

View from the Study Window...

The view, of course, is green – green everywhere.

May in central New York brought the last nights below freezing and the first days above 80 degrees.

Now the grass is growing like crazy, flowers are blooming, weeds shooting up, gardens turned and planted.

“May” in May has been frenetic with preparations for the Annual Meeting and other deadlines. Like most springs, this one feels to me as if we are hurtling toward the end of the church year at breakneck speed. In just four weeks, I will be in Utah for the UU Ministers meetings and UUA General Assembly. Then some much needed vacation.

On page 11, I will include my recent letter to NYS Senator Valesky in support of marriage equality.

~ Blessings, Jean

continued on page 11..

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Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m

May 31

Youth Sunday

A worship service planned and led by May Memorial’s Teenz. The service will include a recognition of the graduates of our Coming of Age program.

June 7

Live Long and Prosper

Rev. Jean Wahlstrom

7:00 pm – Annual Meeting of the May Memorial UU Society

Please join us at 6:30 for a potluck dessert social.

June 14

Flower Communion Sunday

Rev. Jean Wahlstrom and Jennifer Hamlin-Navias

The flower communion is one of the oldest, most widespread Unitarian worship traditions. Bring a flower of any sort – from garden, market, or roadside – to share in this intergenerational celebration of the beauty and endless variety of creation. *An all-congregation picnic will follow the service on the MMUUS grounds.*

June 21

Summer Solstice Celebration

Jody Brown and CUUPS

Join the Syracuse Covenant of UU Pagans in a celebration of the summer solstice, including a Chocolate Ritual.

June 28

Hymn Sing

Bob Coye and the Spiritual Jazz Band

In our annual hymn sing, we’ll share our favorite classics and raise our voices in song.



Wheel of Life

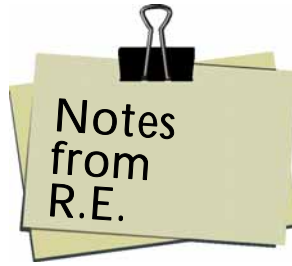
Congratulations to **Mary Louise Edwards!** Mary Louise, who is a faculty member in Communication Sciences and Disorders at Syracuse University, received the Master's Teaching Award and gave the faculty address at the College of Arts and Sciences Master's Convocation on May 9th.

Mary Louise is now recovering from hip replacement surgery. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Continued thoughts of healing go out to **Doug Aird, Patricia Rowley, Mary Zimmer, Debbie Pillsbury** and the **Snyder family**.

Remember those who travel and our shut-ins during the summer months, keep the "Bonds of Community" going wherever you are.

Please help Peggy Ryfun, Carol Bickart, and Rev. Jean to keep up with the Joys, Sorrows, Life Passages and Concerns of our congregation. Email carering@mmuus.org and/or minister@mmuus.org.



As we look to the end of this program year I would like to highlight several happenings in our RE program.

On May 10th we dedicated the Peace Pole. Obtaining and placing the Peace Pole was part of the activities of the Peace Pals class, our 1st and 2nd grade class. They picked out the languages and raised the money to get the pole. They worked with the Board of Directors and with Buildings and Grounds in deciding where and how to place the pole on our church grounds. This pole stands a reminder that peace in ourselves in our community and in the larger world begins with each of us. I would like to thank the children of the Peace Pals class Julia Antoine, Peri Cannavo, December Cooke, Trinity Cooke, Naomi Hamlin-Navias, Alina Kirnie, Ana Kreidler-Siwinski, Carter Leonard, Priya Stanton, and Eyercuse Wonders. I would also like to thank the guides who helped lead this group all year long: Peter Cannavo, Thane Joyal, Laura Kreidler, Karin Kirnie and Brian Leonard.

April 30 – May 3 I accompanied 10 of our Coming of Age Students to Boston for their UUA heritage trip. Going on that were Dalton Ackerman, Garret Clarke, Isabella Dillon, Finn Dorschel, Nate Kight, Kazmira Pitzrick, Emmi Reiter, Avery Snyder, Dorthy Tyler, and Jason Wright. Unable to attend because of previous commitments were Hanna Neimeier and Jamus Mulholland. We had a wonderful time in Boston and learned more about the UUA. We have a great group of junior high students. By the time you read this their year will have culminated in a coming of age service. They are wonderful ambassadors for our community. And thank you to the other adults who also went along on the trip Lillian Ackerman, Jackie and Bob Clarke, Chris Fiske, Therese Hogle and Joan Weiser.

