



March 2010

Volume 55, No. 3

## News

Reaching In . . .  
Reaching Out

### From the Minister...

WHETHER YOU ARE A NEWCOMER, or you have been participating for five, 10, 20 or more years, you are a part of imagining the future of our spiritual home. Throughout 2009–2010, the Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) has created opportunities for you to share your vision, recommendations and passions, as well as listen to the vision, recommendations and passions of your fellow congregants.



You are an important part of the congregation, and we want to know what you would like to participate in and help to make happen in our future together.

No matter how long you have been a part of the congregation... no matter if you are enthusiastically involved or have been drifting of late... no matter if you are eight years, 48 years or 88 years old... no matter if you live close or farther away... no matter if you consider yourself to be of Western or Eastern European, Asian, Latino, African, Caribbean, North American descent or a mixture thereof... no matter if you are a banker, an actor, a doctor, an electrician, a teacher, a small-business owner, a social worker, an artist, a scientist... no matter if your spiritual growth is centered around god, the goddess, the earth, the best in humanity, the teachings of the Buddha or Emerson... your understanding of Unitarian Universalism and how the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship can live into this vision is vital.

After all, you are a part of moving any plans from a dream to a reality. All of us, members, children and youth, ordained and lay staff, and friends and newcomers have the potential to increase our positive impact in the lives of our fellow congregants and, in turn, to make a greater difference in how each one of us engages with the world.

In order to be successful, the SPTF needs to know what you are thinking and hoping for, and what excites you about the vision that is being generated. At the end of our strategic planning process, it is my hope that you will be eager to sign your name next to certain recommendations signifying that you want to help make them happen.

In the early fall, 150 members, staff and friends, as well as 80 children got together to express initial thoughts about the blessings we receive here, what we are proud of, what we are sorry about, and what we imagine is possible in five years. In the winter, the SPTF came back and shared what they learned through this process and named six areas to concentrate on in our strategic plan: facilities, deepening connections, leadership and stewardship, spiritual growth and worship, lifespan religious education, and our engagement with the world.

And now, at the very beginning of spring on **Sunday, March 21, at 1 p.m.**, you are invited to view a draft of the five-year vision statement, goals for the six identified areas, and some initial recommendations to fulfill these goals. There will also be an opportunity for you to offer recommendations to do your part in our shared work of creating a five-year plan. So please make the time to join us for this important next step. Our consultant Tillie-Jo will be back, lunch will be provided at noon, and childcare will be offered with an RSVP. The SPTF has thought of many logistics to make your participation easy and your time well spent. I hope you'll be there.

In fellowship,

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

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**Morristown Unitarian Fellowship**

21 Normandy Heights Road  
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Sunday Services: 9 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

***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!

**Deeds Well Done**

**Kristin Ace**, for donating her time to the Storytelling fundraiser.

**Stu Sendell**, for all of his work on assisting MUF with our mortgage.

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**Springtime Women's Retreat**

*Treat yourself to a beautiful weekend  
at the scenic Castle in Frost Valley*

Renew your spirit with fellow MUF members  
and friends

Workshops will include exploration of  
ourselves and our surroundings,  
hiking, crafts, fun and fellowship

**Friday, April 30 – Sunday, May 2**

Space is limited. Cost of approximately  
\$250 includes lodging and meals.

Contact Sharon J. Heller at  
*sharonjeanheller@yahoo.com*

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**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	March 10
Administrative/Program Networks	March 17

**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 - Faith



### I WOULD LIKE TO

**BELIEVE** that everyone who comes to the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship comes here as an act of faith. That is, that we all come here out of a great hope or trust that we will find what we are seeking in this community. I know that

I have an abundance of faith that each and every one of us will step up and support each other, support this congregation, this minister, this religious education program, this beacon of hope for people who are suffering in a myriad of ways.

It is that faith that motivates me to stand at the front door to greet as many people who come to the Fellowship as possible. I am truly thankful for each person who comes through our doors: the adults, the children, the young adults, the teenagers, the babies; the members, the visitors, the newcomers, the old-comers, the staff members, our professional staff and the ton of volunteers who make up our community.

It is also my strong faith in our community that helps inform my choices as President on what items to ask the Board to consider and in deciding how much commitment I can ask of myself and others.

