



June 2010

Volume 55, No. 6

News

Reaching In . . .
Reaching Out

From the Minister...

SEVERAL MILESTONES are happening this month in our congregation, especially in terms of staffing. They involve celebrations, saying goodbye, and new opportunities to look forward to in the summer and fall.



The biggest milestone is that our building manager, Bill Forsyth, is stepping down after working to care for our building and our grounds since the 1980's. Bill has also been a longtime member at the Fellowship, and his involvement has extended beyond the realm of our facilities. Just to mention two things from his decades with us, Bill served as president of our LRY group (Liberal Religious Youth) and has also supported several theatrical productions as stage manager or director. We wish him so many good blessings for the next step of his journey. We will be honoring him on **June 13** at the 10 a.m. multi-generational service and during the picnic afterwards.

Many of our members, friends and newcomers have expressed an interest in the health and well-being of our facilities during the strategic planning process. The staff transition in the area of our building and grounds provides us all with an opportunity to examine what is going well about how we care for our facilities, as well as areas that need improvement. Volunteers are stepping up to tend this effort, and you are invited to join this team if you have skills or a passion for it. So far, two longtime members, two new members, and one newcomer have said, "yes" to joining. You can contact our Administrative VP, Arlyne Dalman, to get involved (ajdalman@verizon.net).

This Facilities Team and I will be working together in the coming months to assess and address our building and grounds ministry, including the volunteer and staffing needs, ongoing maintenance, urgent repairs and so forth. The information we have received from the Strategic Planning Task Force and the Beautification and Preservation Committee will assist us in our work. The other goal of this group is to offer opportunities for fellowship and fun within the team and beyond as all of us work together to be stewards of our home.

Last month, we celebrated the work of our

Administrator, Margaret Chilton, who has moved to Louisville, Kentucky, to serve a Presbyterian congregation and to be near family. The Board of Trustees and I have been working in recent weeks to examine the administrative needs of the minister, religious education, membership, database, communications, etc.

We have also made use of the input from the strategic planning process and our in-house, change management consultant, Margaret Ng. As I write this, a job description for a Ministries Administrator (or some similar title) is under way and the interview process will begin immediately. In addition, we are building up our current Office Volunteers program and wish to increase the RE Assistant hours to provide enhanced support.

Later this summer, you will be hearing from me and the leadership in the finance and facilities arenas as we gain a better understanding of our Operations needs. I can imagine that we might be seeking an Operations Manager and additional custodial hours. We will keep you posted.

In fellowship,

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

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Morristown Unitarian Fellowship

21 Normandy Heights Road
Morristown, New Jersey 07960-4611
President: Gary Kunz

Minister: Rev. Alison B. Miller
Director of Religious Education: Karen Brown
Music Director: Jim Blanton
Editor, Layout and Graphics Design: Pat Baxter
(melodylingers@verizon.net)

Sunday Services: 10 a.m.
Religious Education Classes: 10 a.m.

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tel: 973-540-1177, ext. 203
Fax: 973-539-8218

www.mUuf.org



Deeds Well Done

The Fellowship board recognizes and thanks the following members and friends for their work at MUF and in the community:

Geri Silk, Kathy Burgess and Sharon Heller for doing a fantastic job of organizing the Women’s Retreat.

Toby Tyler for his work and organization on the peace vigil during the Metro District meeting.

Steve Kreha for his extraordinary efforts to enable backup AV equipment for the public screening of the film *A Chemical Reaction* prior to presentation by a guest speaker.

Steve Parker and the Strategic Planning Task Force for their wonderful presentations of the plan progress.

Ken Nemeth for coordinating the “Our Favorite Businesses” guide.

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.

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 at 7 p.m. and open to all Fellowship members. This month’s meetings are scheduled on:

Board of Trustees	June 9
Administrative/Program Networks	June 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. (Go to the Members Area and scroll down to the “Board of Trustees”; or from the homepage, click on “Congregational Leaders” and then scroll down to the Board and click on “Board Meeting Minutes.”)

Be a knowledgeable member of your Fellowship!

