

The big weekend has arrived!

The sale hours are below:

Friday, May 15th

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, May 16th

10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday, May 17th

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

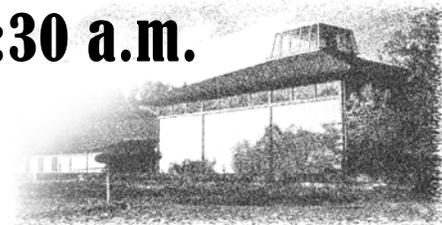
(Bag Sale - \$5/paper grocery bag)

(See page 3 for more details)

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



May 17

Vigilance and Attention

Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom

Many religious traditions liken spiritual growth to waking up or seeing with new eyes... *"for now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face."* We speak similarly about the growth or awakening of conscience and responsibility. Do these metaphors still work, when a mirror is more than a piece of polished metal, and the wide world never sleeps?

May 24

Labyrinth

Pilar Lyons

A labyrinth can be followed as a metaphor for life's journey: the path twists in unexpected ways, taking us close to our goal before turning us away again for a time. Sometimes, using a labyrinth is a way to engage in a meditation with one's whole body, while at other times it is simply a pleasant setting for a stroll. *How can a labyrinth improve your life? Can we members and friends of May Memorial find value in labyrinths?* Several temporary labyrinths in various styles will be available to use after the service.

May 31

Teen Service

MMUUS/FUUS Teenz

Please join the Teenz for their annual service this Sunday, which will also include our Coming of Age recognition.

June 7

Entrusted with the Summer

Rev. Jean L. Wahlstrom

**12:00 pm—Open Budget Meeting in the Social Hall*



CareRing News & Notes

Congratulations to **Mary Louise Edwards**, who is retiring from Syracuse University. At the May 10th commencement ceremony, she was among the retiring professors to be honored as new Emeriti faculty.

Attention Committee Chairs

If you have not yet done so, please submit your annual reports to MMUUS of-
fice administrator Brian Betz at office@mmuus.org. **The deadline is Sunday, May 31st.**



If you are a new committee chair and are unsure what to write, or would like to see a copy of your committee's past annual report submission, please contact Brian.

Reports received after May 31st run the risk of not being included the 2015 MMUUS Annual Report.



Annual Meeting and end of church year event schedule

With the 2014-15 MMUUS fiscal year drawing to a close, here are the dates of two events you don't want to miss.

- **Open Budget Meeting - June 7**

The budget information meeting for the 2015-16 church year will be held **in the Social Hall at 12:00 pm on Sunday, June 7th**. **Lee Macbeth**, our treasurer, and board members will be available to answer questions about how we propose to allocate funds next year. This meeting, rather than the Annual Meeting, is the best opportunity to share your concerns to allow for changes, if needed. Please join us.

- **Annual Meeting - June 14**

6:30 pm – Desserts and Coffee—Bring your favorite dessert to share, to sweeten up the evening.

7:00 pm – Annual Meeting—The May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society's annual business meeting will include adoption of a budget and election of officers for next year, as well as a vote on a proposed amendment to our Constitution. Other business as deemed proper may be brought before the members. **Pledging members are urged to attend and cast their votes.**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

At the June 14, 2015 Annual Meeting, a vote will be taken on an amendment to our Constitution which has been proposed by the Board of Trustees. The amendment adds the following language to Article V Section 7 (Nominating Committee): *“Upon the Board’s request, the Nominating Committee shall suggest candidates to serve as chairs of committees and in other leadership positions.”*

Spiritual Enrichment Group News

Looking for a small group experience to deepen your sense of meaning and connection? Spiritual Enrichment Groups (SEGs) discuss the big questions and share life events. (In other UU congregations, these are often called Covenant Groups or Chalice Circles.) We welcome anyone who would like to have some regular time away from the stresses of daily life to be in meaningful relationship with fellow UUs.

This month, May Memorial has three SEGs meeting on weeknights (twice monthly), and a **new Afternoon group** meeting on alternate Wednesdays. There will be least one evening group meeting through the summer.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact one of the facilitators:

- **1st and 3rd Mondays**– Kénel Antoine (kantoine@twcny.rr.com / 449-3808)
- **2nd and 4th Mondays** – Don MacKay (mackay214@gmail.com / 256-2226)
- **2nd and 4th Thursdays** – Alexa Carter (alexacarteralexa@icloud.com / 593-7974)
- **Alternate Wednesday afternoons** – Rev. Jean (minister@mmuus.org, 446-8920)

Wellspring 2015-16

"What will you do with this one wild and precious life?" asks the poet Mary Oliver.

