



## View from the Study Window...

I am focusing, this December, on "Sharing the Good Stuff". Everybody has some parts of "the Holidays" we enjoy. Everybody has parts that can bring out the Grinch or Scrooge in us.

Thanksgiving got me started just right this season. My sister invited me for a dinner scaled for four (two of my siblings and one spouse), instead of the 14 to 24 which had become the usual. We had just our favorite foods, and talked about our parents and times long past.

As Christmas nears, I look forward to the ambiance of candlelight services, and to singing along the alto part whenever Handel's Halleluiah Chorus comes on the radio.

When it comes to Christmas shopping, I enjoy browsing the

*(continued on page 10)*

## Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. and Religious Education

### December 7

#### Take a Stand for Economic Justice

*Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom*

The economic inequality in our nation is nothing short of obscene. That's why UUs have adopted "Escalating Inequality" as the new Study/Action Issue for our congregations.

### December 14

#### Music Sunday

*Glenn Kime and the MMUUS Choir*

This year's celebration features music from many traditions, creating a Unitarian Universalist Lessons and Carols. We are joined by guest musician, Deette Burns, harpist.

*12:00 pm—First Sunday Luncheon and Tree Decorating in foyer*

### December 21

#### Winter Solstice

*Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom and Stacy Sceiford*

Today we welcome the beginning of Winter, and a turn from shortening to lengthening daylight. In a celebration for all ages and all voices, we will gather in the energy and maybe make a little magic!

### Wednesday, December 24, at 6:00 pm

#### Christmas Eve Service

*Stacy Sceiford and the MMUUS Staff*

Join us in celebration and simple recreation of the Christmas story. We will have music and plenty of "joyful noise" and a closing circle of candlelight.

### December 28

#### Begin Again!

*The Worship Committee*

Everyone needs a new beginning—whether it be from a personal shortcoming, or a desire to pursue a dream! Let's bid farewell to regrets of the past year, and begin again, with the hope and promise of the new year ahead.



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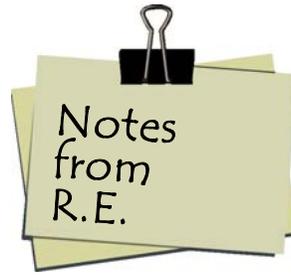


## CareRing News & Notes

We have received word of the death on November 12<sup>th</sup>, of **John Dopyera** at home in Ithaca. He was 85. He and his wife, **Margaret Lay-Dopyera**, were members of May Memorial who moved to northwest Pennsylvania when they retired. There they built a large house which they shared as a bed and breakfast, a vacation rental facility, and a venue for musical events. Dr. Dopyera, himself an educator, devoted much effort to the worldwide promotion of the Dobro, an acoustic instrument invented by his father and uncles, the Do[pyera] bros. John and Margaret moved to Ithaca from Pennsylvania. His memorial service was held in the UU church in Ithaca. Our sympathy goes to Margaret, his daughters and grandchildren.

**Muriel Kirkpatrick**, whom we have not seen much lately, celebrated her 91st birthday the day before attending Thanksgiving dinner here with her family.

*The CareRing wants you to know that if you are inclined to help other members and friends in small ways, there are colored leaflets in the pamphlet box on which you can volunteer your name and choice of task. Put it in the CareRing mailbox. Thank you!*



**Ah** winter, you have arrived a touch early this year! I'm writing this shortly after that unseasonable cold snap that sneaked its way in in November - the one that dumped several feet of snow on some of our nearby neighbors. So, my thoughts have naturally turned frosty. I will pause in my article here to emphasize my sincerest hope that all those who have experienced extreme snowfall are well, and digging out successfully.

I am a four-seasons kind of person, and there is something thrilling in the shifting of one season to the next. Autumn is my favorite time of year, and I'm a bit sad to see it's early exit, but there are so many things to love about winter too! I think it is very important for those of us living in Central New York to have a fondness for the season that settles itself in for well beyond its fair share of the calendar. And if not a fondness for the season or its cold, perhaps we can develop a fondness for helping each other through it. Camaraderie!

