

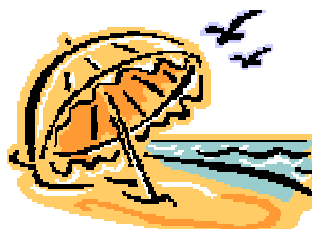
MUF NEWSLETTER

**Morristown
Unitarian Fellowship**
21 Normandy Heights Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960-4611

AUGUST 2005 **Vol. 50, No. 8**

Deadline for the SEPTEMBER issue is
AUGUST 14

Posted: July 25, 2005



If you no longer wish to receive this Newsletter, please mark it "Refused" and "Return to Sender" OR send an email to webmaster@muuf.org with your full name and address and indicate "STOP THE MAILED NEWSLETTER."

A talk scheduled for Sunday, August 7, by Madelyn Hoffman, director of the NJ Peace Network, has been cancelled.

This Newsletter is accessible via www.MUUF.org. Check there often for updates and corrections. "What's Happening at MUF" contains updated and additional information as well.

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TO ASSURE privacy of our members and friends, all "Joys and Concerns," personal telephone numbers, and home addresses are now removed from the *public* online newsletter. A copy in the Members Only section of our website includes the full information.

Morristown Unitarian Fellowship

News

*Reaching In . . .
Reaching Out*



August 2005

Volume 50, No. 8

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Mission and Covenant Statement

WE, the members of the **Morristown Unitarian Fellowship**, mindful of the rich diversity and essential oneness of human experience, covenant to weave the fabric of community from the strands of our separate lives. This is our pledge:

- To create for ourselves and our children a spiritual home which will nurture, challenge and offer us renewal.
- To seek what is true even as we celebrate the mystery of existence.
- To reach out to all who share our liberal religious values and participate in the broader Unitarian-Universalist movement.
- To work for social justice and the well-being of our planet Earth.

From the Minister . . .

A UNITARIAN

UNIVERSALIST minister who is a friend of mine told me that when I found the congregation that was a match it would feel like falling in love. She advised me on some level to think of the search process as a courtship. Frankly, I have to admit that I thought that sounded silly. That is until my pre-candidating weekend with your Search Committee.



Although it was an interview, which can be anxiety-provoking, I felt connected to Carol Todd and her committee right away. The committee jokes about how my answers made them wonder if I hadn't had a sneak peek at their questions in advance. Well, their questions and individual reflections made me so grateful to find a congregation that shared similar concerns, aspirations and dreams. I was thrilled when they called to ask me to return as their candidate.

The Search Committee was thorough and accurate in their portrayal of the strengths, struggles and possibilities for the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship. When I finally got to meet all of you, I knew I had found both what they described and what I was looking for. It was my hope to find a congregation that had a legacy of love, creativity and conscience both within the walls of the congregation and in the larger society. Morristown has that tradition and, at the same time, I believe there is so much more that our Fellowship can be in our lives and in the world.

Basically, I can't wait to begin our first year together! As I told you, when I accepted the call to the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, the first time that I thought about the ministry was 13 years ago. This is a long-awaited dream come true. We take our first steps together this month – a milestone for both of us.

I am at the beginning of my ministry, and you are at a point of re-imagining who you are as a congregation. I bring the enthusiasm, hopes and learning curves of a new minister. I also bring the experience of a lifelong Unitarian Universalist, who has a history of both lay and professional leadership in a congregation. You bring 50 years of gathering together for Sunday services, for fellowship, for education and for justice. You bring the wisdom of creating successes and weathering trials. You also bring a contagious level of commitment, leadership and hopes for our future. I am inspired when I think about all we can accomplish together....most importantly, serving as a liberal religious home in a world that desperately needs our message.

I am deeply grateful for the productive interim ministries that both Barbara Child and Emmy Lou Belcher have provided us with. I just know that we will have exciting reports to share with them in the coming years.

In faith,

Alison

Save the date...

