

"2121 News and Views"

The Rev. Walter LeFlore, Minister

Volume 60 Number 2 Founded 1952 October 2012

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is a community that values diversity, peace, democracy and the interdependent web of all existence. The Fellowship nurtures and challenges its members in their religious journeys, and advocates for social justice in the larger community. We are engaged in worship, study, public service, fellowship and social action. We invite your attendance and participation.

October Services

October 7:	Teaching	Rev. Walter LeFlore
October 14:	The Four C's	Rev. Walter LeFlore
October 21:	What To Do	Rev. Walter LeFlore
October 28:	Parting the Veil	Spiral Web
	Intergenerational Service	

Our nursery is available during all regular services. Please feel free to bring your young one there. Information is available from the minister, any member of the board, the Greeter at the Welcome desk in the lobby and the usher at the door to the main room.



“UU News and Views” is published monthly (except July and August) by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie, and is distributed to our members and friends without charge.

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Thurs: 11 am – 2 pm

Friday: 10 am – 1 pm

The UU Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is a member of the Society of the Unitarian Universalist Association
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We are one of 52 Societies in the Unitarian Universalist District of Metropolitan New York
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October Highlights

Oct 6: Garden Work party **9AM to Noon**

Oct 10: A talk by Brian Doyle of Family Services **7PM**

Oct 13: Buildings and Grounds workday **9AM to Noon** and **1PM to 3**

Oct 18: Board of Trustees meeting **7PM**

Oct 21: 3rd Sunday Lunch **Noon**

Oct 23: Movie **7PM** “Lost in Detention”

Oct 26: Homeless meal

Oct 27: Spoken Word **6:30 PM** Reception
7PM Reading

Oct 28: Seniors Group **Noon**

Notes from The Choir

The Helen Baldwin Choir meets on Sunday mornings at 9a.m. You don't need to have a great voice or read music to join us.

Everyone is welcome, but Tenors and Basses are most needed.

Mary Ann Osgood



Nina's Noodlings....

Clifford, the “Big Red Dog”, just turned 50. We were reminded in the NPR interview with the author that Clifford, the runt of the litter, grew to be the big red dog that we all know and love because his little girl, Emily Elizabeth, loved him so much. That thought, among others, set me to thinking about my love for the covenantal statement that we have regarding the principles and purposes of Unitarian Universalism and how powerful that affirmation has become in my life.

I love to go back to those words...in particular, the affirmation and promotion of the inherent worth and dignity of every person; justice equity and compassion in human relations; and respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. Those words are my ‘big red dog’...The power inherent in those words and the knowledge that the covenant is shared with so many others in our faith community gives me a sense of safety...like having a big red dog at my side.

In Faith and Fellowship,
Nina



From the Minister

October 2012

As I sit to write my monthly letter, I'm aware it's the eve of Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year in the Jewish calendar. The day is often called the Day of Atonement, as the day's central focus is on atonement and repentance. Yom Kippur is the end of what's known as the High Holy Days, or Days of Awe and is celebrated by observant and secular Jews alike.

The High Holy days are a time when individuals evaluate and attempt to change their behavior. It's a time for one to seek forgiveness for wrongs against God and their fellow human beings. Traditionally, Yom Kippur is accompanied by 25 hours of fasting, prayer and many hours attending services at the synagogue. During the evening and day of Yom Kippur, one makes both private and public confessions of guilt and hopes to be forgiven by God.

In our liberal religious tradition, we respect and honor many religious belief systems. As such it's sometimes hard to know which rituals and celebrations to hold up. The idea that there is a dedicated time every year for one to think seriously about their own behavior and attempt to account for the wrongs they have done seems well worth noting.

In Faith,
Walter

Social Justice Committee News



Dutchess Peace will present a free screening of the movie “Priceless” on Thursday, October 4 at 7 p.m. at the Crafted Kup, 44 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie.

The Social Justice Committee will present a **talk by Brian Doyle, Chief Executive Officer, Family Services, Inc. on Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fellowship in the Baldwin Room.** Brian will be talking about the many ways Family Services through its array of services positively impacts the community in Dutchess and Ulster Counties. **This talk is free and open to the public. All are welcome;** please invite your family and friends! This is the first of a series of talks the Social Justice Committee is sponsoring to help us get to know more about the various resources in our community.

