

Celebration of Life Services Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

January 24

Worship Committee & Social Justice

Imagine Peace

A thought provoking look at the concept of peace as a journey that begins first within ourselves and then stretches out to our families, our neighbors, our communities. An inspirational look at **respect**, as the primary building block to world peace.

January 31

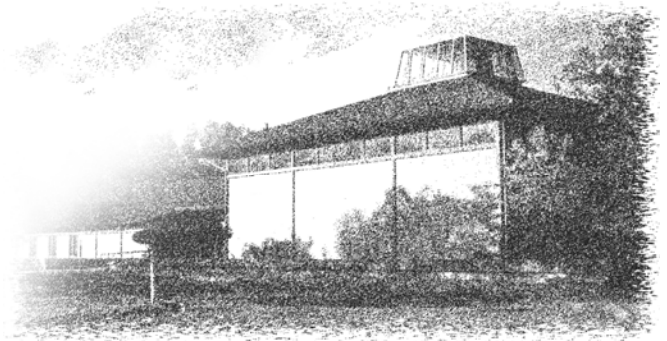
Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom

Breaking the Back of Winter

The old New England Yankees said you should have used "half your wood and half your hay" by Groundhog Day. What a wonderfully concrete marker of the winter's passage!

February 7

Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom



View from the Study Window...

Where is God?

You may not be asking "Where is God?", but in some way each of us struggles to learn, integrate, and respond to what is unfolding in Haiti. In effect, "Where is God?" is a rhetorical question. God is Where we look and What we see.

I see the goddess Kuan Yin in the doctors and nurses, the skill and innovation of healing professionals who are used to working with so much more.

I see the violent upheaval of the earth as the goddess Kali, destroying that which must give way for a better future to take hold.

I see Jesus in we who respond as neighbors, as the good Samaritan he described, who saw a person in need and would not pass on by without acting.

Pat Robertson sees a vengeful, wrath-filled God, destroying unbelievers. I see god/ess in the world wide Web of people who scorn such idiocy.

I see the god of Exodus, Moses' liberator God, impelling people to freedom.

There is a lot I don't know about Haiti and about earthquakes, but I am inclined to believe that this disaster is more man-made than natural – the result of poverty, isolation, bad governance. (One airstrip!) I believe that we are the hands of God – for good, for ill, or merely idle.

I believe in the faith values which underlie our efforts to help in our own best, most generous way. I have given, and I hope you will too, to the "**UUA/ UUSC Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund**" which you can locate online through either uua.org or uusc.org. The mail address is UUSC, P.O. Box 844001, Boston MA 02284-4001. Thank you.

~ Jean



Wheel of Life

Our thanks go out to **Syracuse ENT Surgeons** for their generous donation of canned goods and food supplies during the holiday season.

We hold **Kenel and Judy Antoine** in our hearts as we witness the earthquake devastation in the country of Kenel's birth.

On Sunday please be considerate of those less able and leave the parking spaces along the front driveway for them. Thank you.

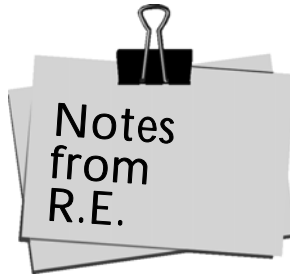
New MMUUS Directory

A **new** directory of MMUUS members and friends is now available. Pick up your copy from the foyer shelf under the nametag cupboard or contact the MMUUS office administrator.

Annual Intergenerational Potluck and Bingo Party

Annual Intergenerational Potluck and Bingo Party will be Saturday, Jan. 30th from 6 - 8pm in the social hall. Please bring: a dish to share, your own table ware (this is a green event!), a prize to donate for each person playing. Cost: \$1 per person.

Coordinators: **Julie Daniel, Kevin King** (622-3423 or email:jdaniel4@twcny.rr.com)



As I write this Haiti is devastated and it is too soon to know the real toll to that country and its people. By the time you read this some days will have passed. More may be known. The beginning of help and assistance will have been offered. Our thoughts and our prayers are with Haiti. Help will be needed for a long time. On January 24th our RE children grades K-6 were able to make hygiene kits for Church World Service to use, and they also held a bake sale to raise money for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. If you would like to donate to the UUSC go to uuscs.org.

Life does continue on, thankfully. And there is good news to be shared here at May.

By now we have started our Winter term in RE. Our 4,5,6 grade group which started out the year in two sections has combined into one section. We did not have the attendance that we thought we might and so we will combine them. The guides have been doing a wonderful job in this transition.

Our Junior high group, Our Whole Lives will have an overnight on Feb 6 and 7. That happens to be the same weekend that the Teenz have a con. The con's theme is on Leadership development and it will be in Binghamton NY.

We continue to average about 50 or so children and youth in the RE program. Our three strongest areas as far as numbers are: the Teenz, the Junior High group, and the Nursery. On Jan 10 we actually had 11 children 3 or under in the nursery! Our team of guides, **Lillian Ackerman, Jerry Ackerman, Stephanie Cross, Therese Hogle, Brian Leonard** and **Joan Weiser**, have been doing a great job leading this curriculum which is a year long focus on human sexuality. The youth who are involved are committed and engaged; they contribute quite a bit. And the parents and families who bring them there every week are also committed!

