



October 2009

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News

Reaching In . . .
Reaching Out

From the Minister...

I WANT TO SHARE A DELIGHTFUL TREND in our congregation. Several of our children and families have approached me about whether children younger than 16 can sign our membership book. The answer I have given is, "Yes, they can sign as junior members. When they turn 16, we hope they will feel the same way and we will welcome them as full members."



The age of 16 was chosen by our founders (and is an age frequently chosen by UU congregations) in order to emphasize that joining a congregation is a thoughtful and voluntary practice. Children are an important part of our community, and I am enjoying the growing number of junior members. The age of full membership commitment is offered when people have had sufficient opportunity to learn about us and can be invited and not coerced into agreeing with the seven UU principles and our congregation's goals, mission and covenant.

We are a voluntary association, and that is important to us. We are also democratic, which means that each member has the opportunity to help shape our community and our future together. We have a living, not stagnant, covenant with one another. This also means our congregation embraces the kind of change that makes us continue to be relevant in the spiritual lives of our members and friends, and our children and adults. Many of our core principles have withstood the test of time, but we have also adapted the way we implement them in our lives, in the congregation, and in the world.

Members, friends, and brand newcomers are invited to gather together on **Saturday, October 3, at 10 a.m.** or **Sunday, October 4, at 9 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.** to share our excitement for what is possible over the next five years. It is high time we do this, both because it's been awhile and because a large segment of our congregation is new and hasn't had a chance to join in such a process. Tillie-Jo Emerson, a trained strategic planning facilitator, will be leading us through a series of conversations that will spark all of our imaginations.

What have been the blessings of your involvement with our Fellowship? What might make your relationship

with us more fulfilling? How do we want to help deepen and grow what we offer in our shared ministries of worship, religious education, social justice, pastoral care, leadership development, stewardship and community fun?

Come prepared to share with an open heart and mind, ready to listen for the powerful hope, the caring change, the practical tweak, and the loving transformation found in one another's dreams. In all of our strategic imaginations, I know we will find kernels of wisdom and the popping of commitment from all of us that will lead to exciting places on the next five-year leg of the journey of the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship.

Albert Einstein once said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge. For while knowledge defines all we currently know and understand, imagination points to all we might yet discover and create." Come and share what you have stirring in your heart, in your gut, in your mind and in your dreams, and help others to do the same.

In fellowship,

Alison's office hours are Tuesday-Thursday & Sunday by appointment.

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The President's Corner



Imagine!

What do you hear and see when I say that the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship is a **Church**? Do you see a vibrant community bonding together to help each other on their spiritual journeys? Do you hear the squeals of joy from the children on the playground and going to and from their Religious Education classes? Do you see a community that is dedicated to helping people in need, whether or not that need is financial, physical or spiritual? Do you hear the various members of our community as they give voice to the needs both inside and outside our community?

What do you imagine when I describe my Sunday morning experience as **worship**? Do you imagine the embrace of our community as it gathers to lift the spirits of each of our members? Can you imagine the transformational energy that we share as we gather in the sanctuary? Do you visualize a place of peace and gathering that can be intentionally sacred and has the power to comfort, to heal, to inspire and to entertain?

And if I say the word **god**, do you reject the premise, or do you allow its use to have meanings beyond the conventional, beyond the speaker's intent, but defined and accepted on your own terms?

Words Have Different Meanings

When I first came to Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, these words all had very different meanings for me. Some brought up feelings and images from past associates and life experiences that were painful or very negative. Some were "neutral" and conveyed no special meaning or power.

Over the years, I have taken back these words and

refined and redefined and re-imagined what these words could mean and do mean to me. Almost everything we say is interpreted in the context of when, where and how we say them. When I use these words in conversations both inside and outside of MUF, they now mean the same thing. I am aware that depending on the context, they may mean something subtly, or even radically, different to the listener. But at their core, they convey the same intrinsic meaning.

When I say a **church**, I mean a place of public worship, a place where a dedicated community gathers together to share their common, and uncommon, experiences. That may entail a structure, or it may not. Star Island is a church, to me. So is where our MUF community gathers.