The President's Corner - Continuity



AS MY TERM IN OFFICE

draws to a close, I have become very much aware that we have no clearly defined role for leaders in the year following their Presidency. The President spends a year preparing for the job as President-Elect, but there is no defined plan or path, so whoever is in that position is dependent on the President and their own devices to prepare themselves. As President, there is a certain prescribed rhythm to the year, certain things have to happen by certain times, but beyond that, there are few defined tasks, limits or guidance.

For me, this has worked well. At the Board retreat in July, the Board and the Minister identified a number of areas at MUF that we felt needed attention. We have been able to collaborate effectively in working together on these priorities. As President, I had a large voice in identifying and articulating those priorities. As the year has unfolded, I feel that I have been able to work effectively with the Minister and my fellow Board members to address these priorities.

With the end of my term in sight, I am looking and around and wondering, "What's next?" It seems a shame to me that we do not have an institutionalized path to leverage the training and knowledge that the President has gained through the two years on the Board. This has already been identified as one of the items to address as part of the Strategic Plan, and a resolution cannot come soon enough.

The need for a better plan for continuity is well illustrated by looking at the current state of affairs at MUF. We are in the middle of a series of events that will pass from this President and this Board to the next:

- The Strategic Planning process – While the initial target for completing the process was June 2010, this process needs to continue through September and beyond. This continuation is not due to a lack of work or effort by the Strategic Planning Task Force as they are one of the hardest-working groups I

have ever been around. The need to extend the targets comes from the evolution of the plan and the need to make sure that all of the MUF community is engaged and given a proper voice.

- Staffing Changes – We are in the midst of a major re-staffing and restructuring effort. While this presents many challenges, it also presents a huge opportunity to rethink how we are organized and how we best support our mission.
- Restructuring Stewardship and the Annual Budget Drive – This year, the Board, along with the Finance Committee, started the process of changing how we handle the life cycle of Stewardship. Much progress has been made and yet much remains to be done.
- Greeting and Welcoming – This has evolved into a personal ministry for me and the feedback and response I have received from the community has been like a huge group hug. I have learned a lot about our community by trying to be out in front of the doors on Sundays to welcome all who come through our doors. I would like to see this ministry continued.

There is so much more that has a life cycle that extends over one year to the next. To me, how we handle these transitions, how we ensure continuity needs to be identified and addressed in the near future.

I want to thank all of you for the trust, love and respect that you have given me over the past two years. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you. This has been one of the best experiences of my life and I stand ready to continue to serve you in whatever way I can.

Thank you,

Gary

Gary Kunz, President

Faith Developments

SYNCHRONICITIES. I am a fan of these moments in time I need to pay attention to.



Anne Bancroft, the Intern Minister at Shelter Rock, asked her colleagues for input as to what they feel would promote change and growth in congregational life. She asked two questions: What do you think we should be doing? What do you think are the key factors in growth? Armed with this information from her colleagues, she will take the collective information to the Growth Conference in May in Colorado.

A few days after Anne's post through the professional list serve I am a member of, Jim Blanton asked me the SAME type of question. In essence, what could we do to bring more families into this wonderful faith of ours – into the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship?

This is a difficult question and I didn't give Jim much of an answer. I have been ruminating about this for years. I have my dreams and ideas, but some of them have not created anything more than talk in the congregations I have served. Some of the ideas that came to fruition fizzled out. It takes a village to make things happen. A sea change of sorts!

To the question of "What do you think we should be doing?" I offer the following: 1) Focusing on the needs and dreams of the guests in our congregations on an equal footing to the needs and dreams of our members might be a worthy goal. 2) Stewardship awareness needs to increase so that our congregations are not scraping the bottom of the barrel to make ends meet.

3) Our lives are increasingly becoming demanding and stressful. Providing adults, children and youth with a caring and loving community of worship, learning about our faith, social justice, spiritual and personal growth and fun – a sanctuary from their lives of intense demands seems to me to be a worthy goal. 4) Focusing on finding ways to get to know each other personally will help us feel interconnected. We grow as individuals by being in relationship.

