



Kind Intentions...

From our Affiliated Minister The Rev. Allen Wells:

During my thirty years of membership at MUF I have never felt more optimistic about our beginning a new year. I am very happy that Alison will be able to take the first half of her well deserved, split sabbatical from January - March, for study, spiritual re-creation, family re-uniting, and reflection.

During this period I will be available for counseling and special needs (with the exception of Jan. 26 - February 16 when I will serve as minister for our UU fellowship in St. John's, VI.) (See page 3 for more information). We will also be well served during this time by our Intern Minister, Barnaby Feder.

Now is a time for resolutions. Many of us will set goals that we will try to reach throughout the year. This is the kind of intentionality that Wayne Dyer describes when he urges us to strongly focus on the things we want in order to manifest them. It is powerful.

But there is another kind intentionality even more impactful. It is a receptive awareness to the intentions of our heart. We focus on listening, not talking; and less on where we want to go than on where we are coming from. Sadly, we are more accustomed to the first. We program, petition, produce and pray for changes in our lives and our world. This focus has not been all that successful.

I like to practice the second kind of intentional awareness every day. First of all, I must surrender to being in charge. This is a big beginning step and making it changes a lot right there. Secondly I receive my intention for kindness. If I don't find it, I become aware of my intention to be open to it.

We all intend to be good. Even our most heinous acts, we do because we believe they will help us or be good for us or for another. Our judgment may be terrible, and our consciousness deluded, but our intentions are not bad. Did you ever hear of a country declaring a war because it was committed to evil? La Rochefoucauld noted that, "Hypocrisy is the homage that vice pays to virtue." Deep inside us there is a wish to do good and an intention to be kind that we need to uphold.

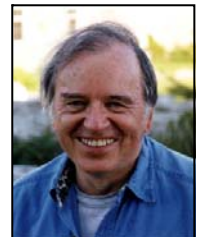
It may surprise you to discover that you don't have to reflect all that deeply to become aware of this aspiration. This is what it means to accept the "inherent worth and dignity of every person", our first UU principle.

When we resolve we determine our future and pledge ourselves to it. We assume responsibility and pretend that we are in charge. This is all well enough, but if we balance our resolution with awareness of our intentions, it makes things a lot easier and our actions wiser.

Our intentions are something different. We don't create them. They bubble up from our hearts. We are less familiar with our intentions, because we like to think we are running our lives. We resolve, petition, pray, and program, but less rarely reflect and listen. So far, we have not done very well achieving our goals for our world. We're about ready to finish it off with ourselves on it.

A person once asked Mother Theresa what she said in her prayers to God. She replied to the effect of "I don't talk, I listen. The questioner then asked her what God says to which she replied, "He listens too."

Sooner or later you will feel it, subtle as it may be. My awareness automatically leads me to action.



Rev. Allen Wells

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Morristown Unitarian Fellowship

21 Normandy Heights Road
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Affiliated Minister: Rev. Allen Wells

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Sunday Services: 9 am & 11 am (More info on last page)

Religious Education Classes: 9am

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 10am—5pm

Thursday & Saturday: Closed

Sunday: 8am—1pm

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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.

Who Do I Talk To?

(if I want to get involved)

Any of the ministers and staff would be delighted to speak with you.

Our Five-Year Plan coaches, Karen Dinsmore and Gary Kunz, can help you connect your passion with one of our goals.

Volunteer Leaders in the various Program Areas would be more than happy to let you know how you can make a difference in their area of the Fellowship.

Sunday Services

Marjorie Wormser and Carol Titus

Religious Education

Nina McCormack, Children's RE Council Matt and Sarahjane Rath, Youth Advisors

Danelle Simonelli, Life Span Programs Committee

Social Justice

Karen Burns Rutigliano and Chris Reynolds

Community Connections

Michelle Kunz, Welcoming Committee

Laurie MacGeorge and Catherine Corey, Caring Committee

Hazel Bell, Website

Facilities

Steve Parker, Sacred Space Task Force

Diana West and Nan Perigo, Building & Grounds

Dan Byrd, Memorial Garden

Finance

George Hays and Susan Lausell, Finance Committee

Governance

Lisa Schmitt and Paul Ferm, Board

Pick up a copy of the new Morristown Unitarian Fellowship Directory coming out January 2011, or link to it on the members section of our website, for updated contact information for everyone listed above.

If you are a newcomer, you can email or call Deneise Murad at admin@muuf.org or 973-540-1177 x203 to get this contact info.

