

Standing  
on the  
side of LOVE  
— and reason.

# THE FIRST Unitarian

VOL. 92, APRIL 2010 • THE FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF MINNEAPOLIS

## From the Minister

Meeting with my colleagues who are ministers of the largest congregations in the UUA is always both exciting and intimidating. We gather annually to help each other think about what it means for us to be leaders of our congregations, and what it means for our congregations to be leaders in our local communities and in our Association. These are UU churches and societies that are both serving and succeeding in spite of the unprecedented pressures of the current economy, but none of them is unaffected. Some have experienced the loss of significant staff members, because the positions could no longer be funded. Others have postponed or curtailed capital campaigns or major building projects. As I have previously observed, FUS is very fortunately situated at this moment, with a reliable major tenant, no mortgage or significant debt, and a stable and talented staff. We are lucky, but we still need to stretch our generosity for the coming year, and make sure that we don't let our mission start moving backwards. We don't want to let our building get shabby, or allow our staff to become so strained that our programming is thin, and our visitors and members are not served. Sustaining our momentum is important, and that is going to take participation by all of us. If it has been a while since you reconsidered your financial pledge, now would be a great time to help assure the future of FUS by investing a little more in this community that holds high the light of humanism.

It is easy to suffer from the ministerial malady of “steeple envy” when I hear about all the compelling and creative ways in which other congregations are making a difference in the lives of their members and their communities. Yet I am also energized by the conversations at our Board of Trustees and Strategic Planning Committee meetings, as we ponder the mission of FUS, and how best to make our vision for a better world a reality. Recently we were talking about what we mean by “the corporate model,” and whether a religious institution has a “bottom line.” You know that a business is succeeding if it makes a profit, but money is not the object of a covenant community like ours. How should we measure our success? This is a perennial question among church leaders. Then someone said the words “social capital,” and a light bulb went on for me. This organization, our First Unitarian Society, exists to create and multiply not financial capital, but social capital. The concept was popularized by Jane Jacobs in the 1960s, but its lineage goes back through philosopher John Dewey to a political scientist named L.J. Hanifan, who in 1916 defined it as:

*continued on page 4*

online at: [www.firstunitariansociety.org/newsletter/main.html](http://www.firstunitariansociety.org/newsletter/main.html)

### CONTENTS

From the Minister .....	1 & 4
Forum & Assembly Previews	2 & 3
From the Intern.....	4
Stewardship.....	5
Social Action.....	6-7
Membership.....	7
Art in the Gallery.....	8
The Foundation.....	8
Trustee Tidbit.....	9
Announcements.....	9



This scene from *It's a Wonderful Life* is an example of social capital in action.

Order of Service  
announcements are  
due 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 and Assembly Previews

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

## ■4/4/10 FORUM: “What Can We Do to Preserve Coral Reefs?”

Presenter: Nick Rowse



Coral reefs from the Caribbean to across the world are threatened. Nick will share what he learned about coral reefs on a recent excursion. He will tell the fascinating story of coral reefs, what keeps them healthy and what makes them unhealthy, as well as their extent and importance to ocean ecosystems.

Nick is a long-time FUS member and works as a Fish and Wildlife Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where he is an expert on the Zebra Mussel invasion. He is also a Bluegrass fiddler with the Eelpout Stringers.

## ■4/11/10 FORUM: “Sing-Along with the Eclectics” Presenters: The Eclectics

Sing in the Spring with the band, the Eclectics! Choose your favorites from a list of great seasonal songs that will leave you smiling and ready to celebrate Spring. The Eclectics is a variety musical group that provides music for FUS assemblies periodically throughout the year.



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

## ◆4/4/10 ASSEMBLY: “Breathing Wholeness: Growing Into Humanism, Part Two”

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

This Society exists because it is not enough to arrive at a position of having rejected traditional religious dogmas. If we are not continually growing in wisdom, compassion, and responsibility throughout our lives, then humanism is a mirage; a lifeless and powerless faith stance. Only if it summons us always to greater human dignity and a more fully human life does it deserve our loyalty, and offer sustenance to others and to our children. This four-part sermon series will consider four qualities of spiritual maturity, and how we might pursue them in practice. On this Easter Sunday, the Buddhist concept of Tonglen: the ability to be in the presence of suffering, our own or others', without panic.



