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## Denominational Matters

SUUSI is a Unitarian Universalist conference and part of the magic of the special week is the opportunity to worship and play together as we attempt to bring our UU values to life in our SUUSI community. Through our daily ingatherings, worship services (planned and spontaneous), and individual and collective religious exploration, we seek to deepen our understanding of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist in our world.

### Daily Ingathering

Every morning (M-F) from 9:00-9:45 AM in Porterfield Auditorium, a denominational leader will share with us a personal interpretation of this year's theme **Reach Out**. We are inviting our children (3-13) to join their families for the first part of these daily ingatherings, after which they will go to their programming. What a wonderful way to start your day!

*Monday:* **"Reaching Out, For All Are Chosen"** How can lay people see their lives as ministry? How, when and why do we **Reach Out** to each other? Find out more about why all of us are chosen. Margaret L. Beard is an accomplished lay leader who ministers to many in her position as Extension Ministry Director at the UUA.

*Tuesday:* **"The Rock of Ages at the Taj Mahal"** The Rev Meg Barnhouse will present an Ingathering based on readings from her books *The Best of Radio Free Bubba* and *The Rock of Ages at the Taj Mahal: Unquiet Meditations*. This will delight and challenge you. Meg is a UU minister in private practice as a pastoral counselor in Spartanburg, SC, a writer and commentator for Public Radio.

*Wednesday:* **"Reaching Out-Learning from our Hymns"** The 1993 UUA hymnbook *Singing the Living Tradition* is a good friend to reach for!! It's where we came from, who we are, and where we're going. Come learn more about music as a medium for religious experience, the stories behind our hymns and readings and how they help us reach beyond ourselves. Jennifer Horn has been studying for the UU ministry and leads worship services at First Unitarian Church in Richmond, VA and other churches in the area.

*Thursday:* **"Sharing our Journey"** Sunday mornings are the most segregated time of the week in America—racially, religiously, and philosophically. On what can people of all traditions and beliefs agree? Can better understanding of our "common bonds" transcend mere tolerance toward mutual respect? Bill Haas, an experienced speaker and performer, will suggest two basic principles on which we can—and must—agree. Original music will enhance this special Daily Ingathering as we **Reach Out** toward growth and awareness.

*Friday:* **"Reaching Out through Social Play"** Acclaimed religious educator Karen Hutt leads us through an energizing and enlightening series of group games. Proprietor of "Games to Grow", a social change consulting firm, and Minister of Chicago's Church of the Open Door Center for Community Change, she will share the secrets of deepening compassion, understanding and capacity for service through play!

## Worship

Join us each evening (M-F) for a worship service based on our theme **Reach Out**. The services M-Th will be from 9:00-9:45 PM in Porterfield Auditorium.

Friday's service will be held at 10 PM and will be outdoors, weather cooperating.



*Monday:* **"Reaching Out Beyond Our Doors and Walls"**: Louis Schwebius believes we all have a mission to sing our special UU song outside of the boundaries of our individual congregations. We need to spread the "good news" that is inherent to our faith tradition. Let us come together in celebration and commitment to the humane purpose and healing vision of this religious movement. Louis has been serving as the Intern Minister for the UU Fellowship in Gainesville, FL and has been a member of The Community Church of New York.

*Tuesday:* **"The Promises We Make: Our UU Covenant with the World"** The religious responses to the world vary from separation to assimilation. As Unitarian Universalists we must consider other options as we **Reach Out** with responsible engagement. The Rev. Dr. Morris Hudgins is Minister of the Northern Hills Fellowship, Cincinnati, Ohio and formerly served in Raleigh, NC.

*Wednesday:* **"Reaching Out through Embracing Life on Life's Terms"**. Rev Alma Crawford, minister of Church of the Open Door, Chicago, and director of the Open Door Center for Community Change, shares the pathway to joy that endures despite life's challenges. Expect to leave this service with a new interpretation of your own life story.

*Thursday:* **"Reach Out-Touch Faith"** This is our traditional honoring life passages service. This service will focus on those times of transition which serve as catalysts for creating a faith that sustains us. Alane Cameron Miles is our Young Adult Chaplain at SUUSI and has served for the past two years as student minister for our Newport News, VA fellowship.

