



Unitarian

VOL. 84, JUNE/JULY 2007 • THE FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF MINNEAPOLIS

From The Minister

O wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us!
It wad frae monie a blunder free us
An foolish notion:
What airs in dress an gait wad lea'es us,
An ev'n devotion!

So writes the poet Robert Burns, while sitting in church, watching a louse disport itself on the bonnet of the lady in the pew in front of him. Even displays of devotion can appear ridiculous, he suggests, when a person is unaware of how he or she looks to the eyes of others.

That wish, to see ourselves as others see us, is the key concept of marketing. No matter how good a product or service may actually be, you can't get it into the hand of those who need it or might benefit from it unless you stay attuned to what it looks like from their point of view rather than your own. I think that Robert Burns was having a little gentle dig at the church of his own day, as well as feminine vanity; the institutional church has been notoriously reluctant to consider how it might appear to those not already committed to its values and traditional practices. Sadly, humanist communities have been subject to this same dis-inclination; too often, we assume that if people are smart enough to want to be part of our community, they will overcome all obstacles to finding us, and be happy to be just like us, and do things the same way we have always done them.

Some sociologists of religion have suggested that within the next half century, the only American churches that will be viable will be either very large, with extensive resources and the ability to offer a wide variety of programs and services, or else very small, offering intimate, face-to-face community without any impact on the larger society. As troubling as the message of evangelical Christianity surely is, it is also clear that at least some of these orthodox congregations have begun to take seriously the question of where they will be in twenty or forty years, and what impact current social trends might have on their future. Neither liberal religion nor humanism is exempt from these same forces, and it seems to me that we ought to be asking the same kinds of questions about what the future might hold for us, and how we can best respond to this changing world.

The quest of contemporary congregations "to see ourselves as others see us" has led to some creative projects. Atheist college student Hemant Mehta used the internet to "auction off his soul" on e-bay, with the result that he spent several months attending

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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

Newsletter submissions are due by the 10th of each month and should be sent to newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org

Forum and Assembly Previews

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

■6/3/07 Forum: The Sources of Muslim Discontent

Presenter: Lou Lavoie

Dr. Lavoie will discuss two distinct but related threads of Muslim history: the rise, fall, and humiliation of Muslims at the hands of the West; and the embarrassment and curse of impure, popular Islam that needs rectifying. The origin and continuing influence of these elements of history will be discussed, along with what we might do about it. Dr. Lavoie has published two books: "Tides of History" in 1996 and "Anger in the East: Historic Sources of Muslim Discontent" in 2007. His background includes terms as a physicist at the University of Chicago and the University of Minnesota and a Soviet Threat Analyst for a defense contractor prior to the collapse of the Soviet Union.

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

◆6/3/07 ASSEMBLY: "A Sturdy Freedom" Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

Atheism is enjoying a few moments of renewed popular attention, following a quarter century of ascendant conventional Christianity, with authors like Sam Harris and Richard Dawkins making an assertive case for doing away with religion altogether. Meanwhile, the Humanist community debates within itself whether to identify with these provocateurs, or to criticize their less than diplomatic pronouncements. Is liberal religion part of the problem, or a contradiction in terms, or a source of hope? We also honor the achievements of several Boy Scouts within our congregation. A sermon discussion will follow the Assembly.

From The Minister, continued

a variety of church services as requested by the purchaser, and writing about his impressions. Mehta was not, in fact, "converted" by anything he experienced, but his commentary offers a trenchant critique of the ways in which congregations "do church," often without thinking about it, because their habits are deeply ingrained. These perspectives of an outsider are fascinating to me, not least because I find myself thinking, "I wonder how he would respond to what happens at FUS? We would definitely be different, in that we would not ask him to affirm propositions that he doesn't intellectually believe, but what would he say about the sense of welcome, the music, the feel of the building, the preaching, the evidence of service to others?" These were all key qualities he mentions in his reports on the churches he visited, now published as a book, "I Sold My Soul on E-Bay."

