



April 2008

Volume 53, No. 4

News

Reaching In . . .
Reaching Out

From the Minister . . .

WE ARE A CREATIVE congregation with big ideas about how to make a difference in one another's lives and in the world. We don't just have ideas, though. We make well-thought-out plans, and then we turn our ideas into something real.



In this column, I want to celebrate one example. Three years ago, I sat down with one of the members of the Fellowship in a coffee shop in New York to listen to your plans and your excitement about ways to support the volunteers, the programs, and the growth of your religious community. At the time, I was not yet your minister, and Stu Sendell wanted to be sure I was aware of the ambitious plans you were undertaking to attract and hire a full complement of staff for the Fellowship.

I was impressed by the clear commitment that members and friends demonstrated by initiating this important step in making your dreams into a reality. I waited with anticipation to find out how the vote on the plan would turn out and whether or not people would ultimately fund the plan. I was looking for partners in ministry who had courage and vision and excitement about the future. The adoption of the plan and the large percentage of people who increased their financial commitments to make it a reality were truly an inspiration to me.

It is with deep gratitude that I reflect on how many of you contributed to make this staffing plan so successful. I believe that your generosity has made a huge difference.

I was one of the new people who arrived in the Fall of 2005, and I think our journey so far has been both meaningful and vibrant. We have done much together in good times and in bad. We have worshipped. We have celebrated. We have grieved together. We have met in small groups. We have learned from one another in classes. We have been active as justice makers in Morris County and beyond.

The work of the Fellowship is far too large for one minister, and thank goodness the plan called for a brand new position, a full-time Administrator. Maggie Chilton filled this position in the Fall of 2005. I hear time and

again from volunteers how much they appreciate the competent organizational systems she has brought to our congregation.

In the Fall of 2006, we entered another phase of the plan. Jim Blanton was hired as our Music Director. Many of you have expressed enthusiasm for our growing children's and adults' choirs, and the energy they bring to our worship. Kim Mason was also hired as our Interim Director of Religious Education. Teachers share often how well supported and prepared they feel for lessons with Kim at the helm of our RE program.

We now have four part-time and four full-time staff at the Fellowship! Judging by the energy, the numbers and the visitors on Sundays and throughout the week, your generosity has turned into a success well worth celebrating.

As our Annual Budget Drive volunteers speak with you, me, and others about our financial commitments in the coming weeks, let each one of us remember that our collective financial commitments are a big part of what turns the congregation's dreams into a reality.

In fellowship,

Alison's office hours are Tuesday-Friday by appointment.

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Morristown Unitarian Fellowship

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Sunday Services: 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Religious Education Classes: 9 a.m.

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wednesday: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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www.mUuf.org



From the Board of Trustees

Deeds Well Done

The Board wishes to recognize the following persons for their contributions to the Fellowship:

We extend a big thank-you to **Sharon Glickman**, who has been instrumental in our Fellowship outreach program by pitching in at the Community Soup Kitchen. Sharon has been and continues to be part of the crew and is still one of the Captains (in charge of shopping, transporting food and being in charge of the soup kitchen for the day - three times a year), although she has ended her four-year stint as Coordinator. Sharon was also on the soup kitchen board, attending meetings several times a year.

We will miss **Todd Van Gordon**, who has just resigned as Board Vice President for the Program Network. Todd was always ready to pitch in to do the important work of the Board and the Networks. Thanks go to Todd for all his time and hard work and thought-provoking questions and comments.

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.

Our Financial Health, February 2008	
Year-to date-pledge income	\$264,143
Year-to-date total income	\$313,481
Year-to-date expenses	\$338,659

***Please E-Mail All NEWSLETTER Articles
—both print and online versions—***

to editor **PAT BAXTER** at
melodylingers@verizon.net

by the **15th** of the month
preceding the one in which they will appear.

Thank you!

