

MATTATUCK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY • P.O. Box 876, Woodbury, CT

• Meeting House - 122 S. Pomperaug Avenue, Woodbury, CT •

Splinters from the Board

The American Heritage Dictionary defines peace as:

The absence of war or other hostilities
An agreement or a treaty to end hostilities
Freedom from quarrels and disagreement;
harmonious relations
Public security and order
Inner contentment; serenity

Although many of us work, vote and campaign for the global peace, we often feel that our influence is limited. Even as individuals, however, we can have a great deal of impact on peace in our own lives and in our communities. Peace is what I feel when I sit in services on Sunday morning and listen to the congregation singing "Spirit of Life"; There are harmonious relations in the conversations that go on before and after services as we get to know one another. Inner contentment is in the air as I listen to our Sunday speakers sharing their

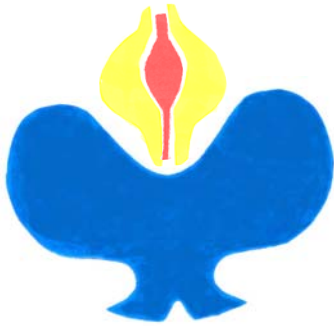
experiences on living our principles. Serenity is paramount when we gather together and hold hands at the end of our service. I think it is unrealistic to expect to live every moment of every day with peace but I am grateful for the peace that I find with all of you.

We have an opportunity in the coming weeks to work towards security and order in our congregation. During February we have all had an opportunity to meet in small groups to discuss the ministry of MUUS. On March 2nd we will have a congregational discussion to continue the discussion.. I hope you will join us and I wish you all PEACE.

~In community,
Donna Pereira



*Celebrating strength in diversity, we nurture spiritual growth,
Inspire ethical action and work for positive change in the world.*



Fuel the Fire of Commitment

Is it time for the annual pledge drive again? Yes it is. Following the many exciting discussions of MUUS and its future, we are now called upon to join our hearts as well as our dollars to ***fuel the fire of commitment*** that exists in each one of us. Drew Morten and Connie Cole-Ingber are co-chairing the drive this year. Kick off will occur on March 9, with an opportunity as before to pledge early in the campaign to become a pace setter in the congregation. We are looking forward to joyful conversations about how MUUS fuels your personal commitment, as well as your visions for the future of our congregation. The drive will culminate in a community wide celebration dinner. Looking forward into the next year a successful canvass will allow us to recruit a new RE director, choir director and last but not least, an interim minister. With faith in the generosity as well as the commitment to each other and MUUS, we are looking forward to our most successful year ever!

The Canvass Committee

Congregational Discussion - March 2

On March 2nd, after services, we will have a congregational discussion about the ministry of MUUS. You have all had an opportunity to meet in small groups to discuss the roles of ministry and to review our options and we will meet to continue the conversation as a group. *Please join us* - this is an important discussion and everyone's input is needed.

Souper Sunday Thank you-s

Many thanks to Esi Eyiah, Peg Molina and Christine Thomas for their delicious home-made soups for our Souper Sunday, February 17. We made \$133.00 selling bowls of soup, while enjoying each others company.

~Fadwa Najamy for the Fundraising Committee

Weather Alert

If the weather is threatening or fulfilling its threat,
please tune to NBC 30 television station for



The Labyrinth Walk

Sunday

March 30, 2007

1:00 to 7:00 PM

**MATTATUCK UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY**
122 S. Pomperaug Ave
Woodbury • 266-4810

Everyone welcome~ come when you wish,
stay as long as you wish. Free will offerings accepted.

“Everything is solved by walking” ~Aristotle

Religious Education Reflections

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who donated mittens (and hats) to our mitten drive in December and January. Not only did the mittens help with much needed props for the Mitten Tree service the RE students presented in late January, they made a wonderful donation to the Southbury Needy Fund. The kids boxed up 37 pairs of mittens or gloves and 3 hats to be shipped off to the Southbury Needy Fund. This organization collects clothing and toys year-round for residents in need in the Southbury area; all donations are distributed directly to the families and children they work with.