*Friday:* **"Reach Out for the Earth and the Sky"** **Reach Out** to hold hands with the people beside you—**Reach Out** to celebrate the divinity in all—**Reach Out** to an alternative worship experience of chanting, drumming and dancing in an earth centered spirituality circle facilitated by Barbara Green and Dick Merritt.

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## Nightlife

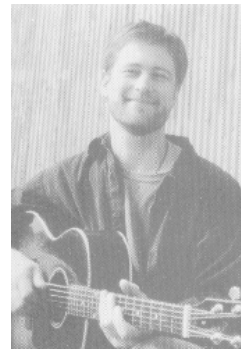
We have so much available each night that you'll wish you could be in more than one place at a time. The typical SUUSI evening starts off shortly after dinner with Concert Hour, featuring a performance by a nationally touring artist. Then SUUSI Nightlife kicks into full-gear around 10 PM. Nightly offerings include two dances (Serendipity and CACHE), a talent show with SUUSI participants (Cabaret), a casual place to meet and share a drink and conversation (the Conversation Room), and the newly added, alcohol-free, Common Ground Café.

- **Serendipity**—a rockin' dance party for the over 21 crowd featuring a variety of music—disco, country, rock 'n roll, show-tunes. A festive atmosphere where everyone gets to dance, dance, dance! Bring a cued-up tape or CD for special requests. DJs: Robert Petrick and Cidron Moon.
- **CACHE** (Clean Air Clean Heads Everyone) is for **everyone** 14 and older who loves to dance in a smoke and alcohol-free atmosphere. Emphasizing dance music from the modern day club scene. If you like to dance like you mean it, this is the place to be! Bring a cued-up tape or CD for special requests. DJs: Michael Ivey and Aaron Martin.
- **Cabaret**—SUUSI's very own intergenerational talent showcase. If you want to perform or to see some of your SUUSI friends perform, this is the place to be. The standard set is 10 minutes (or 2 songs) long. Cabaret welcomes all performing talent. The first half of each night's show will be open to performers and audience members of all ages. Appearances by favorite SUUSI performers will take place throughout the week. Each night's schedule will be posted by lunchtime in the main lobby and in the Cafeteria lobby. Anyone who signs up can perform on Sunday night. Check in at the Nightlife table during registration. If you are new to SUUSI, want to perform, and would like more info before SUUSI, please contact Rob Lieb (410-679-3040 or Lieb@netfox.net).
- **Conversation Room**—A room adjacent to the Cabaret performance room, with a fully stocked bar and snacks. Relaxation and conversation throughout the evening for those 21 and over. Bring cards and games.
- **Common Ground Café**—a new addition to SUUSI Nightlife. Relaxation and conversation throughout the evening for those 14 years old and over. Coffee, tea, pastries, and softdrinks will be available, artwork will be displayed, and short performances and/or poetry readings will be scheduled. Bring cards and games to share. If you have ideas for this new Nightlife activity, please contact Arpie Maros (908-232-8723 or ahrre@aol.com).
- **Late Nite**. When the other activities are over, join the wonderful SUUSI musicians for a laid-back sharing of their talents. A great place for novices to risk that first song in public. Some people wait all year for this SUUSI highlight!
- **Sing-along with Eleanor**. A Friday night tradition! Golden oldies, show tunes, Cole Porter, and your requests. Eleanor Sableski will lead you in the songs you want to sing. We'll let you know where, before it's time to go there.

## Concert Hour



**Amy Carol Webb** traces her Native American heritage through two great-grandmothers. Her mother sang live radio commercials; her father was a concert pianist, composer, and gospel preacher. After college Amy toured with the New Christy Minstrels and the New Seekers as associate music director, writer, and first full-time female guitarist/emcee. Her concert schedule ran 6 nights a week, 45 weeks a year, featuring her original songs. An award-winning performing songwriter, Amy recently released her first CD, *Songweaver*. She and her partner, Brooke Bell, will be attending SUUSI for the first time with Amy's sons, Alex and Graham. Visit her at AmyCarolWebb.com.



With a musical style that draws heavily on the roots of traditional American music, **Dana Robinson's** music appeals to both old-time and contemporary folk enthusiasts. He favors "old-time" instrumentation, playing guitar, mandolin, fiddle and banjo. His voice is an airy tenor that sounds a bit like Cat Stevens. Born in Oregon and raised in California, Dana was drawn east in the early 80s. He settled in Vermont, built his own house, sans electricity and phone, and founded a popular bakery and deli where the folk concerts he presented quickly became a valued cultural staple in the community. Visit him at danarobinson.uneb.edu.



