

## View from the Study Window...

"I did not read books the first summer; I hoed beans. Nay, I often did better than this. There were times when I could not afford to sacrifice the bloom of the present moment to any work, whether of the head or the hands. I love a broad margin to my life. Sometimes, in a summer morning, having taken my accustomed bath, I sat in my sunny doorway from sunrise till noon, rapt in a reverie, amidst the pines and hickories and sumachs, in undisturbed solitude and stillness, while the birds sung around or flitted noiseless through the house, until by the sun falling in at my west window, or the noise of some traveller's wagon on the distant highway, I was reminded of the lapse of time. I grew in those seasons like corn in the night, and they were far better than any work of the hands would have been... Instead of singing like the birds, I silently smiled at my incessant good fortune."

Henry David Thoreau wrote this passage in *Walden*, his timeless

*continued on page 9...*

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## Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m

### July 5

*Cuba and the Changing Reality of Latin America*

with Doug Igelsrud and Harsey Leonard

Discussion will include: Cuba, before and after the Revolution, the story of the Pastors for Peace Caravans, and the new political reality in Latin America.

### July 12

*Freedom –Not Slavery*

with David Ashley

By virtue of an apparent miracle, a man is perceived to be Jesus returned to earth. Based on conditions in our modern day world, one of Seven Principles of what he might tell us pertains to Freedom, not Slavery.

### July 19

*The Song of the Sea, from "Nautilus"*

with Fred Fiske

The sea has a spiritual dimension that relates to UU's seventh principle – a key part of the interdependent web of life of which we are a part. In his music Fred will explore this dimension, as well as the sensuous and esthetic delights of sand, sea and surf, and the yin-yang quality of the ocean that can be mild and welcoming one moment, fierce and destructive the next.

### July 26

*Gardening for Life*

with Janet Allen, Green Sanctuary Committee

Even if you don't consider yourself a "gardener," it's likely that you have some patch of ground in which you put some kind of plant. And the plants you choose to put in this ground – either at home or as part of an organization such as May Memorial – help to determine the future of biodiversity! Find out why this assertion is not an exaggeration and how you can help.



## Wheel of Life

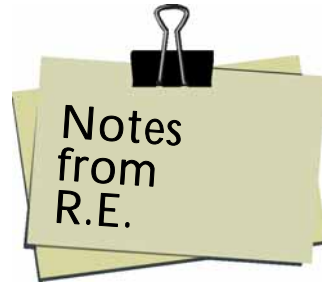
“Thank you to **Mary Burdick** for her wonderful gift arranging the beautiful bouquets that have graced the foyer all year... and the little ones in the women's and men's bathrooms. The arrangements have been truly exquisite and give me great pleasure and I'm sure do the same for everyone else.”

~Bev Adams

Congratulations to **Tara O'Neill** and Brian Barfoot on the birth of Benjamin O'Neill-Barfoot, born June 9.

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](mailto:carering@mmuus.org).



**L**ast Sunday was our annual Flower Communion Service. It was good to see all the children, families and adults here. As usual the flowers were lovely. And what a wonderful way to end our RE programming year.

During that service we recognized all the individuals who helped guide our children during this past year. And I wanted to recognize them here in this space. We have a great group of children and youth here in this community. Much of that is due to the wonderful guiding that they get each Sunday morning. It means a lot to me and to our children that you are here and giving.

And so thank you to these individuals:

Lillian Ackerman, Amanda Acquard, Judy Antoine, Kenel Antoine, Joan Applebaum, Eliza Bailey, Nuriyah Boné-Owens, Peter Cannavo, Joy Casey, Alice Chico, Jackie Clarke, Stephanie Cross, Julie Daniel, Julie Darmody-Latham, Mike Dillon, Chris Fiske, Fred Fiske, Carroll Grant, Charlie Hannah, Therese Hogle, Thane Joyal, Perrin Kaftan, Karin Kirnie, Laura Kreidler, Brian Leonard, Harsey Leonard, Mark Longo, Lee Ann McKinney, Charlie Murphy, Rob Neimeier, Mardie Ninno, Jennifer Newman, Tara O'Neal, Dinah Olson, Carey Pitzrick, Ilene Puente, Rick Puente, Laurie Rolnick, Dan Sage, Doris Sage, Annegret Schubert, Bill Snyder, Marianne Stanton, Robin Valentino, Andrea Wandersee, Deborah Welsh, Deborah Wilson-Allam, Amanda Winkler, Linda Wobus, Aran Wonders, Ruth Yanai, and Sharon Zuis

That is a lot of names. Religious Education takes a lot of volunteers to do well. If I have, by mistake, left any names off it is completely unintentional. Named or un-named the work that is done is appreciated by all in our congregation. Again Thank you!