So compelling was this project that Mehta's "purchaser," pastor and evangelist Jim Henderson, hired another atheist, and proposed that they visit churches together, so that Henderson could be part of the experience as well. The result is another book, "Jim and Casper Go to Church." It, too, raises very interesting issues about the form of what congregations do when they gather, leaving aside the question of whether or not they are correct in the beliefs they offer.

These perspectives intrigue me, because I always wonder how we might make our own community more accessible and welcoming. What aspects of our institutional life, that we take for granted and don't even see any more, make it difficult for people who already agree with our humanist ideas to find a home here? If there are changes that would allow that process to happen more easily, are they changes that we would be willing to undertake?

I would like to explore these questions together, with anyone else who finds them intriguing as well. So I am setting aside three Thursday evenings early in the fall – September 13 and 27, and October 11 – for a light supper and conversation, beginning with these two books. You can find them in the FUS bookstore; they are engaging, easy reads. We'll gather in the Dietrich Room at 6:30 p.m., to ask ourselves what we think Mehta, Casper, and Henderson might say about FUS, and what, if anything, we might like to do about it. One caution: If you think that Christians in general, and evangelicals in particular, are so benighted that we have nothing to learn from them, this group isn't for you. But they discovered a lot from consulting a friendly atheist; I'd hate to think that the learning can only flow one way.

Rev. Kendyl Gibbons, Senior Minister
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Minister@firstunitariansociety.org

Celebrating the Human Spirit: Summer Assemblies 2007

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



June 10 - Hymn...Hmm? to Poetry

In Western history, religion seems early to have stretched us to our most creative. How are religion and creativity related? Speaker: Wendy Jerome, Music by The Eclectics

June 17 - Celebrating the Humanist Spirit

How do we celebrate Humanism as a philosophy, life-stance, or spiritual path, in our day-to-day living? How do we celebrate peace, beauty, justice, discovery, compassion, and teaching? Join us for this lively and intimate look at the hopes, intentions, passions, and actions of our fellow FUS Humanists. This multi-media assembly will include art, music, and personal stories, in the framework of our Whole Life Humanism Checklist, with the intention of inspiring us to celebrate Humanism in our lives.

Coordinator: Wendy Andberg

June 24 - Deflating Fear

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Franklin D. Roosevelt uttered these words in 1933, when the most pressing fears were about money. Today, fear manifests itself in everything from public policy to everyday interactions. Some people are so afraid that they carry loaded handguns in public. What are the drivers of fear today, and how can we defuse harmful fears?

Speaker: Heather Martens, President, Citizens for a Safer Minnesota

July 1 - Living Words

What are the words we live by? For this Sunday's Assembly, please bring a poem or verse that has inspired, tortured, solaced, confirmed, disrupted, lulled, or enlightened you in this work of living. Join a celebration of poetry as Humanist scriptures.

Coordinator: Martha Hardesty

July 8 - Friendship

Old friends-new friends-tried and true friends. What constitutes a genuine friendship? What do you need or want from a friendship? What are you willing to give? Using Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay, "Friendship," and Joseph Epstein's book, *Friendship, an Expose*, we will explore the meaning of friendship-- its pleasures, its complications and its many contradictions.

Coordinator: Mibs Pearson, Music by the Eclectics
online at: www.firstunitariansociety.org/newsletter

July 15 - Growing our Gifts

Join us as we celebrate the human spirit by learning more about the artistic skills of some of our members. The images and stories they share with us show how they have cultivated their talents through photography, design and music. Perhaps they will inspire us to follow our own passions as we seek to balance our lives.
Coordinator: Adele Hansen

July 22 - Community Service Sunday

This has become a tradition during the summer at FUS. Come dressed for action. There will be a variety of activities available; some in the building and some in the community. All of them will be services to the greater community. Be watching for sign-up sheets on Sundays prior to 7/22, where you can indicate your activity preference.

