

The Promise:

The work of the Murray Grove Association is to increase spiritual development in service to the world.

The Five Pathways to the Promise:

The Pathway of Sanctuary

Providing a sanctuary for cultivating the spirit and liberating power of universal love.

The Pathway of Honoring the Land

Preservation and enhancement of the natural environment and historic site of Murray Grove as a living memorial to the life, labor and Universalist faith of Thomas Potter and John Murray.

The Pathway of Universal Love

Articulation and communication of a 21st century Universalist voice for the contribution of universal love to a stronger Unitarian Universalist faith and vision of possible impact on the wider world.

The Pathway of Love in Action

Sustainable learning and leadership communities committed to applying the values of universal love and inclusive community in addressing key issues of our time.

The Pathway of Understanding

Increased understanding of commonalities across cultures and traditions through interfaith dialogue.

Special Friday night offering with Jim Scott!

MAKING ART OUT OF OUR VISION

September 29, 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

This year Jim Scott will be offering an exciting pre-Homecoming program on the Friday evening before Homecoming. Jim will help us to express our vision through a variety of artistic media.

It will be a joyful and creative time!

Call or email us today to make your reservation. Space is limited to 20 participants. Cost is \$30.00/person and includes overnight accommodations (no meals); \$20/person if you do not plan to spend the night at Murray Grove.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Murray Grove Retreat and
Conference Center
PO Box 246
Lanoka Harbor, NJ 08734-0246

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2006 HOMECOMING

A Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Celebration

You won't want to miss this!



Rev. Forrest Gilmore
Minister, UU Congregation
of Princeton, NJ



Rev. Skc Gupta
founder, "Gandhi for Today,"
international peace organization



Jim Scott
singer/composer/
environmental activist, Boston

Under the big white tent!



Rev. Vanessa R. Southern
Minister, UU Church of
Summit, NJ; author



Kurt Spellmeyer
Zen Master, Rutgers Zen
Community; Director of the
Writing Program at Rutgers



Nate Walker
founder, Da Vinci College
Foundation; Executive Director,
National Tuition Endowment
student movement; candidate for
UU community ministry.

Pilgrimages of the HEART

Saturday, September 30, 2006

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Rain or shine!

Special Friday night program:

MAKING ART OUT OF OUR VISION (see inside)

Murray Grove belongs to you!

Over the years, hundreds of UUs have made pilgrimages to Murray Grove at Homecoming and other times of the year. This year's Homecoming celebration is being held on the exact anniversary of the actual date that John Murray gave his first sermon on American soil: a sermon that inspired him to begin a journey that eventually led to the establishment of the first Universalist church in America and Universalism as a denomination. Murray Grove is a place of roots and wings.

Homecoming 2006 will center on pilgrimage. Each of the leaders will focus their sessions on one way (out of many) that we Unitarian Universalists can create personal pilgrimages to transform, up-lift, enlighten and expand our hearts in compassion to all beings. This is what we are called to do. This is what we must do to help this fractured and hurting world: change one heart at a time.

It is with great pride that we introduce the following individuals, who have agreed to share their passion, creativity and insights with us as they lead this year's day of pilgrimage and celebration. In addition to Homecoming, some of these leaders will be offering extended programming at Murray Grove throughout the coming year. (More information will be available on these programs at Homecoming.) Their commitment is to help others to deepen their faith so that they in turn can transform that deepened faith into love in action in the wider world.

Let the pilgrimage begin...

Oneness REV. FORREST GILMORE

Motivated by the attacks of September 11th, Rev. Gilmore is dedicated to helping people transcend an "us vs. them" mentality and come to embrace our oneness with all existence. He is the author of the forthcoming pamphlet, *Oneness - A Path to Heal Our World*, soon to be available at www.oneness.net.

Called in 2004, Rev. Gilmore serves as the parish minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Princeton. He also served the UU Church of the Monterey Peninsula from 1999-2004 as its associate minister. He graduated from Starr King School for the Ministry and worked as a wildlife biologist and outdoor educator before entering the ministry.