People often remark to me that their perception of the position of President at MUF is that it is very time-intensive, difficult and thankless. I find being the President to have very few of those elements. Yes, it does take time, but what aspect of faith and service does not take time? Yes, it can involve difficult decisions and difficult moments, but you get to share these difficulties with some of the best people in the world. I find that our

Board members, our committee chairs, our minister and our DRE are also there to support me through the difficult decisions and difficult times.

I have never found serving this faith community to be a thankless job. Rather, I find that deepening my commitment to believing in you, believing in our seven principles and believing that together we can build a better community has filled me with gratitude. I have found our congregation to express their gratitude constantly, and in so many beautiful ways.

In the coming months and year, our community is providing each of you with an opportunity to deepen your faith and your commitment. We need to strengthen the financial ministry of our congregation. We have embarked on an effort to redefine and reorganize how we do our pledging and stewardship functions. This needs to be a year-round ministry of education, communication and gratitude.

We are already reaching out to some of you, but we need more of you to step forward. This is a vital part of our community, and without a strong and vibrant team caring for our financial health, we risk harming a unique and one of the most valuable faith communities in Morris County.

I ask each of you to join with me, with our Board, with our Minister and DRE, and with your fellow congregants to show the depths of your faith in all of us. Please consider saying YES! I believe in this congregation and I think all of you do too.

Have Faith,

Gary

## Help Send Humanitarian Aid to Nicaragua

*(New Article)*

### ***RE "Passages" Class Votes to Adopt Service Project: Collect Now to Help Fill the "PeaceWorks" May Container Shipment - April 24/May 2 dropoff at MUF- We Need Your Help!***

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade "Passages" class and their Adult Mentors voted to help Jim Burchell fill his PeaceWorks "58<sup>th</sup> Humanitarian Aid Container Shipment" destined for the very poor people of Nicaragua. All of MUF is invited to help us by collecting the following items, and **asking your neighbors, friends, family, schools, girl/boy scout troops and civic groups to collect them too:**

**School Supplies:** notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, papers, rulers, colored pencils, scissors, watercolor paints and more; **Tools** (for agri-projects): shovels, rakes, pitchforks, garden tools, wheelbarrows; **Bicycles:** in good shape; **Summer/Lightweight Clothes:** men's, women's, boys'/girls', infants: all item types: shirts, pants, skirts, light jackets/sweaters, sneakers; **Sports Equipment:** bats, balls, gloves – Nicaraguans love baseball, soccer, basketball, volleyball; **Computers:** send only complete computer systems in good working order–Pentium III or newer; **Office supplies:** cabinets, folders, paper, desks; **Medical supplies:** aspirin, vitamins, first-aid supplies, wheelchairs, crutches. Also air conditioners, fans, toys, household and kitchen items. **Pack clothing in small plastic bags. Write inventory for boxes; keep like items with like. Scour Garage Sales! This is a wonderful goal for all of us!! Have fun/Do good!**

## Faith Developments

### OUR MULTIGENERATIONAL

VALENTINE'S services on the 14th of February were lovely, moving, heartwarming, inspiring and filled with beautiful music. Everyone went home with a valentine. Some of our MUF members gave their reflections about what love in their families meant to them. Matt and Sarahjane Rath, Erin Luken, Nan Perigo and her husband, Kendall Martin, and their children, June and Galen, participated in the first service. Karol Ruiz-Merrero's son Elisha, and Tom and Beth Murphy and their daughter Gillian spoke at the second service.



I was thinking about composing a newsletter article inviting more families to come to our multigenerationals when I received the email below from Beth Murphy. Beth says it all.

*Dear Morristown Unitarian Fellowship Members and Friends:*

*My family and I had the pleasure of both attending and participating in the February 14 multigenerational services held here at MUF. It was such a wonderful, warm and*

*fulfilling experience. As participants, our family had the privilege of going through the process of putting into writing and words what makes the love we share special. This in itself was worthwhile, but coupled with having the opportunity to listen to other families share their thoughts made it doubly valuable.*

*Aside from our personal experience with participating, the service was focused and cohesive, from the music to the readings to the sermon, making it a joy to experience. My husband, my daughter and myself all were introduced to congregants we had not met before, and each of us found ourselves sharing a special moment or two with someone who just an hour before had been a stranger.*

*I encourage all congregants when possible to attend, participate in and benefit from the Fellowship's inter-generational services. In doing so new friends and experiences will be gained. Thank you most sincerely to Karen Brown, Alison Miller, Jim Blanton and all others who work so hard to bring stimulating, relevant and enjoyable multigenerational services to our congregation.*

*Beth Murphy*

**Karen**

### The Science of Music Comes to MUF Saturday, March 27, 7 p.m.

Why do wooden instruments sound different from metal instruments? Why is the sound different when striking a drum with a hard mallet as opposed to a soft mallet?