You are also invited to pick up a complete list of the current committees and programs along with descriptions and contact information to help you gain a greater understanding of what is offered.

President's Corner

Ah Winter! Time to come in from the cold, have some hot chocolate, crawl under the blankets and pray for a gentle snowfall to grace the lawn and excuse us from our regularly scheduled activities. But it is precisely in January when we are reminded by one of my heroes not to get too comfortable.

On January 17th, we in the United States will celebrate the life and many contributions to society of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Winner of the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize, Dr. King is recognized for his role as a major leader of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, along with his deep commitment to non-violent protest. King was known to make the comfortable uncomfortable, mobilizing previously silent supporters into action and challenging the status quo. King's sermons, marches, and activism engaged and inspired people of different races, generations, and religions to work together to challenge racial segregation and discrimination in the U.S.

Taking his inspiration from Gandhi, King's non-violent protest was not about being passive. On the contrary, his call was for a resistance that was both active and powerful. In May of 1966, Dr. King gave the Ware Lecture to the Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly. In this address, he acknowledged several UU Ministers' involvement in the Movement and the Association's "massive participation through [the] Commission on

Religion and Race." However, King also challenged the Assembly to "remain awake," because the struggle for equality was not over. He called for strong social action, vibrant education programs, working within the community, and active support of positive initiatives.

We, at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship hold these principles and anti-racism dearly to this day, and should ask ourselves what it means to "remain awake" and to keep from getting too comfortable.

Please consider joining the Morristown community in celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. Tickets for the 26th Annual Morris Interfaith Breakfast at the Hyatt Morristown Hotel are now on sale at the Box Office at MUF. In addition, everyone is invited to attend the 41st Annual Service of Celebration at The Calvary Baptist Church of Morristown. This service is free of charge and begins at noon.

In Fellowship,

Lisa

- Lisa Schmitt,
MUF President



Pastoral Care

Rev. Alison Miller offers pastoral office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday by appointment. This month she begins the first part of her split sabbatical so she will not be available for appointments until April, but there are still options for your pastoral care needs.

Rev. Allen Wells, our affiliated community minister, who has a Pastoral Counseling Office in downtown Morristown, will be holding pastoral office hours by appointment at the Fellowship for MUF members on Tuesdays in the late afternoon or evening. Allen can be reached at 973-539-0301 or awells@uuma.org.

Our ministerial intern, Barnaby Feder, is also available for pastoral support and he can be reached at intern@muuf.org or 973-540-1177 x209.

In addition to Rev. Allen and Barnaby, **Gloria Jackson, MUF member and an interfaith hospice chaplain**, has also agreed to be available to members who are dealing with end of life issues.

Gloria can be reached at gloriajcksn@aol.com.

Don't forget that the **caring committee** may also be of service depending upon your need. The co-chairs are **Laurie Macgeorge** (dlmacg10@aol.com) and **Catherine Corey** (coreyspond@optonline.net).

If you have further questions, feel free to contact:

Deneise Murad, Ministries Administrator in the office at 973-540-1177 x203 or admin@muuf.org

Chalice Seekers

If you were to ask me, as a Religious Educator, what I want our families, members and friends to commit to in the New Year, I would say, "I would like them to take the time to reflect upon what really matters to them in this life and take the steps to act upon the result of that reflection."

We are so bombarded with what the outside world wants for us, we rarely take the time for discernment. Instead of the usual laundry list of broken New Year's Resolutions, I encourage you to spend time thinking about what really matters to you. Help your children in this spiritual practice and make some real changes in your life that are a reflection of inner direction or what we might call spiritual discernment.

Mornings are a great time for a spiritual practice that creates the healthy direction of the day's activities. If mornings are not possible, find another time. If you don't take the time, the inner work needed to appreciate life won't be realized. I read somewhere that the Dali Lama spends 6 hours in meditation a day.

In the month of December, I spent morning time reading about gratitude. An article by Margaret Stortz called *Gratitude Is A Gift We Give Ourselves* reminded me that gratitude is not a gift like love, joy and peace, but a learned quality. So in order to have love and joy and peace, it takes a grateful heart to connect us to those gifts that are naturally inherent in our very being. If we remain grateful, whatever life dishes out, there is a shift in consciousness that is palpable and life sustaining. Stortz reminds us that Ralph Waldo Emerson, our Unitarian ancestor, is an example of a man who lost five family members including his five year old son Waldo before he was 40 years of age and wrote "never mind the defeat: up again, old heart!" He was a man that remained ever grateful for life.