October 2005						
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

*MUF's 50th Anniversary Party
October 22, 2005*

Last Chance to Schedule Your Photo Session!

Photo Directory signups are proceeding apace. The Lifetouch scheduling website reports 114 appointments so far. That's a lot, but less than half of the people who received pre-registration letters. Photo sessions are available **Friday, August 12**, and **Saturday, August 13**. Please follow the link from the home page of MUF's website or call Arlyne Dalman or Gabor Kiss. Also, we still need greeters on both days to help log people in as they arrive.



Margaret Chilton Selected as New Administrator

The Board has chosen Margaret (Maggie) Chilton to be our new Administrator. She will begin her duties August 15.

Maggie comes to us from her position as Parish Administrator of the 1,400-member Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit. She has a B.S. in Math from Wheaton College and experience with computer programming and database administration. She is an ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church and has served for a year as the Moderator of the Presbytery.

Maggie was chosen from the 90 resumes we received, 10 of whom were interviewed by Elizabeth Bain, Joe Uhrhane and Emmy Lou Belcher. The top two candidates were selected for a second interview with Rev. Alison Miller, Stu Sendell and Tony Rutigliano, with Elizabeth sitting in. Maggie spent five days during June and July with Alison, Emmy Lou, Robin Slaw, Alice Robinson-Gilman and Bill Forsyth to familiarize herself with our Fellowship.



MUF's 50th Anniversary Memories Blog - 50 Years and Counting!

The Fellowship is 50 years old, but we are up to date in communication. A "Blog" has been created to record memories of our time together over the past half century. You can access it from the home page of our website at www.muuf.org, or go to it directly at mufmemories.blogspot.com. There you may read the memories that others have recorded and add your own. It is easy to do, and you can enjoy reading the anecdotes that have made up the rich experiences of our past.

Thank you for participating in this online attempt to capture our past. As an alternative, you may send written memories to the Fellowship in care of "50th Anniversary Memory Book." We look forward to your thoughts either way.

Time to Declutter!
& time to plan for a HUGE sale of
your "used-to-be" treasures to help fill MUF's Treasury !!
Saturday, October 29, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Details to follow.

Board Meetings Open to Members

This is a friendly reminder from your Board of Trustees that all board meetings are open to members. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 10, at 7:30 p.m.

What Reliable Help Do You Need?

(Look in the *Our Favorite Businesses* Directory now available in the MUF Office Mailbox)

They are scarcer than hen's teeth—copies of the *Our Favorite Businesses* guide. Gloria Jackson and Marti Weinstein both moved and couldn't find their copies when they really needed a roofer and an electrician. (GEEZ, I forgot about my great roof repair guy!!!! He's not in there!) So they called for help. Now, I have sacrificed my copy to be the official office copy (to remain right where it is) in the office mailbox for your reference. Need a reliable builder/tree landscaper/real estate agent? Take a peek. I've personally used five new suppliers from the directory since publication and been really grateful for the recommendations.

When you call someone from the directory, tell them how you heard about them because we would like them to renew their ads in *Our Favorite Businesses II*, which will gear up again in the fall—if there are a few people to help.

It's not too early to think about providers of services that you have valued and would be willing to provide a brief testimonial for in the next edition. Where are the carpet/flooring experts? Wallpaperers? Plumbers? Pavers? Masons? Small job carpenters? Closet/life organizers? Caterers? There are lots of things missing! And we could use more of the categories listed but in different neighborhoods! Surprise us with newfound businesses—maybe your own!

Questions? E-mail Christine Frederick at Eastzephyr@aol.com or call 973(-).

MUF Coffee Hour Needs Sponsors

Perhaps you noticed improvements in our coffee hour during the spring. That's because individual MUF members and friends began sponsoring/enhancing them. Many thanks to Cintra Fricke, Carol Todd, Lois Clarke, Debbie Rice, Fred Bosbous, Kyle Gustafson and Lou Matuyza for making these coffee hours more pleasant for everyone.