Upcoming Board and Network Meetings

Meetings are open to all Fellowship members. The meeting time is 7 p.m. This month's meetings are scheduled on:

Board of Trustees	April 9
Administrative/Program Networks	April 16

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the most recent meetings have been approved and are posted on the bulletin board in Room 100 and on the website in the Members section.

Be a knowledgeable member of your Fellowship!

The President's Corner

There are a lot of important happenings at the Fellowship these days. Highlights include:

- **Annual Budget Drive** - We're launching our Annual Budget Drive this month from a new perspective. The days of badgering and guiltig members and friends into pledging are over. We are moving from a culture of scarcity, which encourages desperate measures from the Board and Pledge Committee, to one of generosity, where people are invited to give from a place of knowing the role the Fellowship plays in their lives and their own financial status. We hope that it will be a time for all of us to clarify how MUF fits into our overall priorities.
- **Congregation-Wide Visioning** - Also this month is our daylong visioning session, where we will begin to sketch out our future together as a congregation. We've been building up to this all year and are excited about having the congregation in one room to come to consensus about where we're headed. The process will elicit everyone's views about who we want to be as a congregation. Questions we'll explore include: What draws you to the Fellowship? What keeps you coming? How will our congregation, our facilities, our ministries look in five years? Our intended outcome is a clear sense of what we're about – our hopes and dreams, our priorities, and our values. I hope that you'll be sure to join us on

Saturday, April 19. After all, what is half a day to give in order to help determine the future of the Fellowship?

- **Next Year's Budget** – During March all of the committees and groups of the Fellowship submitted their proposed “dream” and “status quo” budgets for next year. Our Administrator and the Finance Committee are busy pulling together the requests and will send a proposed budget to the Board for its consideration this month. As we sort through all of the worthy ways to spend next year's money, we will apply what we know of the congregation's priorities and goals. As we near what we feel is the best budget we can construct, we will share it with you for your feedback. Finally, we will circulate the Board's final proposed budget in advance of the Annual Meeting June 1, at which time the congregation, having participated in the process, will vote to accept it as our budget for 2008-09.

It's a busy time of year – and an exciting one! I hope to see you out there as we look ahead to next year and years to come.

On the path,

Carol

Carol Todd, President

Congregation-Wide Visioning

Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

(Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.)

This event is designed to help our congregation clarify its vision and mission. Led by Doug Zelinski of the UU District of Metro New York staff, it will be a highly participative process, designed to incorporate as many members of the congregation as possible through both small and large group sessions. All those who attend will have the opportunity to contribute their views about our future—our congregation, our facilities and our ministries.

The outcome of the session will be a clear sense of what we're about so that we can guide the future. The morning's events will be lively and designed to make the process of clarifying vision and mission fun. Be sure to join us to have your voice heard in determining the future of the Fellowship. For more information or to help with the event, contact Carol Todd at catodd@verizon.net.

Faith Developments

Building bridges between our divisions,

If I reach out to you, will you reach out to me?

With all of our voices, and all of our visions,

Friends we could make such sweet harmony.



THESE ARE THE

WORDS of the women of the Greenham Common Peace Occupation who in the early 1980's used peaceful methods to rid their community of military cruise missiles. What strikes me about these words each time I hear them is their call to community. This song is both an appreciation of differences as well as a call to work together. It reminds me that what we share is greater than what separates us.

Building Bridges between our divisions... In a Unitarian Universalist congregation we are often reminded that we all believe different things. I sometimes get the question "If you all believe different things, how are you a faith community?" Easy, I say. We have a shared set of values, our Unitarian Universalist Seven Principles, which guides how we exist in community and how we act in the world. And most importantly, we worship together. On Sunday after Sunday we share in the service. We may each take something different from it, but we have a shared experience. These are the bridges between us.

If I reach out to you, will you reach out to me?... Sometimes our differences seem so far apart that no bridge will cross them. But part of being in community is making the effort. It was brought home to me recently that sometimes all someone needs is to know that they were heard. If you can take the time to listen to someone, to reach out to someone, you have taken the first step in building that impossible bridge.

