



Earth Matters

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

THE FIRST Unitarian

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

From the Minister

As we watch scandals involving the huge banking and finance industry corporations continue to unfold, I am reminded of the insistence by many business analysts over the past decade or more that the key to survival in the economy of the future would not be either cautious risk-avoidance or trying to get away with as much as possible. Instead, I recall several different management gurus harping on agility, and flexibility, as the hallmark of a company that was likely to thrive in the midst of unpredictable times. With this principle in mind, I am extremely heartened to see the variety of ways in which our Society is responding to the unforeseen demands of the current economy.

Much gratitude is due to Barbara Weatherhead, and Allan and Sheila Callander, whose innovative energy helped to pull off our most successful Service Auction ever, in spite of the daunting economic climate. This excellent result will enable us to support community services for homeless youth, and sustainable agriculture in the Amazon rainforest; it will lighten the load for our building stewards with new, lighter-weight tables, and allow us to make improvements on our FUS website, and repair inefficient doors at the Groveland and Chalice room entrances. Huge thanks to the many people who worked so hard to make this event both fun and profitable!

Huge thanks also to everyone who has responded to the various communications from our Stewardship committee, explaining the shortfall that we are currently experiencing in expected pledge income. At this time, it looks like special contributions, in addition to commitments to catch up on pledge payments by the end of the year, have resolved about half of the projected deficit. Several committees have determined to curtail their expenditures, and the bookstore has made a donation of \$2,500 for this fiscal year, and a similar promise for 2009-2010. We are inching closer and closer to being able to end the year in a fiscally sustainable position. Stewardship committee cochairs Chris Bubser and Roger Clemence, as well as our Congregational Administrator Will Hegeman, Bookkeeper Bob Calgren, and Treasurer Mary Ann Lundquist, and the members of the Stewardship Committee, have all helped to make this happen, and are continuing to work to keep our financial situation on track.

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FUS Annual
Congregational
Meeting
Wednesday May 13

Free dinner 5:45 p.m.
Meeting 7:00 p.m.

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 7th of each month
and should be sent to:
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.

◆5/3/09 FORUM: Singing the World in Six Songs

Leader: Dave Leussler

“What influence does music have on the evolution of human emotion, reason, and spirit?” What do the songs “Smoking in the Boys Room” and “America the Beautiful” have in common? What link is there between sexual orgasm, communal singing and the comfort of religious ritual? In Every Unitarian’s dream singing session, we will not only “read ahead” the lyrics of the songs, but will also discuss evolution, brain science, and the important spiritual dimensions of singing together. Dave Leussler will lead this singing/discussion session using the book “The World in Six Songs” by Daniel J. Levitin. Come prepared to listen, sing, and share your own story.

◆5/10/09 FORUM: Legislative Updates

Leaders: Social Action Committee

The legislative session is nearing completion. The Social Action Committee has been watching bills that have to do with homelessness, poverty, GLBT issues, and early care and education. Members of the Green Team have been keeping an eye on bills that impact the environment. This is a chance to hear their assessment of this session — up to this point. You are welcome to add some of your own stories of success or disappointment.

◆5/17/09 FORUM: Movie Chat: “Milk”

Discussion Host: John Nordquist

Join us in an informal discussion of this stirring film. Harvey Milk’s life changed history, and his courage changed lives. In 1977, Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, becoming the first openly gay man to be voted into major public office in America. The movie is currently available on video. All are welcome, whether you’ve seen the film or not.

◆5/3/09 ASSEMBLY: Music Sunday

Presenters: The Wounded Earth

Featuring: The FUS Orchestra, Chorus, and Community Chorus

Please join the FUS Orchestra, Chorus, and community chorus, as we both honor and mourn our relationship to dear mother earth. From the beauty of Beethoven’s “Pastoral” symphony, to the heartbreak of Steve Heitzig’s “The Wounded Fields,” we will explore music that depicts both the healing and destruction of our blessed earth. We will conclude the morning with “The Promise of Living” from Aaron Copland’s beautiful opera “The Tenderland.” This is a morning not to miss as we say goodbye to Gabriela, our wonderful associate music director. Gabi, the first woman to lead a symphony orchestra in Mexico, makes us very proud. We will miss her deeply. See you on May 3!

