

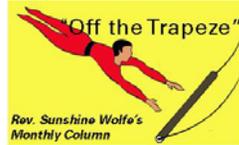
MIMUUS letter

February 2018 Volume 81 No. 2

May
Memorial
Unitarian Universalist Society

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The Gift of Love

“Love is what we need. To love and to be loved.
Let our hearts be open;
and what we would receive from others, let us give.
For what is given still remains to bless the giver—
when the gift is love.”

— A. Powell Davies

Love is one of those words that is used in so many ways and so frequently it can lose meaning to us. Yet, it is such a powerful and vibrant word. Robert Johnson writes, “Sanskrit has 96 words for love; ancient Persian has 80, Greek three, and English only one. This is indicative of the poverty of awareness or emphasis that we give to that tremendously important realm of feeling.” When we say “I love you” it can be in response to a wide array of emotional experiences of love— each unique.

We have numerous words for anger: frustrated, irate, irritated, furious, mad, hatred... What does it say that we live in a society that can describe varying shades of anger, fear, and pain, but not love. There are words that relate to love, but they can be spoken without ever invoking the thought of love such as compassion, care, and cathexis. We need a growing vocabulary of words and even to invent new words that help us to describe and navigate the world of love and loving. (continued page 2)



Celebration of Life Services 10:30 am

February 4th, 2018

“Our Climate, Your Faith, and My Dilemma”
Speaker, Rabbi Glenn Jacob of New York Interfaith Power and Light, and Barbara Kamerance, Worship Associate

Climate scientists have made their unanimous arguments, and the events of the past few years have confirmed their models. Activists have rallied the grassroots and lobbied in our legislators' offices. Where does faith fit amid this tumultuous fight to save our planet from climate change?

February 11th, 2018

“love and bell hooks”
with Rev. Sunshine J. Wolfe and Worship Associate Amanda Winkler

How do we define love? How do we practice love in the various aspects of our lives. This worship service will explore the work of bell hooks and others in defining what love looks like in a world that seems unwilling to define it.

February 18th, 2018

“Losing Our Heroes”
Speaker Eileen Casey-Campbell and the Worship Associate Gabor Hardy

As we explore the theme of Love, let us wonder about our impulse look for love in the shape of a hero. We imagine our heroes to be courageous and unwavering strivers for the Good, but what happens when our heroes fail us?

February 25th, 2018

“Self-Love and Healing”
with Rev. Sunshine J. Wolfe the Worship Associate Kevin Salamone

In order to be able to receive love, we must be able to love ourselves. This is not a selfish kind of love, but rather one grounded in worth and value for oneself. How do we put on our own oxygen mask before helping others? How do we take responsibility for own work rather than putting it on others? We will explore self-love and self-compassion as the cornerstone to a healthy life.

"We as a society are embarrassed by love," writes Diane Ackerman. "We treat it as if it were an obscenity. We reluctantly admit to it. Even saying the word makes us stumble and blush... Love is the most important thing in our lives, a passion for which we would fight or die, and yet we're reluctant to linger over its names. Without a supple vocabulary, we can't even talk or think about it directly."

Too often, the social depictions of love are obsessive or mythical- leading us to believe that somehow we are doing love "wrong." Yet, every person who has been in a romantic relationship for decades will tell you that love at its best is not obsessive or even sentimental. Love at its best is messy, challenging, comforting, connecting, caring, and hopeful. Love for a child while they are asleep is a different experience than love for all things when watching a sunset- yet both are times when the word love can spring from us.

Bell hooks in her book [all about love](#) argues that love may not be a feeling at all. In fact, we may do better to use words that describe those moments of feeling such as wonder and interdependent transcendence for a sunset and cathexis for the care of a child. Instead, she argues that love is a verb. It is a choice to engage in a loving relationship be it with the sunset, a child, a pet, a romantic partner, or oneself. That love is an action that commits to creating life and connection. The feelings that arise from this choice to love are ever varied and complex.

In this understanding, already have the words at our disposal and need only choose to use them to describe our deepest connections. We then can reach out to words like intimacy, tenderness, compassion, care, and cathexis and choose to be loving or not to be loving. One can have all of these feelings and experiences and not have them be love. It expands the possibilities of how we understand both intimacy and abuse. I can care for someone and still hurt them. According to hooks, I cannot, however, love them. Love is there for us to understand as a choice of connection that does no harm.

