



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.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FIRST UU

SUMMER SERVICES START AT 10:00 AM

August 3rd: "Lammas: The First Harvest"

Alan Stillman, Service Leader. A presentation sponsored by CUUPs. Lammas celebrates the harvesting of grain. It asks us to pause and celebrate accomplishments and gear up for much more work to come. There are two more harvests as we prepare for winter.

August 10th: "China: Two Different Views"

Fred and Marilyn Lyman visited China last December as part of the People to People Ambassador program started by President Eisenhower. The focus of this trip was Global Climate Change & Environmental Sciences. Fred & Marilyn have been around First UU for more than 30 years. Both are active on the Green Sanctuary Committee. Fred is retired from teaching Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering at SU & Marilyn worked at Planned Parenthood & the Red Cross.

August 17th: "Whence a Thin Place"

Gracia Sears, Service Leader. The inspiration for this service came from a trip to Ireland where the concept of a "Thin Place" is prevalent. Gracia, a long time active member of First UU, now co-chairs the Adult Programming and Religious Education committee. She volunteers at Crouse Hospital and Upstate Medical Center in their Spiritual Care programs and until recently has been active in the arts communities of Central New York.

August 24th: "Chalice Circle Sampler - The Journey To UU for You"

Jerry Trexler, Service Leader and Worship Services Committee Chair. Wonder what Chalice Circles are all about? Chalice Circles encourages spiritual connection in a group setting and encourages discussion to facilitate spiritual growth and understanding of Unitarian Universalism. By creating an open, supportive, and nurturing environment; Chalice Circles opportunities to search and grow at the individual's own pace and in the individual's own way through learning together and loving one another.

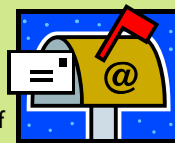
August 31st: Is Our "Doing-ness" getting in the way of "Being?"

Lynda Myers, Service Leader. Lynda has been a teacher and Life Coach, and served on our Board of Trustees. She presently operates "Lynda Myers Designs" in downtown Ithaca and was awarded the honor of being among "20 Outstanding Women You Should Know" by the Cayuga Radio Group in May of this year.

THE OFFICE NEEDS YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

► **Would you like to receive the Newsletter in FULL COLOR electronically as a PDF?**

► If you are an Active Member and received our email about the proposed budget for 2008-2009, we have your current email address. If not, please email the office to begin receiving the Newsletter electronically - in color!



Inside this Issue:

(Vice) President's Message	2
Summer Reading / BJ's / Amazon	2
Youth and Adult Religious Education	3
The Green Corner	4
Calendar and Community Activities	4
The Church Mouse	5
Member News / Newsletter Information	8

Phone: (315) 446-5940 / Fax: (315) 449-0874
 Email: firstuu@twcny.rr.com
 Church Office Hours: 8:00-1:00 Tues.-Thurs.

Interim Minister:

Rev. Holly Baylies (as of September 1, 2008)

Secretary:

Ruth Yamaguchi

Music Director:

Jonathan English

Director of Religious Education:

Sonja Lamicela

RE Assistant: Glenn Gesek

President: Joe Cavallaro

Vice President: Peg Flanders

Vice President's Report

One of the goals that rose to the top in our Interim Search Committee's unscientific survey was "Empowering and Equipping New Leadership." Since the VP is responsible for recruiting Committee Chairs, I want to thank the volunteers who have so far agreed to serve. Where 2 names are listed, duties are shared.


Interested in a small or large task? Contact any of the teams/leaders listed. Want to participate but don't know where to start OR fill one of the "openings" listed? Every task done by someone makes a difference! Contact me (488-8077).

You can see the committees and teams grow by checking out the "other" big bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. This list doesn't do justice to all the individual contributions that help make First UU the warm, welcoming place so many of us have found to live our faith in community. To borrow a word from one of our members: Onward!