5) Become a congregation where radical hospitality is evident. Paying attention to the details of keeping our congregations clean, welcoming, comfortable and visually appealing is a goal worth striving for.

6) Creating ways of challenging our congregations to do the work of anti-oppression, becoming multicultural, and challenging the institutions that degrade our planet Earth are three goals of our Unitarian Universalist faith that I believe we should be seriously engaged in.

7) Finding ways to create multigenerational communities in a society that constantly divides us by generations I think is a vital component to a healthy congregation. 8) Look at the way we worship together and provide religious education on Sunday mornings to keep relevant in a changing society.

What we should be doing and what are the key factors in growth are very closely related. To answer Anne's question of what the key factors of growth are, I would reply as follows: 1) Create opportunities for people in our congregations to care for each other's theological differences. Create good missions and covenants. 2) Help people develop their passions in ministry instead of looking for people to fill committees that can oftentimes be unfulfilling and unrewarding.

3) Be open to change and let go of institutional events that may not be inspiring to a new generation. 4) Develop good structures of authority and recognize that good administration is a ministry not a deterrent to individualism. 5) Strive to do the work of recognizing societal changes and meeting the needs of people where they are.

6) Meet the spiritual needs of people as well as the vital needs of the natural world that we call home. We are interconnected. 7) Keep on finding our passions for what makes us Unitarian Universalists in the spirit of love.

These are just a few of my thoughts on keeping our faith alive. What are yours?

Karen

Thanks from Nicaragua

A thank-you note from Jim Burchell to the 7th and 8th grade "Passages" class and their Adult Mentors for helping him fill his PeaceWorks "58th Humanitarian Aid Container Shipment" destined for the very poor people of Nicaragua:

"Thank you very much for all your work and effort in support of the collection project. Please express my deepest thanks to the youths and to the mentors.

"It all went very well. We collected and packed over 50 items (Toby [Tyler] has the list) and did a great deal of packing on loading day. That last effort was very important to our work that day. That truck was packed with all kinds of odds and ends – it was a blessing to have it all sorted, packed, identified, and made ready for loading onto the container. Through-out the day the youths and mentors were instrumental in the success of the day."

MUF, Not MUUF

Please note that the nickname, or shortened name, for the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship is MUF. We're not sure just how MUUF crept into the mix, but it is NOT our nickname. If you check our official publications (letterhead, Sunday Bulletin, What's Happening, etc.), including this one, you can see that we are called MUF.

The confusion appears to be caused by our website address, www.muuf.org. We chose this name because www.muf.org was not available. But it is used ONLY for the website address, not as a substitute for our full name.

Our Financial Health

Projected Cash Flow Through the End of the Fiscal Year

	Actual	Projected	
	April	May	June
Beginning Cash	55,046	41,048	37,924
+ Income	30,397	37,510	37,510
- Expenses	47,149	40,633	42,665
+ Balance Sheet Contributions	4,905	0	0
= Ending Cash	41,048	37,924	32,769

Letter from Maggie

Dear MUF Friends and Colleagues:



Thank you for all your kind words and good wishes. The past four-plus years with you have been challenging, rewarding, even life-changing. As I start my work with the Presbyterians in Louisville, I will take with me the Seven Principles, the covenants for running meetings, and the song "Maybe, Maybe, Maybe" as a few of my remembrances of you. The crystal ship's wheel will be in a prominent place in my office.

There are many new challenges that I will face in the job, in particular managing a building of 60,000 square feet with 30 bathrooms. Yikes! They are also expecting me to have a big part in updating their website. This will be a stretch for me, but I am excited about the possibilities.

Things are happening quickly now. I have bought a house in Louisville, although I don't know yet when my stuff will be moved in. I have started packing, selling, discarding, and donating – all of it organized, as you would expect.

As you embrace your plans for the future, know that I have always admired your passion for making the world a better place.

