



The Landmark

APRIL 2009

WWW.4THU.ORG

ALL SUNDAY
SERVICES
BEGIN AT
10:45 A.M.



The Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt

Life in the Spirit

How is it with your soul these days? I ask because the world around us seems filled with news and information that serves to make us more anxious, more worried and more afraid of everything. I am not one of those people who thinks we should turn off our televisions and stop reading newspapers. As conscious citizens of the world, there is much we need to know and lots to think about. But I do think that it's all too easy to get sucked into the kind of negativity about the world—and even ourselves—that can be hard to escape.

So I think it's important to take care of our souls, especially when times are as challenging as they are right now. Several of you have spoken to me of the ways you're tending to yourselves—in meditation and prayer, in journaling, in connecting

with the natural world. There are many paths to "soul tending," and the more intense the challenges we face, the more important it is to find ways to nurture our spiritual lives. Living our lives as part of a religious community is another way to care for our souls at the same time we help to care for the souls of others. I hope that, as we worship together from Sunday to Sunday, you're giving yourself room to do more than take care of a committee assignment or finish some task! I hope that our weekly blend of words and music, prayers and affirmations are helping you to make room in your life to ask yourself, "How is it with my soul?"

Faithfully,

Rosemary

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Pastoral Care Information

Dear Members,

If you know of a member or friend of the Fourth U community who is in need, won't you encourage him or her to reach out? We want to help.

Your Pastoral Care Team:

Donna Garfinkel can be reached at 212-662-6375, Rev. Pader can be reached at: 212-765-6340. Rev. Bowden can be reached at: 845-641-4694.

If you have any questions, please call the Fourth U Office at: 212-595-1658 ext. 21.

Greetings from the Board President

While some may be celebrating the arrival of March Madness, I'm more excited about the Annual Budget Drive. This is the time of year when we make concrete our commitment to Fourth U. Yes, we do it all year long by attending services, the annual auction and other events, and when we sign up to host coffee hour, or volunteer for our children's religious exploration programs, or get involved with the leadership of the church. But the church does not run on our time and talent alone, as the saying goes, but also our treasure.

I met with my Visiting Steward on Sunday afternoon, right after Rosemary kicked off ABD season. Whenever I think about what Fourth U means to me, I keep

coming back to our children. I am one of the fortunate few who was raised UU, and never had to leave another faith tradition to arrive here.

I spent many years in a science lab, safely tucked away from pseudoscientific ideas like creationism. In my current career as a science teacher, I am constantly at risk of having to defend evolution from creationist parents and children. A child raised in a liberal religious environment is given a great gift, that of a mind open to all of life's richness, be it scientific or religious in nature. Whatever your reasons, please celebrate Fourth U by giving generously.

Matt Gilbert
President

Annual Budget Drive Announces Its Goals

Fourth U's 2009-2010 Annual Budget Drive runs from March 22 – April 26. Let us take this opportunity to put our faith in action through our financial commitments to Fourth U.

Our personal involvement and investment in Fourth U give each of us a unique opportunity to help determine its future. With that opportunity comes a responsibility. If we all commit to giving our fair share, the hopes that we have for the future of Fourth U can be realized.

By giving generously, we align our actions with our values, strengthening our congregation and making a difference in our community and in the world. The vision of our church needs to be sustained over time, and the following areas will be our focus in the coming year:

- By hiring a Religious Exploration Director, we will expand our RE program's capacity to serve our youth and attract more young families.

- By hiring a Membership Coordinator, our already warm and welcoming congregation will be more accessible to the many visitors to Fourth U and we will attract new members.
- By providing Just and Fair Compensation for our staff and committing to ongoing cost of living increases, we will bring Fourth U into accordance with UUA guidelines.
- By putting our Faith In Action, we will continue to be a Welcoming Congregation to the LGBT community and support marriage equality; support Trinity Shelter (for homeless LGBT youth); minister to those hit by traumatic events; and support the UU movement by maintaining our fair share contributions to the UUA. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to our community. You do make a difference!

