

## INVESTMENTS:

Cardell Mortgage	5094.36	Change:	TREASURER'S REPORT	APR. 1990
Marine Midland	11873.05	0.00		
Certs. of Deposit	102000.00	50.21		
Shearson Acct	13443.28	-10400.00	CHECKING ACCT.	
U.S.Treas. Bonds	20431.30	11268.86	Begin. Balance	16076.09
		0.00	Ending Balance	16750.34

INCOME	BUDGET	APRIL	YTD	Percent
Pledges	156000.00	10869.64	129316.11	.83
Plate	3000.00	348.34	3151.73	
Rentals	18500.00	2375.00	19192.50	
Contributions	3000.00	205.00	2432.00	
Investments	11600.00	924.37	9336.18	
Major Fund Raising	10000.00	0.00	6913.98	
Other Income/Net	300.00	0.00	.00	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>202400.00</b>	<b>14722.35</b>	<b>170342.50</b>	<b>.84</b>

## I PHYSICAL FACILITIES

## A. MMUS Operation

1 Taxes	800.00	0.00	900.15
2 Utilities	14500.00	117.10	11363.76
3 Maintenance			
a) Building	4300.00	251.70	2249.82
b) Music Instrumnts	600.00	0.00	680.00
4 Housekeeping	2500.00	306.28	2230.02
5 Snow Removal	1200.00	0.00	1200.00
6 Insurance	6500.00	0.00	6665.00
7 Mortgage	11200.00	933.00	9330.00
B. Maintenance Reserve	9215.00	0.00	.00
Sub-Total	50815.00	1608.08	34618.75

## II PROGRAMMING

## A. Adult Program Council

1 Adult Education	200.00	-47.00	-178.19
2 Soc Responsibility	300.00	0.00	.00
3 Denominat. Affairs			
a) UUA	5000.00	0.00	3750.00
b) SLUUD	900.00	0.00	900.00
c) UUSC	200.00	0.00	-3.50
d) SAIC	100.00	0.00	.00
e) Delegate Expense	500.00	0.00	.00
4 Publicity	900.00	143.35	883.61
B. Hospitality/Soc Affs.	100.00	0.00	28.38
C. Finance/Canvass	1100.00	64.40	1197.73
D. Membership/New Member	150.00	-24.70	195.41
E. Religious Education	2550.00	115.93	2401.00
F. Religious Services			
1 Worship	1100.00	5.35	874.52
2 Music	1250.00	72.00	568.60
3 Decorations	100.00	55.10	55.10
4 Gallery	50.00	0.00	50.00
5 Aesthetics	100.00	100.00	100.00
6 Summer Services	125.00	0.00	.00
7 Minister Intern	1500.00	0.00	.00
G. Child Care	600.00	60.00	572.13
H. General	100.00	49.58	8.70
Sub-Total	16925.00	594.01	11403.49

III PERSONNEL	BUDGET	APRIL	YTD	PERCENT
A. Parish Minister				
1 Salary/Housing	35200.00	2933.33	29333.30	
2 Professional Exp.	7420.00	618.33	6183.30	
3 Insurance	4000.00	345.54	3320.50	
B. Minister of Rel.Educ.				
1 Salary/Housing	27180.00	2265.00	22650.00	
2 Professional Exp.	2020.00	230.50	1980.47	
3 Insurance	1600.00	162.75	1434.30	
C. Music Director	7900.00	770.72	6551.12	
D. Secretaries	10970.00	1072.00	9112.00	
E. Treasurer	5300.00	441.66	4416.60	
F. Custodian	7790.00	627.84	6278.40	
G. Pensions				
1 Ministers (UUA)	6890.00	574.56	5745.60	
2 Other (UUA/Hare)	4290.00	311.59	3111.36	
H. Indirect Salary	<u>4450.00</u>	<u>607.71</u>	<u>3744.29</u>	
Sub-Total	125010.00	10961.53	103861.24	

#### IV GENERAL

A. Operating				
1 Office Supplies	4500.00	587.75	2808.77	
2 Mail	4000.00	354.00	2628.74	
3 Service Charges	150.00	0.00	24.00	
B. Reserve				
1 Equipment	1000.00	0.00	.00	
2 Housing Fund	0.00	0.00	.00	
3 Endowment Fund	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>.00</u>	
Sub-Total	9650.00	941.75	5461.51	

TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>202400.00</u>	<u>14105.37</u>	<u>155344.99</u>	.77
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HASH ACCOUNTS	INCOME	EXPENSES	BALANCE
Coffee	0.00	12.75	209.58
Juice Machine	100.59	64.00	37.76
Wayside Pulpit	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sanctuary Project	0.00	0.00	138.22
Special Publicity	0.00	0.00	3385.47
Minister's Discret.Fnd	0.00	0.00	325.39
Teen Class	0.00	0.00	478.67
150th Book Fund	20.00	0.00	1532.55
Quuestion Mart	392.81	20.00	418.49
Lillian Reiner Book	0.00	0.00	1055.00
Gerry Lanier Mem. Fund	50.00	0.00	1360.00
Gratia Deane Mem. Fund	335.00	0.00	335.00
SPECIAL FUNDS			
Commem. Endowment Fund	0.00	0.00	52144.27
Maintenance Fund	0.00	0.00	1021.81
Equipment Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Housing Fund	0.00	0.00	58944.00
Special Choir Fund	0.00	0.00	571.00
Piano Fund	0.00	0.00	334.56
Capital Fund	75.00	361.21	2068.55
Advance Pledge Payment	0.00	0.00	7076.56
Organ Maintenance Fund	0.00	0.00	3390.00
Furniture Fund	0.00	0.00	160.00
Memorial Garden Fund	0.00	0.00	3198.10

DRAFT BUDGET 1990-91  
(Version of 16 May 90)  
(Notes on reverse)

INCOME	BUDGET (88-89)	ACTUAL (88-89)	BUDGET (89-90)	ACTUAL (April 90)	PROPOSED
Pledges	\$139,650	\$128,723	\$150,000	\$129,316	\$158,800 a
Plus Pledge	-	-	6,000	-	-
Plate	3,000	3,598	3,000	3,152	3,300
Rentals	16,000	18,738	18,500	19,192	22,500
Contributions	3,000	3,211	3,000	2,432	3,000
Investments	9,000	10,390	11,600	9,336	12,000
Major Fund Raising	9,000	10,396	10,000	6,914	8,500
Other Income/Net	300	617	300	0	1,400
Transfer from Resv.	8,850	8,850	0	0	0
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Total Income	\$188,800	\$184,523	\$202,400	\$170,342	\$209,500
EXPENSES	BUDGET (88-89)	ACTUAL (88-89)	BUDGET (89-90)	ACTUAL (April 90)	PROPOSED
I Physical Facilities					
A. Church Operation					
1 Taxes	\$ 700	\$ 786	\$ 800	\$ 900	\$ 1,000
2 Utilities	14,000	14,494	14,500	11,364	15,500
3 Maintenance					
a Building	5,000	5,054	4,300	2,250	4,300
b Musical Inst.	600	671	600	680	700
4 Housekeeping	1,800	2,304	2,500	2,230	2,600
5 Snow Removal	850	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,400
6 Insurance	3,500	5,250	6,500	6,665	7,000
7 Mortgages					
a Building	11,200	11,196	11,200	9,330	11,200
b Roof Repair	-	-	-	-	1,200 b
B. Maintenance Resv.	1,800	202	9,215	0	1,325
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	\$ 39,450	\$ 41,058	\$ 50,815	\$ 34,619	\$ 46,225
II Programming					
A. Adult Program Council					
1 Adult Education	\$ 125	\$ 131	\$ 200	\$ -178	\$ 200
2 Social Respons.	200	131	300	0	300
3 Denominational Aff.					
a) UUA	5,000	5,000	5,000	3,750	6,120
b) SLUUD	900	946	900	900	900
c) UUSC	200	200	200	-4	200
d) SAIC	100	100	100	0	100
e) Delegate Exp.	500	500	500	0	600
4 Publicity	900	1,075	900	884	1,000
B. Hospitality	100	1	100	28	100
C. Finance - Canvass	1,100	1,309	1,100	1,198	1,200
D. Membership	200	167	150	195	200
E. Religious Education	2,600	2,601	2,550	2,401	2,550 c
F. Religious Services					
1 Worship	400	33	1,100	875	400
2 Music	1,200	1,200	1,250	569	1,350
3 Decorations	200	23	100	55	100
4 Gallery	100	31	50	50	50
5 Aesthetics	-	-	100	100	350
6 Summer Services	125	125	125	0	125
7 Minister Intern	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	1,500
G. Child care	-	-	600	572	600
H. General	100	-211	100	9	100
I. 150th Anniversary	2,100	1,312	-	-	-
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	\$ 17,650	\$ 16,171	\$ 16,925	\$ 11,403	\$ 18,045