For me, having young children makes it that much easier, and also that much harder to weather the winter months (pun intended). On the plus side, there are sledding outings to bundle up for, snowmen to build, snowflakes to catch on our tongues, cups of cocoa to drink, and toasty fires built in the fireplace where we can thaw our frozen toes. Like the song "My Favorite Things", the "warm woolen mittens" and "snowflakes that stay on my nose and eyelashes" do give me a little flame of joy to kindle.

The trouble with winter is that it can be dark, and gray, and cold. If I let myself dwell on the dreariness, the gray gravelly snowbanks, the sun setting before dinner, ice cold fingers and toes and noses, or that feeling of damp that just doesn't seem to go away...I can sink into a wintery funk. And with young children who end up spending way more time indoors than they would really like, we can all get a bit stir crazy before the season rolls its way back out again in the spring.

I recently read an article about how the people in Scandinavian countries keep their good spirits about them through the long, dark months of the year. They even have a special word for it in Denmark, *hygge* (pronounced-hYOOguh). It possibly explains why despite having too little sunlight and lots of snow and cold, they are able to hold onto their ranking as one of the happiest countries on earth. I guess hygge most often translates to cozy, but that doesn't do the concept justice. It pretty much wraps up every warm snuggly winter association that you have in a neat little package that you can open up and share with whoever you will, whenever you like. It means sharing good food, and good

*(continued from page 5)*





## Marvelous History Corner



### Our Glorious History

This is a swan song of sorts. I've been coordinating history-related activities for 10 years and this article concludes exactly nine years of the *Marvelous History Corner*. It has been my honor and pleasure to have created nearly 130 articles for the newsletter, but it is time for a change so I'm retiring from these various responsibilities. I hope that you have gained a greater understanding and appreciation of our history; I know that I have gained so much from my involvement. I will support any 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebratory activities during the next several months, however I can. President Peter Colman, Rev. Jean, and the Board of Trustees will welcome the support of any church members interested in coordinating history activities.

Thus, I'm using this last article to describe some of my favorite MMUUS historical happenings. Probably because I am an educator, one of these relates to my article last month. Dr. Covert's Master's Thesis pertaining to Sam May's involvement in education throughout most of his career is very informative. I heartily recommend reading her amazing piece of research. <http://roghiemstra.com/covert-may-thesis.html>.

In almost a mini-autobiography, Sam May preached a brief account of his ministry on September 15, 1867, in which he in essence tendered his resignation as minister of our church. The word "brief" must be explained in that it was 52 pages (including appendices), but it is a fascinating depiction of how Sam came to be the minister he was and makes for an intriguing read. <http://ebooks.library.cornell.edu/cgi/t/text/pageviewer-idx?c=mayantislavery&cc=mayantislavery&idno=15853707&q1=a+brief+account+of+his+ministry&view=image&seq=1&size=100>.

Sam May was one of the very first U.S. male ministers to preach a sermon on the rights and conditions of women in this country. This was in our church in 1845; it was such a powerful statement at that time on why men should recognize what should have been recognized much earlier. It is another fascinating read and an insight into the constantly evolving Rev. May. <http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/naw:@field%28DOCID+@lit%28rbnewsan2749div0%29%29>.

February 28, 1854, in the Syracuse City Hall, discussions by Rev. Luther Lee, a Syracuse Methodist minister, and our Rev. Samuel May began what became the famous Lee-May theological debate on the doctrine of the trinity. Rev. Lee believed in the traditional notion of a trinity and Sam believed in a "God" and an historical Jesus. These two or more hour marathon evenings went on 11 times ending March 23, 1854. They spoke each time before an overflow audience with hundreds more unable to get inside. Fortunately

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*("Marvelous History Corner" continued)*

these discussions were captured in a 160-page book with an estimated 180,000+ words. This book is well worth your time. <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=yale.39002085760057;view=1up;seq=166>.