~Jennifer Hamlin-Navias  
DRE



## Marvelous History Corner

### Nick and the Unitarian Universalist Merger

**I**t Happened in Syracuse, a conference to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the meeting held in Syracuse resulting in a merger between the Unitarians and the Universalists will be held on October 30 and 31 at the Hotel Syracuse. You will be reading more about that event in future newsletters. Long before he ever thought about coming to May Memorial, Nick Cardell played a role in that activity that should not be forgotten.

When he was a minister at the Unitarian church in Plainfield, NJ. Nick was a ministerial delegate to the meeting. His main role was helping to deal with the conflicts between Unitarians and Universalists on the stated principles and purposes. For example, the Universalists were concerned about how language associated with Jesus could or should be included in written material and the Unitarians were not concerned with that aspect. There was some heated discussions and Nick pleaded for a more moderate position. From an interview he had with Jean Hoefler in 1986 he remembered saying this to fellow Unitarians: "Is it going to hurt us to include something that is going to make them feel more comfortable." We don't know what the responses were, but can speculate that Nick's plea for moderation had an impact.

Nick spent most of his time at the War Memorial for the intense discussions taking place there. He only got to the May Memorial building on James Street one time for a service. He also talked about how the communication between Unitarians and Universalists (who were meeting elsewhere – Nick remembered they met at the Universalist church) by telephone as the discussions continued on were very important.

So come to the October 31 meeting to hear more, see some associated displays and photos, and obtain a better understanding of that important meeting. The birth and growth of Unitarian Universalism was its result.

~Rog Hiemstra, Chair, History Committee

### Committees Looking for Members

**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](mailto:hoglete@morrisville.edu). We're a fun group!

Become involved in the planning of the weekly worship service as well as special services by joining the **Worship Team**. Work closely with the Pastor and others and enjoy learning more about UU traditions as well as the excitement of creating new ways to express spirituality. A great way to learn more about the individuals and many beliefs of the congregation. Contact Jody Brown at or Doris Sage if interested.

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!

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## What in the World Discussion Group

"The Human Condition" is the article for discussion at **10:00 am on July 21**. It is found on page 22-23 in the Summer 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.



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## Lost and Found

A pastel green cotton cardigan sweater. Last seen on a pew in the Social Hall at the Women's Salad Luncheon on May 23rd. Did someone pick it up by mistake? I have the one of similar color that was left on the bench that day, but it doesn't match the sleeveless sweater that makes it a set. Call Doris Sage if you know where it is: 315-637-8181.

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## Bulletin Boards

All bulletin boards will be re-papered over the summer in anticipation of September activities, Pictures and articles will be saved in the office. If you have any questions please call or leave a message for Karen at 446-8920 over the summer months.



The  
Quest for  
Social Justice

## Upcoming Social Justice Events

**P**astors for Peace Caravan to Cuba:

**July 7th at 6:30 pm:** Join us in welcoming the Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba with a Pot Luck followed by Pastors for Peace Speaker Alison Bodine. Alison is a 23 year old social justice activist. She first became active in Cuba solidarity organizing with Vancouver Communities in Solidarity with Cuba (VCSC) after moving to British Columbia from Colorado in order to attend university. She went on the Pastors for Peace Caravans to Cuba in 2006 and 2008. She is the producer of the audio-slide show about the caravan on the Pastors for Peace website

In September 2007, Alison was targeted and harassed as a political activist after Canada Border Services agents found anti-war and social justice materials in her car, resulting in the banning of her from Canada for 2 years. Currently Alison Bodine is an at-large organizer, Co-chair and spokesperson of the Vancouver anti-war coalition, Mobilization Against War and Occupation (MAWO). Since August 2008 she has been working in the Pastors for Peace office and was a coordinator of the 2008 construction brigade to Cuba.

### Gay Pride Parade June 20th.

The Social Justice Committee thanks everyone who contributed to the success of the Gay Pride Parade on Saturday, June 20th. Special thanks to Kate Kierney and Michael Whitney for their tireless work in promoting and organizing for this event and of course to Vicky Shipper's devotion and dedication in seeing that May Memorial is represented in the community every year.

Have a great summer.

