



Building Community with Compassion, Service, Diversity, and Spirit

We express compassion through caring, love and support for others.

We serve by promoting our principles and purposes through leadership, giving and action.

We are inspired by diversity to accept, respect and celebrate differences and interdependence.

We grow in spirit through our religious experiences, inquiry, education, reflection and transformation.

Minister's Musings

From The Sermon of the Amount #20

John Wolfe, minister emeritus of a Tulsa Oklahoma church wrote: "You want to support a Unitarian Universalist church because it has a free pulpit. Because you can hear ideas expressed there which would cost any other minister his or her job. You want to support it because it is a place where children come without being saddled with guilt or terrified of some celestial Peeping Tom, where they can learn that religion is for joy, for comfort, for gratitude and love. "You want to support a UU church because it is more concerned with human beings than with dogmas. Because it searches for the holy, rather than dwelling upon the depraved. Because it calls no one a sinner, yet knows how deep is the struggle in each person's breast and how great is the hunger for what is good."

That is why we are here and we need each and everyone, not only to give until it hurts, but to reap the rewards that hard work offers. Massaging our spiritual selves only has meaning when it is attached to something real, alive and responsive. Here at First UU, from those behind the scenes who shovel the walk on Sunday, fix the drippy toilets, patch the leaky ceiling, the hours put in to plan this canvas, agonize over the finances, publish the newsletter, plan pot lucks, make coffee every Sunday, organize yard sales, make the music happen, care for the sick, teach our children and reach out to the larger community; the farm workers, St Lucy's, the orphanage in Guatemala... to name a few are all giving until it hurts; a part of the team called First UU. Granted UU's are terrible at asking for money. We offer no celestial real estate as a reward, or solicit indulgences which I have thought of doing.

Times have been very tough for many and we do understand when pledges drop, when food and mortgages come first.

When that happens, as it did to me when I had to stand in the unemployment line for 10 awful months, when I could not give money, I gave my time, and I gained more from doing so by helping to grow a community that I could share with and count on, meant more to me than any amount of money could have offered.

That is what being a part of this society means. The burden is upon us. The Canvass and finance committees must have an idea as to how much we will receive so the budget for next year beginning July 1 can be created; so we will know what we have to work with, to keep the building functioning, to plan our staffing, our services and programs. To foster what we believe in here in the community. How much to give and how to give is a grave matter of conscience, culminating in a democratic process that is of benefit not only to us, but to the community at large.

I am deeply grateful to those who have come forward and given their time and their money. I am even more grateful to those who did give until it hurt, for that is how we know for sure what a true commitment really means. I would like to conclude with these words once again by John Wolfe:

"You want to support a UU church because it can laugh. Because it stands for something in a day when religion is still more concerned with platitudes than with prejudice and war. You want to support it not because it buys you some insurance policy towards your funeral service, but because it insults neither your intelligence nor your conscience, and because it calls you to worship what is truly worthy of your sacrifice. There is only one reason for joining a Unitarian Universalist church: to support it!"
Welcome spring. Welcome Easter... New life, new growth, re birth .

Sincerely, Holly

APRIL 3

SPECIAL CONGRETRATIONAL MEETING

Consider the following changes to our constitution:

- ◆ Reduce the number of Board members from nine to seven, including the officers.
- ◆ Increase term limits for the President and Vice President from two consecutive one-year terms to three consecutive one-year terms.
- ◆ Abolish the position of Financial Secretary.
- ◆ Reduce the number of Board members required for a quorum from six to four.

Consider approval of the Society's application to the UUA for certification as a Green Sanctuary.

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Email: firstuu@twcny.rr.com

Church Office Hours: 8:00 - 2:00, Tues.- Fri.