In the coming month we will be discussing the complexities of this word and living it. What are your understandings of love? How do you live it? What are the differences and similarities between self-love, relational love, sexual love, communal love, and love for creation? May we choose love in all of our doing. May we choose to be caring and compassionate in our actions. May we know that we are wholly love in all things.

Blessings on the journey,

Pastor Sunshine



February Monthly Theme: Love

Here are some resources to help ground our exploration.

Adult:

[all about love](#) by bell hooks

[Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived](#) by Rob Bell

[Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud, A Memoir](#) by Cornel West

[Love and Friendship in Plato and Aristotle](#) by A. W. Price

Youth:

[The Perks of Being a Wallflower](#) by Stephen Shbosky

[High School Musical](#) (movie)

[Side With Love](#) (website on UU justice)

Children:

[I Love You the Purplest](#) by Barbara M. Joesse

Monthly Themes

This year (2017-18) May Memorial is experimenting with monthly themes. During these months most worship services Transforming Spirit, and Children's Chapel services will follow them. Small group ministry, Spiritual Enrichment Groups, and all other church programs are encouraged (never required) to engage with these themes. This is a test year, so the themes are borrowed from All Souls U. U. Church in Tulsa, OK.

Future year's themes will be determined by future ministers in collaboration with Worship Associates, staff, and lay leaders. For now, please consider this an opportunity to experiment and play with one of the growing UU practices.

2017-2018		Jan	Justice
Sept	Faith	Feb	Love
Oct	Death	March	Brokenness
Nov	Forgiveness	April	Transformation
Dec	Hope	May	Transcendence



News from the Board of Trustees!

Are you eligible to vote for our new minister? The Ministerial Search process is running at full throttle, with the Search Committee whittling down the candidate list from seven to three finalists. While it will still be a month or two before we're ready to vote to call a settled minister, please make sure you meet MMUUS' voting requirements so your voice can be heard. Per our constitution, the requirements for a Voting Member are: *"to have shown an interest in and **made some financial contribution of record** toward the Society's support within the eighteen months preceding"* the business meeting.

If you have pledged and made a recorded payment in the past 18 months, you're good to go. However, if all of your financial contributions to MMUUS have consisted of loose cash in the offering basket, unfortunately, there will be no record of your contribution. Here are a couple of ways to remedy this.

- Write a check to MMUUS, so we can record a contribution in the ICON member database from information on the check.
- Place a cash donation in an envelope with **your name and the amount donated** written on the envelope. We'll use the information on the envelope to record your donation in ICON.
- And please note, there is no minimum dollar amount required for a "contribution of record."

There is an additional requirement for Voting Members. You must have ***signed the member book at least 30 days before the election.*** So, if you've been attending MMUUS and intend to become a member, now is the time to sign the book if you want to vote for our new minister! See Pastor Sunshine to arrange this.

These requirements may seem exclusionary and antithetical to the UU spirit of openness. But there are good reasons for both of them. The financial requirement reflects the fact that our congregation is entirely self-supporting. May Memorial exists only insofar as its members pay staff salaries and operating expenses. We understand that financial circumstances are different for each member, but financial support at a level consistent with ability is an expectation of membership.

The requirement for signing the member book 30 days prior to a business meeting is intended to prevent the unlikely, but not unheard of, possibility of a group of people taking over a congregational meeting for purposes unrelated to our mission. Here's how the UUA sees it: "Takeover attempts may be by other religious groups, by secular groups interested in the land on which the church is situated, or by single-issue groups that wish to make the congregation a force for their particular causes. The goals of these groups go against congregational polity and violate the purpose of the congregation, yet they could be legally accomplished unless the necessary safeguards were written into the bylaws." In these crazy times, it's prudent to be prepared for all contingencies!

Please spread the word about these requirements, so that everyone who desires and deserves to vote is able to do so!

See you in church!

Jane Fagerland, President
MMUUS Board of Trustees

Pastor Sunshine's Office Hours and Away Schedule:

Office hours are on Wednesdays 1-5 at May Memorial and Thursdays at Recess Coffee in Westcott on Harvard from 4-6pm. *Please note the away schedule below.*

You can schedule an appointment with Pastor Sunshine during available times Tuesday to Sunday at <https://revsunshine.as.me/> or by calling 317-448-3818. As always, Monday is gher day off. Pastor Sunshine will be out of town from February 14th to February 19th, but will be working during these days. If you need schedule a phone or video conference appointment during this time, please send an e-mail or call to schedule.