EXPENSES	BUDGET (88-89)	ACTUAL (88-89)	BUDGET (89-90)	ACTUAL (April 90)	PROPOSED
III Personnel					
A. Parish Minister	(\$ 47,900)	(\$ 46,135)	(\$ 46,620)	(\$ 38,837)	(\$ 49,120) d
1 Salary & Housing	33,200	33,200	35,200	29,333	37,020
2 Professional Exp.	7,000	7,000	7,420	6,183	7,860
3 Insurance	7,700	5,935	4,000	3,320	4,240
B. Min. of Rel. Ed.	(27,500)	(26,398)	(30,800)	(26,065)	( 32,650) d
1 Salary & Housing	23,500	23,333	27,180	22,650	28,810
2 Professional Exp.	1,750	1,917	2,020	1,980	2,140
3 Insurance	2,250	1,148	1,600	1,434	1,700
C. Music Director	7,460	7,460	7,900	6,551	8,375
D. Secretaries'	10,350	10,280	10,970	9,112	12,230
E. Treasurer	5,000	5,000	5,300	4,417	5,620
F. Custodian	7,350	7,250	7,790	6,278	8,260
G. Pensions					
1 Ministers (UUA)	6,500	6,082	6,890	5,746	7,290
2 Other (UUA/Hare)	4,260	3,347	4,290	3,111	4,005
H. Indirect Salary	4,200	3,092	4,450	3,744	4,800
I. MRE moving	1,000	2,463	-	-	-
	\$121,520	\$117,506	\$125,010	\$103,861	\$132,350

These represent 6% salary increases, with addition of one day per week during summer for secretarial services.

EXPENSES	BUDGET (88-89)	ACTUAL (88-89)	BUDGET (89-90)	ACTUAL (April 90)	PROPOSED
IV General Church					
A. Operating					
1 Office Supplies	\$ 2,900	\$ 3,322	\$ 4,500	\$ 2,809	\$ 4,000
2 Mail	3,300	3,455	4,000	2,628	4,180
3 Service Charges	180	67	150	24	100
B. Reserve					
1 Equipment	900	2,419	1,000	0	1,000
2 Housing Fund	2,900	324	0	0	3,600
3 Endowment Fund	0	0	0	0	0
	\$ 10,180	\$ 9,788	\$ 9,650	\$ 5,462	\$ 12,880
Total Expenses	\$188,800	\$184,523	\$202,400	\$155,345	\$209,500

Notes:

a - 1.8% increase in pledges, based on \$156,000 for 89-90

b - Debt service for building repair loan

c - Child care costs removed from R.E line

d - Total for position

May Memorial Unitarian Society  
Proposed Capital Budget, 1990-91  
May 21, 1990

	Balance 1 July 90 (Projected)	Income 1990-91 (Projected)	Expense 1990-91 (Projected)	Balance 30 June 91 (Projected)
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
Unallocated Funds	\$ 16,216	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 16,216
Maintenance Fund	7,237	9,000[3]	15,200	1,037
Organ Maint. Fund	3,390	0	0	3,390
Equipment Fund	1,000	900[1]	900	1,000
Anniversary Fund	-1,500	500	0	-1,000
Continuing Accounts	6,380	1,000	3,500[2]	3,880
	<u>\$ 32,723</u>	<u>\$ 11,400</u>	<u>\$ 19,600</u>	<u>\$ 24,523</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Housing Fund	\$ 58,944	\$ 3,600	\$ 0	\$ 62,544
Piano Fund	230	0	0	230
Capital Fund	1,300	1,590	2,890	0
Furniture Fund	160	200	0	360
Memorial Garden Fund	3,198	8,000	4,000	7,198
Advance Pledges	7,077	3,000	6,500[4]	3,577
	<u>\$ 70,909</u>	<u>\$ 16,390</u>	<u>\$ 13,390</u>	<u>\$ 73,909</u>
Commem. Endwmnt Fund	\$ 54,000	\$ 3,000[5]	\$ 6,200[6]	\$ 50,800
Operating Budget	\$ 0	\$209,500	\$209,500	\$ 0
Totals:	<u>\$157,632</u>	<u>\$240,290</u>	<u>\$248,690</u>	<u>\$149,232</u>

Notes:

- [1] Reserve transferred from operating budget.
- [2] Includes expenditure of \$2,500 from special publicity fund.
- [3] Loan, amortization transferred from operating budget.
- [4] Transferred to operating budget.
- [5] Gifts, bequests, and loan repayment from operating budget.
- [6] Loan for roof repairs.

CONDENSED MINUTES FROM CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS 1989/90

MEETING OF OCTOBER 29, 1989

Purpose: to consider resolutions concerning the establishment of a Memorial garden on the church grounds.

1. RESOLVED: that we develop that land to 130 feet west of the Church between the creek and East Genesee St. into a memorial garden for meditation and celebration, and as a place for memorial plantings. This garden will be developed and maintained through gifts specifically made for these purposes.
2. RESOLVED: that we construct as part of the garden an amphitheatre, with seating for approximately 100 people and a small stage, using funds which have already been donated for development of the memorial garden.
3. RESOLVED: that the garden shall be available to members and friends who desire to scatter ashes.
4. RESOLVED: that the garden shall be available to members and friends for interment of ashes in biodegradable containers, without site markers.
5. RESOLVED: that the Board of Trustees recommend to the Congregation at its 1990 annual meeting appropriate constitutional amendments to address issues such as administration, fees and memorialization.

All resolutions were passed.

MEETING OF APRIL 29, 1990

Purpose: to consider two recommendations from the Board of Trustees: (1) replacement of portions of the church roof; and (2) acceptance of a monetary gift from the Gerry Lanier Will for use in developing the memorial garden.

RESOLVED: that the congregation approve the Board's recommendation to repair the roof on the MMUS building by installing insulation on the north side of the lower section and that cedar shake shingles be installed on the north side of the lower section and on the sanctuary.

The resolution was defeated.