Consulting Minister:

Rev. Holly Baylies (firstuurev@twcny.rr.com)

Secretary:

Ruth Yamaguchi

Music Director:

Rebecca Karpoff

Coordinator of Religious Education:

Tina Lesley-Fox

President:

Susan King (pilasters@gmail.com)

Vice President:

Diana Bellini (dianalbellini@yahoo.com)

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FIRST UU

SERVICES START AT 10:30 AM

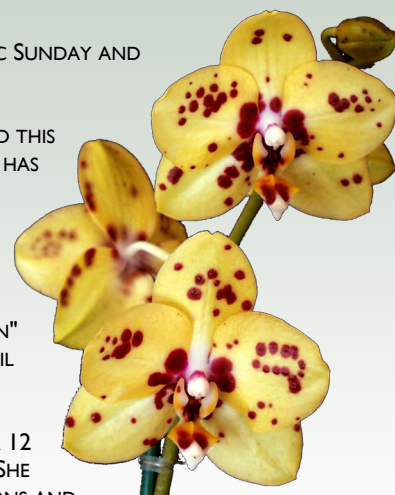
APRIL 3, 17 AND 24

REV. HOLLY BAYLIES WILL BE IN THE PULPIT. APRIL 17TH IS EXPECTED TO BE MUSIC SUNDAY AND APRIL 24TH IS EASTER SUNDAY.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

"REUNION" THE REV. KITSY WINTHROP – "I WAS KITSY RUSSELL WHEN I SERVED THIS CONGREGATION AS INTERIM MINISTER IN '83-'84. MY LAST NAME IS NOT ALL THAT HAS CHANGED. MY THEOLOGY, MY UNDERSTANDING OF WHO I AM IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE HOLY AS WELL AS TO MYSELF, LIFE ITSELF, AND CREATION HAVE BEEN GOING THROUGH A RADICAL TRANSFORMATION. EVOLUTIONARY SPIRITUALITY AND ACTIVISM IS WHAT ENGAGES ME MOST NOW, AS I FIND MYSELF IMMERSSED IN THE GREAT STORY OF EVOLUTION - BOTH SCIENTIFIC AND SACRED - AND IN THE GREAT WORK THAT STORY EVOKES IN ME. MY RETURNING TO YOU IS A "REUNION" OF SORTS, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO THAT. WHAT I WANT TO REFLECT ON APRIL 10TH, IS A "REUNION" TO WHICH I THINK WE ALL ARE CALLED."

(KITSY LEFT SYRACUSE IN '84 TO SERVE THE SPRINGFIELD, VT CONGREGATION FOR 12 YEARS. NOW SHE LIVES BY THE SEA IN PORTLAND, MAINE - HER LIFELONG DREAM. SHE HAS SERVED 8 CONGREGATIONS IN MAINE AND CANADA IN VARIOUS COMBINATIONS AND LENGTHS OF TIME. AT AGE 72 SHE NOW DESCRIBES HERSELF AS "UNTETHERED" FROM PARISH MINISTRY, THOUGH NOT FROM MINISTRY ITSELF.)



Holly's sermons are available. Please email her at firstuurev@twcny.rr.com to request a copy

CHALICE CIRCLES: A PROGRAM OF SMALL GROUP MINISTRY



Chalice Circles are a forum in which we put into practice two of our UU principles: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations. A free and responsible search for truth and meaning. Chalice circles meet on the first and third Sundays at 12:00 – 2:00 in the Parlor and the first and third Wednesdays at 1:15-3:15 in the Parlor. If this topic interests you but you have not called to find out about it, please come to the Saturday Winter SUUPer on March 5th and attend the session on Small Group Ministry.

CURRENT UPDATES:

Phil Klein has agreed to be moderator of the Sunday Group. After the first SUUP Conversation between our two UU churches in February, the potential for joining together with a trained facilitator from May Memorial still exists.

Meeting place to be determined.

CURRENT FIRST UU GROUPS: First and Third Sundays at 12:00 – 2:00 in the Parlor (Phil Klein, Moderator), First and Third Wednesdays at 1:15-3:15 in the Parlor (Peggy Flanders, Facilitator)

If you would like to talk to someone about the current groups, please contact Peg Flanders, Facilitator for the Wednesday group. (pegflanders@twcny.rr.com, 488-8077). Or check the dates with Ruth in the office and stop in. There is always an open chair!