Liz Wolfe and Liz Daleske,
Co-chairs, Annual Budget Drive

April 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Board Meeting 7 pm	2	3	4 Kateri Worship Vagina Monologues 8:00 p.m.
5 Nature Walk 9:00 a.m. Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt "Dayenu" Newcomer Orientation & Interweave Meeting 12:30 p.m.	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt "What Mary Knew"	13	14	15 Refresh & Revive: Meditation Service 7:00 p.m.	16	17 Humanist Meeting 7:00 p.m.	18 Kateri Worship
19 Rev. Jim Sherblom "What Makes Your Heart Sing" Auction Planning Meeting 12:30 p.m.	20	21	22	23 New Moon Circle & Spirituality of Leadership 6:30 pm	24	25
26 Rev. Joe Ben-David "The Heroic Life of a Unitarian Pioneer— Dr. Norbert Capek" Flower Communion	27	28	29	30		

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
& MEMBER
EVENTS**



*Please refer to
the calendar on
page 3 for exact
times and dates
for our recurring
member events!*

Spring Break: Meditations on Transcendence

Transcendentalism is a philosophy that says truth and beauty can be found through the spiritual search for what is outside ourselves, most especially in nature. One of its leading thinkers was Unitarian minister Ralph Waldo Emerson; later generations of Unitarians incorporated transcendentalism into our Unitarian and Universalist traditions.

Come walk in nature, reflecting and meditating on the words of Transcendentalist writers in New York's version of nature's cathedral, Central Park.

There will be meditation walks on four Sundays, at 9:00 a.m. beginning at Fourth U on the corner of 76th Street and Central Park West, and ending back at Fourth U before 10:45 a.m. So you can be back for the Sunday service to deepen your worship experience.

April 5th - Walt Whitman (co-lead by Beth Putnam and Tom Kennedy)

April 19th - Ralph Waldo Emerson (lead by Tom Kennedy)

May 3rd - Henry David Thoreau (lead by Tom Kennedy)

May 17th - Maria Mitchell (co-lead by Jill Bowden and Tom Kennedy)

Maundy Thursday Service on April 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Readers: Robert Martin and Bob McNatt. Music: Thom McGinnis
Come see a UU View of the

traditional Easter scripture. Included will be an informal communion with good food.

Refresh and Revive: Your Mid-week Spiritual Break

Fourth U's music and meditation services return! Join co-leaders Rev. Beth Putnam, Fourth U Affiliate Community Minister, and Tom McGinnis, Fourth U Music Director, for brief services of reflection built around music, poetry and silence offered one Wednesday a month at 7:00 pm at Fourth U.

Each month will focus on a different spiritual tradition; here are the topics for this spring:

April 15th – Judaism is a tradition of rich thought and scholarship, but it also has beautiful music and poetry. Come explore the

spiritual artistry of the Jewish tradition.

May 20th – Islam is a tradition with many strands, Sufism is often called the mystical tradition of Islam. Sufi's all over the world practice meditation through movement, poetry and music. Come explore this rich tradition through poetry and music.

June 17th – Earth-based traditions can connect us to a sense of our place in time and space, especially by focusing our attention on the changes in the world around us. The Summer Solstice celebrates the beginning of summer, come celebrate with chants and reflection.



Humanist Meeting On Friday, April 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Terrorism is the big buzzword of our time. There is, however, an almost total black-out on the question of personal terror. There is sensationalized coverage of personal violence and other illegal activity, but it isn't in depth and in terms of its emotional and physical pain it causes.

Personal terror is directed at children, women and men in many overt or covert ways. The law and religions, despite their positive effects allow for instances of discrimination and abuse. Real humanism, which is free from totalitarian and mythical elements must raise our awareness of

the presence and nature of personal terror in every-day and socially accepted life situations.

The speaker and discussion moderator is the Reverend Joseph Ben-David, founder of the Church of Humanism and a Humanist Counselor. He has conducted over 3,000 humanist meetings and seminars, that are listed on the web site: Humanistfoundation.org

Sponsored by the Church of Humanism - All welcome. Held at: The Fourth Universalist Society

Information: 212-877-5662 Email: Hum-Friend@aol.com

Please refer to the calendar on page 3 for exact times and dates for our recurring member events!

Attention Party-Loving Fourth U-ers

Save the date! The 4th Annual Fourth U auction will be held on Saturday, November 22. Mark it in your calendars now!

You can help us to make it an awesome FUNdraiser. Come to our first

planning meeting on Sunday, April 19, at 12:30 PM. We welcome your input and/or your volunteer commitment, to help us make the 2009 auction the best one ever!