MOTION: that we proceed to put architectural quality asphalt shingles on the lower portion of the northeast section of the roof and the sanctuary.

The motion was passed.

MOTION: that insulation be installed on the lower northeast portion of the building.

The motion was defeated.

(A quorum call made it necessary to reconvene the following week.)

MEETING OF MAY 6, 1990 (Reconvening of April 29 meeting)

RESOLVED: that the congregation affirm the Board's recommendation to accept the Lanier gift of \$7000.00 for the Memorial Garden and the conditions therein.

The resolution was passed.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This has been a busy year. We have had three Congregational Meetings and several very long Board meetings, and we even scheduled an extra Board meeting in April to handle a backlog of business. But the important thing is that we have thoughtfully and carefully handled the business at hand.

First of all, I want to thank the Board of Trustees. These people have made my job most enjoyable. I think I can speak for all of us on the Board in saying that we were deeply saddened by the death of Trustee Gerry Lanier, but we were also inspired by his continued commitment and dedication to May Memorial when he wasn't at all well. I also want to thank the Executive Committee--Charlene Kirchoff, Marlene Bortoff, Joyce Ball, and Norma Coye--for their extra meeting time and wisdom, our ministers, Liz and Nick, for their support, and Pat Corson and Carol Lanier for their superb jobs at "running the show" in the office.

Highlights from this past year that have added to the strength of our community include:

\* The MMUS Leadership Retreat - Each fall we have a retreat with members of the Board of Trustees and Religious Education Council and the ministers. Pat and Ray Corson have generously and graciously hosted this retreat at their camp for several years. Attendance has been excellent the past two years so that we have outgrown the space. This fall the retreat will be held at the Thornfield Conference Center.

\* Our dual ministry - It is repeatedly evident what an excellent job the MRE Search Committee did in recommending Liz to our congregation as Liz and Nick complement each other so well in their strengths. I cannot imagine us without two ministers if we are to fully meet the needs of our congregation.

\* The Adult Education Committee - They have been very impressive in their planning; they already have their fall offerings scheduled! The variety of topics being offered are not only fulfilling needs of longer-term members/friends, but, from comments we are hearing, they are helping newer people at MMUS to feel included.

\* The Membership Committee - The Board Liaisons, Calvin Birdsong and Alice Chico, along with Liz have recruited a strong committee and are working to meet the needs of newer people and also of longer-time members/friends. With such an active membership committee, we will surely continue to see benefits.

\* The roof decision - The leakage had been discussed for the four years I've been on the Board. I think a decision was avoided each year because Board members hoped there would be more money in the budget "next year." It was a heart-wrenching decision for many people to vote for asphalt shingles when they desired wood shakes, but we didn't have the money. I do believe we were being financially responsible in the decision that was made.

\* The 1990-1991 Canvass - With 1989 Canvass Director Jack Osborne's suggestion to build a structure where each year we recruit an Assistant Canvass Director to move up to the Director position the next year, we will have much better continuity. The Canvass was very well organized this year--thanks to Jack volunteering to serve as the Canvass Director a second year while we were instituting the new structure and to a dedicated Canvass committee. I believe that the strength of this Canvass was one reason why MMUS members attending the congregational meeting about the roof knew that as much money as was realistically possible was raised in pledges and voted accordingly.

And now for a few disappointments this past year:

\* I am very disappointed that May Memorial does not give its "Fair Share" to the

UUA. With the budget presented tonight, we will be contributing only 60% of our assessment. We are one of the larger congregations in the denomination and we certainly make use of most services offered by the UUA.

\* I foresee more years of tight finances. We seem to have the same disease as our country--wanting lots of services but not being willing to pay for them. I know this observation does not apply to many people in our congregation, but that is the overall reality we are left with.

\* I had hoped to establish a Long-Range Planning Committee with staggered terms this year; however, with our attention to many other issues and since we couldn't even fulfill the top priority recommendations of last year's committee due to tight finances, it wasn't a priority. I believe such a committee should still be established soon to help us deal with our future in a systematic way.

Serving as President for two years has been a very enjoyable and enriching experience. I will remember all the wonderful people with whom I have become better acquainted.

Janet Hiemstra



## PARISH MINISTER'S REPORT

The Unitarian church I attended while in theological school at the University of Chicago was built in true gothic style. But on the walls of the apse on either side of the altar are two bas-reliefs. One (on the left) portrays a cradle; the other (on the right) a coffin, symbolizing the unity of life and death, and the concerns and experience of a religious community -- everything between and including life and death. And so it is and has been with us. Each year we celebrate the cradle as we welcome into life children born to our members and friends -- fifteen such this year. And each year we are also confronted by the coffin with memorial services as we grieve the loss of members and friends of May Memorial. Let me recall their names and memory for us now:

Leon Harrington, Patrick Leary, Marian Schmitz, Gerry Lanier,  
Grafia Deane, and William Weegar.

As in other years we have also shared the sadness of many of our friends who have lost relatives and others who were dear to them. Between the cradle and the coffin let us continue to live our lives caring for each other as best we can in all the ways we know--and hope to learn.

The highlights of this past year's activities and programs have been or will be reported to you tonight or are in the printed reports. And so I will say little about them. But I do want to say a few words about my sabbatic leave. As early as last August, thanks to the diligent work of the Worship Committee, plans for the Sunday morning schedule were just about complete. Then we received regrets from Raja, our minister-intern last year, that due to family and school complications he would not be with us this year as anticipated. With a bit of scrambling and more work by the Worship Committee a revised schedule was successfully put together. And it is clear now that Paula Murray's coordination of that schedule has been as smooth and effective as any we might have expected by Raja, himself. In addition, it has been gratifying to note that Sunday morning worship has been exceedingly well attended.

There was also a hitch in my own schedule. That one proved insurmountable. Some of you will recall that one of my expectations was a trip to Central America. I found an ideal program, through the Center for Global Education, a trip to Nicaragua & Honduras near the end of February. I paid my deposit, and applied for a passport in December. I received it in March. I won't take the time now to tell you all that happened between December and March. But if you can't stand being left in the dark, ask me about it some time. I did get to attend (for the first time) Meadville/ Lombard's Midwinter Institute in Madison, WI. The theme was "Adult Education."

My primary project for the sabbatical -- writing a book -- is progressing well. I don't know why people like myself speak of writing a book. More accurately, I've been writing a manuscript. It won't really be a book unless I find someone willing to publish it. And I haven't begun looking yet because it isn't finished yet. In addition to this project, I have also begun to refine the program for the database we use to maintain the congregation's records in order to make it more "user friendly." I enjoy the challenge and it provides a useful change of pace from "the book." Speaking of a change of pace, one important benefit of a sabbatical is exactly that -- a change of pace. I can't tell you what a delight it has been to go to bed on twenty-three successive Saturday nights without a sermon care in the

world. Actually there were three Saturday nights with sermon-care. I was a pulpit guest in Williamsville, NY, Flint, MI, and Charlottesville, VA. And I must confess that there have been several times when a sermon idea was so urgent I wanted to get into our pulpit that very week. Well, September is coming.