During the month of May we got final commitments from four of the Teenz who will be going to New Orleans this summer to help out with the reconstruction work in New Orleans. They are Dylan Ackerman, Taylor Longo, Eternity Williams, and Sherwin Williams. I will be going along with them. Also we will be going with members of the youth group from Plymouth Congregational, UCC. It will be a great experience. Make sure you ask about it next fall.

~ Jennifer Hamlin-Navias
Director of Religious Education Ministries

2009 MMUS Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 7 at 7:00 pm

Draft Agenda

- I. Call to Order – Joyce Leonard, President, Presiding
- II. Adoption of Agenda
- III. Approval of the Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting
- IV. Reports
- V. Election of Officers, Trustees, and Nominating Committee
- VI. Adoption of Operating Fund Budget for 2009-10
- VII. Adoption of Capital Fund Budget for 2009-10
- VIII. New Business
 - A. Proposed Change to the Constitution – Alice Chico
 - B. Proposed MMUUS Mission/Vision Statement – Alexa Carter
- IX. Presentation of Awards
- X. Installation of New Officers
- XI. Closing Remarks
- XII. Adjournment

A Mission for May Memorial

The Mission Vision team has completed a long year of hard work. The group began its task at the August meeting of the Board of Trustees and put the finishing touches on our, motto, mission statement, and vision statement in April. During the year members of the team collected thoughts from standing committees and small groups. A special service on January 11 brought more input and ideas from the congregation. In March Tom Chulak met with members to continue refining our message. We believe we have captured the essence of our community.

Please review our final product. **We will be voting on these statements at the annual meeting**, so if there is something you feel is not true to May Memorial or something that is missing, please contact a member of the team and share your concerns.

May Memorial's Motto: *Let No One Be A Stranger*

Our Vision: *MMUUS strives to build an inclusive religious community that seeks social justice, protection of the environment, celebration of the arts, and personal growth.*

Our Mission: *We are committed to being an inclusive, respectful, caring community of faith that reaches out in welcome while coming together for mutual inspiration, empowerment and life long learning. We willingly join our fate to that of our world.*

~ Committee: Kevin Daniel-King, Julie Darmody Latham, Ana Knoblock, Carrollyn Case, Randy Case, Jennifer Newman, Alexa Carter

Nominating Committee Slate of Officers for 2009-10

The members of the committee would like to thank all of you who told us directly of your willingness to serve, or who gave us your ears, your time, and many suggestions of possible candidates for this year's slate. There are many ways to serve this congregation: These included serving on an elected body like the Board, and Nominating committees and/or serving on one of the many large and small, standing and ad hoc committees that keep us functioning.

As per our constitutional requirement to announce a slate one month before the annual meeting (June 6th this year), the Nominating committee is pleased to present the following slate of officers. Of course, nominations from the floor are welcome at that time. Please be certain that anyone who is nominated at that time has agreed to serve. Thank you.

The slate is:

Officers and Board of Trustees

President: Alexa Carter
Vice President: Rob Neimeier
Secretary: Annegret Schubert

Trustees

3 year term: Erwin Reiner
1 year term: Randy Case

Continuing their terms on the Board will be Nancy Pease and Steve Ransford.

~ Nominating Committee:

Alice Chico
Kenel Antoine
Jennifer Newman
Fred Fiske
Mary Fulton

Coffee Hour Notes



Thank You to Coffee Hour Hosts!

Thank you to the following groups who have hosted coffee hour during the spring and winter months of 2009. We appreciate your contribution and also taking on the task of washing the coffee mugs so we can be more green.

January: Evenings Beyond Eve

February: The Choir

March: The Men's Fellowship

April: The Men's Group

May: Folkus

Please consider volunteering to host a coffee hour this summer. It's fun and there are printed instructions. It's a nice way to contribute to the work of the church on a one-time basis (though you are allowed to sign up more than once when you see how much fun it is!).

Sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway or contact me at <mackay214@gmail.com> or 479-8460.

~ Don MacKay

Is anyone missing a camera tripod? It was left in the coat closet for several weeks. If it's yours, please contact Don MacKay (479-8460) or mackay214@gmail.com.

Board Acts on Safe Congregation Issue

Being a community can mean many things. Each community defines itself in its own way. Here at May Memorial, one way we define ourselves is with the statement "Let no one be a stranger here." Our vision is of a May Memorial where people feel welcomed and in fact are welcomed. By being a welcoming religious society, we try to be open and affirming of our differences. We also try to act in ways that are respectful and caring of ourselves and one another.

