



SUUSI Winter NUUS



Live Fully in 2007

It may seem frosty outside, but busy elves (. . . err staffers), are making preparations for SUUSI 2007. Inside this issue of the SUUSI Winter NUUS you'll find enough info on our plans to keep you warm until July. From great workshops to nature trips that rock, from youth program ideas to ministerial missions, we've got it here. Curl up on your cozy couch and get your SUUSI fix here.



Got SUUSI?

We know that SUUSI is wonderful . . . but let's not keep it a secret. Here are a few tips for sharing SUUSI with your friends, family, or other potential SUUSI-ites.

- Show all your friends the SUUSI 2007 promotional DVD - it's available on YouTube. Just go to www.suusi.org and click on the link on the home page.
- Use the www.suusi.org link as part of your e-mail signature
- Wear SUUSI T-shirts to church every Sunday.
- Mention the unlimited food (fries included)!
- Show them last year's mugbook and point out all the cute kids (and adults!).
- Show everyone your catalog from last year so they can salivate over all the workshop possibilities and nature trips.
- Hang five posters at church with dates of the upcoming SUUSI and pics from last year.
- Tell your DRE about how to get on staff to make their bill lower and fun greater (contact the Youth Director at youth@suusi.org)

As always, get more info at www.suusi.org.

New NUUS

We listened to your feedback, and we've put in place many great enhancements based on SUUSI 2006 evaluations!

- Online registration (see page 5)
- Check out youth workshops early this year in the spring catalog and even register online! (See Youth on page 3)
- An improved evening schedule with SUUSI dinner time from 6:30-8 pm. Look for all the details in the spring catalog.
- More family friendly nature trips (see Nature on page 2)
- UU Parenting, Knitting, Guitar, Truffles and more (Workshops on page 3)

Nature News

Feeling Adventurous and want to try something NEW this year? Try these trips:



Family Friendly Trips

- Tours of VT Horticultural Gardens
- A Botanical Wander Across Campus
- No-So Hike
- Dixie Caverns
- Creek Splash
- Intergenerational Tubing & Cookout

Discovery NUUS

Perhaps you want to Live Life Fully by slowing down, looking closer, and stopping to smell the flowers and savor the sights. If so, we probably have a Discovery trip for you! **Walking** tours will lead us through the gardens and around Virginia Tech with knowledgeable guides to identify and discuss the plants. Drives off campus offer tours of an herb farm, hunts for edible plants, bird watching, and sights of waterfalls.

Historians may enjoy nearby Smithfield Plantation, a long drive on the Blue Ridge Parkway to Mayberry Mill or Chateau Morrisette Winery.

Drummers can once again spend the evening Drumming Down the Sun. Bicycle Riders will enjoy a new road-bike trip. And Explorers of all ages can duck underground at Dixie Caverns.

For **Art Lovers**, we've planned a new trip that will lead you to many of the art galleries clustered around the town of Floyd.

Treasure-Hunters can try a new Geocaching trip using GPS coordinates to track hidden boxes along trails.

And, if Living Fully also means exploring culinary delights, many of our trips include stops at fine restaurants.

- Giant Caverns - Be the first SUUSI group to ever experience this vertical cave and view what is said to be the largest cave room in Virginia!
- Pickens Cave – It has been 10 years since SUUSI has visited this cave at its scenic location and with its lovely formations!
- Need a road ride? – Bring your bike along with your helmet for a 35 mile fast ride over the hills and dales of Blacksburg!
- Triathlon interest group – How about a canoe, bike, run triathlon at SUUSI, join the interest group and let's make it happen!

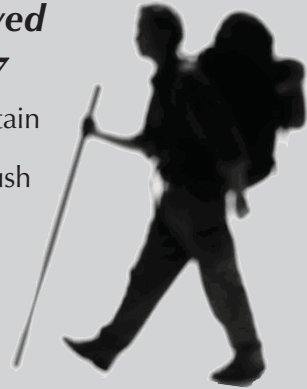
New & Improved Hiking in 2007

New - Brush Mountain Traverse, hike from Blacksburg over Brush Mountain to Pandapas Pond.

New - Trip to the Biological Station in the Mountain Lake area with an optional hike.

Improved – Combined the popular Kelly Knob Hike with another section of the Appalachian Trail for an All Day Excursion.

Improved – the Mountain Lake hike and the Blue Ridge Parkway hike were combined in order to see the best of both areas. Another attempt to make more all day trips to these areas to make the van drives worthwhile and see more of the area.



New adventures in Aquatics

Combine Tubing at McCoy Falls with a Cook-out on Thursday. This family-friendly trip gets back in time for afternoon workshops.

By popular demand, this Friday Whitewater Canoe and Kayak trip will start at 10 am and finish at 3:15. Enjoy time surfing waves, swimming/riding rapids in your life jacket (sans boat) and a long relaxing lunch break!!

Sit-on-top kayaks have morphed into forgiving user-friendly recreational open-cockpit kayaks which are more stable and have space for a dry bag or gear. Try one on a lake on Tuesday or try your skills in moving water on Thursday.



WORKSHOPS

Ever wanted to take a painting or drawing class? Learn how to ballroom dance or give a really great massage? Do you desire to explore your spirituality with like-minded individuals? Would you enjoy talking and learning about raising your children as UUs? If so, join us at SUUSI and explore your curiosities, interests and passions by taking one of the over 90 workshops that will be available at SUUSI 2007!

Here's a small sample of what will be offered.