Now, I want to mention a few things that are on my mind about the future. As you know, I have been here for worship a number of times since January. Each Sunday as I looked around during the Social Hour I have been delightfully disconcerted to see so many faces I didn't recognize. In addition there are many of our newest members I have not even met. In order to get caught up and remedy my ignorance Cathy and I plan to schedule a series of "Evenings at Home" in the fall to which we want to invite new-comers and new members, along with a few of our regulars. With our continued steady increase in numbers we will all need to become more creative in our efforts to remain a place where all of us feel at home and related. The spirit and quality of our life together as a religious community is more important than our numbers. And for that reason I hope we can begin to think about and plan for an upper limit to our numbers. There are some of our congregations with 800 or 900, even a 1000+ members. That is not my ambition or ideal for our congregation. But it is you who will need to determine the future. If we wish to set limits to our growth without ceasing to be a welcoming voice for all those who might wish to become Unitarian Universalists, then we need to begin now thinking about ways in which we might seed and encourage the start and growth of a new congregation in another part of the city or county.

One other item for the future is much on my mind. In our blue hymnal "Hymns for the Celebration of Life" published in 1964 is a preface that begins: "Religion is a present reality; it is also an inheritance from the past. *Hymns for the Celebration of Life* is edited in the conviction that a vital faith must be a singing faith and that each generation needs to express itself freshly in its own idiom through song and the spoken word." Much has happened in our lives since those words were written. And as fine as that hymnal was for us then, it has become increasingly inadequate as our spiritual consciousness and insights have evolved. The Hymnbook Commission of our Unitarian Universalist Association is in the process of developing a new hymnal for this generation. We need to begin soon to build a fund that will allow us to replace our old hymnals when the new one is ready.

Finally, I want express my great appreciation for this sabbatical opportunity to you and our Board of Trustees and, for my peace mind during it, to my colleague Liz Strong, and to Carol Lanier, Pat Corson and Paula Murray.

Your, soon-to-be, returning prodigal,

--Nick--

**rites of passage celebrated with the ministers**

Celebrations of Birth

Cory Sutliff	07/16/78
Casey Sutliff	11/18/80
Jonathan Michael Goodman	08/19/87
Leah Aronowsky	02/09/83
Stephanie Rose Heppler	02/29/83
Matthew Aaron Goodman	04/26/88
Jesse Holte Turner	03/13/89
Max Holte Turner	03/13/89
Joseph Gabriel Barnello III	05/31/89
John Benjamin Turner-Frazier	06/03/89
Conor Matthew Branagan	07/03/89
Antonia Danielle Canuso-Rainer	08/03/89
Colleen Rachelle Henry	08/03/89
Anthony Heslin Belletier	08/16/89
Nickolaas Talliesin Briggs-Leeman	12/03/89

The Growing Up Year Celebration, 06/03/90:

Donna Arenson	Jeremiah Meyers
Michael Chico	Jordan Nafie
Ben Colman	Derek O'Neil
Christine Gardner	Robert Spoor
Matthew Kopley	Jared Stafford-Hill
Christina Lister	Jason Malone
Catherine MacKay	Douglas West
Michelle Moro	Angelique Abbott
Adrienne Cook	

Weddings:

Grace Burritt & Kenneth Fagut	07/16/89
Louise Berger & Daniel Peruzzi	07/22/89
Carole Erslev & Peter Woodbury	07/22/89
Nell Matthews & Duane Hardy	07/27/89
Laurie Grainer & Chris Cedarquist	08/12/89
Donna Bauder & Peter Komrowski	11/11/89
Elizabeth Coccia & Philip Bennett	11/25/89
Sandra Del Vecchio & Joel Wagner	11/25/89
Victoria Makrides & Gary Beltrani	11/27/89
Sue Tiffany & Peter Averson	12/01/89
Alice Arneson & Arthur Aylesworth	12/23/89
Carroll Grant & Randy Case	05/19/90

[In addition there were three celebrations of Holy Union]

Lives Celebrated in Memorial Services:

Leon Harrington	06/30/89	Garry Lanier	02/03/90
Patrick Leary	09/16/89	Gratia Deane	04/09/90
Marian Schmitz	01/13/90	William Waegar	04/26/90

## WORSHIP SERVICE THEMES

09/10/89	Happy New Year	Nick/Liz
09/17/89	The Leader's New Clothes	Nick
09/24/89	A Thousand Fricks of Light	Nick
10/01/89	Revolutionary Forgiveness	Nick
10/08/89	When We Prepare	Nick
10/15/89	JERRY	
10/22/89	Born of the Garden	Nick
10/29/89	All Souls Sunday	Liz/Nick
11/05/89	The Lost Rib: The Ultimate Degenderizing	Liz
11/12/89	The Limits of Responsibility	Nick
11/19/89	The Imposter Syndrome	Nick
11/26/89	More Than Trumpets	Nick
12/03/89	The Conservative Core of Liberal Religion	Nick
12/10/89	The Shammus	Nick
12/17/89	A Service of Carols	Allison & MMUS Choir
12/24/89	What's This Love Affair With Christmas?	Nick
12/31/89	Shake Hands With Your Dragon	Liz/Nick
01/07/90	Why Anything?	Liz
01/14/90	The Religious Jefferson	Ray Wasemann
01/21/90	Whose Voices Inform Our Hearts?	Janet Shortall
01/28/90	A Garage Sale of the Mind	David Blanchard
02/04/90	Integration: More Than Black and White	Fred Fiske
02/11/90	Science, Religion, And the Environment	Bill Miller
02/18/90	Certainties, Blessings, & Human Shadows	Marvel P. Duhamel
02/25/90	Voices From Home	Social Responsibilities Cnte.
03/04/90	How Open The Door?	Liz
03/11/90	Suppers, Supports, and Suppositions	Dick Dershimer
03/18/90	Thy (Magic) Kingdom Come	Jack Taylor
03/25/90	Here A Garden Grows	Liz
04/01/90	Living In the Desert Places	Max Coats
04/08/90	Roots & Wings - Intergenerational Service	Liz
04/15/90	Renewal & Re-creation: The Promise of Spring	Liz
04/22/90	Earth Day Sunday	MMUS Members
04/29/90	Making Connections: The Seminary & the Church	Roberta Mitchell
05/06/90	Animal Rights and Wrongs	Rutha DeCoster
05/13/90	A Service of Music	Allison & MMUS Choir
05/20/90	Growing Up and Growing Old	Pat Heertdoerfer
05/27/90	Coming Home	John Maxwell
06/03/90	Growing Up Year Celebration	Liz
06/10/90	Last Sunday (before Summer Services)	Liz/Nick

## MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION'S REPORT

A program of religious education is only as good as the leaders who devote their time and creativity each Sunday morning in the classrooms with our youngsters and youth. The 76 teachers and aides this year deserve to be honored and named. They are:

Carlene Stone	Ellyn Lentz	Lisa Obrist
Kristen Case	Richard Dum	Kenel Antoine
Diane Stone	Beki Biefeld	Julie Daniel
Charlotte Hainsworth	Rick Olanoff	Kevin King
Eddie Jump	Mary O'Neill	Gayle Scroggs
Carol Fellman	Susan Curran	Jill Evans
Nancy Pease	Melissa Swedberg	Alice Chico
Mindi Hajzus	Pat Corson	Michael Stafford-Hill
Carol Cowles	Ray Corson	Anton Ninno
Regina Canuso	Reed Hainsworth	Diane Chappell-Daly
Monica Greenfield	Ignacy Kuczminski	Mary-Lib Whitney
Joelle McAndrew	Bill Miller	Scott Severance
Peggy Ryfun	Kokki Burr	Kathy Haendle
Laurel Kalinoski	Jack Manno	Pete Haendle
Maya Kalinsoki	Cindy Squillace	Lida Black
Grace Burritt	Barb Battista	Winkie Clute
Jody Brown	Monty Berman	Sally Darrow
Sandy Baxter	Gail Hoffman	Judy Swanson
Mardie Ninno	Paul Riede	Liz Strong
Lee Ann McKinney	Judy Jerome	Chuck West
Kathy Lane-Browne	Kristin Rowley	Karen West
Linda Wobus	Tara Gupta	Jeffrey Briggs-Leaman
John Wobus	Lee Murnane	Holly Briggs-Leaman
Julie Thomas	Kathy Biss	Bob Baxter
		Chris Shultz
		Bonnie Nafie

Many parent-helpers completed the list of religious education leadership that took place every Sunday morning from September through June. I thank each and every one of you for your dedication and commitment to our children and youth, and to our excellent program of religious education. This has been an exciting year for me because I have felt more knowledgeable of the program and of my ability to be of help. We have had an excellent staff of teachers, aides and parent-helpers.