When I say **worship**, I mean a time and space where I show and share my respect for my own spiritual practices and for the spiritual practices of others. It is a time when that which is sacred is honored.

When I say **god**, I am talking about my own evolving understanding of that which is not knowable. It includes the mysteries that cannot be solved, the rising of the sun, the cry of a new-born baby and the purring of a contented cat. I am fairly sure that I am no longer an atheist or a theist, even less sure that I am an agnostic, but I am more sure that I am an evolving polytheistic, Einstein-influenced, explorer of the scientific/mystical school of almost believers. I think.

Thank goodness we have a place like MUF, so we don't have to imagine that one exists.

Gary

Gary Kunz, President

Our New Covenant Circle program: "Living in Covenant" – Enroll NOW!

Enrollment for the Fellowship's Covenant Circle program for 2009-2010 was launched on September 13. Many members have shared how much they missed having them last year and how the groups helped foster connections with new friends and old, as well as providing an opportunity to go deeper around theme.

This year, it has been decided to experiment with *all* covenant circles covering the same overarching theme of the work of the Fellowship: "Living in Covenant." Our way into this subject will be to cover the seven UU principles.

To learn more about the program, its facilitators, when and where they meet and how to enroll (**BY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4!**), visit our website at muuf.org. For more information, speak to one of our Covenant Circle steering committee members: Joan Alevras, Gloria Jackson, Jerry Weinstein or Allen Wells..

Faith Developments

MANY OF YOU KNOW

I have served churches as a Director of Religious Education for many years. I have been part of or witnessed many Strategic Plans. These plans are of the utmost importance. They chart the course of healthy congregations. It is vital to have as many congregants come to the planning sessions as possible.



This is your Fellowship. If you don't take part in the democratic process, your voice will not be counted. Our fifth principle is "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process."

What I have witnessed, in all these years of being part of congregational life, is that many of our younger members with children bow out of the conversations regarding the future of their congregation. They leave it up to older members to decide the future. Sometimes they complain about the decisions without ever having been part of the process. All members need to have a voice.

Our children will be part of a process of discernment concerning their future on Sunday, October 4, during a special Chalice Chapel. We hope that our

Senior High youth will come to the planning sessions. If you are a parent of a Senior High youth, please encourage them to attend. This could be an opportunity to talk with your youth about the importance of their faith of Unitarian Universalism.

There will be an opportunity to participate in the conversations on Saturday, October 3, at 10 a.m. Two opportunities to participate will be offered on October 4, at 9 a.m. and at 1:30 p.m.

While we hope that you have already taken advantage of calling the Fellowship office to enroll your children in the 10:30 a.m. program on Sunday, it might not be too late to call the office for childcare. You can also email me – Karen Brown – at uudre@optimum.net.

The Strategic Planning Committee read *Holy Conversations* – a wonderful book that asks the following questions: Who are we? What are we called to be? Who is our neighbor?

What wonderful questions. I hope you stay connected and please be part of the process! In a world that oftentimes forgets the beauty of life, our faith keeps us connected to what is really important.

Karen

Planning for the Future: A Five-Year Strategic Plan – Sign Up by October 2!

The Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) was developed by the Board late in 2008 and charged to guide the process of strategic planning for MUF culminating in a Five-Year Strategic Plan and in a plan that would lay the foundation for a Capital Campaign to implement the 5-year plan.

For many months the SPTF has met biweekly to prepare the way. They reviewed and assembled historic data about the Fellowship throughout its 50+ years. They researched, and in some cases interviewed, other UU congregations to learn from their experience and discover best practices. As part of their planning process, each of these congregations has adopted a 3-5-year Strategic Plan around which all of the congregation's activities and budgets are aligned. These strategic plans ultimately helped successful UU congregations achieve their vision AND raise the funds to do so.

Through its initial work, the task force recognized that MUF is particularly poised to tackle strategic planning at this time because of the success we have had, particularly the expansion of staffing through the call and hiring of a new Minister, Music Director, RE Director and Office Administrator. The members of the task force agree that our strategic plan must be built upon our history and recent successes.

