



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

"Laughter is the best medicine, even when things are just not funny."

The process preceding my knee replacement, far exceeded my wildest imaginings! I am not sure why all of this preparation was necessary and very little is really explained; it's a "just do it" scenario, so this is how I see it.

First, a trip to the dentist for a letter stating I was free of rabies. Secondly a trip back to my primary care physician and another letter stating, "I am who I say who I am and the body parts in question really belong to me." Third, an iron supplement, daily, for a month prior to surgery which royally screws up ones plumbing. Then, a dose of Metamucil to unscrew the plumbing. A third visit to the radiologist for leg x-rays, adorned in the largest pair of blue paper shorts I have ever seen (suspenders not included). Along with a black foot brace, black socks and brown LL Bean Vibran sole hiking boots, I set a new limit in the amusing world of hospital fashion.

When I suggested combing the future appointments to remove stitches and for a series of cortisone shots on the other knee, I was told, and I quote; "Oh no, you need separate appointments. Your insurance will only cover one body part at a time!" My response was not

exactly ministerial. "So if I am hit by a truck, I need a note from my dentist, a dose of Metamucil and if I break both legs, you can only set one and I'll have to come back later for the other?"

As I sit writing this message, I realized that with each and every event that provides a disruption or inconvenience there is always a lighter side. From the wisdom of the Irish...

"As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point in the wrong direction."

Sincerely, Holly



During the month of May the Worship Committee has planned some wonderful services while I am recuperating from a total knee replacement.

So many have asked how they could help. The very best thing anyone could do for me during the month is to go to church!

**Thank you
Holly**

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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:

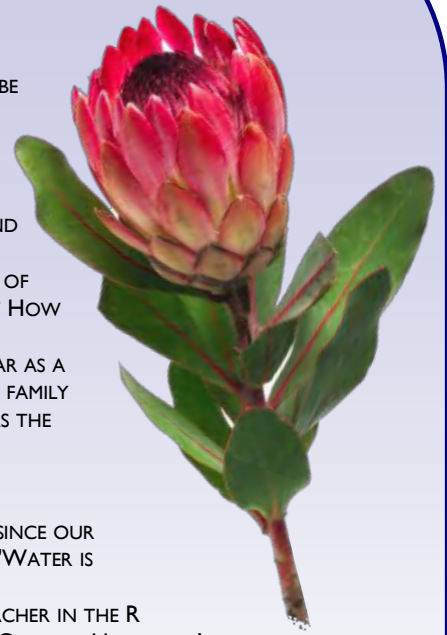
Susan King (pilasters@gmail.com)

Vice President:

Diana Bellini (dianabellini@yahoo.com)

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT FIRST UU

SERVICES START AT 10:30 AM



MAY 1 REV. DAVID MORGAN IS LOCAL EPISCOPAL MINISTER INVITED BY THE WORSHIP/MUSIC COMMITTEE TO HEAD UP THIS MONTH OF COVERAGE FOR REV. HOLLY. HIS TOPIC WILL BE SHARED BY E-MAIL AND HIS INVITATION IS IN HONOR OF THIS YEAR'S YRE CURRICULUM.

MAY 8 **"WELLSPRING: A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY"** PLEASE JOIN KELLY KILMER HALL, MAY MEMORIAL UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY'S STUDENT MINISTER, AND MEMBERS OF FIRST UU AND MAY DO WE RE

MEMORIAL, AS THEY SHARE THEIR PERSONAL JOURNEYS OVER THE PAST YEAR AS MEMBERS OF WELLSPRING, A SPIRITUAL DEEPENING SMALL GROUP MINISTRY. WHAT IS DEEP LISTENING? HOW RESPOND TO LIFE'S BIG QUESTIONS AS PEOPLE OF FAITH? KELLY IS FINISHING HER 2ND YEAR AS A SEMINARY STUDENT AT MEADVILLE LOMBARD THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN CHICAGO. HER FAMILY HOLDS MEMBERSHIP AT FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF ROCHESTER, WHERE SHE SERVED AS THE ASSISTANT FOR 2.5 YEARS.

