



## View from the Study Window...

Spring  
when light is stronger  
the sun higher in the sky  
is a time to  
remember  
It is often darkest before the dawn.

Will there be a new dawn  
from the dismal necessity of  
*Black Lives Matter*  
will there?  
be a new dawn  
of justice  
dignity for all  
will there?  
be a new day  
when it will sound  
ridiculously old-fashioned  
to shout out  
*Black Lives Matter*.

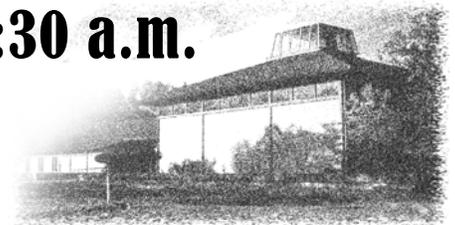
In 1991 when  
Rodney King was beaten by police  
citizen video recording was rare

*(continued on page 7)*

## Inside:

2015 Book & CD Sale .....	2
President's Letter .....	3, 4
Thinking about Membership? .....	4
Articulating Your UU Faith .....	4
Music and the Arts .....	5
Zero Waste, Make Haste .....	6
News from 2015 DA .....	6
April FUUN Event .....	7

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



### April 19

#### The Community of Earth

*Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom*

UUs speak of our conviction that there is an *"Interconnected Web of all existence of which we are a part"* – and that our relationship to it must be one of Respect. This (7<sup>th</sup> principle) is akin to my belief in living with Hope for the Community of Earth. Do either of these emotions – Respect for what is; Hope for what can be – take us far enough?

\* **New Member Joining** (see page 4 for details)

### April 26

#### Our Life-Giving Elements

*Social & Environmental Concerns Committee*

The Social & Environmental Concerns Committee (*formerly known as both The Green Sanctuary and Social Justice Committees*) will lead us in a service that gives thanks to the Sun, Earth, Air and Water. These were honored and even worshipped in ancient times, but polluted in recent times; and are now being healed by those who understand our need for these life-giving elements.

### May 3

#### This Living Tradition

*Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom*

\* 12 :00 pm—*First Sunday Luncheon hosted by Spanophiles*

### May 10

#### Music Sunday

*Glenn Kime and the MMUUS Choir*

The music of Haydn and Bartok, with orchestra, and a trip to the organ loft. Come join us!



## CareRing News & Notes

It is wonderful to see **Julie Daniel** up and around after her hip replacement.

We mourn the loss of former MMUUS member **Betty Booth**, who died on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations to **Rev. Joe Cleveland**, who is being installed by the UU Congregation of Saratoga Springs on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Jean will be attending.

The CareRing is updating our files of *Member Emergency Contact Information* and *Member to Member Service Information*. Look for information and an insert from the CareRing and Rev. Jean.



Wonder who keeps filling up the basket in the foyer with personal care items for the needy? It's **Jill Evans**, pictured here while on a short walk near her home the other day. Thanks, Jill!

~ Submitted by Fred Fiske



## May Memorial's Biennial Book Sale is almost here!

**T**he 2015 Book & CD Sale is almost here! May Memorial's biggest fundraiser of the calendar year **will take place on the weekend of May 15-17 (with a preview sale on May 14<sup>th</sup>).**

You may bring books, DVDs, CDs, etc. to donate beginning Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. **Please do not drop off donated items before April 26<sup>th</sup>.** Donated items should be packed in small boxes or grocery sized bags for ease of handling.

