

# "2121 News and Views"

The Rev. Walter LeFlore, Minister

Volume 59 Number 9 Founded 1952 May 2012

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is a community that values diversity, peace, democracy and the interdependent web of all existence. The Fellowship nurtures and challenges its members in their religious journeys, and advocates for social justice in the larger community. We are engaged in worship, study, public service, fellowship and social action. We invite your attendance and participation.

## May Services

May 6: Moral, At What Cost? Rev. Walter LeFlore

May 13: Mother's Day Celebration. Peg Malloy and Mary Ann Osgood

May 20: Shared Spirituality Rev. Walter LeFlore

May 27: A Time for Remembering Rev. Walter LeFlore

*Our nursery is available during all regular services. Please feel free to bring your young one there. Information is available from the minister, any member of the board, the Greeter at the Welcome desk in the lobby and the usher at the door to the main room.*



“UU News and Views” is published monthly (except July and August) by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie, and is distributed to our members and friends without charge.

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officers

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The UU Fellowship of Poughkeepsie

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Tues, Wed: 10 am - 1 pm

Thurs: 11 am - 2 pm;

Friday: 10 am - 1 pm

The UU Fellowship of Poughkeepsie is a member of the Society of the Unitarian Universalist Association  
25 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02108  
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[www.uumetrony.org](http://www.uumetrony.org)

## May HIGHLIGHTS

May 5: Labyrinth Walk 1PM

May 6: Town Meeting Noon

May 10: Six Crises Lecture 7PM

May 12: Building and Grounds Work Day 9AM to Noon  
UniPlayers 7:30PM

May 20: Town Meeting Noon  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Lunch Noon

May 25: Homeless Meal

May 26: Spoken Word 7PM

May 27: Seniors Group Noon

May 31: Fellowship fundraiser,  
Greeting Cards 6-9:30PM



### LIFESPAN FAITH DEVELOPMENT

(also known as Religious Education)

Teachers (some assembly may be required)

Teaching Assistants (no experience necessary)

**HOSPITALITY** (in the true spirit of being welcoming)

Greeters (see James Pittman on Sunday mornings)

Ushers (see Dan Whalen on Sunday mornings)

Coffee Hour Hosts (sign up sheet in kitchen)

## Judith's Missive

“And that is how change happens. One gesture. One person. One moment at a time.”

*Libba Bray, The Sweet Far Thing*

Dear Fellowship Mates:

Hard to believe it is already May, and that our Fellowship year is winding to a close (for those of you who don't know, our “official” year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30). It's been a year of shifts and changes, of challenges and opportunities, of growth and broadening horizons. It's been an exciting year.

Some of the changes this year have been subtle, while some have been substantive. Of course, the most substantive change of all has been the calling of our third settled minister, Reverend Walter LeFlore. Our calling of Walter has been the impetus for lots of other change as well, not the least of which has been improvements to our buildings and grounds, including tackling some long-delayed but necessary maintenance issues. The June Newsletter and the Board's report at the Corporate Meeting on June 10 will contain a report on how the funds from the Rise to Challenge Campaign have been used thus far. We hope, though, that most of the projects funded by “Rise” will be obvious!

Another big change is the way in which the Fellowship is trying to approach food, especially with regard to Third Sunday Lunch and other Fellowship sponsored events. In keeping with our Social Justice theme of Ethical Eating, many of the Third Sunday lunches this year have been primarily “home-made,” instead of store-bought, and we have tried to consider dietary needs at each meal. We hope to continue in this vein, and to begin consistently providing paper goods that environmentally friendly (or even using “real” plates and silverware). We have also, thanks largely to the efforts of Nina Lynch and some very able assistants, stepped up the availability of Fair Trade products for sale on Sunday mornings. Look for even more visible Fair Trade activities in the near future!