**Sharon Robles** began singing solos at the age of 7 in her Southern Baptist Church. By age 18 she was studying opera. She has performed in a blues band with the legendary Elvin Bishop and has sung the national anthem at Candlestick Park for the San Francisco Giants (and she remembered ALL the lyrics). Now living in Charleston, SC, and no longer a Baptist, Sharon sings and writes a variety of material, including environmental songs for children. The band, New Myth, includes Sharon's husband, Henry, on percussion and John Nicholson on guitar and backup vocals.

The traditional close to the Concert Hour will be a performance by our own **SUUSI Ensemble**. If you are interested in performing with this group, contact Robby Greenberg (954-430-7004 or robbly2@juno.com).

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# Young Adults

The Young Adult Program will build on the energy created last year, offering a diversity of opportunities that will allow each young adult to find their own balance of spirituality, socialization, and fun.

Young Adults (ages 18-25) are encouraged to live in the YA dorm, a living space that provides opportunities for a close and supportive community to form within the larger SUUSI community. We will have a central meeting area for worship, discussion, mailbags, and activities. Young adults wishing to room with people outside of the 18-25 age range will need to sign up for regular housing.

Following the theme of reaching out, YA programming is open to all. As always the YA program will strive to share our talents and energy with others. This year we will strive to share our talents and energy with others. We will again be hosting a day of community time where we will make an attempt at performance art as well as showcasing talented YA musicians. Some other activities planned include a trip to Claytor lake, photo scavenger hunt, a love feast, bridging ceremony (for 25 year olds), Vegas night, massage workshop, nature trips (see brochure), millennium dance party, a SUUSI Olympics with the Teens program, and much, much more. Alane Cameron Miles will be returning as our chaplain this year and we will have numerous worship opportunities to meet our spiritual needs.

We are interested in your input! Please email Jay Camp at [toomanyjays@hotmail.com](mailto:toomanyjays@hotmail.com) with your ideas, questions, or comments.

Bring your good feelings, games, swimsuit, toys, instruments, and interest. We can't wait to hear from you and see you at SUUSI!

# Teens

The **Teen Program** is an intense experience in community open to teens aged 14-17 as of July 25, 1999. We share space, worship, ideas, games, food, music, play, laughter, and tears. All this gives us the opportunity to build strong bonds and lifetime friendships.

What will we do during the week? LOTS! We will have 24-hours-a-day full of options! We'll start the week off with Teen Tubing on the New River. We will have all kinds of workshops on all kinds of things: body image, bowling, drawing, ultimate frisbee, billiards, massage, music, dancing, beading, juggling, tie-dye, hair, god/goddess, homophobia, poetry, conversation, and more. We'll also have games, videos, cooking, thrift store shopping, swimming, and nightly pilgrimages to the 7-11. If you need more, check out the rest of this brochure. Teens can participate in any of the General or Nature Workshops that are marked with a bold **T** (for teen) or **Y** (for youth).

Do you play an instrument, sing, write poetry, or tell good stories? You will have more opportunities this year to show your stuff at Family Cabaret, so get you act(s) together! Do you like to dance? CACHE is open to teens every night (see Nightlife on page 7). One of the best parts of the program is the nightly worship, created and conducted by you and for you. Do you just need quiet time to hang out and talk? You can do that. The Teen Program is about choices, lots of them.

**Teen Dorm:** Our program has its own dorm for all of its activities. You can choose to either live communally in the Teen dorm (co-ed floors), or to stay with your parent/guardian. If you do not stay in the Teen Dorm, you are welcome to any activity at any hour, but between the hours of 1 a.m. and 6 a.m., you must check in with the staff and be accompanied by your parent/guardian when coming to or leaving the Teen Dorm. The sleeping floors of the dorm will have quiet hours from midnight until 7 a.m. The non-sleeping areas will be busy at all times.

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# Youth Program

The program for SUUSI YUUTH is packed with fun and adventure. Our goal is to provide a safe and happy place for them to explore and create, through outdoor activities, arts and crafts, team building, games and more.