The *Science of Music* program for all ages will examine the fascinating relationship of music and science. Performers Chris Lance, trumpet; Todd Van Gordon, clarinet; Beth Wilson, piano, and Jim Harp, percussion, will join host Dr. Jim Blanton to perform short musical pieces in diverse styles to demonstrate the principles of sound and vibration, and will show how the quality of sound is affected by shape and material. Audience members will accompany the performers using claps, snaps and lap slaps, and will construct and play along on a "Canobottlephone" (metal soda cans, plastic and glass bottles).

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door and \$5 for youth 18 years and under. All ages are encouraged to attend (so bring the kids!). For more information, call Dr. Jim at 845-858-9895.



Photo by Beth Murphy

*Members of the MUF Youth and Children's Choirs*

Who do we want to be?

IMAGINE  
IMAGINE

What do we want to do?

What do we need to do it?

**Let's Shape the Future of the Fellowship Together!**

Community, Caring Connection  
Facilities  
Leadership and Stewardship  
Spiritual Growth and Exploration  
Sharing our Values in the Community  
Life Span Religious Education

The Strategic Planning Task Force invites you to a Congregational Strategic Planning Session to develop our 5-Year Plan for the Fellowship. We will share with you our Vision Statement for the Strategic Plan; goals and recommendations in the six theme areas identified from our Imagination Sessions; and we will provide an opportunity for you to give input toward the goals and help develop further action steps for our Strategic Plan.

**Congregational Strategic  
Planning Session  
Sunday, March 21, 1 p.m.**

**(Light Lunch served at 12 p.m.)**

Sign up to attend and to reserve Child Care at the Box Office or by emailing Karen Dinsmore at [kdinsmore@ucnj.org](mailto:kdinsmore@ucnj.org).

**Next - a GREEN Sunday  
Potluck!**

**Sunday, March 14, from 4-7 p.m.**



February's Potluck was a great success! We had kids, we had grownups, we had fun and games, we had pancakes. And now, we have an underground movement to have ... A GREEN POTLUCK! And by green, we mean...St. Patrick's Day Green. We encourage folks to get into the spirit of St. Paddy's Day (of course, only if you want to) and by that, we mean wear something green, bring corned beef and cabbage, colcannon (look it up!) and Irish soda bread. Or if you don't like these choices, bring something that you do like. We just want you to come and enjoy a great end (or beginning) of your week. Last names starting with A-M bring a salad/appetizer and last names starting with N-Z bring a main course to feed from 6-8 people (BYOB). We will provide dessert and non-alcoholic beverages.

Tom McGuinness will be organizing a little after-supper entertainment, so if you have a limerick or song, etc., to offer, let him know.

Please drop an email to Michelle Kunz at [mbkunz@gmail.com](mailto:mbkunz@gmail.com) with any suggestions about what you would like to see or do at future potlucks.

**Peacemaking Statement on GA Agenda**

UU congregations nationwide voted to place the Peacemaking Statement of Conscience on the agenda of General Assembly (GA) this coming summer. The poll also asked congregations to prioritize the following six social justice topics that had been previously nominated by UUs throughout the country, toward the goal of narrowing down the selection for the next Congregational Study Action Issue (CSAI).

These are the results of that recent polling. The first five have now been nominated to be presented at GA in June 2010:

ENERGY, PEACE, & JUSTICE - 33%  
NATIONAL ECONOMIC REFORM: A MORAL IMPERATIVE - 31%  
IMMIGRATION AS A MORAL ISSUE - 31%  
ENDING SLAVERY - 29%  
REVITALIZING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY - 25 %  
NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT - 18%

The top vote-getter at GA will be studied for the next four years as the next CSAI. It looks like a close race!