If you do reflect on your life's purpose for the New Year, remember gratitude and how this simple act can bring you joy - a sense that in the end, all will be well. A short story written in 1911 by William Rathvon, a devoted Christian Scientist, and recalled in Margaret Stortz's article, reminds us of the importance of gratitude in our lives. The story is called the *Devil's Auction*. "It was once announced that the Devil was going out of business and would offer his tools for sale to whoever would pay his price. On the night of the sale, they were all attractively displayed, and a bad-looking lot they were. Malice, envy, hatred, jealousy, carnality, deceit, and all the other implements of evil were spread out, each marked with its price. Apart from the rest lay a harmless looking, wedge-shaped tool, much worn and priced higher than the others. Someone asked the Devil what it was. "That's discouragement." was the reply. "Well, why do you have it priced so high? "Because," replied the Devil, "it is more useful to me than any of the others. I can pry open and get inside a [person's] consciousness with that when I couldn't get near [that person] with any of the others, and when once inside, I can use [that person] in whatever way suits me best. It is so much worn because I use it with nearly everybody, as very few people yet know that it belongs to me." "You say you use this wedge of discouragement with nearly everybody. With whom can't you use it?" The Devil hesitated a long time and finally said in a low voice, "I can't use it in getting into the consciousness of a grateful [person]." May the New Year find you with a grateful Spirit.



Karen

- Karen Brown,
Director of Religious Education

Sacred Spaces Task Force Update

The Sacred Space Task Force continues to hold regular open meetings as part of its exploration of where M.U.F. will be located in the coming years. Members of the congregation who are interested in periodic overviews of the task force's progress are especially invited to open meetings at 7 p.m. at M.U.F. on the following Mondays: Jan.10, Feb. 28, and March 28.

Also mark Sunday, April 3, in your calendars as the day when Sacred Space will conduct services for the congregation about the spiritual aspects of the work completed by that date.

As instructed in September by the Strategic Planning Committee, the nine-member Sacred Space Task Force is exploring the costs and benefits of three major alternatives: staying in our current building with repairs and renovations; buying another building and adapting it to our needs; and buying land and building a new congregational home.

The group is looking at sites within a 10-mile radius of M.U.F. in developing information about a potential move. Sacred Space is taking a broad view of these alternatives in this exploratory phase -- for example, the task force is looking into the possibility of building something new at our current site, which would be a melding of the first and third options suggested by the Strategic Planning Committee.

Sacred Space's work will culminate in a report at a date yet to be determined outlining its findings. The goal is to develop a plan that can be submitted to the congregation for a vote within a year. Please contact Barnaby Feder with any questions about these meetings or if you want a personal reminder prior to one of them. His email is intern@muuf.org.

Social Justice Council Update

Thank you everyone for your impressive outreach to help our neighbors in need in several special November & December 2010 MUF initiatives. We accomplished several beautiful things together.

Our **MUF Gifts of Conscience Holiday Fair** raised nearly \$ 22,000 in donations and fair trade sales (see the table on page 9).

We gathered more than 7,000 pounds of food at our MUF Harvest Day on November 21 and it was lovingly delivered to the Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County in the name of the people of MUF.

In our **MUF Giving Tree 2010**...we also hit a Grand Slam.... The people of **MUF donated 50 Gifts of Warmth, 39 Educational Books/Toys, and 15 Gift Cards for Middle and High School kids in need – a total of at least 102**

Gifts that were all delivered on Monday 12/20. Here's a heartwarming note we received:
"I want to thank MUF for the ongoing support you provide to Pathways to Work throughout the year. The "gifts of warmth" were very meaningful to our participants. They were happy and excited to receive the gifts. I also received phone calls later on that evening from several of them. They were very happy with the items they received. One couldn't believe the items were brand new. The rest will be delivered tomorrow night at our carpentry workshop.

Thanks again and may Christmas bring you and your loved ones the warmth your thoughtfulness has brought us. Rosa Chilquillo, Project Manager Morristown Neighborhood House."

