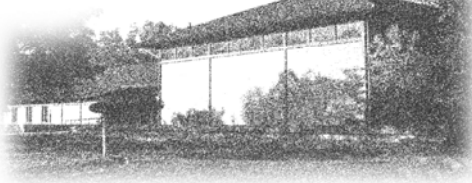


Celebration of Life Services



April 19 – Earth Sunday Ethical Eating

Green Sanctuary Committee members Sue Savion and Janet Allen, “Menu for the Future” participant Peggy Droz, and GSC co-chair John Allen will share stories on the theme of “Eating for Our Own Health and the Health of the Earth”.

April 26 Be That Guide

*Jennifer Hamlin-Navias and
Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom*

Think back to your childhood and think of the people who had a great impact on you. Teachers are often that person. Come hear how Religious Education is part of our larger ministry, and ponder how you might fit into that ministry.

May 3 “Hallelujah has been Restored”

This is a line taken from the Episcopal Church’s Book of Common Prayer. The choir will sing “hallelujah” music, including Randall Thompson’s much loved “Alleluia.” Musically, this feels like a second Easter service, and seems to call for Widor’s Toccata for the closing organ music.

Introducing the New Committee on Ministry

As Jennifer mentions on page 3, the MMUUS Committee on Ministry has expanded its mission. To better serve our growing Religious Education program and Jennifer’s UUA fellowship requirements, we will be more intentional about addressing our Religious Education ministry, alongside the many other aspects of ministry.

The Committee on Ministry is now five members – *Harsey Leonard, Alice Chico, Jackie Clarke, Nuriyah Owens, and Eric Olson* – meeting monthly with Jennifer and Rev. Jean. We are revising the committee’s mission to clarify its role – working in partnership with professional staff and lay leadership to review the overall health of the Society and the quality of our shared ministry.

Recognizing that ministry is an enterprise we all share, the Committee on Ministry is charged with reviewing and assessing our ministry, gauging its effectiveness, and making recommendations to strengthen our ministry.

As always, the Committee is committed to encouraging, supporting, and modeling open, healthy communication at May Memorial. Harsey, Alice, Jackie, Nuriyah, Eric, Jean and Jennifer stand ready to help you feel heard and responded to in the spirit of our covenant.

Understanding and Feeling Your Way through Grief and Loss

Rev. Jean will offer a three-session adult enrichment program on understanding the process of recovery from bereavement.

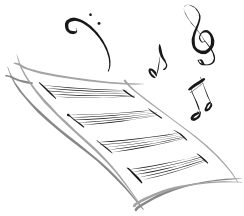
The workshop will cover the essential tasks of grief, understanding the various types of loss, the stages of recovery from loss, what to expect, and how other factors affect the grieving process. The sessions will build on one another, giving participants opportunities for learning, listening, and sharing.

Wednesday afternoons: May 13, May 27, and June 10

2:00 to 4:00 in the Memorial Room

If you are interested in attending, please contact Rev. Jean with your name, phone number, and email (if available).

~Rev. Jean Wahlstrom, minister@mmuus.org



Music Notes

Sunday Serenades are coming our way. These informal 45-minute concerts are free and open to the public.

Our own Linda Wollowitz, assisted by Nancy Pease, will present a Serenade on **Sunday, April 26** at 12:15 in our church Sanctuary. Linda will sing a cycle of songs, *Les Nuits d'Ete*, by Hector Berlioz.

On **Sunday, May 10**, the Syracuse Flute Choir will play a Sunday Serenade at 12:15 in the Sanctuary. This fine ensemble is made up of soprano, alto, tenor, and bass flutes and plays a wide variety of music. The Music and Arts Committee hopes that you will plan to join us for both of these concerts.