During the weekend of October 3-4, the congregation will have its first opportunity to be involved in the Strategic Planning process. As part of a process based upon continuous congregational dialogue, the SPTF has developed an event to enlist involvement of the members and friends of the Fellowship. Every effort was made to design it to meet the needs of all – individuals and families alike. Three sessions have been scheduled so that you can pick the one that's most convenient for you.

The schedule is listed on our website, www.muuf.org.

What do you love about MUF? What would you like to change? Do you want to help shape MUF's future? Do you want to make sure that MUF is a place for you, your family and friends to thrive? How should we interact with the local and global community? All of these are questions that we all need to answer. The opportunity for doing that begins on October 3 and 4. Your insight, ideas and passion will form the foundation for our future. Together we will speak our values and use our shared commitment to set the future direction of the Fellowship.

Common Security Circle

**Mondays, October 19 (introduction open to all),
November 2, 16, 23, 30 and December 7. All sessions 7–9 p.m.**
Facilitated by Pat de la Fuente and Dee Dasara

In tough economic times like these, our faith may be shaken: faith in ourselves, faith in each other, faith in our way of life. We may be tempted to “go it alone” or we can pull together as a community and help one another.

This course, described in the *UU World* as a “Common Security Club,” offers the opportunity to join together as a community to discuss ideas and share resources in “a place where people . . . look at our real security in the fact of the economic crisis. It is part study group, part self-help and mutual aid group, and part political action group.” The curriculum is based on “the assumption that we need to prepare ourselves and our communities for . . . fundamental changes and a new economic model based on real wealth and economic activity. The good news is [that] there is a lot to build on; parts of our economy are healthy and vibrant. Should we succeed, our lives will be happier and healthier – and our economy will be fairer and more ecologically sustainable.”

After the Introductory session, to which all are invited, those committed to attend the remaining five sessions will form a cohesive group for further exploration of these issues.

For more information: Contact Dee Dasara at deepema2@verizon.net or Pat de la Fuente at karasr@optonline.net.



Registration Has Begun ♦ Reserve Your Spot Now!

Nonviolent Communication (NVC) Workshop at MUF

Saturday, October 17, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn NVC from national trainer Dian Killian!

Learn how to speak peace and transform conflict, and build peace and partnership at home and in the world. Imagine connecting with the human spirit in each person in any situation at any time. Nonviolent Communication (NVC) *is a proven method for social activists who want to engage with their opponents, and for parents who want to build respectful relationships with their children.*

Registration forms now on turnstiles in Great Hall or can be printed from www.muuf.org/documents/NVCWorkshop%20Flyer91509.doc.

Please register early. Info: Seeds of Peace, contact Jo at seedsofpeacemuf@optonline.net.

\$90 - \$70 (sliding scale)

Healthful refreshments and lunch included.

To register, complete registration form below (or at Box Office), include check made out to *MUF*, and mail to Seeds of Peace, Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd, Morristown, NJ 07960.



=====
Name _____ Need Childcare? Age(s) _____ No. _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Vegetarian Lunch Preferred? Yes _____ No _____ Enclosed \$ _____

Upcoming Events

UULMNJ Fall Issues Workshop

Saturday, October 3, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Held at the Summit Unitarian Church, this gathering will be a working session to move forward on issue development and goals and other issues, as well as meeting Julia Hamilton, UU Legislative Ministry of New Jersey's Director. Visit www.uulmnj.org for more info, or contact Julia at director@uulmnj.org.

Annual MUF Comedy Night !!!

Saturday, October 10, 7:30 p.m.

Come, come, whoever you are to see the MUF Not Ready for Anything Players "At YoUUr Service." Our annual comedy night stars the usual cast of characters: Drew Hayes, Charley Carroll, Maria Manna, Christine Frederick, Venkat Puranapanda, David Landau and other surprise guests. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door and \$10 for students and youth are available at the Box Office.

Monday Night Book Group

Monday, October 12, 7 p.m.

The Monday Night Book Group will be meeting on the second Monday until further notice. We meet in Room 208. Come and enjoy discussing the chosen book and many other topics. The books we have chosen for the future are as follows: October 12, *Infidel*, by Ayaan Hirsi Ali; November 9, *Desert Queen*, by Janet Wallach; December 14, *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. We welcome new readers! For information, contact Nancy Lee McLure at nlmclure@msn.com.