## ◆4/11/10 ASSEMBLY: “Not Alone: Growing Into Humanism, Part Three”

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

We have been examining how humanists may understand the concept of spiritual maturity, and find guidance and encouragement from within this unique faith position. This morning we consider the Native American principle of Mitakuye Oyasin: that all beings, and indeed the universe as a whole, are related. Thanks to the progress of science, from cosmology to genetics, we know ever more clearly how true this idea is, yet how might it shape and even improve our lives to have it more constantly at the very center of our minds and hearts?

# Forum and Assembly Previews

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

## ■4/18/10 FORUM: “Green Remodeling 101: How to Make Green Work for You”

**Speaker: Cindy Ojczyk, Verified Green**

You’ve heard that “Green” is good but you aren’t really sure what it means? Come learn from an expert what green remodeling is and how you can use it to put money in your pocket, improve the value of your home, and contribute to a better tomorrow.

Cindy Ojczyk is the owner of two Green businesses: Verified Green, a training and consulting firm, and Simply Green Design, an award winning residential interior design firm. Cindy was a key author of the MN GreenStar Certification for Green Homes and Remodeling program and the Green building consultant to the first LEED certified home in the state.

## ■4/25/10 FORUM: *Movie Chat: Up in the Air* Discussion Host: Anita Martinez

### Movie Chat

The movie *Up in the Air*, directed by Jason Reitman (*Thank You for Smoking*, *Juno*) is an adaptation of Walter Kirn’s comic novel. It is a timely odyssey starring George Clooney as a corporate downsizer and consummate business traveler airborne 322 days per year. Clooney’s character suddenly finds himself ready to make a connection and contemplate what it actually might mean to have a home.

*Up in the Air* (rated R, 109 minutes) will be shown at FUS in the Dietrich Room on Thursday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m. Kendyl’s sermon on April 25 will reflect on themes presented in the film, and the April 25 Forum will be a chance to share thoughts and opinions about *Up in the Air* and what it has to say about modern society.

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

## ◆4/18/10 ASSEMBLY: “Finding Our Place”

**Speakers: Mary Bohman, Ministerial Intern**

In honor of Earth Day we will hear one of the newest creation stories, the epic of evolution, and explore our relationship to the earth and our interconnectedness with all living things. This is a story that continues to unfold! Cosmologist Brian Swimme observes about future evolution, “It is amazing to realize that every species on the planet right now is going to be shaped primarily by its interaction with humans.” The implications of this are staggering. How shall we live?

## ◆4/25/10 ASSEMBLY: “The Empty Backpack: Growing Into Humanism, Part Four”

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

We conclude our examination of the concept for spiritual maturity for humanists with examples from the Academy Award nominated film *Up in the Air*. George Clooney’s intriguing character offers a contemporary interpretation of complete rational self-interest, but

the story unfolds as he finds himself moved by inner forces that he does not altogether recognize or understand. Why is it important that our backpacks not be empty, and what do we need in them? We will consider the ability to make meaningful promises, or be in covenant with others, as one of the qualities of spiritual maturity, and what becomes of us in its absence.



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



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

## From the Minister

*continued from page 1*

“...that in life which tends to make tangible substances count for most in the daily lives of people, namely, goodwill, fellowship, mutual sympathy and social intercourse among a group of individuals and families who make up a social unit... If he may come into contact with his neighbor, and they with other neighbors, there will be an accumulation of social capital, which may immediately satisfy his social needs and which may bear a social potentiality sufficient to the substantial improvement of living conditions in the whole community. The community as a whole will benefit by the cooperation of all its parts, while the individual will find in his associations the advantages of the help, the sympathy, and the fellowship of his neighbors.”



