

Will this be your first SUUSI?

Welcome! We're glad you're planning to join us.

Every year, there are 300-400 people who are attending SUUSI for the first time. SUUSI is an intentional community. We gather in a nice place - but we meet there because of the people. We get recharged and energized by our time together. This is a community where we choose to welcome new people. In our circle, we'll include you in - we won't vote you off the island.

Several activities are planned to help you get acquainted and quickly feel like you're part of our large family. Take the campus tour Sunday afternoon after you complete Registration, and attend the Newcomers Reception on Monday afternoon to be welcomed officially by the SUUSI Board and Staff.

In planning your week at SUUSI, leave space to relax and reflect. It is common for first-year folks to over schedule. This is easy to understand—there are so many wonderful things to do! But, it isn't necessary to do it all this year. Save something for SUUSI 2002 and beyond.

If you have any questions while reading this catalog or before coming to SUUSI, please contact Catherine Ring at (703) 754-8191 (info@suusi.com) or the Registration/Housing Wizard, Roz Massel, at (770) 493-8385 (registration@suusi.com)

General Information

The Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute (SUUSI) is an intentional community of UUs (Unitarian Universalists) and others. It's a great family experience, with workshops and nature trips and music and spirit and other activities that build relationships with new and old friends!

We gather annually for a week in July to explore our interconnectedness, to learn new ways of seeing our world and each other, to delight in the joys of sharing outdoor adventures, and to develop new insights and perspectives. Special programs for Youth, Teens, and Young Adults make it a full experience for all members of a family.

For SUUSI 2001, we'll be on the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg again. Last year we told you there were "plenty" of air-conditioned rooms in the new dorms. Well, there are... and maybe this year we'll be able to get them all committed to SUUSI as planned. The dorms have small lounges that help us make connections with our neighbors during the week of July 22-28 when we're together.

We will be surrounded by the forest-covered Blue Ridge mountains and near the majestic New River. Blacksburg offers bookstores, coffee shops, music stores, and all the other "necessities" at the edge of the campus, a short walk away from the SUUSI activities.

From the SUUSI Director

One of our UU principles reminds us that we are but a part of the interdependent web of all existence. We often forget this in our desire to be comfortable, to have more money, to have more free time for ourselves. But it is an important concept that we should keep at the top of our thoughts when we are making decisions.

It doesn't take long to put that paper in a recycling bin instead of the trash. It doesn't cost much extra to buy products whose usefulness has been proven without unnecessary harm to our animal co-inhabiters of Earth. It takes a bit more effort to get rid of those dandelions in our yards by digging instead of herbicide. But what a difference in the world if everyone simply thought about the consequences of taking the easy way out!

In our UU heaven-on-Earth that we call SUUSI, we take the time to explore some of those consequences. We have workshops that enlighten us to what is happening in our world. We have Nature trips that take us into the wild and show us first hand where we live and what it is we want to pass down unspoiled to our children and grandchildren. We have worship services and theme talks that include respect for the Earth and its creatures. We plan experiences for our young people designed to teach them to consider the value of our world. We enjoy our own bodies with dance, food, exercise, music, (this list is inexhaustible!) We do all of this in the context of respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence.

Come and join us!
Dee Medley, SUUSI Director

Getting to SUUSI in Blacksburg

Blacksburg is 40 miles southwest of Roanoke, four hours from Richmond, and three hours from Charlotte, NC if driving by car. Take Exit 118 (Christiansburg) from Interstate 81 onto US 460 West. It should take about 15 minutes to go about 10 miles west from I-81 on the 460 bypass to the Virginia Tech exit (314 East).

NOTE: Beware of construction on I-77 at Fancy Gap and at the I-81 /US460 interchange at Christiansburg. We'll have an update in the ConfirmationNUUS mailed in late June, and on the Web site at www.suusi.org

Roanoke is the nearest airport served by a commercial carrier. Reservations for a ride to Blacksburg may be made by calling Blacksburg Limousine Service at (540) 951-3973 - but caution, the business may be changing its name. Rental cars are also available at the airport.

Better yet, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the New River Valley in Blacksburg (on the Web at civic.bev.net/uufnrv/) will pick you up at the Roanoke airport for \$25 a car load. They will provide a potluck dinner on Saturday evening (\$10 per adult \$5 a child under 5) and overnight accommodations with a local family (\$10 per person). Contact Cynthia Luke at cluke@ru.edu or (540) 745-4805.

About the Campus and Accessibility

SUUSI will be concentrated in a section of a large high-tech campus. It's a great environment for building relationships and a sense of community. We'll have campus tours on Sunday afternoon - it's a good way to meet folks as well as learn how to navigate to Workshops, meals, worship, etc.

SUUSI provides limited on-campus shuttle transportation ("Star Car"), and we work hard to accommodate any physically challenged persons. The Virginia Tech campus is now an accessible place that we can all enjoy. Virginia Tech has ramps, curb cuts, etc. for those with special needs.

Truly wheelchair accessible rooms (roll-in showers, etc.) are available in limited numbers. Be sure to note special needs on your registration forms. Realistically, however, SUUSI cannot guarantee easy accessibility of all spaces. We plan, and we scout the latest campus changes in June, but inevitably some logistics change at the last moment...



Community Expectations

We have an abundance of freedom at SUUSI. With it comes full responsibility. Be alert and let's all help make SUUSI safe and enjoyable for everyone!