**Senior High Coffee House**

**Saturday, March 13, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.**

This fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity will be a thoroughly entertaining evening, with acts featuring every age and various talents. Coffee, tea, cocoa and delicious finger foods will be provided while you watch the talents of the entire MUF community. Childcare will be provided at \$3 for the entire night for those who have children still too young to enjoy the performance.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, free for children. It is a great opportunity to enjoy our many talents, and we hope to see you there!

## *Upcoming Events*

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### ***Taichi Light Monthly Practice***

**Saturday, March 6, 9:30 a.m.**

Coordinated by Al Chu, Bruce Daggy, Laurie MacGeorge

MUF member Al Chu, the creator of Taichi Light, leads us in practicing this ancient energy work together the first Saturday of each month. For more information, contact Al at [alchu888@gmail.com](mailto:alchu888@gmail.com), or Laurie MacGeorge at [dlmagc10@aol.com](mailto:dlmagc10@aol.com).

### ***Monday Night Book Group***

**Monday, March 8, 7 p.m.**

We will discuss *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, by Annie Dillard, facilitated by Susan Oxman. On April 12, we will discuss *Time and Again*, by Jack Finney, facilitated by Nancy Lee McLure and Jackie Mulcey, and on May 10, *The Measure of a Man: a Spiritual Autobiography*, by Sidney Poitier, facilitated by Dee Dasara. We meet on the second Monday **always at 7 p.m.** 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](mailto:nlmclure@msn.com).

### ***New Practice Group #2 Kicks off***

**Wednesday, March 10, at 1-2:30 p.m.**

Consider joining the new Compassionate Communication Practice Group. They will meet on the **second** Wednesday of each month in the Library. For more information, contact Brenda Forte at [bgforte@verizon.net](mailto:bgforte@verizon.net) or Jo Sippie-Gora at [josippie@optonline.net](mailto:josippie@optonline.net).

**(Note: Compassionate Communication Practice**

**Group #1 continues to meet monthly on Thursdays.**

**For more information & next meeting date:** Contact Genie Bane at [geniebane@optonline.net](mailto:geniebane@optonline.net).)

### ***Writing Room – Connecting Creatively with Yourself and Others***

**Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

(snow date Saturday, March 27)

Facilitated by Ellen Schmidt. Lunch included.

**Registration required by March 12** with MUF office.

Back by popular demand!! This workshop is an opportunity to connect with personal and creative ideas, to relax and “write from the heart” in a safe and supportive environment. This is a day of guided writing and sharing through structured exercises and personal

expression. Connect with your own voice and listen to others. An experienced writer and facilitator with whom many of us have had deep and enriching experiences on Star Island, Ellen creates writing circles at Cornell University and in private practice at her home in Ithaca, NY.

To learn more about Ellen’s work go to her website [www.writingroomworkshops.com](http://www.writingroomworkshops.com), or contact Kate McAteer at [katemcateer@hotmail.com](mailto:katemcateer@hotmail.com). Cost: \$40 per person (20 person limit). Please send a check payable to MUF with “Writing Circle” in the memo line and mail it to the Fellowship at 21 Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960.

### ***Womanspace – Women’s Spirituality Circle***

**Sunday, March 21, 10:30 a.m.**

Meets third Sunday of every month

Coordinated by Gloria Jackson

Womanspace is an informal circle gathering that includes ritual, discussion and sharing of personal experiences. Open to all women, both adults and teens. *No registration required.* More information from Gloria Jackson at [gloriajackson@aol.com](mailto:gloriajackson@aol.com).

### ***Crafting Group***

**Friday, March 26, 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](mailto:cintrafricke@gmail.com), or Tina Demottie at [demottie@optonline.net](mailto:demottie@optonline.net) by March 24 if you will be coming.

### ***Spring Cleanup—Save the Date!***

**Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m.-12 noon**

Come help with MUF's Spring Cleaning. Come early for coffee, help the community Spring Clean, and stay for pizza at lunchtime. Sign up for a specific job at coffee hour on April 4, or just show up and see what needs doing! Many hands make light work. Sponsored by the MUF Beautification and Preservation Committee. Contact [BPC@muuf.org](mailto:BPC@muuf.org) for more information.