~Harsey Leonard, Chair,  
Social Justice Committee



go ingreen

## We Have Been Honored

The Green Sanctuary Committee was awarded the Samuel Joseph May Citation for Community Action Award at the MMUUS Annual Meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

The artist who created the work is Margie Hughto an internationally known artist and Associate Professor in the Ceramics Dept. of Syracuse University. Her best known ceramic works hang in museums, corporate offices, and in many subway installations. The ceramic wall hanging awarded to the Green Sanctuary Committee is a collage from ceramic elements which came together in an inspirational way as she thought about the Green Sanctuary movement and how it might be honored.

The Committee is looking for an appropriate location to display the Award.

### A Summer Event Green Sanctuary Weekend - July 25 - 26

Saturday morning, Urban Ecology Tour – 9 AM to 1 PM. Tour Syracuse green spaces with Baltimore Woods Nature Center (BWNC) naturalists, scientists from SUNY-ESF, and representatives from the Onondaga Environmental Institute and Syracuse Parks Conservancy. Along the way, utilize unique scientific equipment, discuss the latest issues affecting urban citizens, and get to know Syracuse's beautiful parks. Bring a bag lunch and BWNC will provide treats as the program concludes with a picnic lunch. The tour starts at the Old Stone Mill in Elmwood Park (just off Glenwood Ave). Call BWNC (673-1350) for additional details. Accommodates 6-24 participants, registration required - a suggested donation of \$5/person is appreciated.

#### Sunday morning.

8:30 am. Bird walk and wildlife inventory at MMUUS led by Matt Kauffman, environmental educator at Baltimore Woods Nature Center. Find out what birds, butterflies, and other critters visit and use our grounds for food, water, nesting sites, and shelter. Learn some basics about habitat development (more information during the worship service - see notice under Summer Services) and help us identify a wildlife "baseline" against which to measure our success in pursuing our goal of certification by National Wildlife Federation as a "Backyard Habitat Garden".

9:30 - Breakfast in the Social Hall with Matt and family.

10:30 - Green Sanctuary Worship Service.

MMUUS member participation in these events will "count" toward our 12 tasks for UUA's certification of May as a "Green Sanctuary Congregation". Join us!

~John Allen, Co-chair, Green Sanctuary Committee

## New Officers and Trustees Elected

At the MMUUS annual meeting, the new Trustees, Officers, and Nominating committee members were elected and installed. There were no additional nominations from the membership. The new Board and Officers are:

*Alexa Carter*, President

*Rob Neimeier*, Vice President

*Annegret Schubert*, Secretary

*Erwin Reiner*, Trustee, term ends  
2012

*Steve Ransford*, Trustee, term ends  
2012

*Randy Case*, Trustee, term ends  
2010

*Nancy Pease*, Trustee, term ends  
2010

*Joyce Leonard*,

Treasurer (appointed by the  
Board on June 23)

The new Nominating Committee is:  
*Alice Chico, Kenel Antoine, Jennifer Newman, Fred Fiske, and Mary Fulton.*



## Coffee Hour Notes



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 Don MacKay at <mackay214@gmail.com> or 479-8460.

~Don MacKay

## Annual Awards Presented

**A**t this year's MMUUS annual meeting (and the Sunday following), four awards were presented to outstanding members of our Society.

The *Samuel J. May Citation for Community Action* was presented to MMUUS's Green Sanctuary Committee. In presenting the award, Harsey Leonard said, "the Samuel Joseph May Award is, in a sense, an acknowledgement of the stewardship of his good name and amazing legacy, and this year's recipients personify that stewardship."

The *Evelyn White Unsung Hero* award was presented to Vicky Schipper, who continually proves to be right there where May Memorial needs her most, including being the "go to" person for sponsorship of the new immigrant Awad family.

The *May Memorial Annual Award* went to Harsey Leonard, whose service to May Memorial this year has included seeing the Memorial room A/V hookup to completion, chairing the Social Action Committee, facilitating a Spiritual Enrichment group, serving on the Committee on Ministry, volunteering in the Office, and, not least, being the supportive spouse of the Society president.

The *Mary Lib Whitney Award* for Religious Education was presented to two individuals: Rob Neimeier and Taylor Longo. Rob's leadership involvement this year included serving on the religious Education Committee, the Board of Trustees, and the Safe Congregation Task Force. Taylor Longo, who graduates high school this year, has had leadership involvements almost too long to mention, and has brought insight and enthusiasm to them all. She will be dearly missed around here.

Congratulations to our awardees, and thanks to those whose served on the awards committees.

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## MMUS Vision and Mbtto

**A**lso at the annual meeting, the membership voted to adopt as our motto (in the phrasing familiar to many who were active during Rev. Nick Cardell's ministry)... ***Here, Let No One Be a Stranger.***

The proposed Vision statement was also adopted... ***MMUUS strives to be an inclusive religious community that seeks social justice, protection of the environment, celebration of the arts, and personal growth.***

The members attending did not adopt a Mission statement – how a short description of we want to be known in the wider community.