- In our community of about 1,000 people, let us remember to respect each individual's rights and privacy. Count to ten, give an inch, say please...
- Parents and guardians are responsible for their children when the children are not in SUUSI-sponsored activities for youth.
- Excessive noise when others are trying to sleep is inappropriate. Be mindful of others when having loud fun. Move to an area where your activities will not be disruptive.
- Leave dogs, hamsters, and other pets at home. There are no accommodations on campus for our live animals. Instead, enjoy the cows on the farm fields (but no tipping, please).
- Skates and skateboards are not allowed in many areas; please respect the local rules.
- Fire is a serious concern in college residence halls. Don't use any open flames (i.e., candles) inside any building on campus. Turn off appliances (hair curlers...) when you leave the room. We have special arrangements when we light the chalice at Theme Talks and Worship Services.
- The breaking of alcohol, drug, or any other local laws will not be tolerated.
- SUUSI affirms its commitment to maintain an environment free of discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex, race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, handicap, gender, or affectional orientation.
- Set a good example for others. SUUSI expects its board, staff, and participants to conduct themselves in a mutually respectful manner, showing concern for colleagues, participants, and the surrounding community.
- Be considerate of the neighbors; not everyone in Blacksburg will be in the SUUSI community or have the SUUSI spirit. Recognize that your creativity and enthusiasm should have boundaries.

Food! Glorious Food!

The first meal served at SUUSI will be on Sunday evening, July 22. The last meal (ooh, that sounds ominous...) is Saturday breakfast on July 28.

Meals at SUUSI offer sound nutritional choices, and are both attractive and tasty. There's fruit and peanut butter, salads and Atkin's diet proteins, etc. Vegetarian selections are available at each meal. The university is accustomed to feeding students who are as concerned (and in a few cases, even as finicky) as SUUSI-ites regarding their meals.

Each meal has multiple offerings, including unlimited seconds. Oliver Twist (or our own Tall Paul) can always have another serving...

Housing

If you are planning to share rooms, please indicate so on your housing form. Be sure everyone remembers to register. Space will not be held for unregistered roommates when it comes time to assign housing in June. Yeah, filling out the forms right really does matter - don't assume God will provide.

We will be staying in residence halls (dorms) on campus. Each room is furnished with 2 beds, 2 desks and chairs, a double dresser, a night stand, window blinds, a recycling/trash bin, linens and pillows. Many rooms are air-conditioned, and fully-accessible rooms are available for individuals with special needs.

You will want to bring a fan if you are sleeping in the non-air conditioned rooms. The air-conditioned rooms are arranged as suites, with 3 rooms sharing a small lounge and bath.

Housing areas will be set aside for child-care co-op, families, teens, young adults, and adults-only. Private rooms ("singles") are available in non-air conditioned dorms by purchasing both beds in a room. You may also indicate a preference for loud or quiet housing on your registration form.

Cost of housing is provided in the Registration section. More detailed information will be provided in confirmation packets to be mailed in early July.

Telecommunications

You can check e-mail and browse the Web from the PC's and Macs at the library. However, every year, the phone systems befuddle most of us. Bottom line: assume you can make only local calls from the rooms. (AOL is a local call.) Long distance calls, including credit card calls, must be made from pay phones.

Artisans Bazaar

Bring your credit cards and come to SUUSI to shop! Between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm each day, we'll have:

- jewelry, crafts, and other 100% self-made merchandise
- books and items suggested by workshop leaders, and related to workshop topics
- SUUSI logo T-shirts and other memorabilia
- tapes and CD's by SUUSI performers

The Artisan's Bazaar is a workshop for the artists (register for Workshop #400 and operate as a co-op for SUUSI week) and a delight for the rest of us. When you purchase co-op items, 10% of the selling price goes to SUUSI. You will be supporting both SUUSI and the UU artisans. If you want to be a volunteer in the store, please note that on the Volunteer Form when you send us your registration material.

Information Office

The Information Office is open daily from 8:00 am to 8:00pm. Volunteers there can answer questions and direct you to resources (or staff members) for solving problems.

If you get phone calls or messages, we'll add a note to the message board near the Info Office. Use it to exchange notes with others at SUUSI. Check the board daily for your own messages (or to live vicariously...) Lost and found items? Check at the Information Office. Let us know if you find Nirvana.

Late registration is conducted in the Information Office by the registration staff. They will also handle workshop changes and additions. Nature Trip changes and additions will be done at the Nature tent. Read your confirmation packet newsletter and watch the daily SUUSI NUUS for telephone numbers, mailing address, hours of service, and hours of late registration.

Child-Care Co-ops

Co-ops enable parents with young children to enjoy Nightlife. Families signing up for the co-op dorm have rooms grouped in clusters. Parents take turns watching over a small number of rooms. Two adults are always on duty in each co-op area, with one adult in plain view of any child who might need help.

The meeting to organize co-ops will be early Sunday evening prior to Ingathering. Watch the Sunday NUUS for details. SUUSI does not operate the co-ops, but rather provides help to enable parents to set up co-ops among themselves. Each child must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times. Any child found unsupervised or making excessive noise will be brought to their parents, wherever they are.

SUUSI Athletics (Have A Ball...)

Are you planning to relax all week, participating in nothing but luuv, happiness, and peace? Do you need a break from all the cuddling that is SUUSI? In short, are you looking for some competition to rev up your SUUSI experience? Well, look no further than **HARDCORE ATHLETICS!**

This year the athletics team is taking a somewhat different approach to an old favorite. We'll craft solid 2-hour blocks of nothing but your favorite sports, pumped up with a jolt of energy. In the end, it's not who wins or loses, it's who pushed themselves to the next level of SUUSI, the **HARDCORE** level.