We have too much stuff. My house is filled with things, so many many things. And my kids have so many toys! Friends and family members gift toys to our children and we buy toys for our children so that they can play and have fun, to bring them joy. But does a house full of stuff bring joy? If you peruse the self-help section of the bookstore you will find numerous volumes dedicated to decluttering, many of them with a spiritual spin promising a calmer mind. There might be something to it because the funny thing that happens my kids have thoroughly spread all of their toys, books, art supplies, and games all over every surface of the house, they still sit around saying how bored they are! And funnily enough, when I then force a major clean up and everything is put away and organized they are able to take out one thing and focus on it and play happily for hours again. It seems that having more things doesn't equate to more joy.

In chapel a few weeks ago I was reminded by a parent of a book about a king who had so much stuff, all the best and most beautiful things that he desired. But he wasn't happy and he always wanted more. And one of the chapel children shared what she remembered of that book "the Quiltmaker's Gift" by Jeff Brumbeau. She told the story of a woman who made beautiful quilts for people who were in need. The king decides he wants a quilt too, but the quiltmaker refuses because he is not in need of a quilt. After much demanding and even

kidnapping and threats the quiltmaker tells the king that she will make him a quilt if he gives away ALL of his belongings. Then something amazing happens, he starts to give things away. For each thing he gives away he grows more joyful because he witnesses the joy, gratitude, and love that people feel when they receive his gifts. And for each thing he gives away, the quiltmaker makes a square of quilt designed to remind him of that gift. In the end he has no physical belongings, but his heart is full and his life is changed. And then he receives his quilt to remind him of the joy he experienced in giving and the joy he gave to others through his generosity.

A kernel of an idea started in chapel that day, what if we at May Memorial were to give away our things and make a quilt of our own? Who could we help? What joy, gratitude, and love could we share? I shared the kernel of an idea and it began to grow. A quick online search came back with a ready to use canvas quilt kit with clear slots for displaying pictures. Members of the RE Team were excited to share in the project and a partner organization was contacted. Planning emails were sent and replied to and decisions made until the idea grew into a project. We in RE would like to ask the May community to look around their house and see if there is something they have that they could give away as an act of love. Our partner organization, Community Cares of Syracuse, works with refugee families in Syracuse to provide them with needed household items and clothing. We will start collecting items on February 3rd and will continue collecting items throughout February and end our donation drive on March 9th when we have planned a celebratory

game night potluck when we will create and display our giving quilt.

Would you like to get involved? Leah Cronlund, our RE Team Member whose portfolio is Green and Social Justice, contacted Community Cares of Syracuse to find out what they need.

You can bring in the following donations:

- Clothing such as new or gently used winter items: coats, hats, scarves, gloves, clothing of all sizes.
- Socks and underwear are needed but are required to be NEW.
- Kitchen items such as blenders, toasters, pots and pans.
- Household items include rugs, curtains, furniture, pillows, blankets.
- Cleaning supplies.
- New and unopened hygiene products needed include feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, soap, toothpaste, shampoo etc.

This organization also serves over 150 families through food pantry donations so any non-perishable items are welcome.

Seeing how quickly and enthusiastically people have signed on to help with this project has warmed my heart. I am excited to work with the volunteers and RE children to share our love by giving our stuff!

In Peace,
Stacy Sceiford,
Director of Religious Education



**Celebrate Good Times!
Concluding the Capital Campaign**
Sunday, February 4th, 11:45am

Please join us on Sunday, February 4th during the First Sunday Lunch to celebrate the conclusion of a very successful five year capital campaign. This campaign brought a new roof, updated kitchen, and numerous other capital improvements to our property.
Let us celebrate with cake!

Ministerial Search



Ministerial Search by the Numbers

In our search for a settled minister, some things are hard to quantify: the weight of commitment that search committee members feel to the congregation, the strength of our desire to find a candidate with a just-right fit, and the gut feel that some of us may have about a particular applicant.

Other things could be quantified, but haven't been tracked, such as the enormous number of hours we have worked outside of our formal meetings. These tasks have included developing a web site for applicants to view, creating and tallying a congregational survey, preparing a contract for the new minister, making arrangements for neutral pulpits & travel & accommodations for pre-candidates, setting up and troubleshooting technology for our video interviews, checking references, reviewing ministerial records and web sites, viewing/listening to/reading dozens of sermons by applicants, and even writing articles for the monthly newsletter.