## *Wanderlust*

**Saturday, April 3, 8-9:30 p.m.**

Adults \$20, bring a friend for \$30, students \$10

*A Theatrical Monologue Performed by Martin Dockery*

*Directed by Jean-Michele Gregory*

After more than a decade of temping, both at work and in relationships, a man embarks on a solo trip deep into Africa, trekking from the Atlantic to the Sahara.

There he demands an Epiphany...any Epiphany....some proof that although we're temporary, we're more than mere temps. A comic, true story.

"Dockery is an insightful and articulate writer and an equally smart and captivating actor.... His remarkable adventures make the heartbeat alternately race and relax. Best of all, there's a subtle but compelling point behind *Wanderlust* that seeps into the consciousness... a call to action." – *nytheatre.com are now on*

Tickets go on sale at the Box Office on February 28. For information, email [muf.events@gmail.com](mailto:muf.events@gmail.com) or call Michelle Kunz.

## *2010 Metro NY District Annual Meeting*

**April 30-May 1, at the Hyatt Morristown**

The Rev. Burton Carley, Senior Minister at the First Unitarian Church of Memphis, will be the keynote speaker. He will speak on "What Binds Us Together?," focusing on how we might understand our center as a people of faith and deepen the quality of our spiritual bonds. Olympia's Daughters will be featured guests on Friday, April 30. Our own Maria Manna is a member of this all-woman a capella ensemble. More information can be obtained on the UU Metro NY website: <http://uumetrony.org>.

*Susan Oxman, Denominational Affairs*

## **Save the Date!**

**The 11th Annual District Anti-Racism Conclave** will be held **Saturday, May 15**, at the Community Church of New York UU (Manhattan) from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Planners hope to make this event multigenerational, including workshops for children, youth and adults of all ages. More information to come soon.

## *"Murder at the Manse" Dinner/Theater Evening*

**Saturday April 10, from 6-10 p.m.**

David Landau has written and directed a brilliantly funny, nationally famous "interactive mystery" and is bringing the hilarity to MUF for a fundraiser. Uniquely suited to the "run of the MUF mansion," (think CLUE room by room), the game allows guests to interact with the famous Inspector C. and nine suspects, with bribes and ruses abounding.

This will be fun for singles, couples, friends, older kids. **Dinner included**—BYOB—soft drinks provided. Cost is \$30 per attendee—buy 2, and a non-MUF member comes FREE! Great time to bring friends! Reservations at Box Office or call MUF office to be added to list: 973-540-1177.

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

**Registration opens March 1 for the 2010 General Assembly**, to be held in Minneapolis from June 23-27. The opening celebration and banner parade will feature UU singer-songwriter Peter Mayer. The Ware Lecturer will be Winona LaDuke, internationally renowned Native American activist working on sustainable development. For more information, [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).

Junior high youth from all over the District will gather on **April 17-18** at the Morristown Unitarian Fellowship for the spring **Junior Youth Conference**, led by senior high youth and adults attend as advisors.

The UU Congregation of Greater Bridgeport in Stratford, CT is sponsoring on **March 12-13 The Skillful Heart**, a workshop on communicating with compassion, facilitated by nonviolent communication trainer Jerry Koch-Gonzalez of the Institute for Peaceable Communities.

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.

**The deadline for submitting nominations for 2010 Metro NY District awards has been extended to March 15.**

*Susan Oxman, Denominational Affairs*

## **Social Justice Council - March 2010 Update** **Helping Neighbors in Need**



**Pathways to Work(ers)! – Clean Up That Snow Quickly**—Call Rosa Chilquillo at Neighborhood House - 973-538-1229 ext. 43 or cell 973-647-8495. Let the PTW registered workers help you shovel out. Skilled and experienced workers are available for other home projects – laborers – men and women (domestic work) are available 24/7. Very reasonable rates!

**Wind of the Spirit – “International Women’s Day Celebration” – Saturday, March 13**, 2-4 p.m. – St. Margaret of Scotland, Church Hall – 6 Sussex Avenue, Morristown. All women welcome. “Our Community, Our Responsibility”– Multicultural program – including presenter, drama about raising children to be intent upon eliminating domestic violence, and other family well-being topics, personal sharing. Refreshments. **Join us!**

**MUF Social Justice Council- UU Legislative Ministry NJ –Sunday, March 28** –Visit and talk during Coffee Hour/Info/Letter Tables: Tell NJ Legislators: Preserve Affordable Housing!