About Family Services (www.familyservicesny.org):

Part of the community since 1879, Family Services has been making a difference in people’s lives for over 130 years. Family Services provides programs and services in the Hudson Valley such as, Youth Services, Comprehensive Crime Victim services & Forensics, Battered Women’s Services, Substance Abuse Prevention and Family Education; all designed to strengthen individuals, families and community. The mission of Family Services is to help families and individuals help themselves through direct services, collaboration, and advocacy. Last year over 7,500 children, adults, and families benefited from Family Services programs. Family Services has programs in Dutchess and Ulster counties.

The Social Justice Committee will present a **free screening** of the film “**Lost in Detention,**” on **Tuesday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fellowship.** This documentary examines current US immigration policy and the enforcement system, including stories of hidden abuse in detention centers. Free and open to the public. Please come and bring your friends!

The Social Justice Committee will be preparing lunch for volunteers constructing a house on Glenwood Avenue, Poughkeepsie for Habitat for Humanity. We will meet at the Fellowship **Wednesday October 31st at 10 a.m.** to prepare the meal, which we will then bring to the site at 11:45. We have enough people to do the preparation but would appreciate donations of ingredients: bread, turkey, cheese, mayonnaise, peanut butter and jelly for the sandwiches; macaroni, peas, celery, etc. for the macaroni salad; fruits and cookies for dessert, and beverages. Please contact Pat Lamanna at patla42@gmail.com or 452-4013 to offer donations.

SAVE THE DATE for this year's **Fair Trade Bazaar at the Aula, Vassar College: Saturday, Nov. 10** from 11-5 and **Sunday, Nov. 11** from 11-3. **We need HELPERS to serve food, greet customers, help sell merchandise, set up on Friday and clean up on Sunday.** If you are interested please contact Pat Lamanna: 452-4013 or patla42@gmail.com

Pat Lamanna



Senior Group

Sunday October 28th Noon
Cornelia Smith and Dee Rod
Self Actualization - It’s never too Late

Lifespan Faith Development

Keep ‘Em Coming Back...

There is some kind of truism in UU circles that says if you don't make six friends within six months, you won't stay (this is for adult membership). I think this applies to our children as well. When my kids balked about going to fellowship, I told them it was NOT a choice. I told them that until they were 16 they would attend Sunday School. I hoped that by then they would want to attend.

As DRE, I am committed to teaching our children about our UU religion. I am focused on this being a “fun” experience for them.

So, please, help me to do this by staying in touch with me about your children's needs throughout the year.

Our Teachers

We have a combined total of 23 teachers and teachers assistants. I am so grateful to all of these people. This probably sounds like a lot of volunteers. But...if each teacher teaches only once or twice a month we could still use more. Please sign up at the RE Registration desk in the foyer.

UNICEF

The United Nations Children's Fund started in 1946. World War II had ended and children in Europe and China needed food and medicine. In 1950 a group of kids in Philadelphia decided to help children in other parts of the world. They decorated milk cartons and asked people to contribute. With the \$17 they collected, the “Trick or Treat” for UNICEF began.

Our kids will be asked to trick or treat for UNICEF this year and each one will be given a UNICEF carton which will then come back to our fellowship and go back to the UNICEF.

Sukkot

Thank you Carol Gustafson for teaching our children about Sukkot on September 23. We all loved it!

Teacher Development Day

September 29 teachers will meet from 9 – noon to discuss this year's RE program. Our curricula this year will be from the UUA Tapestry of Faith RE program. As of now we will have three classes using this curricula. I have copies in my office if anyone would like to see them. In addition to these classes we will have a Coming of Age program (COA) and a very energetic Youth Group.

Lynda Karanikolas
DRE



Gratitude Corner

The Board, on behalf of the entire Fellowship, Thanks...



Tony Maresco, for all the work on the closet off the kitchen, which turned out to be much more work than anyone bargained for, and Len Marcus, for coordinating lawn mowing and teaching people how to use the rider mower this summer.

Jeff Asher, Joedy Keivit ,Judith Knauss, and Jim Wood for getting our Web site back up.

STEWARD OF THE MONTH MARTY MERCER



This month, we recognize Marty Mercer, who has been a member of our Fellowship since 1988. She tells us she discovered Unitarianism in 1936, when she was a student at the University of Wisconsin. She has been committed to our faith ever since.

