

# FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF PLAINFIELD



Minister ..... Tracy Sprowls-Jenks  
Religious Ed. Dir ..... Sue Fertig  
Music Director ..... Gail Slater  
Office Administrator ..... Louise Polli  
Phone: 908-756-0750 Fax: 908-769-0452  
[www.fusp.org](http://www.fusp.org) (see back page for e-mails)



ESTABLISHED 1889 (UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST)

MAY 2010

## SERMON SCHEDULE FOR MAY AND JUNE

Because we are no longer mailing the newsletter, I will be sharing the sermon blurbs a week or two in advance rather than a whole month. This gives me flexibility in the topic as well as the ability to be more responsive to events in our lives and around the world. It also allows more input from you. Please let me know if there is something you would like to hear in a sermon. I do not guarantee I will cover your topic, but who knows!

MAY 2— REV. TRACY

The sermon topic will be announced at a later time. Children

will attend the service

### PARENTING AND OUR SEVEN UU PRINCIPLES

MAY 9— MARTHA HAVILAND

For Mother's Day, let us think more generally about what parenting means. This service will explore how parenting and our UU principles converge in spirit.

MAY 16— REV. TRACY

Bridging of our high school seniors.

### REMEMBERING MARGARET FULLER

MAY 23— REV. TRACY

This is also the Sunday we welcome new members.

### CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT

MAY 30— DAVID NOWLIN

Can Unitarian Universalism change? Our tradition has always been responsive to the needs of the times, but is it ready to adapt to our increasingly multicultural society? This service will suggest possible new directions, and blend familiar service elements with some changes.

## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

### BEYOND THE PULPIT

Today, two days after the Installation, I am still smiling. What an incredible Installation we had! Everything was absolutely perfect. The building, the service, the music, the speakers, the reception, all of it was just beautiful and unforgettable.

The building and the grounds looked fantastic! I know lots of people worked really hard to put a very fine luster on the place and it

shows! We should be very proud of this building and what she looks like. It is important to have a building that is loved and cared for in a struggling town such as Plainfield. The beauty of the place elevates the whole neighborhood! Although I do not know all who put in hours to make our building and grounds shine, I do know that George Gowan, Guy Mastroianni, Melissa

Logan, Bob Obester, Amy Cartwright, Dan Zucker, Ronnie Buffington, Sandy Kaplan, and Jack Schrum all were involved. Thank you so much for all your hard work.

The service itself was wonderful. I am so very pleased to be here and to share a ministry with you. I thought the speakers shared from their hearts and did a good job doing so. I love that Jackie hon-

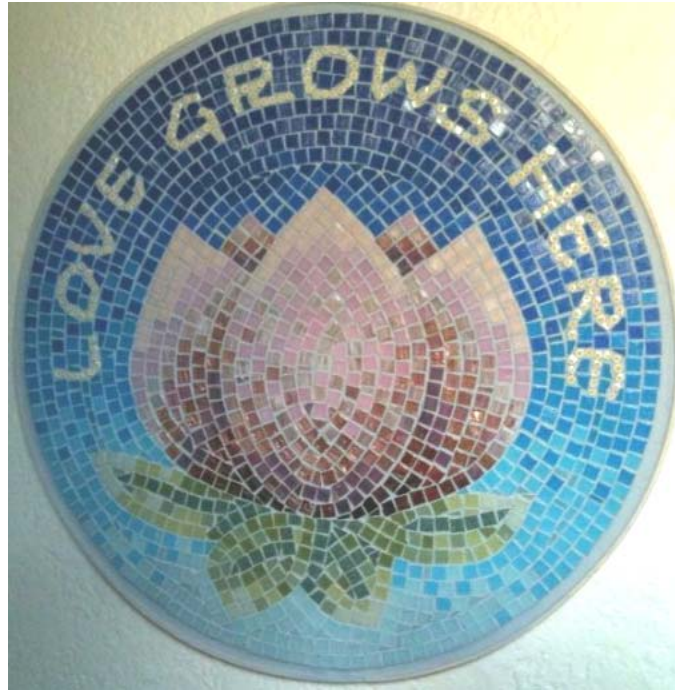
# WORSHIP COMMITTEE

## BEYOND THE PULPIT

ored the people that were here before us, including the Native Americans so long ago. I love that Kim talked about knitting. I love that Patrick made jokes and called us to expect much of each other but to also be easy on each other. What a wise man he is! I love how Sarah used Micah 6:8, the reading I have carried in my heart for over twenty years. I love how Cheryl reminded us what a good leader or pastor does in ministry. Cats versus Sheep—hmmmm.