Peg Flanders, Vice President

OPENINGS:

- ◆ Caring Committee/Team
- ◆ "Coffee Hour" Coordinator/Team
- ◆ Denominational Affairs Coordinator
- ◆ "Fun and Fellowship" Team
- ◆ Fund Raising Teams
- ◆ History Committee (preserving our past)
- ◆ Music Committee
- ◆ Social Justice Committee
- ◆ Usher Team Coordinator
- ◆ Welcoming Congregation Committee/Team

- 
- Annual Budget Drive Team ▶ Tanya Gesek
 - Buildings & Grounds Committee ▶ Gary Potter
 - Compensation & Benefits ▶ Dana Sovocool
 - Concert Series Coordinator ▶ Jane Pickett
 - Green Sanctuary Committee ▶ Jerry Clausen
 - Finance Committee ▶ Jim Vossler
 - Flower Team Coordinator ▶ Marcia Tupper
 - Membership Committee ▶ Diane Case & Marilyn Lyman
 - Religious Ed & Programming Committees
 - Adult ▶ Gracia Sears & Jane Pickett
 - Youth ▶ Elyn Lentz & Claudia Klaver
 - Social Justice Special Collections ▶ Marge Mellor
 - Trust Committee ▶ Cliff Mellor
 - Web Team ▶ Keith Bertrand
 - Worship Service Committee ▶ Jerry Trexler

Did You Know.....



Enjoy the Benefits of a BJ's Membership!

As a member of FUUSS you can join BJ's as a member for \$20.

Just the savings in gas will pay for the membership! Obtain a membership form from the church office.



ATTENTION AMAZON.COM FREQUENT FLYERS!

If you use Amazon.com there is a link to the website from our First UU website homepage. If you click this link you will be brought to a link to Amazon.com.—follow the link to Amazon.com and you can make your purchase as usual.

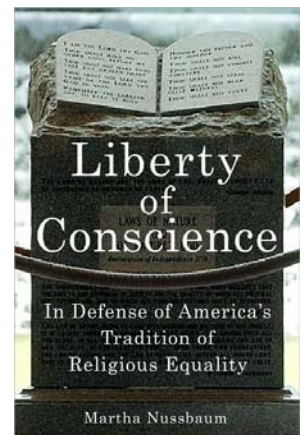
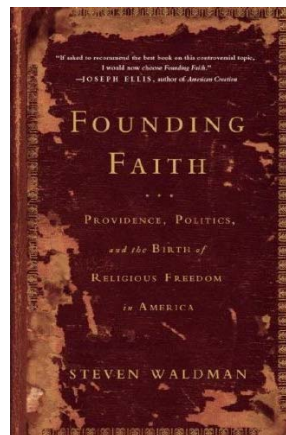
By accessing Amazon.com from the First UU webpage, First UU gets a percentage of the purchase at no extra cost to you!

Summer Reading

THE BOOK STUDY GROUP LOOKS TOWARD FALL WITH SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR SUMMER READING

Persons interested in participating in the book study group are invited to read these two books in preparation for the fall.

The books are; "Founding Faith" by Steven Waldman and "Liberty of Conscience: In Defense of America's Tradition of Religious Equality" by Martha Nussbaum.



FROM ME TO UU! REACHING IN AND REACHING OUT WITH OUR UU FAITH



YRE News

Coming Of Age!

Attention all Parents of Jr. High Youth

Next year we will be offering a coming of age program for our 7th and 8th graders. This is an important part of helping youth develop their own religious identities, and is a prerequisite to youth membership in the congregation. The year will be filled with exploration of Unitarian Universalist Principles, the history of First UU of Syracuse, and Service Projects. As part of the program youth will be asked to develop a faith statement that will be shared with the congregation at the end of the year. We will be pairing youth with adult mentors as well, to support them on this journey. The Sunday Morning curriculum will be the same for all Jr. High Youth regardless of participation in this program, but to be a part of the Coming of Age program, commitment and engagement are truly necessary. We will kick off the year with a trip to Unirondack for a fall work weekend which will double as a retreat weekend and service project. We hope to end the year in a pilgrimage to Boston to UUA Headquarters, Walden Pond, and other areas of interest to our youth. Watch for more information in the mail later this summer!

