



## Earth Matters

- ☞ Greening our lives
- ☞ Keeping our planet
- ☞ Finding our place in a sustainable universe

# THE FIRST Unitarian

VOL. 91, APRIL 2009 • THE FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF MINNEAPOLIS

## From the Minister

It is very gratifying to continue to hear from outside sources about how favorably people experience the Sunday morning hospitality here at FUS! I got this latest feedback during my trip to California, so it was unexpected, but quite nice to be told how well received some recent visitors had felt. Thank you so much to all of you who go out of your way to make this a welcoming place!

To continue with the matter of hospitality, our new series of Eat 'N Meet dinners begins on Wednesday, March 25. The FUS staff and membership committee is aware that the current economic situation is taking its toll within our community, as it is everywhere else. In recognition of that reality, we want to invite any members who have lost their jobs or otherwise been severely affected by the crisis to please be our guests at Eat 'N Meet. We need one another now more than ever; and we hope that no one will stay away because of financial hardship. We have never intended these dinners to raise funds; we need them only to break even, and they do often make a small profit, so if \$7.00 starts to seem prohibitive, do let us offer you, or your family, a warm meal as well as warm fellowship during these difficult times.

Some larger congregations of various denominations have begun to build networks of support for those who are job hunting in this challenging climate, or who are reassessing their investment and retirement strategies in light of recent developments. It is not clear whether there is yet a sufficient number of FUS folks in these categories to maintain an active group, but if you would be interested in participating in or helping to bring together either of these conversations, please speak to me. I will collect expressions of interest, and when there is a critical mass, we will gather a meeting.

My recent trips to the west coast and Houston were both enjoyable and stimulating. Particularly exciting were the four days of the International UU Women's Convocation in Texas. I was present the last time that a large group of UU women came together to connect and strategize, and when we did the math at the meeting last week, we realized that it had been more than 18 years ago! Much has changed in that time. The previous meeting was almost entirely national—I think there may have been a handful of Canadian women there.

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Order of Service announcements are appreciated by noon on Wed. of each week. Please email your submission(s) to: [info@firstunitariansociety.org](mailto:info@firstunitariansociety.org)

Newsletter submissions are due by the 7th of each month and should be sent to: [newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org](mailto:newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org)

# Forum & Assembly Previews

Forums are at 9:30 a.m. in the Lower Assembly Hall.

Assemblies are at 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Assembly Hall.

## ◆4/5/09 FORUM: Sing-along with The Eclectics!

**Leader:** The Eclectics

Sing in the Spring with the band, The Eclectics! Choose your favorites from a list of great seasonal songs. The Eclectics are a variety musical group that provides music for FUS assemblies periodically throughout the year.



## ◆4/5/09 ASSEMBLY: “Experts in Healing”

**Speaker:** Michael Leuchtenberger

There are no certified experts when unbearable suffering strikes. There are only those willing to remain in the moment with the suffering, acknowledging its power, yet willing to open their hearts, not afraid of the hurt that will accompany a compassionate response. There is no cure for suffering but there can be healing and we all can turn into experts in healing.

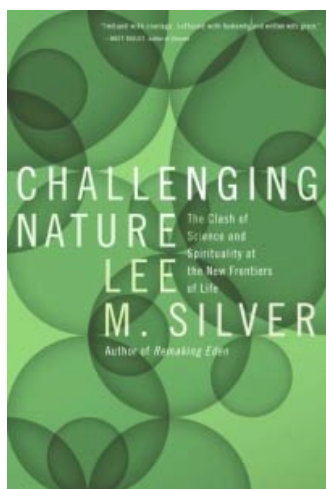
Michael Leuchtenberger has been a member of FUS since 2004. In 2006, Michael moved to Chicago to attend seminary at Meadville Lombard Theological School. He is currently the Intern Minister at Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Oak Park, IL. He lives with his wife Cara, and his sons Daniel (6) and Noah (4) in Chicago’s Hyde Park neighborhood.