Minister's Weekly Schedule

(Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm)

- Monday:** Holly's sacred day off!
- Tuesday:** AM Staff meeting and available for appointments, meetings
- Wednesday:** Church Office and appointments, meetings
- Thursday:** Sermon Prep at home
- Friday:** Church Office and appointments, meetings
- Saturday:** Office at home
- Sunday:** Church and afternoon appointments

*To schedule an appointment with Holly
e-mail: firstuurev@twcny.rr.com or revholly1@aol.com
Office phone: 446-5940
For emergencies: Holly's cell phone is 617-548-5113*



**THE
CARING TEAM
NEEDS
YOUR INPUT**

First UU is a compassionate community of people who reach out to each other in time of need. The Caring Team serves as a conduit for information about those among us who are sick, shut-in, or in need of a kind word of consolation or encouragement. Please contact Diane Case, Nancy Clausen, or Rev. Holly Baylies so that the Caring Team can reach out to those in need.

President's Report

Your president has been doing some spring cleaning, getting the church's files in order. I found three old pictorial directories. The turnover in membership during the last ten years is very high. I want to acknowledge those members who have stayed with First UU for ten years or longer. Most of you in this group have taken positions of leadership not once, but over and over again, and you still do so. First UU wouldn't be here without you.

There will be a special congregational meeting soon, on April 3. The Board will propose several important changes to our constitution. In sum, these changes recognize that the number of seats on the Board is too large. We will also ask you to recognize years of work by the Green Sanctuary Committee, which is ready to make a formal application to the UUA to be an official Green Sanctuary. The application must be approved by the congregation. There will be a forum on March 27 to explain these proposals.

The canvass for 2011-12 began on March 13. If you have submitted your pledge, thank you. If you have not yet done so, please bring or mail your pledge form as soon as possible. And please make sure you pay your current year's pledge.

Looking ahead to May, we will have a Perennial Plant Sale, a spring work party, and another joint potluck with May Memorial. Stay tuned.

Susan King, President of the Board of Trustees

Officers and Members of the Board:

Susan King, President; Diana Bellini, Vice President; Jim, D'Aloisio, Treasurer; Nancy Clausen, Interim Clerk. Members at Large: Scott Dickinson, Barry Lentz, Marilyn Lyman, and Eileen Taveniere.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Sunday, April 3, 2011, Immediately following the service

1. Consider the following changes to our constitution:

- ◆ Reduce the number of Board members from nine to seven, including the officers.
- ◆ Increase term limits for the President and Vice President from two consecutive one-year terms to three consecutive one-year terms.
- ◆ Abolish the position of Financial Secretary.
- ◆ Reduce the number of Board members required for a quorum from six to four.

2. Consider approval of the Society's application to the UUA for certification as a Green Sanctuary.

A forum will be held on Sunday, March 27, 2011 at 11:45 a.m. to explain and discuss these proposals.

Future FUUSS Leaders

Have you been a member of a Board in other organizations? Are you interested in leadership at FUUSS, but afraid that you don't have enough experience?

The Nominating Committee has the role of sourcing new candidates and developing long-term plans for leader succession for the important positions on our Board of Trustees. We have been meeting this year to review our immediate leadership needs and to discuss the skill sets that will be required of our leaders in the future.

Members of the Nominating Committee will be available in the Fellowship Hall for the next few weeks to answer questions and provide information about upcoming Board openings and how Members can prepare themselves for Board leadership in the future. Even if you are not interested in serving next year, we'd like to know about your skills and experience and talk to you about if or when a Board role might be appropriate for you in the future.

Please stop by and visit with a member of the Nominating Committee or contact us directly. We are: Marilyn Lyman, Tanya Gesek, Marge Mellor, Jerry Sharfstein, and Dana Sovocool.