**Notes from the Food Pantry – Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County** Mission: To distribute supplemental and/or emergency nonperishable food to eligible Morris County residents in need; to provide hands on opportunities for neighbors to help neighbors; to educate public about the issues of hunger in our area. Rosemary Gilmartin, Exec. Director, reports:

- In 2009 they served 5,007 households, 400 per week – feeding a total of 13,036 people.
- They distributed 780,160 pounds of food; 15,000 per week.
- Client ethnicity: 51% Hispanic/Latino; 33% Caucasian, 12% African American 4% other.
- According to the United Way of Morris County: “30% of the families living in Morris County are earning less than they need to support their families and are struggling to provide food for them.”
- Income Sources: Salary/wages: 53%; SSI: 10%; SS Pension: 8%; Disability 8%; Unemployment: 6%; Public Assistance: 3%; Child Support/Other: 1% No Income: 6%.
- Age: 18 and under: 40%; 60 and over: 10%

### **What You Can Do:**

- Food Drop Hours at Food Pantry Warehouse, 540A West Hanover Ave., Morristown 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. M-Th.
- **Drop Food in MUF PERMANENT FOOD COLLECTION BOX – MUF KITCHEN** any Sunday/weekday. Social Justice Team will deliver in your name.
- Volunteer at Pantry: Call Doug McMahon at 973-538-8049 ext. 18.

**Current Pantry Needs List:** **Milk** – Parmalat, evaporated, condensed and powdered; **Breakfast** – cold and hot cereals oatmeal, pancake mix; **Pasta:** dry whole-grain and gluten-free; canned **Meats and Meals:** stews, chili, pasta in a can; **Reusable Shopping bags.**

**Two (2) Eric Johnson House Monthly Dinners – March 3 and 24, 5:45-7:15** – MUF is meeting two monthly commitments to this amazing Morristown community of recovering AIDS/HIV neighbors. Your friendly self and/or your good cooking needed. Contact Zella Geltman.

**Morristown Soup Kitchen – Help is needed for MUF March 9 Hosting.** 280+ people were served at our last hosting. We need more cooks to prepare casseroles, soup, chili, hot dogs and beans in advance and drop off at MUF. Helpers are needed to serve and shop day before for fresh items. Contact Michelle Kunz at [mbkunz@gmail.com](mailto:mbkunz@gmail.com) to tell her you are cooking or willing to help!

**Morris Homeless Solutions Monthly Dinner –Saturday, March 13, 4:45-7 p.m.** –Help prepare our monthly cheeseburger & birthday cake dinner for homeless shelter residents. “Table talk” is also where your natural self can be of great friendly help. Contact [judyonei1@verizon.net](mailto:judyonei1@verizon.net).

**Social Justice Council Monthly Meeting – Thursday, March 11 - 7:30-9 p.m.** Help us promote social justice at MUF in 3 ways: supporting MUF Social Action Groups and two Study/ Action Groups, planning MUF- wide seasonal/ad hoc activities, and allocating our plate donations to charities in the MUF congregation’s name. Contact Chris Reynolds at [Reynolds@nac.net](mailto:Reynolds@nac.net).

**R.E. “Passages” Class votes to Adopt Service Project: Collect Now to Help Fill the “PeaceWorks” May Container Shipment - April 24/May 2 dropoff at MUF- We Need Your Help!**

## ***GEM (Green Earth Ministry) Upcoming Events for March***

### ***A Chemical Reaction Film/Discussion, Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.***

This documentary movie tells the story of one of the most powerful and effective community initiatives in the history of North America. One lone voice in 1984, Dr. June Irwin, a dermatologist, noticed a connection between her patients' health conditions and their exposure to chemical pesticides and herbicides on the lawn.

During the discussion following the film, Anthony Pascale, owner of Natural Turf in Denville, will be on hand to answer your questions and share his expertise on how you can grow a safe and beautiful lawn.