Jumpstart your SUUSI experience with Volleyball, Hardcore Hippy Games (we're talking about the **ULTIMATE** in Ultimate Frisbee), Street-Style Basketball, Football, and possibly a full-scale Watergun/balloon assault. The rules are bendable and the competition is fierce, but the end result is we're still friends. Some (or all, depending on audience reaction) of these games will be brought to you in (hopefully) **HARDCORE** stereo surround sound, as the greatest rockers of our time (and times past) inspire you to new levels of athletic participation. We will also be offering a YA/Teen "Wink" game on Thursday after the Bridging Ceremony, and the now-annual Capture the Flag game featuring members of the Bridging Youths teamed up with the Teens, versus the Bridging Teens paired up with the current Young Adults.

Don't forget the Fun Run (Workshop #101) on Tuesday morning! Although some games may not be scheduled during "Athletics Time," any and all sports with enough interested participants will happen. Does this sound like fun? Could it be better? Go **HARDCORE**, don't stay at home! And for those of you looking for a more relaxing, soothing type of athletic participation, we haven't left you out. As mentioned before, if ever there is a need for a friendly game of 1-on-1 basketball, we've got the ball. Tennis courts and even watersports (like water polo) are possibilities. If anyone practices tai chi and would like an environment in which to teach others how to enlighten themselves while staying fit, contact Anthony Severo at geezerfan@hotmail.com or (703) 978-1885. While our focus this year is on bringing people together through fierce (but sportsmanlike) competition, athletics is surely a universal experience.

Teen Way Off Broadway (TWOB)

It's TWOB's 15th year! What once began as an informal performance in a cafeteria at Radford University is now a full-fledged theatrical extravaganza!

TWOB gives our fabulous teens an opportunity to showcase their multiple talents in an original play. Previous productions include "Alice in SUUSI land", "How the Grinch Stole SUUSI", and last year's hit, "The SUUSI Bunch".

This intense, week-long workshop (#411) wraps up in a Friday night performance for the entire SUUSI community. Actors, singers, dancers, stagehands, set designers, set builders, and tech support are needed and welcomed to make this performance possible!

Teens, if you have a love for the stage, are interested in designing/building sets, like the technical aspect of production, or have no theatre experience at all, check out workshop #411.

Are you a teen, but don't have any theatre experience - and still want to meet really great people? That's okay, too! Questions? Contact director, Kimmer Cecci, at (315) 457-5335 or kmrcc@aol.com

SUUSI Store

The SUUSI Store is **THE PLACE** to get the books recommended or required by your Workshop leaders, as well as other great books of interest to UU's, including many from the UUA Book Store and those authored by fellow SUUSI participants.

It is also **THE PLACE** to purchase the CD's and cassettes of all the fabulous musicians you'll be hearing throughout the week in the Concerts, Cabaret, Coffee House, Worship Services, Ingatherings, and Community Time. In addition to books and music, the SUUSI Store is also your source for SUUSI t-shirts and other great memorabilia.

Open daily, at a place and times to be determined, the SUUSI Store is a favorite gathering place for many SUUSI participants - especially during our featured book signings and mini-concerts!

If you have suggestions for books you'd like to see in the SUUSI Store, or your own books or music you'd like to have sold there, contact Jackie Winner, SUUSI Store Coordinator by e-mail (jwinnereds@aol.com), phone (727) 397-1935, or snail mail at 8142 Norwood Road, Largo, FL 33777.

COMMUNITY TIME

Every minute of SUUSI can be "community time" if you so choose! However, there are special Community Time activities scheduled every day for SUUSI -ites of all ages.

Parade to Ingathering

Meet new friends or reunite with those you haven't seen for an entire year (or more!) as we come together in our SUUSI 2001 community for the first time. For our famous Banner Parade, we invite you to bring a banner from your home congregation or design a new one so everyone knows "who you are."

The teens will lead the parade again this year along with our very own drummers (Please bring a drum and join us! No practice or training required!)

Once at Ingathering, we'll officially start our SUUSI with the entire community (or close to it, anyway!) with singing, perhaps a skit or two, and lots of joyful noise! Watch the SUUSI NUUS for time and location.

Daily

We gather Monday thru Friday afternoons for Community Time from 5:30pm to 7pm. Keep an eye out for a large group of SUUSI -ites having fun! Daily activities might include face painting, bubble blowing, button making, sidewalk chalk art creating, and more! Live music welcomed and encouraged. Bring an instrument! Join us!

Monday: Sidewalk festival! We'll have games for the young and young at heart, bubbles, and an ice cream social. Yum!

Tuesday: New games (check 'em out!) and other various athletic happenings. Fun guaranteed for all!

Wednesday: SUUSI's 51st Birthday Party, complete with cake, watermelons, and our famous Seed-Spitting Contest, open to participants of all ages. Come celebrate over half a century of SUUSI!

Thursday: Craft/T-shirt sale! Look for special goodies for yourself or someone else. (Craft/T-shirt sellers are requested to contribute a minimum of \$10 for SUUSI ships. Bring your own tables or ground cloths, please.)

Friday: It's Friday! You'll probably be a bit tired, so use this time to kick back, relax, catch up with friends, and get ready for Teen Way-Off Broadway (TWOB). This is also the rain date for the Craft/T-Shirt sale.