Many thanks as well to the students, parents, and volunteers who assisted with the Mitten Tree service. Rev. Wolff suggested the story to tie in with this year's RE theme of social action and social justice, Denise's dad tracked down the actual picture book so we could write up the script, Betty Bazin revisited her acting career to provide us so nicely with Sara (she really knits!), Jim Heetmann not only sang and played the music that morning--and Anna too!--but he also provided much needed encouragement throughout the rehearsal process (How do we put this tree together? Will we lose the entire cast if they're throwing snowballs?). And where would we be without our youthful and energetic cast? Thank you to all of the RE students who participated, both in rehearsals and the morning of the service. Last minute changes require a great deal of flexibility on their part; this winter service is always a bit tricky to maneuver with the threat of winter weather, illnesses, and unexpected changes in plans. Thanks again to everyone for all of your hard work.

So what's happening in RE? We have returned to our regular class lessons on Sunday morning, with the second Sunday of each month used as a Children's Chapel day with both classes combined. A Coming of Age class has formed and is meeting on a regular basis, under the guidance of Connie Cole Ingber and Judith Ross. We are trying to find a suitable date for the annual RE sleepover. And Gregory Miller is aptly handling the nursery crew: navigating train tracks, warming up clay and play dough, and being served goodies prepared in the play kitchen in the nursery. According to Nathan, he's also really good at reading stories out loud.

Lots of the usual stuff and lots of changes. Along with the changes taking place here at MUUS, many of the kids themselves are facing difficult situations at home and at school. Many questions come up on Sunday mornings; the kids are really good at sharing what they know and listening to one another (well, okay, we're working on that one . . .) but in the absence of a DRE who ministers to the children, I would encourage the parents and adult friends in the congregation to talk with the kids about MUUS and the changes taking place. Drive the long way home and give them time to talk.

On behalf of the RE Committee, Denise Pedane (203) 266-4810

Adult Programs

Meditation~ The Woodbury Sangha is no longer meeting at our meetinghouse. If you would like to attend please contact Charlie Batchelder, 203-266-4810, charliect2002@yahoo.com for more information. Our website is www.woodburysangha.org.

Covenant Groups~ ~ #1-7:00 pm the 2nd Sunday and #2 - 7:00 pm the 3rd Sunday evening at MUUS. This is a safe and structured place for you to come to share, to receive and build relationships. The themes discussed are central to our UU Principles with the purpose of exploring the ultimate in an intimate setting. There is an empty chair waiting for you. You are invited into this safe and wonderful space to find connections and expand your self. Come join us. Let us know if you are interested but are not available Sunday evenings. Other groups can be formed. For more information talk with Mike Ingber, John Cummings, Grace Bogen-Barrett or Betty Bazin.

Men's Lunch~ First and Third Wednesdays
This is a time for laughter, serious discussion and fellowship.~ See Bob Bazin on Sunday morning or e-mail muusct@yahoo.com

Men's Group~ Third Thursday of every month. Please call Dave Bolduc for location.
203-266-4810

Circle of Gaia-

Wednesday, March 19, 7:15 p.m. at Christine Edelson's

AMERICAN BLOOMSBURY: Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry David Thoreau, Their Lives, Their Loves, Their Work by Susan Cheever, paper \$15

(Donna Z found this in hardcover at \$4.99 through Bookcloseouts.com)

As a courtesy to our hostess, please call Christine if you are NOT coming to the discussion OR there is a chance of weather cancellation.

UU Conference on Universal Health Care in CT

Join UUs from all over CT on **March 29th** at the **Unitarian Society of New Haven** in Hamden to learn about our health care crisis and to explore further just what is going on in this progressive state to inspire hope for universal health care. Juan Figueroa, President of the Universal Health Care Foundation of CT is the keynote speaker. The conference runs from 9AM to 3:30PM and registration is required by March 15th.

Contact the **Unitarian Society of New Haven**

700 Hartford Turnpike Hamden, CT 06517-2214 • www.unitariansocietynh.org • 203-288-1807

or

Contact Donna Pereira for more information.

The Universal Health Care Foundation of CT mission statement:

To serve as a catalyst that engages people and communities in shaping a health system that provides universal access to quality health care and promotes health in Connecticut. We believe that health care is a fundamental right and that our work is part of a broader movement for social and economic justice.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee wishes to inform the congregation that the following openings need to be filled for next year: President of the Board of Trustees (2 year term), Vice President of the Board of Trustees (2 year term), Trustee at Large of the Board of Trustees (3 year term), one Endowment Committee member (3 year term), and two members for the Nominating Committee (2 year term each).