My favorite parts of the service, though, were the children's gift of the mosaic and the bell choir. The mosaic now hangs outside the door to my office. I also have it as the desktop screen on my computer and on my phone. I will treasure this gift forever. Love does grow here! Thank you for the love you bring: Maryann Ficker, Carolyn Reading, Sue Fertig, and all the children and youth of our congregation. And what can I say about the bells but you rock! It was pure delight to have all the music but

particularly the bells. The video of the bells will be added to our website soon, I hope! Thank you



all for the beauty and gift of music that you bring to FUSP: all the musicians (Paul Caluori, Chris Walsh, Isaac and Nicolaus Schrum), the choir, the bell choir and Gail Slater. All I can say is wow! Our congregation is truly blessed by the music you share with us.

The reception was truly wonderful too. Thank you all who contributed food and time to providing a spectacular feast. And what

cakes! What an incredible church cake! I have never seen anything like that and I was flabbergasted.

Gray Icing? Okay! It was a thing of beauty and surely an architectural feat! Thank you Joanne Macaluso, Breda May, Angela Goldman, Gail Pollack and all of you who fed our stomachs after our souls had already been fed. What a joy to see the tea set out, too!

While I am thanking people, I also give my thanks to the search committee and to the installation committee. All of you put endless hours into the work you did for this congregation and we all

thank you for it. Thank you to Susan Neuhaus for the invitations and order of service, too! I am sure I have forgotten to thank someone, but please know my heart is full of gratitude for all you have done.

My heart overflows. I am "tickled pink" to be here. I look forward to our shared ministry together now and into the future. Love does grow here.

## OFFICE HOURS

Usual office hours for Rev. Tracy are Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 10AM until 3:30 PM. but it is best to call for an appointment.

Thursdays she works from home. Fridays she writes her sermons. Monday is her day off. Feel free to call Rev. Tracy at the office or

to e-mail her at [revtsj@fusp.org](mailto:revtsj@fusp.org). In an emergency, the office administrator (M-Th, 9AM-3PM) will be able to reach her.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## TEACHERS MAKE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POSSIBLE

Religion is a gift we give our children. We have no way of knowing what they will do with it, but we know that if they accept this gift, they can gain an understanding of their place in the world, a sense of spiritual wholeness, and a wholeness, and a home base of comfort and security to come back to whenever they need to.

Charles E. Schaefer, Ph.D.

Theresa Foy DiGeronimo, M.Ed.

### How to Talk to Teens About Really, Really Important Things

Each Sunday I give a silent prayer of thanks when I see our religious education teachers enter the building. I am especially excited when I see bags, boxes and books come in along with their good energy and enthusiasm. This tells me that it will be an exciting day for our children and youth. The lesson on page will be transformed into something that will engage and stimulate the mind and spirit.

One of my biggest thrills is when a new teacher asks permission to change or alter a lesson. This tells

me that they have embraced teaching and are confident in knowing what will work for their children/youth. As Unitarian Universalists we foster both individual thought and group decision making practices that will allow for growth and learning to take place. We, at The First Unitarian Society of Plainfield (Unitarian Universalist) have made a commitment to provide a safe and nurturing environment for our children and youth to grow into healthy, responsible and compassionate citizens of the world.

This year our teachers have shared their talents, abilities, time and energies in order for our children to more fully understand the gifts of our Unitarian Universalist identity and tradition. Please acknowledge and appreciate the amazing job these volunteer religious educators have done this year:

David Jenks	Christy Dobrowski
Annie Reading	Gail Pollak
Sherie Novotny	Jody Wood
Matthew Reading	
Beckie Orth	Diane Sutterlin
Melissa Logan	Nikki Sidhu
Kit Marlowe	Steve Cauley

Kathleen Leistikow

Dean Leistikow	Kate Riegel
Diane Sciortino	Chris Baglieri
Heather Brown	Tara Janick
Dan Zucker	Alex Brown
Meredith Slotoroff	Craig Hinds
Joanne Macaluso	Grace LaForge
Jason Simmons	

During the months of May and June the Religious Education Committee will sponsor a table with prospective curricula for next year's program along with teacher's sign up sheets. In order to provide our children and youth a high quality, valuable education, we will need 34 teachers/leaders for next year's program. It's time for our seasoned teachers to take a break, in order to renew their connections with the Sunday morning service and adult community. Please allow them time to recharge their batteries by volunteering to teach next year. Most teachers teach once a month or 10 times /year. Your investment can make a BIG difference.