With all of our voices, and all of our visions... We each and every one of us bring something of value to this community. We all have ideas of what we can accomplish together. The joy that I find in being in community is that if we can all come to agreement on something shared, we have the potential to create something stronger than any one idea. But to do this you have to do three things: voice your opinion, listen to others' opinions and be willing to compromise.

Friends we could make such sweet harmony... We all come to this community with good intentions. We participate in this community because together we offer something great for ourselves and our children. If we each remember to act from a place of loving respect then we make it possible for growth: our own, our children's and this community's. As a place of shared vision, of loving respect, of bridges rather than divisions, then we are the place of beloved community. Come be a part!

In Faith,

PeaceWorks' 53rd Humanitarian Aid Shipment to the People of Nicaragua Room 100 – Sundays, April 20 & 27

TOOLS Garden tools, rakes, shovels—for reforestation efforts, promotion of agricultural self-sufficiency.

SCHOOLS Notebooks, pens and pencils, crayons, paper...ask your neighbors, schools, churches, scout troops, civic groups.

COMPUTERS Computers in working condition (Pentium III's, newer) —complete systems, accessories, for training, jobs, future.

BICYCLES Must be in good working condition, no major rusting, a working chain and brakes, etc.

SPORTS Clean out all your unused sports supplies. Ask sporting goods stores for donations, get supplies at yard sales.

Also Medical Supplies * Summer Clothing (clean and ready to wear) * Household Items * Tools

Try not to mix items. List contents on each box. Pack clothes into small plastic bags.

Please let us know you're helping and collecting!

PeaceWorks, 6 Dumont Place—2d Floor, Morristown, New Jersey 07960
fax 973-765-0732
e-mail peaceworks@peaceworks.org

Rewrite/Comment on Peacemaking Resolution
(UUA Study/Action Issue, 2006-2010)



Sunday, April 27, 1 p.m.

First, a most hearty THANK YOU to all the kind folk who made the Peace Soup/Sandwich Luncheons a success, from the setup, take-down, cleanup crews to the soup makers, and especially to Beverly Hays for her "Forgiveness" workshop and Allen Wells for the "Conflict Resolution" workshop. We are very appreciative of the fact that they gave freely of their time and expertise. The talks by Stacey Patton on childhood abuse and the Rev. Bob Moore on peacemaking from a national and international viewpoint helped to give additional grounding for our discussion on the SAI Peacemaking revision.

Next, NOW IS THE TIME to make our voices heard (in writing) and sent to the UUA Commission on Social Witness. All UU congregations have been requested to make suggestions on, comment on, and possibly rewrite the SAI on Peacemaking (copies of the Peacemaking SAI available at the Peace table in Room 100). The Statement of Conscience (SOC) on Peacemaking will be voted up or down at the 2010 UUA. SOC's are permanent collections of our Unitarian beliefs and convictions after study and reflection, and form the basis for future action by UUs to implement humanitarian causes.

On April 27 we will craft our MUF "talk-back" suggestions to the UUA, as well as taking a peace survey among those present and placing ourselves on the continuum from pacifism to "just wars." *Suggested donation \$3.*

Please note an **amazing** invitation offered by our UU-United Nations Office (the UU-UNO) for increasing our experience with peace, "PICKING UP THE PIECES, Building a Culture of Peace," held at the Church Center, UN Plaza, NY, from April 3-5. (See Room 100 Bulletin Board for details.) Please call Eleanor Mason, MUF SJ Peace Team Secretary, for further information.

PeaceWorks' 2008 Annual Dinner

Saturday, April 19, 6:30-9:30 p.m.



You are cordially invited to come to PeaceWorks' 2008 Annual Dinner at MUF! We will honor Barbara Pecca for her steadfast support of PeaceWorks and of the people of Central America; also the Fellowship and its members for their continuing support of PeaceWorks and its Nicaraguan partner organizations.