The members of the Nominating Committee are preparing a slate to be voted on at the May congregational meeting. If you are interested in a position--or would like to suggest somebody--please contact Mary Lohmann (), Tom Oakes (), Denise Pedane () or Judith Ross ().

~The Nominating Committee

Mary Lohmann, Tom Oakes, Denise Pedane & Judith Ross



The Clara Barton District of Unitarian Universalist Congregations

*SPRING CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008*

Keynote Speaker: Jim Scott *Making Art of Our Vision*

As a Unitarian Universalist activist and artist, Jim Scott shares his passion for ecology, justice, and peace through his songs, stories, and personal reflections. He will entertain and inspire us throughout the day, leading our worship service, as well as, guiding us in a large group gathering to make art of our personal vision for the health and future of the Earth.

In the afternoon we will gather as musicians, poets and performers of any and all (or no) experience! We will raise our Collective voice in song, movement, visual art, poetry, and whatever comes up. It is a time of creative play with a serious outcome, to express their creative impulses for a better world. Jim will gently facilitate this opportunity for participants to imagine and create their vision.



Visit www.cbd.uua.org for a registration form or
e-mail: ClaraBartonDist@verizon.net

Contact Donna Pereira (DonnaPere@aol.com -266-4810) or
Christine Edelson (uuchristine@charter.net -266-4810) if you'd like to carpool.

March 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><i>You are invited to join our choir!</i> We meet every Sunday morning at 9 am.</p>						1
2 Congregational Discussion	3	4 Band Practice 7-9 PM	5 12 Men's Lunch (V)	6	7	8
9 7PM Covenant Group	10	11 Band Practice 7-9 PM	12	13 7:00 PM Board Meeting	14	15 Registration due for health care conference
16 7PM Covenant Group	17	18 Band Practice 7-9 PM	19 12-Men's Lunch (V) 7:15 PM Circle of Gaia-(V)	20 Men's Group (V)	21	22
23 Labyrinth Walk	24	25 Band Practice 7-9 PM	26	27	28	29 UU Conference on Health Care in CT
30	31					

This page was created for you to be able to tear off and post on your refrigerator!

Services and activities are held in the Sanctuary of the MUUS meetinghouse unless marked as: "V" Venue; (held at another location-see inside for more information.) This calendar reflects the MUUS Master Schedule as of February 20, 2008. Call the MUUS office or check the MUUS web site for updates and/or changes.

Sunday Services 10:30 a.m.

March 2- The Rev. Doug Pear from the New Haven area, will return to us and present "Steven Jay Gould, Humanist Hero."

March 9- Damaris Davis returns to us from Ohio and will present "Hiawatha and the Great Peace." This is an amazing piece of American history. Hiawatha transformed a sick, violent society into an inclusive, self-sustaining, ever-expanding peace.

March 16- to be determined. Watch for an update on our web site.

March 23- Christine Edelson will coordinate the Intergenerational Service along with Religious Education

March 30- Mary Lohmann will tell us about Peter Cooper, the Unitarian Universalist who founded Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York City, NY.



P.O. Box 876
122 S. Pomperaug Avenue
Woodbury, CT 06798
muusct@yahoo.com
203-266-4810

**We're on the
web!
www.muusct.**

Time Sensitive

Newsletter Deadline

E-mail your submission by Midnight on the **15th** of **March** to: info@muusct.org

Please abide by the following guidelines:

- **DO NOT E-MAIL ATTACHMENTS !** If you compose in another program, copy and paste only the plain text into your e-mail program. (Copy & Paste functions are located in the programs' Edit menu)
- Send ONE news item per e-mail and label the subject with the **TITLE & MONTH**
- Use your spell check utility and proofread content **BEFORE** sending.
- **Submit your item in finished form, including TITLE and AUTHOR/Committee AND a phone & e-mail contact.**
- When space is limited, first-time submissions will be given priority over repeat/similar submissions.
- MUUS reserves the right to edit submissions.

Production by Fadwa Najamy
Mailing by Rebecca Evans