This past year, May Memorial has welcomed into our community an individual who poses a special challenge to our identity as a welcoming religious society – someone with a criminal history as a "level 3" sex offender. He has been attending since last summer, and has limited his involvement to adult-only activities, and all-congregation events (such as Sunday worship) at which he avoids contact with children.

In order to further reduce risk or perceived risk to families and children who may encounter him at May Memorial, the Board of Trustees voted at its May meeting to formalize and extend these limitations on his involvement. The "Limited Access Agreement" drawn up stipulates, in addition to the above, that he will not be on the lower level for any reason. And there are some circumstances under which he will be actively monitored while here.

We recognize that there will be questions and concerns. Rev. Jean, Jennifer Hamlin-Navias, and congregational leaders are available to meet with you individually or in groups, and are available by phone. We welcome any questions you have. We anticipate that some in our congregation, especially parents, may want to meet to discuss the Limited Access Agreement or other concerns. To that end, Jennifer and Jean have set up some open discussion times **Thursday (5/28) at 1:30 and Tuesday (6/2) at 7 pm.**

"Let no one be a stranger" is a balancing act between welcoming and being clear about boundaries. The process will be easier for all if we are as open and direct as we feel able to be. Let us help one another through this period of growth and learning as a faith community.

Joyce Leonard,
MMUUS President

Rob Neimeier,
Safe Congregation Task Force

Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom,
Parish Minister

Jennifer Hamlin-Navias,
Director of R.E. Ministries



Interfaith Impact's Legislative Action Day

Monday May 11th was Interfaith Impact's annual legislative action day and for at least the past five years May Memorial has been represented at this annual event. Unlike previous advocacy days, this year we celebrated some hard won victories as the Rockefeller era drug laws were finally reformed, basic welfare grants were increased and a slightly modified version of the Bigger Better Bottle Bill was passed.

Robb Smith, the Director of Interfaith Impact arranged for a meeting room in the Legislative Office Building where many of the members of the Assembly and Senate have their offices. During the morning we received the latest memorandums in support of the bills that we have been supporting followed by briefings presented by professionals with the very latest information on the status of each bill in the legislative process. Our focus this year was in support of the following: The Dignity for all Students Act, GENDA (Gender Expression non Discrimination Act), The Healthy Teens Act, Farm Workers Fair Labor Practices Act and Marriage Equality for Same Sex Couples. The morning briefing was delivered by Demi McGuire, the Executive Director of the New York State Episcopal Public Policy Network and the coordinator for chaplains for the New York State Council of Churches. Demi has been lobbying in Albany on behalf of liberal faith based issues for many years and knows her way around the legislative process as well as anyone.

The balance of the day was spent meeting with nine members of the Senate and Assembly or their legislative counsel. We were privileged to be given time with the Senate Minority leader Dean Skelos and the Assembly Minority Leader Brian Kolb, both key to getting legislation out of committee and on the floor of the Assembly or Senate for a vote.

The bill that will most likely be brought up for vote in the Senate first is the "Marriage Equality for Same Sex Couples Act" which passed in the Assembly on May 12 and has now gone to the Senate. The bill was assigned number S.04401 and now resides in the Senate Judiciary Committee chaired by Senator John L. Sampson. The bill, co-sponsored by eighteen Senators has bipartisan support and five of the sponsors sit on the Judiciary Committee. Our own 49th District Senator David Valesky remains uncommitted on the Marriage Equality and Farmworker Justice acts. See the following comments excerpted from a longer article by MMUUS Social Justice Committee members Kate Kearney and Rachael Whitney.

MMUUS Social Justice committee members meet with Senator Valeski

On April 25th Kathleen (Kate) Kearney, and Rachael Whitney, members of May Memorial's Social Justice Committee, joined with members of other faith traditions and union representatives in the Syracuse offices of Senator David J. Valesky who represents the 49th State Senate district, which includes Onondaga, Madison, Cayuga, and Oneida counties.

Continued from previous column...