The final topic to be described here involved the exciting discovery and repair of the famous Sam May marble tablet thought to be lost. It originally hung inside the old James Street church and now hangs outside on our west wall facing the memorial garden. This adventure showed to me that history truly can repeat itself and bring much joy and respect to many. <http://roghiemstra.com/tablethanging.pdf> and <http://roghiemstra.com/tablet.html>.

Space limitations prevent more "happenings" to be included. For example, our third minister, Rev. Samuel Calthrop, my scanning of Nick Cardell's lifetime of sermons, our various church buildings, the building of our current church, the story of our wonderful organ, our various religious education programs, and the tremendous efforts by women in the church over the years are all historical treasures that deserved a paragraph or more. Learning about and reporting on all these topics has been a real pleasure. I shall treasure my exposure to our glorious history.

~ Rog Hiemstra,  
Chair, History Committee

*(If you are reading a hard copy of the newsletter and would like to look at the articles that Rog has linked to, go to [http://mmuus.org/docs/news/NL\\_12.1.14.pdf](http://mmuus.org/docs/news/NL_12.1.14.pdf) and click on the links on page 3)*



## Holiday Cookie Baking with the Syracuse UU Young Adults

The Syracuse UU Young Adults group invites you to an afternoon of holiday cheer with good friends on **Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 pm—7:00 pm, at May Memorial.**

We will be baking holiday cookies (in May Memorial's new kitchen!) to celebrate the season. **Be sure to bring the ingredients or dough for your favorite cookies.**

# God Rest Ye Merry Gentlewomen Party at First UU, co-hosted by Twisted Sisters

**Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, starting at 6:00 pm**

**T**his is not your mother's holiday get-together! A time-honored tradition dating back to the last century (okay, 1999) the "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlewomen" Party at First UU offers a break from hectic holiday preparations and a little devious fun. Enjoy food, drink, fellowship and goodwill to all (until the opening of the gifts, then all bets are off). Bring food to share (a sweet or savory snack) and a wrapped gift (without a tag; the giver remains anonymous) for our Yankee Swap. (The gift should be something worth \$10; regifting/recycling is encouraged as long as it is a gift that someone would appreciate receiving!) We'll supply non-alcoholic beverages; you may bring wine if you wish.

Since "God", "Gentle" and "Women" are all open to interpretation and self-identification, if the spirit so moves you, please join us. And if you enjoy decorating, and can come early...we'd much appreciate your help!

Plan on attending? Email **Radell Roberts** [dellshelby@hotmail.com](mailto:dellshelby@hotmail.com) or **Joyce Homan** [jhoman@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jhoman@twcny.rr.com) so we can get an accurate head count.

## Scrap Metal = \$\$\$

**T**hanks to the efforts of **Gary Carter**, the MMUUS general fund is \$2,000 richer at the close of this scrap metal collecting season. Many of you have delivered your metal items to the church parking lot on first Sundays and others have had special pick ups at your homes for especially bulky items. Once his trailer is full, Gary spends long hours sorting the contents into the various metal groups to insure the greatest price for his haul. He has made many trips to the scrap metal yard to sell the collected metals. The scrap yard is a place of great activity and fascination. Alexa enjoys going along to observe and help a little. **Larry Obrist** has also contributed his help for especially big loads.

Please take a moment to acknowledge Gary's and Larry's efforts when you see them. Gary is willing to resume collecting again in the spring. Start a stack of valuable stuff in your basement or garage throughout the winter. Those old Christmas lights can be turned into cash.

Thank you,  
Alexa Carter



**M**ay Memorial's Board of Trustees has expressed its thanks to **Casey Barduhn** for contributing \$2,500 to our Capital Fund. I hope that others of you get the opportunity to also give your thanks to Casey.