I'm looking forward to this month, which is shaping up to be as busy as the rest of the year. Representative of all the activities: we have our first participation in a World Labyrinth Day event on May 5, “Walk as One at 1,” with people world-wide walking labyrinths at the same time to create a wave of peaceful energy that moves around the planet; a Town Meeting hosted by the Social Justice Committee on May 6 following the Sunday service that focuses on the Doctrine of Discovery, a topic of consideration at this year's General Assembly; our Fifteenth Annual Uniplayers production on May 12 at 7:30, with original one-act plays and music, and a dessert buffet and a silent auction; a Town Meeting hosted by the Board of Trustees on May 20 to present the proposed budget for the 2012/2013 Fellowship year (with Third Sunday Lunch on the same day provided by the Social Justice Committee).

This “joint,” clearly, is jumping. We hope that all these events draw significant participation from our friends and members, in addition to reaching the greater Poughkeepsie community.

In fellowship, and with faith,  
Judith

## **From the Minister:**

What a wonderful Installation ceremony! I've been deeply moved by the demonstrated commitment of this community to me and Maggie and to our joint, shared future together. Please know that the Fellowship has become my beloved community.

While none of us can know just where the future will lead, I am absolutely confident that I and we will be better for our shared commitment to who we are and who we can become. There is much learning in store for us all. Some learnings will come easily, while others will take work and effort.

From my very first encounter with this community I was impressed with the energy excitement and potential that exists here. That first encounter came from reading your congregational record documenting who you were and what your hopes, needs and desires were. Having lived with you for several months, I'm more convinced than ever that my original assessment was correct. (My trusted friends concur!)

I feel so very fortunate in having found a faith community in which my own hopes, needs and desires as a minister can be fulfilled. Some of my wise colleagues have told me that the best of all worlds is when both the minister and the congregation feel they are fortunate to have found the other. If true, let us rejoice and be grateful.

Here' to you! Here's to us! Here's to our future living and learning together!

In Faith,  
Walter

## **Senior Group May 27<sup>th</sup> Noon**

A Study of Humanism

## **Summer Services**

There are still open spots for Summer Services. If you (or anyone you know) are willing to conduct a cozy Sunday service in July or August, please email me at [j\\_cosen@optonline.net](mailto:j_cosen@optonline.net) with the presenter's name, email address, service title, and a two-sentence description of the topic.

Joe Cosentino, Program Committee Chair



## **The Gratitude Corner**

The Board of Trustees, on behalf of the congregation, would like to extend our deepest thanks to the following people for helping to beautify the Fellowship's Buildings and Grounds during our Big Spring Facelift (and please please please forgive us if we miss someone):

Jane Bartik, Kathy Boone, Laura Bracken, Beatrix Clarke, Bill Collier, Barbara Corona, Cori Cumming, Larry Decker, Carol Dwyer, Eleanor Harmantas, Rick Foster, Jean-Claude Fouere, Nick Garin, Judith Knauss, Michael Kurtz, Anne Lancellotti, Rev. Walter LeFlore, Peggy Malloy, Anthony Maresco, Len Marcus, Richard Mattocks, Paul Osgood, Mary Phillips, Vincent Pollina, Ethel Potts, Julia Sheehy, Paul Silverstein, Richard Sudnik, Thalia Sudnik, Dale Sutton, Michelle Sutton, Karl Volk, Kathy Walker, Warren Williams, Jim Wood.

And the following people for helping with the planning of the Installation: Joe Cosentino, Anne Lancellotti, Nina Lynch, Peg Malloy and Thalia Sudnik (and we also thank everyone who contributed food and beverages).

We continue to thank Walter Engel for running the sound system almost every Sunday morning.

With our deepest thanks,  
The Board of Trustees

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## **Stewardship Committee**

Our Stewardship Campaign "ended" officially on April 15th. For those of you have pledged we wish to thank you most sincerely for your generosity. I hope, by now, that you have received personal notes from members of the committee expressing our acknowledgements and thanks. The good news is that fully eighty percent of the pledges we have received have been increases over last years pledge or they have been new pledges altogether.

