



St. Lawrence District

Spring/Summer 2009 "News" Packet

MAY 2009

SPRING/SUMMER PACKET

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District Summary

[President's Message](#)... Ernie Hall reflects on the past year.

[District Executive](#)... Rev. Tom Chulak reports on the state of the District.

[Program Consultant](#)... Karen LoBracco enlightens us with information packed faith development news for May 2009.

[UUA Trustee](#)... post-district assembly report by David Friedman.

[News From Our Congregations](#)... read the synopsis of some of the wonderful accomplishments around the District gathered by the District reporter, Ellen Asprooth.

[SLD Board 2009-2010](#)... meet the new St. Lawrence District Board!

Events You Won't Want To Miss In 2009!



Canceled! [Our Whole Lives Facilitator Training](#) is scheduled for June 19-21 at Christ the King Retreat and Conference Center in Syracuse, NY. Jane Detwiler and Jesse Jaeger will be the facilitators. Religious educators are encouraged to enroll.

The [Minister & RE Director Retreat](#) will be held June 19-21 at Camp Unirondack & Conference Center in the Adirondack Mountains.

[Pilgrimage Weekend](#) at the Unitarian Church of Barneveld is scheduled for June 20-21. A concert on Saturday at 7:30 PM at the Unity Hall is planned along with 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM services on Sunday.

This year's [UU Leadership Team Institute](#) has been scheduled for July 26-August 1 at Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA. UULTI is a remarkable week-long residential learning experience that seeks to renew faith, embrace congregational growth and change and welcome and nurture all.

The annual [Presidents' Conference](#) will offer "Changing the Patterns of Giving and Leadership" in Central Square, NY on September 26. Topics include Stewardship in our UU Churches and Leadership.

The [RE Ingathering](#) will take place on September 26 at Syracuse First, so save the date! "Homegrown UUs – Dreaming the Possible Dream?" More information will be available in the near future.

The [New York State Convention of Universalists](#) (NYSCU) warmly invites you to attend their annual meeting on October 16-17 at the First



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Universalist Church of Rochester, NY. The Rev. Dr. Richard S. Gilbert is scheduled to be the keynote speaker. "The Missing U in Unitarian Universalism: Our Universalist Heritage, Its' Meaning for Today and Tomorrow."

[UU Weekend at Silver Bay](#) will be held October 16-18 at the Silver Bay Resort and Conference Center in Lake George, NY – southern Adirondack Mountains.

Get ready for the [50th Anniversary Conference](#) Celebrating the Birth & Growth of Unitarian Universalism on October 30-31 in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Syracuse in Syracuse, NY where 50 years earlier, Universalists & Unitarians voted to become one.



The SLD Social Justice Council will present their fourth annual conference featuring "[Doing Justice In An Economic Tsunami](#)" on November 7 at the UU Church of Amherst, NY. The theme speaker will be former UUA President, Rev. John Buehrens.

SJC [Program & News](#)

Very Notable Items

[Board Building Retreats](#) If your board of trustees has not yet had a time to focus on working together, setting priorities for the year, and assuring that folks are aligned with your vision and mission, this is a great time to do so. Contact Tom Chulak, District Executive (tchulak@uua.org) about accessing this resource or about other needs you might have.

[Membership Conversations: Co-creating the Hospitable Gifted Congregation](#)

Chuck and Karen West, members of All Souls UU Church in Watertown, NY and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Las Cruces, NM, are offering this new 2 hour workshop especially for Membership Committee persons; it is focused on discovering and employing the gifts we bring to our church communities. They will offer the FREE workshop between June and the end of October. It is given in conjunction with the SL District Growth Committee.

Give [Chautauqua](#) a try this summer as the UUs open a new denominational house in Western New York.

Men of all ages, all orientations... united by commitment to the seven basic principles of the Unitarian-Universalist tradition come together for the annual [Gathering of Men](#) at Camp Unirondack on June 5-7.

[Accredited Green Sanctuary](#)... The First Unitarian Society of Schenectady received a congratulatory letter on May 6 that FUSS is now recognized as an Accredited Green Sanctuary.

Position Opening

The UU Congregation of Saratoga Springs is seeking a [Music Director](#). The position will start on August 15 and is salaried, but takes approximately 12 hours per week. Competitive salary commensurate with training and experience. Please send resumes to Sally Kirouac at skirouac@nycap.rr.com.

UUA News

[General Assembly](#) is fast approaching! This year GA will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Voting will take place on the next-to-last day of GA, Saturday, June 27, between noon and 5:30 p.m. at a booth in the Exhibit Hall. Election results will be announced at a worship service at GA on Saturday evening, June 27, immediately before the Ware Lecture.

The third UUA [Association Sunday](#) has been scheduled for October 4. The theme

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**We're on the
Web!**

www.sld.uua.org

will be *Growing Our Diversity*. We are better together! Through this special service and collection to fund Growth in Diversity programs, we can develop spiritual communities that are more racially, culturally, and economically inclusive and welcoming to ALL people.

NRG Partner Events (Northeast Regional Group)

As partners with the [Ohio-Meadville](#), [Joseph Priestley](#) and the [Metro NY](#) districts, SLD members are welcome to participate in events hosted by them.

OMD Summer Institute (SI) invites everyone to help them celebrate 30 years of summer family fun July 12-18 at Kenyon College in Gambier, OH. This year's theme speaker is Thandeka, professor at Meadville Lombard Seminary. SI is a week long institute with programming for adults, young adults, youth and children, and is a family friendly camp. For more information, to view or download the brochure and to register, visit www.omdsi.org

The Metro NY District will be offering **Our Whole Lives for Elementary Grades** on November 6-8 in Long Island, NY. Visit <http://www.uumetrony.org/> for more information.

News Deadline



The deadline for the next issue of the St. Lawrence District "News" Packet is **Saturday, August 15, 2009 at 5:00 PM ET**. Please send your "proofed" articles via e-mail to the administrative secretary at smtabone@localnet.com.

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