In the spirit of community, friendship, and love,

Sue Fertig, Director of Religious Educa-

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

Many wishes for wonderful birthdays to those celebrating in May:

Jessica Braham	William Brown	Eric Ivaniuc	Max Alexander Keller
Jaydyn Langley	Tyler Stafford	Sara Neiss	Jake Sutterlin



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## "BRIDGES OUTREACH" COLLECTION OF TOILETRIES

On Friday, June 4th the Youth Group will be attending a Midnight Run into New York City, organized by a Summit-based organization called "Bridges Outreach, Inc." A "Run" is the visit we make to our street friends. At each Run stop, volunteers distribute clothing and toiletry items, serve soup and a beverage, and ensure that every street friend who visits the truck receives what they need. Most important, volun-

teers mingle with Bridges' street friends and share conversations. The bond established at this time has enduring value for both volunteers and street friends. The Youth have been fundraising in order to purchase enough food for 300 bagged lunches. At this time we are in need of toiletries to bring on the Run and will be collecting sample or hotel size of the following items: soap, shampoo, wash cloth, cream, lip balm, de-

odorant, toothpaste and toothbrush. Your donation of a toiletry kit of the above items or individual items may be left in the marked box on the stage in the Parish Hall each Sunday until then. Thank you!

PS: If you are interested in attending the Run as a driver, please contact Grace LaForge. We will be following the Bridges truck into Manhattan.

## NEWS FROM THE COMFY COUCH

In February at FUSP, you may have noticed an extra flurry of activity emanating from the Stevens wing, involving some 80+ youth and adults. You may have heard that the youth were having a CON and wondered...what are they up to now? First, CON is short for Conference. There are working Cons - ones where youth gain leadership skills (we hosted an Anti-Oppression workshop last year) and Social Cons such as the one we led this year. Ours was called Con Om Nom, like the sound Cookie Monster makes when eating cookies! Our Con was food-themed - one of our workshops involved cooking food which was later served to our Homefirst Guests. We also ate well thanks to efforts of many FUSP members.

Sara Neiss and Emma Budiansky

serve on the district Youth Adult Committee (YAC) which trains leaders, encourages youth empowerment and plans district youth events like this one. Together they led other members of the group (Zack Schultz, Val Neuhaus, Ian Cauley, Tara Sciortino, Glenn Levine) to plan and staff the program from Friday night to Sunday morning. Activities included both light and serious workshops and included two worship services. In response to the question "Why do you love social Cons?" the youth answered: "the people are amazing" "my head got used as a teddy bear" "I never got hungry" "I could stay up as long as I wanted" "It was a parent-free weekend" "I got to play Wink".

We received a lot of positive feedback from youth and adults

who shared our space and noted our unique low-key but warm spirit. We want to thank all of you who kept us warm, well-fed and enabled us to fulfill our plans:

Guy Mastroianni (who contributed that extra something to the event), Charlie Neiss (the district Registrar), Jason Simmons, Grace LaForge, Dan Zucker, Chris Baglieri, Steve Schultz, Annie Reading, Elaine Kopreski, Carolyn Reading, Robert Reading, Karen Hawkins, Denise Soppas, Julie Walsh, Kate Riegel, Maryann Ficker, Barbara VanSavage, Diane Sciortino, Nikki Sidhu, Christy Dobrowski, Katherine Cauley, Rev. Tracy, Sue Fertig DRE, Patty Zenchat, Angela Goldman, Lois Laning, Bob Brunquell, Gayle Jones, Judy England-McCarthy and Julie Walsh

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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## FIRST SUNDAY EXPLORERS

Adult Religious Education with Rev. Tracy Sprowls-Jenks

(Ages 11th grade and up are welcome!). Time: 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM in the Stevens Room.