What follows is a list of concrete numbers, in descending order, that we hope you will find interesting and informative:

10,000 is the number of dollars allocated to the search committee to accomplish our task (this includes weekend travel, accommodations and other expenses for pre-candidates and their families, as well as 9+ days of expenses for our final candidate)

189 surveys were returned, detailing the background and priorities of our congregants.

100 percent of our pre-candidates are female.

99 hours of search committee meetings have taken place--mostly in the Memorial Room!

81 UU ministers are in search of a congregation this year.

46 congregations are seeking a settled or second ministry position this year.

42 search committee meetings have taken place since June.

15 people applied for the position of settled minister at MMUUS.

14 is the record number of hours spent in search committee meetings in a five day period.

12 of our 15 applicants were women.

10 is the number of states from which applications were received.

9 cottage meetings were held to inform the search committee about the wishes of the congregation.

7 cottage meetings were held with church groups and committees.

7 applicants were selected for an initial interview by videoconference.

6 interviews were conducted with staff and past presidents to receive their input.

3 pre-candidates have been carefully selected for intensive weekend interviews and the chance to preach in a neutral pulpit.

2 summer coffee hours were hosted by search committee members, with the intention of promoting one-on-one interaction with congregants.

1 best-fit candidate is what we hope to present to the congregation this spring.

It may be true that, "Not everything that can be counted counts..." but we hope these numbers will illuminate the efforts, intentions, and process of your Ministerial Search Committee: *Eliza Bailey, Larissa Brenner, Peter Colman, Josh Cronlund, Stephanie Cross, Don Milmore & Rob Neimeier*

"Anxious Leadership: Identifying and Managing it in Self and Others"

with Rev. Dr. Lynn M. Acquafondata
Saturday, February 17th, from 1-3pm, Memorial Room
Childcare available upon request.

Anxiety can seriously affect the functioning of a congregation. This workshop teaches the signs that anxiety is present in a congregational system and tools to manage that anxiety in self and others. A less anxious congregation is a healthier congregation.

Rev. Dr. Lynn M. Acquafondata, the founder of Congremap: Congregational System Consulting, draws on her experience and training as an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister and a licensed mental health counselor in Rochester, NY to guide congregations in managing conflict or transition, overcoming trauma, and strengthening healthy systems. Lynn has served congregations and worked as a chaplain in hospital and hospice settings. She holds a Doctor of Ministry degree and a Master of Science in Counseling degree.



History Corner

This year we are celebrating the legacy of our second minister and namesake, Rev. Samuel Joseph May, who served the Unitarian congregation in Syracuse from 1845-1868. Thus far, we have been focusing on his work to abolish slavery and to help slaves who had escaped. This is the social cause for which he is most widely known. We are thrilled that Rev. May will be inducted into the National Abolition Hall of Fame in Peterboro, NY, in October, and we look forward to attending the induction ceremony.

In addition to working tirelessly to end slavery, Rev. May also championed the cause of **racial equality**. One of the individuals he wrote about in giving evidence of this "intellectual and moral equality" was Rev. Jermain Loguen, an escaped slave who gained an education and eventually settled in Syracuse, where he was a teacher and minister, and later Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The two men worked together for over 20 years. In his *Recollections* (1869), May referred to Loguen as a "faithful and able fellow-laborer in the anti-slavery cause."

Rev. May was known as an activist, reformer, and one committed to racial equality before he came to Syracuse. In 1833 when he was in his first ministry in Brooklyn, Connecticut, he was disparaged for his support of Prudence Crandall, a Quaker school teacher in a nearby town who enrolled a black student to her female boarding school. This caused an uproar, and white parents pulled their children out of the school. Although Miss Crandall eventually admitted several black students, she continued to be harassed by members of the community, and her school and home were damaged. She finally had to close the school out of fear for the students' safety. Rev. May stood with Prudence Crandall throughout this turmoil, including a legal battle, and he had the sad task of the telling the students that the school was closing.