MAY 15 **"WATER IS LIFE"** THIS IS THE FIRST PRESENTATION BY THE GREEN SANCTUARY TEAM SINCE OUR CONGREGATIONAL APPROVAL OF THEIR APPLICATION FOR FINAL UUA CERTIFICATION. "WATER IS LIFE: DEVELOPING SACRED RELATIONSHIP OUR GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE LINDSAY SPEER. A TEACHER IN THE RECLAIMING TRADITION AND LIFELONG RESIDENT OF CNY, LINDSAY IS A GRADUATE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AND ALSO HOLDS A CERTIFICATE IN PERMACULTURE DESIGN.

May 22 **"The Seventh Sense."** Bob Picket, Service Leader.

May 29: **MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE: HONORING OUR OWN.** THE SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED BY WORSHIP SERVICE COMMITTEE WITH JERRY TREXLER AS SERVICE COORDINATOR. THIS MEMORIAL DAY WE WILL REFLECT AND HONOR OUR OWN FIRST UU FAMILY WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A SPECIAL MEMORY IN HONOR OF A BELOVED FIRST UU FRIEND, PLEASE CONTACT JERRY TREXLER AT 635.8806 OR JERRY_TREXLER@HOTMAIL.COM. IF YOU'D PREFER TO SUBMIT A SHORT WRITE-UP, I WILL BE GLAD TO SHARE THE STORY FOR YOU.

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

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@twcnny.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

Serious Decisions Are Ahead - The Board heard reports from the Canvass and Finance Committees at our April meeting. Our membership and our pledges for 2011-12 are both significantly down compared to this year. The proposed budget is balanced, but only because of a one-time gift. This trend of decline is actually six or seven years old, and the decline is steep.

In addition, we have lost four Board members during 2010-11, and in 2011-12, most of the officers and one Board member will not be returning. We need committed, courageous leaders to guide us next year.

Even if we manage to keep our numbers from decreasing any further in 2011-12, the Board believes that we have one year to decide our long-term future. That year begins in July. Folks, our situation is very serious.

We need to decide why we are here. Can we sustain this congregation beyond next year? If we are convinced that First UU continues to be important, what do we need to do to keep our congregation going? What do we believe? What should we be doing?

We will soon begin thinking about these crucial questions. We will need everyone's best ideas. Look for further announcements soon.

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.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEETING ON APRIL 18

- ▶ Heard the final report from the Canvass Committee.
- ▶ Recommended the 2011-12 budget for the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 5, following a detailed presentation from the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee.
- ▶ Planned an agenda for a work session on Sunday afternoon, May 1. Duties and qualifications for officers and Board members will be reviewed and updated.

The following is an article about the Collection by the Wednesday Chalice Circle for the Eastern Farm Worker's Association.

COLLECTION REFLECTION

**When the call came out, how all did rally!
Next the Chalicers did tally.
Then forth to deliver they did sally.
Cars overflowed with goods.
To Eastern Farm, Chalicers departed,
With gifts of care from the warm-hearted,
Who never stopped once they started.
On the side of love they stood.
We dearly hope you will stay tuned
For the grand accounting due in June.
Your generosity has ballooned,
As we all knew it would**

**With deep gratitude,
The Wednesday Chalice Circle**

Community Activities and Calendar



GUESS WHO'S COMING TO LUNCH?

You are!

On Sunday, May 22nd.

After lunch, provided by the Youth Group, we'll stay and do our annual Spring Clean-up of the building and outside areas.

There will be lists of chores that need doing, and you can pick what suits your talents.

Wear your old clothes.

Bring gardening tools if you are going to work on the landscaping.

See you then!