As of April 23 our pledge total stands at \$124,345 in pledges from 67 pledge units. This is a comparable amount to last years pledge but there are still quite a number of pledges we have not yet received and we are hopeful that we will have a campaign successful enough to address the budgetary priorities that were identified by the Fellowship members at the special Town Meeting this past January.

So, if you have not returned your pledge as yet we will be happy to receive it. We encourage you to submit a pledge soon as we are approaching the time where the Board can plan the exciting year ahead.

Yours in Fellowship  
Paul Osgood

## Membership Directory

The Membership Committee is tasked in our bylaws to produce a directory of members and friends in February of each year. A copy of this directory is sent by email or USPS to everyone listed in it. In addition, the Membership Committee strives to issue updated directories every three months. These are posted in a protected area of our Web site.

Please take a few minutes to review your listing in the directory. Note that email addresses can be listed by family or individual, and individual cell phone numbers can be listed as well as a family phone number.

If any changes are needed and have not already been reported, please let our Office Administrator, Joedy Kievit ([office@uupok.org](mailto:office@uupok.org) or 471-6580) or Tom Hackett ([TPH.Photo@verizon.net](mailto:TPH.Photo@verizon.net) or 4642177) know.

If you do not have a current (February 2012) copy of the directory and cannot access it on our Web site, please call Tom or Joedy.

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## Social Justice



Thursday May 3 at 7:00 p.m. Free Movie Screening: "Capitalism: A Love Story." At the Crafted Kup, 44 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Michael Moore's "Capitalism: A Love Story" comes home to the issue he's been examining throughout his career: the disastrous impact of corporate dominance on the everyday lives of Americans. Sponsored by Dutchess Peace.

Sunday, May 6 at noon: The Social Justice Committee will hold a Town Meeting to discuss the Doctrine of Discovery. From the UUA web site:

Our [Partners](#) have requested that we learn about the Doctrine of Discovery, and that the General Assembly pass a resolution requesting President Obama remove it from our international policy.

When Christopher Columbus first set foot on the white sands of Guanahani island, he performed a ceremony to "take possession" of the land for the king and queen of Spain, acting under the international laws of Western Christendom. Although the story of Columbus' "discovery" has taken on mythological proportions in most of the Western world, few people are aware that his act of "possession" was based on a religious doctrine now known in history as the Doctrine of Discovery. Even fewer people realize that today - five centuries later - the United States government still uses this archaic doctrine to deny the rights of indigenous peoples.

Indigenous Peoples and Nations want religious movements to repudiate the Doctrine of Christian Discovery and to pressure our government to implement the [United Nations \(UN\) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples \(PDF\)](#).

The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Board of Trustees is urging a repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery, and will place a resolution on the 2012 General Assembly Agenda. Please read the Board's Report and proposed Responsive Resolution (PDF) at [http://www.uua.org/documents/boardtrustees/rmc/120109\\_motion.pdf](http://www.uua.org/documents/boardtrustees/rmc/120109_motion.pdf). Our delegates will be asked to

vote on this resolution, and members of the congregation will be asked to instruct them as to how we would like them to vote.

Thursday, May 10 at 7 PM at the Fellowship: Six Crises: A Synopsis of Earth's Systemic, Human-Caused Environmental Calamities, presented by John S. Keith, Director of Operations for the Blacksmith Institute. A global perspective of the world's environmental problems, illustrated with photos from Keith's extensive travels throughout the world. Co-sponsored by the Sierra Club and the UFP Social Justice Committee.

Sunday, May 13 from 2 -3 p.m.: Members of Dutchess Peace and Arts for Peace will give out flowers and copies of Julia Ward Howe's "Mother's Day Proclamation" on the Poughkeepsie side of the Walkway Over the Hudson. To read this very stirring anti-war proclamation, go to

<http://www.peace.ca/mothersdayproclamation.htm>, then join us on the Walkway on Mother's Day!