Coordinators: Jim Tincher and Andrew Schmidt

July 29 - Celebrating the Human Spirit in a Multi-cultural Classroom

Leif will offer a glimpse into his life as a teacher in culturally rich Jefferson Community School in Minneapolis, which is located just down the street from FUS. The opportunities for celebrating diversity are endless in this school, which boasts more than ten different spoken languages, the full spectrum of wealth and poverty, and many skin colors. There are many uplifting stories to be shared. Leif will also offer ways for you to get involved and enjoy the benefits of becoming a part of the vibrant Jefferson community.

Coordinator: Leif Carlson

August 5 - Next - a Life Odyssey

The talk will consist of a number of "life questions"-- about success, making it, the powers and traps of fame, and what to do when one's early training and ambitions no longer seem to go "anywhere."

Questions of rethinking oneself: who and how to read, expanding ideas and thoughts, and attempting to maintain or rediscover days, where one might want to go; the paths, choices, and disciplines beyond modes of self-destruct, quitting early, then moving toward one's own "Next Places."

Speaker: Harvey Sarles. Coordinator: Carol Koeppe

Continued on page 4

Summer Assemblies 2007, cont.

August 12 - The People in your Neighborhood: Politics, Land, Food, and Community Economics in the FUS Ecosystem

Guest speaker: Keith Ellison. Coordinator: Jack Harris

August 19 - Celebrating the Human Spirit -- A Global Connection

Peter D'Ascoli and young people who have grown up in this congregation will share the personal impact travel has had on each of them; travel in the service of others or travel to learn about other cultures. How does this kind of experience confirm or change personal perspectives? How does it touch the human spirit?

Coordinator: Peter D'Ascoli

August 26 - Wanderlust . . . and Coming Home

We are drawn to travel for so many reasons . . . for learning, for inspiration, for escape, for fun (the list goes on). And still, coming home is many times the sweetest reward. Both travel and coming home have inspired a lot of wonderful music. This Music Sunday will feature the music of travel and discovery, interspersed with thoughts on why we travel, and why we love so much to come home. Music performed by The Eclectics and friends.

Coordinator: Cindy Pichotta

September 2 - Summer's End or "You Can Take It With You"

Your most relaxed and least studied moments, the least anticipated days may be the memories you look back on with joy and that support you into the future.

Speaker: Wendy Jerome

Chalice Camp is provided for school age children up to age 12 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Child care is available for preschool children and infants.

From The Intern

Of endings and beginnings and all that is ongoing

In these last few weeks of my internship, as I write this column, already my leaving has begun. More and more of my hallway conversations with you have included the words "farewell" or "goodbye" and questions like, "What's next?" More and more of my daily tasks have involved wrapping things up, writing up conclusions and cleaning out my files. Already I am receiving requests and advice related to my next internship – a summer chaplaincy in a local hospital – which I will begin just a week after leaving FUS. Already I am registered for a full load of seminary classes in the next school year, hoping to graduate next May. How is it, I wonder, that

I will find space for more learning experiences when this one still feels so present and full in my heart and mind?

It is with gratitude – and some sadness – that I now prepare to end my time with you at FUS, and with joy and appreciation that I anticipate carrying with me the many lessons I have learned here from you and with you. In so many ways, you – and the things I learned while I've been with you – will remain with me always. So perhaps this isn't really goodbye, but more appropriately and simply, a great big thank you.

"Happiness," the poet Mary Oliver once wrote, "isn't a town on a map, or an early arrival, or a job well done, but good work ongoing." So I end my time with you knowing, happily, that the good work of this year will be ongoing – both among you at FUS and in my own future ministry wherever I go. I thank you for your companionship and support and encouragement in this past year, and I wish you all the happiness and satisfaction of "good work ongoing" in the years to come. May those things that have been in bud at the Society this year go on to bloom; and may those things already blooming now offer up their seeds for further growth.

In gratitude and appreciation for all the good work ongoing that we share,

Karen Hering
Ministerial Intern
612-377-6608, ext. 107



The FUS Foundation

Music, Music, Music!