With gratitude and best wishes,

Maggie Chilton

Dear Congregants,

We are projected to have approximately \$32,769 in cash on June 30, the end of our fiscal year. However, this is misleading because it doesn't take into account our trust fund liabilities, which are not part of our operating budget. As of April 30, when this projection was calculated, we had \$30,259 in trust fund liabilities. Trust funds raise their own money, which is kept in the MUF checking account, but which is kept separate in our accounting system. An example of this is the Youth Group Habitat for Humanity fund. The Youth Group raises money through fundraisers for their annual summer Habitat for Humanity trip. As of April 30, they had raised \$8,771, which will be spent on the Habitat trip in July. This amount of \$8,771 makes up part of the \$30,259 trust fund liability, which is included in the final cash projection of \$32,769. If all the trust funds wanted to spend their money at once, our cash would be reduced to \$2,510, an alarmingly low cash cushion.

It is critical that we all honor our 2009-10 pledges so that we remain solvent. We can do it.

Susan Lausell, Treasurer

Upcoming Events

Taichi Light Monthly Practice

Saturday, June 5, 9:30 a.m.

Coordinated by Al Chu, Bruce Daggy, Laurie MacGeorge

MUF member Al Chu, creator of Taichi Light, leads us in practicing this ancient energy work the first Saturday of each month. Contact Al at alchu888@gmail.com, or Laurie at dmacg10@aol.com.

Cordial Conversation and Chow

Wednesday, June 9, 10:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Coordinated by Gloria Dyer

Please join us to offer your suggestions on the feasibility of a monthly weekday conversation group. We will meet in the Library for conversation and in the Dining Room for a brown bag lunch. Go green – bring your own plates and utensils. Coffee and dessert will be provided. *Please RSVP by Tuesday, June 8.* For more information & to register, contact Gloria Dyer at gloria.dyer@verizon.net.

Film & Discussion: “Growtown Motown”

Wednesday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.

The documentary short *From Trash to Treasure: Growtown Motown* is the story of what happens when hopeful people with a shared sense of purpose come together.

This half-hour film, ingeniously made by Christian Schuller, follows creation of the Early Street Community Garden in Morristown, which transformed an empty lot into a flourishing community garden. The benefits of this effort, part of a greater project called “Grow It Green Morristown,” have been not only ecological and nutritional but also social, as a community of disparate neighbors have discovered one another and come together.

Following the screening there will be a panel discussion with audience participation, featuring members of the collective garden – including Marty Epstein of Marty’s Reliable Cycle, who was recently commended for greening one of his stores. *No registration required.* For more information, contact Geri Silk at gerisilk@yahoo.com, or Kathy Burgess.

Monday Night Book Group

Monday, June 14, 7 p.m.

We will discuss *Daughter of Persia*, by Sattareh Farman Farmian. On July 12, we will discuss your choice of ANY book by John Steinbeck. We will not meet in August. In September, we will resume meeting on the first Monday ***always at 7 p.m.*** in Room 205. Newcomers are welcome. It is suggested that you try to read the book but it is not required! Contact Nancy Lee McLure for more information, at nlmclure@msn.com.

Fishin’ with Ish – Tall Tales and Short Tails

Saturday, June 19, 3 p.m.

In this third in our Storytelling Series, enjoy an afternoon of stories and songs for all ages with local storyteller/singer/songwriter Ken Galipeau and our own Carol Titus and a talented fish to share stories, some of which are true and some of which “merely happened.” Come ready to laugh and sing and participate with your whole self. Tickets for only \$7 at the door or the MUF Box Office.

Next Womenspace – Women’s Spirituality Circle

Sunday, June 20, 10:30 a.m.

Crafting Group

Friday, June 25, 7:30 p.m.

This year the MUF crafting group & the knitting group are meeting together. Bring your own project from home, or just join us for a friendly atmosphere with great company and conversation. Please call or email Cintra Fricke at cintrafricke@gmail.com or 973-584-0061, or Tina Demottie at demottie@optonline.net or 973-560-9719.

Annette Hanna Exhibits at Atrium

MUF member Annette Hanna is showing 10 paintings with the Blackwell-Street Artists group on the 5th floor of the Atrium Gallery in the Hall of Records Building, Morristown, until September 17. Hours are weekdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Metro NY Minute – Upcoming Meetings and Workshops and Action Alerts

A relief fund to help UU congregations that suffered losses from flooding in Tennessee and Kentucky has been established by the UUA in partnership with the Thomas Jefferson District, the Mid-South District, the Greater Nashville UU Church, and the First UU Church of Nashville. Contributions may be made by mail to the UUA, 25 Beat St., Boston, MA 02108, Attn: Stewardship and Development Gift Processing. Note "Nashville Flood Relief" on the check.

