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Opening Words

Most of what I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate-school mountain, but there in the sand pile at Sunday School. These are the things that I learned:

Share everything.

Play Fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life - learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

Be aware of wonder.

From the book *'All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten'* by Robert Fulghum.

Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

<u>Date</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
Apr. 3	Rev. Donald Reidell		Refrigerator (aka lefts overs)
Apr. 10	Rev. John Rex		Betty and Sara Knight
Apr. 11	Pot Luck 6:30 PM		Please bring a dish to share.
Apr. 17	Susan Daiss	Time Share	Chris Loss
Apr. 24	Lee Richards	Easter	(coffee only)
May 1	Lee Richards	Annual Meeting	Lunch provided
May 8	Rev. John Rex	Mother's Day	

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Monday, April 11 – Potluck supper, 6:30 PM. Freeman Lattin, card tricks. Please bring a dish to pass.

Wednesday, April 13 – Concerned Citizens of Orleans County meeting, 7:00 PM. This is a mobilization effort to help save the Villages of Orleans Nursing Home!!

***Sunday, April 17** - Board of Trustees meet, 9:30 a.m.

Time Share Sunday

Adult Education/Talk-back Service. Susan Daiss' sermon will be about the background of our seven principles and a more in-depth look at principle #2 & 3.

***Sunday, April 24th – Easter.** This Sunday Lee Richards will celebrate "**A Unitarian Universalist Communion Service.**" As winter dies and spring is reborn we'll honor our Christian heritage with a bread and wine (and grape juice) communion. This updated ceremony will help us find renewed meaning for being in relationship with one another. This is an intergenerational service so children (and grandchildren) are most welcome to attend. Please note the traditional Good Friday service will not be held this year.

April 29-30, St. Lawrence District Assembly in Ithaca , NY . *'The Wider the Circle...The Deeper the Way...Becoming Whole as a Faith Community'*, hosted by the First Unitarian Society of Ithaca.

***Sunday, May 1st** – May 1 - "Super Powers." Would you like to have a super power? Be able to leap tall buildings, run faster than a speeding train, stop a bullet, shoot fire from your eyes, turn invisible? Beings with super powers are a part of the mythology of most cultures. Today Lee Richards will explore both the fantasy and the reality of super (natural) powers and what it all means for us personally, and as a UU congregation. Please note the annual congregational meeting will be held following the service.

***Sunday, May 1 – 117th Annual Congregational Meeting, directly following the church service. Lunch will be served.**

Please join us for the 117th Annual Meeting at the church on Sunday, May 1st following the regular service. This is our chance every year to look back over the year and see what progress was made, and to voice our ideas and opinions. And this year is it especially important that everyone attend, because we will be having a vote on the Ministerial Proposal. Lee Richards has presented his proposal on several occasions, has been in the pulpit numerous times this year, and has invited all questions. Anyone with questions is invited to ask at any time! So please plan on attending! Lunch will be served and coffee will be plentiful. Thank-you in advance!

Sunday, May 29 - Book discussion group meets directly after the service to discuss 'The Big Short' by Michael Lewis.

Other dates of interest:

Wednesday May 18 at Rochester UU Church UUA Trustee Speaks at Next GUUSTO Meeting

Dave Friedman, UUA Trustee from the St. Lawrence District, traveled with other members of the UUA Board in January to the Borderlands of Southern Arizona and Mexico to explore the area and to experience the immigration system and witness "Operation Streamline" with UUA President Peter Morales . He will report about this experience at the GUUSTO meeting at the Universalist Church , 150 S. Clinton Ave. , 7 pm Wednesday, May 18. He will also discuss the plans for the General Assembly 2012 in Phoenix .

Dave's report will further our collective understanding and exploration of immigration issues in Arizona. In addition to hearing from Dave, we will discuss some of the possible cluster initiatives that emerged from our discussions of the UUA Common Read, "The Death of Josseline." GUUSTO is the cluster meeting of the five UU congregations in our area - Genesee UU Societies TOgether - Rochester Unitarian, Rochester Universalist, Albion Universalist, Brockport Unitarian Universalist and Canandaigua Unitarian Universalist. All UUs of the area are welcome.

Our Seven Principles – A Talkback Discussion Series

On Sunday, March 20th, Susan Daiss delivered a sermon on the first UU Principal, "the inherent worth and dignity of every person". At the talk back session following the service, the group decided that although the words roll off your tongue pretty easily, the practical application is a bit harder. How many of us really believe that Hitler was a person with worth and dignity? What do we really think of a child abuser or serial rapist? How do you treat someone who has done something you consider to be reprehensible?

We considered the case of Saddam Hussein, who is almost universally despised. However, many of us did not feel that showing a video of him being pulled from a hole looking scared and disheveled was any way to treat any human being (as was done by the Bush Administration during the war in Iraq). While he has done some horrible things, we still felt that he needed a proper trial and respectful treatment. We also considered the case of Michael Jackson, who was a musical genius and had done so much good for the world, but who was held up to ridicule when he was on trial for possible sexual abuse of a child. Although he was never found guilty, he was subjected to endless ridicule in the media. And if the charges were true, did that then mean that his music should be ignored? It seems we are always making judgments regarding the worth of people. How do we really treat people who are not in our social class or who don't look or act the way we do? As we looked at this principal in more depth, more questions arose. Please join us for the next session (and principal #2) on Sunday, April 17th!!

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Diana Dudley – attended her niece's wedding in Cornell recently, and said it was lovely. And she entertained two of her granddaughters from out of town, as well. One of them helped her learn to create an excel sheet.