If you would like to expand your circle of friends at May Memorial, we can help. I have learned that one of the best ways to make friends is to work with them on specific tasks or in committee work. May Memorial is like a well-lubricated precision machine, many people working quietly together to get things done. Opportunities exist for new members and also for members who have been around for decades. There are vacancies, and you can be on more than one at the same time. Committee work can be solo or group. You get to see your results as May Memorial gets stronger and you become more deeply invested in its future. Get contact information from our redesigned website or just call me or Brian Betz, our office administrator.

Our committees include:

- Adult Ed
- Art Gallery
- Building & Grounds
- Care Ring
- Denominational Affairs
- Finance
- Green Sanctuary/Social Justice
- History
- Hospitality
- Membership
- Memorial Garden
- Committee on Ministry
- Music & Arts
- Personnel
- Public Relations
- Religious Education
- Stewardship
- Worship

By now most readers have heard that this year's Board annual review of the relationship between May and our minister is being augmented by use of a congregational survey. We have about 120 responses so far, and the ending/closing date is December 7. If you haven't responded yet, please do. It will help us if you don't wait until the last couple of days and it will take you the same amount of time if you do it now as if you wait until the last minute.

You may pick up a paper copy at the church office or may complete the survey online. The link is at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/MMUUS2014](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MMUUS2014). If you take the survey, you are entered into a drawing for a Wegmans gift card. The dollar amount of the gift card will equal the number of participants in the survey.

As you complete the survey you will be thinking about how many different ways there are to be a minister, and how unrealistic it would be to expect one

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*("President's Letter" continued)*

person to embody all of them. I've been asked what happens if you have second thoughts. If you take the survey a second time, we will disregard your first reply.

~ Peter Colman,  
President, Board of Trustees

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## Notes from R.E.

*(continued from page 2)*

conversation, and good cheer—not just at the holidays, but the whole winter season long!

So hug your kids, or grandkids, or nieces, nephews, little cousins, dogs, cats, stuffed animals or what have you...and remember the wonder of the season through the eyes of children. And remember that we can each be a light to each other in the darkness. Have a wonderful winter, and let's share some *hygge* together!

~ Stacy Sceiford,  
Director of Religious Education



## Our Care Baskets

Please remember to pick up needed items for our Care Baskets in the church foyer (there is a personal care basket and food basket). You can make this a regular practice as you shop for groceries, etc., and keep items in your car for donating on Sunday mornings.

### **Did you know?**

*One common myth regarding homeless people is that they have been living in the streets forever. The truth is that a large percentage of homeless people are without a roof only temporarily. Forty percent will actually find a home again in six months or less. Another common myth is that homeless people are dangerous, while in fact statistics show that most are victims of crime rather than perpetrators.*

~ Julie Daniel

## May Memorial's Giving Tree

**O**ur annual Giving Tree will make its appearance **in the foyer from Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> – December 14<sup>th</sup>, with tags for gifts for adults and children in our community.** Our donations will go to Dorothy Day House and the Christmas Bureau (run by the Salvation Army). **All gifts should be unwrapped and left by December 14<sup>th</sup>.** Questions? Contact **Julie Daniel** at 622-3423 or email [jdanielyoga@gmail.com](mailto:jdanielyoga@gmail.com).



## Volunteer to feed the Homeless and Hungry this Holiday Season

**O**ur next meal to feed the Homeless & Hungry at the Samaritan Center will take place on **Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.** If you are interested in volunteering, please contact **Julie Daniel** at 622-3423 or email [jdanielyoga@gmail.com](mailto:jdanielyoga@gmail.com).



"MAY MEMORIAL  
LOVES THE ARTS  
MONTH"



## February is “May Memorial Loves the Arts Month”

**O**ur congregation is bursting with talent and, in February, we want to enjoy all of it. But—in order for us to be your grateful audience—we need you to take part in one or both of these events:

- **Art Gallery Exhibition**—Are you an artist, photographer, or calligrapher? If so, we hope you will exhibit your work and help to make the Social Hall beautiful for the entire month of February. **Most likely, we will want you to hang your pieces on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>.**
- **Talent Show**—Do you sing, dance, tell jokes, play an instrument, recite poetry? We need you to help make the 2015 talent show—The May Cabaret—a great success. **The show will be held after coffee hour on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.**

To sign up for either (or both!) or if you have any questions, please contact **Lynne Perry** at [clynneperry@gmail.com](mailto:clynneperry@gmail.com) or 247-9214.