We expressed our gratitude for the Senator's support of the Dignity for All Students Act, and the Gender Expression Non Discrimination Act. We further urged the Senator to consider supporting the "Marriage Equality for Same Sex Couples Act" by presenting letters in support of the legislation signed by individual members of the MMUUS Social Justice Committee. Four days after our meeting with the Senator in Syracuse, several of us, including MMUUS Treasurer Joan Weiser, joined with over 2,000 NYS residents in Albany for the Empire State Pride Agenda's "Equality and Justice Day." We are hoping that Senator Valesky will continue to listen to his constituents, and vote in favor of ending this state-sanctioned discrimination before the end of this legislative session.

~Kate Kearney
and Rachael Whitney

Many thanks go to Kate and Rachael for their tireless efforts on these important issues.

The Social Justice Committee will have a table in the social hall with position papers on all of this important legislation. As constituents it is especially important that Senator Valesky remains aware of our support for all of these issues. Register your support electronically through the Pride Agenda's web site www.prideagenda.org or Interfaith Impact's web site www.interfaithimpactnys.org or call the Senator's Syracuse office at (315) 478-8745 or in Albany at (518) 455-2838.

~ Harsey Leonard, Chair
MMUUS Social Justice Committee

Continued in next column....

Do You Have Questions about Unitarian Universalism?

UU 101 is a one-hour class offered throughout the year by the Membership Committee. It is designed to give newcomers and prospective new members a brief overview of Unitarian Universalism, to provide information about May Memorial, and to answer questions. Pre-registration is not required and childcare is available. The next class will be on **Sunday, June 7**, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Memorial Room. Stop by the Welcoming Table for further information or e-mail: membership@mmuus.org.

Membership Committee looking for new members

Are you energetic, enthusiastic and enjoy meeting new people? Are you looking for a fun and rewarding way to contribute at May Memorial? Then you are just who we need to expand the Membership Committee. We have a strong and committed core of people, but we desperately need more help. Briefly, we greet visitors and newcomers on Sunday mornings on a rotating basis, make follow-up contacts and facilitate the joining ceremony twice a year. We meet monthly (Tuesdays, 5:30-7) to plan and organize as well as explore ways we can continue to support new members and grow as a community. If you are interested in talking further, please feel free to call Mardie Ninno (479-9073) or LeeAnn McKinney (652-6128).

We may be just what you're looking for!

2009 Summer Services

The Worship Committee is developing the 2009 Summer Services Program. Please contact a member of the Worship Committee if you are interested in conducting one of our Summer Services or if you know of someone who would like to do one of these services.

If you wish, the Worship Committee will help you with the components of the service, such as: the Order of Service, choice of music, readings, etc. The following services have been scheduled:

June 21st: CUUPS Summer Solstice This year there will be a Chocolate Ritual. Come the 21st to find out about this ritual and to participate.

June 28th: Hymn Sing with Bob Coye and The Spiritual Jazz Band. We'll share our favorite classics and raise our voices in song.

July 5th: Social Justice Summer Service with Doug Igelsrud

July 12th: Freedom – Not Slavery with David Ashley

POTPOURRI SUNDAY

Wouldn't you like to share your thoughts and skills with us for our 2nd annual Potpourri Summer Service? Last year we had a very informal service called Potpourri Sunday. It was so successful that we promised to continue it this year. From that service, we learned that we want to structure it a bit more than the "Happening" it was last year.

So, please contact Doris Sage or Jody Brown and share what you would like to contribute to an inspirational service. It could be a short piece of music, a reading or quotation, Opening Words, a poem, story, your thoughts of special meaning or Closing Words. Please estimate the length of your contribution so we can develop a balanced Order of Service and everyone can be included.

~ Doris Sage and Jody Brown



Marvelous History Corner

A Peek at the Past

Before peeking at the past, I need to provide some updates. To begin with (and thanks to someone who told me but I forgot who), it was reported that Lucretia Coffin May's headstone was in need of some repair (go here to see a picture: <http://www.mmuus.org/who-we-are/history/may-headstone.html>). I recently checked them both and each needs to be anchored more firmly back to their pedestals before they fall over and become broken. I reported this to the Oakwood Cemetery officials; they will do an assessment and report back to me.