This year we have registered 189 children and I count 10 others who attend but who have not registered for a total of 199. Our records are more accurate now because Steve Ransford of the R.E. Council has put the R.E. registrations on his computer. We are still working on improvements and regularizing the registration process.

Our curriculum committee has met and set the curricula for next year. It is, of course, teachers and curricula together that provide our youngsters with a solid R.E. program.

Nursery	Plenty of TLC, paid adult supervisor for child care
Toddlers	Plenty of TLC, play and stories
3 year olds	Growing Times: Rainbows
4 year olds	Growing Times: Windows
Kindergarten	Growing Times: Bridges
1st Grade	The Haunting House
2nd Grade	Centerquest
3rd Grade	Beginning Unitarian Universalism
4th Grade	Why Do Bad Things Happen?
5th Grade	Holidays and Holy Days
6th Grade	How Can I Know What To Believe?
7th Grade	Biblical Jesus/Godspell
8th Grade	The Growing Up Year
9-12th Grade	The Church Across The Street

The Religious Education Council has worked diligently all year assisting me in the operation of the religious education program for our children. I am especially thankful to them, and to Julie Daniel, Chair.

This year's 8th grade "Growing Up Year" class has been strong and regular in attendance and participation. Their trip to Boston, our UUA headquarters, was a highlight. This next year we will try another change in regards to the programming of the About Your sexuality (AYS) classes. We will offer a 7/8th grade class, a 9/10th grade class and a parent/adult class on Sunday evenings beginning in January. The goal is to increase conversation between parents and children and to provide our adults the opportunity to experience this valuable curriculum as individuals and as parents.

We have had a successful program for each of our classes. There are four grades, 1st, 3rd, 4th and 8th whose registrations are 18 or 21 children, and three with registrations below 10. This year there have been 11 Sundays with attendance over 100 (as of 5-13) and an additional 8 over 90 and 9 over 80. This compares as a bit stronger than last year.

I have worked with an excellent Adult Education Committee this year. Phil Klein has served as Chair again this year, and we have begun to get the 'bugs' of a well-organized program smoothed out. We have had a very challenging and well-rounded slate of programs for all three terms during the year. Please read the Adult Education report for details.

The Membership Committee now exists as a committee. This year has been one of organizing the structure and membership of the committee so that the events sponsored by the committee (the Friendship Dinner, the New UU series and the Intergenerational Pot Lucks) have been coordinated well and have been successful from many points of view. We have begun a system of calling all newcomers who ask to be contacted by the Membership Committee. Thank you Pepper Seames for making all of those calls. John Stace is the Chair of the committee and we are in the process of creating more and better means by which to connect our newcomers and members into the life of May Memorial.

I have met regularly with the Care Ring. We have just named Pat Corson and Bob Coyle as co conveners. Don MacKay has served as convener this past year. I have

been very thankful to this committee and the help they have given me in attending to the pastoral care of the congregation. We are presently planning to have a training series next fall to bring new members into the Care Ring. The survey done this spring has increased our lists of people available and willing to be of assistance to others with needs of various kinds.

The Canvass chair, Jack Osborne, and the committee have run an excellent canvass for us this year. The structure of the committee is solid and is committed to putting us on firm financial ground. Some hard and difficult-to-face realities were addressed this year as we learned about the facts of the giving profile of this congregation. We have taken some significant steps towards fiscal responsibility and reality.

I am still active denominationally, as is detailed in the Denominational Affairs report by Alexa Carter. I believe that we here at MMUS can benefit from a stronger connection to the district and the denomination. It has been helpful to the people in the Adult Education programs to learn of our Unitarian Universalist history, theological traditions, and present activity in the larger community.

Locally I am still involved with PEACE CHILD and will lead two weeks of activities at Camp Adelphi this August as part of this commitment. I am involved with Planned Parenthood and RCAR (Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights).

From January through June, while Nick has been on Sabbatical, I have been constantly busy. I have had the opportunity to interact more fully with you, and our level and depth of activity has increased considerably over the past two years. I have appreciated the work of the Worship Committee with Bob Burdick as chair, and of Paula Murray as the guest preachers' coordinator. Thank you!

I still feel it is a privilege to serve as your Minister of Religious Education. The survey on the Dual Ministry has provided me with information about our mutual ministry and how it is developing. It all feels so right! I look forward to our next year together.

Elizabeth Strong

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COUNCIL

"As our children have a right to faith in themselves, a need for the stories of our own heritage and of humankind, and the capacity for wonder at the mystery of being, so we covenant to be a religious family to each other's children, a mutually sustaining community in which their spirits may be nourished and may grow."

Do you recognize these words? This is the covenant that we say in unison at the dedication of a child.

As chairperson of the R.E. Council, I have thought carefully about the meaning of this covenant...what it means to individual members of the congregation...what it means for the R.E. Council as leaders at May Memorial. The term "religious family to each other's children" seems to imply that parents can't do it all...that "a mutually sustaining community" is needed. Seeing the enormity and importance of

the task, the R.E. Council has spent a lot of time this year discussing and planning ways of educating the congregation that "we're all in this together."

The most recent and visible form of this education has been our R.E. Teacher Recruitment Month. During this time, we had an R.E. Fair in which next year's curricula was displayed and teachers were available to answer questions. We circulated a questionnaire to assess the congregation's interest in participating on some level in the children's program. Special articles were written for the newsletter and we had teachers speak each week during announcement time about their experiences teaching. A large tree with leaves naming each teacher volunteer was displayed in our foyer to illustrate our theme of "Roots to Grow, Wings to Soar."

Religious education has become more visible this year as a part of the work of a publicity subcommittee. Classes alternated each month in displaying various themes and the work of the children on a bulletin board downstairs. Our goal next year is to have a similar display upstairs for those who do not make it downstairs on a regular basis. We've also printed two issues of our own newsletter, The Kids' Sheet. Scott Severance has done a commendable job of presenting the Children's words and art in graphic form with Earl Colvin handling our printing at the Printer's Devil. We've also seen interviews with teachers and parents with the added touch of captivating photographs.

Our focus on stewardship has continued as we coordinated the CROP Walk for May Memorial, had a pumpkin auction for UNICEF and once again held a HOP-A-THON for Muscular Dystrophy. We also focussed one of our children's worship services downstairs on the UUSC Guest At Your Table program. Individual classes have taught stewardship through such projects as the fourth grade health kits for earthquake victims and baby kits for Church World Service. Many children brought in mittens for our mitten tree and donated toys, both for Vera House. The fifth graders have done many projects related to ecology and the eighth graders have participated in several service projects for the church as part of their Growing Up Year program.