Thanks,
-Sonja Lamicela, DRE

RE Program Needs

Due to the restricted budget that we have for next year, we have a sizable wish list for supplies. A small sampling of items we could use if you can donate them are:

- Poster board
- A Roll of White Butcher Paper
- Clear Contact Paper
- Lots and Lots of 4 X 6 Index cards
- 2 CD/Tape Players
- Anatomically correct baby dolls
- A ceramic Drinking Chalice
- Several Rolls of Wide Masking Tape

- Several Rolls of Duct Tape in many colors
- A Yard Stick
- Plastic Berry Baskets
- Mesh "onion" bags
- A Wooded Doll House
- Wooden Doll House Dolls
- Dress up clothes for wooden dolls for careers plus props (try magiccabindolls.com)
- Large Plastic Rubbermaid bins

This is just a start. If you have other items that you think we could use, please call Sonja before dropping them off. Space is somewhat limited, so we can really only take things that we have a use for.



Thank you for your help!

Membership News

It Is In Your Hand

Would you like First UU to be perceived as warm and welcoming? If so, then please greet and welcome summer visitors. There is no Newcomer's Table in the summer. We have made up some visitor bags in case folks come who would like some information. Blessings, Diane Case, Membership Committee.

Just a Reminder.....

There will be no nursery coverage from 6/29 until our Fall gathering.



What We Don't Necessarily See:

There are many in our congregation going through "rough patches" in their lives, for many reasons. (Our children are aware of this phrase. If you don't know it, ask them.) Please reach out to those you know and/or let the office know of people who need care in these times of change and transition. We do not want anyone in need to "fall between the cracks." That is not who we are or what we aspire to as we share our faith together.



**Ingathering Potluck
September 7
Immediately Following Service**



**Bring a dish to share.
All are welcome to join in as we welcome
Rev. Baylies as our new Interim Minister.**

2 (Sat)	7:30 pm	JAMCRACKERS CONCERT (S)	Key: B=Betts Room BR=Big Room (room at the end of the RE Wing hall) FH=Fellowship Hall K=Kitchen L=Library (RE Office) MR=Music Room N=Narthex P=Parlor S=Sanctuary TR=Teen Room
3 (Sun)	10:00 am	Worship Service (S)	
8 (Fri)	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch (P)	
10 (Sun)	10:00 am	Worship Service (S)	
17 (Sun)	10:00 am	Worship Service (S)	
18 (Mon)	7:00 pm	Green Sanctuary (S)	
19 (Tues)		*** NEWSLETTER DEADLINE ***	
24 (Sun)	10:00 am	Worship Service (S)	
31 (Sun)	10:00 am	Worship Service (S)	

The Green Corner ... Increasing Sustainability / Supporting Local Agriculture

WE'RE EATING WELL

Thirty-two families are participating in our church distribution of locally grown organic produce this year. We're delighted that participation has grown with many non-FUUSS people joining us.



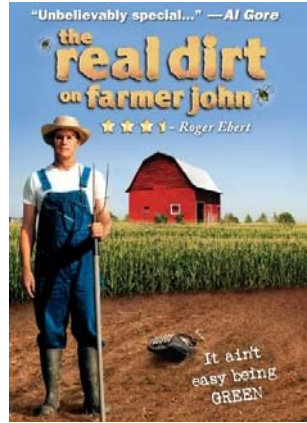
We've started the season with awesome asparagus, beautiful broccoli, crunchy cabbage, green garlicscapes, lots of lettuce, curly kale, sweet swiss chard and more. Of course, blueberries are coming!

And this is just the beginning of our 20 weeks of eating well for ourselves and our earth. First UU is the only church sponsoring a local pod in the CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). We are proud of FUUSS!

We can all eat well by eating locally grown food this summer and fall. Enjoy!

For some pleasant viewing, watch the DVD of "The Real Dirt on Farmer John"

This documentary about a funny (real!) farmer is worth the hour and 22 minutes of your time.