Building and Grounds Committee

1 (Sun)	10:30 am 12:00 pm	Worship (S) Chalice Circle (P)
2 (Mon)	7:00 pm	YREC Meeting (P)
4 (Wed)	1:15 pm 7:45 pm	Chalice Circle (P) ZEN Meditation (P)
5 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
8 (Sun)	10:30 am	Worship (S)
10 (Tues)	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting (P)
11 (Wed)	7:45 pm	ZEN Meditation (P)
12 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
14 (Sat)	9- 12 noon 3:00 pm	Plant Sale SAGE Dance (FH)
15 (Sun)	10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:30 pm	Worship (S) Chalice Circle (P) Junior Pro Arts (S)
16 (Mon)	7:00 pm	Board Meeting (P)
17 (Tues)	5 - 7:00 pm	Rental (S)
19 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
21 (Sat)	6:00 pm	FUUS/MMUU Potluck at May Memorial
22 (Sun)	10:30 am 12:00 pm	Worship (S) B & G Work Party
25 (Wed)	7:45 am	Zen Meditation (P)
26 (Thur)	7:00 pm	Folk Dancers (FH)
29 (Sun)	10:30 am 2:00 pm	Worship (S) Wedding

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, May 20, for the issue that will cover events from June 1, to June 30, 2011, at firstuu@twcnj.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 - THANK YOU!

Help Wanted for Refugees InterFaith Works of Central New York Center for New Americans is short on blankets. Got extras?

Need a daytime English language tutor to assist Nadal Jassim, the mother of the Iraqi family MMUUS sponsored. She has had to stop classes at Westside Learning and cannot meet a tutor at the library because of problems with Headstart busing and two very active little guys. No experience needed but fabulous if you have it.

Can you help? Call Vicky Schipper at 479-5751

Save Your Stuff...and bring it to the Tail-gate sale in the May Memorial Parking lot on May 14 (rain date 5/21)
This is a fund raiser for Unirondack.
Sell the items right from your vehicle..couldn't be easier! Unsold items can be taken to the Salvation Army drop off site that day, no need to bring anything home.
Unclutter your home or garage for a good cause. If questions, call Mary Zimmer 446-1449.

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



Youth Religious Education News

Happy May!

The flowers are starting to bloom and the weather is finally starting to get warm. Everyone is coming out of hibernation and starting to go outside to play again. This is the time of year when things start to grow and new life is popping up all over the place. The same is true in the RE program. This is the time of year that we start to look at curriculum for next year and contemplate what our program will look like and how it will grow.

This year the children have been learning about Christian and Jewish traditions. One of the special things about UU religious education is that our kids get to learn about so many different faiths and get a chance to explore their own faith at the same time. Next year we will continue to offer that opportunity by learning about many different world religions.

If you have suggestions or ideas about how to make our program better please give me a call or drop me an email.

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- 1:00ON 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

The Green Corner



The Green Sanctuary team has been sharing information with you about Climate Change last year and about the value of water this year. In looking at water and related environmental problems, we have realized that the possibility of hydraulic fracturing in New York State presents a very real threat. Those who attended the forum on April 17 were moved by the extent to which such a practice presents a variety of dangers. As we explained in the Green Corner last month, problems include contaminated drinking water, respiratory and other health effects, soil contamination, extreme disruption from construction, use of high volumes of fresh water, continued unemployment, threats to our diverse economy, increased homelessness and crime and demand on service. Finally, the result of hydrofracking is more methane, a greenhouse gas thirty times stronger than carbon dioxide per molecule.

Having learned and shared all this, the Green Sanctuary will submit the following proposal to the Board of Trustees, asking for a congregational vote at the Annual Meeting on June 5.

"As Unitarian Universalists, we respect the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. After study, we are concerned that hydraulic fracturing presents a threat to the environment and public health.

Therefore, we support a ban in New York State on hydraulic fracturing to obtain methane (natural gas) from deep underground.

At the national level, we support regulating and protecting the environment in states where hydraulic fracturing takes place."

Good Green Food Again This Summer: You can still sign up to receive local organic produce from the pod at First UU this summer. Community Supported Agriculture is one way to put our values into action. We help ourselves, our local farmer and our Earth. Go to www.csacny.org or get a flier at the green table in Fellowship Hall.



the

Saturday SUUpers

Dinners and Conversation with the Syracuse UU Partners (May Memorial & First UU)

May 21, 2011 at May Memorial

Family potluck suppers begin at 6:00 pm

Programming begins at 7:00 pm

Come and share a meal with fellow UUs and then
Take part in special programming, which includes:

CONTRA DANCING

Contra Dancing is a form of partnered-folk dancing, whose roots go back to 17th Century. Join us for a fun evening of dance, even if you have no experience.