Saturday: Gather at 9am to say good-bye to your friends as we prepare to disperse into the 'real' world, taking our SUUSI energy along with us.

Community Time volunteers are needed, wanted, encouraged, and welcomed. Spend 30 minutes or 2 hours, and have fun while you help! To reach out and volunteer, fill out the registration form for Volunteers. For more information, contact our Community Time coordinator, Jane Sanders, at (404) 634-6130.

Receptions

If you or your non-profit, non-commercial group would like to schedule a reception during SUUSI, please contact the Special Events Coordinator. These receptions are a great way to connect with other members of our large and diverse community! Previous receptions have included Newcomers, SUUSI Boosters, and other UU Camps. The schedule will be announced in the SUUSI NUUS. To schedule a reception, or volunteer to help, contact Mina Greenfield at (804)244-7968 or special@suusi.org

Calling All Ministers

Attention UU ministers: We want you to join our spiritual community at SUUSI this year! As you can tell, there will be many wonderful colleagues with whom to connect - not to mention about 1,000 other great UU's. A special reception for ministers is planned, and there's always the "give-a-minister-a-hug" portion of our Ingathering Ceremony. Plus, ordained UU clergy receive a registration discount! (see registration form).

If you would like more information or to receive your registration discount, contact Rev. Bill Gupton by phone at (614) 263-4461 or via e-mail at denominational@suusi.org

Volunteers

Volunteers are an integral part of the interdependent web of SUUSI. From the late night Coffee House to Daily Morning Theme Talk, from Face Painting at Community Time to the wonderful madness of Registration, volunteers make SUUSI successful. Without the effort of each volunteer SUUSI would cost much more money, if it existed at all!!

SUUSI is an all-volunteer effort. Through volunteering, you will learn more about how SUUSI functions and you will meet more of our community. Keep the SUUSI spirit alive by volunteering for at least a half hour during the week.

There is no restriction on the amount of time you may volunteer. For more information contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Erin Lieb at 410-825-6713 or via e-mail at row4va@excite.com

Spiritual Growth at SUUSI

Our Unitarian Universalist principles call us into "acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth..." SUUSI's denominational programming is designed to deepen our experience of this special time together by supporting our individual and collective spiritual search.

As we worship and wonder together each morning and evening, we continue to explore what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist, and a part of this community of caring. For more information, contact the Revs. Bill Gupton and Alane Cameron Miles at denominational@suusi.org

Theme Presentations

Each morning (Monday through Friday) from 9:00-9:45am, a denominational leader will share with us a personal interpretation of this year's theme, "The Interdependent Web." These daily theme presentations offer an energetic yet reflective way for teens and adults to begin their SUUSI day (children and youth will have their own age-appropriate programming during this time period).

MONDAY: "The Souls of Animals: A Personal Journey" Rev. Gary Kowalski will share with us the personal odyssey that has made him one of Unitarian Universalism's most passionate and outspoken advocates for what he calls "interspecies compassion." Currently co-president of UFETA (UU's for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), Gary is the author of the Quality Paperback Book Club "Readers' Favorite" "The Souls of Animals," as well as "Goodbye Friend: Healing Wisdom for Anyone Who Has Ever Lost a Pet" and "The Bible According to Noah: Theology As If Animals Mattered." He is the minister of the First UU Society of Burlington, Vermont, where he has won several awards for preaching excellence.

TUESDAY: "Mitakuye Oyasin - We Are All Related" Rev. Mel Hoover serves as the Director of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Department for Faith in Action. His theme talk, "Mitakuye Oyasin," can be translated "We Are All Related." Although new scientific breakthroughs indicate that the vast majority of human genes are shared across our species, and that we are 99.9 percent alike, it's that 1/10th of one percent that still seems to keep us apart. What does it mean if in fact we are all brothers and sisters who share the same genes? How can we continue to diss and diminish one another's humanity? If we can think differently about who we "really are," can that lead us into new behaviors and practices across traditional categories of separation and oppression?

WEDNESDAY: "Chalices in the Kudzu" What are the particular opportunities of being a Unitarian Universalist in the South? Is there a special language one needs to speak here? How do we strengthen the interconnections among ourselves as Southern UU's so as to better weave the values of our faith in the religious cloth of this corner of the country? Eunice Benton is the District Executive for the Mid-South District of the UUA. She is a Southerner by birth and by choice, and has served

as an active lay volunteer in our churches in Winston-Salem, N.C. and Oxford, Miss., as well as a stint as president of the Thomas Jefferson District. No one is more qualified to speak to this subject of Southern UUism today!

THURSDAY: "The Broken Web: Romance and Reality" The Interdependent Web may look different from the perspective of indigenous people who have suffered from racism, colonialism, oppression and genocide for more than half a millennium. What is the discrepancy between the Euroamerican vision of the Native American, and the reality of life as an Indian? The web needs to be healed, and this is a journey we can all participate in. Rev. Danielle DiBona serves as the Anti-Racism Program Coordinator for the UUA's Department for Faith in Action. She is vice-president of Diverse and Revolutionary UU Multicultural Ministries (DRUUMM), and is a proud member of her mother's Wompanoag tribe.