◆5/10/09 ASSEMBLY: “Heritage Sunday:

Ken Patton’s Mystical Humanism”

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

Our own minister, John Dietrich, was one of the intellectual originators of modern humanism in the first half of the 20th century, but his colleague Kenneth Patton was its poet. Patton’s love of language, and his ability to express profound inspiration in purely human terms, shaped both Unitarianism and Universalism in the period preceding their merger. Those who perceive humanism as a coldly intellectual philosophical proposition have never encountered Patton’s fervent and lyrical interpretations. We will premier a new hymn setting of Patton’s words by UU composer Jason Shelton.

◆5/17/09 ASSEMBLY: Coming of Age Sunday

Speaker: The Coming of Age class

Come hear the coming of age class! The class will present their credos in church. Don’t miss this. It is always meaningful and insightful and very, very, special. Chalice Lighters will be initiated during this assembly.

Forum & Assembly Previews

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

◆5/24/09 FORUM: Paying for Universal Health Care: Single Nonprofit Payer?

Leader: Dr. Elizabeth Frost, cochair of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP)

It seems that everyone can agree that health care in our nation has reached a state of crisis. PNHP feels that the problem lies in the private insurance bureaucracy and paperwork which consume one-third of every health care dollar. Because of this, PNHP advocates a publicly funded but privately delivered “Medicare for All” system. Streamlining payment through a single nonprofit payer would save more than \$350 billion per year, enough to provide comprehensive, high-quality coverage for all Americans. How do UU values relate to the choices our nation must make?

◆5/31/09 FORUM: Resources for Child Care Leaders: Social Action Committee

During the assembly this morning there will be a social justice collection for the purpose of establishing a scholarship fund for the teachers at the Agape Child Development Centers in north Minneapolis. We have had a supportive relationship with these centers for many years as they provide safe, nurturing care for young children 24/7. Teachers are required to take a number of continuing education classes every year. Resources for Child Care is the agency that provides these classes. Our speaker this morning will be able to share with us how they play a big part in increasing the quality of early care and education in Minnesota.

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

◆5/24/09 ASSEMBLY: “To Sign the Vivid Air: An Observance of Memorial Day”

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

In the midst of current headlines featuring apparently endless political scandals, economic frauds, and personal disgraces, the concept of honor has a quaint, almost anachronistic feel to it. Yet it seems to me that honor is an indispensable component of a humanist value system. Certainly the idea can be exploited, but in its absence, something in the social contract dissolves. What is it that can summon us to sacrifice our own interests and comfort for others, or for the sake of some greater good? And what does it mean to be the recipient of such sacrifices?

◆5/31/09 ASSEMBLY: “Spirituality from a Humanist Perspective”

Speaker: Tim Barger, Ministerial Intern

Spirituality is a word in the “language of reverence” category. Some people have told me how they grapple with “spirituality”—the term doesn’t seem to fit well with science and reason, yet I see spirituality as part of being human. This sermon looks at spirituality through a humanist lens, examining what some people say about spirituality, what feelings we have that can be described as spiritual, and how, being religious humanists, we might use language of reverence to establish common ground with those of other beliefs.

There is a sermon discussion scheduled at 12:15 after the May 31 service, so this address could be just the start of a conversation.

◆6/7/09 ASSEMBLY: “Without A Crystal Ball”

Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Kendyl Gibbons

As the end of this eventful FUS program year approaches, we have no way of knowing exactly what lies ahead, for our community or for the nation and the world. We do have some exciting aspirations for our future, and some useful assessments of where we are right now and what is possible for us in our current circumstances. We also have several new members to welcome into our congregation. What shall we look forward to for the year ahead? And how do we prepare ourselves, personally and collectively, for meeting challenges that we may have little opportunity to predict?

First Unitarian Society

ANNUAL

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 13

5:45 p.m. FREE Indoor Picnic Dinner

7:00 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting

From the Minister

continued from page 1

We have also made some adjustments in the way we handle Sunday morning expenses, which will offer additional opportunities for individuals to celebrate special occasions or honor special people. Because of the size of flowers needed in our large-scale Upper Assembly Hall, the minimum donation for Sunday flowers has been \$75. We are now offering the possibility to share flowers with another sponsor, so that the minimum donation will be \$40. You won't be able to specify a particular date, since we will need two cosponsors, but we can most likely make it for a certain month. Another opportunity that is especially fun for celebrating a birthday, is to sponsor refreshments for the Social Hour on a Sunday. For \$35, you can be the donor of our regular cookies, or for \$40 you can offer two sheet cakes, with your choice of flavors and messages. If we can match you with another donor, it may also be possible to sponsor one cake for \$20. Check with Morgan Rock in the office; she can help you with selections and sign ups.