Folkus Update

Mustard's Retreat

Friday, April 17

May Memorial

Music that speaks to hearts and lives

Maura Kennedy and more

Thursday, April 23

Jazz Central

Words and Music Showcase

Volunteers Needed for 2009 Book and CD Sale: April 30 – May 3

The 2009 Book and CD Sale is April 30 – May 3. Volunteers are needed beginning April 29 to prepare for and implement the sale. If you haven't already done so, please stop by the table in the Social Hall on Sunday, April 19 or 26, to **VOLUNTEER** to help with the 2009 Book and CD Sale or contact Janet Hiemstra at 637-3527 or janethiemstra@gmail.com

We need as many people as possible to help Wednesday evening, April 29, 6:30-9 p.m., to carry all the items into the Social Hall and sort them by category and begin the "fine sorting." Please come and work for just an hour or longer, whatever time you can help. Thursday morning, April 30, 9 a.m.-noon, we need people to finish "fine sorting" the books and get them neatly organized on the tables. If you volunteer on Wednesday evening or Thursday morning, you pay only \$1 preview price (instead of \$5) and can buy *choice* items you find while sorting *before the sale opens to the public!* We also need four strong men (or women) to help bring tables from the basement to the social hall on Tuesday evening, April 28. And, of course, we also need volunteers throughout the actual sale Thursday night through Sunday and for clean up after the sale ends.

You can also help support this fundraiser for MMUUS by doing as many of these other following tasks as possible:

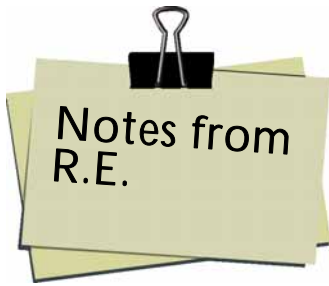
DONATE books (fiction and nonfiction; hardcover and paperback), CDs, DVDs, books-on-tape, and computer games. They can be delivered to the church from Sunday, April 19, to Wednesday, April 29. Please bring them in smaller boxes or doubled-bagged paper grocery sacks so we can easily handle them (these are easier to handle than books in plastic sacks). Put them in the coatroom or in the alcove across from the restrooms. Donation slips for tax purposes will be on the shelf outside the office.

PUBLICIZE the sale among your friends. In addition, pick up posters from the foyer shelf and post them at your place of work or in your neighborhood libraries and stores.

SHOP at the sale for your summer reading and listening pleasure. Hours are as follows:

Thursday, April 30	6 – 8 p.m. Preview sale (\$5 admission)
Friday, May 1	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday, May 2	10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, May 3	Noon – 3 p.m. Bag Sale (\$5/paper grocery bag)





April 26th will be our Guide recruitment Sunday. This is my second guide recruitment Sunday since being at May. The first came last year. It is my hope, and the hope of the RE committee that people still sign up early so that planning can take place for next year. All of this so that the children, guides and parents can have a cohesive, spirit growing kind of experience in RE. I will be preaching that Sunday and the RE committee will be leading RE downstairs. (I still have not figured out how to be in two places at once!)

I also wanted a chance to update you on my process with the UUA. As many of you are aware of by now in December I received preliminary Fellowship with the UUA. I have been ordained in the United Church of Christ for a number of years now (perhaps longer than my vanity would like to admit). Having found a home in the UUA and at May I thought that it would be good to create a professional relationship with the UUA. And so I worked that process. Over the course of three years I went through a psychological exam (passed). Got a number of references (all good). I went to any number of conferences to strengthen my understanding of the UUA; these included five Renaissance Modules (totaling 75 hours) on Intergenerational Worship, History of the UUA, Philosophy of RE, Administration of an RE program, Curriculum. I wrote three essays on: 1) my understanding and experience of anti-oppression and anti-racism work in the UUA, 2) my philosophy of RE, 3) my spirituality. There were some requirements I was missing. I never took Clinical Pastoral Education in seminary; however my status as a Fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors helped me to receive an equivalency in this requirement. I also had not done an internship in a UU congregation, but my work here at May plus my previous experience in congregational settings gave me another equivalency.

This all culminated in my interviewing with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee in December of 08. I preached a 10-minute sermon (on our seven principles) and was interviewed for 45 minutes by a panel of about 9 people. At the end I left the room, they conferred, and when I was called back in they let me know that I had received preliminary fellowship.