Amor at Lincoln Center

Saturday, October 17, 4 p.m.

"Amor & Friends" will present a concert of Broadway, Opera and Philippine Love Songs in Alice Tully Hall to benefit Philippine Street Children. Join a group of MUFers attending this event. A bus will depart our parking lot at 4 p.m. and return after the show for \$15 round-trip. Get your \$40 tickets at our Box Office (10% of sales go to MUF) or contact Amor or Tom McGuinness at tomamor@optonline.net or amorilao@optonline.net.

Crafting Group

Friday, October 30, 7:30 p.m.

Coordinated by Donna Becker & CintraFricke

This year the MUF craft group and the knitting group will meet together. Bring your own knitting or crafting project from home, or just join us for great company and conversation. Let us know if you are coming so we will know whether or not to cancel the session. *Please register by Wednesday, October 28*, by contacting either Cintra Fricke (cintrafricke@gmail.com) or Tina Demottie (demottie@optonline.net).

Blood Drive

Sunday, November 8, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

You are not eligible for this drive if you have donated blood elsewhere since September 11. More information from Zella Geltman at 973-669-1181.

WOMEN'S RETREAT – Absorbing the Magnificence and Appreciating Our Bounty

Friday, November 13, to Sunday, November 15

Coordinated by Beverly Hays, Karen Burns and others

Our weekend retreat will be located at the Farmhouse at Kirkridge on the beautiful Kittatinny Ridge of eastern Pennsylvania (www.kirkridge.org/building-rentals/building-descriptions/the-farmhouse-36-147.html). All women are welcome to enjoy meditation, writing, reflections, free time, crafts, yoga and sharing.

Cost will be \$230 per person for two nights, six meals. Register with the office at 973-540-1177 or office@muuf.org by **November 2**. For further info contact beverly.hays@verizon.net.

MUF Concert Series Opens November 21

The first concert in our Music at MUF series will take place at 7:30 p.m. with the Morris Consort and Chamber Ensemble presenting Menotti's "The Unicorn, the Gorgon and the Manticore," a musical fable for singers, instrumentalists and dancers.

Remaining concerts will be **Saturday, March 27 at 7 p.m.**, **Saturday, May 22 at 7:30 p.m.** and **Sunday, July 18 at 3 p.m.**

For more information, see online September Newsletter at www.muuf.org. To get involved, contact Dr. Jim at music@muuf.org.

THE ANNUAL MUF SERVICE AUCTION
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, AT 6:30 P.M.
HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY



WITH
LIVE AUCTIONEER
AND
DELICIOUS FOOD CATERED BY OUR OWN
KEN NEMETH

ADDED BONUS - FIRST CHANCE TO BID ON THE SILENT AUCTION ITEMS
 The Silent Auction will continue in the Terrace room on Sunday, October 25,
 and Sunday, November 1, between services.

This is one of our **MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENTS** of the year, so
 mark your calendar TODAY to come have a great time and bid on
 our fabulous offerings.

Sign up at the BOX office - \$13 – or email Beth Hayward
 (*lizzieanne@digress.org*).

**Metro NY Minute – Upcoming Meetings and
 Workshops and Action Alerts**

UUA Action Alert - Take action now! Tell your Senators that you want them to eliminate funding for ineffective abstinence-only programs and to fund proven, comprehensive sex education that teaches our youth the facts they need and prepares them to put their own values into action.

Metro NY News - The UU Ministry for Earth invites all congregations to participate in the International Day of Climate Action on October 24 in collaboration with *350.org*, an international campaign to create an equitable global climate treaty that lowers carbon dioxide below 350 parts per million.

Kim Mason, our former Interim RE Director, has been named Director of Lifespan Programs and Services for the First UU Fellowship of Hunterdon County.

More information on the above can be obtained on the UU Metro NY website: <http://uumetrony.org>. From this link you can get news from the district, the social action of the month of the UUA, and UU Service Committee news.

Susan Oxman, Denominational Affairs

5K Pledge Walk for Community Soup Kitchen
Sunday, October 18 at 1 p.m.