### A note from the Teenz

The Teenz attended their first St. Lawrence District Social Con of the year— *“Amherst Con of Witchcraft and Wizardry”*, which took place from November 14<sup>th</sup>—16<sup>th</sup>. 16 youth and 5 adults in four cars struck out from First parking lot and with some slow going part of the way due to *(that 4 letter word)* snow, all arrived safely in Amherst, New York. 4 adults and the 16 youth remained there, and took part in *“Harry Potter”* type activities, including a *“Yule Ball.”* Decorations and food were creative and multiple, and all arrived back safely Sunday morning to First by 12:30 pm.

Thanks for all your support!!

## UUSC and Guest at Your Table



The MMUUS annual budget includes a contribution of \$1 per member to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). Many of our members also contribute individually – as we are reminded by mailings and emails from that UU-affiliated service organization.

Traditionally, “Guest at Your Table” has also been an important fund raiser for UUSC. This year, the suggested activity was potluck gatherings with information for all ages highlighting UUSC projects. Thanks to the RE Directors at May Memorial and First Unitarian Universalist, we did that.

Participants at the FUUN dinner last month enjoyed a meal together and raised over \$300 for the UUSC. Did you miss it? Well, it may not be as much “FUUN”, but you can still support UUSC. Find information online, or pick up an envelope at May Memorial (by the name tags).

## Rev. Jean on **\$**haring the Good **\$**tuff

### “Splitting the Plate”

**T**hree years ago, the Worship and Social Justice committees started the Sunday morning ritual we call “Change for Change” (C4C). It has resulted in approximately \$100 each month for a service agency in our community. That’s a lot of change! Last summer, as fall approached, our Monday volunteers spoke up about difficulties reconciling coin counts from at least three sources each week.

How to continue or expand the good work of C4C without stressing our indispensable volunteer members? Seizing an interlude between Treasurers, I announced that we would try what’s commonly called “Splitting the Plate”. Cash contributions Sunday morning are divided evenly between our Operating Fund and a local service organization. Half of all the bills and coins, that is; checks still go to the Operating Fund, as either Contributions or Pledge payments.

Could I do that? Peter Colman directed my attention to the Operating Manual, which says only the Board can change how Sunday donations are appropriated. We agreed to try it – continuing into February. So far, it appears that the amount going into the Operating Fund now is about the same amount as our Trustees and Treasurers have budgeted. And—get this!—about \$600 a month will go to our local partner organizations.

That’s an awesome increase in what we do right here in CNY. We have been combining C4C into three months per organization, because \$100 seemed so little. The check to Food Bank of CNY for September-November will be well over \$1,000.

### Year End contributions

Some people like to take stock of their charitable giving in December. (People who itemize tax deductions and give enough for it to matter.) Others want to know where Midway through our Fiscal Year is *vis-à-vis* Midway through our Pledges. Either way, with statements now mailed out for both Annual Operating Fund contributions and Capital Campaign contributions, you should have what you need to make sure you’re where you want to be in supporting and sustaining our faith community.

Bookkeeper **Leslie Dendy** can help with questions you may still have, or refer you to another member of the Finance committee. You can reach her at [ldendy@mmuus.org](mailto:ldendy@mmuus.org) or by leaving a message with the church office.

### **Child Remembrance Service**

**T**he CNY Perinatal and Infant Bereavement Network invites you and your loved ones to the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual National Children's Memorial Day World Wide Candle Lighting Ceremony on **Sunday, December 7, 2014, from 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm in May Memorial's Sanctuary.**



The Worldwide Candle Lighting unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor and remember children who have died at any age from any cause.

Families around the world will be participating in similar ceremonies at 7:00 pm, in every time zone.

Poems and readings will be shared during the ceremony. Refreshments will follow.