Other January Outreach Opportunities:

Two (2) Eric Johnson House Monthly Dinners: Wednesdays, January 5th & 19th, 5:45-7:15pm– MUF hosts dinners for this Morristown community of recovering AIDS/HIVfolk. Need MUF friends & good home cooking. **Zella♥ @ 973-669-1181.**

Morristown Community Soup Kitchen - Help is needed for Tuesday, January 11th, serving. Need casseroles, soup, chili, hot dogs and beans for 200+ Prepare foods in advance; Volunteers also needed to serve and shop day before for fresh items. Contact Michelle Kunz at mbkunz@gmail.com to let her know you are cooking/will help.

Morris Shelter "Homeless Solutions" Monthly Dinner –Saturday, January 8th, 5:45-7:00pm. Help prepare our monthly MUF cheeseburger & birthday cake dinner for homeless shelter residents. Table talk/friendly assistants needed
 Contact iudvoneill5@gmail.com.

Contact "PATHWAYS TO WORK" for your Winter shovel up and clean-up assistance! The Pathways to Work Network of registered and experienced laborers is ready to handle your winter labor needs.
 Contact Rosa Chilquillo:973-538-1229 ext 43 or at cell: 973-647-8495

Upcoming Sunday Collections: MUF Supported Charities

Theme : Global Peace & Justice -

January 16 – MLK Service Day Component (TBC)

January 23 – UU-United Nations Office – Shari Loe

January 30 – Peaceworks – Jim Burchell

Next Social Justice Council Meeting: Thursday, January 13th, 7:30pm-9:00pm @MUF. Join us in beginning to plan next year's Social Justice Signature Project. Contact: Chris at reynolds@nac.net.

Upcoming Events

INSIGHT MEDITATION SUPPORT GROUP

January 5 & 19, 7:30-9:15pm

Led by Rev. Allen Wells in MUF Meditation Room

A support group for those with an ongoing meditation practice and brief instruction for beginners. Our primary focus will be that of Insight Meditation as taught by The Buddha, though all are welcome. The evening will consist of both sitting and walking meditation with an opportunity for the exchange of experiences. For further information please contact, Rev. Wells: 973 539-0301 ext 2, or E-mail: awells@uuma.org.

SHOW MORE DRAMA

First and Third Wednesdays, January 5 & 19, 5-7 pm

Theatre Club for ALL Ages from 7 and up in the Meeting Room @ MUF. Acting, Singing, Dancing, Role play, Improvisation, Scenario based workshops, Script reading, Memorizing Lines, Wardrobe, Costume, Make-up... possibly putting up a production !!

Childcare will not be provided. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) responsible for their children. However, there will be activities to keep them busy!!

For more information, call Pratik Mamtora on 256-335-4800 or e-mail pratikmamtora@yahoo.co.uk

FAMILY DINNER & a MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, January 8, 6:30 p.m

MUF's Senior High Youth Group is sponsoring a gourmet ziti dinner suitable for vegans & meat eaters, with adult/children's movies, *Shakespeare in Love* and *How to Train Your Dragon*. Proceeds benefit Habitat for Humanity. \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, and \$25 for a

family. Tickets will be on sale at MUF box office on January 2nd, and at the door. Reservations for childcare should be made by emailing or calling Julie Wolfe at acemaker99@yahoo.com or 973-586-0498, with ages and names of children and a parent's cell phone number. *Please plan to purchase tickets in advance or make a reservation so we will know how much food to plan.*

CORDIAL CONVERSATIONS AND CHOW

Fourth Wednesday of Every Month, January, 10:30am-1pm - bring a boxed lunch

Our *Cordial Conversations* will continue on the 4th Wednesdays of the month in the Library – go green, bring your own plates and utensils. Conversational topics are created from the groups that attend and they will be as varied as poetry to the latest scientific research. Our circle of participants decides on the topics. Coordinator – Gloria Dyer 973-543-7883 or Gloria.dyer@verizon.net and Karen Brown at 862-432-0173 or uudrek@gmail.com. We hope you join us in community.

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION CLASS

Thursday's, January 6, 13, 20, 27; February 3, 10, 17, 24; and March 3, 10, 17, & 24 – 7:00pm-9:00pm

A 12 week class that will focus on beginning mindfulness practice and waking up to the present moment. Mindfulness allows one to see clearly, to understand ourselves and others better, so that we might live a more joyful, fulfilling life. Each class will include meditation, mindfulness practice, reading and sharing. Please contact Elaine Boucher to register at 908-655-5894 or by e-mail at gratefulspirit33@yahoo.com.

