

MMUUS letter

February 15, 2016 Vol. 79 No. 4

May Memorial
Unitarian Universalist Society



Do you have questions about MMUUS and Unitarian Universalism?

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce the first meeting of the new and improved UU101. The purpose of this informative presentation is to answer questions and teach attendees about both Unitarian Universalism and May Memorial.

All who are interested are invited to attend the first meeting in the **Memorial Room at 12:00 pm on Sunday, February 28th.**

If you have any questions or would like more information, you may contact the committee at membership@mmuus.org.

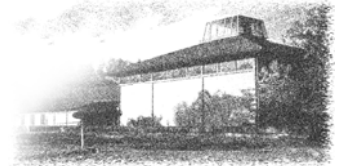
We look forward to seeing you on the 28th!

~ MMUUS Membership Committee

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Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. and Religious Education



February 21

Wangari Maathai: Social Justice and the Interdependent Web

Peter Cannavo

Our Board member, Peter Cannavo, will speak about Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathi, founder of the Green Belt Movement, a grassroots organization, focusing on women planting trees to conserve the environment and improve the quality of their lives. Beginning in 1976 in Kenya, when Wangari planted nine trees in her own backyard, it has grown into a Pan-African movement resulting in women planting more than 20 million trees in their own backyards and school and church compounds. Wangari is internationally recognized for her environmental movement emphasizing green values and social justice.

February 28

Forgiveness

Spiritual Enrichment Group

Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned. *Are there some things that should not be forgiven?* Join the members of the Thursday night Spiritual Enrichment Group as we explore many aspects of this complicated topic. Questions will arise and personal beliefs may be altered as members of the group share insights.

March 6

Harriet Tubman

Michele Galvin

Michele Jones Galvin will be our speaker for the seventh in our "Change the World" series. Jones Galvin will tell the story of her great, great, great grand-aunt, Harriet Tubman, the famous abolitionist, humanitarian and conductor of the Underground Railroad during the Civil War. Jones Galvin is the co-author with her mother, Joyce Stokes Jones, of "Harriet Tubman, Moses of Her People". She will answer questions during Coffee Hour, and her book will be available for sale.



Betsy Fuller

(1928-2016)

*Betsy Fuller's children
and grandchildren
want you to know
she has gone on,
'cross the Bar.*

More info at
newcomersyracuse.com

Memorial service here

Date TBA

Ellen Fuller (481-6648 or 472-3234)

The Growing Place Child Care Center



Since beginning operations in 1983, The Growing Place (located in the lower level of May Memorial) offers infant, toddler, and preschool programs.

Although there are no childcare openings at the moment, please watch for opening notices, which will appear in future newsletters.

MMUUS Green & Social Justice Event: An Evening with Starhawk



Progressive activist/author Starhawk brings her environmental and spiritual message to May Memorial on **Wednesday, February 24th, at 7:00 pm**. Her presentation, titled "*Earth Justice & Visionary Action: Tools for Creating the World We Desire*", is sponsored by May Memorial's Green & Social Justice Committee.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, and based on a \$15-\$35 sliding scale at the door.

To purchase tickets or for more information, scan the Q Code above or visit <http://bit.ly/StarhawkSyr>.

Kick-Off/Cook-Off to be held on March 13



It's time to begin the 2016-17 Stewardship Campaign with a culinary challenge. Once again this year, congregation members are invited to enter one, two or all three categories: Chili Con Carne, Vegetarian Chili and Cookies.

Winners in each category receive a very spiffy medallion which is suitable for wearing on formal occasions when the wearer wishes to make an especially big splash. Owners of these medallions include **Mike Dillon, Dale Sherman, and Linda Wobus**.

Any member of the congregation who is present on March 13th, is eligible to sample all entries and vote in the competition. After voting, there will be a complimentary chili, salad and bread lunch available in the Social Hall. Winners will be announced within an hour of the end of the service.

Please register with **Alexa Carter** (alexacarteralexa@icloud.com) if you would like to enter.



It's not too late! Join us and sing in the spring!

This year's talent show takes place on the Spring Equinox! We already have piano solos, vocal solos, a vocal duet, a poet, and even a dance number signed up. But it's not too late for you to help us *sing in the spring*, too. The show is **at noon on Sunday, March 20th, after the church service**. Put that on your calendar now, and be sure not only to come but also to be a part of the show. All you have to do is let me know what you want to perform.