Now it is your turn. Consider sponsoring one coffee hour in the coming season. If every Fellowshipper sponsored once, we'd have great coffee times and your turn wouldn't come again for years!!! It's easy and fun to sponsor. Contact Dan Cohen at 973(-) for details. Without your help, we'll have dull coffee hours (without refreshments!!!!).

“Online pledge payments are good for you and good for MUF,” says Ron Corey.

“Since I started paying most of my bills online, my life has been a little easier, since it's so simple and saves time and money. I've just added MUF to my list of payees and will be paying them weekly, which helps MUF

with its cash flow. If you're not currently using online banking, I'd suggest you consider it, and why not add MUF to your payee list?”

Notice Something Missing?

Our year-end financial statement had not been completed when this Newsletter went to press. You can find it on our website by the end of July.

Faith Developments



I FEEL VERY FORTUNATE that every summer, to start the new church year, I get a full recharge of my battery. It happens at General Assembly (GA), and it's there that I learn about new ideas, see new Religious Education curricula, sing, dance, worship and hang out with the coolest people on the North American continent – Unitarian Universalists. I return recharged with enthusiasm, creativity, an infinite sense of possibilities, optimism, excitement, inspiration, a renewal of my calling. It's quite amazing.

This summer seemed to be especially inspiring. It was partly the music - the UUA has released a songbook supplement, and the music from the supplement was showcased at every event. So I sang my heart out, with some wonderful new music. I hope we can find a way to purchase the supplements for everyone for our 50th Anniversary celebration! The RE children can help by making wrap sandwiches for lunch, and donating the profits toward the purchase of songbooks.

I also received inspiration from some very moving services. Rev. Dr. Patrick T. O'Neill, the Senior Minister at First Unitarian Church in Wilmington, Delaware, gave the sermon, "Out From Walden" at the Service of the Living Tradition, where ministers and credentialed religious educators are celebrated. O'Neill accused us of being in a Waldenesque-like retreat, and entreated us to come out of the woods, that the woods are on fire. He charged us to light our fires, yours and mine. And he reminded us that our ministry is to keep talking to you about social justice issues, no matter how uncomfortable it might make some of you in the pew.

The Sunday morning service was incredibly moving, too. It started with a "Time for All Ages" presented by the KUUMBA Players, an intergenerational troupe who told the Sufi tale of the stream in costumes, drama and story. I'm excited about using this kind of technique at our Fellowship for a Time for All Ages, and wonder if any of you might like to help with planning?

Rev. Robert Hardies, senior minister of All Souls Church, Unitarian, in Washington, D.C., gave the sermon on Sunday morning, entitled "Born Again ... and Again ... and Again." He reminded us that we can take back our religious values from the right, that we can stretch again and again. Each time we think we have no more to

give, we can find more to give, as though we are being born again, and again. He called for "a love that will not let us go, will not let us down, and will not let us off."

I danced the Dances of Universal Peace. I sang my heart out. I recharged my battery. I came back inspired, excited to be a Unitarian Universalist! I'm on fire!

Starting in late July, a task force working with the RE Council and me began evaluating the curricula planned for next year, and deciding which should be updated or replaced. Would you like to help?

The RE Council and I will be developing the RE calendar for next year. Would you like to help? Do you have some good ideas for activities for families, to bring our community together so we can do our good work, and help our children understand why we are Unitarian Universalists?

I was away at training or on vacation until the last week of July. Send me an e-mail, leave a message for me at the office, let me know how you'd like to get involved!

Yours in faith,

Robin Slaw

*Robin's office hours for August are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays,
10 a.m.–3 p.m. and by appointment.*

Greetings from Rev. Kim Wilson!

We have received an appreciative letter from Rev. Kim D. Wilson, our ministerial intern in 2000-01, thanking us for being so supportive and helpful at that time and updating us on her further career in ministry. A key milestone that she especially wanted to share with us is that she has been granted Final Fellowship by the UUA this year and would be receiving her official recognition at GA in June during the Service of the Living Tradition. She thanks those in our congregation at that time, as well as her supervisor, Rev. Paul Ratzlaff, and the intern committee, for helping her reach this point in her ministry, and sends us her very best wishes as we enter into a new chapter in MUF's history this fall.