Join the Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center for this 3.1-mile pledge walk to raise funds for the Soup Kitchen and increase understanding about hunger and homelessness in our community. Walkers will be able to assume the identity of a composite Soup Kitchen guest and track their story through cards handed out during the walk. So far this year, **the Soup Kitchen is serving 33% more guests** than at the same time last year, and we need your support to maintain our track record of keeping our doors open every day, 365 days a year, since 1984!

We'll start at the Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center, 36 South Street, Morristown. Ask your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors to sponsor you. All walkers raising \$100 or more will receive a Hunger Walk T-shirt.

For more information, visit www.cskmorristown.org, where you can register to walk, send e-mails to get sponsors, make a donation or download a brochure. Donations can also be mailed to Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center, 36 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960.

Social Justice Council - October 2009 Update

Helping Neighbors in Need



Looking Forward to Harvest Day at MUF – Thursday, November 22

With Food Collection Ahead of time – (Sundays October 25 & November , 1, 15 & 22)

.... a special intergenerational gesture of community outreach and generosity.

The Social Justice Council & the RE Program Children/Families invite you to help us prepare for a very special event – ***Harvest Day at MUF*** – that will take place on November 22 between services. The idea is to have a very successful ***food drive for 4 weeks leading up to Harvest Day*** – when we all will gather in the Terrace Room and ask families and all members to “assemble” and “decorate” a box/basket that would be filled with foods (both staples and items suitable for a Thanksgiving Dinner, but canned/boxed, as donation gifts to be given out by the Morris County Interfaith Food Pantry. Last year, we hit double our target – we gave 60 decorated boxes/baskets to deliver! Help us get there again!

Food drive suggestions include cereals, juices - unfrozen concentrates or powder mixes preferred, peanut butter, jelly, tuna, hot cocoa mix, tomato sauce, canned meats or meals (such as Chef Boyardee), canned soup, canned beans and vegetables, condiments, and for the Thanksgiving Dinner components: canned corn, yams, chicken/turkey gravy, other vegetables, brownie mixes, canned pumpkin/nonfrozen pie shells, along with other non-perishable “fixings” – no turkeys! **Drop in Food Collection Box in MUF Kitchen.** Please be generous! The need is great.

Morristown Community Soup Kitchen – Next Date: Tuesday, October 13. Thanks, MUF members, for helping cook great food once more for 150+ neighbors in September. Need commitments for casseroles, soups, and chili! Michele Kunz : mbkunz@gmail.com.

Eric Johnson House MUF Monthly Dinner Teams – Next Hostings: Wednesdays, October 7 and 28 (5:45 p.m.-7 p.m.). Join other MUF members/friends in hosting family style dinner for 10- 14 current residents–plus aftercare alumni of AIDS/HIV restorative home. Join in conversation/hosting and/or helping prepare part of the meal to share. Zella Geltman: zellarp@yahoo.com.

Morristown Homeless Solutions (Shelter) monthly dinner commitment (next Hosting: Saturday, October 10 (4:45 p.m.-7 p.m.). If you are an adult, or a family with Jr. High and older children that you can accompany, help prepare an easy meal for the 100+ shelter residents. Contact: judyoneil@optonline.net.

Next Meeting Social Justice Council – Thursday, October 8, 7:30-9 p.m. – Join other MUF members to plan help for neighbors, near and far. This is a Quarterly Plate Allocation meeting so you can help us to allocate financial support gifts in MUF’s name. We are also planning a number of fall and holiday Social Justice initiatives. Come.... We’d welcome your thoughts and help! Contact Chris Reynolds at Reynolds@nac.net.