None of these efforts by itself is magically going to resolve all our financial concerns; in a way, they are all nickel-and-dime strategies. But at this moment, nickels and dimes are important, and our resilient creativity is what will see us through these immediate difficulties. Each of us can play a small part in making this happen, and that is what creates a sustainable community.

Kendyl Gibbons, Senior Minister

Trustee Tidbit

The Board offers hearty thanks to Allan Callendar and Barbara Weatherhead for organizing such a successful service auction this year, and to all the volunteers who helped make it happen.



From the Intern

My internship at FUS will end on May 31. I feel so much a part of this place that I'm not looking forward to saying goodbye. But I won't be coasting through the end of internship—there's still a lot to do. Some highlights: on May 1 and 2 I'll be receiving training to teach the Our Whole Lives sexuality education program. On May 13 I'll attend FUS's annual meeting. From May 14 through 17 I'll be in Chicago to graduate from Meadville Lombard Theological School, receiving a master of divinity. (As this newsletter goes to press, I also expect to graduate from The Humanist Institute April 18; I'm still working on the last paper for that program.) And on May 31 I'll preach my final sermon here, looking at spirituality through a humanist lens. I'm still the student in this teaching congregation; please continue giving me your words of wisdom.

Many of you know that my meeting with the Unitarian Universalist Association's Ministerial Fellowship Committee (MFC) did not go well. They gave me a 3, which means I'm required to do some work and then see the committee again. That sets me back about a year. I'm heartened by the solid support I've received from you. When a candidate appears before the MFC, that's the beginning of a relationship with that committee that goes on for several years, and it's up to me to show them I can minister to all. I thought I did that, but I guess they thought otherwise. This congregation, and Kendyl and the FUS staff, have done so much to cultivate my ministry; knowing how strongly you see me as a minister, I expect the MFC to see what you do next time. I thank you so much for having me as your intern and affirming a place for me at FUS and in Unitarian Universalist ministry.

Tim Barger, Ministerial Intern

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 to newsletter@firstunitariansociety.org.



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

Stewardship

Communication is an essential part of the health of any organization that depends heavily on member contributions. You all know that if you listen to MPR or watch public television.

You also know it if, as a part of the FUS family of givers, you have been following the written and oral reporting that has come from: (1) the pulpit; (2) the monthly newsletters and *The Unitarian FLASH*; and (3) the snail mailings of recent months that have focused on budgetary issues.

The Stewardship Committee and the FUS Board of Trustees actually have felt financially challenged since late November of 2008, and in our commitment to better communication, we have shared our concerns. Well folks, we now have great and encouraging news, and we need to shout it out! YOU HAVE RESPONDED! YOU HAVE RESPONDED! YOU HAVE RESPONDED!

Since March 15, some 75 members or member-families have pledged the kind of help we so desperately need to keep this place in fiscal good health.

These generous respondents (you may be among them) have assured us that FUS will receive the balance of the tens of thousands of dollars previously committed for the final months of 2008-2009. Many of these folks also have promised close to \$15,000 MORE in EXTRA SUPPORT before June 30, 2009!

Of equal importance, these promises have come from a wonderful range of givers, embracing donations from the \$50 dollar level to as much as \$1000, and they have come from close to half of the 75 respondents cited above.

This level of support, with its marvelous breadth, defines a superb and still-growing congregation of givers. It defines you, and you, and you.

YOU HAVE EARNED,
AND YOU DESERVE, OUR
HEARTIEST SUPPORT!!

THANK YOU,
Your Stewardship Committee



FUS Gallery

The Art Committee presents hand-printed woodcuts by Cecilia Lieder in the Foyer Gallery, starting May 10 and running through Sunday, June 14.

Cecilia Lieder has been an artist printmaker for over 35 years, whose primary artistic expression is the creation of original woodcuts and stone lithographs. She helped found and direct the Northern Printmakers Alliance and the Northern Prints Gallery in Duluth. In 2007 she won the Arrowhead Regional Arts Commission George Morrison Artist Award for lifetime achievement in the arts.