Which you may ask, as many have, "What does this get you?" Really in some ways not much. I now have a dual relationship with two denominations; not unlike being certified by two different certifying bodies. An example of this would be being certified as a Social Worker and a Pastoral Counselor. It does however change my relationship and responsibility to the UUA; I am more accountable than I was before. This is a good thing.

The latest step on this journey is that I and people at May have been working to put in place the necessary pieces for my job here at May to count toward preliminary fellowship. The MMUUS Committee on Ministry has been re-formed and will be in conversation about my work here, along with looking at the settled minister's work and the ministry of the larger congregation. I also have a mentor outside the congregation, a trusted wise veteran of the RE world and we are having wonderful conversations. This will strengthen my work here greatly.

continued next column...

RE continued...

And finally the Board of Trustees voted to change my title from Director of Religious Education, to Director of Religious Education Ministries, in recognition that the RE program here is a ministry of the larger congregation. I expect preliminary Fellowship to last three years. After that I will have full fellowship.

I have been and continue to be grateful for the support of this community to my professional life in the UUA, and for the huge amount of support that this society gives to RE and especially to our children and youth.

Blessings,

Jennifer Hamlin-Navias
Director of Religious Education
Ministries

District Assembly Registration

Pick up a registration form and brochure for the District Assembly to be held on **April 24-25 in Albany**. Brochures are in the rack across from office. Great speakers, food and fellowship.

Alexa Carter
GARLEX@aol.com



Interreligious Food Consortium Empty Bowls Fundraiser

The Empty Bowls Show and Sale will be held Saturday, **April 18, 2009** at May Memorial UU Society, 3800 East Genesee Street in DeWitt. The event runs from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. One thousand bowls of original design will be on display and available to the public.

Participants can acquire a ceramic bowl for a \$10 donation and fill it with a delicious helping of soup and bread provided by Syracuse restaurants.



Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship will gather again on **Wednesday, April 15**, and will feature a **potluck dinner at 6:30** followed by sharing stories about our jobs. The facilitator this month is Erwin Reiner. All men of May are invited for the potluck or for the discussion only, which will begin at about 7:15.

Twisted Sisters

We will meet on **Saturday April 18** in the Social Hall from 7-9 pm. All women of the congregation and their friends are invited to attend. If you need childcare, please contact Andrea Wandersee by April 15 at awandersee@earthlink.net.

Adult Education News

Chautauqua Circle

The open discussion group **Chautauqua Circle** will meet **Monday, April 20**, 7:15-8:45 pm in the Teen Room.

This excerpt from *The Chautauquan* on "Cuba: Enigma and Neighbor" helps to introduce Chautauqua Institution's August 2009 Week Eight theme: "Our hope is to bring Chautauquans a glimpse of Cuban life that has been invisible--and unavailable--to us during the time of the embargo", said Director of Religion Joan Brown Campbell.

May Memorial's Doug Igelsrud will lead our local discussion, hopefully followed by samplings of recipes from New York playwright and professor Eduardo Machado's *Tastes Like Cuba: An Exile's Hunger for Home*. More information is available at www.ciweb.org and www.amazon.com, respectively.

~Jody Brown

What in the World Discussion Group

"Natural Faith, How Darwinian evolution has transformed liberal religion" will be the article for discussion at the What in the (UU) World meeting at **10 am on April 21** in the Memorial Room. The "World" group has been interested in and talking about evolution for some time, and the discussion should be a spirited one. Everyone is welcome. Copies of the article are available in the foyer rack across from the pastor's office.

Bookenders Reading Group

Schedule Change--Please note that Barbara Kingsolver's book has been moved to April. This book is one which supports the Green Sanctuary committee's work at May Memorial. It's a great read!!

April 23 *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver
Group meets in the teen room at 1:30.



~Vicky Schipper



Are You Interested in Joining May Memorial?