“Pathways to Work” (PTW) – Look for the Workers in Yellow Caps–at the Morristown Train Station ...or RESERVE AHEAD.... Go to www.pathways.to.workers.org or call 973-647-8495- Rosa Chilquillo Coordinator. Hard-working, strong, very willing people need your household maintenance jobs. Think about **how you can give work to a person who is trying to earn their way, every day, the hard way.** Our workers are registered, have ID’s, and are self-organized to distribute work fairly to each other. The Job Bank is available to receive your job request by contacting Rosa Chilquillo at **973-647-8495.** The referral service is open, to phone in job postings and to dispatch of workers. Here, you can hire skilled or unskilled workers for daily work– painters, gardeners, carpenters, masonry workers, etc. Unskilled labor is paid \$10- \$12 per hour (we suggest providing lunch) and skilled/specialty workers earn more. Negotiations are between the employer and the employee, but translators are available to make communication more comfortable. Housekeepers are available to clean homes and offices. (Or you may go down to the Morristown Train Station, anytime, and talk to the workers with the “Yellow Caps.”)

Water Shortages Seen in Four Years

A Scottish Proverb states that "We'll never know the worth of water till the well go dry."

This proverb will prove true in the near future.

Consumer Reports predicts that almost 4 out of 5 states anticipate water shortages by 2013 which could lead to steeper rates and penalties for excessive usage.

Now is the time to begin conserving water by stopping drips, insulating the water heater, installing low-flow showerheads and adding aerators to faucets. Such changes could easily save \$350 in water bills a year.

There is a finite amount of water on the earth that has been recycled since the earth was formed. The amount of water is the same but the population growth and demands on the supply of water has grown exponentially, especially in the last two centuries. Conservation efforts will help preserve our precious resource and keep our "well" from going dry.

Gloria Dyer for GEM

George Aronson's Photos in Atrium Gallery

Between October 8 and January 7, George Aronson's photography will be part of a major exhibition of local and regional artists at the beautiful Atrium Gallery in Morristown. His works span a period of nearly 35 years of capturing the beauties of the natural world. He shares the four levels of exhibit space with artists in a wide range of media, including watercolor, mixed media and traditional painting. George's work will be on the 4th floor. The exhibit catalog won't be available until several days after the opening. For a preview of this show and lots more, please visit www.georgemaronson.com.

The Atrium Gallery is located in the Administration & Records Building on Court Street in Morristown, across the street from the historic 1827 county courthouse. The hours are weekdays from 9 to 5. There will be an opening reception on Thursday, October 22, from 6-8 p.m. For this, free parking is available under the building (enter on Schuyler Place). This exhibit is sponsored by the Arts Council of the Morris Area, www.morrisarts.org.

Our Financial Health (Figures may not add up exactly due to rounding and/or truncation.)

	August 2009	July-August	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Pledge Income	\$21,420.01	\$75,374.09	\$448,000.00	\$372,625.91
Rental Income	\$2,985.00	\$4,635.00	\$49,200.00	\$44,565.00
Fundraisers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32,500.00	\$32,500.00
Other Income	\$1,688.50	\$3,071.00	\$16,140.00	\$13,074.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$26,093.51	\$83,080.09	\$545,840.00	\$462,764.91
Payroll	\$27,605.44	\$59,591.34	\$361,948.00	\$302,356.66
Debt Services	\$1,861.58	\$3,669.19	\$19,000.00	\$15,826.43
Building	\$2,203.97	\$6,614.62	\$65,932.00	\$59,317.38
Administration	\$5,810.09	\$9,353.67	\$60,072.00	\$52,787.35
Committees	\$598.00	\$1,409.88	\$15,420.00	\$14,140.12
Religious Education	\$587.26	\$1,738.10	\$9,716.00	\$7,977.90
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$38,666.34	\$82,376.80	\$532,088.00	\$452,405.84
Difference	(\$12,572.83)	\$703.29	\$13,752.00	

Automatic Payment of Pledges

The Fellowship has established a process to automatically transfer your monthly pledge payment. All you need do to initiate the process is to provide the office with a voided check and complete a transfer authorization form. The forms are available in the Great Hall. Just leave the completed form and voided check in the Fellowship office or in the Sunday Plate.

George Hays, Chair, Finance Committee

haring Our Joys & Concerns

To assure the privacy of our members and friends, we have removed all other “Joys and Concerns” and personal telephone numbers from the online newsletter. A copy of the Newsletter in the Members Only section of our website includes the complete information.

Tell Us Your Joys & Concerns

Be sure to send your Joys and Concerns to melodylingers@verizon.net so they will reach all members of the Fellowship.