First UU and May Memorial will offer the UU Wellspring program in 2015-16. UU Wellspring™ is a 10-month program of distinctly Unitarian Universalist spiritual development designed to help participants answer that provocative question. Begun in 2005, the program celebrates the depth and breadth of our rich religious tradition.

UU Wellspring incorporates five elements designed to balance knowledge of UU history/theology with personal spiritual practice and engagement with the world:

- A commitment to daily spiritual practice
- Participation in a small-group community
- Individual work with a spiritual director
- Readings and resources for knowledge and reflection
- Reflection and commitment to live out our values in the world

The program will be facilitated by **Rev. Jennifer Hamlin-Navias** and **Andrea Wandersee**, and **will meet bi-weekly, from 6:00-8:00 pm at First UU. We are still ironing out the dates, but are looking at the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays or the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays as possible meeting times.** There will also be a one-day orientation before the regular meetings.

Space will be limited, so if you are interested or have questions, please contact **Andrea Wandersee** at andreawandersee@gmail.com. We'll let you know the exact schedule as soon as we know more.



BOOK SALE

May Memorial's Book & CD Sale is here!

No more waiting! The 2015 Book & CD Sale has arrived! May Memorial's biggest fundraiser of the calendar year **is this weekend (May 15th—17th)**.

The Hours for the 2015 Book & CD Sale are:

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

We also need help to clean up the Social Hall and pack the remaining books up on Sunday from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Please help us out. This is a **major** fundraiser for MMUUS, so come, bring your friends and, of course, buy books.



Kind hearts and warm smiles are needed this summer

Meals on Wheels of Syracuse needs volunteers to help deliver healthy meals to those who need assistance. For just one hour, you can make a difference in the lives of your elderly and disabled neighbors. Work in teams of two—one person to drive and one to deliver the meal to the recipient's door.

Delivery days are Monday through Friday.

For more information call (315) 478-5948 x 213 or visit www.meals.org.

Community News



News from Vera House

Rev. Jean received the following letter from Vera House, regarding our April "Change for Change" donation and their upcoming events:

Dear Rev. Wahlstrom:

On behalf of Vera House, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$969.60 from your Sunday offerings. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated immensely and we are grateful for your support.

We'd like to take this opportunity to tell you about our 21st Annual White Ribbon Campaign when thousands of Central New Yorkers will take a stand against domestic and sexual violence by wearing a white ribbon or wristband.

White Ribbon Campaign Calendar of Events:

Friday, March 20th — White Ribbon Campaign Kick-Off Walk—Join us at noon for a short walk from Clinton Square through Armory Square to mark the start of the White Ribbon Campaign. Register for the walk at www.whiteribbonwalk2015.kintera.org. ***New this year:*** Food Truck Rodeo immediately following the Walk!

March 20th — 29th — White Ribbon Campaign

For more information about the campaign and how you can get involved, visit our website at www.verahouse.org, or call us at (315) 425-0818. Thanks again for your support!

Sincerely,

*Randi K. Bregman,
Executive Director, Vera House*

Speaking on Stewardship: Larissa Brenner

My husband and I found our way to May Memorial about eight years ago. Since neither of us were brought up as UUs, we had no idea how things changed in summer, and we were surprised to find a group of people reading Native American texts at the front of the Sanctuary. It was very interesting, but we didn't find much in the way of a sermon or spiritual guidance, and we left.

But then we decided to have a baby, and the baby was coming soon. Jay had been raised Jewish and I was raised Methodist, but neither of us felt fully at home in our faiths of origin—a feeling that was only more deeply reinforced by their unwillingness to accept our spouse, unless that spouse became part of that faith community. Our families were asking us if we were doing a christening or a bris, and we needed an answer. More importantly, we felt really strongly, and still do, that we wanted our children to have a faith community in which they could grow spiritually and in which both of us would feel comfortable, accepted, valid, and equally worthy of “salvation” (whatever that means to each of us). We didn't want them to worry as they grew older that one parent was somehow “*not chosen*,” “*less close to God*,” or “*less likely to go to Heaven*,” or worse, “*definitely not going to Heaven*.”

