND
FEBRUARY 1988



January 10 - Czech painter Kristian Kodet of Galilee will speak on topics including conflicts he experienced over artistic freedom, eventually leading to his departure from his native land.

January 17 - A service of contemplation and spontaneous sharing will be conducted by George Bailey of Beach Lake.

January 24 - In a talk entitled "The Fairy Tales of Rev. Pat Robertson", Rev. Ray Pontier will examine some of the views of the presidential candidate. "To have a preacher run for president is probably no better or worse than having candidates from other professions; it depends on the person and his/her views. And Robertson's views are horrendous! Like Robert Bork, his public statements speak for themselves," Rev. Pontier said.

During a pot-luck luncheon following the service, UUA district executive Rev. Howell Lind will lead an organizational workshop which all members are urged to attend. Bring a covered dish or other edible contribution.

January 31 - A celebration of joy, light, and healing will be conducted by Beverly Sterner of Milanville.

February 7 - Glenn Pontier of Narrowsburg will speak about the Upper Delaware River.

February 14 - Rev. Ray Pontier will speak on a topic to be announced.

February 28 - To be announced.

NOTICE!

All persons interested in the Upper Delaware Valley Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship are invited to participate in a pre-incorporation workshop with Rev. Howell Lind of the Metro New York UU District, after service on January 24th. A pot-luck luncheon will also be held, so bring something to eat. Beverages provided.



Tarot interpretation: The Fool represents the beginning of all creativity and the desire to accomplish impossibly beautiful goals. Here are all the joys and possibilities of adventure. Each of us faces many choices in life. A fresh choice is before you -- choose wisely.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please check the sign-up sheet for weekly refreshments and service leader.

HAVE YOU SIGNED THE BOOK?

To join our Fellowship, all one need do is sign the Membership Book, signifying an intent to support the ideals and methods of Unitarian-Universalism and a desire to help the group flourish. If you are interested in signing the book, ask any member.

MAILING LIST PRIVACY CONCERN

This newsletter is mailed to anyone who has ever attended one of our services or who has otherwise expressed an interest in receiving information about the Fellowship. With the next issue, we intend to mail copies of our mailing list, as a sort of "directory". If you do not want your address and/or telephone number released in this fashion, please notify Tom Rue prior to February 15th; either in person, by calling (717) 729-7762, or by writing the return address shown below.

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
P.O. Box 41
Milanville PA 18443

TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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BUSINESS MEETINGS

A business meeting for the Fellowship usually follows Sunday services, in the living room at the front of the rec hall. Members are welcome and encouraged to give input, particularly regarding proposed speakers. Bring a chair.



QUESTIONNAIRE

Enclosed with this newsletter is a questionnaire about your personal background and interests which the program committee asks you to complete and return as soon as possible.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is produced and distributed by Tom Rue and Helga Andkjar. See Tom about any announcements or address corrections.

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
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Please return by: 1/17/88

I N T E R E S T S U R V E Y

The program committee is interested in your ^{comment} ~~concerning~~ concerning not only the types of presenters you are interested in hearing at Sunday services, but also in what you yourself would be willing to share. We intend to continue to devote at least one Sunday per month for member presentations or lectures.

1. What is/was your life's work or primary occupation? _____

2. With what topics are you most thoroughly acquainted? _____

3. Other areas of interest or expertise? _____

4. Would you be willing to speak on one of these topics at a Sunday morning service?

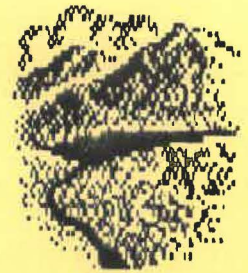
- Be delighted
- Available, but only if needed
- Absolutely not

5. Name: _____ Phone No. _____

6. General comments or specific suggestions for the program committee:

Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley

NEWSLETTER



OUTLINE FOR DECEMBER 1987
AND JANUARY 1988

Plan to be with us for Sunday services, starting with refreshments at 10:30 a.m. in the Innisfree recreation hall, River Road, Milanville.

✓ December 6 - Egyptologist James Sibal of Kew Gardens, NY will lead a discussion and slide show on the religious symbolism of ancient Egypt, dating back hundreds of years before Christ.



December 13 - Rev. Ray Pontier will speak on the subject: "When Our Reach Exceeds Our Grasp: The faith of one Unitarian Universalist". In spite of our rationalistic bent and skepticism in the face of theological dogmatism, we are a believing people -- holding to a faith, not in the nonsensical, but in the unprovables of love, justice, and the values which make us human.

December 20 - Beverly Sterner of Milanville will conduct a candle-light program of meditation and sharing in which congregation members and friends are invited to bring to the group readings and other thoughts concerning the Holiday season.

December 27 - No morning service is planned for this Sunday.

January 3 - John Sherwood of Prompton, executive director of the Wayne Memorial Hospital in Honesdale, will speak about organ donation and other vital medical matters.