Community Activities and Calendar

April 2011

**APRIL 10
12:15 - 3:00**

"CREATING A SPLENDID HOUR"

A Workshop on Worship, facilitated by Rev Kitsy Winthrop. (Lunch provided)

Everyone is invited to this 3-hour experience devoted to re-minding ourselves of what we may already know about this central aspect of congregational life - and perhaps to experience something new.

Kitsy will give us a "subway ride" through what she has learned about creating an hour where mind, heart and soul are invited to join together and enter deeply into the mystery of our lives.

She will show us all how to enrich lay-led Sunday services --both as participant and observer.

No experience necessary!

There will be time to create a brief worship experience together, and time for conversation about what really matters and how best to frame those matters worshipfully. Perhaps to sing - and even move!

2 (Sat)	7:00 pm	Jess Yoakum Concert (S)
3 (Sun)	10:30 am	Worship (S) CCONGREGRATIOANL MEETING (FOLLOWING SERVICE) Chalice Circle (P) FOLLOWING MEETING
4 (Mon)	7:00 pm	YREC Meeting (P)
5 (Tues)	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting (P)
6 (Wed)	1:15 pm 7:45 am	Chalice Circle (P) Zen Meditation (P)
7 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
10 (Sun)	10:30 am 12:00 pm	Worship (S) Membership Book Signing
12 (Tues)	6:00 pm	Rental (FH)
13 (Wed)	7:45 am	Zen Meditation (P)
14 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
16 (Sat)	8:00 pm	SAGE Dance (FH)
17 (Sun)	10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:30 pm	Worship (S) Chalice Circle (P) Junior Pro Arts (S)
18 (Mon)	7:00 pm	Board Meeting (P)
20 (Wed)	1:15 pm 7:45 am 7:00 pm	Chalice Circle (P) Zen Meditation (P) Green Sanctuary Meeting (P)
21 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
24 (Sun)	10:30 am	Worship (EASTER SUNDAY) (S)
27 (Wed)	7:45 am	Zen Meditation (P)
28 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)

Key:
B=Betts Room
ER= East Room
(room at the end of the RE Wing hall)
FH=Fellowship Hall
K=Kitchen
L=Library
(room behind sanctuary)
MR=Music Room
N=Narthex
P=Parlor
S=Sanctuary
TR=Teen Room

Deadline for submissions for next issue: MONDAY, April 18, for the issue that will cover events from May 1, to May 31, 2011, at fristuu@twcny.rr.com, or in the office.

**NO PDF'S PLEASE!
THEY ARE HARD TO EDIT FOR INSERTION INTO THE NEWSLETTER
PLEASE SUBMIT PICTURES AS ATTACHMENTS - NOT EMBEDDED INTO A WORD DOCUMENT - THAN YOU!**



"Preludes to the Preludes"

Our own Fred Karpoff in Concert Live! at the Everson Sunday, April 17, 2011, 2:00 PM

Price: \$15 adults, students free with ID
Hosmer Auditorium, Everson Museum, 401 Harrison St., Syracuse
Please visit <http://civictimorningmusicals.org/live-everson> for more information



**The Wider Circle...The Deeper Way
Becoming Whole as a Faith Community
St. Lawrence
2011 District Assembly
Ithaca, New York
April 29 – April 30, 2011
go to <http://www.sld.uua.org/> for more information**

WHERE DO UU COME FROM? REACHING IN AND REACHING OUT WITH OUR UU FAITH



Youth Religious Education News

How are the children? The children are well!!

Our last Louder Than Words project was extremely successful. We chose to work with Project Nino a non-profit that works with orphan children in Ecuador. We have so far collected crayons, pencils, underwear, pens, markers, calculators and paper. We have the possibility of a laptop computer being donated AND we collected \$182 in a special collection during service. The kind generosity of the people in this church will help the girls in Ecuador immensely.

In our classes we have so many exciting things going on!

Our youngest class of children have been talking about Lent. They discussed how the time of Lent is a time for giving of ourselves to others. They decided that they wanted to increase awareness in our church community about the importance of giving food to the hungry. Since we already partner with St. Lucy's food pantry the kids have made posters to remind people of this collaboration. Please remember to bring in non-perishable food items to place in the donation box.