So we decided to return to May Memorial to see how we felt, and we are so glad we did.

Since that time, May Memorial has become a spiritual home we can share. We have kept the traditions of each of our faiths of origin, and both of us have kept many of the beliefs of those faiths. The important thing for us is that the God we talk of with our children does not discriminate against either of us, or against any of their diverse group of friends, for telling a variety of stories about that spirit, or whether it exists at all. Here they have learned to embrace differences, not just to tolerate them. Our children are being taught values that will carry them through life in our wonderful RE program in a fun and enriching way. We have a place where we can listen to songs by our choir and become engrossed in beautiful organ music each week. We have friends with common goals and values. We feel at home here.

Neither of us grew up here, so for a while we tried to decide if the Syracuse area really was our home or not. A couple of years ago, we came very close to moving closer to Jay's family in Rhode Island. We wanted our kids to be nearer to family. We asked Rev. Jean to talk it through with us. Without telling us what to do, and without ever leaning on us in anyway, she was able to guide us in a gentle way that allowed us to see the decision we really wanted to make, but perhaps were afraid to. She helped us have courage to do what was right for us. And that was staying here. May Memorial was one of the

(continued above right)



Larissa and Jay Brenner

(“Speaking on Stewardship” continued)

major reasons we decided to stay here.

Now I am a member of the Board, and last year, we had to make many difficult cuts. For example, we cut funding for child care in the Nursery to only one paid staff member instead of two. Having been a visitor here with a baby, I can tell with certainty that it is crucial to have a well-staffed Nursery that allows visitors with young children to learn what UUism is all about. And recently there has been a surge of visitors with young children. We want those parents to be able to mingle upstairs.

There is a cost associated with many of the things we love about this place. Building insurance. Salaries of paid staff. Keeping the lights on. Maintaining our new website. Supplies. UUA dues.

Many members of our society have faced financial challenges in the last few years, and people can only give so much. But I ask that you consider how much you can give, and do the best you can.

~ Larissa Brenner,
MMUUS Board of Trustees

CNY Pride

2015 CNY Pride Festival

Saturday, June 20th

- **Flag-Raising—City Hall—11:00 am**
- **Parade begins—11:30 am**
- **Festival—Everson Museum Plaza—12:00 pm**

Show both your LGBT/Ally & Syracuse University pride by marching with the LGBT Resource Center in this year's CNY Pride parade! We will be meeting at 10:30 am near City Hall to gather for the flag-raising ceremony and march, or you can stop by our table at the Pride festival following the march. More information about the Pride Parade/festival is available online at www.cnypride.org.

The first fifty people to RSVP for the parade will receive a free commemorative Syracuse University/CNY Pride T-shirt. **Please RSVP to lgbt@syr.edu by Friday, June 19th.**



MUSIC AND THE ARTS

2015 Folkus Concert Schedule



May 15th—Seth Glier—Despite his relatively young age, Glier is a seasoned troubadour. A singer/songwriter, producer and multi-instrumentalist who averages over 250 live performances annually, Glier has gone from opening act to headlining his own shows and playing major festivals. He's shared the stage with artists as diverse as James Taylor, Ani DiFranco, Edwin McCain, Emmylou Harris and Ryan Adams, and has quickly become known for his passionate live sets and powerful

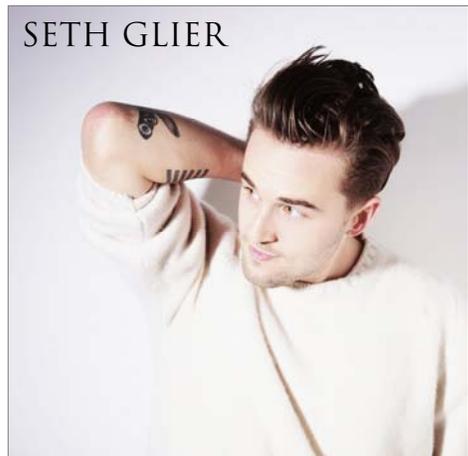
command of both piano and guitar. His music has also caught the ears of fans, industry and critics alike. Building on the acclaim of his Grammy nominated sophomore album *"The Next Right Thing"*, Glier's subsequent record *"Things I Should Let You Know"* was called *"a genuine revelation"* by *Blurt Magazine*, and was praised by *M Music & Musicians Magazine* for its *"shimmering, seductive melodies"*. Glier will be joined on stage by accomplished saxophonist Joe Nerney and Marc Seedorf on bass.