## ◆4/12/09 FORUM: Book Chat: *Challenging Nature: The Clash of Science and Spirituality at the New Frontiers of Life*, by Lee M. Silver

**Discussion Host:** Ray Schreurs

Join us in an informal discussion of this thought-provoking book. Silver, a molecular biologist at

Princeton, examines new dimensions of the contentious debate between science and religion over cloning and other biotechnologies, and brings fresh insights to it. Silver’s provocative ideas and his graceful prose open new avenues for discussion of the challenges that face science and spirituality.



The book is available

for purchase in the FUS bookstore. All are welcome, whether you’ve read the book or not.

## ◆4/12/09 ASSEMBLY: “Among The Ruins”

**Speaker:** The Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

The traditional image of resurrection suggests that the greatest challenge to human well-being is death, and that if we could be assured of cheating oblivion through some sort of after-life future, our essential problem would be solved. On this Easter Sunday, I will suggest that from a humanist perspective, death is merely the natural completion of the organic cycle of life and does not constitute our greatest perplexity. The real question before us, more urgent this spring than most, is how we continue to affirm values and pursue plans when this world changes radically right under our feet, and the rules that we thought we knew no longer apply.



# Forum & Assembly Previews

Forums are at 9:30 a.m. in the Lower Assembly Hall.

Assemblies are at 10:30 a.m. in the Upper Assembly Hall.

## ◆4/19/09 FORUM: Earth Day Matters:

### Take One More Step

**Leader: FUS Green Team**

Looking for inspiration to continue greening your life?

Or opportunity to reawaken awe at the beauty, diversity and mystery of life on earth?

This morning's forum will have several learning stations in the lower assembly hall including solar oven cooking (make something to eat after assembly!), composting how-tos, opportunity to sign up for the Minnesota Energy Challenge, a showing of an episode of the award-winning documentary Planet Earth (great for adults and kids! in Chalice Room), and much more.



## ◆4/26/09 FORUM: The Boys-To-Men Mentoring Network

**Leader: Rick Gravrok, Activities Director of the MN Boys-To-Men Mentoring Network**

Some say, "Too many boys in America are not really growing up." How best to deal with this crisis? Think it through with Rick Gravrok (First Universalist), the MN Activities Director for this network. Come and see what insights arise among local men leading this unique network for boys 13-15 years old. See clips from their excellent movie "Journeymen" to gain understanding of this network growing across America, helping especially boys needing a strong healthy male as a mentor to help them grow up and become a man. Please bring along another man who may be able to help extend such help through BTM as a mentor to another boy. For more information see their website [www.boystomenmn.org](http://www.boystomenmn.org) and talk with Rick before or after this program.

## ◆4/26/09 ASSEMBLY: "Earth Matters: Project Rescue"

**Speaker: Children's Musical Performance**

With the help of our special children's musical performance, we will summarize this year's focus on Earth Matters by considering what it means to build a sustainable future for our planet and ourselves. Is human nature at its most basic level compatible with the kinds of awareness and restraint that may be required of us in the long run? How shall we begin to envision lives that 'break even' in their environmental impact, and yet fulfill the dynamic promise of our humanity? Is there any space left for innocence and joy?



# From the Minister

*continued from page 1*

The 2009 gathering was impressively global, with UU women from Transylvania, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand, Mexico, India, and South Africa, as well as regrets from delegates in Kenya, Rwanda, and Burundi, who were not granted visas and so could not attend. It was clear from our conversations, as well as the very challenging presentations we heard, that there is a great deal of work still to be done; issues of violence and political oppression, educational inequality, poverty and lack of health care all damage women's lives around the world. Yet we also had a sense of hopefulness, that now, perhaps for the first time, we see the full scope of the problems, and can begin to figure out systemic approaches that can make an ever-increasing difference. We are more aware than ever that what we have in common, and what unites us, is far larger and more profound than our differences. There were many groups of mothers and daughters, and even granddaughters, who came to be together as women of shared faith. I came away reminded that UU women of all ages are awesome!

**Kendyl Gibbons, Senior Minister**

First Unitarian Society



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday  
May 13

5:45 p.m.  
FREE

Indoor Picnic Dinner

7:00 p.m.  
Annual Congregational  
Meeting of the Society

### Trustee Tidbit

The Strategic Planning Committee, back in the Fall of 2007, made a number of recommendations that the FUS Board has been implementing. One was to improve the planning process at FUS and, in particular, develop a three-year strategic plan that would be refreshed every year. A plan has now been drafted and will be presented at the Conversation with Trustees on March 29. It contains five goals: reform the planning process, adjust the mix of programs, develop new leadership, maintain a solid foundation, and hire an assistant minister.