You can support this major fundraiser for MMUUS by doing one or more of the following:

- **Donate** books (fiction and nonfiction; hardcover and paperback), CDs, DVDs, books on CD, and computer games. **The items can be delivered to the church from Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>—Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Volunteer** during the sale. Stop by the volunteer table in the Social Hall on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, or 24<sup>th</sup> to sign up or email [janethiemstra@gmail.com](mailto:janethiemstra@gmail.com) or [Chico421@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:Chico421@twcnny.rr.com).
- **Publicize** the sale among your friends. Pick up fliers from the foyer shelf and post them at your place of work and your neighborhood library, coffee shop, etc.
- **Shop** at the sale for your summer reading and listening pleasure. **Hours for the 2015 Book & CD Sale are:**

- ✓ **Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>** (Preview Sale) from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm (\$5 admission)
- ✓ **Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**, from 10:00 am—5:00 pm
- ✓ **Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**, from 10:00 am—4:00 pm
- ✓ **Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**, from 12:00 pm—3:00 pm (Bag Sale - \$5/paper grocery bag of books. Media items are half price)

Questions? Contact Alice Chico at [Chico421@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:Chico421@twcnny.rr.com) or 478-2393





### Important thoughts from your president, Peter Colman

**A**mong Nick Cardell's most lively sermons here were his "Canvass Kickoff" sermons. He noted that people sometimes asked how much to give: his reply was "give until it feels good". That was his advice about how to not be a freeloader. This year on Canvass Kickoff Sunday, four of us took a blunter approach. We ambled up to the front of the sanctuary and did a raucous unaccompanied version of "*Money, That's What I Want*". (We included extra verses not written by Barrett Strong or included in what *The Kingsmen* recorded in their garage.) Chicago newspaper columnist Bob Greene wrote about the Chicago political scene. He observed in a tongue-in-cheek manner that corrupt Chicago politicians in the Mayor Daley years were sharper than politicians in less sophisticated parts of the country because they knew what money was *really* for.

So what is the money you contribute to May *really* for? I figure it is for changing lives, yours, mine, and lives of people we don't even know. The more involved you are here, the more your lives are changed as you think new thoughts, and learn new skills, including large-group cooking, activity planning, fixing stuff, speaking in public, teaching our children, performing musically or acting in dramas, and group decision-making, and as you think through spiritual matters in discussions with others. We also hope to change people's lives in the Syracuse community through our food basket and the Change For Change program, which now shares paper money as well as coins. Sometimes a group can accomplish what an individual can't: we have a Social Justice Committee and Green Sanctuary Committee. These (now united) committees give you a way to have impact far beyond our own congregation.

We are often reminded of the importance of physical exercise to having a long and healthy life. That is not all we need, not all there is. We need *social exercise*. May gives you *social exercise*, and that gives you friends you can break bread with, talk about life with, play cards or bingo with, sing and dance with, go to a movie with, go cross-country skiing with, grow old with, or even argue with. May gives you friends who would grocery shop for you if you get laid up, or give you a ride, friends who are older and younger than you. So May is your *social exercise* program, your permanent neighborhood, maybe even your mental health team.

It is appropriate that you review your spending, since it reflects your values and visions. Now is as good a time as any. Consider how much you spend on restaurant meals, takeout pizza, movies, craft beer, wine, cable TV, Internet, and vacations. Are you supporting May Memorial in proportion and to the best of your ability? That question asks are you supporting each other. I don't know—you are on your honor here. We are all in this together, and we are each counting on each other.

*(continued above right)*

*"President's Letter" (continued)*

This is your chance to pledge your support of May Memorial, and to help build its future. That future probably means more to you than you ever realized. More than the cost of a trip to Disney World or a seven day cruise to warm places or a year's habitual restaurant dining. Please dig deep willingly. Don't think of this as just spending what you can spare. You are spending to change yourself.

Yes I want you to pledge to support May Memorial, and to increase your pledge as much as you can. *Why? What does your support of MMUUS stand for?*

One answer: you have heard of the "Seven Principles" which the Unitarian Universalist Association adopted in a democratic process, and which our RE programs teach to our youth. For us, these take the place of an Apostle's Creed and rigid doctrines that are important to many religions. These Principles are just a guide, not commandments, but they are part of who we are.