Children are welcome to take part in this special event.

CARDS! CARDS! CARDS!

Bring your luck deck of cards and let's play! We can handle anything from "Bridge" to "Go Fish". Children are welcome to play.

YOUR THREE FAVORITE BOOKS

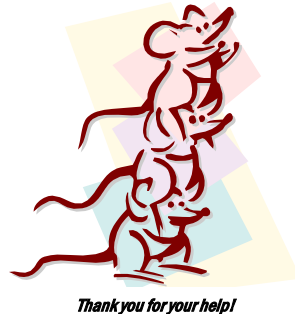
What are your three all-time favorite books and why? This will be the starting point of tonight's discussion. This should be a good one!

RSVP if possible, but not required. Come on short notice or no notice

If your schedule requires flexibility. Please RSVP to the office administrator of May Memorial if you are able. 446-8920 or office@mmuus.org



The Church Mouse



Thank you for your help!


Thank You



GRATEFUL THANKS FOR THE EASTER FLOWERS:

DIANA BELLINI IN MEMORY OF MARJORIE WILKINS, TIM RICE IN MEMORY OF JOANNE D. RICE AND SUSAN L. RICE, PEGGY FLANDERS IN MEMORY OF MY GOOD FRIENDS YVONNE CLIFTON AND ELLEN LUBIN, DANA SOVOCOL AND BRIAN GRUNINGER IN MEMORY OF ALICE SOVOCOL, EILEEN TAVENIERE IN MEMORY OF MARGUERITE O'BRYAN, LEE MURRAY, LIZ AND RANDY KALISH, ROBERT AND JANE PICKETT, PAUL DELIMA, MARY MCLATCHIE, KATHRYN TEDFORD, JOYCE HOMAN IN MEMORY OF JEAN KALEY, JIM D'ALOISIO TO HONOR FIRST UU HISTORY & LEGACY, DAVID C. DICKINSON IN MEMORY OF GILFORD W. WILSON AND CARA KAMPFE DICKINSON, CYNTHIA & DAVE KIEBER-KING IN MEMORY OF LOIS KING AND PRISCILLA AND ROBERT KIEBER, CLAUDIA KLAVER & PEGGY DEAN IN MEMORY OF JOAN CELESK KLAVER AND JOSEPH DEAN

Usher & Greeters for March



Thank you to:

Pam Anderegg, Randy Irish, Tim Rice, Peg Flanders, Elna Gordon, Susan King, Jerry Clausen, Jim Anderegg, Margaret Richards, Jan Pope



Thank you to our coffee helpers:
Susan King and Marilyn Lyman

Around The Block:
Our deepest sympathies go out to John and Carolyn on the tragic death of the 23 year old granddaughter. Sarah was the daughter of Lynde Coit and Anne Taylor who reside in Riverside, CT Services, will be private.

Music Sunday - Work - But Fun !

Happenings at First UU



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.

Hopefully many of you have been able to dodge the raindrops to get in some gardening time! The First UU Perennial Plant Sale will be held from 9-12 on Saturday, May 14 and we are seeking plant donations. We are looking for the following:

- Hardy well-rooted perennials
- One quart pots or larger
- No invasive species, please
- Label plants with as much info as possible

PLANT DROP-OFF WILL BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

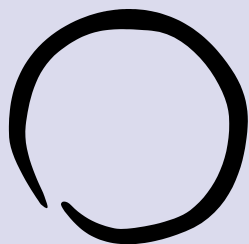
Monday	5/9	9-1
Tuesday	5/10	9-2
Wednesday	5/11	10-1 and 4-7
Thursday	5/12	7:30-11 and 4-7
Friday	5/13	9-5

Have plants to divide but no pots to put the divisions into? There are empty pots available at church outside the lower entry.

We are also in need of some help with set-up the morning of the sale and also with clean-up. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or to volunteer your time, and thank you for supporting our fundraising efforts!

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.



NEWSLETTER NEWS

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