Sunday, May 20 at noon: Please join the Social Justice Committee for a Third Sunday lunch featuring fairly traded, organic, local (all to the extent possible) and delicious fare.

Pat Lamanna

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## MAY STEWARD OF THE MONTH



**ELEANOR HARMANTAS**

The Board of Trustees is happy to lift up Eleanor Harmantas as an example of excellence in stewardship.

For several years now, Eleanor has been working to maintain and improve the landscaping (especially the gardens) on the Fellowship's beautiful property. Much of that work began in 2007 when Eleanor was one of the founding members of the Big Back Yard Project (fondly known as the BBYP). The BBYP has been responsible for reclaiming what had become a rather wild back yard. Still home to lots of wildlife, including groundhogs and deer, the Big Back Yard is also home to the Fellowship's Labyrinth as well as a Butterfly Garden and picnic area. Additionally, under Eleanor's tireless direction, the Fellowship's grounds have undergone a stunning "facelift" this spring in time for Reverend Walter LeFlore's installation.

Eleanor also serves on the Endowment Fund Committee and has been known to help out other committees as well.

Thank you, Eleanor, for all you do!

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## The Caring Committee

Save the dates: **Thursday May 31st 6-9:30 PM** and **Friday June 1st noon to 3:30PM**. Fellowship members and friends are invited to join the Caring Committee at either session to make greeting cards for your personal use. The cost is only \$10 per person. Each participant can make up to 5 cards...that is only \$2 each....a super bargain for these beautiful handcrafted quality cards. You can see samples at our table after the service. Teens or adults with all ranges of craft experience will enjoy this project. The money raised will be a Fellowship Fundraiser . Please contact Katy Corcoran to sign up. Katy can be reached at 845-559-0292, [kcocora@optonline.net](mailto:kcocora@optonline.net) or after service at our committee table. This is a fun opportunity for older and newer members to get to know each other and help strengthen our growing community.



Katy Corcoran, chair

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## A call for Small Group Ministry Facilitators

During the fall, we plan to roll out a Small Group Ministry program designed to help us in our faith community better minister to each other. To help ensure the smooth, safe and effective operation of this program we plan to train facilitators in the intent and design of the program, as well as enhance skills required to facilitate the program sessions.

If you would like to learn more about Small Group Ministry, or think you might want to facilitate small group sessions, please contact Rev. Walter or Joedy. We hope to have two facilitators for each small group. Once we get a list of interested people, we'll schedule an initial meeting sometime during the latter part of May.

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## Building and Grounds News

Thank you to all who helped getting us ready for Walter's Installation! It was a lot of very, very hard work and the Fellowship looks Wonderful!

Lets see if we can keep the momentum going by cultivating the B&G Habit. B&G is every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday from 9AM to Noon. May's B&G is Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup>. Join us in Fellowship as we help make a visible difference!

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## News from the Choir

On Sunday, May 13th, Mothers Day, Peg Malloy and I are doing the service. The choir will be singing, and three of our young people will be playing their instruments: Dylan Cook will be playing his Cello, Rosie Trammel will play a piano piece, and Tory Horner will be playing a piece on violin. Carl Volk will also be singing. There will be Mothers Day poems and readings.

Mary Ann Osgood



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## Membership Committee

With a new grandbaby and my Mom now in town (double joys!) and other life changes in my life, I'm moving out of the Membership Chair. I gather there are new folks considering taking over, and I'm excited about them and the energies they will bring. I would like thank the Most Awesome Committee ever for their service to Membership this past year: Larry Decker, Reed Asher, Tom Hackett, Kate Creegan-Kurtz, James Pittman, Nina Lynch, Judith Knauss, Dan Whalen, and Anne Lancelotti. I really enjoyed getting to know these folks better! They represent so much I aspire to!