Another example of Rev. May's work for equality also took place while he was ministering in Connecticut. The black family in the congregation was relegated to sitting in the back. As the children grew, their pew became uncomfortably crowded; so, Rev. May invited the family to sit in a

larger front pew. Although they were hesitant, he persuaded them that no one would take offense. When a white parishioner persisted in arguing that the family should move back to their old pew, Rev. May warned him that if he did anything to insult them, he would face a severe rebuke in front of the entire congregation. That finally convinced the parishioner to stop. Rev. May and other abolitionists continued their work to counteract the effects of such racial prejudice by presenting arguments and giving evidence of intellectual and moral equality.

At Rev. May's funeral in 1871, Bishop Loguen spoke eloquently of their friendship, stating, "*Never did I go to his house for counsel or for help in vain. Enemies were prowling around, but he was always true and always ready to befriend and welcome me to his table, to his study, and to his fireside...*" Rev. Loguen went on to call Rev. May "*a brother to my hated, oppressed, and enslaved people, ... a brother to all.*"

Mary Louise Edwards,
MMUUS History Committee Chair

A Visit from Abolitionist Samuel May

Feb 10 @ 6pm

Baldwinsville First United Methodist Church
17 W. Genesee St., Baldwinsville
\$5.00 Donation

Syracuse Abolitionist the Reverend Samuel May is coming to Baldwinsville! Hear about why he decided to be a life-long crusader for freedom & equal rights under the law.

Rev. Samuel May—Actor Scott Peal (Education Specialist: Onondaga Historical Society)
Music: Marcia Hagan, Afro-American spirituals (Administrator: Say Yes to Education)



Ministerial Intern Column

Bethany Russell-Lowe

I attended a gathering of UU and other religious clergy last month. Even though the schedule for the gathering was quite full, I decided to sing in the choir because the director, Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, is seriously amazing at what he does. If you ever get the chance to sing with him, sing!

One of the anthems we sang was a chorus from a song called "I Need You to Survive" by Hezekiah Walker. The lyrics were, "I pray for you You pray for me. I love you. I need you to survive. I won't harm you with words from my mouth. I love you. I need you to survive."

As we were preparing to sing

this song, the director Dr. Rideout asked us which was the most important line in this anthem. We paused, and then he told us that it was "I love you." Because that is not a casual statement. It is a statement that deserves to be delivered with the same purpose that its meaning implies. We began to sing that line differently. Something about our choir changed. We were no longer just singing. We were delivering a blessing to ourselves and to one another.

When the time came for the choir to sing this anthem in worship, we looked out at a sea of our colleagues. The power of the words grew that much greater. I could see the faces of my colleagues change and soften, sometimes slip into a grateful smile, as we sang to them "I

love you. I need you survive." "I won't harm you...I need you survive." The anthem became a kind of blessing. We, the choir, offered the blessing to our gathered colleagues. And as they learned the tune themselves, they began to sing it back to us, returning the blessing of our covenant to support and care for one another. There were tears, and smiles, and open arms, and hands raised in praise. All in the name of love for one another.

How often do you say "I love you"? When do you say it, how do you say those words? When you deliver that blessing to another person, what changes in them? What changes in you?

In faith,
Bethany



Save the Date! for Bethany's Ordination on March 18th at 3 PM at First UU

On March 18, 2018 at 3 PM, May Memorial and First UU will co-ordain our Ministerial Intern, Bethany Russell-Lowe, to the Unitarian Universalist ministry. Ordination is the act of acknowledging that we see the ministry in a person, and thereby conferring full ministerial duties onto them. In our tradition, only congregants have the power to ordain ministers. The service will be held at First UU in the Sanctuary. More information will follow. For now, mark your calendars for this special service.



Emergency Response and Safety Training

Sunday, February 25th,
from 12pm-1:30pm
Childcare available upon request.

This training covers the major risks and needed responses in the event of emergency at May Memorial. How do you respond to a medical emergency in worship or an active shooter situation? Do you know how to prevent identity theft or cybercrime at May? This workshop covers the practical details and systems in place to safely respond to many situations that we may face. All adults are encouraged to attend. *Members of the Board, Chairs of committees, and those who lead groups and events at May Memorial are specifically encouraged to attend.*

New face at May Memorial

If you have had the opportunity to stop in during the day this past week you might have noticed the church looking lighter and smelling sweeter. We would like to welcome **Vance Woods** who is our new part-time Sexton. He has started off with a bang and I am looking forward to working with him to get the long list of cleaning projects attended to.