Marty considers herself a Unitarian-Universalist Humanist. Several years ago, she organized a Humanist group at the Fellowship, whose members met regularly to discuss philosophical and social issues from a humanist perspective.

She values all living things, and loves to nurture plants. It was Marty, who, for years, cared for the plants that thrive in the Fellowship's Main Meeting Room and Lobby.

To express her UU-Humanitarian commitment to social justice, Marty has written many, many letters to the Poughkeepsie Journal in support of fair practices in the community and the wider world.

To top it off, Marty will turn 95 years old on October 21!

We honor this valuable UUFP member, with gratitude for her lifelong, active commitment to UU values.

Stewardship Committee Report

The Stewardship Committee held its first meeting of the fall recently. We determined the dates for our forthcoming events and discussed the results of our previous Stewardship Campaign. We felt that the drive mostly worked and produced good results. There were one or two things we felt needed some changing. For example, our pledge form needs to be clarified as to what period the pledge is for. We will be meeting monthly on the second Wednesday of each month at 5 PM at the Fellowship. Members and friends of the fellowship are welcome to attend any of our meetings.

On a more personnel note, Mary Ann and I visited the United Kingdom during the summer and had the experience of visiting Unitarian Churches in London and Edinburgh, Scotland. In the UK they are not UU churches/fellowships but simply Unitarian. We were greeted warmly and enjoyed the company of the members of the London Unitarian Church. It is a small congregation, having only about 65 members, but it was the largest Unitarian congregation in London.

Also, in Edinburgh, we visited a Unitarian church that dated back to 1776. It too was a small congregation and one of only four Unitarian churches in all of Scotland. We came to appreciate the vibrance of our own Fellowship and developed a new appreciation for all the wonderful things that UUFPP has to offer. We are so fortunate in what we have.

Paul Osgood

AMBASSADOR'S CORNER

Many thanks to Bryan Cook, Kate and Michael Kurtz, Maggie LeFlore, Paul Hirsch and Ellen Waggener and Michelle and Dale Sutton. They have agreed to pay special attention to Sunday morning visitors and new attendees.

Many thanks, too, to those of you who have told me you 'do this anyway'.

Let's continue our efforts to make everyone feel welcome on Sunday morning!

Anne Lancellotti

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is off to a great start!



We had a very productive meeting and our committee had some great ideas to increase membership as well as retain current members. Some of our ideas include a UU table at appropriate events, reaching out to visitors via email, developing a new member handbook, advertising, profiling new members in our newsletter and much more. Our committee members include Katy Corcoran, Dan Whalen, James Pittman, Ann Lancellotti, Stephen Baratta, Georgette Weir, Judith Knauss, Reed Asher.

Being an Usher or Greeter is a very important responsibility because it represents a first impression of our Fellowship. Thank you to the volunteers including Nick Garin, Gayle Garin, Georgette Weir, Jane Bartik, Katy Corcoran and Jean-Claude Fouere.

We always need help with Ushering and Greeting. If you're interested please email Dan Whalen at dwhaleman@gmail.com or James Pittman at jamespittman1@me.com.

James Pittman

Buildings and Grounds

Twice the fun this month, you are welcome either or both Saturdays!

Garden work on Sat, Oct 6 from 9 to Noon with the rain date on Oct 7th from Noon to 4. The work to be done includes ... We plan to fix up the gardens along the street, divide the iris in the Peace Pole garden, finish mulching the garden along the labyrinth and attack all the new wisteria shoots that are coming up all over entry area. We will also spot weed and mulch the Butterfly Garden by the labyrinth and, if there is time, weed and mulch the gardens in front of the house.

B&G Day Saturday – October 13 – 9AM to Noon and 1PM to 3PM is our regularly scheduled Second Saturday B&G Day at the Fellowship. Coffee, tea, juice and light fare (bagels, toast, hard-boiled eggs, yoghurt, etc) will be available. Fall is here and the leaves are falling! Please join us for this and other things that need to be done.

Come and help make a Visible Difference!



Hospitality



Coffee Hour

The coffee each Sunday after the service is made by two or three folks each week who start the coffee at about 9:45 and set out the cups on a tray. The fairly traded coffee that we drink is purchased in advance from Equal Exchange. Usually there is a small pot of fair trade decaf brewed up and some water heated for tea. Milk, sugar and sweetener are set out with the cups.