~ Lynne Perry, Chair, Music & Arts Committee
clynneperry@gmail.com



President's Letter



Greeting and Salutations Beloved Community!

As I mentioned at the Board of Trustees meeting with the congregation last month, we have submitted our application for an interim minister to the UUA Transitions Office. The next step in the Interim search process will be early in May, when congregations receive the names (and resumes) of interested ministers. Then, on Friday, May 20th, at exactly noon, Eastern Time, congregations can make an offer to an available minister!

If we don't get a minister in round 1, we go to round 2, when in late May, we will receive names of interested ministers without a match! And then on June 3rd, noon Eastern Time, we can make an offer!

There is a round 3, but at that point the process is much more casual, as people and congregations fall into place—or not. I am not considering being in the "not" category! (*I've put in for having Friday May 20th off—from my other full time job!*)

No matter whom we hire to be our interim minister, I am confident that they will be able to serve us well, as we enter into a formal search for a settled minister.

I've done a lot of reading around the UUA web site, and I ran into some information that's a great resource for all things regarding ministers, including these two gems (from *The UUMA Guidelines for the Conduct of Ministry*):

"The tasks of ministry are too numerous for one individual to fulfill. Successful ministry requires the effective use of time by a minister. Ministers will determine the emphases of their ministries, and the weekly and annual structure of their time, on the basis of their interests and skills, as well as the needs of the people and institutions they serve and the demands of love and justice in the world.

Ministers are responsible for monitoring the boundaries of their work and energy, and for educating those they serve as to the structures of time that best protect their well-being and the quality of their ministry. In general a minister should be free to decide the organization and priorities of their own time, and consult with the governing body of congregations and agencies and/or their supervisors around these matters."

I can tell you first hand that keeping the interests of May Memorial's spiritual, financial, and governance structures at the forefront of my mind—and running smoothly—is exhausting work! (*I'm still having fun—but it's exhausting!*) I would rate time management skills as an essential ingredient to being a successful minister (*second only to having good boundaries!*)

See you on Sunday!

~ Mariah Ducey, President,
MMUUS Board of Trustees

Coffee House with the Teenz Sunday, February 28th



Join the Teenz for Coffee House on **February 28th, at 12:00 pm**, following the Sunday service. *Don't know what Coffee House is? It's a talent show!* The Teenz will be showing off their many talents, and you can too! Sign up at the door, and if you feel like joining in at the last minute, there will be a chance at the end. Of course you can just come and enjoy the show, and the Teenz would love to see everyone. So come, have fun, and maybe show a talent!



Religious Education seeks cloth donations to help shelter pets

The RE Committee is planning special programming for February 21st, during which we will be making toys for dogs and cats at the SPCA. **If you have fleece or other thick cloth that you would like to donate to this cause, please bring it this Sunday, February 14th.** Thank you in advance for your help! Contact **Larissa Brenner** with questions at (315) 558-8202 (call or text).

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

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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
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TIME VALUE

Calendar

Monday, February 15th 6:30 pm	*President's Day – Office Closed* Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Tuesday, February 16th 3:00 pm 7:00 pm	T'ai Chi Chih Board of Trustees Meeting	Social Hall Memorial Room
Thursday, February 18th 3:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:30 pm	T'ai Chi Chih Membership Committee Choir Rehearsal	Social Hall Memorial Room Sanctuary
Friday, February 19th 8:00 pm	Folkus Concert: Cadleys/M. Gillard Trio	MMUUS
Sunday, February 21st 10:30 am 1:00 pm; 7:00 pm	Worship Service Great Decisions	Sanctuary Memorial Room
Monday, February 22nd 4:00 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Tuesday, February 23rd 3:00 pm 5:30 pm	T'ai Chi Chih Twisted Sisters Women's Group	Social Hall Memorial Room
Wednesday, February 24th 7:00 pm	G&SJ Event: Starhawk (<i>see page 2</i>)	MMUUS
Thursday, February 25th 1:30 pm 3:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:30 pm	Bookenders T'ai Chi Chih Spiritual Enrichment Group Choir Rehearsal	Memorial Room Social Hall Memorial Room Sanctuary
Sunday, February 28th 10:30 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 12:15 pm	Worship Service Teenz's Coffee House UU101 Spanophiles	Sanctuary Sanctuary Memorial Room COA