**The First Unitarian** is published once a month. The deadline for submission of items is the 7<sup>th</sup> of the previous month. Items submitted may be edited for style, content, and to fit the space available. Submissions may be left in the "Newsletter" folder in the FUS office, or made by mail, fax (612-377-2151) or email to [newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org](mailto:newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org).



*This newsletter is printed on post-consumer recycled paper with soy-based inks.*

## From the Intern

From April 17–19 Kendyl and I will be in New York for another class session at The Humanist Institute. The difference in this session is that I'll be graduating with Class 14, concluding THI's three-year certificate program in humanist leadership. Two FUS members started the program with me—Wendy Andberg and Audrey Kingstrom—but life happened for them and they weren't able to continue with this class. My final project is a paper on John Dietrich's humanism—a topic possible because I'm intern at a society where he was minister, and I could mine the archives for information. It's a great privilege for me as a humanist to be ministerial intern at a strong humanist congregation.

Last month's column was about my Ministerial Fellowship Committee meeting. By the time this newsletter is published, I'll have that verdict. Then next month, on May 17, I'll graduate from Meadville Lombard. One of the challenges of the last months of my internship at FUS is giving the congregation the attention I believe I should while also completing my school and credentialing tasks. But as you're a long-time teaching congregation, I know that you expect such things and support your interns in completing their education. Thanks for your help in showing me my ministry.



Two publishing-related items from my Unitarian Universalist work outside of FUS:

- ⇒ The Spring 2009 edition of *The Journal of Liberal Religion*, for which I am managing editor, is or soon will be published online at [www.meadville.edu/LL\\_JournalLR.htm](http://www.meadville.edu/LL_JournalLR.htm). The issue includes an article I wrote, "Meadville and the Manifesto," describing the involvement in the making of the Humanist Manifesto of 1933 by people connected to Meadville Theological School.
- ⇒ This year's winner of the Frederic G. Melcher Book Award, given annually by the Unitarian Universalist Association for the book that makes the most significant contribution to religious liberalism, is *Beyond Tolerance: Searching for Interfaith Understanding in America* by Gustav Niebuhr. I'm a member of the Melcher Book Award Committee, and we plan to bestow the award in June at General Assembly in Salt Lake City. The FUS bookstore has a few copies of the hardcover; the paperback edition will be published in July.

**Tim Barger, Ministerial Intern**

## Music Notes

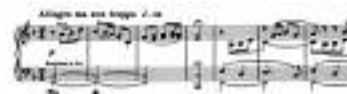
Please join Gabriela and me as we honor the earth on our last music Sunday of the year, May 3. In keeping with our FUS theme "Earth Matters," we will perform music by local composer Steve Heitzig, who has written numerous compositions with an earth and environment theme. His music is beautiful and provocative. One of his most heartbreaking works, "The Wounded Fields" will be presented by the FUS orchestra.



As a contrast to this deeply moving piece, the orchestra will play the second movement from Beethoven's lush "Pastoral Symphony." The chorus will join the orchestra in the work "Blessed are the Peacemakers" with the famous prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. The chorus will also sing a work which involves the playing of stones as well! Join us for this thoughtful morning in which we honor our blessed Earth.



Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony



**Barbara Brooks, Music Director**  
**Gabriela Diaz-Alatriste, Associate Music Director**

# Stewardship

So here we are entering April again and looking ahead to spring warming, grass greening, and the annual payment of state and federal income taxes. Two pluses there; one minus.

But this year April may be turning the minus into a plus for many of us. April, actually may become a time for tax refunds instead of payments, and the fiscal stimulus dollars approved by Congress should start putting extra dollars into our pockets in April. So what should we do to celebrate this good news? Can you guess? Three options come to mind. All can be seen positively. We like #3 best.

1. Put your windfall into savings;
2. Increase your consumer spending to help end the Recession; or
3. Share at least part of your new-found wealth with FUS to help close the remainder of our pledge budget shortfall.