FRI DAY: "Despair and Empowerment: Repairing the Web" Rev. Sarah Lammert will base her talk on the work of Buddhist/Deep Ecologist Joanna Macy, exploring the despair that many of us feel in these times of ecological denigration, and how that might lead to our empowerment as, collectively, we work through our pain together. This will be a participatory time in which to acknowledge that our environmental concerns are ultimately a spiritual issue - one of reconnection with "the interdependent web of which we are a part." There will also be information about the Seventh Principle Project (an environmental justice organization for concerned UU's), and ways to plug into the growing network of "Green Churches." Sarah has been minister of the UU Church of Ogden, Utah, for seven years, and has served on the board of the Seventh Principle Project. Her church sponsors an urban community garden in Ogden.



If You're a UU, and If You're Not...

SUUSI is for everyone. We welcome diversity, and celebrate the interdependent web of ideas, philosophies, styles, and cultures. The SUUSI community is made up of UUs, members of other faiths, and individuals with their own philosophies.

All are welcome.

Come to SUUSI and meet some interesting fellow travellers, UU and otherwise. There's no membership requirement to attend. You're equally welcome whether you are an active member of your local congregation, belong to the Church of the Larger Fellowship, fall into the "lapsed, fallen-away, or backslider" category... or can't stand the thought of organized religion.

Don't belong to any UU organization? C'mon to SUUSI! You'll feel comfortable, get a chance to explore your beliefs, experience living with an ethical community, and be welcomed by everyone.

[NOTE: If you read the fine print in the forms, you may realize that we ask for the name of your congregation or fellowship. We're trying to identify how SUUSI is attracting people, and where more "outreach" is needed. We mail a zillion pieces of paper to individuals and organizations, at some cost and hassle. We'd like to focus on distributing the SUUSI information more effectively and efficiently. If you're not affiliated with any UU congregation or fellowship, just leave it blank.]

Evening Worship

Join us each evening (Monday through Thursday; note different time and location for Friday night) from 9:00-9:45 p.m. in Donaldson-Brown Auditorium for an opportunity to worship together in community as only SUUSI can do it! Each service will touch on our theme, "The Interdependent Web," while offering opportunities for participation and reflection at the close of our day.

MONDAY:

"Connected to the Earth and to One Another"

Here in the South, being born human is often seen as being born in sin. Revs. Jennifer Slade and Meg Barnhouse will challenge us to consider the difference it might make if we considered our "earthiness" as a gift. What if we were born with wisdom inside, waiting to be found? What if our hearts, our minds and our wills were not blemished; what if our bodies were clean and good? How might this perspective impact the way we are with one another, and how we feel about ourselves, our bodies, our family and our friends? Jennifer is the minister of the Greenville (S.C.) UU Fellowship, while Meg serves as a pastoral counselor in Spartanburg, S.C. These two friends will sing, share, and speak about the UU message of connection and liberation.

TUESDAY:

"The Web Within"

Coming alive to the web of connections within ourselves is a critical part of any spiritual path. If we forget that we ourselves are connected and whole, finding connection and wholeness in the world will be all the more difficult. We connect to the world around us from a place of balance within. Finding and maintaining that inner balance leads to the possibility of peace and justice. Rev. Mary Katherine Morn is minister of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville, Tennessee. She has served congregations in the southeast for 15 years.

WEDNESDAY:

"We Are the Boat, We Are the Sea - Interdependence and Economic Anti-Calvinism"

A principle message of our Unitarian Universalist heritage has been that the human family shares a common destiny - that all human beings are worthy of compassion and deserving of justice. How can our traditional anti-Calvinist gospel be applied to questions of economic justice? Our answers to this question may constitute a new growing edge, a new frontier, for Unitarian Universalists. A lifelong UU, Rev. David Herndon grew up in Blacksburg, and is eagerly anticipating his SUUSI homecoming. He has served as the minister of the First Unitarian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, since 1990, and recently completed his graduate degree in non-profit business management from Carnegie-Mellon University.

THURSDAY:

"Braids or Knots: Two Different Thoughts on Interconnectedness and Interdependence"

Our annual ceremony honoring all of life's transitions offers us an opportunity to consider both sides of the coin as we look at our UU principle of interdependence. Our interconnections can, in the words of the hymn, give us both "roots and wings" - and this can be both a blessing and a challenge. As is our custom, the centerpiece of this evening's service will be a "bridging ceremony" in which we welcome our graduating teens into adulthood. We will also honor those other life transitions (births, deaths, losses) that give meaning to our existence. The service will be led by Rev. Alane Cameron Miles, Chaplain for Crater Community Hospice in Colonial Heights, Virginia, Rev. Bill Gupton, minister of the Olmsted UU Congregation in North Olmsted, Ohio, and Michael Tino, Coordinator of Shared Ministry for the Eno River UU Fellowship in Durham, N.C. (and Coordinator of the SUUSI Teen Program!).

FRI DAY:

"Celebrating the Web"

Our traditional Friday evening outdoors worship (weather permitting) begins at 10 p.m. This earth-centered spirituality ritual will give us sacred space in which to sing, dance, drum and celebrate all of the interdependent web - not just we humans, but animals, trees, creatures of the sea and sky, and all with whom we share this lovely planet. This ceremony will be led by Carole Eagleheart, a member of the Wolf Clan Teaching Lodge of the Seneca Indians, who dedicates her life to helping people live in joy and harmony on the earth.

Nightlife

How do you top off a wonderful and busy day of workshops and outdoor activities? You PARTY HARD! We've got so much fun available to choose from each night that you'll wish you could be in more than one place at a time!