It may interest you to know that “Sources, a UU Cantata” will be featured at the UU Musicians Network conference in Florida this summer in a community-wide worship service. Composer Jason Shelton says: “Kendyl’s texts seemed to sing right off the page for me, and the result of our collaboration is at times bursting with energy, and at times deeply contemplative and moving.” In addition to Kendyl’s lyrics, proceeds from an FUS Foundation fund, the Charles Sigmund Music Fund, were used to cosponsor the final (7th) movement of the cantata, recently performed at FUS.

Continuing in our series of featuring individual funds managed by the FUS Foundation, this month we are featuring two which support our Music Program. Each of these funds can accept gifts or bequests from music lovers. So, you see, you could participate in the process of creating inspiring music at FUS, whether or not you can sing or play an instrument, or wave a baton.

The Charles Sigmund Music Fund was created in 1983 to honor former FUS member, Music Director, and U. of M. professor, Charles Sigmund. Its purpose is to enable us to commission and perform new music to enrich The First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis and the larger community as well. Each year, the Sigmund Fund Committee (Barbara Brooks, Jan Sigmund, Madeline Simon, and Bob Aderhold) decides if there are sufficient proceeds available. Often there is not enough to commission a work, and proceeds are allowed to accumulate for future projects. Accumulated proceeds this past year paid for the orchestration of the Barnett/Gibbons hymn, “Holy Ground,” for the Society’s 125th Anniversary celebration, and cosponsorship of the final (7th) movement of “Sources, a UU Cantata.” Since 1983, this fund has enabled the commissioning of 10 original compositions.

The Safer Music Enhancement Fund was established in 2003 as a result of a generous bequest by former FUS member, artist, U. of M. professor, and musician, Louis Safer. “Lou” also created a fund for the visual arts at FUS, and I understand from a brochure for a post-retirement retrospective exhibition at the University, that he also played a Tartini violin concerto with the FUS orchestra in 1957. The purpose of this fund is to support and enhance the Music Program of FUS, with the proceeds being used for purposes such as music rental or purchase, repair or tuning of musical instruments, and fees for special musicians. Recall last December’s Music Sunday and the magic of the “Harry Potter Suite” with the help of FUS children. That magic was made possible by support from this fund.

From the musical sphere,
Madeline Simon

online at: www.firstunitariansociety.org/newsletter

Music News



Gabriela and I would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all of the folks that participated in the music program this year! We especially acknowledge the FUS Chorus and Orchestra and the Eclectics. These groups have been integral to keeping our music program vital, diverse and inspiring! Thanks to the Children’s choir as well as to all the people that offered their skills and time in performing special music for various Sundays throughout the year.

I would also like to thank the music committee for their enthusiasm, support, and great ideas! Thanks to Kendyl for introducing us to the Unitarian Cantata, which featured her beautiful words! The picture would not be complete without thanking Scott Sandberg, a dear friend and tireless presence in our music program. Scott gives more to this program than I can ever express and I want to thank him in this newsletter.

Last, but NOT LEAST, I want to thank all of the people in our congregation who so lovingly and sincerely offer their kind words and support. You have no idea what that means to Gaby and me, and we cherish your comments.

OK, enough already... I’ll see you next season!
Best,
Barb Brooks

Barb Brooks, Music Director, 612-377-6608, ext. 106
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Religious Education

If you have had a teenager apply to college the month of April always has a special meaning for you... the anticipation of who got into what school. But now that I have done it twice, I would really like to say to all of the youth... it's okay. No matter where you go or what you do, your path will be fine. I know that those words sound hollow to many young folks, but it is so true and it breaks my heart to see such wonderful youth upset. I would like for all of you to have this story at your fingertips to share with those whose paths aren't going as they think they SHOULD.



“A Farmer’s Horse Ran Off” Based on a Tale by Lui An

A farmer’s horse ran off, and try as he might, the farmer could not catch him. His neighbor sees this, rushed to the farmer’s side and said, “How bad for you! Now you’ve no horse to haul your wood.” The farmer looked at the dust in the distance and said, “I don’t know...”

The next day, the horse came back with a mate, a beautiful wild mare it had found in the fields. When the neighbor saw two horses in the farmer’s stall, he said, “How good for you! You must be glad!” Once again the farmer said, “I don’t know...”