You've heard so much about money this year, from us and from nearly every other source of news, you must feel saturated. But two fiscal realities keep our messages

coming, always hoping for a positive to balance the negatives, and this month we can offer two extra positives:

1. Many of you have contributed in significant ways to keeping FUS as solvent as possible through July 2008–March 2009. Some have paid early. Many have increased annual pledges. For each act of generosity, for every commitment to the wellbeing of FUS we offer our thanks.
2. Our Service Auction proceeds are around \$25,000.

But we still need contributions from all payment levels, from those who pledge, and from those who prefer not to pledge but still give, often very generously. There are three months left in the current fiscal year, so we need to keep shouting out, both our requests and our praises, on behalf of the religious home that means so much to us: FUS!

Every potential supporter must be enlisted. Are you on board?

With our gratitude,  
Your Stewardship Committee

## Financial Update

Pledge revenue from  
July 1—February 28    \$ 294,833

Expected pledge  
revenue per budget    \$ 311,759

Deficit                    - \$ 16,926

Although all operating expenses have been reduced, there is still a shortfall as we approach the end of the fiscal year. Hopefully, we can still end the year in the black.

## Thank You

Your Stewardship Committee recognizes the importance of saying thank you to many members who gave early, gave beyond an initial pledge level, or gave generously despite the absence of a specific pledge statement. You know we still have a hill to climb. We still need to ask for more help during the remaining months of 2008-2009. But we also need to recognize all who have already gone an extra mile. The help you have given offers us hope for continuing successes in the final months of our fiscal 2008-2009.

So, thank you, thank you,  
and THANK YOU AGAIN!

# Membership

## Wanted: Dining Companions

FUS wishes to be sensitive to those affected by the economic crisis. If the cost of Eat 'N Meet or Soup Lunch is prohibitive to you, please be our guest at these events. Soup Lunch is on April 12 this month.

## Eat 'N Meet

Please join us for this program every Wednesday night this month. Dinner is at 5:45 p.m., program is at 7:00 p.m. Please join us for either or both. Childcare is available, and free, on-site. Topics and menus can be found on the FUS website under the "Get Involved" link and in the March newsletter on page 7.



## April Birthdays!

Happy Birthday to the following folks! We were remiss in wishing Shelley Shreffler a very happy birthday in March; Happy belated birthday Shelley!

Graham Graham  
Steve Chollar  
Kristina Darnell  
Jane Dietl  
Lois Edwards  
George Greene  
Martha Hardesty  
Dan Hunt  
Ken Justiniano  
Betty Koerner  
Holly Leighton  
Linda Leighton

Chad Niemeyer  
John O'Connell  
Bill Ogren  
Marnie Owen  
James Park  
Matt Redelsheimer  
Ted Ringsred  
Harvey Rodich  
Roger Rydberg  
Alex Schmidt  
Asia Thornton  
Teresa West

## Thank You

*We would like to express a heartfelt Thank You to everyone at the Society for your many calls, cards and visits to Yleen, and for the lovely flowers for the Holidays. Yleen is currently living at Country Villa in Golden Valley. Calls and visits are encouraged, but one should call first before visiting.*

*— Yleen & Gary Joselyn & family*

**Teresa West, Membership Coordinator**

# Social Action News

## Mentors Needed

The First Unitarian Summer Social Justice Internship (SSJI)

Program promotes opportunities for social service and learning about social justice for the young people in our congregation.



The program is geared to youth who have completed 9th–11th grades. The Program provides a mentor to meet with the youth on a bi-weekly basis to discuss their work, the social services provided at the work site, and how these services relate to their community and social justice.

*What is the job description for a mentor?*

A mentor is a supporter. SSJI mentors work one-on-one with youth from our Society to discuss their work and issues of social justice which arise from the specific work they are doing.

*What will I get out of it?*

The SSJI Program provides a two-hour training so that you can learn more about social justice issues. You will also have the opportunity to begin a friendship across generations.

*What is the time commitment?*

Mentors must attend the two-hour training. Then mentors are matched with youth and attend an evening program orientation meeting. After that, the mentors' contact with youth is on an every-other-week basis (time and place to be arranged by the mentor and youth) during their internship.

For more information about Mentoring, contact Adele Hansen or Carol Koepp.