Our most recent Community Sunday the children celebrated Purim. Purim is a Jewish festival that commemorates the deliverance of the Jewish people living throughout the ancient Persian Empire from a plot by Haman the Agagite to annihilate them. The children dressed as characters from the story, made noise makers and sampled some special treats. It was a fun celebration and the kids learned all about this Jewish holiday.

Mark your calendar! On April 2nd at 7pm here in our sanctuary we have a very special concert happening. Jess Yoakum has generously agreed to come from Chicago to do a benefit concert for our COA program. \$10 at the door. Jess has a new album out and as those of you who have seen her in the past know, this is not a concert to miss. Jess has a relaxed folk style that is fun and enjoyable to listen to. You can check out her music at www.jessyoakum.com

Tina Lesley-Fox, Coordinator of Religious Education

Invitation to a Wellspring Information Session



Have you heard about Wellspring? Over the past year, a group of members from May Memorial and First UU Societies and the Church of the Larger Fellowship have participated in this amazing journey. Wellspring offers spiritual deepening within our Unitarian Universalist tradition, an opportunity for learning more about ourselves and our faith through a year-long small group experience. There are five interconnected components: commitment to a daily spiritual practice, monthly spiritual direction (self-reflection with a guide), small group meetings, reading about the theological and historical foundations of our faith, and putting our faith into action. After a day-long opening retreat in September, 2011, Wellspring will meet two or three times a month through May 2012.

We invite you to an information session after the upcoming service on May 15th at May Memorial to learn more and to help you decide whether Wellspring is a commitment you want to make. Please join us from 12:00– 1:00 on Sunday, May 15. Bring your lunch, your questions, and your open hearts. We look forward to seeing you there.

This project received a grant from the Lay Theological Grants Program with funds contributed to the UUA's Association Sunday.

Warmly, Kelly Kilmer Hall and Jennifer Hamlin-Navias



WATER A wonderful opportunity presents itself to us as Maude Barlow speaks at Hendricks Chapel at SU on Tuesday, April 5 at 7:30 pm. She is one of the world's leading experts on water issues. She will be talking about how misuse of water may actually be changing the hydrological cycle and contributing to global warming. Ms. Barlow is co-founder of the Blue Planet Project and chair of Food and Water Watch. See you and your friends on April 5!

Another opportunity to live by our Seventh Principle embracing our earth and its various inhabitants will be the Community Supported Agriculture again this summer. To become a participant at the First UU pod each week receiving delicious fresh local organic produce, visit www.csacny.org or pick up a flier in Fellowship Hall. Help our farmer and treat your family to healthy eating for 20 weeks!

All Fracked Up?!

Many are concerned with the potential dangers posed by possible hydrofracking in New York State (and actually experienced by those in already 'fracked' areas). Hydrofracking is short for "hydraulic fracturing," a gas industry term for a method of extracting natural gas by using a huge amount of water mixed with sand and a (secret) chemical cocktail forced under very high pressure into a horizontal shaft, causing the shale to break up or fracture. Risks and effects other communities have reported include:

- ▶ Contaminated drinking water (100s of toxic chemicals are used, although companies are not required to divulge their mixture; in some fracking areas, homeowners have been forced to buy all their drinking water)
- ▶ Respiratory and other health effects (including higher risk of cancer).
- ▶ Soil contamination from fracking fluid spread in pits (flowback is even more hazardous than what went in because fracturing releases radioactive materials and wastewater disposal has not been solved.)
- ▶ Extreme disruption from construction of roads and traffic (NYS DEC projects 715 to 2615 truck trips per single gas well).
- ▶ Use of high volumes of fresh water (~ 5.6 million gallons of fluid per "frack job").
- ▶ Continued unemployment (Despite promises, very few jobs created after two years of intensive drilling in Pennsylvania, where crews are brought in from outside and the area; in fact, Susquehanna County was recently designated a 'Recovery Area' signifying significant poverty, unemployment, home foreclosures, and general distress.)
- ▶ Threats to diverse economy (Existing industries such as grapes, wine, agriculture, tourism, outdoor recreation, hunting, and fishing are threatened. Compare the estimated potential gain of \$22 billion from gas drilling in New York State over the next 20 years with the projected gain of \$300 billion from these other industries over the same period.)
- ▶ Increased homelessness (Homelessness is on the rise in areas of gas drilling activity, as fixed income residents and those not involved in the industry are squeezed out of affordable housing by visiting industry workers.)
- ▶ Crime and demand on services (areas of gas drilling activity have experienced increases in crime and drug use; demands on emergency services from chemical spills, fires, accidents on rigs and on roads; demands on health care/emergency room services; and requests for housing assistance by non-industry residents.