Lieder describes the inspiration realistic imagery has on her work as follows: “The symbols of realism have remained constant in human experience and possess powerful subconscious impact, accrued over millennia. Strongly tied to the physical commonalties between people, realistic imagery can be simultaneously accessible and profound. Through keenly focused observation of the natural world around me, realistic accuracy has become a search for truth. In the extended process of bringing an image into existence as a print, the meaning of the subject matter—both abstractly and in my own growth—reveals itself to me. In this way, the work that results is both a record of my discoveries, and a dynamic process of growth in itself. Consciously using the physicality of objects as a door to growth and transcendence in this manner, I call Intentional Realism.”

More information about Cecilia Lieder and the Northern Prints Gallery can be found at: <http://northernprintsgallery.com>.



Financial Update

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Pledge revenue from July 1—March 31 | \$ 332,257 |
| Expected pledge revenue per budget | \$ 344,742 |
| Deficit | - \$ 12,485 |

Although pledge revenue continues to lag, we are in better shape than we were at the start of 2009. A huge “thank you” to everyone who has worked so hard to help FUS make it through these trying times.

Membership

Orientations and New Member Sunday

We will be holding Orientations for visitors who would like to know more about FUS, Unitarian Universalism, and our community. New Member Sunday will follow these meetings for those who would like to join our society. If you know of visitors who may be interested in joining, please let them know, and direct them to me, Teresa West, for more information.

Spring New Member Orientation dates are Sunday May 17 and 31 at 2:00 p.m. in the Dietrich Room. New Member Sunday is June 7. Please RSVP; we also accept spontaneous appearances. I will provide childcare if I have five days notice.

Eat 'N Meets

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. Topics and menus can be found online in the March newsletter on page 7. The last Eat 'N Meet of the year is May 13 and is our Annual Congregational Meeting. This dinner is free! The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Assembly Hall.

Soup Lunch

The soup lunch this month is on the third Sunday, May 17.

May Birthdays

Very happy wishes for those celebrating birthdays this month.

Don Asp
Charlie Bachman
Carol Barnett
Rita Bauer
Anika Brust
Angie Dhruvan
Carol Griffin
John Groos
Amanda Harrington
Jenna Hutchinson
Gary Joselyn
Mary Ann Lundquist



Ana Martinez-Tapp
John Moede
Sadie Nederveld
Walter Nelson
Fred Olson
Owen Reynolds
Nathan Rock
Bob Tapp
Charles Thiele

Teresa West
Membership Coordinator

Birth Announcement!

Congratulations to Krista and Curt Dederich who are the proud parents of **Angela Johansen Dederich!**



She was born on April 4 at 5:39 a.m. Weighing 9 pounds, 8 ounces, with a length of 22 inches. All are doing well.

FUS Staff

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

Main phone number: 612-377-6608

Social Action News

Exciting plans are underway on the Northside. Twelve FUS members who have been part of the discussion group on poverty, led by Kendyl Gibbons and Peter d'Ascoli, attended the March monthly forum at the PEACE Foundation, and heard about plans for the Northside Achievement Zone (www.northsideachievement.org).

Inspired by the success of the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ.org) in New York City, community organizations have formed a collaborative effort that will guarantee opportunities, support and education for all children growing up in a designated zone on the Northside that is most impacted by crime, violence and poverty.

Their mission: "The Northside Achievement Zone will align resources and opportunities in a targeted geographic area of north Minneapolis to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of all children (birth to 18 years) with the aim of promoting educational achievement and life success."



The collaboration includes forty organizations that currently serve the Northside including the Minneapolis Public Schools and the City of Minneapolis.

Organizations taking the lead are Northway Community Trust and the PEACE Foundation (citypeace.org).

This is an ambitious and exciting undertaking that will need the support of the entire metro community. The FUS Social Justice Program will be watching for and promoting volunteer opportunities. Here are some opportunities at the Dignity Center:

- ☞ Teach financial planning to homeless or near homeless clients; an opportunity to develop a program.
- ☞ Teach Abundant Life class at the Dignity Center; about meaning, purpose and commitment in life. It's a good idea to observe a few of the ongoing sessions.