We will present a multimedia show of PeaceWorks' Mission and of the beauty of Nicaragua, and celebrate our community of caring and action.

Latin American Foods & Fair Trade Coffees & Raffles
 Photo Displays & Nicaraguan Crafts

\$15 donation for adults; no charge for children.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact
 Jim Burchell at
peaceworks@peaceworks.org.

Blood Drive

Sunday, May 4, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Sign up with Zella in the Great Hall or call her.

Comedy Night

Saturday, April 12, 7 p.m.

Will you be ready on DAY 12? Do you believe in the AUDACITY of COMEDY? Do you need a true comedy HERO?

Well then mark your ballot to join MUF's "Not Ready to Vote Players" for ***Camp Pain 2008*** at the Fellowship. Meet the candidates at 7 p.m. Ballots will be available at the MUF Box Office - \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, students \$10.

This year's comedy night will have you laughing all the way to the polling place. The show is directed by David Landau and features MUF comedy cast regulars Charley Carroll, Drew Hayes, Maria Manna, Maxim Keyler and Alex Landau + some new comedy cast faces including Steve Humphreys and Venkat Puranapanda. To reserve tickets, e-mail show producer Janine Torsiello at jmtpoet2@netscape.net or visit the Box Office on Sunday mornings. For more info, call 973-540-1177 or visit www.muuf.org.

Can You Contribute to this Fundraiser?

If you can donate snacks or desserts for the MUF Comedy Night, please contact Kathi Burgess at kathyb.41@verizon.net or 973-781-9111, or Janine Torsiello at jtorsiel@gannett.com.

Upcoming Events

Spring Cleanup

Saturdays, April 5 and 26, 9 a.m.-12 noon

The Beautification and Preservation Committee will be hosting these two spring cleanup dates, with tasks inside and outside. Please save the dates! We will provide lunch. Contact any Beautification and Preservation Committee member (Lauralee Arnold, Bruce Daggy, Arlyne Dahlman, Matt Rath, Steve Rice, Bianca Wright, in person or at B&P@muuf.org) with questions. Signup sheets will be in Room 100.

Drum with Ghanaian Master Drummer Maxwell Kofi Donkor!

Sunday, April 6 – all levels welcome

1-1:30 p.m., introduction for beginners. \$5

1:30-3:30 p.m., workshop for all levels. \$20

With Kofi's instruction and gentle guidance, you will experience the joy and healing of African drumming as you learn to play multi-part rhythms on the djembe. Born in Ghana, steeped in its culture, and a former member of its Folklore Ensemble, Kofi easily conveys his deep love of drumming to his students.

Pre-registration strongly encouraged! Sign up in Room 100, e-mail maggie@muuf.org or call 973-540-1177. If you don't have a drum, reserve one at no extra cost when you register. Info? E-mail miriamcongdon@att.net. For more about Kofi, go to his website, www.bak2roots.com.

First Monday Book Group

Monday, April 7, 7 p.m.

The First Monday Book Group is reading *Death of Innocents*, Sister Helen Prejean. On May 5, you may read a book by Joyce Carol Oates that looks interesting to you. Contact Nancy Lee McLure at nlmclure@msn.com. *Registration not required.*

Tai-chi

First series: Wednesday, April 9, 8-9:30 p.m., and Saturday, April 12, 1-2:30 p.m.

Second series: Thursday, April 17, and Monday, April 21, 8-9:30 p.m.

Please be prepared to attend both sessions, in Room 204

"Tai-chi Light" (aka Body-Mind Exercise), taught by Al Chu, is an abbreviated version of the traditional Tai-chi Qigong exercise. As such it is easier to learn and to practice than the traditional form. A consistent daily practice of 15 minutes of Tai-chi Light will help

strengthen your sense of balance, muscle flexibility and general vitality. As a moving meditation, it will also calm your mind and sharpen your concentration. While this exercise is beneficial to people of all ages, it is particularly helpful to the elderly and those with mild arthritis. These two introductory sessions will acquaint you with all the movements of the exercise and the deep breathing process. If you decide to practice Tai-chi Light, a self-teaching DVD is available at the bookstore.