If you have been thinking about becoming a member of May Memorial, there will be a **joining ceremony** during the regular service on **May 17**.

Prior to the ceremony, Rev. Jean and the Membership Committee will offer a **two-part class (UU 102) from noon to 1 p.m.** in the Memorial Room on **Sunday April 26 and May 3**. Childcare will be available. If you would like more information you can contact Lee Ann McKinney at 652-6128 or glank41@aol.com

Calendar cont. from back page...

Sunday, April 26

10:30 am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	Teen Room
Noon	UU 102	Memorial Room
12:15	Sunday Serenade	Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 28

3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside
6:30 pm	Writer's Group	Teen Room

Wednesday, April 29

6:30-9:00 pm	Book Sale Set-up	Social Hall
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Thursday, April 30

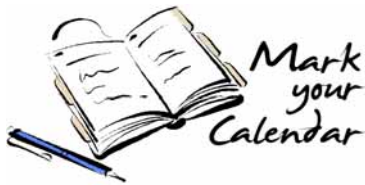
9:00 am-noon	Book Sale Set-up	Social Hall
6:00-8:00 pm	Book and CD Sale	Social Hall

Friday, May 1

10:00 am-5:00 pm	Book and CD Sale	Social Hall
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Saturday, May 2

10:00 am-4:00 pm	Book and CD Sale	Social Hall
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The spring Mayfest Celebration is scheduled for **Saturday, June 6**. Save the date for a fun afternoon of good food, child friendly activities and bargains from the rummage/tailgate sale. Start collecting items from your house that you might like to donate. More details to follow.

~Alexa Carter
GARLEX@aol.com



Women's Salad Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the Women's Salad Luncheon which is scheduled for **11:30 on Saturday, May 23**. Speaker will be Roshi Sherry Chayat from the Zen Center of Syracuse

The 18th Annual Gathering of Men

June 5,6,7 2009
Camp Unirondack,
Lowville, NY

Each year there are men who have been returning for this weekend for years. Each year there are men who come for the first time...in the beautiful Adirondacks. Canoe, hike, or just snooze by the boathouse. Bring your harmonica, guitar, whatever. Optional workshops, discussions, socialize or not. See Remo Bianco in the Social Hall after service or contact him at 635-2508, remobianco@netzero.net. Website: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gatheringofmen>



May Memorial

Unitarian Universalist Society

May Memorial is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

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MMUUSletter is a publication of events and information at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society. To be included on our mailing list, please contact our office at 315.446.8920 or office@mmuus.org, or visit our website at www.mmuus.org.

The deadline for the May 1st newsletter is April 15th at 5 pm. To submit an article, please leave it in the newsletter box on the office door or email to newsletter@mmuus.org.

Note: Articles may be edited for length and/or content.

May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society
3800 East Genesee Street
Syracuse, NY 13214

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TIME VALUE

Calendar

Wednesday, April 15

6:30 pm	Men's Fellowship Potluck	Social Hall
7:00 pm	Men's Fellowship Meeting	Social Hall

Thursday, April 16

3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside Sanctuary
7:30 pm	Choir	

Friday, April 17

8:00 pm	Folkus	Social Hall
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Saturday, April 18

1:00 pm	Empty Bowls Interreligious Food Consortium	Social Hall
7:00 pm	Twisted Sisters	Social Hall

Sunday, April 19

10:30 am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	Teen Room
Coffee Hour	Peace Pole Bake Sale Fundraiser	Social Hall
Noon	Green Sanctuary Committee	Sanctuary
12:15	Spanophiles	Teen Room

Monday, April 20

7:00 pm	Chautauqua Circle	Teen Room
7:00 pm	Buildings and Grounds	Memorial Room

Tuesday, April 21

10:00 am	What in the World Discussion	Memorial
3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside
7:00 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting	Teen Room

Thursday, April 23

1:30 pm	Bookenders	Teen Room
3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside
7:00 pm	New Orleans Trip Meeting	Teen Room
7:30 pm	Choir	Sanctuary
