



Fair...Well...Friends

July-August 2018

I simply want to take this moment to offer my gratitude to the congregation for this interim time with you. We both have grown and learned immeasurably. I've said frequently, you cannot overstate the value of a community that is willing to do its work. You have met the challenges of this time with presence, attention, and energy. One of the questions that the Unitarian Universalist Association would ask in interim assessments of congregation was this:

"Is the congregation ready to face the future with zest?"

I can honestly say for this congregation- **YES!**

Your energy and effort in the interim time has been a blessing and a gift. Much of the work happened in smaller groups of people such as the staff team or the board. In every instance, I was met with leaders who truly care about the congregation as a whole. You are well able to meet the future with Rev. Jo.

I hope you will share your light and wisdom with Syracuse and the world. As you continue with this energy, you will change as a community. It will be uncomfortable AND it will be a sign of health. Please lean into it and let change happen. Do this and you will have a long meaningful future as a congregation.

I wish you all of the best as you forth on your journey.

With blessings on the journey,
Rev. Sunshine Jeremiah Wolfe

Join us at 10:30 for Worship Service

July

July 1, 2018- "Elements of Harmony"

with Cat Harrington and Worship Associate Bess Kameron

July 8, 2018- "No Time for a Casual Faith"

with Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray (video) and Worship Associate Eliza Bailey

July 15, 2018- "Can We Find Humor In the Bible"

with Kent Lindstrom and Worship Associate Amanda Winkler

July 22, 2018- "We Are Stardust"

with Randy Archambault and Worship Associate Cat Harrington

From where did we come? Billions of years ago, in the vast beyond, swirling dust came together to form the stars and the plants. One of those planets came to be known as Earth. Was this a miracle? Are we a miracle? This sermon may answer some of your questions, but I believe it will provoke you to think of many more.

July 29, 2018- "Parenting As Spiritual Practice"

with Amanda Winkler and Worship Associate Bess Kameron

August

August 5th, 2018- "Music from Concinnity"

with Worship Associate Randy Archambault

August 12th, 2018- "Salvation, UU Style"

with Eliza Bailey and Worship Associate Cat Harrington

How can our Unitarian Universalist (UU) faith help us to find comfort and embrace joy during difficult times? One worship associate shares some truths she has uncovered on her journey.

August 19th, 2018- "TBA"

with Rev. Jo VonRue and Worship Associate Kent Lindstrom

August 26th, 2018- "TBA"

with Rev. Jo VonRue and Worship Associate Eliza Bailey

What's Next: Concluding the Interim Time

Though my last day to preach at MMUUS was on June 17th, my contract continues until July 31st. I am available for emergencies until then.

Please note that I do follow a recommendation by colleagues to remain out of contact with a congregation for two years after I serve. This means that I will not respond to messages or calls, but rather refer them to Rev. Jo. Also, I will unfriend all members and friends of both of the UU congregations in Syracuse for the duration of the two years. I will welcome contact again and friend requests after that period of time.

While difficult, I've found that this period of time away is important for grieving the end of our time together and respecting the minister(s) currently serving the congregation. Please feel free to ask questions about this or any other changes that will be coming in the next several months. It has been truly an honor to serve this congregation. With blessings- Pastor Sunshine

Rev. Samuel Joseph May – Beloved minister



History Corner

This year we've written about Rev. Samuel Joseph May's involvement in the reform movements of the mid-19th century, as well as his participation in the civic life of Syracuse. In addition, Rev. May was revered as an "affectionate and devoted pastor" who was tireless in his ministerial work. By all accounts, he was beloved by the Unitarian Congregation of Syracuse, which he served from 1845 to 1868.

Although Rev. May's activism may have displeased some of his parishioners, they respected and loved him. During his ministry, the congregation grew steadily and developed into a force for good. Due to his warm and genial nature, even more orthodox ministers with whom he often disagreed considered him to be their friend.

After Rev. May's death, the congregation published *In Memoriam* (1871), a pamphlet containing tributes from his funeral. Those who eulogized him spoke of his "purity and kindness" and called him "a friend to all." Rev. Calthrop extolled his "large noble heart," and a church leader stated, "His benevolence was effusive and wide-ranging." (*In Memoriam* is available at <http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/maysamuel/maysamuel.html>).

When the Unitarian Society of Syracuse relocated to a new church on James Street, they named it after their second minister, calling it "The May Memorial Church." When it was dedicated in 1885, a large marble tablet inscribed in Rev. May's memory was installed on a wall below a stained glass window. In 1963 when the congregation was again moving, the tablet was broken, and its location was unknown for over 40 years. In 2005 it was rediscovered at the Onondaga Historical Association. Thanks to former archivist Roger Hiemstra, it was professionally repaired, and in 2006 it was reinstalled on the outside wall of our building, overlooking the pavilion and the Memorial Garden. The inscription honors Rev. May as "a fervent, devout preacher," and "an assiduous loving pastor," and it states, "...his life diffused the radiance of piety and charity throughout this community."

If you have never noticed the inscribed marble tablet, walk down the path at the southwest end of the building and take a few minutes to appreciate the life and legacy of our second minister and namesake, Rev. Samuel Joseph May.

Mary Louise Edwards

MMUUS History Committee

Reminder: If you're interested in helping to plan a public event in the fall to celebrate Rev. Samuel Joseph May's life and legacy, and especially his induction into the National Abolition Hall of Fame, please email history@mmuus.org.