There is a current TEMPORARY moratorium on hydrofracking in New York State, but gas companies already hold leases (some within Onondaga County) and stand poised to proceed with this process as soon as that moratorium expires. If you are concerned, please:

- 1) Educate yourself: visit peacecouncil.net/pnl/10/795/795nyhydro.htm, citizencampaign.org; shaleshockCNY.org, newyorkipl.org/2011/03/read-up-on-hydrofracking; see the film 'Gasland'; visit the Green Sanctuary team's table in the Fellowship Hall and watch for our upcoming events
- 2) Support the FRAC Act, recently re-introduced by Congress, which would require natural gas hydrofracking companies to disclose which chemicals they're using and adhere to the Safe Drinking Water Act. (The "Cheney/Halliburton Loophole" in the 2005 energy act makes energy companies exempt). See action.foodandwaterwatch.org (action alerts).
- 3) Tell your representatives! Call or participate in upcoming lobby days in Albany: April 11th's Day of Action (citizenscampaign.org/alerts/alert-2011-03-b.htm); May 2's NY Interfaith Power and Light Lobby Day (newyorkipl.org/2011/02/get-on-the-bus-for-lobby-day/)—or contact Radell Roberts (426-1294)

*excerpts from the Syracuse Peace Council's Hydrofracking Primer; more available at peacecouncil.net/pnl/10/795/795nyhydro.htm.

-Radell Roberts, Green Sanctuary Team



The Church Mouse




Thank you for your help!

Thank You

- ▶ TO RICHARD KENDRICKS AND GRANT REEHER FOR FACILITATING THE DIALOGUES AND TO JANE PICKETT FOR ALL HER WORK IN ORGANIZING THE SPECIAL SESSIONS IN BETWEEN!
- ▶ TO FRED LYMAN WHO CONTINUES TO DO YEOMAN’S WORK AS THE B&G “HANDYMAN.”
- ▶ MANY PEOPLE HAVE APPRECIATED FRED KARPOFF’S SHARING PIECES FROM HIS UPCOMING CONCERT. HERE ARE THE CONCERT DETAILS: SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2011 "LIVE AT THE EVERSON" AT 2:00 P.M WITH FRED KARPOFF ON PIANO: “PRELUDES TO THE PRELUDES” PRELUDES BY DEBUSSY, PROKOFIEV, BENSHOOF, RACHMANINOFF, ALONG WITH BEETHOVEN’S SONATA NO. 28 IN A MAJOR, OP. 101 CREATE, IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE CONCERT, A LARGER PRELUDE TO CHOPIN’S MASTERFUL 24 PRELUDES, OP. 28 WHICH CONSTITUTE THE SECOND HALF OF THE CONCERT. IN 2007, CHOPIN SCHOLAR, JEREMY NICHOLAS, WROTE , “EVEN ON THEIR OWN, THE 24 PRELUDES WOULD HAVE ENSURED CHOPIN’S CLAIM TO IMMORTALITY.” PRESENTED BY CIVIC MORNING MUSICALS.
- ▶ THANK YOU TO THE YRE TEACHERS WHO WORK SO DILIGENTLY BEHIND THE SCENES WITH OUR CHILDREN AND TO JENNIFER BOMAN IN THE NURSERY!