# Social Action News

Why do we as Unitarians show a commitment to social justice? Because that's what our faith is all about; "we often say ours is a religion of deeds not creeds" (*Welcome to Unitarian Universalism*, Tom Owen-Towle). We can be social justice activists just by living a responsible life and following our UU principles.

This is a list of possibilities. You will recognize your work here and will be able to add to the list.

Vote. Recycle. Drive as little as possible. Re-use shopping bags. Look for accurate sources of news. Share what you learn. Discuss. Buy locally grown food. Keep in touch with your legislators. Keep in touch with your neighbors. Take time with children. Show respect and appreciation for others who know more than you do. Show respect and appreciation for others who disagree with you. Write letters to the editor. Ask for others' opinions. Learn about the disposal issues of products you buy. Volunteer. Plant a rain garden. Use "green" building materials. Unplug your appliances when not in use. Donate to social justice collections at FUS. Use resources wisely. Insulate. Buy organic when possible. Compost. Take part in demonstrations you believe in. Do laundry in cold water. Resist using chemicals on your lawn. Use battery operated lawn mowers or push mowers if you can. Be an election judge. Meet your city officials. Buy items made with recycled materials. Work at staying healthy. Compliment people holding office when they do a good job. Work for the common good. Be a voice for the under-represented. Grow some of your own food when possible. Plant enough for the rabbits. Keep the bird feeders full. Attend community meetings. Listen.

## Dignity Center Update

Eight FUS members have taken a tour of the Dignity Center at Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church and have learned about the commitment required of volunteers. Four have made that commitment: Wanda McCaa, Wendy Reynolds, George Hutchinson and Mibs Pearson. We will all be able learn more about the issues of poverty and homelessness from them as they gain experience. Congratulations and thank you, Wanda, Wendy, George and Mibs. Information about the Dignity Center is on the SAC table.

## justFair Lobby Day

OutFront Minnesota's *justFair* Lobby Day is Thursday April 23. OutFront Minnesota convenes the People of Faith Allies roundtable—people, congregations and denominations working together in support of marriage equality in Minnesota (FFI on the Roundtable: 612-822-0127 ext. 103). Plan now to join your voice with others for an interfaith message of support for marriage equality. Register at [www.outfront.org](http://www.outfront.org) or call Jo Haberman at 612-822-0127 ext. 103 or 800-800-0350 ext. 103.

## UUs Out For Marriage (UOO4M)

UOO4M has been meeting and planning effective strategies for UU involvement in a statewide campaign to achieve marriage equality in Minnesota. Meetings are the first Monday of each month at Unity Church Unitarian, 732 Holly, St. Paul. All are welcome to attend our next meeting on April 6 at 7:00 p.m. Call Ralph at 612-889-6624 for more information.



## Howard Zinn—Voices of a People's History; Stories of Truth and Peace for a New Generation

A benefit to support Nonviolent Peaceforce. Performances by: Dipankar Mukherjee, Isabell Monk O'Connor, Jearlyn Steele, Lou Bellamy, Melvin Carter III, Michael Kiesow Moore, Sarah Levy, Tou Ger Xiong, Howard Zinn. Monday, April 6, O'Shaughnessy, 7:00 p.m. Students \$12; General \$21/36; Sustainer \$125. [www.ticketmaster.com/venue/49294](http://www.ticketmaster.com/venue/49294)

## Social Action Committee

The Social Action Committee meets the second Sunday of every month during the program year, noon–1:30 p.m. Watch the SAC table in the Lower Assembly Hall for agendas and locations.

**Carol Koepp, Social Justice Coordinator**

# Religious Education

Click your ruby-slippered shoes three times, Jan, and repeat, "There's no place like home. There's no place like home!" After spending most of my time traveling, this is how I felt at the end of my two-month sabbatical. Ready to be home, and that means at FUS too.



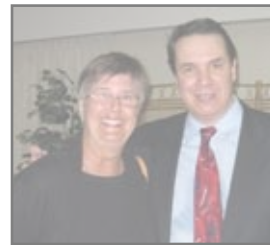
Hawaii, Florida, Argentina. Cory and I traveled to places where we had friends who had a place where we could "crash" as we used to say. Each place brought us to friends and family and renewed bonds of friendship that replenished us in various ways. Each place had its highs and lows, its laughs, its insights into the world and into relationships, and its own style of living. Each place we went I appreciated how I viewed the experience with UU eyes: the interconnectedness of all things is so evident nowadays! As we traveled the question of what our responsibility is to others and to this planet was always looming as we viewed the sins of economic oppression, classism and global environmental problems.