The R.E. Council recently voted to have a registration fee of \$5 per child starting in the fall of this year. The maximum fee would be \$15 per family and this could be waived if a person or family could not afford it. Our goals in having a registration fee include regulating the attendance on Sunday morning and raising people's consciousness about R.E. in general.

As a council we will continue to keep the religious education program in sharp focus before the entire congregation. We look forward to our enthusiasm becoming so contagious that we have to say, "maybe the following year" to would-be volunteers!

Julie Daniel, R.E. Chair



### ADULT EDUCATION

The Adult Education Committee has had a very productive year. In the fall, nine courses were offered: White Racism - America's Original Sin; Self Awareness; Deliberate Picture-Making with the Camera; Kid's Grief and Support Group; "A Taste Test;" Parents as Resident Theologians; Couples Enrichment Workshop; Parenting Young Children; and Bereavement Workshop.

The winter and spring semesters were also very active. In winter, six courses were offered, with only one failing to get a sufficient registration. They were: How Open the Door?: Ethics in America Series; I Love the Music but I Don't Know Why; The World of Ideas; General Assembly Resolution Discussions; and Talking with Your Kids about Aids (insufficient registration).

Finally, in the spring section, four courses were offered: Owning Your Religious Past; Gardening Series; Leadership Training and Great Decisions.

Approximately 225 people participated in the adult education classes. The modest fees collected enabled us to buy a beautiful new 25" Magnavox television set.

The fall program is all set and looks very exciting. A flyer with course descriptions will be out at the beginning of the church year. Registration for fall courses will be held on September 16 and 23.

Persons serving on the Adult Education committee during the past year were: David Ashley, Joyce Ball, Elma Boyko, Norma Coyo, Ron Herrgesell, Muriel Kirkpatrick, George Lee, Paula Murray, Liz Strong and Phil Klein, Chair.

Phil Klein

### PUBLICITY

The main effort of the Publicity Committee was to promote the annual Christmas Tree Sale. Several weeks of advertisements were placed in the Syracuse Newspaper and selected weeklies. "The Wisdom of the Dream" series, held in May, was also publicized through a variety of channels.

Elaine Learch

### SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Social Responsibility Committee met regularly during this past year. Our meetings included, over the course of the year, representatives from other related and interested groups in our church. We continued our on-going dialogue regarding the kind of committee we want to be. We served as a channel for organizations looking for support, sponsorship, or participation in their programs, hearing from the Syracuse Area Media Network (SAMN) and from Syracuse Area Interreligious Council (SAIC). We agreed to provide a forum for SAMN'S program on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and for SAIC'S Amerasian refugee resettlement program.

We put on a summer evening session on a new perspective on the drug scene.

In the winter we conceived and sponsored, with all sub-committees participating, a Sunday service, "Voices from Home," which looked at the feelings of home in a world where too many are homeless.

Currently, we are moving ahead on a shopping bag project, with the help of Mary-Lib Whitney. Our tentative considerations for the coming year include a UU curriculum on "Sexism and Peacemaking," a video and discussion on households for a "new environment," and attention to the experience of Viet Nam veterans.

Monty Berman, Coordinator

### SANCTUARY

The MMUS Sanctuary Committee continues to be active in Syracuse Covenant Sanctuary. Syracuse Covenant Sanctuary is in the process of gearing up to bring another Central American family to Syracuse. MMUS Sanctuary Committee members Cathy Cardell and Vicky Schipper journeyed to the Texas Rio Grande Valley last July to witness Central American refugee conditions there. Many people from May Memorial were wonderfully supportive of this trip. May Memorial people also continue to lend financial support to Syracuse Covenant Sanctuary. Thank you all for your efforts.

Cathy Cardell

### BUILDING CLUSTER

#### BUILDING & GROUNDS

We're struggling along without Gerry's dedicated attention. He is sorely missed. Below is a list of the most noteworthy improvements.

Electrical installation finished under the supervision of David Ashley.  
 Al Obrist has milled out specs on roof replacement.  
 Twelve people helped with numerous outside projects, new casters on the upright piano, caulking, and welding broken pew frames.  
 Rugs in the foyer and teen room were replaced.  
 Al Obrist has worked on toilets and sinks.  
 A survey was made for the Memorial Garden Committee.  
 Vicky Moon mended the rug in the foyer.  
 Motor and several other components were replaced in one of the furnaces.

Charles Hannah

#### AESTHETICS

The Aesthetics Committee is concerned with interior and exterior decor and furnishings of our building and changes that are requested during the year.

This past year we concerned ourselves with several projects, among them, the replacement of the bulletin boards and a recommendation for replacing the worn carpets in the foyer and teen room. We also assisted the Board appointed roof committee with selection of a new asphalt shingle to replace the worn out cedar shakes.

We expect to continue our involvement in the aesthetics of our building in the coming year.

David Ashley, Norma Coye, Bob Coye

### GALLERY

The focus of our gallery shows is to exhibit the work of local known and unknown, shown and unshown artists from the University and public sector, and to provide community service by giving space to local art guilds.

This past year our shows ranged from weavings by members of the Syracuse Weavers' Guild to works by individual artists working in various media including lithography, woodcuts and oil.

A recognized goal of galleries is to present uncensored work and to support the artistic freedom of expression. This year has tested these basic ideas in their various forms including content, means of presentation, timing, and response of the members and friends of May Memorial. We thank all for their input, tolerance and acceptance of the various difficulties of maintaining the concept of our gallery.

Carol Lanier & Kristin Rowley

### DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

Liz Strong has been very involved this past year in the workings of our denomination. She has served in the following capacities.

--President of the Iroquois Chapter of the St. Lawrence District UU Ministers' Assoc. and LREDA 10/86-10/89.

--President LREDA (Liberal Religious Educators' Assoc.) 6/89-6/91.

--Member of the UUA Curriculum Team on Unitarian Universalism 1983-1992.

--Board Member of the NYS Universalist Theological Foundation 5/90-5/93.

--Member Meadville/Lombard Theological School Board of Trustees 12/89-12/95

All of these contacts serve to keep May Memorial a part of the larger organization of our denomination.

Nick Cardell has served on the Fellowship Committee of the UUA for the past eight years, four as chair. He has recently left this position. He has also been a member of the SLUUD committee to select the Josephine Gould Discoursant.

The 1989 General Assembly was held in New Haven, Connecticut and Muriel Kirkpatrick, Jean Hofer, Liz Strong, and Nick Cardell served as our delegates. Delegates are approved by the board and vote on behalf of May Memorial during the General Assembly. This year's GA is scheduled for Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 21-26. We still have openings for delegates.

Representatives of May Memorial have been active on the district (SLUUD) level also. Don MacKay has served as secretary on the district Religious Education Committee and as a member of the planning committee for Eagles (Eastern Great Lakes Leadership School). He served as a staff member in this year's one week training session held at Thornfield Conference Center in Cazenovia.

Our SLUUD organization held a mini-conference at Cortland in November 1989. Alexa Carter served as our delegate to the planning session, Don MacKay and John Chamberlin acted as presenters at the conference and Muriel Kirkpatrick, Sarah Auchincloss, Liz Strong and Mary-Lib Whitney all attended the conference. 1990's conference is scheduled to be held in Auburn in November. Everyone is invited to take part.