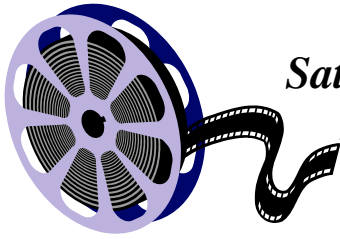
MONTHLY KNITTING AND CRAFT GROUP

Last Friday of the Month, January 28, 7-9pm

Would like to spend a couple of relaxing hours clicking needles or crafting with fellow MUFers? Beginning knitters are welcome - bring your knitting and you are sure to bring home a few tips from the evening. If you are not knitter, just bring your own favorite craft - crocheting, felting, scrapbooking, jewelry making, origami, etc. Enjoy some peaceful crafting.

Dates will be: January 28, February 25, March 25, April 29, May 20 (since May 27 is Labor Day weekend) and June 24. For more information contact: Maureen Dempsey mkdemp@verizon.net

Dinner & a Movie Night



Saturday, January 8
Dinner: 6:30 pm
Movies: 8:00 pm

Attention Parents: Can't afford to go out to dinner and see a movie . . . and pay a babysitter? Tired of only seeing kids' films? Sick of the cineplex? MUF's Senior High Youth Group has the solution! Our popular **Dinner & Movie Night** is back for the whole family! On Saturday, January 8, 2011, join us for a gourmet ziti dinner at 6:30 (suitable for vegans & meat eaters). At 8:00, the adults will see a movie in the meeting room with an introduction by David Landau, film school graduate and award winning screenwriter, while the children go upstairs for a kid's movie! Adults will watch Academy Award-winner Shakespeare in Love, a romantic comedy portraying playwright William Shakespeare's involvement in a love affair at the time that he was writing the play Romeo and Juliet. Children will see How to Tame Your Dragon, a fun 2010 computer-animated fantasy film in which a boy sets out to slay a dragon, but ends up befriending it.

Bring your family and friends to a fun-filled night at MUF and help support a great cause—proceeds will benefit Habitat for Humanity. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, and \$25 for a family. Tickets will be on sale at MUF Dec. 12, Dec. 19, Jan. 2 and at the door. Reservations for childcare should be made by emailing or calling Julie Wolfe at acemaker99@yahoo.com or 973-586-0498, with ages and names of children and a parent's cell phone number.

First Annual MUF Student Art Show



February 13th, 2011

Exhibit and Reception for our student artists will be held between the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services. The Artwork will remain on display during the noon Coffee Hour. The art on display will be two and three dimensional with maybe a performance or two

Save Thousands of Dollars! A MUF Fundraiser

The Morristown Unitarian Fellowship is sponsoring the SaveAround sale to raise funds for our spiritual community. SaveAround is a coupon book that offers hundreds of buy-one, get-one-free discounts, along with many other great discounts. You buy one book for just \$20 and MUF gets \$8 for every book sold. The book pays for itself after using it just 2 or 3 times! To purchase your book, stop by MUF's box office (open every Sunday from 10:15a.m. to 12noon) or email Avianca Bouchédid @ fundraising@muuf.org to make other arrangements. Cash and checks only.



Unitarian Universalist Service

Our FellowshipOur Fellowship has been actively engaged with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), which provides a UU voice for human rights and social justice in the United States and around the world, and turns UU values into action.

Founded in 1939 to rescue victims of Nazi persecution, the UUSC is an *independent* membership organization grounded in UU principles and made possible by the activism and generous support of individual members. UUSC does not accept any government funding. As an associate member of the UUA, it receives no general funding from the UUA, either.

You can get to know the UUSC a little better by looking at its Annual Report 2010, available now at <http://www.uusc.org/files/UUSCAnnualreportFY10.pdf>, which offers highlights of the UUSC's major programming and advocacy activities this past year. In 2010, they focused on Civil Liberties, Economic Justice, Environmental Justice and Rights in Humanitarian Crises, in the nations of Pakistan, Uganda, Haiti, Gaza and Kenya. UUSC's Campaigns and Actions have included Drumbeat for Darfur, Gulf Coast advocacy, bringing the minimum wage closer to a living wage, and Climate Justice.

Throughout the U.S. and around the world, UUSC develops partnerships with organized, effective, and transparently run grassroots organizations of people who courageously confront and challenge oppression and inequality. Pressing for public policies that advance human rights is a critical part of UUSC's work. This is accomplished through Action alerts, Public policy statements, letters, and sign-ons, Shareholder resolutions and Shareholder advocacy. The UUSC also provides opportunities for experiential learning. For example, the UUSC is seeking medical professionals to participate in Haiti's Volunteer Program that will begin in mid-February 2011. In the spring, UUSC will begin other volunteer projects, including agriculture programs, rebuilding and reconstruction projects, teaching opportunities, and programs focused on Haitian youth.