The idea behind Explorers is to have a single session on something of interest. It can be a current event, a concern of the congregation, or a philosophical issue that sparks a passion. These single sessions can lead to further discussion, education, action or exploration opportunities, if there is interest and support. This se-

ries will start up again in the fall. Your suggestions for topics are welcome. If you would like to lead a session, please let Rev. Tracy know your interest and your topic by emailing her at [revtsj@fusp.org](mailto:revtsj@fusp.org).

### **May 2: Unitarian Universalism: As a Social Movement**

We will look at Unitarian Universalism through the lens of a social justice movement. What is the theological basis for the social justice work we do? Can we be martyrs of this faith? We will ex-

plore this topic both in a historical context and our contemporary one.

## PATH TO MEMBERSHIP CLASS

The next Path to Membership Class will be May 16th and the next New member Sunday is May 23rd. Please contact Rev. Tracy for more information at [revtsj@fusp.org](mailto:revtsj@fusp.org) or check the Path to Membership article under the About Us tab of the website.

# LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

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## BUILDING USE TASK FORCE: CH-CH-CH-CHANGES!

You may have seen some changes in the Parish Hall lately. Then again, maybe you haven't. Maybe you notice something missing. No giant stereo speaker stuck to the wall. No non-functioning fans overhead. No chipped, stained walls. No bright silver ductwork. No stacks of chairs blocking your way. The Building Use Task Force is working hard to make a better, more efficient use of our space. We have completed the first phase of the project with the installation of a modern, multi-use sound system, the creation of a modern, efficient office space for the office administrator, a furniture storage closet, new signage and displays, and a fresh coat of

paint.

Many people have contributed time and money to this project. We were able to get some donations of materials, tools, and professional labor from some of our members who are in key professions and trades. The Building Use Task Force Update Committee would like to thank all of the volunteers who have helped so far: Fred Lange, Dan Zucker, Rachel Zucker, Jack Schrum, Bob Obester, Guy Mastroianni, George Gowen, Amy Cartwright, Ronnie Buffington, Steve Schultz, Sue Neuhaus, and Sue Krisburg. Also a special thanks to Barbara Van Savage and the

members of ACT IV for their cooperation and assistance. Forgive me if I left anyone off!

The next phase of our project involves a reorganization of the kitchen and coat room spaces to make way for the chair lift. We are also upgrading the sound system in the Sanctuary, cleaning up the Sanctuary entry hall, and re-locating closet storage space. If you can swing a hammer, wield a paintbrush, hold a ladder, or pack a dish, we need you. Contact Melissa Logan or Guy Mastroianni to see how you can help. Thanks! Melissa Logan for the Building Use Task Force Update Committee

# LEADERSHIP

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## SOMETHING IN THE AIR

Now it's Official! The First Unitarian Society celebrated the Installation of Reverend Tracy Sprowls-Jenks this past April 18th and if you weren't there to take part in the celebration you missed a wonderful event that included a meaningful and inspirational service followed by a gala party. I'd been feeling a bit mired down in balancing the demands of my personal life with the demands of the church, so I'm pleased to share with you that the service wiped away that ill feeling and left me with a strong sense of resolve and optimism for the success of our Society in our new partnership with Reverend Tracy. I actually had one of those moments that I think we all look forward to getting from church. I needed it, and I got it!

This year has been filled with success stories, and one of them is the transformation of the Parish Hall complete with a new message and announcement center in the vestibule, and a dazzling chronology of our Society that now occupies the wall at the left of the office entry. I look forward to the day when some future generation boasts about the accomplishments that we are achieving now and our aspirations and dreams for tomorrow will fill up the wall at the right of the door!

One of those dreams for tomorrow is the day when we don't need buckets in the Parish Hall whenever it rains, and that day is

coming soon! Another success story for FUSP is the Building Restoration project and as soon as we clear the final hurdle in the permitting process; work will commence on all fronts. Haven't heard about the project lately? Haven't heard about it at all? Well that's all going to change real soon, and when it does, the sleeping giant of our Society's potential will be unleashed! Details elsewhere!?!