On his fourth album, *"If I Could Change One Thing"* (April 2015), Glier embraces a genuine modern-pop direction, marking a bold departure from his previous, more acoustic recordings. The album includes a gorgeous duet with *American Idol's* Crystal Bowersox, as well as musical appearances by Pat Matera (Katy Perry), Garrison Starr (Mary Chapin Carpenter) and Daniel Rhine (Sara Bareilles). *"If I Could Change One Thing"* merges genres seamlessly, with universal songs about falling in and out of love and social action that capture a songwriter and performer at the peak of his young abilities.

Tickets are \$15 (Folkus Member price: \$12).

To reserve tickets, or for details and additional ticket info, visit www.folkus.org.

SETH GLIER



September Unirondack Weekend

September 18th—20th, 2015

New and returning families, individuals and people of all ages are encouraged to participate in the MMUUS/FUUS Fall family weekend at Unirondack **Friday, September 18th—Sunday, September 20th, 2015**. Check out their website at <http://www.unirondack.org>.

Join us for a reasonably priced weekend get-away with lots of people you will enjoy! Our price is \$65/person for the weekend (3 years old & under are free). This includes 5 meals and lodging. Indoor and outdoor pleasures and socializing opportunities are abundant. This has become a wonderful weekend of community building to start the fall for the two congregations.

Mark your calendar if you are interested in being there. If you would like to register (or have any questions), please contact **Stephanie Cross** via email at mscross@windstream.net or phone 430-0372. A 50% deposit will need to be paid in advance to reserve your spot.



Labyrinth Visioning Meeting

Bring your ideas and dreams about an outdoor labyrinth at May Memorial to the Sanctuary on **Wednesday, May 20th, at 6:00 pm**. We will discuss the possibilities and the constraints of constructing a permanent outdoor labyrinth. If you can't attend the meeting, but wish to contribute ideas, please let Pilar Lyons know via email at pilarlyons@gmail.com or in person the Sunday before.

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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TIME VALUE

Calendar

** Tai Chi Chih classes meet Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Social Hall at 3:00 pm **

Friday, May 15th

10:00 am—5:00 pm

8:00 pm

Book & CD Sale

Folkus Concert: Seth Glier

Social Hall

MMUUS

Saturday, May 16th

10:00 am—4:00 pm

10:30 am

10:30 am

Book & CD Sale

Worship Committee
Environmental & Social Justice

Social Hall

Memorial Room
COA

Sunday, May 17th

9:40 am

10:30 am

10:30 am

Individual Spiritual Practice
Worship Service
Teenz

Creekside
Sanctuary
Teen Room

12:00 pm—3:00 pm

Book & CD Sale

***No Spanophiles this week**

Social Hall

Monday, May 18th

6:30 pm

Spiritual Enrichment Group

Memorial Room

Tuesday, May 19th

7:00 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting

Memorial Room

Wednesday, May 20th

3:00 pm

6:00 pm

6:30 pm

Spiritual Enrichment Group
Labyrinth Visioning Meeting
Men's Fellowship Potluck/Discussion

Memorial Room
Sanctuary
Social Hall

Thursday, May 21st

7:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Sunday, May 24th

9:40 am

10:30 am

10:30 am

Individual Spiritual Practice
Worship Service
Teenz

Creekside
Sanctuary
Teen Room

Monday, May 25th

****Memorial Day—Office Closed****

Tuesday, May 26th

5:30 pm

Twisted Sisters (Women's Group) Memorial Room

Thursday, May 28th

1:30 pm

6:00 pm

7:30 pm

Bookenders
Spiritual Enrichment Group
Choir Rehearsal

Memorial Room
Memorial Room
Sanctuary

Sunday, May 31st

9:40 am

10:30 am

10:30 am

Individual Spiritual Practice
Worship Service
Teenz

Creekside
Sanctuary
Teen Room