This is our bottom line; our profit, if you will. “Goodwill, fellowship, mutual sympathy and social intercourse among a group of individuals and families who make up a social unit” so that “the community as a whole will benefit by the cooperation of all its parts, while the individual finds help, sympathy, and the fellowship of their neighbors.” Social capital is generated both inwardly and outwardly—as we deepen connections to one another within the FUS community, and when we model and advocate and reach out to create connections as an institution with our neighbors. The more social capital a community has, the more resilient it is in the face of pressures and crises, and the more capable it is of caring for those in need. Isn’t this what we want to see our Society produce? What can you do to help build the social capital of FUS, as a resource for our own fellow members, and as a contribution to the larger communities within which we exist? Think about it, and let me know.

**Kendyl Gibbons, Senior Minister**

## From the Intern

Unitarian Universalism calls itself a “Living Tradition.” For me “living,” indicates a focus on the present with an eye towards the future. “Living” implies aliveness, embracing the fullness of life. As humanists we gather to remind ourselves of what I would call a sacred duty: what it is to be fully alive, to be fully human, to be fully connected to the world. A living tradition means that we acknowledge truth and understanding as ever unfolding and consequently we must seek to expand our vision and act on it in the world. Yet Unitarian Universalism is a tradition. Tradition keeps us grounded and connected to the past—the living tradition must have roots and wings.

For many Unitarian Universalists who often approach religious community with a healthy dose of skepticism, tradition can be a four-letter word. By tradition we don’t mean static customs or fixed beliefs. By calling ourselves a living tradition we seek to find balance by staying connected to our past and understanding how we got to where we are today by knowing from whence we came. Within our liberal religious roots one can discern a stream of thought that leads us to the 21st century. We even expand the boundaries of tradition by declaring that we “draw from many sources” of wisdom to inform our living and deepen our understandings.

As a seminary student I find my understanding of theology and Unitarian Universalism deeply expanded by the study of history. I often find the words of our historical predecessors surprisingly relevant, or at least, that they shed light on the theological progression that led to our current liberal religious worldview. This history includes an openness of mind to new ideas, a passion for social reform, as well as the tensions of differing viewpoints and the blinding aspects of privilege. As a feminist I have found myself particularly drawn to the voices of women Unitarians and Universalists. These courageous women, whose writings and ideas have, up until recently, been glossed over by history, were deeply involved in abolition, women’s suffrage, education reform, and temperance. If you would like to learn more, I invite you to join me on April 7 for an Eat ’n Meet program that will explore the ideas of a few of these prophetic women. We will examine their lives, hear their own words, and sing music from that era.

**Mary Bohman, Ministerial Intern**

# Stewardship

## Pop Quiz Time!

1. What did the “average” member pledge to FUS in Fiscal Year 2009-2010? (Read on for the answer!)

- a) \$1,413
- b) \$842
- c) \$3,201
- d) \$503



The Stewardship committee has been collecting and analyzing pledge data, like the amount of an average pledge, since the committee’s inception. The data is important for us to understand, especially at this time of year as we help the FUS Board of Trustees to finalize the operating budget for next year.

The effort of better understanding pledge data began in 2002 when the congregation hired a consultant, Michael Durrall, to help us analyze our financial situation. One of the first things he pointed out was how dependent we are on our top givers, or as he calls it, skewed giving. To a certain extent, skewed giving is normal and unavoidable. He noted that a healthy congregation receives one-third of its income from its top 10% of donors, but at the time, FUS got 42% of its budget from that group. It is a situation that is unsustainable, since the loss of just one top donor dramatically decreases our income. As you can see by the graph below, we started to make progress on this situation, but have had difficulty maintaining that trend in the past few years. We currently are more reliant on our top donors than ever before.

Okay, are you ready for the answer to the first quiz question? As you can see from the graph below, the answer is a) \$1,413. More important, though, the average pledge peaked at just over \$1,500 in Fiscal Year 2007-2008. Since more than two-thirds of the budget comes from member pledges, you can imagine that the average pledge amount is one of the most important pieces of data we collect, especially when viewed in the context of other information like skewed

giving data. While a difference of \$100 may not seem significant, the reality is that this figure reflects the giving habits of the approximately 300 pledge units at FUS, so the true impact of \$100 change in average pledge is a \$30,000 change in the FUS operating budget.

The Stewardship Committee’s goal has always been to help members understand how important their contribution is to the health of the First Unitarian Society. This is especially true if your pledge does not fall within the top 10% of donors!