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

We have so much available each night that you'll wish you could be in more than one place at a time. The typical SUUSI evening starts off shortly after dinner with Concert Hour, featuring a performance by a nationally touring artist.

Then SUUSI Nightlife kicks into full-gear around 10 PM. Nightly offerings include dancing at Serendipity (with alcohol) and CACHE (Clean Air Clean Heads Everyone), good listening at Cabaret. Cabaret is a talent show with SUUSI participants - and they include 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 - plus the Common Ground Cafe coffee house.

Serendipity

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; we play a wide range of music!

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 Macharena 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.



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(rophone) is the period at Cabaret that ANYBODY can have about 10 minutes to show the world their stuff. Those who perform well will receive an invite 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 & Lorain Harouff, Bo Changnon, and others too numerous to mention.

Appearances by favorite SUUSI performers will take place throughout the week. Each night's schedule will be posted by lunchtime 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 the same music...). It's a night for great fun and innovation.

Cabaret welcomes all performing talent. Access to alcohol will be restricted, so all ages can participate as performers and audience members.

Conversation Room

This is adjacent to the Cabaret performance room, with a fully stocked bar and snacks. This room is available for relaxation & conversation throughout the evening for those twenty-one and over.

Common Ground Cafe

The cafe was a new addition to SUUSI Nightlife in 1999 that has developed a life of its own! This space is available for relaxation & 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 Cafe further, or have any ideas, please contact Arpie Maros (908) 232-8723 or nightlife@suusi.org Your help and input will be very much appreciated.

Concert Hour

Family Concert Hour takes place from 7:30 to 8:30 Monday through Thursday. It is a great opportunity to include children in our wonderful music scene.



Monday: Bonnie Whitehurst will celebrate her third SUUSI as our Concert Hour kick-off performance. A multi-instrumentalist, Bonnie plays the keyboards, harp, mountain and hammered dulcimers, psaltry, autoharp and guitar. A true Unitarian, Bonnie is comfortable in all religious settings.

She is currently the cantor and organist at Espiritu Santo Catholic Church as well as the Music Director at the Tarpon Springs UU church. Her album releases include jazz and ragtime, Jewish music, Christmas songs, songs from around the world (folk and inspirational) children's music and her own original music.

Last year at Cabaret we were treated to some very clever original music which had the "usually staid" SUUSI audience rolling in the aisles. Hearing Bonnie for a full hour will be a treat! Visit her website at home1.gte.net/bonpat/index.htm

Tuesday: Carla Ulbrich has been compared to everyone from Christine Lavin to Chet Atkins to Jerry Seinfeld. A Clemson, SC native, Carla began studying classical guitar



at the age of nine. While going through school, she studied piano, clarinet, piccolo, flute, and tuba (marching band). All the while, she continued her guitar playing and discovered her songwriting abilities during her first year of college.

Her songwriting and guitar playing have landed her numerous honors, including: 1st place, 2000 Mid-Atlantic Song Contest; Best Upbeat and Best Overall, 1999 South Florida Folk Fest Song Competition; 1st Place, 1998 Mid-Atlantic Songwriting Contest (open category); a National TV appearance, and a grant from the SC Arts Commission.

Visit her website (www.carlau.com) and don't miss listening to the two songs that won her first place in the South Florida Folk Festival Songwriter Competition, "What If Your Girlfriend Was Gone" and "It Reminds Me of You."

Wednesday: Although Kim and Reggie Harris grew up in the same city with very similar musical influences in their homes, churches and schools, they met by chance at a summer camp in 1974 and were married in 1976. Touring



full time since 1980, they have brought their vibrant musical styles, close harmonies and stunning arrangements back to our summer camp for their Concert Hour performance.

Performing Music and the Underground Railroad as part of educational programs around the world, the Harris' are presenters in the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Touring Workshop Program, providing teacher training workshops that encourage the use of the arts and music in the classroom to make curricular connections with students. We are fortunate to have this captivating couple teaching at SUUSI (workshop #117 Songs of Faith/Songs of Freedom) and as part of our Concert Hour. Web site: www.kimandreggie.com/

Thursday: SUUSI Ensemble The traditional close to the Concert Hour will be a performance by the SUUSI Ensemble. It connects, through performance, artists who have not performed together in the past. If you want to perform, please contact Debbie Langrock at dlangrock@yahoo.com or (727) 784-6597

Youth Program

The goal of the SUUSI Youth program, provided for SUUSI-goers aged 0-13, is to create a safe place for participants to explore, interact and grow through outdoor activities, art projects, drama, music, team building, games and more.

To facilitate this goal, the individuals who will be working with the age groups are all people who enjoy working with children. Our Age Group Leaders have experience working with youth in RE, at school or at a variety of camps. Many of these staff members were once participants in the SUUSI youth program themselves. Additional staff includes specialists in art, sports, drama and movements and counseling.

We are committed to the safety of all youth at SUUSI, which is why we will be continuing the curfew which begins as soon as evening programming has ended. Youth will be escorted by staff members from evening programming to their dorms and must remain there, indoors, until morning.

If youth (of any age) do not attend programming, they must remain with their parents/guardian during the scheduled programming hours and are subject to the curfew. Youth who come to SUUSI with adults other than their parents must be sure to have signed guardian forms, which are included in the Enrollment Forms.

Look for more information in the Confirmation packets! If you have any questions about the Youth Program please contact the Youth Director, Kathee Williams, at (770) 592-3321 or the Assistant Directors, Michael and Emily Ivey, at (770) 931-2871 or send email to youth@suusi.org and we will be happy to help you out.