Some wonderful new additions have been made to the web page (<http://history.mmuus.org/>): (a) A recent find in one of the Nick Cardell archival boxes is a delightful sermon by John Fuller entitled *Slavery, Dr. May, & Jerry*, delivered September 30, 1962 (look under Rev. Fuller's section); (b) a beautiful engraving of the Church of The Messiah building from the 1873 Syracuse city directory (look under MMUUS – Our Buildings); (c) an absolutely wonderful book published by David Ashley's Mom, Dorothy (a terrific portrait painter), entitled *Some Portrait Adventures* (you will not be disappointed taking time to look at this book under Miscellaneous Information); (d) a church yearbook for 1897-1898, including wonderful addresses by Susan B. Anthony, Rev. C. D. B. Mills, and Lewis Douglas (Frederick's son) – in addition, look at the membership list toward the end, a who's who of prominent families in Syracuse (look under Miscellaneous Information); and (e) the 35th anniversary celebration on April 26, 1903, of Rev. Calthrop's installation at May Memorial with delightful pieces on his general influence, as an interpreter of science, and his impact on our church (look under Rev. Calthrop's section).

Now for that peek at the past, here are a few handwritten Board of Trustees notes tucked into an archival folder and copied from various board minutes some 35 years ago. Someone no doubt had a delightful time culling out these gems:

- 4/9/74 Nick Cardell to candidate for 8 days, April 28-May 5 "very nearly fitting the ideal candidate for our new minister."
- 5/5/74 – 128 of those present voted to call Nick C. as minister.
- 6/4/74 – Bob Holmes (then our interim minister) suggested that the congregation move out beyond ourselves for social application of our religious convictions. He warned that so much self-awareness can cause the loss of sight of our outer dimensions of life. President Mal Clark followed up by saying let's come out of our introspection and reestablish our church as a strong religious force in the community.

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8/13/74 – The BOT voted to install a soda machine.

1/14/75 – Canvass was \$49,000 from 289 pledges, \$7,000 short of the budget needs (to put that in perspective in terms of our current budget problems, it represented a 12.5% shortfall).

5/13/75 – The budget deficit was hoped to be overcome by 2 or 3 large fundraisers and 4 small ones (gee, does that sound familiar?)

And the beat goes on...

~ Rog Hiemstra, Archivist

What in the World Discussion Group

"Our Inner Ape, How deeply rooted is our Unitarian Universalist belief in peace and justice for all?" is the article for discussion at **10:00 am on June 16**. It is found on page 30 in the Spring issue of the UUWorld magazine, and copies are available in the foyer rack across from the minister's office. Meet in the Memorial Room for a stimulating morning.



Gay Pride Parade

Saturday, June 20th is the date of the downtown Gay Pride Parade.

We'll meet in front of City Hall at 10:45.

Rainbow Flag will be raised at 11 and the parade begins at 11:30.

Questions??? Call Vicky 479-5751

Picnic Time

The end of the year picnic will take place on the May Memorial grounds on **Sunday, June 14** right after the service. Please come and bring a dish to share, food to grill if you like, games, a place setting, utensils and cup and a spirit of fun and fellowship. See you there.



Mayfest is coming!

Plan to spend a Spring afternoon with fellow members of May Memorial, as well as others from the Syracuse community, on **Saturday, June 13, from 11am-3pm**. This will be the last fundraising event, and we hope it will be a "budget buster."

Mayfest will include a tasty lunch, child friendly activities, music, a bake sale, rummage sale, and silent auction featuring handcrafted items from some of our most creative members, as well as several raffle opportunities. There will be sign-up sheets in the Social Hall on coming Sundays.

Plan to volunteer to work. The day before Mayfest we will need people on hand to accept items starting at 10am in the Social Hall. Many hands make light work. Items for the rummage sale must be clean, in good condition, on hangers, and clearly priced. If anyone has rolling racks, we could use several.

The Fundraising Committee is also issuing an open call for people to join the committee for next year.





goingreen

The Plants We Choose

The plants we choose for our yards determines what nature will be like 10, 20, and 50 years from now? It sounds like an exaggeration, serving the passion of wild-eyed, native plant extremists. But this is not the assertion of a plant enthusiast, but rather of Douglas Tallamy, a University of Delaware scientist concerned about biodiversity.

Think about it. Energy from the sun fuels life on this planet. And how is the sun's energy made available to most creatures? Through plants and the animals that eat the plants. Many of these animals are insects. The important point is that insects can eat only those plants that have the chemical makeup they can digest – and generally this means the native plants with which they evolved.

One well-publicized problem with non-native plants is that they can become invasive, running amok in our natural areas, outcompeting our native plants. This is indeed a huge problem, and examples include plants we commonly choose for our landscapes (e.g. Norway maple, Japanese barberry, privet, burning bush etc.)