Usher & Greeters for March



USHERS

Thank you to:
 Susan King, Randy Kalish, Marge and Cliff Mellor, Glenn Gesek, Keith Bertrand, Betsy Spaulding, Ruth Lyman, Pam Anderegg, Bob Pickett

Around The Block.....

- ◆ CLIFF MELLOR IS RECOVERING FROM RECENT HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY AND DOING WELL.
- ◆ JANE PICKETT IS PROGRESSING NICELY FROM RECENT CATARACT SURGERY.
- ◆ HEALING THOUGHTS GO OUT TO LYNDA MYERS WHO IS HAVING THE SECOND REPAIR ON HER KNEE REPLACEMENT ON MARCH 22ND. LYNDA LIVES IN ITHACA BUT MAINTAINS HER MEMBERSHIP AND ACTIVITY AT FIRST UU.



A special thank you from the Central New York community to Dave Dickinson and his family, including Scott, our Board member, Thomas, Gary, Laura and Hollis. They donated 20 acres of land and shoreline along the eastern edge of Skaneateles Lake to the Finger Lakes Land Trust to be preserved in its natural state. The donation includes a major part of the Stag Horn Cliffs and

Thank you to our coffee helpers:
 Susan King, Eileen Taveniere, Jim D’Aloisio, Jerry Clausen, Jim Anderegg



Jess Yoakum CD Release Tour

Saturday, April 2nd. 7PM, \$10. First UU Church. 109 Waring Rd. Syracuse, NY.

Singer/songwriter, Jess Yoakum, who has performed at First UU before, will perform in New York, Boston, and Syracuse in support of her sophomore album, This Quiet Mile. The latest album has garnered positive reviews, "Beautiful...How can you not listen?" (Minor 7th) and "Jess has a beautiful, expressive voice." (Modern Acoustic). Chicago Acoustic Underground describes it as, "backed by impeccable talent and studio quality... sparse without being modest, and direct without being brash..." Yoakum recorded This Quiet Mile at Truself Music in her new hometown of Chicago, IL, and is excited to bring her latest work back to the east coast. She will appear in Cambridge with friend/Chicago-based songwriter, Jess Godwin. For more information see: jess@jessyoakum.com

Happenings at First UU

SIGN UP FOR EASTER FLOWERS



It's time to sign up to sponsor a holiday plant, to decorate the sanctuary for the service on April 17th, and then to be delivered to the homes of our members and friends who may be homebound, ill or just in need of a bit of good cheer in this season. The plants are \$10 each and may be given in memory or celebration of a person or event of significance to you. You are invited to participate, by either sponsoring a plant or volunteering to make a delivery and visit sometime after the service on the 17th. Sign up at the table in the Fellowship Hall on 4/3 or 4/10...or mail your request and payment to be received in the church office by Friday, April 8. Thank you for your generosity.

The Flower Team

STAND IN THE CIRCLE

from their hands to our homes.....from our homes to their hands

Theirs are the hands that feed us-- farm workers.

Imagine going home to living conditions as austere as many of theirs. Now imagine having to go without creature comforts like hand lotion and facial tissues or necessities like toothpaste and detergent. When that happens to farm workers, they try to make do.

The Wednesday Chalice Circle invites you to join us in a toiletries and cleaning products collection for Eastern Farm Workers, who are indeed a part of our UU circle of life. You buy. You bring. We'll deliver.

When you shop, please pick up an item or two from the list below. Look for the display and collection bin in the Fellowship Hall; our final collection day will be Sunday, April 17.