January 10 - Dick Dunn of Roscoe, professor of psychology and coordinator of the alcoholism and drug abuse curriculum at Sullivan County Community College, will discuss some of the theories of Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung. Jung was persuaded that spiritual development was the ultimate mark of mental health. His view of the "self" and the necessity for "individuation" will be outlined and its implications explained.

January 17 - A meditation service resembling the style of the Quakers will be conducted by George Bailey of Beach Lake.

January 24 - A workshop by Unitarian Universalist Association district executive Howell Lind of Bethlehem, PA, representing the Metro New York UU District, will follow a sermon by Rev. Ray Pontier. During a pot-luck luncheon following the service, Mr. Lind will lead a workshop on the steps we need to take to formalize our structure as a UU Fellowship, including such matters as incorporation and the adoption of By-Laws. All members are urged to attend. Bring a covered dish or other edible contribution.



January 31 - Beverly Sterner of Milanville is tentatively scheduled to lead a loosely structured participatory meditative service celebrating joy, light, and healing.

A nominations committee consisting of Glenn Pontier, Beverly Sterner, and Bud Rue, has submitted a slate of officers for consideration by the congregation. Elections will take effect as of January, for a term of one year. The following members have agreed to serve in the capacities indicated, subject to a vote on December 13th:

Jim Murtha - President
 George Bailey - Vice President
 Tom Rue - Secretary
 Deborah Lazarus - Treasurer

FAREWELL TO THE PERRY FAMILY Last month, we lost three of our charter members when the Tom and Alix Perry family, formerly of Jeffersonville, moved to Westchester County to assume new employment. Tom's efforts as the first president of our Fellowship will not be forgotten.

Their new address is:

P.O. Box 348
 Greystone Station
 Yonkers NY 10703-0348

This newsletter is produced and distributed by Tom Rue and Helga Andkjar. See Tom about any announcements or contributions; and talk to Helga about address corrections or additions.

LETTERS TO NEWSPAPERS

In order to let people know we are here, some members may wish to write letters to the editor of area newspapers. A list of local papers' addresses, along with a couple examples of letters which have already appeared, is available on the literature table.

GREETINGS TO THE SIDWELLS: We recently received a card from Helen and Tom Sidwell, wintering in Florida, which is posted on the bulletin board. We look forward to their return. Meanwhile, they would appreciate hearing from us individually and as a group at:

1225 N.W. 21st Street
 Apt. #2910
 Stuart FL 34994

UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
 UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
 P.O. Box 41
 Milanville PA 18443

TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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 Milanville, Pennsylvania

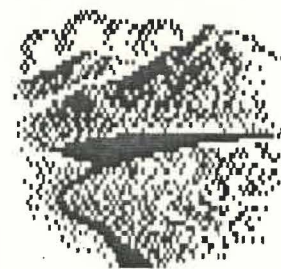
1987 Programs

<u>Date</u>	<u>Service Leader</u>	<u>Speaker/Program</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>
7/26*	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Organizational discussion)	Barbara Pontier
8/2*	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Organizational discussion)	Barbara Pontier
8/9	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "A U-U view of God")	Barbara Pontier
8/16	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "A U-U view of Jesus")	Tom Rue
8/23	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "What's it mean to be religious?")	Bud Rue
8/30	Bud Rue	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "Taking time to stand and stare")	Helen Sidwell
9/6	Tom Rue	Martine Kenny, etc. (W.R.C.: Domestic violence)	Tom Rue
9/13	Helen Sidwell	Roe Bedford (S.C.N.O.W.: Rape)	Helga Andkjar
9/20	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "Get me to the church on time")	Alix Perry
9/27	Glenn Pontier	Schubert Frye (Sermon: "30 of pieces silver")	Ann Rue
10/4	Gil Mende	Michael Mulvey (Penna. Dept. of Health: AIDS)	Coffee only
10/11	Tom Perry	Helen Sidwell (Review: "Closing of the American Mind")	George Bailey
10/18	Jim Murtha	Bert Feldman (Sermon: "The holocaust that failed")	Coffee only
10/25	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon:	Coffee only
11/1	Jim Murtha	Harold Waage (<i>"The Intelligent Keyboard"</i>)	Rosemary Murtha
11/8	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "On being a do-gooder")	Coffee only
11/15	Glenn Pontier	Van Swisohn (NYS Comm. of Corrections: prison reform)	Coffee only
11/22	George Bailey	George Bailey (Meditation)	Coffee only
11/26	Ray Pontier	Thanksgiving buffet -	George Bailey, organizer
11/29	Tom Rue	Laurie Stuart (Folk music)	Coffee only
12/6	George Bailey	James Sibals (Egyptology)	Deborah Lazarus
12/13	Ray Pontier	Ray Pontier (Sermon: "When our reach exceeds our grasp")	Rosemary Murtha
12/20	Gil Mende	Beverly Sterner (Meditation)	George Bailey
12/27	-	[No meeting planned]	-

(*) First two meetings held in Pontier home, Narrowsburg N.Y.