Our staff consists of people who love working with children. Age group leaders are experienced in working with UUs in RE and camps. Many of their support staff were once in the SUUSI YUUTH program. Additional staff members include specialists in arts and crafts, sports, drama and movement, and counselling.

We are committed to providing quality programming for all children at SUUSI. That is why we require that all youth attending SUUSI be under the direct supervision of a legally responsible adult at all times. If youth are not with YUUTH staff during programming hours, they must be with their parents or guardians. Children who come to SUUSI with someone other than their parents must be sure to have a signed guardian form, included with the Enrollment Forms.

Look for more info in the Confirmation NUUS. If you have any questions about the Youth Program contact Kathee Williams, YUUTH Staff Coordinator, at 770-592-1235, or [kathee@folkways.com](mailto:kathee@folkways.com).

*Age groups will be assigned by the age of the child as of July 25, 1999.*

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**Teen Staff:** The common threads that bind the Teen Staff together are a love of working with UU teens and a love of having fun. Beyond that, we come from as many different and colorful skeins as do the 100+ teens we work with. The Staff and you will all work together to weave the beautiful pattern of intentional community of the Teen Program.

Our Principle duty as staff is two-fold. First, we are there to create a safe space for you in which you can learn, explore, experiment, laugh, cry, sing, play, talk, share, and open up to each other, in an environment that is free of physical and emotional danger. Second, we are there to empower you to have as much fun as possible.

Feel free to contact the Teen Program director if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. See you at SUUSI!

**Attention Teens & Parents: This Is Important!** The SUUSI Teen Program is for 14 to 17 year olds, only. If you were not in the SUUSI Teen Program in 1997 or 1998, you must provide a notarized copy of a birth certificate or driver's license as a proof of age with your registration. Don't forget! You will not be able to stay in the teen dorm or participate in the teen program without this! No exceptions will be made.



**For Parents/Guardians of Teens:** The extent to which your teen participates in our program is up to you and your teen. All teens and their parent/guardian must sign our behavior agreement as part of the registration process (see page 48). Please read this carefully. Guardians of teens must be at least 21 years of age and each guardian may only be responsible for 2 teens (other than their own). All teens must also have proof of age with your registration. Being a guardian is in all respects equivalent to being a parent. Your responsibility for the teen will be for the duration of SUUSI. All parents, guardians, and teens are required to attend Sunday night's Teen Program Orientation at 9 p.m. There will be a "parents only" orientation for those with further questions, comments, or concerns immediately following.

Communication: Parents/guardians are welcome to visit the Teen Dorm at any time. Please realize that for the safety of the teens and staff, a Teen Staff member will ask you to identify yourself with your SUUSI nametag.

You will be given a schedule for the week in the confirmation packets mailed out about July 1. Any updates to that schedule will be posted each day in the Teen Dorm lobby. You will need to discuss your teen's schedule and make time each day to meet. Each teen and teen staff member will have a mailbag for messages and goodies. We really do want to hear from you!

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## Programming Hours

- 8:45 - 9:00 Children ages 0 -2 arrive at their classrooms; all other YUUTH go to the daily Ingathering at the Theme Talk, where their leaders will meet them and walk them to their classrooms after the Ingathering.
- 9:15 - 12:15 **Morning Programming.** Children who do not attend Ingathering can arrive at this time in their classrooms. Classrooms will not be supervised until 9:15.
- 12:15 - 1:45 **Lunch.** The 0 - 2 year olds may either go to lunch with their parents or have lunch in the classroom. We recommend that the youngest children stay with the staff all day, but we encourage parents to visit often.  
Children ages 3-8 must be picked up by their parents or guardians for lunch. Children ages 9-13 may sign themselves out for lunch, but only if we have prior written parental permission.
- 1:45 - 4:15 **Afternoon Programming.** Parents or guardians must pick their children up.
- 7:00 - 9:00 **Evening Programming for ages 9-13.** Not every age group will have programming every night. Check the YUUTH schedule at the registration desk for details on night programs.



**New this year:** 13 year olds will have their own group all week with all of the usual activities, plus some exciting new events. They will have an opportunity to visit the Teen Dorm, and participate in a special rite of passage on Friday night, which is part of their usual spend-the-night party, and visit CACHE.