But a less well-publicized problem with non-native plants – whether or not they become invasive—is that insects can't eat them! And without insects, we have no creatures that eat insects (such as birds or toads), or creatures that eat those creatures. Insects are the foundation of biodiversity.

But does it really matter whether we have birds, for example, or are creatures such as these valuable only to tree-huggers? In fact, as Tallamy says in "*Gardening for Life*," humans cannot live as the only species on this planet because it is the *other* species that create the ecosystem services essential to our survival. Every time we force a species to extinction we promote our own demise.

But why our yards? Don't insects have enough space in natural areas? No. Only about 5% of land is now pristine "nature" free of invasive plants, toxic chemicals, and other signs of human development, and even this land is either too high or too dry to support much of anything. What is left but our yards (and other public spaces, such as church grounds)?

As a former ornamental gardener, I truly understand the siren call of those new hybrids featured on the covers of garden catalogs. I understand the appeal of a garden constantly in bloom, full of the best the world has to offer (which often curiously includes everything EXCEPT plants native to our own area). But should we just be "decorating" our land with pretty flowers for our own enjoyment?

As Tallamy says, "For the first time in its history, gardening has taken on a role that transcends the needs of the gardener... In the past we have not designed gardens that play a critical ecological role in the landscape, but we *must* do so in the future. *The importance of our doing this cannot be overstated.*"

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What can we do? Plant native plants. One example here at May is milkweed. This particular plant is uniquely important to the monarch butterfly. No milkweed, no monarchs. Ever again. Their caterpillars can eat nothing else. The problem is that milkweed is much less prevalent than in the past, and one reason for its eradication is its name – milk**weed**. But many beautiful native plants carry "weed" as part of their name, just a legacy from the colonists who named them.

More than a hundred milkweed (*Asclepias*) varieties are native to the continent, but two types common here in CNY are swamp milkweed (*A. incarnata*) and butterfly weed (*A. tuberosa*). [Note: NOT butterfly bush (*Buddleia*.)] Both are beautiful, garden-worthy plants.

I'd encourage everyone to read **Bringing Nature Home** by Douglas Tallamy. OCPL has multiple copies, and it just came out in an expanded paperback edition. There's also a good article called "Gardening for Life" by Tallamy at <http://for-wild.org/download/>. I'll leave some copies of the article at church if you don't have Internet access.

~Janet Allen



Adult Education News

The Adult Education Committee is winding down for the summer.

Twisted Sisters will continue to meet over the summer on the . Hopefully the weather will be nice enough that we can meet out on the Pavilion. Child care is provided if requested. Contact Andrea Wandersee at awandersee@earthlink.net for child care requests.

The Adult Education Committee is seeking new members for the fall. We'd love to have more input as to what you would like to see in our fall schedule. Interested parties should contact Therese Hogle at hoglete@morrisville.edu. We're a fun group!

Two Great Denominational Events

The month of October 2009 has two wonderful events scheduled for members of the UU community. Take a minute to note these two important dates on your calendars right now.

October 16 and 17 will be the NYSCU annual meeting. NYSCU stands for the New York State Convention of Universalists. It will be held at the First Universalist Church of Rochester. The Rev. Dick Gilbert is the featured speaker with a full program of workshops and a delicious lunch. Look for the green postcard on the pamphlet rack in the foyer for more information.

October 30 and 31 is the **"It Happened in Syracuse – A 50th Anniversary Conference Celebrating the Birth and Growth of Unitarian Universalism."** This birthday celebration will take place at the Hotel Syracuse, the exact same place where 50 years earlier, the two denominations voted to become one. Scholars from both traditions will be on hand to remember our history and look to our future. Plan to attend to hear the voices of David Bumbaugh, David Parke, Liz Strong, Dick Gilbert and Tom Chulak. Brochures can be found in our pamphlet rack or on line at www.sld.uua.org.

~Alexa Carter garlex@aol.com

St. Lawrence District Chalice Lighter Update

A new call (#42) has been received today, May 16th. It is for approved grants to three congregations: Fredonia, Rochester First, and Binghamton - they will share in the proceeds of this Call. It is hoped that all who have pledged will make their contribution in a timely manner.

At this writing, 60 members of May Memorial have pledged varying amounts to the District's Chalice Lighter program. If all who have pledged were to send in their pledged amount, we would contribute in total \$1,570.

The closest we have come to our potential was for call #40 (Watertown and Barneveld) when 39 members contributed \$1,245. To those who gave, a great big THANK YOU!

I hope we will do as well if not better on the current call.