The UUSC relies on members for support of its effective combination of advocacy, education, and partnering. Be part of UUSC's important human rights and social justice work! For more information about what you can do to support the UU Service Committee, contact Jo Sippie-Gora, MUF's current UUSC local rep, at josippie@optonline.net or go to www.uusc.org.

- Submitted by Jo Sippie-Gora

For Questions or More Information: E-mail: josippie@optonline.net

Minstrel Folk Project Concerts

Jan. 7th *Feature Act: Mad Agnes*
Opener: Barry & Tessa Mischhoff

Jan. 14th *Open Stage*

Jan. 21st *Feature Act: Caleb Hawley*
Opener: Elizabeth Rogers

Jan. 28th *Feature Act: John Roberts & Debra Cowan*
Opener: Millstone River Morris

All concerts start at 8:00pm.

For more information visit www.folkproject.org



Deeds Well Done

Matt Rath, Cintra Fricke, Brad West, Betty Saar, and Donna Best for their work on the Habitat Trip.

Susan Oxman for all her help in the RE last year.

Ken Nemeth and Keith Sagers for taking food from MUF to the soup Kitchen every month.

Michelle Kunz for all the work she does around the Fellowship. Such as coordinating work at the Soup Kitchen, sponsoring the concert Mad Agnes, and the Story Telling program.

Thank you to all the folks who made the Service Auction possible.

Monday Book

The Monday Book Group will be meeting again this year upstairs in the **Dining Room** at 7pm. Join us for our enlightened discussions. This year our regular meeting day will be the **FIRST** Monday, but when there is a competing holiday we will meet on the Second Monday. It does, however, **ALWAYS** begin at 7pm. For information, please call Nancy Lee McLure (908-204-9572). Our book choices for the beginning of the year are as follows:

January-9th Tinkers by Paul Harding led by Frank Siwiec.

February-7th There are 2 books for February, you may choose one, or read both if you wish: The Help by Kathryn Stokett or Wench by Dolen Perkins-valdez.

Other books will be announced soon! Happy Reading!

- Nancy Lee McLure

Holiday Fair Success

Donation/Sales Results for MUF Gifts of Conscience – Holiday Fair	Grand Total: \$21,680.91
<i>CHARITY</i>	<i>2010 Detail</i>
AMANI (Tanzania Orphanage)	814
COMMUNITY SOUP KITCHEN	710
FOUNDATION FOR PEACE (Helping Haiti, Kenya etc)	599
GREEN EARTH MINISTRY	642
GHAR SITA MUTU (Nepal Orphanage)	1665
GRUPO CAJOLA (Guatemalan Women's Co-op)	1033
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	1775.02
HEIFER PROJECT	2711.00
ICHF	397
JBWS	576
KIVA	152
NJ AIDS SERVICE (ERIC JOHNSON HOUSE)	359
PATHWAYS TO WORK	665
PEACEWORKS (several children's, women's & Eco programs in Nicaragua)	1545
SEEDS OF PEACE	726.5
10,000 VILLAGES (NET)	7311.39

Network of Spiritual Progressives (NSP) Announcement

“We believe all people share a moral responsibility to create peace...we commit ourselves to a radically inclusive and transformative approach to peace...becoming a resource for creating peace within our communities in cooperation with other faith traditions and community organizations...” —Creating Peace: the 2010 UUA Statement of Conscience.

After a six-month process, culminating in the completion of the “Waging Peace” Film/Talk Series—which brought the best of our 2010 NSP Strategy Conference: Creating the Caring Society to MUF members and friends, we are happy to announce the establishment of the new NSP Chapter—Morris County, NJ. Our six-member core organizing committee invites you to read the chapter’s description below. If it resonates with you, please join the NSP and our chapter in Creating the Caring Society: Caring for Each Other, Caring for the Planet, in keeping with our UUA Creating Peace Statement of Conscience.