West African Drum and Dance for All Levels **Wednesdays, April 16 and May 21** **6:30 (drumming), 7:45 (dancing)**

Presented by Marafanyi Percussion, featuring Lara Gonzalez & Yael Shacham

A continuing holistic approach to drum and dance exploring traditional African music and movement. *\$15 per drum or dance class, \$25 combo price for both. \$5 drum rentals available with pre-registration only. For more information, visit www.MySpace.com/MarafanyiPercussion.*

Positive Discipline—New Dates!

Wednesdays, April 16-May 28, 7 p.m.

Led by Teresa LaSala, Certified PD Associate

Learn successful and creative parenting skills through positive discipline—discover how disciplining children can be done with respect, firmness and love. Learn how to teach your children, not boss them; learn the reasons behind behavior and the differences between consequences and punishment. *Cost: \$145, includes the book and weekly handouts. Registration and payment in advance is required by April 11. Sign up now – class size is limited!* For more information, contact office at 973-540-1177 or sign up in Room 100.

Peace Within/Peace Without **Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 p.m.** **Facilitated by Paul Snellgrove**



This book and discussion group, open to anyone, continues to study how conflict and violence play out in our personal, interpersonal, community and international relations. We will discuss *The Anatomy of Peace*, by the Arbing Institute, dealing with ways in which we systematically misunderstand the root causes of conflict and unwittingly perpetuate the problems we think we are trying to solve. Contact Paul at paulsnellgrove@gmail.com.

Goliard Ensemble Next Attraction on Music at MUF Saturday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.

The Music At MUF Concert Series continues with members of New York's celebrated Goliard Ensemble performing music of Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Chaminade and Debussy. The performers, Scott Gerhardt (clarinet), Sokol Nikaj (cello) and Arielle Levioff (piano), are all prize-winning and highly successful New York artists. Tickets, available at the MUF Box Office, are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door and \$5 for children 13 and younger.



The Goliard Ensemble was founded in 1983 by MUF's own Dr. Jim Blanton and has since grown from a small community-based ensemble to a large, versatile arts organization with a national presence. The ensemble has performed in such venues as Lincoln Center, Merkin Hall, Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, the Queens Museum and at the Colden Center for the Performing Arts. The Ensemble also performs annually on tour throughout the Southeastern U.S. In addition to its annual concert season in Queens, Goliard performs throughout New York City, presenting a variety of music including Broadway and opera favorites, barbershop and brass quartets, and chamber and vocal ensembles of all sizes and combinations.

For more information, contact Dr. Jim at music@muuf.org.

MUF Passover Seder **Sunday, April 20**

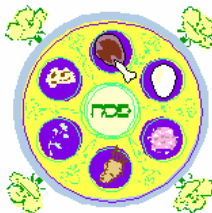
3:30-4:00 p.m. - Meet and Greet

4:00-7:30 p.m. - Seder Ritual and Meal
(in the Meeting Room)

\$10 Adults (ages 13 and up)

\$5 Children (ages 6-12)

Free for ages 5 and under



All are invited (guests and visitors welcome)

The Passover Seder is a ritual retelling of the Passover story. It is a remembrance of the Exodus of the Hebrew slaves from Egypt and a celebration of the struggle for freedom then and now. Our Seder will include special foods, customs, songs and a scavenger hunt for the children.

Since we are planning a cooperative meal, we'll ask you to bring a specific food contribution and to help set up, serve or clean up. We'll provide sample recipes that are free of bread and leavened goods.

Reservations are required. Purchase tickets on Sunday mornings at the Box Office by April 13 or contact Dee Dasara (deepema2@verizon.net)

to reserve your seat.

KINDNESS

"Recompense injury with justice, and recompense kindness with kindness."