MUSIC AND THE ARTS

February's Art Show:

ART WITH A HEART

Our exhibit for February, Art With a Heart, will be produced entirely by church and family members. The exhibit will include:

ART & PHOTOGRAPHY BY:

Judy Antoine's granddaughter, Julia; Joan Applebaum; Gerry Berkman's Granddaughter, Lydia Gray; Bob Burdick; Joyce Homan; Dick Pearson; Hal Phillips; Steve Reiter; and Linda Wobus's grandson, Tim

WRITINGS BY:

Joan Loveridge-Sanbonmatsu; Nan Gartner; Joyce Homan; Ann Pearson; and Vicki Schipper

QUILT:

Owned by Judy Antoine, sewn by Alexa Carter

Take your time reviewing this one. It will be speculator. Contact the artist if you wish to purchase a piece.

2018 Talent Show:

LET FREEDOM SING!

This year's talent show will be held on February 11, the day before Lincoln's birthday. Let Freedom Sing! is going to be bursting with music, and ... a magic show! Be sure to come the Sanctuary following the coffee hour. Don't miss it!



"... one of Central New York's hidden treasures"
—Chris Baker, nytimes.com

The Folkus

Project of Central New York

Burns and Kristy

Friday, February 02, 2018 at 8:00 PM
May Memorial UU Society



Their live show is one of a kind, with fine songwriting, deeply rich harmonies and great musicianship. As entertaining as it is moving, the show ranges from the deeply touching to the hilarious in a split second.

Gathering Time

Friday, February 16, 2018 at 8:00 PM
May Memorial UU Society



Start with the 1960s folk tradition of Peter, Paul & Mary; add the vocal complexity and electric energy of Crosby, Stills & Nash, a dash of the Byrds and a jot of Joni Mitchell, and you have Gathering Time, a folk-rock/Americana harmony trio that has been turning heads for nearly a decade on the northeastern folk circuit and beyond.

Tickets and upcoming shows here: [FOLKUS](#)



Seeking Social Justice and Going Green

Introductory Note: In August, 2015, the MMUUS Green Sanctuary Committee and Social Justice Committee were combined to form the Green & Social Justice Committee. Beginning this chronological year, the Going Green column in the Monthly Newsletter will be alternated with a Seeking Social Justice column. The column has usually been written by a member of the committee, but any member of MMUUS is welcome to submit an article covering either environmental or social justice issues (or both).

Corrections to the Going Green newsletter article (December 2017) about Antonio Saillant:



1.) Antonio Saillant's OLDER brother Angel, whom he named his Angel Light COMMUNICATIONS company after, was 25 when he died.

2.) His mother did develop lung cancer, though she had never smoked. But the disease was caught early. She later died of a more dreadful disease, Alzheimer's.

3.) The sentence "He walked his talk by finding ways to choose sustainable means with costuming, food, water, hybrid automobiles and every other aspect of the film industry." SHOULD have ready CONSUMING rather than COSTUMING.

4.) The name of Saillant's company

is ANGEL LIGHT COMMUNICATIONS, not Angel Light Productions.

5.) His company ANGEL LIGHT COMMUNICATIONS is launching an "Eco-Friendly" radio program called "Rock It Green" with iTunes AND IHEARTRADIO. On it you will hear the Voice of emerging eco-pioneers.

6.) Rock It Green Radio is recorded live in a New York Studio and will be aired BI-weekly on YouTube as well as other major venues.

7.) Creator and Host, Antonio Saillant and Crew are in development of producing SEASON ONE, incorporating new features in the sustainable experience.

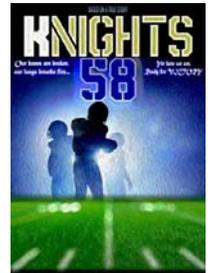
8.) Hollywood Power Players (Leonardo DiCaprio, Michael Moore and many more...) will be asked about Sustainability within the Entertainment Business in Film and Television and how they will be influencing Change.

9.) The website for the Rock It Greed radio interviews is: <http://rockitgreen.com>

Start experiencing a sustainable life learning and listening from people that are passionately committed to protecting the future of our planet, for our generation and most importantly, generations to come.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Savion. I deeply regret the mistakes in this article, as I pride myself on getting things right. However, I did not receive the corrections until after the article was submitted to the newsletter.

Saillant's unique sport movie, "Knights 58" will be coming out soon and is being produced with ultimate sustainability.



The Green and Social Justice Committee meets on the third Sunday of each month. All our welcome to join or to help us with our action plans.