Speaking of giants David (The Board of Trustees) is facing Goliath (the Annual Budget Deficit) again in what seems to be a yearly rematch for at least as long as I have been a member. Last year's canvass fell short of our target, despite all the folks who said they would raise their pledge to provide for the increased ministerial pay package that brought us Rev. Tracy. It's time to pay the fiddler, so now as we all reap the benefit of having a new full time minister, I ask all of us to reach a little deeper for this year and help close the gap.

Judging by the results of this year's canvass, Goliath is slated for another rematch next year as well, but this time the Board is looking for other stones to put in the sling besides just your pledge dollars. Last month's Board meeting took on the look of a professional think tank as we all brainstormed ways to increase our revenue from outside sources and do more creative fundraising. I

think we came up with a couple of real winners, not just nickel and dime schemes but in one instance, what could be a very powerful enhancement to something we already do.

We generate about \$4,000 a year in profits from supermarket card sales, and at first glance that sounds impressive; but if we raise the level of participation in that program the benefit would potentially be in the TENS of thousands of dollars. What a simple way for ALL of us to markedly increase our pledge without spending any more money than we already do at the supermarket. The only catch is you have to have a card when you go shopping, and we're developing a plan to help make that easier and more reflexive. Keep your eyes open for more info on that.

The end of the year is approaching and the Board is preparing for the Annual Meeting. **This year we are holding a budget hearing on May 2nd** to help bring into focus our financial situation well ahead of the **Annual Meeting on June 6th**. We hope you will come out on May 2nd and share in the discussion about our finances and hopefully you won't have to wait for the Annual Meeting to have your questions answered. This leaves us more time for the fun stuff like handing out awards and thinking about the next great chapter in the story of FUSP.

# FINANCE MINISTRY

## GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

Last month I mentioned how our giving at church adds up to tithing 5-10% of our income. A friend mentioned how good she felt about putting a dollar in the plate each Sunday. I don't. I was brought up to budget to the penny and now that the IRS will not let us include cash donations (no receipt) on our income tax I refuse

to put cash in the plate, only occasional checks. I have been thinking about her joy of giving and have decided to frivolously put money in the plate and see how I feel about this generosity - maybe a \$2 bill! The church earns about \$5,000 on this source of income. Alice Logie

## BUILDING PRESERVATION

The kickoff of the next fund raising campaign for our building preservation fund will be Sunday, May 2nd. You will observe work being done by then and to complete and pay for the project in the fall, those members and

friends who have not had the opportunity to pledge and pay will receive the details then. At least \$50,000 more in pledges are needed. I plan to complete my previous pledge early in the next few months.

## RECYCLING

On **Saturday, July 17th** and also **July 31st** we will be at the Fanwood Recycling Center from **8:45 AM to 1:00 PM**. We unload cars with recyclable items and sort the material into bins. FUSP receives \$225 for each day and this not only helps our operating budget but also the environment. We need 12 people on each date in order to receive the \$225. Anyone 12 or older can help. Please let Fred Lange know if you can help.



## HOW DO YOU RAISE \$10,000 IN A SINGLE NIGHT? - SERVICE AUCTION!

Come one, come all to our annual service auction. After the Canvass, this is FUSP's largest fundraiser, and it's also a great night! This year's auctioneer will be Guy Mastroianni. Join us on **Saturday, June 12th, 2010** in the Parish Hall. **Doors open at 6:30, auction starts at 7.** Tickets are \$4, which includes appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages. Child care will be available.

### What is the Service Auction?

Members and friends donate services to the auction. Past donations have included a week at the

member's summer home, dinners at the member's home, belly dancing lessons, yard raking, babysitting, minor home repairs, and organic vegetables. At the auction, people bid on these services, and the proceeds go to FUSP. You can share your talents with your friends and benefit the church as well!

### How will I know what is being offered?

The auction catalogue will be mailed out to members and friends in mid-May. The catalogue will also be available at the

Welcome Table.

### How do I donate a service?

This is the perfect opportunity to share your talents, skills or time with your friends at FUSP. Whether you're waiting patiently to list your special talent for auction or you'd like ideas for a service you can donate, contact Julie Walsh or Melissa Logan, Service Auction co-chairpersons, or e-mail us at [serviceauction@fusp.org](mailto:serviceauction@fusp.org). Our fundraising team will also be reaching out to members and friends for donations.