Michelle Sutton

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## Homeless Meal

The May dinner for the Homeless is May 25th. Please email Michelle Sutton if you'd like to be on in this reliably fun and rewarding night. [MichelleSutton33@gmail.com](mailto:MichelleSutton33@gmail.com)

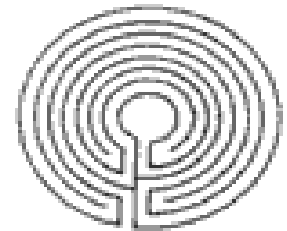


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## World Labyrinth Day Walk You are Invited!

Come join us in a **Labyrinth Walk** at the Fellowship's Labyrinth

**Saturday May 5th at 1PM**



as part of World Labyrinth Day.

The theme of World Labyrinth Day is "Walk as One at 1". Come walk with us and be part of a worldwide celebration! We will "Walk as One at 1" to try to effect a rolling wave of peaceful energy as the world turns.

World Labyrinth Day is facilitated by the world-wide Labyrinth Society. Labyrinth's the world over will be hosting walks at 1PM.

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## FAIR TRADE SALES IN MAY

On Sundays, May 6 and May 13 the "Fair Trade Table" will feature a few gift items for Mom...or the Gardener in your life as well as our favorite Equal Exchange coffees, teas, cocoas and chocolate bars and more...

We will be offering two new items from Equal Exchange:

- the *Geo Bar* – at \$3.50 – comparable to similar boxes sold in the market -- healthy snack bars with the added advantage that they made with fair trade and organic ingredients and sold by Equal Exchange our Interfaith partner through UU Service Committee.
- Extra virgin organic oil – at \$12 a bottle...robust and peppery with a strong fruit finish, from a non-profit, non-governmental organization in the West Bank.

## Coffee Hour

### May Coffee Hour Hosts

**As of Newsletter deadline No-one has signed up. In order for us all to enjoy coffee we need everyone to volunteer two to three times a year. Please sign up soon. Sign-up calendar is in the kitchen under the clock.**

Coffee Anyone



## SPOKENWORDCAFE

The place for people who love words, who love language, who love stories.

On Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, the Spoken Word Café is pleased to have Roberta Gould as featured speaker. Gould is the author of eight books of poems, and her poems have appeared in *Confrontation*, *Home Planet News*, and *Chronogram*, as well as in several anthologies and online zines, including *Void and Poetz*. She has read widely in the Hudson Valley, where she lives, and in the Metropolitan area, and she has edited several poetry journals, including *Light: A Poetry Review*.

*Esta Naranja*, one of her books, was published in Spanish in Mexico, where she lived for some time. She has a master's in Spanish, studied geology at SUNY Ulster, and is an amateur pianist. Come join us at 7:00pm for Gould's work and an open mic where you can share yours!

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
67 South Randolph Street, Poughkeepsie  
May 26<sup>th</sup> 7PM

Admission \$5 – Open Mic – Refreshments – Info:  
917-509-5636

## UniPlayers

THEY'RE BACK!

UUF<sup>P</sup>'S OWN UUNIPLAYERS PERFORMING SATURDAY, MAY 12, 7:30PM AT THE UUF<sup>P</sup>

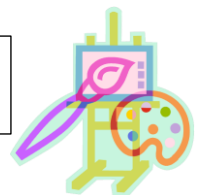
It's time again for some springtime theater written and performed by your congregants at the Fellowship. We promise to tickle your funny bone, enlighten your social conscience, and help expand your spirituality. Two original staged one-act play readings, four musical performances, a silent auction, and a sumptuous dessert buffet add up to an enjoyable night of theater for only \$10 (Broadway show prices are \$140 a ticket!). All are welcome. Curtain up!

P.S. – Dessert donations, and volunteers are most welcome!

Contact Judith Knauss at [judith.knauss@gmail.com](mailto:judith.knauss@gmail.com). There will be a silent auction during the UNIPLAYERS event. Do you have a service or a special item or gift certificate that might be of interest to others? If so, please contact Judith before May 11.



Our artist for May is Lisette Muntslag



The deadline for the June Newsletter is May 22nd. Email submissions to [uupoknewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:uupoknewsletter@yahoo.com)