Contributions to the Celebration of Life

A contribution to the Memorial Garden has been made by **Miriam Congdon**, in loving memory of her husband, **Don**. October 11 marks the fifth year of his passing. A former president of MUF's Board of Trustees, Don is fondly remembered for his many years of leadership in our congregation.

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
Saturday, October 3 Sunday, October 4	10:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m.	Strategic Planning Task Force	p. 3
Saturday, October 3	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	UULMNJ Fall Issues Workshop	p. 3
Saturday, October 10	7:30 p.m.	Comedy Night	p. 7
Monday, October 12	7:00 p.m.	Monday Night Book Group	p. 6
Saturday, October 17	10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Nonviolent Communication Workshop	p. 5
Saturday, October 17	4:00 p.m.	Amor McGuinness & Friends Concert	p. 6
Sunday, October 18	1:00 p.m.	5K Walk for Community Soup Kitchen	p. 7
Mondays, Oct. 19, Nov. 2, 16, 23, 30, December 7	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Common Security Circle	p. 5
Thursday, October 22	6:00-8:00 p.m.	George Aronson's Photo Exhibit Reception	p. 9
Saturday, October 24	6:30 p.m.	Halloween Costume Party/Service Auction	p. 7
Friday, October 30	7:30 p.m.	Crafting Group	p. 6
Sunday, November 8	8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Blood Drive	p. 6
Friday-Sunday, Nov. 13-15		Women's Retreat	p. 6

Become a MUF Musicmaker – Join One of Our Many Ensembles

MUF offers performing music ensembles for many ages and levels of performance. Get involved in the group that fits you!

MUF ADULT CHOIR: Rehearses Tuesdays at 6:15-7:30 p.m. and Sundays after Services, and sings throughout the year for the 11 p.m. and Summer Services.

MUF CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Grades 1-5, rehearses Tuesdays at 5:30-6:15 p.m. and sings for the 9 a.m. Services.

MORRIS CONSORT: An advanced-level chamber choir, by audition, which rehearses Tuesday evenings at 7:30-9 p.m. and performs twice yearly at Services and on the MUF Concert Series.

NEW THIS SEASON! MUF YOUTH CHOIR: Grades 6 and above, rehearses Tuesdays at 5:30-6:15 p.m. and sings for the 9 a.m. Services.

NEW THIS SEASON! MUF CHAMBER ENSEMBLE: For instrumentalists who have played their instrument at least four years. Rehearses twice monthly on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons and performs monthly at Services.

To get involved, contact Dr. Jim: 845-858-9895 or music@muuf.org.

Save the date! The 2010 Metro NY District Annual Meeting will be held April 30-May 1, 2010, at the Hyatt Morristown (NJ). More information coming soon.

TO ASSURE PRIVACY of our members and friends, all “Joys and Concerns,” personal telephone numbers and home addresses are removed from this *public* online newsletter. The Members Only copy includes the full information.

October 2009

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Deadline for the NOVEMBER issue is

OCTOBER 15

Sunday Services

Services at 9 and 11 a.m.



October 4 **IMAGINE: Strategic Conversations**

Instead of our two worship services on Sunday, our sacred work together will be to gather for Strategic Conversations. Three opportunities: See calendar on p. 11.

Tillie-Jo Emerson & Strategic Planning Taskforce

October 11 **Discovering Oneness: The Power of Covenant**

Celebrating the changes covenants have made in our world and the way, over and over again, they have brought us to experience the wonder and promise of that great motto: "Out of Many, One."

Coordinated by Betsy Burr and Marjorie Wormser

October 18 **Diwali, the Festival of Lights**

We will explore the wisdom, traditions and themes of a significant holiday in Hinduism, the world's third largest religion.

Rev. Alison B. Miller

October 25 **Standing on the Side of Love**

The second service in our "Living in Covenant: 7 Principles" series will focus on a core UU precept: "Justice, equity and compassion in human relations."

Rev. Alison B. Miller

November 1 **Honoring All Souls**

Children, Youth, and Adults are encouraged to join us for this special multigenerational service where we honor ancestors and deceased loved ones. Please bring something to place on our community altar.

Rev. Alison B. Miller & Karen Brown