- Confucius, Chinese philosopher & reformer (551 BC - 478 BC)

The Committee on Ministry and the Well-being of MUF

The Committee on Ministry (COM) works with MUF members and the professional ministry to strengthen the overall ministry of the Fellowship. COM listens to personal issues that may arise between individual members of the congregation, committees and/or the professional ministry and staff. COM encourages direct, constructive and respectful communication, and can act as a facilitator when requested. Anyone is encouraged to contact any member of the Committee on Ministry. All input to COM is confidential.

Ron Corey, Pat de la Fuente, Paul Ferm, Beth Hayward, Gloria Jackson, Don Preziosi

Social Justice Council - April 2008 Update Setting Our Values Into Action



MUF Habitat Benefit Spring Craft Sale – Bonus Peggy Karr Offering **Sundays, April 13 & 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. – Terrace Room & Great Hall**

Come one, come all! You are invited to show your support for MUF's Senior High Youth Group's Habitat Sumter (SC) Build Fund. Dozens of MUF members have been busily working hard to create wonderful crafts for your purchase and enjoyment! All proceeds to go for MUF's building materials contribution and transportation/costs to get our wonderful young crew "a'builidin"! Goal: to raise \$3,000, so we need everyone to find something lovely to buy and take home! **Bonus: Peggy Karr Glass Plates – our own members/legend Peggy Karr & Tim Seitz have provided us with a large selection of their famous painted plates** to offer for this Habitat Benefit– choose from new inventory and existing, (perfects & seconds as well).

We also have three categories of **Jewelry** (You will love this jewelry, so plan to pick out several!) 1) Those **made by MUF members at the March craft fairs – marvelous necklaces and bracelets, plus new this year: wire-wrapped sea glass items, chalice arts.** 2) A **selection of lovely donated jewelry** from MUF members (most crafted for fun by the donor artist and some store-bought as well—if you'd like to donate some good items, contact us!). 3) **Higher ticket jewelry designed by expert MUF jewelry crafters where MUF retains 40%** of the ticket price. Plus we have incredibly **gorgeous decoupage flower pots, boxes,** and other items (**along with Spring Plants to suit your fancy.**) We also have **20 + new gorgeous hand-decorated grapevine Spring Wreaths for sale** that will adorn your home/door stunningly! Think birthdays, think Mothers' Day, think ...that this is a wonderful chance to help a very poor family in South Carolina...and to affirm our kids' values by supporting their goals. Bring your friends, family and checkbook! See you there! (And come hungry, the kids will be selling great snacks too!) (To help out on the Sale Days and/or to donate jewelry for the Benefit contact Donna Becker at writeme79@juno.com or Karen Burns at karenburns@casaessex.org)

Peaceworks/NJ 51st Humanitarian Aid Container Shipment for the People of Nicaragua (See related item on p. 4!)
Sundays, April 20 & 27 - Room 100.

Peace Luncheon – Sunday, April 27, 12:15 p.m. Lunch/working session, Terrace Room *"Feedback to the UUA – Study Action Issue* on disavowal of all violence. Have your say–3-minute statements – Let's give the UUA MUF's best thinking. Some of the key topics of our lifetime: including proactive nonviolence (\$4 lunch donation).

Morristown Community Soup Kitchen – Next Hosting Date: April 8! Thanks, MUF members, for helping cook good food for still more than 200 patrons. We need lots of casseroles & delicious soups. Get on Board! Contact Michelle Kunz at mbkunz@gmail.com. You can also attend the CSK's "Annual Share the Bounty Fund Raiser/Silent Auction, Thursday, April 17, 6:30 p.m. – Details: call Soup Kitchen office at 973-267-0709.

Eric Johnson House MUF Monthly Dinner Teams – next host dates are April 2 & 23 (5:45-7 p.m.) A funny, lively and very warmly receptive group of 10 residents. Join other MUF members/friends in hosting responsibilities – the cooking and the "chatting" letting these lovely people know we care. Let Susan Spencer know (sespencer@optonline.net) if you want to be a part of this very special outreach!

