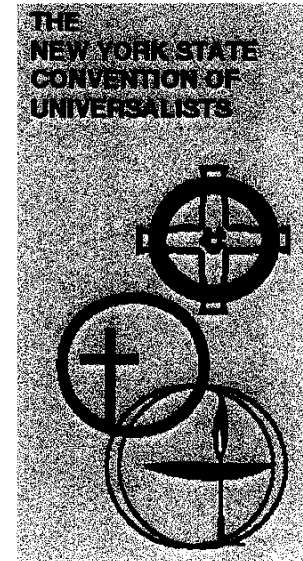


First Unitarian Church of Ithaca
306 N. Aurora Street, Ithaca, N.Y.

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**LOOKING: Forward, Inward,
Outward
Conference on Growth in
Religious Community**

**A Collaborative Program:
NY Convention of Universalists &
Metro New York and St. Lawrence
Districts of the UUA**

176th Annual Meeting
October 1 - 2, 2004
First Unitarian Church of Ithaca
306 N. Aurora Street,
Ithaca, N.Y. 14851

Keynote Speaker:
Rev. William Sinkford,
President of the UUA

At this conference in Ithaca, hear speakers and panels, and participate in workshops to explore growth of many kinds within our religious communities. Join religious leaders to talk, laugh, think, eat, sing and worship together.

Registration:

- Friday and Saturday: \$20 for NYSCU delegates; \$35 for all others
- Saturday only: \$25
- NOTE: After Sept. 15, \$50 for all

Lodgings:

Hotel accommodations will be in short supply due to local college activities.

We are holding a block of rooms at the **HOLIDAY INN** (222 Cayuga Street, 1.5 blocks from the Commons) in Ithaca **only until Sept. 8**. To reserve a room, call 607.272.1000 and ask for a room in the NYSCU block. You must give a credit card number to hold the room, regardless of how you are paying for it. **RATE: \$149.00 until 9/8/04 only**

We are holding another block of rooms at the **RAMADA INN** (N. Tripphammer Road in front of Pyramid Mall) just outside Ithaca **only until Sept. 13**. To reserve a room, call 607.257.3100 and ask for a room in the NYSCU block. You must give a credit card number to hold the room, regardless of how you are paying for it. **RATE: \$129.95 until 9/13/04 only**

For camping accommodations: Buttermilk Falls State Park, Rt. 135; nysparks.com or 607.273.5761; Robert H. Treman State Park, Rte. 327, nysparks.com or 607.273.3440

Directions to First Unitarian of Ithaca:

From Rt. 79, Rt. 96 and Rt. 89: turn north on Route 13/34 (Meadow Street); turn East on Buffalo St.; go 7 blocks East on Buffalo St. to Aurora St.
From Rt. 96B: continue straight onto Aurora St., go four blocks to Buffalo St.

FRIDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 1:

5 pm Registration & Welcome at First Unitarian Church of Ithaca

6 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Presentation by Pat Emery of Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden, Colorado

Volunteer Coordination and New Member Integration:

This congregation has developed a culture of true openness to new people and high expectations of its shared ministry, and has grown as a result. JUC's culture supports practical programs to greet and integrate newcomers and to organize all members for the basic tasks of the community. This workshop is an overview of these successful programs and the philosophy underlying them, workshop includes documents used in implementation.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2:

8 - 9 am Continental Breakfast and Registration

9 - 10:30 am Worship with Rev. Richard Gilbert followed by Keynote Address by Rev. William Sinkford, President of the UUA

10:45 - 12 noon: Margaret Beard, UUA Growth Consultant
Leadership Qualities Fostering Growth: For clergy, religious professionals and laity, Margaret will explore growth along multiple dimensions and the variety of roles/ways people can be involved creating healthy and vital religious communities.

12:15: LUNCH

1 - 1:50 176th Annual Meeting of the NYSCU

2 - 3:30 WORKSHOP #3:

- A Pat Emery Reprise: See the description of Friday's session of this workshop on a successful new member integration program.
- B Feeling the Spirit: June Gillespie of Metro District will facilitate a panel discussion that discovers how churches can break the barriers to growth, moving past the psychological stumbling blocks and finding greater vitality and health.
- C New Congregational Starts: Rev. Linda Hoddy and Rev. Craig Hershberg will cofacilitate a discussion about our new congregations in Saratoga Springs, NY and Somerset Hills, New Jersey. Where are other new starts possible? What support can we expect from the UUA? What will be the district's role in additional new starts?

3:45 - 5:15 WORKSHOP #4:

- A Faith, Mission and Vision : Three Essentials for Growth
What grounds congregational growth? This workshop will explore the relationship between UU faith, a sense of mission, congregational vision and the growth of congregation. Workshop Leaders: Rev. Harry Green Congregational Services Consultant, Metro New York District and Rev. Dr. Tom Chulak, District Executive, St. Lawrence District.
- B Spiritual Growth: Rev. Jennifer Brower from Metro New York District Small Group Ministries and their positive impact on growth.

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION (Please print)

Name: _____ Delegate: Y N

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ email: _____

Congregation: _____

Dates of Attendance:

Friday and Saturday _____ (\$20 for delegates, \$35 otherwise) After 9/15 \$50; Saturday Only: _____ \$20 for delegates, \$25 otherwise

Please make checks payable to:

First Unitarian Church of Ithaca, (on the memo line: NYSCU) send to: P. O. Box 6, Ithaca, N. Y. 14851

Workshop Choices:

Check two workshops for Session #3; also indicate preferences with 1 & 2

- A Member Retention
- B Feeling the Spirit
- C New Congregations

Please check one workshop for Session #4:

- A Faith, Mission, Vision
- B Spiritual Growth