NSP Chapter—Morris County

The Network of Spiritual Progressives is a national interfaith grassroots movement creating a new culture of purpose and meaning deeper than the mere pursuit of money and power. We work to reshape economic, political, and social life according to a new bottom line of love, compassion, community, fairness, ecological sanity, peace, and awe and wonder at the universe. Open to religious, spiritual, and secular people who believe in the power of love and generosity. Visit the NSP website: www.spiritualprogressives.org for our “core ideas” and the New Spiritual Covenant with America. Contact: Teresa Guyton, 973-989-9098, teresaguyton@yahoo.com for more information.

Core Members, NSP Chapter—Morris County

Tricia Armstrong, Allen Wells, Marian Olson, Jo Sippie-Gora, Arthur Schwartz, and Teresa Guyton

- Submitted by Teresa Guyton

Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice

The UUA's Commission on Social Witness has released a draft Statement of Conscience (SOC) called "Ethical Eating: Food and Environmental Justice." Each UU congregation may submit comments on the draft SOC and vote to place it on the agenda for the UUA's General Assembly in June 2011. The SOC will influence UU justice work on issues like human rights, climate change, immigration, trade, labor, animal rights, and consumer responsibility for years to come. Green Earth Ministry, GEM, will provide opportunities for you to discuss the draft SOC and to share your comments after services on selected Sundays in January. Comments must be collated for submission before the February 1 deadline. You can also get in touch with GEM members for more information and to express your views. The draft SOC on Ethical Eating is at <http://bit.ly/cswdraft>.

-Submitted by Claire Mayer for Green Earth

Denominational Affairs

Metro NY Minute -- Upcoming Meetings and Workshops and Action Alerts

Young adult UUs are invited to spend Presidents Day Weekend -- February 18-21, 2011 -- at Frost Valley YMCA Camp in Claryville NY for the 2011 Young Adult Winter Retreat. The cost of the retreat is a sliding scale from \$225 to \$285. For more information and to register: http://connectuu.com/events.php?action=viewfull&event_id=1238

In recognition of the 12th Annual International Transgender Day of Remembrance on November 20, President Rev. Peter Morales issued a statement in which he said, "As long as anyone is harassed or ridiculed, we must demand an end to the bullying. As long as anyone is judged because of their gender identification or presentation, we must insist on a higher moral standard. And if, God forbid, anyone is ever again physically harmed or murdered because of his or her gender identity or expression, we must rise up and seek justice. Read more at <http://www.uua.org/news/newssubmissions/173981.shtml>

In the wake of a rash of suicides by bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgender (BGLT) teenagers, UUA President Peter Morales, in collaboration with UU ministers and faith leaders, are speaking out against teen bullying. President Morales was a prominent signer of the "Clergy Against Bullying" statement that calls on churches to end violence and hatred against BGLT teens, and to establish safe spaces that preach humility, love, and acceptance.

Some upcoming meetings:

Youth Spirituality Development Conference: January 7-9, 2011, Fourth Universalist Society, Manhattan.

Growing Together: A Day of Learning and Sharing: January 22, 2011, UU Congregation of Danbury (CT). For congregations in Connecticut and northern New York State (does not include Long Island and New York City).

Long Island Leadership Institute Session 1: January 22, 2011, UU Fellowship at Stony Brook (NY).

LREDA District Chapter Retreat: January 30-February 2, 2011, Murray Grove Retreat and Conference Center, Lanoka Harbor NJ.

Youth Social Conference: Obi-Wan CONobi: February 4-6, 2011, First Unitarian Society of Plainfield (NJ).

Long Island Leadership Institute Session 2: February 12, 2011, South Nassau UU Congregation (Freeport, NY).

Youth Social Con: March 4-6, 2011, Unitarian Church in Summit (NJ).

Long Island Leadership Institute Session 3: March 5, 2011, UU Fellowship of Huntington (NY).

Long Island Leadership Institute Session 4: March 26, 2011, UU Congregation at Shelter Rock (Manhasset NY)

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.

- Submitted by Susan Oxman, Denominational Affairs

Upcoming November Events

Date	Time	Event	Details
Mon, Jan 3	7pm @ Room 205	Monday Book Group	P. 9
Wed, Jan 5 & 19	7:30pm—9:15pm @ MUF Meditation Room	Insight Meditation Group	P. 6
Wed, Jan 5 & 19	5pm—7pm @ Meeting Room	Show More Drama	P. 6
Thurs, Jan 6, 13, 20, & 27	7—9pm @ MUF	Mindfulness & Meditation Class	P. 6
Sat, Jan 8	6:30pm MUF	Family Dinner & a Movie Night	P. 6 & 7
Mon, Jan 10	7:00pm @ Meeting Room	Sacred Space Task Force Open Meeting	P. 4
Wed, Jan 26	10:30am—1pm @Dining Room & Library	Cordial Conversations and Chow	P. 6
Fri, Jan 28	7—9pm @ MUF	Knitting and Craft Group	P. 6
Sun, Feb 13	10:15am—11am @Terrace Room	First Annual MUF Student Art Show	P. 6