The next day, the farmer’s son decided to tame the new wild mare. The horse threw the boy and stepped on his legs in many places. The farmer rushed into the field, and as he was lifting his broken boy, the neighbor saw what had happened. The neighbor ran to the farmer and said, “Oh, how bad for you! Your sorrow is understood.” The farmer looked up with tears in his eyes and said once again, “I don’t know...”

In time the country went to war. All the able-bodied youths were drafted. The farmer, with his arm around his limping boy and the neighbor stood alongside the road as row upon row of young men marched off to the battle-field. The neighbor wiped a tear from his eye as he waved goodbye to his own two sons, who walked away with sturdy strides. He turned to the farmer and said, “Say it! How good for you. Your son is home. You must be glad!” Again the farmer sighed, “I don’t know...”

This is a story without an end.

And the point to take is that there is no perfect good or bad news... it is just news that leads you down a path to who knows what good or bad luck. Each thing that happens to you is just an event in your life... the path of your life is never sure... good news turns to bad and bad news turns to good all the time. Just go where your path takes you... and keep alert! Life will throw good and bad at you no matter what college you go to or what path you take in life. Just do each passage with as much integrity and intelligence as you can and you will never regret this journey we call life.



Jan Devor
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Religious Education

The Alliance News

JUNE/JULY ACTIVITIES:

Come to the RE Carnival on June 3. Our traditional way to end the Sunday School year... with games and ice cream! Children in grades K-5 can go right to the Chalice Room for this fun event, which ends at 11:30 a.m. Sixth, seventh, and COA can come to the service; there will be a regular group for the senior high kids.



This summer CHALICE CAMP will be in full swing beginning on June 10. Under the capable direction of Amanda Harrington, the camp will take on all ages for some fun and lessons. There will be care for the littlest ones, as well as programming for other ages up to 6th grade. The children will begin right away in the Chalice Room.



Congratulations to Maureen Carlson who has won a \$1,500 scholarship from the White Bear UU church's 9/11 Scholarship for her essay and commitment to social justice.

Also Lars and Anika Carlson have been given their assignments for the Unity Summer program and will begin their internships on June 9.

Our graduating seniors are: Matthew Schneider, Andrew Bracket, Nico Eller, Emily McTigue, Denise Victora, Bryant Harris, Simone Dahlquist, Maureen Carlson, and Corwin Diamond.

We wish them well as they follow their paths in life.



Our thanks to Shelly Stein, who is retiring as a Chalice Lighter as she enters 8th grade!

New Chalice Lighters are: Dylan Rickard, Bronia Bogen-Grose, and Lola Heimleisch.

The Alliance enjoyed a very informative talk on May 2 by Sarah Chevallier of The Center for Memory Research and Care at the U. of Minnesota on "Advances in Curing Alzheimer's." Following the luncheon we held our Annual Meeting, at which the membership voted to approve Jan Sigmund as the newest triumvirate member to replace Joyce Blomquist.

June 6 – Field Trip to the U. of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

The Alliance ends its program year with a field trip to the Arboretum. We will enjoy a "flower pot" lunch, take a tram tour of the grounds, and have time to enjoy the gardens and gift shop before heading back to Minneapolis.

Alliance member Doree Gamble was honored with an award at the recent Prairie Star District meeting sponsored by FUS in April. She received the Keeping the Faith Award, which is awarded to honor those who have worked to keep Unitarian Universalism alive in their community and who touch the lives of congregation and community members in a positive way. Doree is an active leader and member of Pilgrim House.

It's been a great year. Thanks to everyone on staff who worked with us this year to make it a success: we appreciate all the support, from coordinating room set-up and clean up, assisting with technology needs, making coffee, getting information about Alliance in Sunday programs and The Unitarian, to presenting a talk at a meeting. On behalf of the Alliance board, I extend thanks to all of our members who attended our program meetings and those who helped in various ways to keep things working well. This includes hosts and hostesses for our luncheons, Max Green, who faithfully picked up and delivered food from The Wedge, those who helped with the holiday sales and the krumkake social hour, our devoted catering crew, and anyone else I may be forgetting who made this year a successful one. I also wish to thank members who are currently serving in leadership roles. You are a great group to work with and wonderful at what you do.