For Information, contact Helen O'Neill at (315) 458-7975 or [doneill1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:doneill1@twcny.rr.com)

### **Public Hearing for New York Health Bill – December 4**

**T**here is a public hearing planned for the proposed New York Health Bill, which would establish Single Payer healthcare legislation.

The hearing will be held in Syracuse on **December 4<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm at Upstate Medical University, Weiskotten Hall, Medical Alumni Auditorium, located at 766 Irving Ave, Syracuse, NY 13210**, by the NYS Assembly Health Committee. The New York Health Campaign is looking for testimony from individuals who could speak as healthcare workers, small business owners and as patients about the need for universal access to health care.

Here is the NY Health Campaign's online RSVP form for the hearing: [http://www.nyhcampaign.org/syracuse\\_hearing](http://www.nyhcampaign.org/syracuse_hearing).

For more information, contact Ursula Rozum at (315) 414-7720 or by email at [ursula@nyhcampaign.org](mailto:ursula@nyhcampaign.org).



### **Syracuse Peace Council's Annual Plowshares Crafts Fair & Peace Festival**

- **Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am—5:00 pm)**
- **Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> (11:00 am—5:00 pm)**

**Nottingham High School, 3100 East Genesee St., Syracuse, NY**

Plowshares Craftsfair, Central New York's premier multicultural crafts fair, celebrates a world where people enjoy their work and have control over it. With 130 craftspeople and community groups, it is a marketplace of ideas and beautifully diverse, hand made items.

More than a crafts fair, it is a peace festival, with music, food and a spirit of fellowship, creating a weekend of grassroots commerce and community. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect at year's end and share in the life and culture of a village marketplace that has no corporate headquarters.

For more information, please contact Carol at 472-5478 or email her at [carol@peacecouncil.net](mailto:carol@peacecouncil.net) or visit [www.peacecouncil.net/plowshares](http://www.peacecouncil.net/plowshares).



## Spiritual Enrichment Groups

This winter, the SEGs which have been meeting in Baldwinsville, DeWitt, and Syracuse will re-form into groups (two, probably) meeting at May Memorial on Monday nights. For details and more information, contact **Kénel Antoine, Alexa Carter, Harsey Leonard** or **Rev. Jean**.

## 2014-15 Folkus Concert Series



### **December 12<sup>th</sup>—Christine Lavin and Don White** —

Christine Lavin is simply an institution within the singer-songwriter scene. Her zany wit and goofy antics have made her one of the most popular performers on the contemporary folk scene for



two decades or more. She now makes frequent appearances with Don White who, like Lavin, walks the line between folk music and comedy. Audiences for their joint shows find their hearts lifted—and their guts split with giggle, snorts, and guffaws.

**Tickets are \$20 (Folkus Member price: \$17).**

**January 9<sup>th</sup>—Loren Barrigar and Mark Mazengarb** —Loren Barrigar has long been Central New York's favorite tasty finger-style picker, but things just got better when, in 2010, Barrigar teamed up with Australian native Mark Mazengarb. Their appearances together have become the stuff of local legend, although they are just as well known today at top venues around the world.

Their music is influenced by bluegrass, jazz, and western. Their style of guitar playing is largely built upon the thumb-picking techniques pioneered by guitar greats Merle Travis, Chet Atkins, and Jerry Reed; and their songs feature Lorens superb vocals and some beautiful harmonies from Mark. The interaction between the two musicians is as much a feature of their shows as is the world-class guitar playing that they both display.

For the past few years, their Folkus shows have been at the Westcott Center. But the crowds keep growing, so this year we're moving them to MMUUS. Even so, this show is a potential sell-out and we encourage advance ticket purchases.

**Tickets are \$18 (Folkus Member price: \$15).**

**All shows start at 8:00 pm.**

To reserve tickets, or for details and additional ticket info, visit <http://www.folkus.org>.