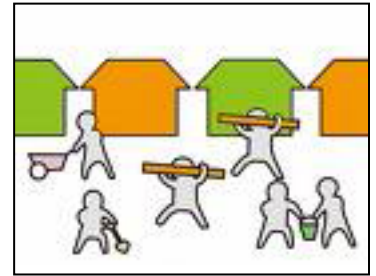
For more information about these opportunities, contact Ann Carlson, Dignity Center Director, Hennepin Avenue Methodist, dignity@haumc.org.

Carol Koepp, Social Justice Coordinator

online at: www.firstunitariansociety.org/newsletter/main.html

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity

It's not too soon to start thinking about volunteering for our annual Work Camp with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (TCHFH). We are the lead congregation in a group entitled Unitarian Universalist Affordable Housing Program (UUAHP). This group, consisting of FUS, First Universalist Church of Minneapolis, MN Valley UU Fellowship, Unitarian Universalist Church



of Minnetonka (UUCM) and White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church, sponsor one week of Work Camp in which we combine to provide the labor, lunches and love to assist in building a new home for some deserving families around the Twin Cities. This year, we will be in Ramsey, MN for one week, Monday through Friday, June 22-26. You can volunteer for one day, two days or the whole week. Often we are able to meet and work along with the family who will be living in the house we are building. Please plan on contributing your talents during that week and help deserving families to achieve an important goal in their lives.

Twin Cities Pride

White Bear UU is inviting UUs from across Minnesota to join them in their Pride Parade slot this June 28.



MUUSJA's UUs Out 4 Marriage is coordinating with White Bear to turn out lots of UUs to this annual event so that we can celebrate Marriage Equality in Iowa and Vermont, and proudly proclaim our message of love and hope for

equality in Minnesota. We are working with a theme of "UUs: proudly marrying all loving couples!" There is a possibility that we may enter a float in the parade, too! FFI: visit www.muusja.org/uuo4m or Ralph: 612-998-6624 or ralph@muusja.org. UUO4M meets May 4, and the first Monday of each month, at 7:00 p.m. at Unity Unitarian, 732 Holly in St. Paul.

Religious Education

“It’s like talking to a brick wall.” That is how some parents and teachers perceive their communication with their teenager. I have been there myself. But two events happened here at church lately that point out a true fact—they are listening and they do appreciate the experiences that you create for them.

The Coming of Age teachers (Audrey Kingstrom and Kendrick Davies) brought the class to Kendyl at the end of their nine-week term. They had been discussing the big issues in life, perhaps you would like to take a shot at answering some of them:

1. Does it matter if I have a personal credo or life stance?
2. How do we know what we know?
3. Is there anybody out there, or are we on our own?
4. How much control do we have over our lives?
5. So, life’s not fair—should it be?
6. Why do bad things happen?
7. Why do people do bad things?
8. Do we have a responsibility to each other? To the planet?
9. What is the purpose of my life?

The teachers had wonderful lessons and activities prepared to help the class think through some of these thoughts, but it wasn’t until the class was talking with Kendyl that the teachers really knew that the youth had listened, taken in, and were thinking about some of the answers to these questions. They hit Kendyl with thoughts that they had and asked her to respond to some of their ideas. They asked her questions about subjects that they had gone over in class. The teachers came away amazed—those youth really were listening and taking in and processing the ideas and concepts that had been brought up in class.

Then the senior high youth group came and talked with the Coming of Age class. The same teachers (Heather Martens and Peter d’Ascoli) were teaching this COA class as when those senior high youth were in the Coming of Age program. The senior high class told the COA class how fun it was to write their credos and to work through the process, and that they really enjoyed the class. The teachers were blown away by the older youth’s memories and responses. What was painful at the time turned into lifetime memories of a positive experience!

So, if you really want to make a difference keep hanging in there. Talk to them, teach them and don’t let up just because, as my daughter used to do, they are saying, “La, la, la, can’t hear you!”

And one way to make a difference is to teach Sunday School— to facilitate the discussions and activities that make a difference in the lives of children and youth. **REGISTRATION IS NOW GOING ON FOR NEXT YEAR. WE NEED ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH TO SIGN UP BY MAY 3.** You can register in the social hall or online, but don’t forget that there are three forms to complete. And, **PLEASE, consider teaching** a class—or two. It is a win/win for you and the kids. The kids can’t have a UU background without the help of adults! Follow a class up through the grades and teach them once a year, or pick a subject that you want to learn about and teach it to children—you and the children learn!