The full letter is posted on the bulletin board in Room 100.

Upcoming Events

First Monday Book Group

Mondays, 7 p.m.

The group will not meet in August.

September 12 *The Story of San Michele*,
by Axel Munthe

More information can be obtained from
Nancy Lee McLure at 908-(-).



note: Signup has changed. Early arrival is no longer required. Visit www.folkproject.org/fp_minstopen.html.

Creative Movement and Free Dance

Tuesday, August 2, 7:30-9 p.m.

Led by Geri Silk. Bring your imagination and sense of fun. RSVP to gerisilk@yahoo.com.

UUJA (UUs for Jewish Awareness)

Friday, August 5, 7-9 p.m.

We will discuss the history and traditions of two summer Jewish holidays--Shavuot (giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai) and Tisha B'Av (marks the destruction of the First and Second Temples), as well as their spiritual meaning to us as UUs. Open to all adults; visitors welcome. For details, contact Gloria Jackson (973-(-) or gloriajcksn@aol.com).

Minstrel Coffeehouse

Fridays, 8:30 p.m.

August 5 Vance Gilbert with his soaring voice, wicked sense of humor and effortless jazz-oriented guitar licks. Overall, a virtuoso and a charmer, not to be missed. Opening act: **Joe Giacoio Trio**, with an unconventional outlook on music, including celebrated fiddler **Sara Milonovich** and guitarist/bouzouki player **Greg Anderson**, and celebrating the release of their new CD, "I Sing The Body Acoustic."



August 12 Open Stage Here is an opportunity for all acoustic players and singers to do a 15-min. set, and for listeners to hear a wide variety of surprisingly good music. Prospective performers take

August 19 David LaMotte Everything from lyrically challenging, high-energy percussive songs in strange alternate tunings to more traditional songs of home, hope and inspiration. Our opener, **Kinloch Nelson**, is a skilled guitarist/singer who presents a synthesis of jazz, classical, folk, American popular music and original compositions.

August 26 Walkabout Clearwater Chorus

Remember once upon a time, when we were young and thought everything was possible? That if everybody could work together for the common good, and sang the right songs, we could change the world! Well, this group never forgot those ideals. Founded by Pete Seeger, this 20-member chorus has been changing the world, one little bit at a time, in song for years. Come raise your voices in song with them. Opener **James Krueger** specializes in songs of nature and the environment.

Regular admission, \$6. For complete information, visit www.muuf.org/FolkProject.html.

EVENSONG

Wednesdays

August 10 As an alternative to our Evensong 7 p.m. service, we invite you to attend a free outdoor concert at the Grace Lord Park Gazebo at the corner of West Main Street and Essex Avenue in Boonton. The band will be "Alternate Groove," featuring rock and R&B music from the 60's, 70's and 80's. For more information about the concert please contact Tom McGuinness at 973-(-) or tomamor@progidy.net.

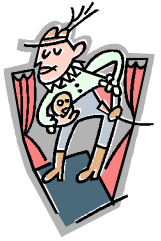
August 24 Hope and Optimism (at MUF) 7:30 p.m.

For more information please see the MUF website or call Drew Hayes at 973-(-).

NJ Shakespeare Theatre's Next Stage Ensemble Performs London Assurance

Monday, August 1, 8:30 p.m.

This airy and glittering comedy of manners, *London Assurance*, will be presented at MUF by the Gay Activist Alliance in Morris County. "Love is a pleasant scapegoat for a little epidemic madness!" Playwright Dion Boucicault, then 21, took the London box office by storm in 1841 with this hilarious play. A trip to the country turns into a rollicking farce of mistaken identities. Oscar Wilde paid homage to this masterpiece of comedy with his own *The Importance of Being Ernest*. Tickets are \$4 for GAAMC members, \$6 for non-members, and can be purchased at the door.