# Calendar (continued from page 12)

## Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

3:00 pm	T'ai Chi Chih	Social Hall
5:30 pm	Twisted Sisters (Women's Group)	Memorial Room
7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

## Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

10:30 am	Worship Committee	Memorial Room
4:00 pm	Syracuse UU Young Adults Cookie Making Party <i>(see page 4 for details)</i>	Social Hall

## Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> **Winter Solstice (First day of winter)**

9:40 am	Individual Spiritual Practice	Creekside
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	First UU
12:15 pm	Spanophiles	COA

## Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

3:00 pm	T'ai Chi Chih	Social Hall
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## Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
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## Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> **Merry Christmas! \*Office Closed\***

## Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> **Kwanzaa begins \*Office Closed\***

## Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>

9:40 am	Individual Spiritual Practice	Creekside
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	First UU

## Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>

3:00 pm	T'ai Chi Chih	Social Hall
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## View from the Study Window

*(continued from page 1)*

Plowshares fair at Nottingham school. I like planning a personal "Mall Day", complete with hiking boots, lots of pockets, my own music on "ear buds", a short story to read in checkout lines, water and a healthy lunch. This may be the only day I'm in a mall all year, and I try to make the most of it.

The "good stuff" about Christmas has to include the laughter, the squeals, the wonder and the insights of children. Look around at our luncheon and decorating party on December 14<sup>th</sup>, and you'll see lots of little ones to bring a smile to your face.

And finally there is the promise of new beginnings. We have a new year in which to work and pray for the community of earth – for peace with justice on our streets, for a healthy environment for all the world's people. May every child be wanted, wondered at, and loved. May populations stabilize; may our living be sustainable.

In ancient times, prophets wrote of recycling or repurposing swords into plowshares. Can not we, today, find uses for the scrap metal of assault weapons other than arming city police? We can, we must, and *deus volente*, we will.

~Blessings, Jean

May Memorial is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

The Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom  
MINISTER  
Email: minister@mmuus.org

Glenn Kime  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
Phone ♦ 315.729.3734

Stacy Sceiford  
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
Email: dre@mmuus.org

Peter Colman  
SOCIETY PRESIDENT  
Email: president@mmuus.org

Brian R. Betz  
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR  
Phone ♦ 315.446.8920  
Email: office@mmuus.org  
Fax ♦ 315.446.4605  
Office Hours: 9-4 Monday–Friday

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS  
Email:  
newsletter@mmuus.org

**MMUUSletter** is a publication of events and information at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society. To be included on our mailing list, please contact our office at 315.446.8920 or office@maymemorial.com.

**The deadline for the first of the month newsletters is the 15th of the preceding month. The deadline for mid-month newsletters is the 5th of the month.** Articles received after the deadline will be included in the next newsletter. To submit an article, please email it to newsletter@mmuus.org.

May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society  
3800 East Genesee Street  
Syracuse, NY 13214

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**Calendar**

**Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**

6:30 pm Spiritual Enrichment Group Memorial Room

**Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

3:00 pm T'ai Chi Chih Social Hall

**Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 pm T'ai Chi Chih Social Hall  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

**Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:40 am Individual Spiritual Practice Creekside  
10:30 am Worship Service Sanctuary  
10:30 am Teenz First UU  
12:00 pm Program Council Memorial Room  
12:15 pm Spanophiles COA

**Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 pm T'ai Chi Chih Social Hall

**Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 pm T'ai Chi Chih Social Hall  
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary

**Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 pm Folkus Concert: Lavin and White MMUUS

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

9:40 am Individual Spiritual Practice Creekside  
10:30 am Worship Service Sanctuary  
10:30 am Teenz First UU  
12:00 pm First Sunday Luncheon Social Hall  
12:00 pm Tree Decorating foyer  
7:00 pm Child Remembrance Service Sanctuary  
*(see page 9 for details)*

**Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Spiritual Enrichment Group Memorial Room

**Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> Hanukkah begins at sundown**

3:00 pm T'ai Chi Chih Social Hall

**Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm Men's Fellowship Discussion/Potluck Social Hall

*(continued on page 11)*