Also in each place, the renewed power of relationships with friends and family we hadn't seen in a while took hold. These connections showed us that we aren't in this puzzle of life alone. I thought of you all here at FUS, where the connections to adults and children make our life more rich and meaningful. This is a crazy and horrible time to think that you are riding this rough economy and politically-charged world alone, and our travels helped us to put into perspective that we have a wonderful place of support here in Minneapolis and FUS.

I missed being in my orange office, working with staff and parents, and am thankful that I have work that is meaningful to me. I still love to help raise UU kids! So, with thanks for the time, I begin again, refreshed and with the perspective that there is no place like home.

**Jan Devor, Director of Religious Education**

While Cory and I were visiting Vero Beach, Florida, Greg Mortensen, the author of *Three Cups of Tea* was speaking at the local UU Church! We got tickets and we were spell bound as he recounted the tales of his work in Pakistan establishing schools for girls. One of the most encouraging things he said was that he had been talking to General Patreus and other high-up military officials about what he has learned about how



to go about helping in that area of the world. Here you can see a picture of me and my pal Greg. (Wouldn't you know it, I even bumped into two other FUS members at the same lecture! We are everywhere!)

Another wonderful thing that I did during sabbatical was to take an art course called Traveling Suitcase. The students explored the emotions and experiences we are "traveling" through life with and how they make us the people we are, and then we created a piece of "art" to represent certain parts of our lives. I took the course thinking the senior high might like to work with this artist, and I wanted to preview it. I don't know if the senior high is old enough to have the perspective for this course yet, but I certainly have enough years behind me to think the experience terrific and I treasure my Traveling Suitcase, which is now an actual box with art pieces that I made representing some wonderful and powerful times in my life.

**Chalice Lighter Club** is open to all in third grade and up who would like to become a Chalice Lighter in the Sunday services. We meet for class two times: April 24 and May 15 with initiation on May 17. The classes are at 6:00 p.m. We serve pizza and engage in some fun activities. One parent must accompany each child to the classes. Sign up with Jan Devor!



# Opportunities for You at FUS

## The Alliance

“The Journey Ahead” (end-of-life arrangements) will be Pat Jordan’s topic for the April 1 meeting. We look forward to her helping us be better prepared for the end of life with discussion of issues and concerns. Luncheon tickets for \$8 go on sale at 10:45 a.m. The program begins in the Dietrich Room at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch catered by the Wedge.



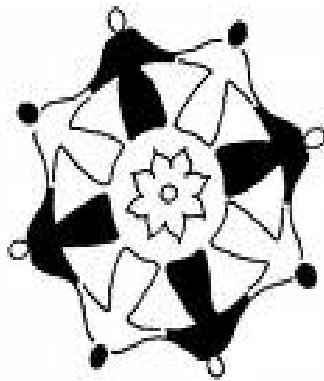
The Alliance wishes to thank Jean Christensen, her helpers and all who purchased the delightful rolls on Super Roll Sunday February 15.

The Alliance has agreed to fund some Sunday coffee hours to assist with FUS budget constraints.

The Alliance is a dynamic group of dedicated members and friends of FUS. We form friendships, exchange ideas, give service and support to the Society, promote liberal religion, and encourage and inspire personal growth. We welcome new members at any time. If you are interested in becoming a member, please call Joyce Blomquist or Gretchen Clemence for more information.

## Women’s Awareness Group

The April meeting of the Women’s Awareness Group will be held on Monday April 13 at the home of Gretchen Clemence. Mona Brown is the cohost. FUS women are invited to join us at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck supper followed by a lively discussion of a timely topic. Please call Gretchen or Mona to RSVP and for directions.