The Alliance Board will work hard to ensure that next year is even better. Please know that we welcome visitors and new members at any time. If you are interested in membership, please contact Angie O'Neill at 612-722-0784. See you all in the fall!

Submitted by Linnea Asp

Membership News

FUS Welcomes Newcomers and Lauds Membership Milestones

Congratulations to the following new members who were welcomed to the congregation:

- ☺ Dan and Kristianne Buechler
- ☺ Steven Carney
- ☺ Sandy Cook
- ☺ Jennifer and Sam Heimlich
- ☺ Mike and Alix Herzing
- ☺ Kristen Johansen
- ☺ Betty and Boyd Mast
- ☺ Barbara McKernan
- ☺ Shawn Pettigrew

We also congratulated several marking their One Year Anniversary:

- ☺ Scott Bilodeau and Richard Carper
- ☺ Rose and Michael Day
- ☺ Paul Davies
- ☺ Barb Lutz
- ☺ Celeste Stokes

Welcome, new members! Congratulations, and thank you to those who have shown your support to FUS!

Missed the Orientation? No worries!

Did you know visitors and friends may become members of FUS at any time during the year? That's right, you don't have to wait until the Fall Orientation sessions (though it is strongly recommended you attend them afterward). For more information about membership, please contact Jo Franco, Membership and Outreach Coordinator at (612) 377-6608 ext. 104 or email membership@firstunitariansociety.org.

One Last Thank You

On behalf of the FUS staff, I'd like to thank all the volunteers who made Sundays possible this year, including, but not limited to: greeters, ushers, coffee hour help, library and bookstore volunteers, and audio-visual controllers, and RE teachers. Your smiling faces and helpful hands make the Society a great place to be each week!

Jo Franco,
Membership Coordinator
612-377-6608, ext. 104
membership@firstunitariansociety.org

Events & Announcements

Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Opportunities for June

The First Unitarian Society along with other metro area Unitarian Universalist congregations will have a week-long build with Habitat for Humanity during the last week in June, June 25 - 29. We will be building in Heritage Park, the mixed income housing development at the intersection of Olson Memorial Hwy. and Lyndale Ave. The exact address of the site is not known yet. Habitat For Humanity is building here with the help of a group of downtown congregations, Congregations Building Communities (CBC). Work was stopped for over a year because of rising prices of materials and land. Thanks to fund-raising efforts going on in the downtown congregations and the Unitarian congregations belonging to Unitarian Universalists Affordable Housing Partnership (UUAHP), Habitat is able to return to this important site. Habitat for Humanity has a commitment to build 55 units. They have finished 17 at this point. If you would like to volunteer during this work week, please sign up at the Social Action table downstairs after the Assembly, or call Carol Koepf at 952-893-2383. We will need construction volunteers as well as volunteers to provide lunch or mid-afternoon snacks. Thanks for your help!



The Minnesota Futurists

The Minnesota Futurists is the oldest active chapter in the World Future Society, www.wfs.org. Founded in St. Paul, the group now meets at FUS on Saturdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Dietrich Room. The purpose of the Minnesota Futurists is to advance serious and responsible investigation of future scenarios, without advocating particular ideologies or engaging in any political activities. Each week our speakers present a futures subject and conduct a lively and highly interactive discussion. Visit the interactive website <http://minnesotafuturists.pbwiki.com/> for articles, information about upcoming presentations and to add your comments.

Events & Announcements

Women's Awareness Group

The June meeting of the Women's Awareness Group will be held on Monday, June 11, at the home of Barbara Wallace, 3430 List Place #901, Minneapolis, MN; Polly Peterson is the cohost. FUS women are invited at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck supper, followed by a discussion, "This I believe..." Please call Barbara (952-933-3779) or Polly (612-522-7178) to RSVP and for directions.