There has been some speculation that people may be reluctant to sign up to set out and serve the coffee because the expectation for extraordinary culinary delights to accompany the tea and coffee is intimidating.

Coffee, tea and thee is all that is needed. If no one signs up that is what we will have...and that may be all we really need.

Please consider signing up to manage coffee/refreshment time for a Sunday in October or November. The calendar is hanging under the clock in the kitchen.

To the Poughkeepsie Unitarian Universalist Fellowship:

On behalf of the family of Jim Mearns, I want to thank all of you for everything you've done for my father over the years. You were truly a wonderful support for him in so many ways. Thank you for all of the joy you brought into his life.

With deepest gratitude and love,
Claire Mearns

You might be interested.

Events in the wider community.

Classics in Religion Reading Group

The Jewish Annotated New Testament Wednesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31

A number of Jewish scholars have produced a commentary on the New Testament. Senior Jewish scholars, New Testament experts, Greco-Roman social historians, theologians, and others have jointly contributed to a complete New Testament with introductions to each biblical book, annotations on every page of the text, and significant essays on the New Testament background. This work is a groundbreaking text for scholarship, interfaith dialogue, and both secular or religious readers.

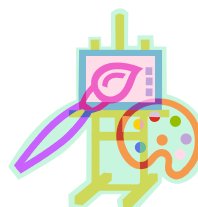
The group will explore several sections of the text. The reading and discussion will be led by Cantor **Bob Cohen** of Temple Emanuel, Chair of the Ulster County Religious Council, and composer of singing prayers.

The Reading Group meets at 10:30 for 1 hour in the Community Room of the Kingston Library at 55 Franklin Street, corner of Prospect in mid-town Kingston.

Our own **Pat Lamanna** will be opening for **Linda McRae** at the **Borderline Folk Music Club** monthly concert on **Sunday, Oct. 14 starting at 2 p.m.** It will be at the New City Volunteer Ambulance Corps building at 200 Congers Road, New City, NY. Admission is \$20, plus please bring a dessert to share. Pat will be doing a set of approximately a half hour and would love to see some friends! (You will also enjoy Linda McRae; check out her web site at www.lindamcrae.com.)

Art at the Fellowship

Our October artists are Dr. Robert Lipgur
and Karl Volk



The Spoken Word Café

The Spoken Word Café is thrilled to host

DA CHEN

as the Featured Speaker on October 27th.

Da Chen grew up in the deep south of China, running barefoot in muddy fields and riding the backs of water buffaloes. As the grandson of a disgraced landowner, he was a victim of communist political persecution and hollowing poverty during the Cultural Revolution.

Unfailing family love helped him survive in a dysfunctional society, and dreams made him soar above the poverty and persecution.

Da arrived in America at the age of 23 with \$30 in his pocket, a bamboo flute, and a heart filled with hope. He attended Columbia University School of Law on a full scholarship, and upon graduating, worked for a Wall Street investment banking firm.

Colors Of The Mountain, his first memoir, was compared to *Angela's Ashes* and was the object of an intense bidding war among top publishing houses. It went on to become a New York Times bestseller and published in six other languages. He will read to us from his new novel, *My Last Empress*. Please join us at a welcoming reception beforehand:

Saturday, October 27, 2012
6:30 PM Reception, Reading at
7:00 PM

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

67 South Randolph Street, Poughkeepsie

Admission \$5 – Open Mic – Refreshments – Angela for
Info: 917-509-5636

The Social Justice Committee of the
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of
Poughkeepsie
Presents a Talk by

Brian Doyle, Chief Executive Officer

Family Services, Inc.

Brian will be talking about the many ways
Family Services through its array of services
positively impacts the community in
Dutchess and Ulster Counties.

**Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at
7:00 p.m.**

At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

67 South Randolph Avenue,
Poughkeepsie

The Social Justice Committee of
The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Poughkeepsie
Presents a Free Screening of the Film

Lost in Detention

This documentary examines current US
immigration policy and the enforcement system,
including stories of hidden abuse in detention
centers.

Tuesday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. at
The UU Fellowship,
67 South Randolph
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Deadline for November newsletter is
October 24th. Please send submissions to
uupoknewsletter@yahoo.com