Advance registration for General Assembly 2010 closes June 11. Those not able to attend General Assembly can watch streaming live video of many of the events. Go to www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml. Click on 2010 Event Coverage.

Responding to the new Arizona state law cracking down on illegal immigration, the UUA Board voted May 6 to ask delegates to the 2010 General

Assembly to approve moving the location of the 2012 General Assembly from Phoenix. Withdrawing the contract could cost the UUA \$615,000. According to the resolution, this money would be offset by funds raised by congregations. A two-thirds majority of delegates would need to approve the resolution. In a statement issued about the Arizona law, UUA President Rev. Peter Morales said "Everything I hold sacred as an American and as a person of faith is threatened by this legislation."

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

Men's Group

The Thursday evening Men's Consciousness Raising Group will be holding open sessions during the months of July and August for prospective new members to try out. We share personal joys and issues in a non-judgmental setting where it is safe to express feelings in an accepting and confidential space. Call Don Price (973-347-5515) or Victor Sperber (973-895-4240) for more details.

Dinners at Eight

Looking for a night out with friends and good food? Join us for another year of "Dinners at Eight." The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in Room 100. Sip some wine in a Fellowship member's home and catch up on all the latest news while solving the world's problems as well. We look forward to sharing with you. Call Judy Oehler for more information at 973-361-6972.

Creating Peace

Since 2007, congregations all over the country have been studying and discussing all things related to peace, a Study/Action Issue. Along the way, and with input from members, several drafts of a UUA Statement of Conscience have been written.

The final draft of a UUA Statement of Conscience entitled "Creating Peace" will be voted on at the UUA Annual Assembly in Minneapolis this month. I plan to attend, and will advocate for its passage. Five copies of the draft have been hung in Room 100 for your perusal.

Also, a PDF version can be read, downloaded and printed at www.uua.org/socialjustice/issuesprocess/currentissues/peacemaking/121606.shtml. Info: Jo Sippie-Gora, 973-838-8576, MUF Peace Ministry Task Force.

MUF Cercle Français

Wednesday, June 16, 7-8:30 p.m.

Parlez-vous Français? Do you speak French badly? Then Cercle Français is a good place for you. Most of us are in the same bateau, having forgotten most of our vocabulary and grammaire. But that's okay. We will have fun trying, and get a little better each time. Acquiring another language is good for thought process creativity and communication skills.

There will be word games, music, conversation starters, language improvisation. No preparation necessary; just show up. Bring your French/English dictionary if you have one, and a some food to share. RSVP (that's French too), so we can send written material, to Laurent Comes at laurent@comes.US or 973-291-8258, or Geri Silk at gerisilk@yahoo.com or 973-539-2854. This group is open to teenagers.

Social Justice Council - June 2010 Update *Helping Neighbors in Need*



Pathways to Work(ers)! Give Your Home, Apartment, Greenery Summertime Sparkle! Call Rosa Chilquillo at Neighborhood House - 973-538-1229, ext. 43, or cell 973-647-8495. Let the PTW registered workers help you maintain your garden, paint that room over, clean out the basement or garage (so it doesn't get sealed in for another wintertime!), etc. etc. Skilled and experienced workers are available for other home projects - laborers - men and women (domestic work) are available 24/7. Very reasonable rates!

Interfaith Council for Homeless Families of Morris County (ICHF) Host Week- June 20-27 - MUF Volunteers Needed! Help keep our commitment to co-host several local area homeless families through shared tasks the Sun-Sun - June 20-27. Location: Morristown Methodist. Contact Bob Campbell (Bobc2023@verizon.net) if you can spare a few hours in this wonderful work.