Remembering The Needs of Others in Our Community



Please remember the needy in our community when you do your grocery shopping! St. Lucy's food pantry, located in one of the most impoverished parts of Syracuse, has an on-going need for all kinds of food items and toiletries. Items they never have enough of

include: tuna fish, spaghetti sauce, soups, canned fruit, Spaghettios, canned ravioli, Ramen noodles and toiletries. Donations may be placed in the food bin located in the lower entry.

-Thanks

EASTERN FARM WORKERS ASSOCIATION CAN USE YOUR HELP THIS SUMMER

The donation bin is in the hallway leading up to the office and is hungry for clothing and accessories in good condition, particularly men's and children's (begin to think to Back to School!). Also, they could use Spanish Speaking translators, drivers, and people to do medical advocacy. Remember they not only serve farm workers, but seasonal and temporary workers and the working poor who are choosing between utilities, gas and food in this economy. Please contact them at 478-1992, 525 North Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13208, They are open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.!



The Church Mouse

Thank You



Thank you for your help!

- ◆ Great thanks to Peggy Flanders, Marcia Tupper, Lee Murray, Paul DeLima, Randy Kalish, Eric Holzwarth, and Keith Bertrand for their help during the Michael Dowd events on July 13 and 14.
- ◆ Thank you to Richard Levy for organizing the Richard Dowd weekend.

Recent Usher & Greeters:

Christina Davis, Ginnie Bertrand, Paul de Lima, Jerry Trexler, and Susan Zimmerman.

FUUSS Represented at the CNY Pride Parade and Festival

First UU was well represented at the Annual Pride and Parade Festival in Syracuse on June 6. As a welcoming congregation we work to promote acceptance, inclusion, understanding, and equity for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender persons of all colors, races, and ethnicities, both within the UUA and in society at large.



The "crew" from First UU



Green and Welcoming... why go anywhere else!



Peggy – Our new V.P. (being smart while in the sun)



First UU was represented by all ages

Thank You Martha



We'll miss you, Martha...

So very much!

We'll miss your humor...

And confident touch!

There are so many things...

We'd like to say!

But here's the main one...

For you today:

Thank you, thank you, Martha...

AND LOTS OF LOVE !!

Phil Klein



Jim "The Grill Master" Bellini



*The Planning Team
Nancy and Jerry - A Big Thank You !!!*



Clark Reservation
Friends, Food, and Fun!
June 22, 2008



OH MY GOODNESS!!



Thanx to Dan, Peggy, and Dan for the Music



All members of the family were welcome!



*Food, Food, and more Food!
(and was it good!)*



Bachi Ball Extrodinaires

Member News...

- Note: To protect the privacy of our members, content of a personal nature has been removed for the newsletter version posted on the web site.
- If you are a member, and did not receive the full version either electronically or US mail, please contact the church office for the full version of the newsletter.

As you can see, the Newsletter has a new look. Why you might ask

The previous version was formatted for 8.5 x 14 inch paper - a size that many of us do not keep around - and is considerably more expensive. By moving to the more traditional 8.5 x 11 inch size, we will be able to reduce our office costs as well as allowing for individuals to download and print the newsletter at home.

If you have provided the office with your email address, then you will have also received this month's newsletter electronically as a PDF in full color.

Future newsletters will be delivered to you electronically, unless you tell us otherwise. In addition to reducing mailing and printing cost by a considerable amount, the electronic version will be more "fun" to read!

Newsletter News



JAMCRACKERS!!!! CONCERT AT FIRST UU

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2nd at 7:30PM

Our own Dan Duggan and Peggy Lynn will perform with Dan Berggren in a special summer concert here at First UU.

It will be a unique opportunity to hear Vocals, Guitar, Banjo, Concertina, Piano, Bass, Percussion and Dan's Hammered Dulcimer. This will be an event you will not want to miss, so make plans now to invite your friends to join you for this musical summer evening of spirit and song.



Deadline for submissions for next issue:

TUESDAY, August 19, for the issue that will cover events from September 1st to September 30th, 2008, at firstuu@twcny.rr.com, or in the office.

FIRST  NEWS
NEWSLETTER NEWS

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