Homeless Solutions: (shelter) – monthly dinner commitment (next hosting, April 13, 4:45-7 p.m.) continues under leadership of Judy O'Neil Goldberg. If you are an adult, or a family with Jr. High and older children that you can accompany, join in preparing an easy meal for the 120+ shelter residents. Contact: judyoneil1@verizon.net.

Next Social Justice Council Meeting – Wednesday, April 9, 7:30-9 p.m., at MUF (Room to-be-posted). Quarterly Plate Allocation Meeting. New members always needed and we can put your good will to work right away. Questions? Contact: Michelle Kunz at mbkunz@gmail.com or Karen Burns at karenburns@casaessex.org.

Interested in Becoming a Member?

Now is the time if you're interested in becoming a member. You will be eligible to vote at the annual congregational meeting in June if you sign the Membership Book by May 1. Contact Rev. Alison Miller at 973-540-1177, ext. 204, or amiller@muuf.org for an appointment.

Desire and the Quest for the Beloved: A Weekend Workshop

Friday-Sunday, April 11-13

Facilitator: Trebbe Johnson, a member of the UU Congregation of Binghamton, NY; author of *The World Is a Waiting Lover: Desire and the Quest for the Beloved*

Full information on this workshop is available on our website: www.muuf.org

Being a UU in a Non-UU World - Want to Talk About It?

Is there a time in your life when you have felt left out because you are a UU? In your family or extended family is it all right to be a UU? Have you had a chance to do your UU 'elevator speech' ? How did it go? How do you feel your life has been different because of being a UU?

If you have thoughts about these "prompts" that you would like to share with others, you are invited to a series of six discussion groups leading to a Sunday Service on May 25. The group will meet weekly in an April/May timeframe. Betsy Burr will be the group facilitator.

Please contact Carol Titus at carol.titus@yahoo.com if you are interested in participating.

Spring Retreat for MUF Women

Friday-Sunday, April 25-27

It's time again to sign up for the women's spring retreat at Kirkridge retreat and study center, Bangor, PA. A wonderful weekend of spirituality, friendship and joy. Group discussions, reflection, nature and labyrinth walks, and crafts are but a few of the planned activities.

For signup and information, contact Kathy Burgess at kathyb.41@verizon.net or Zella Geltman at zellarp@yaho.com.

ALL MUF women members and friends are welcome. Think spring! Check out the Kirkridge website: www.kirkridge.org.

Save money and energy (CO₂ footprint!)
Use compact fluorescent bulbs.
Sundays, Room 100, or call Fred Mayer.
Large selection, discount prices.

Crafting Bees Continue

Friday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.

LOOK ... it's a sewing bee; it's a gluing bee; it's a friendship circle! You've crafted for fun; you've crafted for Habitat; now come craft for the Fellowship. The **Crafting Bees** continue with a "Save Our Banners" evening in Room 204, no charge. Come help repair our old, worn banners, and brainstorm designs for new banners. Please sign up at the Box Office, call Chris at the Fellowship office (973-540-1177) or contact Annette Tyler; it is very important that we know how many people are joining us.

* **Save the date!** *
* We're celebrating Homer Hansen's 90th *
* birthday on Saturday, June 21, at 5 p.m. with a *
* potluck supper at the Fellowship. Everyone is *
* invited, and a good time is planned for all. We'll *
* have more news in the coming months, so just *
* keep the date open. *

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

To assure the privacy of our members and friends, we have now removed all “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

The Endowment Fund thanks **Zella Geltman** for her donation to the Celebration of Life Fund in honor of **Beth Hayward and Steve Parker**.

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.

Candidates Sought

The Nominating Committee seeks your input for the slate of candidates to be presented at the Annual Meeting **June 1**. Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee with suggested names of MUF members for the following positions. All terms run July–June.