UUA General Assembly

by Eleanor Mason, MUF Delegate

Friday's (June 24's) plenary session featured a passionate debate on the 2005-2007 Study/Action Issue (SAI)* for the next two years. As in the past, the SAI supported by the Youth Caucus won the day: "Moral Values for a Pluralistic Society"† with "Women's Rights Worldwide" running a hefty second. This year's Statement of Conscience (SOC), "Criminal Justice and Prison Reform," the SAI presumably studied by all congregations for the last two years, was adopted unanimously. A deeply interested MUF group meets regularly to study the second year SAI, "Threat of Global Warming." ‡

Most exciting at GA plenaries are the initiative, presentation and debate on Actions of Immediate Witness (AIWs). AIWs are limited to immediate and current issues exclusively and require hundreds of signatures of GA official delegates. Those adopted are as follows:

AIW-1: U.S.-Sponsored Torture Must End

AIW-2: Support of the United Farm Workers' Boycott of Gallo Wines

AIW-3: Support for the UN Millennium Development Goal One: Ending Extreme Poverty

AIW-4: End Crimes Against Humanity in Darfur, Sudan (Sponsored successfully by our own Mark Yarnell, Senior Program Associate at our UU-United Nations Office)

AIW-5: Defending and Expanding Freedom of the Airwaves

AIW-6: A Call for Support and a Fair Trial for Dr. Sami Al-Arian

* Contact Rita Morris, Chair, MUF Denominational Affairs, for detailed info re: SAIs and AIWs.

† See www.uua.org/csw and www.uua.org/uuawo for Preliminary Study Guide on first year SAI.

‡ Contact Claire Mayer for details on Global Warming Study Group.

See Our Website (Members Only) for Reminder on Pledging/Financial Support

Jean Domovs Dies at 82

Our dear friend and member Jean Domovs, also known as Jean Hubble, died on June 28 at the Compassionate Care Hospice of St. Clare's Hospital in Dover.

Jean Roorbach was born in Arlington, Mass. She came to New York in 1960, met and in 1965 married Kelvin Domovs, and they shortly moved to Morris Plains, where they lived for 37 years.

A graduate of the Boston School of Occupational Therapy, Jean also received a B.S. from Tufts University and a Master's degree from NYU. In her long and dedicated career, she worked at the NYU Rehabilitation Institute, St. Michael's in Newark, Welkind (Kessler) and at many other hospitals and nursing homes, as well as in private practice. She was very proud of having invented and patented a special wheelchair with a commode.

She especially enjoyed teaching crafts, and made draperies for the Meeting Room,

painted ceilings, decorated walls, sewed costumes and was always available to do whatever was needed. Although she had to curtail her activities in recent years, she has a special place in our history.

Jean was involved in many community activities, especially as president of the Morris County Historical Society and the Memorial Society of Central New Jersey. But it is for MUF, which she joined in 1968, that we need to record and acknowledge the contributions she made as member or chair of committees as varied as Crafts, Membership, Dinners at 8, Finance and Denominational Affairs.

She leaves two sisters, Elizabeth Roorbach of Santa Fe, N. M., and Carolyn Dunbar of Washington, D.C., and a brother, George Roorbach of Franconia, N.H.

A memorial service for Jean will be held at the Fellowship on Saturday, October 1, at 4 p.m.

Our deepest sympathy to Karen Burns Rutigliano, whose mother died July 19.

Lorraine M. Burns died of pancreatic cancer. She leaves her husband of 59 years, Edward; four children and eight grandchildren.

Contributions to the Celebration of Life

From **Eleanor Mason** in memory of **Don Congdon, Mary Grow, Walt Stasiak** and **Scott Winfield**.

To the Endowment Fund from **Ron and Catherine Corey** in memory of **Walt Stasiak**.

Contributions to the Endowment Fund, the Memorial Garden Fund, or the Celebration of Life Fund are special ways of honoring family and friends. Your gifts will be acknowledged and appreciated.