Sabbatical Coordinating Committee (SCC)

While Rev. Alison is on sabbatical, Gary Kunz (Chair of the Coordinating Committee), Lisa Schmitt (Congregational President), Karen Brown (Lifespan DRE), and Deneise Murad (Ministries Administrator) will be meeting periodically as a group linking our staff and volunteers and to be sure all the bases are covered. Please feel free to contact any one of them with a question.

Leadership Leaves – A Sabbatical Program

The Morristown Unitarian Fellowship participates in a coordinated sabbatical program for Ministers and Directors of Religious Education in New Jersey called Leadership Leaves. Every year participating congregations contribute money, as well as volunteer and religious professional time to support the Ministers and DREs who are on leave.

Rev. Alison Miller, Karen Brown, and members, Toby Tyler and Beth Hayward all serve on the NJ Leadership Leaves Committee (www.uumetrony.org/llcouncil/llprogram.htm). While Rev. Alison is on the first part of her split sabbatical during this January, February and March, one way we benefit from this program is that other participating congregations will help support our Sunday Services.

The Rev. Charles Stephens from the Unitarian Universalist Church at Washington Crossing will be with us on January 9th. Lay-leader Martin Lavanhar and the Rev. Roberta Finkelstein from the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood will be with us on January 30th and February 20th respectively. The Rev. Bob Janis-Dillon from the First Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Hunterdon County will be with us on March 13th.

Financial News...

The good news is that our Checking account balance is \$106,000, the highest I've seen it in 1 ½ years. This is good news because as the spring progresses our expenses have historically been greater than our income drawing down our cash as the fiscal year comes to a close. My current projection for the end-of-year cash is \$12,000 for our operating budget. To this we must subtract all the fund balances currently totaling \$26,000. These are separately accounted for funds such as Sr. High Habitat for Humanity, Social Justice, GEM, Partner Church, etc. As you can see, if all our trust funds decided to spend all their money by the end of the year, we would be short by \$14,000. This projection assumes that 97% of pledge commitments are actually paid. If 100% of pledges are paid, we could recoup \$13,000 of that \$14,000 shortfall. Perhaps not attainable by all in these economic times, but for all of us who can, our pledge fulfillment contributes toward financial peace at MUF. For this, we are grateful.

In fellowship,
Susan Lausell, Treasurer



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Deadline for the FEBRUARY issue is

JANUARY 15

Have you been receiving the weekly email updates? We might not have your email address in the database. If you would like to receive the email updates, please send your email address to: admin@muuf.org, subject: "Please add my e-mail address to database."

Jan 2

“UUism and Mysticism” - 2 Services @ 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Unitarian Universalism is considered a religion of rationalists. This service looks at our history with mysticism and how it fits into our lives today.

-Led by Rosemarie Newberry

Jan 9

“Seeing With New Eyes” - 2 Services @ 9:00 am & 11:00 am

One of the things that makes our Unitarian Universalist religious movement unique is that we have a living tradition that draws from many sources. Our Unitarian ancestor, Francis David preached back in 1568 that you do not have to believe alike to love alike. So even if we read the very same piece of wisdom literature we may view it from refreshingly different perspectives. As we start out this new year, let us be fully aware of the varied world we encounter and celebrate the rich and diverse ways of seeing.

-Rev. Charles J. Stephens

Jan 16

“In Honor of Dr. King” - 2 Services @ 9:00 am & 11:00 am

I am honored to deliver this sermon on M.L.King's birthday, having served a brief jail sentence with him.

The more I look back upon my experience with Dr. King and others in the civil rights movement, the more I am inspired with new energy to tackle today's issues. I would like to tell you why.

-Led by Rev. Allen Wells

Jan 23

“In Hot Pursuit of the Divine” - 2 Services @ 5:00 pm & 9:00 pm

Japan swelters in August but there may be no such thing as an unrewarding time for a deep first exposure to Shinto, a totally foreign but UU-compatible view of the diving.

led by Barnaby Feder

Jan 30

-Led by Martin Lavanhar