Bring A Flower to Flower Communion

Bring a flower to our April 26 service and be part of the Unitarian Universalist Living Tradition. This Flower Communion will be led by

Rev. Joseph Ben-David, a student of Dr. Norbert Capek, who will be the subject of his sermon.

Sign up to Light the Chalice on Sunday Mornings

Beginning in April, we invite Fourth Universalist's members and friends to light the chalice at Sunday morning worship services. Families, individuals, couples, sign up to light the chalice as part of a celebration, commemoration, or in honor of someone.

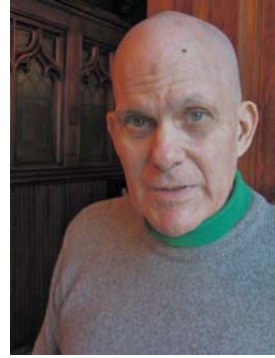
Sign up will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The sign up sheet is located on the left bulletin board, along the wall above where the food is set out after services. We look forward to your participation on Sunday mornings.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Taylor at UnrulyRev@mac.com.

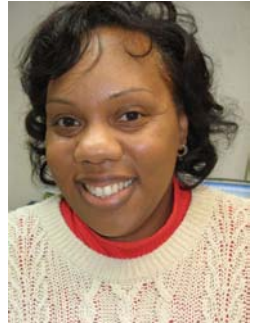
Meet our Fourth U Staff !



Lois Marie Briggs,
Administrator



Jim Wolford,
Night Manager



Kathryn Morrow,
Bookkeeper

These folks are such a blessing to our community! These dedicated professionals keep our building running, organize events, pay our bills, answer the phone, support Rosemary and so much more. They help members of our congregation as well as people who visit our church every day. In short, they give our church so much love. Let's give our love back to them! The next time you see a Fourth U staff member, please THANK THEM for all of their valuable energy and time.



Tom McGinnis,
Music Director



Jeffrey Collie,
Building Engineer

Special
Thanks to
Alison Davy
for the photos
and words



Kenneth Galloway,
Sexton



Alexander Glass,
Office Manager



Darius Lang,
Events Manager

*Please refer to
the calendar on
page 3 for exact
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for our recurring
member events!*

Who's Who

Administrative Staff

212.595.1658

Lois Briggs, *Administrator*
Ext. 25, loismarie@4thu.org

Kathryn Marrow, *Bookkeeper*
Ext. 31, bookkeeper@4thu.org

Alexander Glass, *Office Manager*
Ext. 21, office@4thu.org

Darius Lang, *Events Coordinator*
Ext. 24, darius@4thu.org

Jeff Collie, *Building Engineer*
Ext. 23, building@4thu.org

Sexton
Ext. 26

Jim Wolford, *Night Manager*

Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt
Senior Minister
Ext. 22, revrose@4thu.org

The Rev. Jill Bowden
Endorsed Community Minister
jbowden16@verizon.net

The Rev. Jennifer Pader
Affiliated Minister for Pastoral Care
jp350@mindspring.com

The Rev. Elizabeth Putnam
Endorsed Community Minister
eaputnam@gmail.com



Committees

Executive Committee of the Church Council:

Lois Coleman, Chair 646-924-6466

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Communications	Robert McNatt	646-698-5078
Denominational Affairs	Ryan Novosielski	973-792-0497
Faith-in-Action	Claudia Flanagan	212-533-2807
Finance & Stewardship	Liz Wolfe	646-334-9427
Hospitality/Coffee Hour	Spencer Salzberg	718-757-6110
	Claudia Lorie	212-706-8884
Interweave	Ashley Burczak	646-369-8929
Membership	Sally Hamburger	212-758-2623
Ministry Advisory Council	Craig Waletzko	917-509-7419
Music	Alan Wrede	718-204-5919
Nominating	Spiritt Taylor	212-865-3712
Pastoral Care	Donna Garfinkel	212-662-6375
Religious Education	Don Farrow	212-580-6636
Co-Chairs	Elizabeth Hovey	212-349-3476
Worship Arts	Gordon Bailey	646-533-8283
	Julie Taylor	646-552-5980

Board of Trustees

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The Fourth Universalist Society
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LANDMARK SUBMISSIONS
Send *Landmark* submissions to:
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New York, NY 10023
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Email: office@4thU.org

The deadline for the next Landmark is April 20!