I have not memorized the "Seven Principles", even though I do try to live by them. In case you haven't memorized them either, here they are. Please be patient with me, and reread them:

**1<sup>st</sup> Principle:** *The inherent worth and dignity of every person;*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Principle:** *Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Principle:** *Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;*

**4<sup>th</sup> Principle:** *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;*

**5<sup>th</sup> Principle:** *The right of conscience and the use of the*

*(continued on page 4)*

## President's Letter

(continued from page 3)

*democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;*

**6<sup>th</sup> Principle:** *The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;*

**7<sup>th</sup> Principle:** *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.*

**If you share these values, do you support any other organization that states that it stands for them?** I suspect your honest answer has to be "No".

Supporting these values is bigger than supporting any one person or any one activity at May Memorial. Supporting these values can help your life make a difference in the world, a difference that can last beyond your lifetime. No matter how much you help at May with your time, your pledge is also an important measure of your support. Remember that we are **stronger together**.

If you haven't pledged yet, please do it as soon as possible. If you have pledged already, thanks, but have you considered raising it?

~ Peter Colman,  
President, MMUUS

## Thinking about Membership?

**H**ave you thought about becoming a voting member of May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society?

We ask new members to sign our Membership Book – a record of members dating back to 1838, and to make a monetary pledge and contribution to the Society. We ask that members affirm their intent to walk with us in covenant, united to strengthen our institution and our wider community.

In our Joining ceremony, we introduce new members to the congregation, and join in a short "Recognition of New Members", which reads thus:

**Minister:** We are glad that you have chosen to join May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society. As we are strengthened by your presence among us, may you find here resources for your own growth. Ours is a living tradition which honors the past, envisions the future, and lives with passion in this moment. I ask you to respect and support this Society and the values it espouses, and to continue to grow in your identity as Unitarian Universalists.

**New Members:** In joining May Memorial, we pledge to support its inclusive vision, to honor its covenant of right relations, and to strengthen this institution by our participation.

**MMUUS Members:** We welcome you into our Society. We value the energy, enthusiasm, and talents you bring. We thank you for the confidence you have shown in May Memorial, and we trust that you will find within these walls care, respect, and a home for the spirit.

**All:** Let us go forward together in faith, compassion, and service.

Rev. Jean and the Membership committee are preparing for a New Member Joining **this Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**.

If joining our Society feels right to you, or if you would like help in that discernment process, contact Rev. Jean ([minister@mmuus.org](mailto:minister@mmuus.org)) or a member of the Membership Committee ([membership@mmuus.org](mailto:membership@mmuus.org)). You will want to have participated in a "UU 102", "Introduction to UUism and MMUUS", or similar conversations.



## Articulating Your UU Faith

**Tuesday evenings, April 21<sup>st</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>**

*What do you say after you say you're a UU? How do you answer questions about UUism and May Memorial?*

"Articulating Your UU Faith" is a four-session class designed to help participants speak more effectively about our shared religious tradition and their own particular perspectives on Unitarian Universalism.

Rev. Jean will facilitate, using the curriculum by Barbara Wells and Jaco B. ten Hove. We will meet at May Memorial, **6:00 pm – 8:00 pm on Tuesday evenings, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, May 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Contact Rev. Jean at [minister@mmuus.org](mailto:minister@mmuus.org) or 446-8920 for more information.

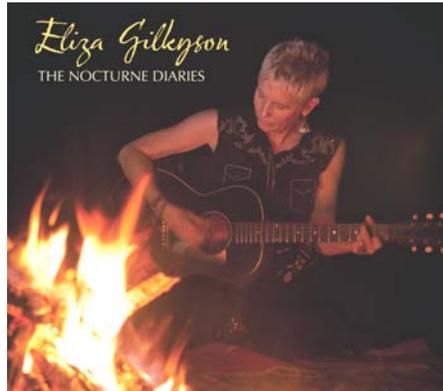


# MUSIC AND THE ARTS

## 2015 Folkus Concert Schedule



**April 17<sup>th</sup>—Eliza Gilkyson**—Eliza Gilkyson is a Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter and activist who has become one of the most respected musicians in folk, roots, and Americana circles. Gilkyson's music has always offered a vivid reflection of the times we live in, full of joys and sorrows, each song a window into a life of struggle and triumph in a world she feels is *"poised on the edge of moral, economic and environmental bankruptcy."*



Gilkyson will be accompanied by veteran folk instrumentalist Jim Henry. A dexterous guitar master and talented songwriter, Henry has garnered praise for his work with the Sun Dogs, Brooks Williams, and the Burns Sisters, as well as for his solo albums, including *Jacksonville*.