2. What is the best way for FUS members to help FUS continue to thrive financially?

- a) Sign up for Auto Pay!
- b) Fill out a new pledge for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 today!
- c) Pledge according to the “Liberal Tithe” (5% to FUS, 5% to other causes)!
- d) all of the above!

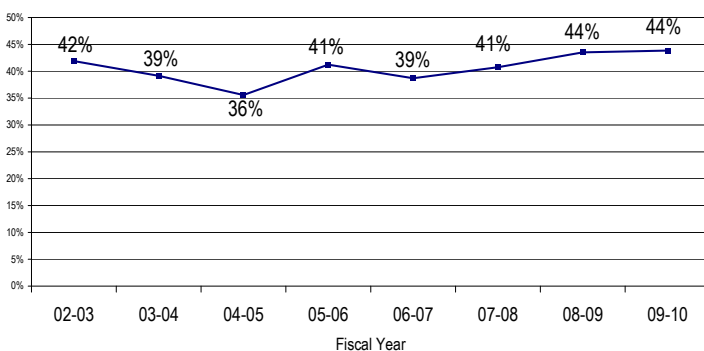
Yeah, that was an easy one. It is important for the Board of Trustees to have an accurate idea of what pledge income will be for next year, and the best way for them to be able to gauge that is to have current pledge forms from every member. As we said in this column recently, paying your pledge with Auto-Pay is like giving FUS a 7% pledge increase. And finally, we should all set a goal of pledging 5% of our gross income to FUS. We don’t expect everyone to reach that goal right away, but we do expect members to be making progress towards their goals each year.

Pledge forms for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 are always available in the FUS office, but an even easier option is to visit the Stewardship Committee table in the Lower Assembly Hall on April 11.

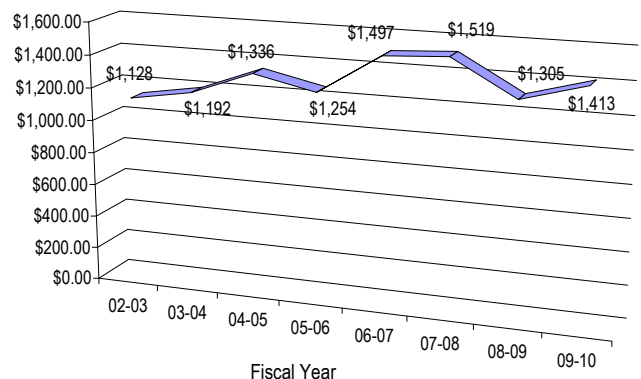
As always, if you have any questions, contact a member of the Stewardship Committee. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Your Stewards,  
Chris Bubser, Roger Clemence, Wendy Jerome, Boyd and Betty Mast, Kerry Noyes

Pledge Income from Top 10%

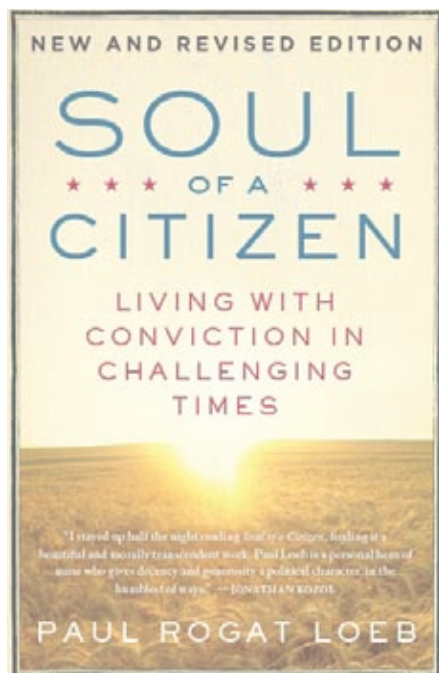


Average Pledge



# Social Action

Mark your calendar—Wednesday, April 21, 7:30–9:00 p.m. Paul Loeb, author of the book, *Soul of a Citizen*, will be speaking at FUS about the revised edition of his book on citizen involvement. The new edition comes out on March 30 and will be available in the FUS Bookstore.