Chris Loss – is very concerned about what has been going on in Madison , Wisconsin where Governor Scott Walker has been fighting to take arbitration rights from workers and bust the union. On a different day in church, Chris talked about the difficult times that area schools have been having trying to face the reality of a huge reduction in state funding. Most schools are being forced to make staffing and program cuts.

Andrea Rebeck – has been worried about the people of Japan who are suffering now since the major earthquake, Tsunami, and nuclear disaster. This certainly is a tragic situation! On a lighter note, she spent a whole day in Albion recently on a Sunday, starting out by attending church, then touring the basement and other areas of the church. From there she took in the dulcimer concert at St. Josephs, and finally ran into some friends and spent time with them. Who says there's nothing to do in Albion ??

Gay Smith –informed the congregation that our talented Tyler was performing again, this time at the Water Street Music Hall and the Memorial Art Gallery (where Susan Daiss works).

PULLMAN PLAUDITS

Doris Brown – donated a coffee pot to the church. Thanks, Doris ...we UU's can't live without our coffee.

Craig Smith – once again helped out by fixing the gutters!! Craig seems to know how to fix just about everything!

Gay Smith – facilitated the book discussion on *'Mything in Action'* on April 3rd where we learned that our lives are often very much influenced by myths. It was a robust exchange of ideas...great book selection!

TIME SHARE

Contributions from Time Share Sunday – March 20th Many thanks to all who participated!

• **Dennis Seekins** – came across a piece on Alan Greenspan, where Greenspan admits, concerning the housing bubble in 2006, that: "I made a mistake in presuming that the self-interest of organizations, specifically banks and others, were such that they were best capable of protecting their own shareholders and their equity in the firms." And "I found a flaw in the model that I perceived as the critical functioning structure that defines how the world works". [Well, better late than never.]

• **C.W. Lattin** – read the words to the poem *'The Owl and the Pussycat'*.

• **Dan Miller** – talked about the embarrassing experience he had recently when a client demurely pointed out to him at the end of a session that Dan had his polo shirt on inside out!!!

• **Chris Loss** – read an excerpt from UU author Robert Fulghum's book *'All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten'*.

"I had gradually come to see that the Old Testament from its manifestly false history of the world, with the Tower of Babel, the rainbow as a sign, etc., etc., and from its attributing to God the feelings of a revengeful tyrant, was no more to be trusted than the sacred books of the Hindoos [sic], or the beliefs of any barbarian".

Charles Darwin in his autobiography

BOOK DISCUSSION

The title of the next book discussion selection is ***The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine*** By Michael Lewis.

This book was selected, by Dennis Seekins, to be reviewed by the group. Dennis is very well read and chose this book in order for us to gain some valuable insights into the subprime mortgage collapse. Over the next few weeks, copies of the book will become available at the church if you are in need of one. Please join us for an engaging discussion on Sunday, May 29, following the regular church service!

Editorial Review From [Bookmarks Magazine](#):

Michael Lewis has written from the perspective of a financial insider for more than 20 years. His first book, *Liar's Poker*, was a warts-and-all account of Wall Street culture in the 1980s, when Lewis worked at the investment bank Salomon Brothers. Everything Lewis has touched since has turned to gold, and *The Big Short* seems to be another of those books, combining an incendiary, timely topic with the author's solid, insightful, and witty investigative reporting.

Q: What should I do if I find a rock in a bag of potatoes?

A: Simply return the rock to your grocer, who will give you the rock's weight in potatoes.

From a USDA booklet, titled *How to Buy Potatoes*.

Eye on the Board of Trustees

-from the meeting held on March 20, 2011

***Treasurer's Report:** Dick Hoffman reported that \$9,000 was moved from the savings account to the checking account to pay bills, and the UUA was paid.

***Nominating Committee** –was activated by the Board, and a motion was made and carried that Diana Dudley fill one vacancy on the committee.

***Ministerial Proposal** –Lee Richards has attended a Potluck Supper and had one 'Meet and Greet' on March 27th to talk about his 1/3 time ministry proposal. Mailings have gone out to all voting members in the congregation in regards to the proposal including a short biography, and a historical perspective. Chris Loss has fashioned and revised a contract to go over with Lee.

***Annual Meeting** – the date is set for Sunday, May 1st for the 117th Annual Meeting. Notices and minutes will be posted. Lunch will be served. The ministerial vote will be held on that day. Members will need to be called, as a quorum of 15 is needed for the meeting to be official.

***Architect's Report** –Andrea Rebeck conducted a meeting going over the report and informing the Board about the condition of our building. A follow-up meeting will be held with the Building and Grounds Committee to go over some highlights, assess what we can do ourselves, and establish some priorities. Andrea agreed to write a grant for funding of the project. A motion was made and carried to move forward with the project.

***Children's RE Program**– discussed the need to prepare and clean up a room for the RE, and set up a changing table in the bathroom.

***Media Room** – need to secure our electronic equipment in one room. Discussed the possibility of internet services for the future, have e-mail accessibility between other churches and organizations.

***Adult RE Program** – Susan Daiss has modified her original plan for Adult Religious Education. Every 3rd Sunday of the month, she will preach on our UU Principals and have a talkback session following the sermon.

***Strawberry Festival** –the proposed plan is to sell coffee and doughnuts each morning, have free popcorn, C.W. Lattin's guided tours, a possible yard sale in the front, and possibly showing a video on UUism.

Next Board Meeting will be on: Sunday, April 17th at 9:30 a.m.

"Man is the religious animal. He is the only religious animal. He is the only animal that has the True Religion -- several of them. He is the only animal that loves his neighbor as himself and cuts his throat if his theology isn't straight."

Letters From the Earth, Mark Twain

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