Upcoming Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Details
Monday, August 1	8:30 p.m.	London Assurance, performed by NJ Shakespeare's Next Stage Ensemble	p. 9
Tuesday, August 2	7:30-9:00 p.m.	Creative Movement/Free Dance	p. 8
Fridays, August 5, 12, 19, 26	8:30 p.m.	Folk Project's Minstrel Coffeehouse	p. 8
Wednesdays, August 10 & 24		EVENSONG	p. 8
Fri.-Sat., August 12-13		Photo Directory Sessions	p. 3
Sunday, August 21	11:15 a.m.	Womanspace	Gloria J.

U3PA (Unitarian Universalists United for Peaceful Alternatives)

We had a very successful first half of 2005!

- Nearly 400 congregants and guests attended our 6 Film programs, which included 5 outside speakers. And, we have generated a list of subscribers with sincere interest in learning more about the challenges of creating a more peaceful and compassionate world.
- After Sunday services and U3PA programs, we distributed timely information on Peace & Justice issues, and ran a free Lending Library of tapes, DVDs and books.
- We attended pro-peace rallies and encouraged others to join us.
- With SR's leadership, we birthed a MUF-wide Justice Advocacy Study Group excited to brainstorm your ideas for enriching our social justice activities.
- Our program in July featured a local peace volunteer. Tricia explained the Dept of Peace bill that will be introduced to Congress in September, and she was enthusiastically received with lots of questions and excellent suggestions of a strategic nature.
- We began to dream of MUF envisioning itself as a Peace Site, a truly visible expression of support of the mission and principles of MUF and of UUA.
- And, our work brought in 3 new pledged members to our MUF community!

We need YOU! To help with community outreach, networking, UUA and other legislative actions, book discussion groups, youth-engagement and other peace-building activities. One-time and ongoing opportunities are available. Come join us! For information, contact Jo Sippie-Gora at 973-(-) or email: jo@josippie.com.

Summer Sunday Services

One service, at 10 a.m. No RE or child care



August 7 How Does UUA Advocacy Impact Our Lives?

When working on issues of social justice, members of MUF often look to the UUA for guidance and leadership. The UUA provides information regarding IRS guidelines on advocacy, lobbying and elections. Through UUA Resolutions, Statements of Conscience and Study Action Issues, members of UU congregations can work with like-minded people to effect social change. But how does this work out in reality, in our own Fellowship? Several members of MUF—both old and new—share how they affirm and promote the UUA principles, what has inspired them to social action, and the joys and frustrations of trying to “make a difference” in our troubled world.

Presented by Jo Sippie-Gora, Glenn Kendall, Eleanor Mason, Claire Mayer, Rita Morris, Stu Sendell. Coordinated by Pat de la Fuente

August 14 Morning Circle “In Celebration of Your Birth”



As UUs, we celebrate the inherent worth and dignity of every person—including ourselves. Come and share a brief story of your day of birth or a birthday celebration. Bring a photo of yourself as a child or a souvenir from your past—and be sure to bring your favorite snack (finger food) to share.

Coordinated by Pat de la Fuente

August 21 The Spiritual Dimension of Dance

Members of MUF’s Creative Dance Group share their process and inspiration: Why do we dance? How do we create dances? What keeps our group evolving?

Presented by Moya Keating, Joan Clifford, Evie Depew, Helene Ferm, Lorelei Harris, Astrid Martin, Geri Silk

August 28 Natural Housing—A Human Right

Over the course of much of history, housing was something that families and communities created for themselves from local materials. Join Kathy Moser as she explores the growing movement in the U.S. towards environmentally friendly, community-oriented housing and what it means, spiritually as well as practically. The program will include slides from cohousing and ecovillages throughout the Northeast, as well as information about Garden State Cohousing, an organization Kathy cofounded in 2002.

Presented by Kathy Moser

Sept. 4 The Fellowship will be closed.