Announcing the MUF First Sunday, We Can Drive! Sunday, June 6
In support of the Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County

Each first Sunday of the month, we ask you to help us with a one-day monthly food drive. Plan that for the first Sunday of each month you will bring one item (or more) from the following list:

- **Plastic Sandwich Bags:** any zip-loc bags
- **Peanut Butter:** 18 oz. size preferably but will accept any size
- **Diapers and Wipes:** Sized 4, 5, and 6
- **Hearty/Chunky Soups:** Beef, Vegetable and Chicken
- **Rice:** Brown and white rice (1 & 2 pound bags)
- **Pastas and canned sauces**
- **Hot and cold breakfast cereals**
- **Canned fruits & vegetables**
- **Canned meats:** ham, chicken, meat spreads
- **Canned fish:** tuna, salmon, sardines
- **Fruit Juice:** No sugar added/natural juices
- **Tea:** Bagged, general use Teas (no herbal or loose)
- When shopping, if possible, please consider selecting Low Salt/Low Sugar items

Keep it GREEN... Donate Extra Reusable Cloth Bags

Two (2) Eric Johnson House Monthly Dinners - Wednesdays, June 2 and June 23, 5:45-7:15 - MUF is meeting two monthly commitments to this amazing Morristown community of recovering AIDS/HIV neighbors. Help on a cyclical basis - prepare part of the meals/& or host. Contact Zella Geltman @ 973-669-1181.

Morristown Soup Kitchen - Help is needed for MUF's Tuesday, June 8, Hosting. Fewer summertime guests, but still more than 100+ people need cold salads, chili, hot dogs, soup. Contact mbkunz@gmail.com to prepare food in advance or to shop day before, help the day of or transport food to kitchen &/or serve!

Morris Homeless Solutions Monthly Dinner -Saturday, June 12, 4:45-7 p.m. - Help prepare our monthly MUF cheeseburger & birthday cake dinner for homeless shelter residents. "Table talk" is also where your natural self can be of great friendly help. Contact judyoneil5@gmail.com.

Next MUF Social Justice Quarterly Meeting - Thursday, July 8, 7:30 p.m. MUF- Quarterly Allocation of Plate Monies to Charities meeting. Bring your ideas and compassion, we'll help you put them to use. Help us promote social justice at local, regional, national and global levels. Contact Chris: reynolds@nac.net.

Help Fight Climate Change

The Fellowship is a community committed to valuing Nature and our Earth; we speak about it even in our covenant.

Organic matter in garbage bags is creating dangerous gases that contribute to Climate Change. One of them is methane, which is even more dangerous than carbon dioxide. (It heats up the atmosphere much faster.) We feel in our small way we can do something about it, especially as we live our values.

We set out a pail in the Terrace Room during last month's coffee hours. The pail is our new compost vessel, labeled with drawings of compostable materials. On the front are the types of items that we welcome in it. On the two sides are drawings of food or other items that should not go into it.

Please look for the compost pail next to the garbage can during coffee hour!

Green Earth Ministry

Missing Something?

Dishes of all kinds (baking, serving, etc.) have been piling up in the MUF kitchen as a result of several big events in May. If you've forgotten to take yours home, please drop by and help to remove the clutter!

UU's Journey to South India

Like Water for Spices: A Unitarian Journey to South India, from the Bay of Bengal to the Arabian Sea

March 11 - 17, 2011

Meditate in captivating locations, experience fabulous temples, attend a Sunday service at the Unitarian Christian Church in Chennai, visit an ashram in Pondicherry, cruise the backwaters of Kerala, learn about Tanjore painting, enjoy a Kerala cooking demonstration, and watch a Kathakali Dance presentation.

Led by Rev. Wayne Walder. See all details at www.nuuc.ca/Journeys/india2011.htm.

Summer Minister Chosen

Our Summer Minister this year will be the Rev. Linda Goonewardene. A longtime member of the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield, she works as a Community Minister and Counselor at Integrity House, a nonprofit agency offering a wide range of services for people struggling with addiction.

She will be leading four summer services: July 4 & 18, August 1 & 29; two "one-shot" forums/classes/workshops – one on substance abuse & prevention, and will be "on call" in case of emergencies for a few weeks.