For those who have not pledged, I would like to encourage you to become a Chalice Lighter with a minimum nominal pledge of \$20.00 per call. The purpose of the program is to extend Unitarian Universalist principles and faith by promoting the growth of congregations within the St. Lawrence District.

If interested, please contact me via email, phone or catch me at church.

gdroege@twcny.rr.com or 637 0525

~ Gary Droege, Chalice Lighter Ambassador

Calendar Continued from back page...

Friday, June 12

10:00 pm

Mayfest drop-offs

Social Hall

4:00 pm

Teenz

Teen Room

Memorial

Kitchen, Sanc

Saturday, June 13

11:00 am-3:00 pm

Mayfest (see pg. 8)

Social Hall

Sunday, June 14

10:30 am

Service-Flower Communion

Sanctuary

Noon

Church Picnic

Monday, June 15

7:00 pm

Buildings and Grounds

Teen Room

Tuesday, June 16

10:00 am

UU world Discussion Group

Memorial

3:00 pm

Tai Chi

Creekside

7:00 pm

Board of Trustees
(New Board and Old Board Meeting)

Social Hall

Wednesday, June 17

6:30 pm

Men's Fellowship Pot Luck

Social Hall

7:00 pm

Men's Fellowship-program

Social Hall

Thursday, June 18

3:00 pm

Tai Chi

Creekside

Saturday, June 20

7:00 pm

Twisted Sisters

Pavilion

Sunday, June 21

10:30 am

Service-Summer Solstice

Social Hall

12 Noon

Green Sanctuary

Sanctuary

12:15

Spanophiles

Teen Room

Tuesday, June 23

3:00 pm

Tai Chi

Creekside

Thursday, June 25

3:00 pm

Tai Chi

Creekside

Sunday, June 28

10:30 am

Service-Hymn Sing

Sanctuary

Continued from the View, page 1..

Dear Senator Valesky,

As a Jamesville resident, and as Parish Minister of Syracuse's May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, I write to urge you to support marriage equality in our state.

May Memorial UU Society, founded in 1838, is named for its second minister, human rights advocate Rev. Samuel J. May. His unstoppable anti-slavery activism is commemorated in Syracuse's "Jerry Rescue" monument in Clinton Square, which depicts Rev. May's role in resisting the Fugitive Slave Act.

Today, May Memorial UU Society is proud to be a Welcoming Congregation, affirming and celebrating the worth and dignity of all individuals and couples.

I and my colleagues are proud to perform same-sex Holy Union and Commitment ceremonies – and look forward to the day when our signatures and our words will pronounce these couples married legally, as well as in the sight of God and faith community.

Please vote to support the right of all committed couples to marry.

Thank you for your help,

Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom

May Memorial

Unitarian Universalist Society

May Memorial is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Visit our website at www.mmuus.org

The Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom
MINISTER
Email ♦ jwahlstrom@mmuus.org

Glenn Kime
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Phone ♦ 729-3734

Jennifer Hamlin-Navias
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION MINISTRIES
Email ♦ jhamlinn@mmuus.org

Joyce Leonard
SOCIETY PRESIDENT
Email ♦ JALeonard5@msn.com

Karen Love
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Email ♦ office@mmuus.org

MMUUS Office Hours

9-1 Monday–Friday

Office Telephone

315.446.8920

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.

The deadline for the next newsletter is the 15th of the preceding month. The deadline for the mid-month is the 5th of the month. 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. If the deadline is missed, please submit your

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

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Calendar

Sunday, May 31

10:30 am	Service-Teen Sunday Coming of Age Recognition	Sanctuary
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Monday, June 1

6:30 pm	SEG (Antoine)	Memorial
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Tuesday, June 2

3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside
7:00 pm	Social Justice Committee	Teen Room

Thursday, June 4

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

Friday, June 5

8:00 pm	Folkus	Social Hall
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Sunday, June 7

10:30 am	Sunday Service	Sanctuary
12 Noon	First Sunday Luncheon	Social Hall
12 Noon	UU 101	Memorial
12:15	Spanophiles	Teen Room
12:30	RE Committee	COA Room
6:30 pm	Pot Luck dessert	Social Hall
7:00 pm	Annual Meeting	Social Hall

Tuesday, June 9

3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside
5:30 pm	Membership Committee	Teen Room
7:30 pm	Worship Committee	Memorial

Thursday, June 11

3:00 pm	Tai Chi	Creekside
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