NOTE: Age groups will be assigned based on the age of the child as of July 22, 2001. Be sure to complete the appropriate form and get it notarized - we can't estimate age from teeth, tree rings, etc...

Programming Hours

8:45 - 9:00 Check in. Parents drop youth aged 0-13 off at their classrooms and check in with their Age Group Leaders.

9:00 - 12:15 Morning Programming. Youth will participate in classroom activities, field trips, arts & crafts, music and games.

12:15 - 1:45 Lunch. Youth aged 3-8 must be picked up by their parent/guardian for lunch. Youth aged 9-13 who have prior written permission from their parents or guardians may sign themselves out for lunch - folks without permission must be picked up by their parent/guardian. The 0-2 year-olds may either go to lunch with their parents or have lunch in the classroom. We recommend that the very youngest children remain with the staff all day, but parents are encouraged to visit often.

1:45 - 4:15 Afternoon Workshops and Programming. Youth aged 0-4 will have programming in their classrooms at this time (usually a nap - SUUSI can really take it out of you!). Our 5-6 year olds will have exciting activities brought to their classroom (art, music, drama) or will take field trips at this time. For everyone else (7-13) a variety of workshops have been planned including: art, music, theater, trips, indoor and outdoor games just to name a few of the things that will be happening (more about workshops in the confirmation letter!). The same check in/out rules apply to Afternoon Programming.

7:00 - 9:00 Evening Programming. Evening programming is only provided for ages 9-13 and is basically the same as morning programming - except that it is dark outside. There is no Evening Programming Friday night for any age group except the 13s who will be participating in their Coming of Age Ceremony.

9:00 - Midnight Late Night Programming. Late Night Programming is only provided for the 13 year-olds. As part of the Coming of Age program, 13s will be provided with adult supervised activities during this time. If 13s choose not to attend, they are subject to curfew.

Heath Care at SUUSI

SUUSI offers a chance to examine your mind, body, and spirit... but take care of yourself. Stretch your self, but don't overstress your body.

SUUSI maintains a first aid liaison to prevent illness and accidents, and to assist you with any medical emergencies. Our first aid staff can provide tips and referrals only. Bring your own medications and supplies, including band-aids, aspirin, Viagra, and the usual vacation remedies.

Office hours are scheduled each day for wellness resource and first aid counsel or referral. The Health Resource Office is staffed with two Registered Nurses (RNs) and lots of volunteers who are either nurses or medical people from related fields.

Our goal is to have you stay well so you can enjoy your week at SUUSI. We have many resources and names if

you need to see a doctor, and we can help you with small injuries. Drop by to just chat or to have your blood pressure checked. We are happy to assist you in maintaining good health.

In case you do have an emergency, you can access the excellent emergency system on campus instead of waiting for one of us. Emergency service is available from hospitals in the local area.

Remember, be sure to bring your own medications for the week, including the over-the-counter remedies like aspirin. Our office can't dispense any medications (state law governs nurses licenses...) So come prepared to stay well and able to enjoy SUUSI.

Shirley Gordon, RN

Teens Teens Teens Teens Teens

The Teen Program is an intense community experience for people between the ages of 14 and 17. During the week of SUUSI, we share many things—space, worship, ideas, games, food, music, play, laughter, and tears, to name a few. In the SUUSI Teen Program, friendships are made that last a lifetime.

At SUUSI 2001, Teen programming will have an ecological theme. From experimenting with natural dyes and making funky recycled paper to road trips to thrift stores and exploring nature to peer mediation and in-depth discussion workshops, we will be learning to live in harmony with nature, to appreciate our lives and those around us, and to respect the interdependent webs of life—both within and outside of SUUSI.

The old favorites will be back, too. We'll still play wink on the drill field every night, make awesome craft projects, go to the 7-11, form drum circles on the quad, make midnight snacks with Ms. Suusi Buffet and play cups in the lobby.

In fact, there will be interesting, challenging and fun activities 24 hours a day, all week long. Draft copies of the Teen Schedule will be mailed out to teens and parents in early July, and a final copy will be in every registration packet at SUUSI.

One of the best parts of the Teen Program is our nightly Teen Worship, planned by and for teens. Teen Worship is a time for gathering as a community and sharing stories, experiences, hopes and dreams.

In this special space each night, we explore what's going on in our lives, learn new things about each other, and come together as a special teen community. Please bring your favorite readings, music, and worship ideas to share with us in these worship services.

Of course, teenagers are part of a larger community at SUUSI as well, and SUUSI provides many other opportunities for learning, fun, and community that are open to teens.

Be sure to check out General Workshops - many are open to teen participants. In addition, we hope that this year's teens will produce a second annual special edition of the SUUSI NUUS.

Attention Teens and Parents: This is VERY IMPORTANT

The SUUSI Teen Program is only for people 14 to 17 years old as of July 22, 2001. Because of this, all Teens must have proof of age on file with SUUSI.

Everyone new to the SUUSI Teen Program must provide a notarized copy of a birth certificate or driver's license as a proof of age with your registration.

If you're not sure if we have it — send in another (it can't hurt). Don't forget! You will not be able to stay in the teen dorm or participate in the teen program without this! Absolutely no exceptions will be made.



SUUSI Teens 2001

Special Teen Nature trips start Monday with inner tubing on the New River - register for #731, this is a special community event not to be missed! Check the Nature section for Teen and other great trips, and be sure to register for them to guarantee you'll have a space.