Midsummer Celebration



Thursday, June 21

6:30 p.m. - twilight

❖ Potluck Picnic Supper

Burgers, brats, and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert to share - and your own wine and beer, if desired.

❖ Summer Solstice Reflections & Revels

We will savor the longest day with music and song, poetry and prose befitting the season.

❖ Kids' Activities

Everyone gets to stay up late on the longest day for fun and games, treasure hunts and the sweet treats of summer.

❖ Campfire Circle

Linger with friends this midsummer's eve around the fire with storytelling and s'mores.

Lower Assembly Hall, Patio and Lawn
\$5 suggested donation (\$2 for children)

We will be outside as weather permits and encourage you to bring lawn chairs or blankets for your comfort. Volunteers needed.

Contact akingstrom@comcast.net

The Humanist Center

On June 3, the Humanist Center of Minnesota closes its program year with FUS member Robert Tapp, Professor Emeritus of Humanities, Religious Studies and South Asian Studies at the University of Minnesota. He will be helping us broaden our understanding of Humanism with the topic, "Varieties of Humanism." The evening begins with a social time at 6:30 and the lecture will begin at 7 p.m. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion afterwards. This event is free and open to the public, so bring your friends to whom you would like to introduce Humanism. The Humanist Center of MN is a collaboration of FUS, the Humanists of Minnesota and the Humanist Institute. For further information please contact Matt Stark: 612-377-2211.

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The First Unitarian is published once a month (except July). The deadline for submission of items is the 10th of the previous month. Items submitted may be edited 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 e-mail to newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org.



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June/July 2007

June 2 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists	June 17 8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Ecumenical Catholic Community	July 12 7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Pagan Spirituality Discovery Group
June 3 8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Ecumenical Catholic Community	9:00 AM-10:15 AM	ReFirement Group	July 14 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists
9:00 AM-10:15 AM	ReFirement Group	10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Celebrating the Humanist Spirit	July 15 9:00 AM-10:15 AM	ReFirement Group
9:30 AM-10:15 AM	FORUM - The Sources of Muslim Discontent	June 18 7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Foundation Board	10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Growing Our Gifts
10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Earth and Spirit	June 20 7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Membership Committee Meeting	July 21 8:30 AM-2:30 PM	Compassionate Ocean Retreat
12:00 PM-1:30 PM	New Member Discovery Group	June 21 5:00 PM-10:30 PM	Summer Solstice Celebration	9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists
6:30 PM-9:00 PM	The Humanist Center of Minnesota - Varieties of Humanism	June 22 7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Arts & Crafts Discovery Group	2:00 PM-6:00 PM	Mayfield Wedding
June 5 5:30 PM-8:00 PM	Pro Choice Resources Board Meeting	June 23 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists	July 22 10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Community Service Day
June 6 8:30 AM-10:30 AM	Bus Tour to Arboretum	June 24 8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Ecumenical Catholic Community	July 28 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists
June 8 5:30 PM-7:00 PM	Social Commentary Through the Arts DG	10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Deflating Fear	July 29 10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Celebrating the Human Spirit in a Multi-cultural Classroom
7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Arts & Crafts Discovery Group	June 28 7:00 PM-9:00 PM	Stewardship Committee		
June 9 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists	June 30 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists		
June 10 8:00 AM-9:00 AM	Ecumenical Catholic Community	July 1 9:00 AM-10:15 AM	ReFirement Group		
10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Hymn...Hm? to Poetry	10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Living Words		
12:00 PM-12:30 PM	Ceremony of Grieving	12:00 PM-1:30 PM	New Member Discovery Group		
June 13 1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Senior Discussion Group	July 7 9:30 AM-2:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists		
June 16 9:30 AM-12:00 PM	Minnesota Futurists	July 8 10:30 AM-11:30 AM	ASSEMBLY - Friendship		
		July 11 1:00 PM-2:00 PM	Senior Discussion Group		



Check the calendar online at the FUS website. Click on "Calendar" on the left menu bar.