# **SOCIAL JUSTICE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

## **COMMUNITY ACTION TO ADDRESS YOUTH VIOLENCE IN PLAINFIELD**

We occasionally hear something about "Gang" violence in Plainfield, but little about action to do something about it. Our Racial Justice Committee has decided that the time has come. We are working with five other Plainfield churches, Angels in Action and the "People's Organization for Progress" to organize a community forum to address the prob-

lem. The mission of our group, "Project Hope", is "Engaging together as a community to build a positive, safe, nurturing environment so our youth of today can be our leaders of tomorrow."

The forum panel, consisting of local government and educational officials, a victim's family member, a reformed ex-offender turned community organizer, and

young people, will explore the issues and potential solutions with an audience of families, youth, and concerned citizens in our Parish Hall in early June.

FUSP'ers who are eager to do something about systemic racism which underlies youth problems in our Plainfield community should contact Carl Heath.

## **EASTER DINNER FOR THE PLAINFIELD COMMUNITY: A SUCCESS!**

Thanks to the many who provided food, cash and time, we were able to serve 145 guests at the annual Easter Dinner for the community. They dined on roast chicken and gravy, baked ham, kielbasi, macaroni & cheese, mashed & scal-

loped potatoes, green beans, carrot casseroles, cheesecake, cupcakes, layer cake, brownies, ambrosia, coffee, tea, juice and, of course, Easter candy. Most everything was cooked by our volunteers at home; our guests com-

mented how nice it was to have a home cooked meal. Our next meal will be Thanksgiving (it'll be here before we know it!). Stay tuned. Love, Cass & Karleen

## **METRO DISTRICT RACIAL JUSTICE CONCLAVE**

Mark your calendars now for a great day exploring the latest approaches to anti-racism and multiculturalism. The 11th annual Conclave takes place on May 15 at Community Church in Manhattan. The keynote will be given by Rev. Mark Hicks, the designer of "Building the World We Dream About".

Among the workshops are "Race, Class, Katrina, and Youth", "Escaping Gang Vio-

lence in New Jersey", "Pastoral Care for Youth of Color", and "We'll Build a Land: Cross-Cultural Engagement in Worship". This will be a great day for networking and learning. Board, Social Justice, Worship, RE, Membership and, obviously, Racial Justice members will benefit from participating. Speak with Carl Heath for more information.

## **EARTH DAY 2010: 40/40/40**



Unitarian Universalists (UUs) across the continent are expanding Earth Day's 40th anniversary

on April 22, 2010 to last 40 days, from April 18 to May 27. By committing to small & large daily actions, for the sake of the Earth and all who live here, these 40 days may serve as a test drive for lifestyle changes. See <http://www.tr.im/404040> for sample actions

# MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## FROM THE CARING COMMITTEE

Best Wishes to **Bob Sommerich** who celebrated his 95th birthday!

Congratulations to **Amy Cartwright** who became a nurse.

Condolences to **Simon Keller** whose friend and godmother has died but we were happy to hear that his mother, who had broken her arm, is now OK.

Sincere condolences to **Martha Reading and family** on the death of her grandson's other grandmother.

Supportive thoughts to **Jane Gowen** and her mother who has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.

Congratulations to **Joanne Macaluso's** mother who celebrated her 90th birthday, and to her son and his fiancé who became engaged on Feb. 14.

We are happy to hear that Sue **Fertig's** gall bladder surgery went well, and she is back to her active self.

Congratulations to **Frank and Christine Fusco** who's daughter,

Jocelyn, was dedicated at FUSP on March 28.

We are happy to hear that **Charlie Sweeney**, who was in the hospital for tests in late March, got all good results.

Continued good recovery wishes to **Doris Lange** who had hip replacement surgery in February and is now recuperating at home.

Our supportive thoughts go out to **Christine Betros** and her brother-in-law's mother whose cancer has metastasized.

Condolences to **Jim Weiler** whose mother died on April 2 and best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to Debbie's step-mother who has had several TIAs.

Best Wishes to **Karin Harris** who celebrated 50 years since she came to the US. We are very happy she is here.

Congratulations to **Ronni Buffington's** mother, a breast cancer survivor, who turned 90.

Congratulations to **Meredith Slotoroff** and **Jason Simmons** on

the birth of their daughter, Ember and to Raya on becoming a big sister. We were sorry to hear that the day after Ember's birth, Jason was in a car accident. Happily, his injuries are minor, but his car was totaled.