Music is a big part of SUUSI—both in and out of the Teen Program. Be sure to bring your instruments—drums, guitars, horns, violins, whatever. Teens are also invited to perform at Cabaret and the Common Ground coffee house. And speaking of music and Nightlife, don't forget about CACHE, the nightly dance party that's open to everyone 14 and over.

Above all, the Teen Program is about choices, and lots of them. So get set for an exciting year at SUUSI 2001.

Life in the Teen Dorm

Teen activities are in the Teen Dorm. You can choose to live communally in the Teen Dorm (co-ed floors), or to stay with your parent/guardian. Teens not living in the Teen Dorm are welcome to join any activity at any hour, but between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. must check in with the staff and be accompanied by a parent/guardian when coming to or leaving the Teen Dorm.

The Teen Dorm is a busy place and the center of all Teen Program activities. Something is happening in the dorm 24 hours a day. Because of this, the dorm is divided into areas for sleeping and areas for activities.

We keep strict quiet hours on the sleeping floors (midnight to 7:00 a.m.), and have a 24-hour courtesy policy on these floors (because we know that someone will be sleeping at pretty much all hours).

In order to protect the safety of all teens, access to the Teen Dorm will be through the front door only. This door will be locked only between the hours of 1:00 am and 6:00 am, when teens must be in the dorm, on a pre-announced Teen Program activity, or with their parents/guardian (see the Rules for Teens).

The extent to which your teen participates in our program is up to you and your teen. All teens and their parent/guardian must sign our behavior agreement as part of the registration process. See the section in the enrollment packet entitled "Rules for Teens." Read these rules carefully.

Important Information for Parents and Guardians of Teens!

Guardians of teens must be at least 21 years of age and each guardian may only be responsible for 2 teens (other than their own). All teens must also provide proof of age with your registration (see below). Being a guardian is in all respects equivalent to being a parent.

Your responsibility for the teen will be for the duration of SUUSI. All parents, guardians, and teens are required to attend Sunday night's Teen Program Orientation, the exact time and location of which will be in the Arrival NUUS when you register at SUUSI.

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit the Teen Dorm at any time. For the safety of the teens and staff, a Teen Staff member will ask you to identify yourself with your SUUSI name tag, and that adults will be allowed in the Teen Dorm only when escorted by a Teen Staff member. No exceptions will be made to this rule.

You will be given a schedule for the week in the confirmation packets mailed out in early July, and a copy of the Teen Schedule will be in your registration packet when you arrive at SUUSI. Any updates to that schedule will be posted each day in the Teen Dorm lobby. You will need to discuss your teen's schedule and make time each day to meet. Each teen and teen staff member will have a mailbag for messages and goodies. We really do want to hear from you!

Teen Staff and Peer Mediators

Teen Staff have a wide range of backgrounds, life experiences, points of view, cultures, theologies and skills. We are there to create a safe space for you in which you can learn, explore, experiment, laugh, cry, sing, play, talk, share, and open up to each other. We are there to create an environment that is free of physical and emotional danger, and to empower you to have as much fun as possible.

This year, we are planning to have a special team of teens on board as Peer Mediators. These teens completed an in-depth mediation training at SUUSI 2000, and will be available to help mediate conflicts, listen to problems and create community in the Teen Program. The adult staff is excited to be working with this incredible group of young people.

Feel free to contact the Teen Director, Michael Tino at teens@suusi.org if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. Also, please contact us if you're over 21 and would like to be a part of this wonderful staff group in future years.

What's old? Maybe "old" is when you quit being interested in new things.
Maybe it has nothing to do with age, chronology, physical strength, or health.
But if that's true, then what's "young"?

Young Adults

The Young Adult Program will weave opportunities for each young adult to find their own balance of spirituality, socialization, and fun. Young Adults (ages 18-25) are encouraged to live in the YA dorm, a living space that provides opportunities for a close and supportive community to form within the larger SUUSI community.

We will have a central meeting area for worship, discussion, mailbags, and activities. Young adults wishing to room with people outside of the 18-25 age range will need to sign up for regular housing.

As always the YA program will strive to share our talents and energy with others - let us know if you want to participate in some of our activities. Watch out for performance art; YA musicians are talented and numerous.

Bring your games, swimsuit, toys, instruments, and good feelings. In addition to field trips in the local area (nothing is sacred in the scavenger hunts...), there's also a love feast, bridging ceremony (for 25 year olds), massage workshop, special nature trips, dancing, athletics, and much, much more.

With our chaplain, we will have numerous worship opportunities to meet our spiritual needs. Ideas? Questions? Contact Deva George at ya@suusi.org

Medians

Introducing a BRAND NEW program for those ages 26-35! Now this MEDIUM PROGRAM is a little different, since it will be age-centered rather than age-exclusive.

So, anyone 21 or older can choose to live in this space, and it will also be open to people over 35 who feel that they belong. The workshops and gatherings will be grassroots-style, and you won't find the details in this catalog.

That's because we will be leading them for each other, at times that we will set at the beginning of the week. So bring some ideas for group games, fun crafts, discussions, or skills that you have always wanted to share!

The sky's the limit, and we will work to join our concepts and make this program exactly what we want it to be.

So, get your registration in early, and feel free to email me with any questions you might have. See you soon!

Love,

Pinkie Bergmann
uupinkie@hotmail.com