Hand

- Intro to Watercolor Painting
- Bottleneck/Slide Guitar
- Knitting 101
- Making Truffles

Body and Voice

- Couples Massage
- Beginning Ballroom Dance
- Empower Your Voice
- The Call of the Drum

Mind

- Being a UU Parent
- Learn the Art of Storytelling
- Bird and Butterfly Gardens
- A History of Unitarianism

Soul

- Intro to the Old Testament
- Meditation 101
- Working with Our Dreams
- Secret Path to Spirituality

Youth

Children ages one day to 13 years get to be a part of SUUSI Youth, where we create a safe place to explore, interact, and grow! Some of the things that we have planned so far are: outdoor and indoor games, field trips, art projects, music, tie-dye, and learning about our Unitarian Universalist Principles. Morning programming for all youth is divided into age groups. In the afternoons, children ages 7-13 have the opportunity to choose workshops based on their interests. Younger children participate in their age group afternoon programming.

NEW IN 2007 – All youth workshops will be listed in the spring catalog! Register for youth workshops and trips when you register for SUUSI! The youth web site has also been recently renovated and includes age group schedules for 2007. www.suusi.org/youth

Also NEW in 2007 – Family Friendly Nature Trips will be referenced in both the Nature and Youth sections in the catalog! We value your comments and make every attempt to adjust our programming accordingly!

Would you like to apply for a Youth Staff position? Have comments or questions? Please contact Dianna at youth@suusi.org or 804-798-2416.



Ministry

We have several inspiring worship services and theme talks lined up for SUUSI this summer. Look for more details in the catalog.

Jeremy Taylor – Midsummer Night’s Dream

Jeremy Taylor, UU minister and noted Jungian dream expert, will lead an exploration of dreams in service of health and wholeness. He will delve into the possibilities of living life more completely through a study of our dreams and their wider relationship with the world.

Taylor has spent more than 30 years integrating the values of spirituality with an active social conscience. He currently directs the Marin Institute for Projective Dream Work.



Gini Courter

Gini Courter will share her thoughts and dynamic speaking talents with us during theme talks. Gini Courter is the moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association, the UUA’s highest volunteer position. Courter is an information technology consultant and a nationally recognized speaker on office collaboration and productivity tools.

Tracy Sprowls Jenks – Catch the Wonder

Is it possible to live as an adult in the world with the passion, interests and hopes of a child? Tracy Sprowls Jenks is the Religious Education Minister for the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood. She is an active member of LREDA, the Greenfield Group and the UU Trauma Response Ministry.



Rev. Tom Rhodes – The Existential Bicycle

The Rev. Rhodes will take us on a philosophical bike trip with Sisyphus, Moses, Albert Camus along the Blue Ridge Parkway! Rev. Tom Rhodes is minister of at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh.

Rev. Bill Neely – Honoring the Fullness of Life

Rev Neely will lead our intergenerational service of life’s milestones, honoring and reflecting on some of life’s important passages including baby dedications, a bridging ceremony for graduating teens, and recognition of loved ones who have recently passed away. Please contact Bill Neely (billneelymlts@yahoo.com) with questions. Rev. Bill Neely is a SUUSI Board member and minister of Neshoba Unitarian Universalist Church in Cordova, Tennessee.



SUUSIships

SUUSIships are financial assistance grants awarded to individuals and families who want to come to SUUSI but are experiencing a difficult financial situation. SUUSIships are need-based awards which defray the costs of registration, room and board (but not travel, workshops, or AC). Each award requires a work/service commitment.

If you would like to be considered for a SUUSIship, please submit your application as early as possible. For information, to make a donation or to request an application, e-mail suusiships@suusi.org.



Nightlife

In addition to the joyful merriment of CACHE, Serendipity and Cabaret, there are two special Family Concerts planned for this summer.

Kym Tuvim



With a voice that “is out of this world” (Green Man Review), Kym Tuvim has won over audiences and critics alike since Cake Records released her 1998 eponymous debut, subsequently selected as a “Top 12 DIY” release by The Performing Songwriter Magazine and featured on their 6th CD compilation. Her follow up, *On The Mend*, brought another critical nod, this time from Acoustic Guitar Magazine as a Top 5 Pick of 2003. Additional songwriting honors include The Falcon

Ridge Folk Festival (Emerging Songwriter Finalist, 2005 & “Most Wanted” Preview Tour, 2006), Song of the Year (Finalist, 2004), West Coast Songwriters International Song Contest (2nd Place, 2004) and the Plowshares Songwriting Contest (Finalist, 2003).

See Kym Tuvim on Tuesday at SUUSI.

Beaucoup Blue

Beaucoup Blue is the Philadelphia based duo of David and Adrian Mowry. Father and son have been performing their music strongly rooted in the blues, up and down the eastern seaboard. Bridging many gaps in American music, their soulful traditional and contemporary style mesh into an innovative and authentic sound. Although blues is a staple in their repertoire, they also base their love in music from Folk, Soul, R&B, Jazz, Country, and Bluegrass. All these interests and influences come out in their original songwriting in a unique way.



Beaucoup Blue will entertain us on Thursday.

Dinner Time

We heard you! Based on overwhelming feedback from 2006, SUUSI dinner time will be from 6:30-8 pm this year. For those who need to eat earlier, the D2 dining hall will be open. Look for the complete new evening schedule in this year’s catalog.



Registration News

Sit down. This news is big. Really big. Are you ready?

This year you will be able to register for SUUSI online! Yes, that means workshops and nature trips. Yes, youth trips, too. Online payment? Of course! The SUUSI Online Information System (SOLIS) makes it all possible.

You will be able to register your entire family online. SOLIS will total all your costs and even remind you about fields you’ve forgotten. Can you tell we’re thrilled?

We can’t wait to share the site with you. So, keep your keyboard ready, bookmark www.suusi.org and sign up in the spring.