February 2018 Services at The Nottingham

The following weekly services will be held at *The Nottingham* in September. Join us on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm in the Meeting Room at *The Nottingham* (1301 Nottingham Road, Jamesville, NY 13078). All are welcome.

February 6

Pastor Sunshine J. Wolfe

May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society
Nancy Pease, Musician

February 13

Rev. BJ Norrix, Pastor

Erwin First United Methodist Church, Syracuse
Rev. Karen Bellimer, Musician

February 20

Bethany Russell-Lowe

Ministerial Intern at May Memorial and First UU churches
Nancy Pease, Musician

February 27

Rev. Jennifer Hamlin-Navias

First Unitarian Universalist Society, Syracuse
Sara-Jo Brandt-Doelle, Musician



Save the Date

March 24, 2018—Saturday afternoon 3-5 at May Memorial to celebrate Ike's 90th birthday! Join us for sushi, flan and other delights at a reception. No gifts, please.

Please RSVP, if possible, to Joan at 315-446-2149 or Alexa at alexacarteralexa@icloud.com by March 1, 2018. Watch for more information.



UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION

Central East
Region



Friday, April 13
**Gould Discourse
& Coffee House**

Saturday,
April 14

Keynote:
Rev. Megan Foley

Workshops
(Apply now!)

Youth Overnight

Closing Worship
and Bridging

1st UU SOCIETY
OF SYRACUSE
109 WARING RD,
SYRACUSE, NY 13224

Save the Date!

APRIL 13-14, 2018

**SEAWAY UU
SPRING GATHERING**

Interfaith Harmony Event on Monday, February 5 at 6:30 PM at Congregation Beth Shalom-Chevras Shas



Each year, houses of worship across Syracuse gather to celebrate and promote interfaith dialogue. This year, the theme of this event is "Voices in Harmony." Each group that attends is asked to offer a short presentation on their own faith tradition. This year, members of First UU and May Memorial will offer a song of the 7 Principles set to music by May Memorial member Fred Fiske. For more information, go here (<https://www.interfaithworkscny.org/event/the-8th-annual-world-interfaith-harmony-assembly/>) or here (<https://www.facebook.com/events/151037212195251/>).

Building Beloved Community Beyond the Binary Feb 10 at First UU



Award-winning writer, educator and storyteller S. Bear Bergman is the author of six books as well as the founder of Flamingo Rampant, a children's press focused on feminist, LGBTQ-positive, racially-

diverse children's books and writer of the advice column Ask Bear for Bitch Magazine.

And we are lucky enough to be welcoming Bear as our keynote speaker. If you have ever heard him speak (and if you haven't you should!) you know that this will be special! In addition to Bear we will be offering many workshops. Some of them are intended for folks who want to be good allies but don't know much about gender-nonconforming issues. Workshops such as trans 101, and a panel of gender non-conforming folk. Some of the workshops are designed especially for folks who live beyond the binary; workshops such as trans inclusive medicine, trans parenting, A name and document

legal clinic time. Some are focused on the future – a De-escalation workshop.

As a congregation it is our hope that this one day conference will be both a place where Trans and gender non-conforming folk can gather, connect and learn and where cisgender folk can learn about being better allies. We are also hoping that by hosting this conference we will make a BOLD statement to our larger community that we are a safe and welcoming community because we really do want to build beloved community beyond the binary. Last year we hosted our first Building Beloved Community Beyond the Binary conference with Kate Bornstein as our keynote speaker. It was an AMAZING success. We had 140 people at the conference, 100 of them were from outside of our congregation. People felt safe, welcomed and supported. People learned and they connected with one another. We had gender neutral childcare where the kids had a lot of fun. We knew we had to do this again. The world so needs it.

Registration and more information can be found here <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/building-beloved-community-beyond-the-binary-tickets-41545860788>

Vision & Covenant in Progress!

The writing team from the MMUUS Vision & Covenant Workshop (November 18, 2017) has created the following new and updated vision statement and covenant using ideas and language shared and conceived collectively by workshop participants.

Please peruse and consider the wording, and feel free to discuss your impressions with fellow parishioners. At some point in the near future, the writing team will host a few round table discussions to firm up and help finalize the language for our congregation's new vision and covenant. We'll keep you posted!

Vision:

MMUUS strives to build a welcoming, diverse, multi-generational, and vibrant religious community.