RE often needs extra volunteers besides guiding. Right now we have the following needs:

- Washing the RE dishes and cups, after Sunday morning programming
- Helping out with a Special Programming Sunday
- Subbing in RE when necessary
- Families or individuals who would take a week of care for our butterfly garden during summer
- Having your child sign up to carry the chalice downstairs.

If you are new to May or you have any questions about RE please feel free to call me or email me at dre@mmuus.org.

~ Jennifer Hamlin-Navias

Going Green Supplement

Continuing congregational environmental justice advocacy is needed to urge protection of our local and state water supplies and public health. Please urge legislators and administrative agencies to oppose inadequate regulation of gas drilling.

Copies of the excerpted documents below are available for viewing at the Green Sanctuary table during the Sunday social hour and by email from geri@aird.us. Some information will also be available at mmuus.org/Forums/Discussion. Please consider sharing your information and comments with the Green Sanctuary Committee and let us count you as among those who are advocating with legislators and agencies.

The US Environmental Protection Agency submitted "dSCEIS Comments" on December 30, 2009. Its document stated, "In conclusion, ...we have concerns regarding potential impacts to human health and the environment that we believe warrant further scientific and regulatory analysis. Of particular concern to EPA are issues involving water supply, water quality, wastewater treatment operations, local and regional air quality, management of naturally occurring radioactive materials disturbed during drilling, cumulative environmental impact..."

Also on December 30, the **NYS Conference of Environmental Health Directors (CEHD)** submitted "Comments on the Draft Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement (dSCEIS) on Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale." "...CEHD has reviewed the dSCEIS on Gas Drilling in the Marcellus Shale and finds that issues related to protecting public health and water resources from the potential impacts of gas drilling are inadequately addressed."

Thanks to all, who are getting informed and making voices heard.

~ Geri Aird,
Green Sanctuary Committee Action 12

Community Health Opportunity

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center will host a community health program focused on the **causes of and treatments for uterine fibroids on Thursday, January 21**. The free event takes place in conference room L100A off the main lobby of the hospital. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the presentation starts at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served and free parking is available in the hospital's parking garage. The presentation will last approximately one hour. **Space is limited, so please make a reservation by calling 315.703.2138 to register.**

Do You Have Questions about Unitarian Universalism?

U101 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, February 28, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Memorial Room. Stop by the Welcoming Table for further information or e-mail: membership@mmuus.org. (The next scheduled class is tentatively scheduled for March 28).

Red Alert!

February is "May Loves the Arts" month. Therefore we need some art by our May artists to adorn the walls at that time. Paintings, photographs, drawings, fiber art all are welcome but must be properly prepared for our hanging system (See Bev Adams if you have any questions). Please let me know if you have art work to display and just how many pieces you might offer.

Also, we will be seeking written work, such as poetry, to display along with the art work, preferably about 8 by 10 inches. You can send this material to Nan Gartner (by email if you wish - naneg@twcny.rr.com)

Thank you in advance!

~ Bev Adams

May Memorial Loves the Arts Talent Show

Love to sing, dance, act, write poetry? Have a hidden talent you'd like to share? Then this is your chance! The Music and Art Committee at May Memorial is sponsoring a talent show on **February 14th at 12:15 pm** in the Sanctuary. If you or your child would like to participate, please contact Amanda Eubanks Winkler (awinkler@syr.edu) by January 31.

Plan ahead for this year's Garnet Hill Ski Trip

This year's Garnet Hill Ski Trip is **February 26 - 28, 2010**. The trip is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy your fellow May Memorial community (and guests) at a nationally recognized cross country ski resort in the heart of the Adirondacks at North Creek, NY. This will be the 25th year that a group from May Memorial will be venturing north to this wonderland. Please consider joining us for great skiing (cross country on premise and down hill at Gore Mountain), delicious food, and invigorating fellowship. For more information contact: Carroll Grant 445-2532 cgrant6@twcny.rr.com.

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.

The deadline for the first of the month newsletters is the 15th of the preceding month. The deadline for mid-month newsletters is the 5th of the month. Articles received after the deadline will be included in the next newsletter. To submit an article, please leave it in the newsletter box on the office door or email to newsletter@mmuus.org.

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

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Calendar

Wednesday, Jan. 20

6:30 pm	Men's Fellowship Pot Luck	Social Hall
7:00 pm	Men's Fellowship Program	Social Hall

Thursday, Jan. 21

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Memorial Committee	Memorial Room
7:30 pm	Choir	Sanctuary

Saturday, Jan. 23

9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Board of Trustees Retreat	Social Hall
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Sunday, Jan. 24

9:40 am - 10:10 am	Silent Meditation	Creekside
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	Teen Room

Tuesday, Jan. 26

5:30 pm	Membership Committee	Memorial Room
6:30 pm	Writers	Teen Room

Thursday, Jan. 28

7:30 pm	Choir	Sanctuary
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Saturday, Jan. 30

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Annual Intergenerational Bingo & Potluck Party	Social Hall
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