## Summer Assemblies

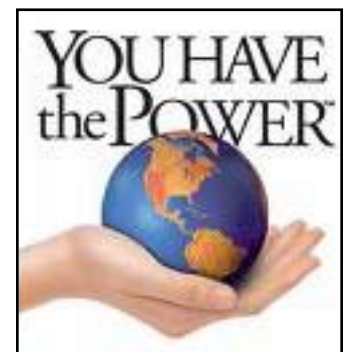
The Summer Assemblies Committee, chaired this year by Jim and Holly Leighton, is looking for people who are interested in sharing their experiences, their passions and their energy. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact them or find them at church. Thanks, and see you this summer!



## Green Tips from the Green Team

⇒ Feel free to turn out the lights! Office staff and the Green Team want you to know that ANYONE can turn out the lights at FUS! If you see lights on in unoccupied rooms, or where there is sufficient natural light, PLEASE FLIP THE SWITCH! Electricity costs FUS a lot of money. We can all do our part to save FUS money and reduce greenhouse gas pollution.

⇒ Be part of the reusable revolution. Bring your own reusable cup to coffee hour! We know you have one. Bring it with you. Enjoy your coffee while you save a cup, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and even lessen FUS costs in the process — fewer cups to buy and to pay to have hauled away!



# Opportunities for You at FUS



## An Invite to Passover Seder

Or Emet welcomes members of First Unitarian Society interested in Humanistic Judaism to attend the Passover Seder at FUS on Saturday April 11 at 5:00 p.m. The Minnesota Congregation for Humanistic Judaism offers a secular alternative for persons who believe a rational worldview and Jewish identity are complementary. Further information can be found at these websites: Or Emet [www.oremnet.org](http://www.oremnet.org) and Society for Humanistic Judaism [www.shj.org](http://www.shj.org).

The Community Seder follows a Humanistic Jewish service featuring participation by children and adults. This potluck event features traditional Seder foods and volunteer assistance provided by all attendees. Seder fees are \$10 for adults/teens and \$5 for children.

Reservations are required and are being accepted now. To make you reservation, please contact: Evelyn Lessin 952-377-3736, [mizevey@aol.com](mailto:mizevey@aol.com) or Nancy Schwartz 651/485-0353, [nschwartz@gradstaff.com](mailto:nschwartz@gradstaff.com) providing your name, phone number, number of people, and meal contribution (to serve 8-10).

## Book Chat

Calling all book lovers and movie buffs! Join us for an open discussion of a book or a movie on the third Sunday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Titles are available for purchase in the FUS bookstore. Here's the lineup for the remainder of the year:

April 12

*Challenging Nature: The Clash of Science and Spirituality at the New Frontiers of Life,*  
by Lee M. Silver

May 17

Movie chat: Title TBA

## Radio FUS Is On the Air

If you're at the Society on a Sunday morning and want to hear the service, but for some reason you can't be in the Upper Assembly Hall, bring a radio. Services and other events in the Upper Assembly Hall that use the sound system are now broadcast on 88.1 on the FM band. Assemblies are also aired on our assisted listening devices available in the office, but your own FM radio now can pick them up, too — anywhere on the first two floors and in the front and back yards of FUS.



## FUS Staff

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons, ext. 116  
[Minister@firstunitariansociety.org](mailto:Minister@firstunitariansociety.org)

Minister Emeritus: Khoren Arisian  
Director of Religious Education: Jan Devor, ext. 108  
[DRE@firstunitariansociety.org](mailto:DRE@firstunitariansociety.org)

Ministerial Intern: Tim Barger, ext. 107  
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Office Hours: Mon.–Fri. 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.;  
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# The First Unitarian Society

OF MINNEAPOLIS

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## April 2009

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Mark your calendar and join us!  
Details on these events,  
and more, inside.



**April 1:**  
*The Alliance meets*

**April 1-4:**  
*Sittings for Photo Directory*

**April 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29:**  
*Eat 'N Meet dinners and programs*

**April 19:**  
*Earth Day Celebration*

**April 26:**  
*Children's Musical Performance*

For an up-to-date listing of events at FUS, check the calendar online at the FUS website.

1. Go to [www.firstunitariansociety.org](http://www.firstunitariansociety.org)
2. Click on "Calendar" on the left menu bar.

If you do not have access to the web, contact the FUS Office at 612-377-6608 for event information.

## Board of Trustees

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