

FCC and Ruth Hoffman Provide Thought-Provoking Film Nights

Press Release

Event on May 24, 2006

Every second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 pm, the First Congregational Church Meetinghouse becomes the FCC movie house.

Seeing an opportunity to bring independent, foreign, and documentary films to the Manchester community, Ruth Hoffman helped spearhead film nights in the spring of 2003. Notable features include "Story of the Weeping Camel" and "Never Cry Wolf," as well as films about social issues of our day such as "Born into Brothels" and "Bowling for Columbine."

The latest offering will be the 2005 Academy Award nominee "Paradise Now" on Wednesday, May 24. This gripping drama depicts two men drafted as suicide bombers for an upcoming assignment in Tel Aviv. Granted a night to spend with their families, they go home but are unable to say goodbye for fear of tipping their hand.

After each film there is an informal discussion of the themes which often include social and ethical issues our time. Hoffman comments, "The focus is on increasing our understanding of cultures, issues and challenges that are part of our global lives, but the selected films are also entertaining. We want it to be a fun evening."

The Reverend Steve Berry of FCC says, "Ruth Hoffman has an extraordinary knowledge of some of the finest documentary films currently in release. Moreover, she has a desire to share films that may lead to greater conversation and dialogue about how we are called to live in the midst of vast global changes that are affecting us all."

First Congregational Church sees the use of film as one way the congregation can express concern and care for the community and the issues of today. FCC of Manchester is the first Congregational United Church of Christ church in Vermont to have a full multi-media system which can be utilized for many purposes beyond Sunday morning worship.

Those interested in being part of the Meetinghouse Film Initiative, which includes viewings at different times, the use of film in worship and production of educational programs are invited to call Dr. Steve Berry at 362-2709 or send an e-mail to fstcongo@adelphia.net. For information about the May 24th feature and other upcoming films, contact Ruth at 688-4534.

First Congregational Church is located on Historic 7A, Main Street, in Manchester Village across from the Equinox Hotel.