Mr. Loeb says, “My talks build off the new edition to tell some amazing new stories and also explore the current political time, with its mix of opportunity and challenges, disappointment and hope, and the key need for citizens to act to help move things forward as they did during the election. I focus particularly around what citizen activism means under Obama, and how to get past demoralization.”

Mr. Loeb’s talks and interviews are based on 35 years of his work examining the psychology of social involvement. They explore how ordinary citizens can make their voices heard and actions count in a time when we’re told neither matter. They examine how people get involved in larger community issues and what stops them from getting involved; how they burn out in exhaustion or maintain their commitment for the long haul, what we need to learn from the citizen movements of the past; how involvement can give a sense of connection and purpose rare in purely personal life.

Mr. Loeb has been a keynote or featured speaker at numerous national conferences, including the UUA General Assembly, the American Society on Aging, the American Bar Association’s Equal Justice Conference and the National Education Association.

There will be a free will offering taken at the event on April 21 to help support Mr. Loeb’s continued work. To learn more about Paul Loeb’s life and work go to: [www.paulloeb.org](http://www.paulloeb.org)



Another Important Date—Wednesday, May 12, FUS Annual Meeting.



*The Steeple People Donation Van will be parked in front of FUS from 5:30–6:30 p.m. that evening to receive our donations.* Steeple People was founded in 1979 by members of Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church who thought of it as a way to provide a greatly needed, full-circle community service, gathering together high quality goods that people no longer wanted, recycling them back into a needy community, and donating the proceeds to support valuable community service organizations, one of them being the Dignity Center at HAUMC where several FUS members volunteer. They accept: Furniture in re-saleable condition (pickups scheduled during the week), household/kitchen items, clothing, books, DVDs, records, CDs, videos, antiques and collectibles, consumer electronics. Questions? Call 612-871-8305.

**Carol Koepp, Social Justice Coordinator**

## MUUSJA Spring General Meeting

Sunday, April 11, 2010, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., Minnesota Valley UU Fellowship, 10715 Zenith Avenue South, Bloomington, MN.

Featured Speaker: Dane Smith, President, Growth & Justice. Join us for this afternoon exploring UU work for racial, economic and social justice. Light lunch/snacks will be offered. We will also conduct a very short business meeting to elect up to three new board members and distribute our 2009 annual report. FFI visit [www.muusja.org](http://www.muusja.org) or call Ralph at 612-998-6624.

# Social Action

## Mentors Needed for FUS Summer Social Justice Internship Program



The First Unitarian Summer Social Justice Internship 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 9–11th grades. The Program provides mentors to meet with the youth on a biweekly basis to discuss their work, the social service 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 SSJ 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.

# Membership

## Find FUS on Facebook!

Come find the FUS community on Facebook. Share your thoughts and feedback from the service or other FUS activities, and post items of interest for other UUs. Once you are logged into Facebook, search on “First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis” and friend us!

## Visitor Orientation on May 23

Interested in finding out more about FUS and Unitarian Universalism? Join us for a two-hour session at noon on May 23. Please let me know if you are coming, as we will provide a light lunch.

We welcome new visitors weekly. Meet us after service for Minister’s Tea in the Upper Assembly Hall. The minister, a board member and the membership director are available to meet you and answer any questions, regardless if this is your first visit or your twentieth. You can also stop by the Ask Me table downstairs after service any week to learn more about us.

## Soup Lunch April 11 after service



## Happy April Birthdays!

Holly Anderson  
Steve Cholla  
Kristina Darnell  
Angela Dederich  
Jane Dietl  
Lois Edwards  
George Greene  
Martha Hardesty  
Dan Hunt  
Ken Justiniano  
Barry Lawson  
Holly Leighton

Linda Leighton  
Chad Niemeyer  
John O’Connell  
Bill Ogren  
Marnie Owen  
James Park,  
Matt Redelsheimer  
Harvey Rodich  
Roger Rydberg  
Asia Thornton  
Teresa West

**Teresa West, Membership Coordinator**

## Art in the Gallery

The current exhibit in the FUS gallery features watercolors by artist and landscape architect Jim Robin. It is on view through April 18. For information about Jim's work call 612-455-2980.