During January and February 1990 three Resolution Breakfasts were held to discuss issues upon which the UUA was seeking input. Topics included Strengthening United Nations, Protecting Our Children by Limiting Population Growth and Inner City Youth. Our suggestions and reactions were forwarded to the UUA.

MMUS-FUSS, our contact committee with First Universalist, is served by Betsy Fuller and Hank Manwell. This past year saw two joint services, the ordination of Pat Hoertdoerfer and the installation of David Blanchard. We hope to increase our contacts in the coming year.

The annual SLUUD meeting was held in Toronto May 4-6 with "Richness in Diversity" as the theme. Muriel Kirkpatrick served as our representative. Liz Strong announced at this meeting that Dick Gilbert of Rochester will be giving the Josephine Gould presentation at the 1990 conference. First Universalist of Syracuse will be hosting the 1990 SLUUD conference.

May Memorial also actively supports the Ministerial Internship program by inviting interns to our church and contributing financially to this program. "The Wisdom of the Dream" film series held here in May helped to raise money for this program. Janet Shortall, a member of May Memorial studying for ministry, will do her internship at First Universalist of Syracuse in 1990-91.

Alexa Carter

## FINANCE CLUSTER

### FINANCE COUNCIL

The Finance Council meets the first Tuesday of each month to discuss financial matters to be presented, discussed or action recommended at the next MMUS Board meeting. Cash flow planning, budget problems and decisions on investments are made at these meetings.

Peter Coleman

### ANNUAL CANVASS

The final result of our 1990/91 canvass effort was \$160,905. There may still be some small amounts which are yet to be received from our continuing follow-up efforts, but for closure, we will adopt this number as our final result.

As a measure of success, the \$160,905 amount pledged represents 89.4 percent of our \$180,000 goal.

Several goals which the committee established at the outset were successfully achieved. These included the following:

- establishing an on-going canvass organizational structure so as to lend continuity to the task from one year to the next.
- establishing a method to shorten the canvassing time period to about 3 weeks rather than 5 or 6 weeks.
- recruit a significant quantity of "financially committed" canvassers to work at raising the general pledge level.
- create a positive congregational spirit about the canvass process and toward higher levels of contributing.

Jack Osborne

### CAPITAL FUND

The total amount pledged as a result of the 1986 campaign was \$38,308.30. As of April 30, 1990, the fund stood as follows:

Total receipts	\$34,237
Expenditures	<u>32,168</u>
Balance	\$ 2,069

The one obligation of the fund is the mortgage on the lot, for which the total of remaining payments (through February 1991) is \$4,335. Against this we have:

Current balance	\$ 2,069
Outstanding balance	<u>4,071</u>
Total	6,140

which leaves an eventual surplus of \$1,805 if pledges are completely realized. Although all pledges were due by December 31, 1988, we are not surprised that some are yet unpaid, and we do continue to receive payments. Unfortunately, recent payments have been very limited, and there is some question whether we can expect enough additional money to cover the mortgage on the lot. We plan a special effort in the fall to impress those with pledges yet outstanding to contribute at least enough to finish the mortgage.

Ernest Sibert

#### PLANNED GIVING

In our fiscal year of 1989-90, we have received commitments to our unrestricted Memorial Endowment Fund totaling about \$7,000 in new bequests.

During the same period, Gifts in Memoriam have totaled over \$500. As a result of these gifts the following names will be added to our Memorial Tablet

Gratia Deane  
Leon Harrington  
Gerald Lanier

In order to bring our report of Endowment funds realized (cash) up to date and in balance with our Treasurer's records, we are now including two figures not previously reported; ie., a balance of about \$7,000 from an endowment fund that was in hand as of 1984 but not included in our first report of 1985, plus a little over \$5,000 in interest earned and credited to the Fund over the past five years, not previously reported. As a result of these corrections, our cash Endowment Fund is now about \$53,000.

Confirmed bequests and trusts (future expectations) now total about \$159,000, which means the Fund can expect a total of about \$212,000 at some long time future date.

John Chamberlin

#### MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

During this past year a separate and restricted Memorial Garden Fund has been created by designated contributions, gifts in memory of Dick Cressey and Gerry Lanier, and by Gerry's specifically designated bequest, recently accepted by the congregation. The current balance of this special fund is approximately \$4,600 in contributions received to date, plus the bequest of \$7,000.

John Chamberlin

#### HOSPITALITY CLUSTER

##### SUNDAY ADULT POTLUCK

Sunday Adult Potluck continues to provide the opportunity for newcomers and regulars to enjoy feast and fellowship. Hosts entertain at home or MMUS, whichever is more convenient.

Gerri Aird

MEMBERSHIP CLUSTER

The Membership Cluster, with Calvin Birdsong and Alice Chico as Board liaisons, was busy this year. With the help and encouragement of Liz Strong, we found a chair (John Stace) and formed a committee which has actually supported the activities mandated by the committee's charge.

The Friendship Dinner and three Intergenerational potlucks were well attended. Two potlucks coincided with a session of New UU, which presented a good opportunity for folks who were interested in our Society to socialize with MMUS "regulars."

Both New UU Sessions were well attended. Discussion was always lively and informative. One Adult Education session of "Owning Your Religious Past" followed a UU course, thus providing an interesting exploration of the participants' journey to Unitarian Universalism. This sequencing will be tried again next year.

Muggers were well organized by Pepper Seames. She also took on the job of communicating by phone with newcomers who request phone contact when they sign the Visitor's Book. Board members continued to call new members to welcome them to MMUS.

Helen Obrist continued as Historian. Chris Shultz again took on the job of Registrar.

We are encouraged by the renewed interest in creating an active New-comers/members committee, and will continue to nurture our congregation with dinners, and with the creation of literature about the Society which can be used to introduce us to all who ask.

Alice Chico, Calvin Birdsong

CARE RING

Care Ring was organized to expand our congregation's ability to support members, friends, and their families who are experiencing difficult times in their lives. This year we have offered support through home, hospital, and nursing home visits, transportation to medical appointments, meals, emergency child care, phone calls, and help with memorial service receptions. Over twenty members of the congregation responded to the survey offering to assist the Care Ring in providing support to our MMUS community. Because of a high level of interest, Care Ring plans to expand its membership by offering a training session in the fall called "How Can I Help."

Pat Corson and Bob Coye

RELIGIOUS SERVICESWORSHIP

The Worship Committee met monthly from November 1989 to June 1990. Some members continued from last year; others replaced those who left. In a general way, members on the Committee represent various backgrounds of worship experience. Current roster: Dave Ashley, Board Liaison; Paula Murry, Sabbath coordinator; Sandy Carmichael, Helen Cressey, Joyce Droege, Jean Hofer, Dan Reiman, Phil Klein, Rob Spaulding (Rob has just moved to Connecticut).

The Committee's first responsibility has been to review the Sunday Morning worship services, and share their impressions with Nick and Lix. Concerns and recommendations by congregation members and RE members were also discussed.

During Nick's sabbatical it has been the responsibility of the Committee, with Paula as central coordinating person, to assist worship leaders and guest speakers with the details of morning programs. Making sure all parts of the worship service were well covered, and appropriate people were alerted to their role in the event. (Our customary worship procedure was usually followed, but it could be modified at the discretion of the guest speaker.)

Bob Burdick

### MUSIC

This year has seen the choir grow from a group of about thirty to as many as forty, which puts us at the effective capacity of the choir loft, and also leaves us with too few copies of most anthems to go around. We manage nonetheless, sometimes at considerable expense for duplicating.