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# MMUS Chautauqua Circle

Some news about UU Fellowship of Chautauqua's Summer Schedule  
The UU Fellowship of Chautauqua invites all interested lifelong learners to visit their renovated denominational house at No. 6 Bliss Avenue to sample some of the bliss that comes from taking part in the enriching and diverse experiences found on the Chautauqua grounds.

## The 2009 Summer Speaker Schedule

The UU Fellowship of Chautauqua is pleased to present a group of outstanding speakers on Sunday mornings at 9:30 in the Hall of Philosophy thanks to the efforts of Nancy Bechtold, our Program Committee Chair. Copies of these sermons are available in written and electronic format by request for a nominal fee.

June 28	Steve Ashman	Erie, PA
July 5	Frank Hall	Westport, CT
July 12	Richard Gilbert	Rochester, NY (retired)
July 19	Terry Sims	Surprise, AZ
July 26	Lee Barker	Pres., Meadville Lombard Seminary
Aug 2	Martha Munson	Youngstown, OH
Aug 9	David Bumbaugh	Prof., Meadville Lombard Seminary
Aug 16	David Weissbard	Rockford, IL (retired)
Aug 23	Michael McGee	Arlington, VA
Aug 30	Daniel Budd	Shaker Heights, OH

## The 2009 UU Ethics Series

The 14th annual Unitarian Universalist Ethics Seminar Series, featuring an outstanding group of thoughtful speakers, will convene July 20-24 at the Hall of Philosophy at 9:30 AM. On Monday, long time Chautauquan, Rev Dr Bill Brockman, will launch the series as he addresses "Thoughts About relationships: Challenges and Opportunities." On Tuesday Ron Lindsay, CEO of the Center for Inquiry in Buffalo will discuss the mission of his organization. Wednesday's speaker will be writer and lecturer Dr. Teena Cahill considering "What Makes Us do the Right Thing" Attorney and Unitarian minister, On Thursday, Rev. Terry Sims, will defend single gender marriage based on universal ethical principles in his presentation titled "Holy Union". And the series concludes on Friday when Andy Reese, PhD, discusses "Insights from Evolutionary Biology on Moral Development".

~Jody Brown for the  
Adult Education Committee

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## Adult Education News

The Adult Education Committee is winding down for the summer.

**Twisted Sisters** will continue to meet over the summer. 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](mailto:awandersee@earthlink.net) for child care requests.

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## Sister Circle Invites New Members

Sister Circle, a long standing women's group at May Memorial, is welcoming new members this October. The group meets every Wednesday night from 7 to 9 P.M. and explores matters of personal growth and community building. Please contact Beverly Clark [Clarkmmbb@aol.com](mailto:Clarkmmbb@aol.com) 637-3996 for more information.

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## Men's Fellowship Breaks for the Summer

Thanks to all who participated and led the men's Fellowship this past year. Friends were made and good discussions were held.

We won't be meeting this summer. Please mark your calendar for the third Wednesday in September as a start date and a general rule for the Men's Fellowship. That's **September 16<sup>th</sup>!**

Plan on a pot luck dish to pass meal and a good topic discussion to follow. Please feel free to bring a friend.

~Don MacKay

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## Calendar Your events Now!

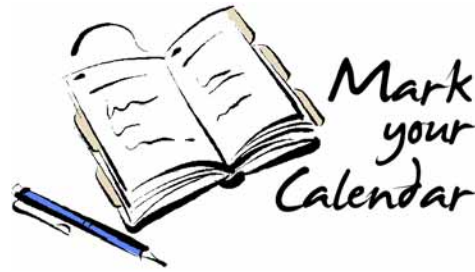
Although summer has just started the calendar for the rest of 2009 is quickly filling up. If you have not put in your request for rooms for regular meetings, special events, recitals, or Society fundraisers now is the time to do it.

There are several ways to do so.

1. Fill out a room reservation form. These can be found in the Office, or in the folder on the door. Karen Love, Office Coordinator will call and confirm your date.
2. E-mail a date you would like and again, Karen will e-mail back to confirm the date.
3. Stop into the Office during office hours and look at the calendar with Karen.

Have a great summer, but plan ahead too!