We do this by inspiring our members to engage in:

- social justice
- protection of the environment
- celebration of the arts
- spiritual growth

Covenant:

We, the members of the May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, adopt this Covenant to guide our interactions.

We promise to affirm and promote:

Respect

Listen carefully and attentively

Empathy

Interact with kindness and understanding

Appreciation of differences

In our congregation and the larger community

Community

Heal our selves and others by dealing with disagreements constructively

Honesty

Act with integrity and authenticity

(The acronym here is **REACH**)



Notes from the Admin Office:

- March newsletter deadline is: February 15, please remember to keep articles to 500 words.
- If you are not receiving the weekly e-blast and would like to please e-mail me: office@mmuus.org or sign up in the foyer



CareRing News & Notes

Pat Corson died in early December in Albuquerque where she spent her winters near one of her daughters. Pat was a devoted long-time member who was active in every aspect of the church through the years. She has been spending summers at her camp on Skaneateles Lake. Pat generously offered her beautiful camp to the May Memorial community on many occasions. She hosted adult education classes as well as social activities, Board retreats, and frequently offered weekends there at the Goods and Services auctions. There will be a memorial service in the summer.

Good news! Born on September 28 last year weighing 3 lb., 1 oz., and eleven weeks premature, **Charlotte Elizabeth Lacy Brown** came home from the hospital in December! Her parents, **Elena "Ellie" and Kyle Brown**, are happy to have her home, as is proud big brother **Josh**, 6. She is reported to be doing well. We look forward to the day when the baby, called "Charlie," can come to church and be introduced.

We have been saddened to hear of the death of **Bill Coyle** in early January. Bill will be remembered among us for his sly sense of humor. More recently, he had been suffering from dementia and living in a congregate-care facility near here. His daughter from his first marriage took him to Kentucky to care for him, and that is where he died. His widow, **Lyn**, is living and grieving at The Nottingham. Her phone number in our directory is incorrect, but cards to her would be welcome.

There was a crowd in the Social Hall on Sunday, January 14th for **Al Obrist's** 100th birthday party! Al's son, **Larry**, provided a cake with appropriate sentiments, and a good time was had by all. Congratulations, Al! (It must have been all that hiking!)

May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society

3800 East Genesee Street
 Syracuse, NY 13214
 315.446.8920
 office@mmuus.org
 Office hours: Mon- Fri 10am-4pm



Yoga Kids in the Social Hall
5:00 pm Tuesdays
 Contact Julie Daniel
 jdanielyoga@gmail.com

Tai Chi in the Social Hall
FREE
3:00 pm Tuesdays and Thursdays

Yoga in the Social Hall
10:00 am Saturdays
 Contact Tedra Needle
 tedraneedle@twcny.rr.com

Friday	February 2	7:30pm	FOLKUS	Social Hall
Sunday	February 4	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	First Sunday Luncheon	Social Hall
		12:00 pm	Rabbi Jacobs	Memorial Room
		12:00 pm	Transitions Team	Teenz
Monday	February 5	6:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Thursday	February 8	6:00 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Saturday	February 10	9:00 am	Beyond the Binary Conference	First UU
Sunday	February 11	9:00 am	PR Committee	Memorial Room
		10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Talent Show	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
		12:15 pm	Spanofiles	COA
		7:00 pm	Great Decisions	Memorial Room
Monday	February 12	2:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Friday	February 16	7:30 pm	FOLKUS	Social Hall
Sunday	February 18	9:00 am	Green & Social Justice Committee	Memorial Room
		10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
Monday	February 19	6:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Wednesday	February 21	8:00 pm	History Committee	Room 8
Thursday	February 22	6:00 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Sunday	February 25	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
		12:00 pm	Safety Training	Sanctuary
		12:15 pm	Spanofiles	COA
Monday	February 26	2:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room

February Transforming Spirit Programs

All Transforming Spirit classes run from Noon-1pm on the Sunday they are held. Programs are open to all in the community ages 14 years and older unless otherwise noted.

All programs are facilitated by Rev. Sunshine J. Wolfe unless otherwise noted.

February 11th – Enneagram Basics

Back by popular demand, this program covers the basics of the Enneagram. Participants will take an inventory to determine their enneagram foundations. The program will then cover the basic history of the Enneagram and a description of the 9 motivational types. This system of understanding the motivations goes deeper than personality tests and includes our integration into all 9 types.