Board of Trustees:

- President-Elect: One-year term (2008-2009) followed by one-year term as President (2009-2010).
- Secretary: Two-year term (2008-2010)
- Vice President–Program: Two-year term (2008-2010)

Endowment Committee: Two members, each for a three-year term (2008-2011)

Nominating Committee: Three-year term (2008-2011)

The Leadership Development & Nominating Committee: Elizabeth Bain, Helene Ferm, Steve Parker, Joe Uhrhane, Jerry Weinstein. For more information contact Helene Ferm at fermsmph@optonline.net.



Upcoming Events Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Details
Saturdays, April 5 & 26	9:00 a.m.-12 noon	Spring Cleanup	p. 6
Saturday, April 5	7:30 p.m.	Goliard Ensemble Concert	p. 7
Sunday, April 6	10-11 a.m., 12-1 p.m.	Service Auction bidding continues	p. 5
Monday, April 7	7:00 p.m.	First Monday Book Group	p. 6
Wednesday, April 9, and Saturday, April 12	8:00-9:30 p.m. 1:00-2:30 p.m.	Tai-chi, 1st series	p. 6
Friday-Sunday, April 11-13		Desire and the Quest for the Beloved	muuf.org
Friday, April 11	7:30 p.m.	Crafting Bees	p. 9
Saturday, April 12	7:00 p.m.	Comedy Night	p. 5
Sunday, April 13	2:00-3:30 p.m.	Caregivers' Time-Out	Office
Wednesday, April 16	6:30 p.m.	West African Drum & Dance	p. 6
Wednesday, April 16	7:30 p.m.	Peace Within/Peace Without	p. 6
Thursday, April 17, and Monday, April 21	8:00-9:30 p.m.	Tai-chi, 2d series	p. 6
Saturday, April 19	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Congregation-Wide Visioning	p. 3
Saturday, April 19	6:30-9:30 p.m.	PeaceWorks Annual Dinner	p. 5
Sundays, April 20 & 27	9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	PeaceWorks's Nicaraguan Shipment	p. 4
Sunday, April 20	3:30-7:30 p.m.	MUF Passover Seder	p. 7
Sunday, April 27	1:00 p.m.	Peacemaking Resolution Rewrite	p. 5

You Are Invited to General Assembly

Early registration from now until April 30 - \$290. Late registration through Boston May 1-June 13 or at the Convention Center June 24-29 - \$335. Arrange for hotel accommodations through the Hotel Registration site at www.UUA.org (search for GA 2008). Please let Alison know if you will be a MUF delegate.

2008 District Annual Meeting - May 2-3

Register online NOW for this event at the Marriott Hotel in Stamford, CT. Google *UU Metro NY District*. If interested in car-pooling from MUF, e-mail ritamorris1@verizon.net.

Attn. Seniors: Want to share your pearls of wisdom about growing old? Join us for a planning meeting Tuesdays, April 16 and 29, at 7 p.m. for our June 22 Sunday service, when we will honor our elders and bless our "youngsters." Questions: Tom McGuinness at tomamor@optonline.net.

Last Day of the 2008 Service Auction!

There's still one day left of our popular Service Auction—on **Sunday, April 6**. Be generous and "buy" lots of donated services/fun from MUF members in the Terrace Room Bidding Gallery between and after Sunday Services. **For more information or to help out with the auction, contact:** Tony Rutigliano at arutigl@optonline.net.



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.

April 2008 – members

Volume 53, No. 4



Dated Material – Posted March 28, 2008
Deadline for the MAY issue is

APRIL 15

**The Visioning meeting will take place on
Saturday, April 19 at 9:00 a.m.**

**The Annual Congregational meeting will
take place on Sunday, June 1, at 12:45 p.m.**

Sunday Services

Services at 9 and 11 a.m.

April 6 Call of the Earth

April 13 Thoroughly Thoreau

April 20 Out of the Wilderness

April 27 Come Into the Circle – Membership Sunday



Rev. Alison B. Miller

Coordinated by Kathi Caccavale

Rev. Alison B. Miller

Rev. Alison B. Miller