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

**May 1<sup>st</sup>—Emma's Revolution**—Smart, funny, informative — like Rachel Maddow and Jon Stewart with guitars. Emma's Revolution is the award-winning, activist musicians Pat Humphries and Sandy Opatow. With hauntingly beautiful harmonies and powerful acoustic instrumentals that deliver the energy and strength of their convictions, Emma's Revolution writes songs that become traditions. Their music is infused with inspiration from the legacy of music for social change. It is infectiously energizing, imbued with warmth, hope and humor and the power to turn tears into laughter, cynicism into action.

**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 [www.folkus.org](http://www.folkus.org).



### Roy Zimmerman: The Faucet's on Fire!

On **Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>**, enjoy an evening of entertainment and fun with singer and comedian Roy Zimmerman! **The laughs begin at 7:00 pm at First UU.**

What can one person do about climate change, torture, racism, gun violence, fracking, Congressional ineptitude, ignorance, war and greed? Write funny songs, says Roy Zimmerman. *"The Faucet's on Fire!"* is ninety minutes of Zimmerman's hilarious, rhyme-intensive original songs. His songs have been heard on HBO and Showtime. He's shared stages with Bill Maher, Robin Williams, Ellen DeGeneres, John Oliver, Kate Clinton and George Carlin. He's been profiled on NPR's "All Things Considered," and he's a featured blogger for the Huffington Post.

Suggested donation is \$18, or pay what you are able.



## Scrap Metal Collection

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**, will mark the resumption of the wildly successful scrap metal drive. The collection trailer will be parked in our lot the first Sunday of each month beginning May 3<sup>rd</sup> and running until snow flies again. Last year's efforts netted over \$2,000 for the general fund. Start your spring clean up early. Call **Gary Carter** at 593-7974 if you have questions.

## Twisted Sisters

### is now on Twisted Tuesdays!

Our first choice for a Tuesday didn't work out so well, so we are switching to the **4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month** for 2015. **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm in the Memorial Room.** Please join us for a fun, drop-in, social evening. Email **Laura Knight** at [lauraknight.md@gmail.com](mailto:lauraknight.md@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Zero Waste, Make Haste

**O**ne of the many benefits of traveling to Guanacaste, Costa Rica several weeks ago was not only to spend time with our grandchildren, watching a whole country put their efforts into sustainability but also to find out that Giselle, our daughter, has been bitten by the bug of *Zero Waste* (<http://www.zerowastehome.com>). We found her using her homemade toothpaste with a bamboo toothbrush, deodorant that she made herself and hearing about the laundry soap she is using in her home in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. I know aiming for **zero** waste is putting the bar up far but I thought if once or twice a month we made a small change in our daily lives, we could **aim** to reach that height.



Please read MMUUS member Judy Antoine's post *Zero Waste, Make Haste* in the Green Sanctuary/Social Justice Committee blog at <http://mmuusgreensanctuary.blogspot.com>.



## News from the 2015 District Assembly

**T**he 2015 Joint Ohio-Meadville & St. Lawrence District Assembly was once again a success! On March 28<sup>th</sup>, SLD delegates voted new members **Rev. Joe Cleveland** (UU Congregation of Saratoga Springs, NY), **Fred Fiske** (May Memorial UU Society) and Cameron Vedder (UU Congregation of Binghamton, NY) to the St. Lawrence District Board of Trustees.

**Michelle George Yates** (UU Church of Hamburg, NY) was also elected to the SLD Nominating and Leadership Development Committees during the assembly.