Annual Meeting on June 6, 12:30 p.m.

Members as of May 6, 2010, are eligible to vote. Lunch will be provided. Business to be discussed or presented: Reports of the leadership, next year's Budget, election of Officers (see below), changes to the Bylaws, and a draft of our Strategic Plan.

Annual Picnic June 13, 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

Come one, come all, to the annual end-of-the-year picnic, sponsored by the Board and the RE Council. Last names starting with A-M please bring a dessert and N-Z bring a salad to share. There will be hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, sausage and pepper sandwiches and drinks to purchase. There will be fun and games for children of all ages. Let's celebrate another wonderful congregational year with each other.

Slate of Candidates to Be Presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting June 6

President-Elect: Paul Ferm, 1-yr. term

VP Program: Paul Snellgrove, 2-yr. term

Secretary: Norman Ng, 2-yr. term

Endowment Committee: Don Price, 3-yr. term

Nominating Committee: Beth Hayward, 3-yr. term

Ex-officio: Nominating Cmte: Gary Kunz, 2-yr. term



Sharing 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.

We bid a fond farewell to **Margaret Ng**, who is moving with her family to Buffalo, NY, where she has accepted a job. She pitched in to run the MUF office after Maggie Chilton left as administrator in early May. She says she has enjoyed being a part of this community and will miss us all – but she is confident this will be a positive change for the whole family. We will certainly miss her too.

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 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, June 5	9:30 a.m.	Taichi Light Monthly Practice	p. 6
Wednesday, June 9	10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Conversation and Chow	p. 6
Wednesday, June 9	7:30 p.m.	Growtown Motown: Film & Discussion	p. 6
Monday, June 14	7:00 p.m.	Monday Night Book Group	p. 6
Saturday, June 19	3:00 p.m.	Fishin' with Ish – Tall Tales and Short Tails	p. 6
Sunday, June 20	10:30 a.m.	Women's Spirituality Circle	p. 6
Wednesday, June 16	7:00-8:30 p.m.	Cercle Français	p. 7
Friday, June 25	7:30 p.m.	Crafting Group	p. 6



Who do we want to be?

What do we want to do?

IMAGINE

What do we need to do it?

What's Happening With our Five Year Strategic Plan?

The Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) will deliver a *draft* of the Five Year Strategic Plan at the congregation's Annual Meeting. Over the summer, key stakeholders will work with the SPTF and the Rev. Alison Miller to flesh out action steps in order to develop an operational plan for the coming year. The operational plan and the final Five Year Strategic Plan will be presented to the congregation in September.

Any burning comments not yet shared?

You may talk to a member of the Strategic Planning Task Force or submit comments to: imagine@muuf.org

Karen Dinsmore/Norman Ng, Co-Chairs
Steve Kreha Steve Parker Kelly Schnur Tanya Van Order Beth Wilson

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.

June 2010

Volume 55, No. 6



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Deadline for the JULY issue is

JUNE 15

Don't miss the Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 6!

Sunday Services

One service only at 10 a.m. through Labor Day weekend.



June 6 **Coming of Age Service**

Please join our youth in their Coming of Age Celebration where our COA youth will lead the service and read their faith statements. It will be followed at 12:30 by our **Annual Meeting** (see p. 9).

June 13 **Rest and Renewal**

Members, friends, children, youth and adults are encouraged to attend this multigenerational service where we will honor Bill Forsyth and our volunteers. The service will be followed by the **Annual Picnic** from 11:15 a.m.–1:15 p.m., hosted by the Board of Trustees and the RE Council.

Coordinated by Karen Brown and Rev. Alison B. Miller

June 20 **Hop on Pop**

Join us for the morning of Father's Day as we celebrate the special men and mentors who have made a difference in our lives.

Coordinated by Rev. Alison B. Miller

June 27 **The Spirituality of 12-Step Recovery**

In recognition of the 75th anniversary of Alcoholics Anonymous, this service will address the importance of the 12-Step Recovery Movement and the Spiritual Principles that stem from it.

Presented by Fred Blanken, Dennis Luken and Avianca Bouchédid