Wishes for a complete recovery go out to **Jessica Toscano** who has been in and out of the hospital due to organ rejection issues.

We are glad to hear that **Beckie and Jim Orth's** daughter has been declared completely cured.

Congratulations to **John Hawkins** who has been appointed to the National Board of the UUA.

Good luck and much thanks to **Angela Goldman** who has volunteered to do office work for Angels in Action.

Condolences to **Carol La Pierre** whose companion, FUSP member **Bill Shafer**, died in Dec. 2009. We apologize that this was omitted from the report when previously submitted.

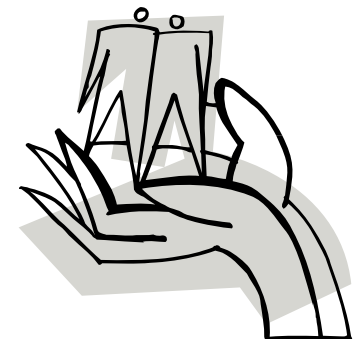
Condolences to **Judy England-McCarthy** whose brother died.

## MANY THANKS!

A great big thank you to all of you who sent cards, letters, made phone calls and visited after my recent surgery. I am home from the rehab hospital but am still un-

dergoing therapy at home. Thanks again for all your caring and concern.

Doris Lange



# DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

## METRO NEW YORK DISTRICT BOARD: NEW UUA TRUSTEE

Your Board of Trustees is pleased to announce two recent developments. You will see both, and have opportunity to learn more about both, at our upcoming Metro New York District Annual Meeting, April 30-May 1, in Morristown, NJ. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

UUA Trustee for Metro New York. As you all know, for the past several years, the Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt of 4th Universalist Church in New York City has been the trustee from our district on the UUA Board. She has been tireless and effective in her work with the UUA, especially in such vital work as the Trauma Response Ministry. In early April, Rosemary submitted her resignation from the Board due to even more compelling responsi-

bilities in her family and her own congregation. We honor her and thank her for her service to our denomination.

Rosemary's resignation, though, meant that the Board had to appoint someone to fill out the remaining 14 months of her elected term. After considerable discussion, the Board agreed unanimously to appoint John Hawkins of the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield (NJ) to serve through June 2011. He served four years on the Metro NY Board, including two as Secretary, and was a strong advocate for inclusiveness and diversity. He is a past president of his congregation and chaired the most recent ministerial search committee. John has a firm knowledge and appreciation of policy governance, and he has

strong communication skills. John has already become fully active and engaged in UUA Board work. Your Board welcomes John's contributions in this new role, and we hope that many of you will have an occasion to work with him and give him your insight into the direction for our whole Association for the coming year. He can be reached at [jhawkins@uua.org](mailto:jhawkins@uua.org).

Metro New York Board of Trustees, 2009-2010

Ted Fetter, President

Chris Buja                      Ron Roel  
Rev. Hope Johnson  
Rick Fierberg                      Toby Tyler  
Rev. Tracy Sprowls-Jenks  
Rev. Craig Hirshberg  
Jennifer Stevens  
Andrea Lerner, District Executive

## EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Come hungry and eat your fill at our delicious Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 16th. We start serving at 8:45 AM and keep it coming until just before the service. Freshly made pancakes, sausages, juice, and beverages -- and all you can eat, for only \$5.00 a person. Join the group for a social start to a spring morning..

### DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION AND BOOKTABLE

The next book for the daytime book discussion in May is "Little Bee" by Chris Cleave. This group meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1:30-3:00 p.m. This orange book with a black girl on the cover is available at the Booktable.

### WOMEN'S ALLIANCE BOOK GROUP

The next meeting of the Women's Alliance Book Group will be Thursday, May 6th, 7 PM in Classroom 1. The book is "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Diaz. Please join us for a lively discussion lead by Gloria Deodato.

# EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BRING-A-DISH DINNER

The Bring-A- Dish Dinner for May will be at the home of Breda May on Saturday, May 15th at 6:30pm. We especially welcome new members and friends. It's a great way to get to know others. RSVP to and confirm with Breda (732-906-2340) what dish you

plan to bring and please bring your own wine, beer or soda. This is a family friendly dinner. Child care will be available. There will be a small charge to cover expenses.