From April 25–June 6 “Scenes from the Water Planet,” Prints and Watercolors by Clara Ueland is on exhibit. Clara Ueland's prints and paintings explore aspects of water and water plants, celebrating the beauty and balance of the natural world. Inspired by visits to the BWCA, the North Shore and Scotland, Clara's prints range from imaginary landscapes to abstract representations of moonlight and lily pads. She currently works and exhibits in the Northrup King building and at the Highpoint Center for Printmaking, newly relocated to Lake Street and Colfax Avenue. She has won awards at the State Fair, the Walker Art Center, the Bloomington Art Center, the Hopkins Center for the Arts, and the Print Club of Philadelphia, among others.

### *FUS Staff*

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons, ext. 116  
Minister@firstunitariansociety.org  
Minister Emeritus: Khoren Arisian  
Ministerial Intern: Mary Bohman, ext. 107  
Intern@firstunitariansociety.org  
Director of Religious Education: Jan Devor, ext. 108  
DRE@firstunitariansociety.org  
Music Director: Barbara Brooks, ext. 106  
Chorus@firstunitariansociety.org  
Orchestra Conductor 2009–2010: Dr. Jeffrey Stirling  
ext. 106, Orchestra@firstunitariansociety.org  
Membership Coordinator: Teresa West, ext. 104  
Membership@firstunitariansociety.org  
Social Justice Coordinator: Carol Koepp, ext. 103  
SAC@firstunitariansociety.org  
Congregational Administrator: Will Hegeman, ext. 101  
Office@firstunitariansociety.org  
Publications Coordinator: Morgan Rock, ext. 111  
Newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org  
Finance Director: Bob Calgren, ext. 112  
Fin-adm@firstunitariansociety.org  
Building Manager: Caidin Riley, ext. 105  
Bldg-mgr@firstunitariansociety.org  
Building Steward: Cirilo Vail Hernandez

Office Hours: Mon.–Fri. 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.;  
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.–Noon

Main phone number: 612-377-6608

## The Foundation

Incorporated in 1992 to provide financial support for many FUS activities, the FUS Foundation remains on solid financial footings, even as the economy struggles to recover from the Great Recession. An example of Foundation support for the Society was on display Sunday morning, March 28, when Foundation President Allan Callander presented to Senior Minister Kendyl Gibbons a grant to the FUS operating budget from the Foundation's Endowment Fund in the amount of \$35,406.

The Foundation manages eight funds that serve various Society functions. In addition to the Endowment Fund, these are: The Future Is Now Fund, Hopp-Hendrickson Fund (for RE programs), Kurt Pearson Memorial Social Concern Funds, Safer Visual Arts Fund, Safer Music Enhancement Fund, Charles Sigmund Music Fund, and the FUS Foundation Unrestricted Fund. Grants from these funds are made throughout the year, often without fanfare; yet they are just as vital to the indicated specific activities as the March 28 Endowment grant is to the FUS operating budget.

Annual support of FUS activities by Foundation grants is made possible by readers like you and by many previous and current Society members and friends who have made contributions and/or planned gifts. For details about the Foundation and its funds, see the FUS website: [firstunitariansociety.org](http://firstunitariansociety.org).

The Foundation is managed by a twelve-member Board of Directors who are organized in four committees—Development, Finance, Audit, and Nominations. The last committee is currently recruiting nominees to serve three-year Board terms beginning in July, 2010. *If you have an interest in Foundation activities and want to help ensure its growth and continued support of FUS, you can volunteer to serve on the Board by contacting Gene Martinez, Gary Blegstad, John Jacobsen, or Allan Callander.* Monthly Board meetings are held on third Mondays at 7:15 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

In what might be the first FUS event of its kind, a donor recognition evening will be held in April to honor those who have made planned gifts to the Foundation. The Foundation Board is working diligently to preserve and grow its funds and to increase the donor base. We believe that at some point in each of our lives, most FUS friends and members will be able and willing to join in this worthy effort, as the Foundation epitomizes our individual and collective legacies.