May RE Schedule:

- ☺ May 3 and 10 are regular RE programming Sundays. May 10 will be the last time kids are with their teachers this term!
- ☺ May 17: COME HEAR THE COMING OF AGE CLASS! May 17, the current Coming of Age class will present their credos in church. Don’t miss this. It is always meaningful and insightful and very, very, special.
- ☺ May 24: Memorial Day Weekend. There will be no nursery, preschool or religious education programming.
- ☺ May 31: THE SCRAPMOBILE IS COMING TO FUS! In keeping with the church theme this year, “Earth Matters,” the RE Carnival will be replaced for this year with the SCRAPMOBILE! This is a fun art activity where kids make special items from scrap materials—all brought in by various artists and their fun SCRAPMOBILE! THIS WILL BE THE LAST DAY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR THIS YEAR!



Jan Devor, Director of Religious Education

Opportunities for You at FUS

Make Your GA Plans Now

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.



Now is the time to make plans to attend the 2009 UUA GA, June 24-28 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The FUS Board of Trustees will approve delegates from our congregation at its meeting in May; if you plan to attend, please let Barbara Weatherhead know as soon as you register.

In addition to Plenary business sessions, the General Assembly program comprises over three hundred workshops, lectures, and worship opportunities over the five days of GA. The 2009 GA is of special significance, because it is a UUA presidential election year. This year's Assembly will vote to adopt a new Statement of Conscience on Peacemaking, and will welcome Melissa Harris-Lacewell as the 2009 Ware Lecturer.

You can get more information, and register online at: <https://conference.uua.org/eventmanager/OnlineRegistration.asp?eventcode=19p>. If you have questions, Kendyl will be happy to tell you more.

Retreat to the Woods — Save the Date!

Our next Retreat to the Woods will be October 9-11 at the Baker Near-Wilderness Settlement. Come, join us for a weekend of fellowship, relaxation, and renewal. You'll enjoy great food, hiking and biking trails, canoeing, nearby lakes, and a few interesting and varied workshops in a quiet and protected setting surrounded by 3,300 acres of marshes, meadows, and mature forest. If you're interested in helping to plan this year's Retreat, please contact Jim Tincher at tinch@comcast.net. We'll see you then!

Women's Awareness Group

The May meeting of the Women's Awareness Group will be held on Monday, May 11, at the home of Carol Koepp. Marian Behrend is the cohost. FUS women are invited to join us at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck supper followed by a discussion of homelessness, led by members who are volunteers at The Dignity Center and other projects and centers. Women are encouraged to bring useful items for the homeless (men's and women's socks, tooth brushes and toothpaste, deodorant, etc.). Please call Carol or Marian to RSVP and for directions.

The Alliance

Kathleen Anderson will be discussing "Politics from an Insider" at the May 6 Alliance meeting in the Dietrich Room. Luncheon tickets for \$8 go on sale at 10:45 a.m. The program begins at 11:00 a.m. Lunch from the Wedge is served at noon, followed by the annual business meeting of the Alliance.

FUS to Participate in 22nd Annual AIDS Walk

Pledge your support/Join our FUS team

The 2009 Minnesota Aids Walk will take place on Sunday, May 17. The 10-kilometer walk (6.2 miles) begins and ends at Minnehaha Park and travels along the Mississippi River. There are six rest stops with restrooms and refreshments for walkers.

We invite you to join our FUS Team and collect pledges. Singles, couples, families are invited. We plan to gather at the Park and walk as a group. If you are unable to join our FUS team of walkers, you are encouraged to contribute your pledge. We hope you will stop at the AIDS Walk table in the Lower Assembly Hall after services on Sundays, May 3 and May 10, to register for the walk or to pledge your support. You can also register online at www.mnaidswalk.org; our team name is First Unitarian Society. Contact Mibs Pearson for more information.





The First Unitarian Society

OF MINNEAPOLIS

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May 2009

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



May 6:
The Alliance meets

May 6 and May 13:
Eat 'N Meet dinners and programs

May 13:
*FREE Dinner AND FUS Annual
Congregational Meeting!*

May 17:
Soup Lunch

May 31:
Scrapmobile visits FUS

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

1. Go to 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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