Notes from the Admin Office:

- Office hours:
Monday 9:30-11:30
Thursday 12-4
Friday 12-4
- In preparation for the next newsletter in September please have submissions to the office no later than August 20, 2018



The women's vocal ensemble, **Concinnity**, will be presenting their program "Together We Rise" on **August 5**. Member Joan Colman sings with this group, and Nancy Pease will accompany. This year's program consists of topics including human rights, words of wise women (Eleanor Roosevelt, Sojourner Truth and Malala), as well as invitations to awareness of the human condition.

Cleanup Day and Pavilion Staining



In mid to late September there will be a clean-up day in the Memorial Garden, as well as cleaning and re-staining the pavilion. I need "all hands on deck." Families with children are welcome. Children will be playing "Pick-up-Sticks" (gathering fallen branches and twigs) and adults will be weeding and cutting branches that are dangerously hanging from trees. I will provide refreshments. Stay tuned for further announcements as the time approaches. You can volunteer any time before that date. I'll keep a list. Just send me your name.

I need more people (men as well as women) on the Memorial Garden Committee. We meet only as necessary and most communication will be done electronically. Thank you, Randy Archambault (rarchamb9710@gmail.com)

Celebration of Life for Pat Corson

Saturday, July 21, 2018

There will be a Celebration of Life for Pat Corson at the Corson Camp on Skaneateles Lake on Saturday, July 21, 2018. An outdoor service overlooking the lake will take place at 11 am followed by a BBQ lunch. All who knew Pat are welcome to come and share memories. All are invited to stay after the service and enjoy the lake with swimming, canoeing, and kayaking.

In the spirit of past church potluck picnics hosted by Pat at the family camp, we encourage friends to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Burgers, hotdogs, and drinks will be provided. For further details or to RSVP, please contact Pat's daughter Laura at Corson.Laura.B@gmail.com.



Unirondack weekend for Central New York UU congregations:

Friday Sept 14 - Sunday Sept 16, 2018

Families, Friends, Individuals - People of all ages are encouraged to participate in a Fall family weekend at Unirondack. Since 2008, this intergenerational Unirondack weekend has been a source of early fall community building for Syracuse UU congregations. This year, it is scheduled for **Friday Sept 14 (starting at 4:00) - Sunday Sept 16th, 2018 (ending at 2-3 pm) and we are inviting folks from many UU congregations in Central New York.** Unirondack is a UU Camp and Conference Center, a 2 - 2.5 hour drive from Syracuse in the western Adirondacks, near Lowville, NY. To see the Unirondack facilities/environment, the website is: www.unirondack.org

People hike, bike, read, play games, go boating, talk, nap, arts, crafts, sport games or just sit by the lake soaking in the beauty. Group activities are encouraged and are led by the weekend participants. We ask that there be no electronic games since this is a weekend to spend in community with other UUs from the area. There are cabins and heated sleeping spaces with indoor bathroom facilities! People need to bring their own bedding, towels and pillows as well as their personal items.

The 2018 cost will be: \$70/PP for those over 10 years old; Children 4-10 years \$62; Children 3 and under are free. This is *inclusive* of 2 nights (F, S) lodging, 3 meals Saturday and Sunday breakfast & lunch. Our costs are \$31/night to Unirondack and the small balance is for group food costs for 5 meals. Friday dinner is on your own. (eaten in the car, dining out or cooked there) Snacks and transportation are not included in this rate. Car-pooling has been arranged by individuals in the past. Meals are prepared by participants and are shared in a dining hall. Special dietary needs are carefully addressed and refrigeration is available for individual needs. Housing placements are selected by the coordinator based on group size, health needs, and order of reservation.

A 50% deposit is required to hold your space; the balance needs to be paid 2 weeks *in advance* of the weekend. Please respect this payment schedule! Reservations can be made by sending your name(s) to:

Stephanie Cross at mxcross1234@gmail.com.

Deposit checks should be made to "Stephanie Cross", given to her at MMUUS or mailed to:

3844 Pompey Center Road, Manlius, NY 13104. Please include your contact information (phone and email), names of people attending and ages of the children attending with your check. You will receive an email confirmation.

3800 East Genesee Street
 Syracuse, NY 13214
 315.446.8920
 office@mmuus.org

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

Sunday	July 1	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
Sunday	July 8	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
		12:00 pm	Spanophiles	COA
Thursday	July 12	6:00 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Sunday	July 14	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
Monday	July 16	6:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Saturday	July 21	11:00 am	Pat Corson Memorial Service	Corson Camp
Sunday	July 22	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
		12:00 pm	Spanophiles	COA
Thursday	July 26	6:00 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Sunday	July 29	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
Sunday	August 5	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
Sunday	August 12	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
		12:00 pm	Spanophiles	COA
Sunday	August 19	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
Monday	August 20	6:30 pm	Spiritual Enrichment Group	Memorial Room
Sunday	August 26	10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
		12:00 pm	Coffee Hour	Social Hall
		12:00 pm	Spanophiles	COA

YA Meet Ups



The Young Adults group will be having social gatherings both in July and August! We will be doing outdoor trips. Movie/Game nights will be held if weather is not ideal.

For more details see the posting on the bulletin board next to the ministers office.

Facebook Page: Syracuse UU YA