~Karen Love  
Office Coordinator



## September potluck with Tom Chulak

**T**om Chulak, our St. Lawrence District Executive, will be visiting May Memorial on the evening of Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> for a potluck and travel talk. Tom has recently returned from a personal pilgrimage to Jerusalem, Cairo and the Nile, Tanzania and South Africa and Morocco. Members from other churches in central New York will be joining us to share a delicious meal and hear of Tom's adventures. Mark your calendars for this fall event. Alexa Carter [garlex@aol.com](mailto:garlex@aol.com)

## UU 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

Saturday, October 31, 2009 marks exactly 50 years since the Unitarians and the Universalists agreed to join. We will mark the event with a party at the Hotel Syracuse, the exact site where the decision was made. Scholars from both traditions will be on hand to share their thoughts about our first fifty years. Brochures are in the pamphlet rack, and if you register before August 31, you can take advantage of a special low rate made possible by a grant from NYSCU, The New York State Convention of Universalists. We are fortunate to be residents of the area, but visitors will be needing housing. If you would like to offer a room in your home for home hospitality, please contact Donna Rohde [donnarohde@yahoo.com](mailto:donnarohde@yahoo.com) 315-247-8890

# News From the Office Coordinator



The Annual Meeting is over and things are starting to wind down. It must be summer!

There will be a few changes as you read this newsletter with office hours and my schedule.

The weeks of June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup> I will be on vacation.

Part of this time I will be lucky enough to go back to Sabine Pass, Texas where I have been part of a long term commitment to the United Methodist Church there as it has been damaged by hurricanes. I work through the United Methodist Office on Relief (UMCOR) on this and several other projects, and because of this work, have a great connect here at May with all that our Social Justice Team does.

Upon return to the office on July 6<sup>th</sup>, the office hours will be as follows: Monday through Friday 9 am-11 am. This will be the schedule through September 14, 2009.

You can leave messages at 446-8920 or by e-mail at [office@mmuus.org](mailto:office@mmuus.org).

The next two newsletter deadlines are July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please remember that the September newsletter is the last before fall services and committees begin to meet.

Have a safe, and happy summer!

~Karen Love  
Office Coordinator

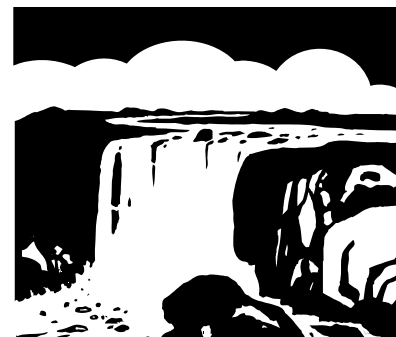
*Continued from page 1...*

account of a year spent in relative solitude at Walden Pond.

In summer, I *will* be reading, but out of doors as much of the time as possible. July, I will be on vacation. For the first two weeks, I will be trekking and sightseeing in Norway – wow! (Wish me sunny weather.) In August, I will be available as needed, by phone or appointment and an occasional check of my email. This is the time I use mainly in reading and preparation for the upcoming year at May Memorial.

Wherever you are this summer, remember to collect and save a wee bit of water for our Ingathering Water Ceremony in September. Have a memorable time, whether it be on a different continent or in rapt attention to the world around your doorway.

~ Blessings, Jean



# 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](http://www.mmuus.org)

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## MMUUS Office Hours

9-1 Monday–Friday

## Office Telephone

315.446.8920

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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.

**The deadline for the next newsletter is the 15th of the preceding month. The deadline for the mid-month is the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

To submit an article, please leave it in the newsletter box on the office door or email to [newsletter@mmuus.org](mailto:newsletter@mmuus.org).

**Note:** Articles may be edited for length and/or content. If the deadline is missed, please submit your article for reconsideration at the next deadline.

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

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## Calendar

### Tuesday, July 2

3:00 pm	Tai chi	Creekside
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### Sunday, July 5

10:30	Sunday service	Sanctuary
Noon	Spanophiles	Teen Room

### Tuesday, July 7

3:00 pm	Tai chi	Creekside
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### Thursday, July 9

3:00 pm	Tai chi	Creekside
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### Saturday, July 18

7:00 pm	Twisted Sister	Pavilion (if rain Teen room)
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### Sunday, July 19

10:30 am	Sunday service	Sanctuary
Noon	Spanophiles	Teen Room
Noon	Green Sanctuary	Memorial

### Monday, July 20

7:00 pm	Buildings & Grounds Committee	Teen Room
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### Sunday, July 26

10:30 am	Sunday service	Social Hall
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### Tuesday, July 27

3:00 pm	Tai chi	Creekside
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### Thursday, July 29

3:00 pm	Tai chi	Creekside
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