Information and resources for organic gardening will be available. Co-sponsored by GEM, Garden State Earth Institute, Community Green.  
*Claire Mayer, Linda DeLap, Caroline Gower*

### ***Choices for Sustainable Living Discussion Course, Seven Wednesdays, March 24-May 5, 7:30 p.m.***

These exciting conversations explore the impacts of consumerism, how it affects our daily life, societal values and planetary health. It includes suggestions for the many positive actions we can take to reap the rewards and face the challenges of being a more conscious consumer. The \$21 guidebook's informative articles, provocative questions and relevant actions makes this discussion course a real winner. To register or for more information contact Claire Mayer at [clairemayer@optonline.net](mailto:clairemayer@optonline.net).

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

	January 2010	July -January	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
<b>INCOME</b>				
Pledge Income	\$18,063.83	\$285,366.57	\$433,000.00	\$147,633.43
Rental Income	\$ 4,825.00	\$ 26,380.00	\$ 49,200.00	\$ 22,820.00
Fundraisers	\$ 0.00	\$ 21,154.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 11,346.00
Other Income	\$ 819.57	\$ 13,390.65	\$ 15,400.00	\$ 2,009.35
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 23,708.40</b>	<b>\$346,291.22</b>	<b>\$530,100.00</b>	<b>\$183,808.78</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>				
PAYROLL	\$ 26,600.28	\$213,243.36	\$360,064.00	\$146,820.64
Debt Services	\$ 1,802.62	\$ 12,643.12	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 9,356.88
BLDG MTCE & UTIL	\$ 4,815.66	\$ 32,278.80	\$ 62,632.00	\$ 30,353.20
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 2,212.39	\$ 29,987.64	\$ 51,936.00	\$ 21,948.36
COMMITTEES	\$ 2,006.50	\$ 4,628.16	\$ 15,420.00	\$ 10,791.84
Religious Education	\$ 1,080.34	\$ 5,413.18	\$ 9,716.00	\$ 4,302.82
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$ 38,517.79</b>	<b>\$298,194.26</b>	<b>\$521,768.00</b>	<b>\$223,573.74</b>
Difference	(\$14,809.39)	\$ 48,096.96	\$ 8,332.00	

## ***Projected Cash Flow Through the End of the Fiscal Year***

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June
Beg Cash	104,931	92,415	62,897	52,046	31,638	25,816
Income*	23,708	22,310	37,510	32,310	32,510	34,510
Expense	38,518	46,828	44,161	52,718	38,332	44,155
Balance Sheet	2,293	-5,000	-4,200	0	0	0
<b>End Cash</b>	<b>92,415</b>	<b>62,897</b>	<b>52,046</b>	<b>31,638</b>	<b>25,816</b>	<b>16,170</b>

\*This income has been calculated with the assumption that only 97% of pledges will actually be paid. The remaining 3% of pledges amounts to \$13,000. If everyone honors his or her pledge, we could end the year with \$29,000 - a much more comfortable cash position for a budget of our size.  
 - Susan Lausell, Treasurer

# haring Our Joys & Concerns

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

## ***Tell Us Your Joys & Concerns***

***Be sure to send your Joys and Concerns to [melodylingers@verizon.net](mailto:melodylingers@verizon.net) so they will reach all members of the Fellowship.***

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*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.*



**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.

## March 2010

Volume 55, No. 3



Dated Material – Posted March 1, 2010  
Deadline for the APRIL issue is

**MARCH 15**

### Sunday Services

Services at 9 and 11 a.m.



#### March 7 **GodSpeak & Other Dilemmas**

We explore the use of the many different kinds of religious and spiritual and other sorts of "fancy" language we use and hear at the Fellowship. Our goal is to help us all to feel more comfortable with one another's language usage – and to have some fun with it along the way. Our president, Gary Kunz, will chime in on the subject.

*Coordinated by Betsy Burr and Carol Titus*

#### March 14 **Dangling from the Web**

This will be the seventh service in our Living in Covenant: 7 Principles series focused on "Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part."

*Rev. Alison B. Miller*

#### March 21 **Imagine**

We will explore imagination – the first ingredient in a meaningful life. It is the starting place of religion, childhood, career, retirement, overcoming illness, creation of family, strategic plans and more.

*Rev. Alison B. Miller*

#### March 28 **Freedom Cries**

The most observed Jewish holiday is Passover, which begins tomorrow night at sundown. In honor of the holiday, the service will focused around the theme of liberation.

*Rev. Alison B. Miller*