# Announcements

## Trustee Tidbit

Registration is now open for June UUA General Assembly in Minneapolis! Go to [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga) for details. You will want to be among the many FUS members and friends attending GA to experience the many entertaining programs and informative workshops. Partial scholarships are available for those who have the time to volunteer. We are also looking for FUSers who would be interested in representing our interests as a delegate. If you are interested, call either Polly Peterson, Bruce Nelson or Martha Hardesty. GA is June 23-27. For all the details visit [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).



## The Alliance

“The Dignity Project” will be the topic for the April 7 Alliance meeting, with Ann Carlson, Director of the Dignity Project of Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church. Several FUS members have also been involved with the project. The talk begins at 11:00 a.m. with opportunity for questions and then lunch from the Wedge at noon, followed by a short business meeting. Luncheon tickets for \$8 go on sale at 10:45 am.

## Volunteer and Get Free Lunch!

A volunteer driver is needed to pick up the Alliance lunches at the Wedge and deliver to FUS at noon on the Alliance Wednesdays. The driver can hear half the talk and then gets free lunch with the Alliance! Contact Jan Sigmund to offer your services.

## Women’s Awareness Group

The April meeting of the Women’s Awareness Group will be held on Monday, April 12 at the home of Gretchen Clemence. Pat Jordan is cohost. FUS women are invited to join us at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck dinner followed by a discussion of *The Latehomecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir* by Kao Kalia Yang, who spoke at a recent FUS service. Adele Hansen will be discussion leader. Copies of Ms. Yang’s book may be available at the FUS Bookstore. Please call Gretchen to RSVP and for directions.

## Lunch and Theater Outing



Join FUS member Linnea Asp on Sunday, April 11, for an afternoon of good food, conversation/discussion\* at FUS’s Soup Luncheon, Frank Theatre’s 2:00 p.m. performance of “Metamorphosis,” and a panel discussion after the

show. FUS member Maria Asp is a member of the cast. Contact Linnea Asp by Sunday, March 28 ([linneaasp@comcast.net](mailto:linneaasp@comcast.net)) to attend. Tickets available from Linnea or [www.franktheatre.org](http://www.franktheatre.org): \$18 students/seniors, \$20 adults.

\*Frank artists have adapted Franz Kafka’s novella to create the script for the show. Electronic copies of this text are available from Linnea, if folks wish to discuss it over lunch.



## Short ‘n Sweet

Please remember to abide by the FUS Communications Policies and Procedures when making announcements on Sunday mornings.

### Written announcements:

- ☺ are read aloud by the Board member greeting the congregation
- ☺ should be typed using a minimum of 12 point font
- ☺ **should be 50 words or less (take 10-20 seconds to read).**

### Oral announcements:

- ☺ are made by the representative of the group requesting the announcement
- ☺ **should not exceed two minutes**
- ☺ may include more than one presenter, but should have a primary spokesperson.

For more information on FUS Communications Policies and Procedures see our website: [www.firstunitariansociety.org](http://www.firstunitariansociety.org).

Standing  
On the  
side of LOVE  
— and reason.

# The First Unitarian Society

OF MINNEAPOLIS

900 Mount Curve Avenue • Minneapolis, MN 55403-1124

612-377-6608 • Fax: 612-377-2151

[www.firstunitariansociety.org](http://www.firstunitariansociety.org) • [office@firstunitariansociety.org](mailto:office@firstunitariansociety.org)

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
PERMIT NO. 3801

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## April 2010

April 7, 14, 21 & 28—Wednesdays  
Eat 'n Meet

April 11  
Soup Lunch  
Theatre Outing

April 21  
Paul Loeb *Soul of a Citizen* Lecture

April 22  
Happy Earth Day!  
Movie Screening: *Up in the Air*

April 25  
Clara Ueland Exhibit Opens



### *Board of Trustees*

Beth Gohdes (Chair)  
Adele Hansen (Vice Chair)  
Martha Hardesty  
Dan Hunt  
Elizabeth Hutchinson  
James Leighton  
Bruce Nelson (Secretary)  
Polly Peterson  
JD Rickard  
Mary Ann Lundquist (Treasurer)

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.