Although not so full as the 150th anniversary year just past, this has been a busy time. The Christmas service featured a variety of seasonal carols and anthems, including a set of Alfred Burt carols and "Lord of the Dance" by David Willocks. The spring music service consisted primarily of the Requiem, Op. 9, of Maurice Duruflé, accompanied by organ and chamber orchestra, with baritone solos by Ken Pease and one movement sung by mezzo sopranos of the choir. Several in attendance thought this the best work they had heard from the MMUS choir. During the course of the year the choir also participated in the installation of David Blanchard as minister of FUSS, with the FUSS choir, singing "The Promise of Living" by Aaron Copland. The choir also participated in the ordination of Patricia Hoertdoerfer by MMUS.

Besides music for services the choir presented its usual informal program of Christmas music at the Everson Museum, and was the only church choir invited to do so, as we understand. The choir also sang for one wedding and for one memorial service (with orchestra).

The music program should finish the year within its budget of \$1,850, which includes instrument maintenance, but does so only because of a special (and anonymous) contribution which was used to defray expenses for the Duruflé. We have begun to accumulate a fund for major repairs to the organ, which will be needed in about five years. Unfortunately, the present very stringent budgets make no provision for enlarging the fund. The goal is \$12,000 (in 1985 dollars), and we urge that future budgets provide for reaching it.

Some three dozen people contributed music to services as soloists or instrumentalists, perhaps a third of those belong to the choir as well. Space precludes listing them all here, but two people must be thanked more fully: One is Jane Louise William, who has provided many delightful preludes, offertories, and postludes on the piano. The other is Dr. Katharine Pardee, organist of Hendricks Chapel, who not only accompanied the Duruflé Requiem but also played at several rehearsals to help the choir master that very demanding composition. That she unexpectedly found herself playing at the opposite end of the sanctuary from choir and orchestra, yet managed a difficult part, is a tribute to her skill and courage, and to Allison's conducting.

We conclude with a special note of appreciation for the efforts of our music director, Dr. Allison Evans Henry. These include playing for services, rehearsing and conducting the choir throughout the year, of course, but also preparing

musical arrangements, writing descants for hymns, organizing special music services, and all this while devoting much time to caring for two small daughters and taking an active role in the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists, managing the Poister Competition among other efforts.

Ernest Sibert

### AFFILIATED COMMITTEES

#### FOOD CLUB

The MMUS Food Club has continued to enable church members and friends to buy natural and organic foods in bulk. We have placed three orders this past year, with an average total order of \$2250 and between 25 and 30 families buying. With each order we have contributed peanut butter to the Homeless and Hungry Committee. We have also made a \$50 donation to the church. A copy of our annual financial report is available from the treasurer.

Joyce Ball

#### UUs FOR LESBIAN AND GAY CONCERNS

One of the main functions of UULGC continues to be outreach. We get phone calls and letters from Lesbians and Gay men from all over New York state, looking for support, friendship or someone to perform unions. The UU church provides an important resource for people whose religions have rejected them, but who still feel the need for a spiritual community. This year we have also begun a series of informal monthly potlucks at the church, and plan to attend concerts, plays, etc. as a group. Since most Syracuse groups have a strong political base, we felt it was important to keep our focus more on social occasions.

Scott Severance, Mary-Lib Whitney

#### FOURTH FRIDAYS

The Fourth Friday group continued to meet each month, except in November and December, for those available during the daytime, particularly retired people. We have had a slide presentation on Africa by Al Obrist, a sharing of slides & pictures on Elderhostels, reminiscences by Dorothy Ashley on her father's carriage business, recollections by Joyce Ball of growing up in MMUS, and The Memorial Garden videotape. We will close the year with slides and a talk by Verah Johnson on Pakistan, and a picnic at the Corson's camp. The group is small but fulfills a real social need for the older members of the congregation.

Joyce Ball

#### UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SERVICE COMMITTEE

Our congregation continues to respond to the needs and concerns of persons seeking justice and community improvement throughout the world. By generously contributing to the UUSC holiday card sales (\$500) and the "Guest at Your Table" boxes (\$250) we support technical assistance and community development efforts sponsored by UUSC in eighteen countries.

As the UUSC local representative I participate on the Social Responsibilities Committee and helped plan the Sunday service addressing homelessness. UUSC is



doing an increasingly effective job of sending out "Action Alerts" encouraging congregations to write and call Congresspersons about pressing international and federal issues and I have been placing that information in our MMUS newsletter. And finally, a growing number of our congregation are joining UUSC and receiving a wealth of material on social issues directly from Boston.

Peter Knoblock

### UNIRONDACK

Unirondack, our beautiful camp-conference center in the Adirondacks, has had an eventful year. Spring 1989 found us struggling to overcome major plumbing problems. With much help from MMUS members and others in the district these difficulties were overcome. Summer of 1989 provided great camping to Children and Families. We have hired an exciting new Director for Summer of 1990. Dan Gottfried is hiring a fantastic staff for this summer and aiming at continuity for the camp's future. Jane McArthur was appointed to the Unirondack Board of Trustees in February 1990 to fulfill a term until June 1990. She has been nominated for a full term from June 1990-June 1993. Currently she serves as Rental Chair. MMUS has had successful camping weekends at Unirondack in Fall '89 and Spring '90. MMUS members continue to contribute their time and talents to the camp. Thanks to Melissa and Bob Swedberg, new stage curtains were installed on the Unirondack stage.

Jane McArthur

### WOMEN'S MORNING GROUP

The Women's Morning Group meets monthly at the homes of its members for dessert and a program on the third Wednesday. All women who are free in the daytime are very welcome to come. Our average attendance is 12 people. Our purpose is to learn more about church and community problems and to be a service arm of May Memorial.

Our Christmas Bazaar earnings, with the help many church members and friends, helped us allocate money to the following:

Planned Parenthood (\$75); U.U. Association (\$50); U.U. Service Committee (\$75); Vera House (\$100); MMUS Campership (\$50); Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights (\$50); Homeless & Hungry (\$50); Church Landscaping (\$100)

Our service programs included baking and distributing 30 cans of homemade cookies at Christmas time, helping with 3 Memorial Services, and assisting with a kitchen inventory. A special program was our Salad Luncheon on Sat., March 10th for all church women which gave all of us a chance for a wider fellowship.

Dorothy Jorgensen

### THE QUESTION MART

After many years without a bookstore, the May Memorial congregation saw the opening in November, 1989, of the Gift Shop which became "The Question Mart" in January, 1990, and a real bookstore in May. With Board of Trustees' blessing and a \$300 line of credit, the committee (Don MacKay and Adele Toney) began operation with a few books and a lot of gift items just in time for the holiday season. Most sales have been through catalog orders.

In a very close election for a name, "The Question Mart" (extra "U" courtesy of Carol Lanier) won out over "May Mart." The grand opening prize, a sterling silver flaming chalice bookmark, went to Charlie White. In May our order finally (after 6 months) finally came in from the UUA Bookstore, making "The ? Mart" a bookstore for real.

The committee extends special thanks to Bob Marshall for his donation of many high-quality Visual Encyclopedia maps and indexes. Thanks, too, to our many enthusiastic and patient customers. We will turn over a modest "profit" to the MMUS budget.

Plans for next year include expanding our book inventory and solving our storage/display problems.

Don MacKay