Future dinner dates are: June 19th

at the Walkers', July 17th at Sandy Kaplan's, August 21st (location to be determined) and September 18th at Melissa Logan's home. If you are interested in hosting or have questions, please contact Daniel Zucker at 908-889-5894.

## AND THEN THERE WERE NONE

Oh My Goodness!! Act IV is doing AND THEN THERE WERE NONE!!! (Remember 10 Little Indians?) and church member Judy England-McCarthy is in it! This is a great show with a large cast and will be directed by our good friend, Jean Dembaugh (Jean directed THE MOUSE-

TRAP last season and has acted in several of our shows in the past).

Come see this new Agatha Christie mystery on April 30 (free opening night reception), May 1, 2 (sold out), 7, 8 and 9. Fri. & Sat. at 8 PM, Sun. at 3 PM. Tickets \$15 at the door.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our Men's Breakfast group will meet, as usual, on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9 AM in the Stevens Room. May 8th is the date and the topic will be presented by Kurt Pollak and Ralph Braskett. "We all know where

we've been, at least, most of us do. But, where are we going? What do you anticipate the future will hold for you and what would make you happy?" A little introspection and some fanciful illusions, perhaps?

## WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

BRING OUT YOUR CREATIVITY: Our May meeting will be an art project, guided by our resident artist Maryann Ficker. No special abilities required. Look for more details in future Sunday morning announcements. The meeting will

be on Saturday May 15th, 10 AM to noon in the Stevens Room. Join us for some fun and relaxation.

## CHURCHYARD

### BARBECUE

Everyone is invited to the churchyard barbecue on **May 23rd** the cost will be.....

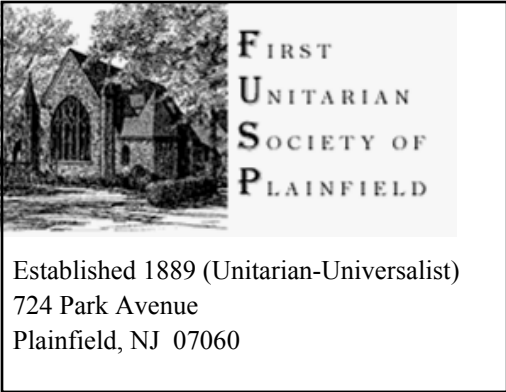
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This announcement has been interrupted to bring you an urgent message:

### The Beginning is Near!

On May 23rd all members of FUSP should proceed to the Parish Hall immediately after Sunday services and await further instructions. Failure to comply could prompt disastrous consequences! Your reward for cooperation in this matter will be **a free churchyard barbecue**. We now return you to the regularly scheduled announcement.

.....complete with burgers, dogs and vegetarian fare. Rain or shine. So keep your calendars clear for May 23rd.



**FUSP Email Addresses:**  
info@fusp.org  
Newsletter-  
website@fusp.org  
membership@fusp.org  
president@fusp.org  
publicity@fusp.org  
music@fusp.org  
minister@fusp.org  
dre@fusp.org  
fuo@fusp.org  
finance@fusp.org  
property@fusp.org  
worship@fusp.org  
Canvass@fusp.org



**DATED MATERIAL – PLEASE RUSH**

**HELP FUSP RAISE MONEY AT NO COST TO YOU!**

Spring has sprung into action. Almost time for outdoor grilling & parties. Consuming more juice, soda, snacks? You can give FUSP 5% of your supermarket bills at NO additional cost to YOU! How? Pay for whatever you buy with Supermarket Cards, which YOU can get every Sunday after services to use at: Kings, Pathmark, Shoprite, Stop&Shop.

It is so easy: Buy Cards with check or cash at our table in the Parish Hall next to the office after services every Sunday. Think of them as store money useable for all goods sold by the store. We have cards in varying denominations, like a debit card with a cap. Any questions: See us at our table, or call Pat Heath or Ralph Braskett.



Currently hanging are works of art that celebrate JOY. Artists include: Denise Soppas, Charlie Neiss, Gail Pollack, Kathy Weldy, Gail Sweeney, Maryann Ficker, Dorothy Siclare, Michael Fenton and Rosalia Verdun. Through May 23.