From the Wednesday Chalice Circle, with gratitude: Evie Ayers-Marsh, Barbara Carter, Peg Flanders, Louise Heisler, Phil Klein, Mary McLatchie, Jan Pope, Marcia Rand, Tim Rice, Marcia Tupper

NEEDED ITEMS:

Hygiene Supplies: Shampoo and conditioner; moisturizing lotions; soap and body wash; facial tissues; cotton swabs; deodorant/antiperspirant; toothbrushes and toothpaste; dental floss

Cleaning Supplies: Sponges; laundry detergent; bleach; disinfectant cleaner; liquid hand soap; dish soap; cleanser



Kim's Walk of Hope 2011

Benefitting the Ronald McDonald House

Join friends and family and participate in the 11th annual Kim's Walk of Hope

Join friends and family and participate in the eleventh annual Kim's Walk of Hope. The three mile walk is held in memory of Kimberly Anne Sharfstein. Kimberly was diagnosed with a rare pediatric cancer, rhabdomyosarcoma, in the spring of 1992, just days after graduating in the top of her class at Denison University.

Kimberly faced this disease with determination, courage and a sense of grace that touched the lives of all who knew and loved her.

It is to honor her memory that this walk was established eleven years ago. Nearly \$92,000 has been raised and contributed towards the Ronald McDonald houses of both Syracuse and Boston. These houses offer services to families of seriously ill children traveling great distances to receive the best in medical care.

Through Kim's Walk of Hope we have been able to make a difference in the lives of many families facing the challenges of cancer.

Please join us for Kim's Walk of Hope this year, and help us meet our fundraising goal of \$15,000.

Donate



Saturday, April 30, 2011
10:00am
Unitarian Universalist Society of Rockport

For more information contact Amy Rich at amsharfstein@yahoo.com or Jerry Sharfstein at jerrysharfstein@danfoss.com

FUUSS Spring Fundraiser



Think Spring! Mark your calendars for the FUUSS Perennial Plant Sale on Saturday, May 14 from 9 am to noon.

You are probably wondering how you can help.....

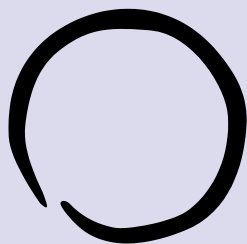
Donate old plastic flower pots, 1 quart or larger.

Donate hardy perennials from your own garden or from others who may be dividing plants this spring.

- Hardy perennials ONLY—No houseplants or shrubs.
- Plants should be well-rooted, 1 quart pot or larger.
- No invasive species.
- The more unusual, the better!
- Plants should be labeled with as much info as possible.

Not a gardener? Save the date anyway, and volunteer to help us set up, be a cashier, or clean up after the sale.

To volunteer your time and talents, please contact: Liz Kalish 637-6052, elizkalish@gmail.com OR Bettina Frisse 662-7388, BBFrisse@frontiernet.net



New spirituality opportunity

Zen meditation group

Beginning Wednesday, April 6

When: Wednesdays mornings-- 7:45-8:45 a.m.

Where: Parlor, First Unitarian Universalist Society of Syracuse, 109 Waring Rd.

What: Silent meditation, followed by a brief reading and discussion

Please bring your own meditation cushion if possible. (Some cushions will be available.)

For more information, contact Claudia Klaver 572-0909 or ccklaver@syr.edu

CANDLES



You may have noticed the candles on the table in the back of the sanctuary. As you come into the sanctuary, before the service begins, please feel free to light a candle for a silent joy or concern that you would prefer not to share in words.

HELP WANTED FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS!

USHERS AND GREETERS: Contact Pam Anderegg at:
andereggpamela@gmail.com Home: 253-5630



COFFEE HELPERS: Please sign up and let us know if you need to learn how to help! The Church office will put you in touch with the right person! Board members are helping with some Sundays. Check with Ruth in the office or on the Big Board. If someone is signed up, two hands are better than one and it is a chance to get to know people (and the kitchen area) better.

FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS: If you sign up, put your dedication and name on the Big Board. Bring flowers by 10:00 a.m. and the latest and one of our talented Flower Team will arrange them for you. The team is: Week 1: Keith Bertrand; Week 2: Brian Gruninger; Week 3: Eileen Taveniere; Week 4: Diana Bellini; Week 5 and fill in: Peggy Flanders.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF SYRACUSE

NEWSLETTER NEWS

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We're on the Web!

www.firstuusyr.org