Many St. Lawrence District congregations shared their "Proud Moments" at DA this year. Please visit <http://www.sld.cerguua.org/conggrowth/2015proud.html> to share in the joy of your fellow congregations.



# FUUN event - Pillowcase Project and ARC Disaster Preparedness

In partnership with New York State, the American Red Cross will be offering a free Citizen Preparedness Corps training session titled: *Prepare, Respond, Recover: What to do When Disaster Strikes*.

**Who:** All members and friends of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Syracuse and May Memorial (*you may invite anyone you wish*).

**What:** Learn how to prepare, respond and recover from natural and man-made disasters with Citizen Preparedness Corps presented by The American Red Cross.

Also presented is the **Pillowcase Project** for children ages 7-11 (grades 3-5). Pillowcase Project – 45 minutes. This is for grades 3-5, teaches how to recognize disasters, coping skills, and the children receive a workbook to complete with their household, as well as a pillowcase (to serve as their own “go-kit”) which they color and design themselves (ages 7-11).

**WHEN: Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm—3:00 pm**

**WHERE: First UU**, 109 Waring Road, Syracuse, NY 13224

The American Red Cross has a mission to make sure our communities are prepared for disasters. By giving you the knowledge to prepare for emergencies and disasters, Governor Cuomo’s Citizen Preparedness Corps Training Program helps you respond and recover to your pre-disaster condition as quickly as possible.

## View from the Study Window...

*(continued from page 1)*

cumbersome, unlikely.  
We were outraged.  
How could this be?

Before Walter Scott  
before Eric Garner  
before Michael Brown  
before ...  
before Trayvon Martin  
before ...  
before then,  
racially motivated police violence  
was unremarkable if it was observed  
unquestioned if it was reported  
unapologetic if it was confronted.  
Outrageous  
every bit as outrageous  
just as un-American.

Now you snap pictures  
hit the record button  
post to Facebook Twitter  
blog.

This injustice  
this violence  
it’s everywhere  
In our faces  
a nightmare  
from which a new day  
will dawn  
because day does follow night  
because night  
is darkest before the dawn  
of Justice  
of Righteousness  
(which should not be  
a ridiculously old-fashioned  
Word) because  
The arc of morality  
a shared sense of decency  
simple human decency  
bends ever more towards Justice  
because Seeing is believing  
Because  
Spring follows after winter  
and spring is everywhere.  
Just as surely  
as that.

So mote it be.  
~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

**Non-Profit Org.**  
**US Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Syracuse, NY**  
**Permit No. 1640**

**TIME VALUE**

---

## Calendar

**Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm	Men's Fellowship Potluck/Discussion	Social Hall
7:00 pm	Board of Trustees	COA

**Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
---------	-----------------	-----------

**Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**

8:00 pm	Folkus Concert: Eliza Gilkyson	MMUUS
---------	--------------------------------	-------

**Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**

10:30 am	Worship Committee	Memorial Room
----------	-------------------	---------------

**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 am	<b>New Member Joining</b> Newcomers' Breakfast	Memorial Room
9:40 am	Individual Spiritual Practice	Creekside
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	Teen Room
12:15 pm	Spanophiles	COA
12:15 pm	Sunday Serenade	Sanctuary

**Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
---------	----------------------------	---------------

**Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

6:00 pm	Articulating Your UU Faith	MMUUS
---------	----------------------------	-------

**Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

1:30 pm	Bookenders	Memorial Room
6:00 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

**Friday, 4/24—Sunday, 4/26 Teen Con[ference]**

**MMUUS**

**Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**

9:40 am	Individual Spiritual Practice	Creekside
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
10:30 am	Teenz	Teen Room

**Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

2:00 pm	CareRing Meeting	Memorial Room
6:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room

**Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**

1:30 pm	Worship at the Nottingham	The Nottingham
5:30 pm	Twisted Sisters (Women's Group)	Memorial Room
6:00 pm	Articulating Your UU Faith	MMUUS