UNITARIAN- UNIVERSALIST

Newsletter of the Upper
Delaware River Valley



October, 1987

Calendar for October, 1987



4th: Speaker, Michael Mulvey of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, discussing AIDS. Service leader, Gilbert H. Mende.

11th: Speaker, Helen Sidwell, on "The Closing of the American Mind." Service leader, Glenn Pontier. Refreshments, George Bailey.

18th: Speaker, Bert Feldman. Service leader, Jim Murtha. Refreshments, Deborah Lazarus.

25th: Speaker and service leader, the Rev. Mr. Raymond J. Pontier. Refreshments, Bud Rue.

The Fellowship meets Sunday mornings at 10:30 for refreshments, with a service at 11, at Innisfree on the River Road in Milanville, PA. For information, call 914/482-5730 or 717/729-7197.

Membership of 24 Puts Fellowship Closer to Reality

To us, the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley is a fact. But we still need to establish ourselves with the Unitarian-Universalist Association in Boston.

We took a big step towards legitimacy on Sept. 20th, when 24 people became members by signing the Membership Book in a ceremony officiated by the Rev. Mr. Pontier. The UUA requires a membership of at least 20 for a new fellowship or church.

The members are:

Helga Andkjar, George Bailey, Margaret Brewster, Keare H. Gunderson, Carol A. Irving, Irving and Sophie Krongel, Gilbert H. Mende, James and Rosemary Murtha, John B. Niflot, Tom, Alix and Alix Anne Perry, Ray and Barbara Pontier, Bud and Ann Rue, Tom Rue, Helen and Tom Sidwell, Glenn Pontier and Laurie Stuart, and Deborah Lazarus Yarzagaray.

Thanksgiving or Christmas Get-Together?

Members of the board propose a get-together on Thanksgiving or Christmas, possibly at Innisfree. It would provide a chance to celebrate our holiday together, to get to know one another better, and to share our meal with others who might otherwise be alone on the holiday.

Tom Perry, congregation president, will lead a discussion on this proposal at the service on Oct. 11th. Please be prepared to discuss your views on the proposal, as it will require extra effort by the members to make it a success.



Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley



NEWSLETTER for September 1987

Calendar for September:

The Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of the Upper Delaware Valley meets Sunday mornings at 10:30 for a social period with refreshments and at 11 for worship service.

Meetings are at Innisfree, on River Road in Milanville, Pennsylvania.

Minister is the Reverend Mr.

Raymond J. Pontier. The speakers scheduled for September are:



6th: Martine Kenny and Beth Bronson of the Women's Resource Center, Honesdale, PA.

13th: Roe Bedford of Callicoon, representing the Sullivan County (NY) chapter of the National Organization for Women.

20th: The Reverend Mr. Pontier, minister of the Upper Delaware Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship.

27th: Shubert Frye of Port Jervis, NY, noted peace activist and former pastor of the Hortonville (PA) Presbyterian Church.

On October 4th

*Michael Mulvey
of the Pennsylvania Department
of Health will speak on AIDS.*

CALL 914/482-5730 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SERVICES.

Membership Book to be opened Sept. 20th

The membership book of our newly formed fellowship will be opened for signatures on Sunday, September 20th. Among the requirements for recognition of our fellowship by the Unitarian-Universalist Association is a membership of 20. The Rev. Mr. Pontier, in a stirring letter to the fellowship and its friends, has urged all: "Please be with us!" and goes on:

"Our prospects for the future seem promising. But whatever future this Fellowship has is in your hands. We need your desire for a UU Fellowship, your enthusiasm, and, above all, your commitment. On September 20th be one of those who makes it possible to be a viable Fellowship by signing the membership book."

Women Speak

Two volunteers from the Women's Resource Center (WRC) in Honesdale, PA, spoke at our September 6th service. Martine Kenny and Beth Bronson, who recently completed WRC's 40-hour training course, discussed options available in Wayne County to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

For more information on WRC call 717/253-4401. In Sullivan County, call Alternatives to Family Violence, 914/794-4600 or -3232.



UPPER DELAWARE VALLEY
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
P.O. Box 41
Milanville PA 18443

Please return by: 1/17/88

I N T E R E S T S U R V E Y

The program committee is interested in you concerning not only the types of presenters you are interested in hearing at Sunday services, but also in what you yourself would be willing to share. We intend to continue to devote at least one Sunday per month for member presentations or lectures.

1. What is/was your life's work or primary occupation? _____

2. With what topics are you most thoroughly acquainted? _____

3. Other areas of interest or expertise? _____

4. Would you be willing to speak on one of these topics at a Sunday morning service?

- Be delighted
- Available, but only if needed
- Absolutely not

5. Name: _____ Phone No. _____

6. General comments or specific suggestions for the program committee:

