

# SUUSI Worship

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

Our theme of NEIGHBORS is an exciting one for our Daily Ingatherings with theme talks in the mornings (9:00 am–9:45 am) and Worship Services in the evening (9:00 pm–9:45 pm). It brings to mind not only our NEIGHBORS in other countries or ancient civilizations, but also our theological NEIGHBORS. In a recent letter Rev. John Buehrens reflected on the challenges of interfaith cooperation and how vitally important this work is. We hope to address many ways in which we are NEIGHBORS.

Finally, we want to encourage our clergy to be with us at SUUSI too. Let your ministers know about us. Those who are interested can contact Phyllis McCafferty at (804) 321-1550 for more information. It is a great opportunity for us to be NEIGHBORS to each other. See you at SUUSI 2000!



## Daily Ingathering

Every morning (Monday-Friday) from 9:00 am–9:45 am, a denominational leader will share with us a personal interpretation of this year's theme: NEIGHBORS. It is a wonderful way to greet our busy, fun-filled day and each other. **Note:** This past SUUSI, the youth staff conducted a survey with the children and the youth candidly said they didn't wish to attend the Daily Ingatherings. They felt it took them away from their programs for too long. We surely appreciate this feedback and we want everyone to maximize their fun at SUUSI. So, the youth will not be with us at our Daily Ingatherings and we will spend time with them in other venues.

## Worship Services

Join us each evening (Monday-Friday) for a worship service based on our theme: NEIGHBORS. The worship services on Monday-Thursday will be from 9:00 pm–9:45 pm and Friday's service will be held outdoors (weather permitting) at 10:00 pm.



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## Daily Ingathering Schedule (Mornings)

**Monday:** “Who is my NEIGHBOR?” Inspired by Merriam–Webster, the New Testament, and her own experience as a tenant in a 24-unit apartment building, Patricia Lynn Reilly, M.Div., will introduce SUUSI’s theme. She invites us to begin our exploration of the question from a personal perspective. Patricia is a UU from Berkeley, CA and is a talented speaker and author.

**Tuesday:** “Honoring our Indigenous Neighbors: Pluralism vs. Acculturation” Often we find enduring truths in the religious traditions of indigenous cultures. In our effort to lift up these truths, how do we honor the peoples and cultures from which they come? How do we see the sacred as a whole, and not simply take the pieces we like and fit them into our own way of being? The Rev. Dr. Kristen L. Harper, the minister at the UU Society of the Daytona Beach Area, will help us ponder these questions.

**Wednesday:** “NEIGHBORS” For the next several generations all humans will be engaged, consciously or otherwise, in redefining themselves and their neighbors. It is and will continue to be our task to be leaders in that mighty challenge. Are we up to it? Rev. David Hicks MacPherson is a retired UU minister and the Minister Emeritus at the First Unitarian Church in Richmond, VA.

**Thursday:** “Ancient Echoes for Mother Earth” Rev. Gail Tapscott, who has worked in the environmental movement, will present a talk on how learning from Native Americans and other indigenous cultures can increase our ecological awareness. She will suggest that this is an area where our personal spiritual development and our outward social justice work can come together seamlessly. Rev. Tapscott is the minister of the UU Church of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

**Friday:** “Stories of God and NEIGHBORS around the World” Come hear our UUA President, Rev. John Buehrens, tell about his experiences interrelating with other religious leaders around the world. We have much to learn as we move towards being better theological NEIGHBORS.



## Worship Service Schedule (Evenings)

**Monday:** “Who Are Our NEIGHBORS?” After a day of reflection on the theme, Patricia Lynn Reilly invites SUUSI participants to explore the question: Who are our NEIGHBORS? from historic, theological, geographical, and technological perspectives. In this interactive service, we will create a word-collage of responses to SUUSI’s theme. Patricia is a UU from Berkeley, California, and is a talented worship leader and author.

**Tuesday:** “Engaging with Pluralism” People of many religious traditions bear witness to the truth, the transcendence, the universality, the uniqueness, and the distinctive beauty of what they have known and seen. How does the understanding of others reshape our self-understanding as members of a liberal faith? We know from human experience that the reformulation of our self-understanding happens constantly in interpersonal relations, but how does it happen in interfaith relations? Rev. Abhi Janamanchi is currently the parish minister at the UUs of Clearwater, Florida. Abhi is a native of India where he was a member of the Brahmo Samaj, a liberal Hindu reform movement, which has close ties with UUism.

**Wednesday:** “Am I my Sister’s Keeper?” Rev. Chester McCall will explore the meaning of NEIGHBORS and community in a diverse, multiracial, and multicultural context. He is the minister of All Souls Church UU, an intentional multiracial, multicultural, diverse and antiracist faith community in Durham, North Carolina.

**Thursday:** “Crossing Over” Alane Cameron Miles will lead our annual ceremony honoring life’s transitions. She will be using the theme of bridges—from Babylon to Brooklyn. Alane is a Chaplain for the Crater Community Hospice in Colonial Heights, Virginia.

**Friday:** “Honoring all our NEIGHBORS” All living beings on this planet are our NEIGHBORS—the trees, the plants, the four legged creatures, and those that swim, crawl and fly. Join Carole Eagleheart and friends for a worship experience of chanting, drumming, and dancing in an earth centered spirituality circle.



## SUUSI Nightlife

... *And you thought it was tough to pick workshops!*

How do you top off a wonderful and busy day of workshops and outdoor activities? You **party hard!** We have so much available each night that you'll wish you could be in more than one place at a time. The typical SUUSI evening starts off shortly after dinner with Concert Hour, featuring a performance by a nationally touring artist.

Then SUUSI Nightlife kicks into full-gear around 10:00 pm. Nightly offerings include dancing at Serendipity (alcohol permitted) and CACHE (Clean Air Clear Heads Everyone, alcohol-free), plus good listening to music and stories at Cabaret, a talent show with SUUSI participants. There are some excellent professional entertainers, as well as new talent. There's always a casual place to meet and share a drink and conversation (the Conversation Room). The surprise hit of 1999, the Common Ground Cafe coffee house, is back by popular demand.

**Serendipity:** *The* dance party for the over twenty-one crowd. Shake your booty well into the night! Our DJ will play a variety of music ranging from disco to country, and rock 'n roll to show-tunes. The atmosphere is festive and everyone gets to dance, dance, dance! Bring a cued-up tape or CD for special requests.

**CACHE** - Clean Air Clear Heads Everyone! This is the dance party for everyone fourteen years and up, who loves to dance in an alcohol- and smoke-free room. The musical emphasis is on dance music from the modern day club scene. The folks at CACHE did the macarena way before the folks at Serendipity did! No doubt, next year's Serendipity dance trend will originate at this year's CACHE. If you like to dance like you mean it, this is the place to be! Bring a cued-up tape or CD for special requests.

**Conversation Room:** Adjacent to the Cabaret performance room, with a fully stocked bar and snacks. This room is available for relaxation and conversation throughout the evening for those twenty-one and over.

**Common Ground:** A new addition to SUUSI Nightlife last year, the Café has developed a life of its own! This space is available for relaxation and conversation throughout the evening for those fourteen years old and over. In the tradition of a true coffee house, coffee, tea, pastries and soft drinks will be available, artwork will be displayed and short performances and/or poetry readings will be scheduled. Please bring games (chess, monopoly, playing cards, etc.) to share with others. If you'd like to participate in developing our Café further, or have any ideas, please contact Arpie Maros (908) 232-8723 or [ahrre@aol.com](mailto:ahrre@aol.com) Your help and input will be very much appreciated.

**Cabaret:** SUUSI's very own intergenerational talent showcase. If you want to perform or to see some of your SUUSI friends perform, this is the place to be. The standard set is 10 minutes (or 2 songs) long.

We will start the SUUSI week off with "Open Mic" on Sunday evening. Open Mic is the period at Cabaret that **anybody** can have about 10 minutes to show the world their stuff. Those who perform well will be invited to come back and perform different pieces later in the week. Want to perform on Sunday night? Check in at the Nightlife table during Registration on Sunday afternoon.

Every other evening we will have Main Acts appearing at Cabaret. Main Acts are performers who have previously demonstrated their great talents. These include acts like Relative Viewpoint, Alan Keith, David Shucavage, Pete Leary, Sharon Robles, Alexis Jones, Sue Folk, Dave Krokowski, Bill and Lorain Harouff, Bo Chagnon, and others too numerous to mention. Appearances by favorite SUUSI performers will take place

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throughout the week. Each night's schedule will be posted by lunch time in a central place.

We will again wrap up the week with Jamboree on Friday night. This is when two or more musical entities who have never before appeared together on the Cabaret Stage agree to play together for the first time (and hopefully create the same music...). It's a night for great fun and innovation.

The response to having Dry Cabaret each night was well received and will continue. Cabaret welcomes all

performing talent. Every night, we plan to have the first hour of Cabaret "dry" (no alcohol in the room with the performance), so all ages can participate as performers and audience members. In addition, one or two evenings will be designated as dry for the entire evening.

Plan to experience another great year of performers in the Cabaret setting. Suggestions and comments can be made to Rob Lieb at [lieb@netfox.net](mailto:lieb@netfox.net) or by phone at (410) 671-6611

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## Concert Hour

Concert Hour takes place every evening, Monday through Thursday, right after dinner, on the main stage. Each night a different artist or ensemble will be featured. This year, headliners will include two professional singer-songwriters touring the country, and both are a real treat for the SUUSI community!



**Monday:** Bill and Lorain Harouff are UU folk singers from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. They've been SUUSI regulars since the late 1980s, playing at Cabaret and leading their popular workshop "Early-Afternoon Late-Night." They prefer to think of their programs as "sharing"

rather than "performing." Each song, whether serious or humorous, examines some facet of the human experience and hopefully evokes a response on the part of the listener. They travel widely throughout the Eastern US, presenting musical worship services and concerts at UU churches.

**Tuesday:** A two-time National Songwriter Competition finalist at the South Florida Folk Festival, Peggy Bertsch is a writer of intelligent lyrics. She captures your imagination and touches your heart in her musical stories. When you go to see Michelangelo's David at the Galleria dell' Accademia in Florence, you first pass through another room containing some of his other works, like "il Prigione" (The Prisoner), where the figure is only partly visible, much of it still encased in a block of stone. And you



see what Michelangelo meant when he said that he wasn't the one creating something out of the stone; instead he believed the figure was already inside, and all he needed to do was chip away the outside, to reveal what was hiding within... You can listen to Peggy's *Hiding in the Stone* on her website at <http://songs.com/pegb>.

**Wednesday:** David Nachmanoff has been performing for large crowds since he was nine years old. In his most-requested song, "Kindred Spirits," he captures the moment of singing with



Elizabeth Cotton at age 10. Growing up in the folk-enriched milieu of the Washington, D.C. area, Dave was exposed to a variety of musical traditions and was inspired by the way Seeger and Guthrie were able to involve people, to get them singing along. He is a remarkably diverse writer, penning songs that are readily adapted to both electric and acoustic con-

texts and that span many musical genres. A frequent performer at festivals across the country, he was chosen as a finalist at the South Florida Folk Festival National Songwriter Competition four years running. David will charm you, delight you, entertain you, and involve you! You can visit his official website at <http://www.page27.co.uk.dave/vladbio.htm>.

**Thursday:** The traditional close to the Concert Hour will be a performance by our own SUUSI Ensemble. If you are interested in performing with this group, please contact Debbie Langrock at 727-784-6597.