Forrest is a member of the Murray Grove "Wisdom Team."

Peace

RAVI SUC GUPTA is the founder of "Gandhi for Today," an international peace organization. Ravi's spiritual journey goes back 40 years and is anchored in Vedanta (Hinduism, including the beliefs of Buddha & Mahavir). Ravi's guiding belief is in everyone's direct connection to the divine and inherent holiness in all faiths. His spirituality includes wisdom from Sufism, Jainism, Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism, Sikhism, Native American beliefs and African traditions. In addition, Ravi's life journey includes an international business career of 27 years and a love for starting social-change ventures from age 11.

Ravi's passion now is to help each person find their own unique path for inner-

growth and life-success; and to increase humanity's understanding about the oneness in different spiritualities. Ravi's core conviction is that "we are not human beings with a spiritual quest; rather, we are spiritual beings on a human journey. All aspects of our humanity - personal, professional, intimate, family, social, and community - are part of our spirituality. And, our individual spiritualities are all part of the one collective universal consciousness. Living in this awareness of human-wholeness is essential for individual happiness and worldwide peace."

Ravi is a member of the Murray Grove "Wisdom Team."

The Earth JIM SCOTT

Musician and composer Jim Scott has visited well over 300 UU churches in the past twenty years. His hymn, "Gather the Spirit," has become a staple for many congregations, one of three he has in the UU hymnbook. His latest project, just out, is "The Earth and Spirit Songbook," an anthology of songs of ecology and peace. Many people know Jim as a member of the Paul Winter Consort, for which he has composed and recorded many pieces. He is known for his lyrical songs of nature, peace, and other positive values. Pete Seeger has called Jim "...some kind of a magician."

Jim was the Co-Chair of the Seventh Principle Project, the UU ecological group, and helped develop the "Green Sanctuary" program for churches to follow to become more ecologically sound.

Revival REV. VANESSA R. SOUTHERN

Vanessa was ordained to ministry in 1995 upon graduating from Harvard Divinity School. Her first settled ministry was five years as a minister at The Universalist National Memorial Church in Washington, D.C. She served an interim year in Cherry Hill, NJ, before being called to serve the UU Church of Summit, NJ in 2001.

In explaining her personal theology, Vanessa has written: "...For me there is something beyond and within and between us all that is more than just flesh and blood, intellect and will. It is what I call God (although I am with the Buddha on this one in believing we each grab hold of only one part of this elephant and would be wise not to draw any grand conclusions from our single handful). So I know and speak from what I have experienced, open to what others have experienced, humbled always by what ultimately is mystery and paradox to me..."

Rev. Southern is the author of the popular UU meditation manual, "This Piece of Eden," published in 2001.

Change of Heart

KURT SPELLMEYER is the teacher (sensei) of the Rutgers Zen Community. He has been teaching Zen for nearly 20 years, having received dharma transmission and permission to teach in 1985, as a member of the Kanzan (Cold Mountain) lineage of Japanese Zen that ultimately goes back to the Han Shan Temple in Suzhou, China. He leads weekly Zen meditation groups at Rutgers, and all

over northern and central New Jersey, with five 5-7 day silent retreats a year that are held at Murray Grove.

He is also the Director of the Writing Program at Rutgers, overseeing the English composition course required of all Rutgers students. In 2004 he was honored with a Faculty Scholar-Teacher Award, which "recognizes professors who are able to integrate their teaching with their research, and who demonstrate how both scholarship and love of learning can be shared with students." His most recently published book is entitled *Arts of Living: Reinventing the Humanities for the Twenty-First Century*.

Kurt is a member of the Murray Grove "Wisdom Team."

Rites of Passage

NATE WALKER is a doctoral student in the Higher and Postsecondary Education Administration program at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he also received a Masters of Arts degree. Nate is a candidate for UU community ministry and in May 2005 he received a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary, NY. He recently completed his ministerial internship at the UU church in White Plains, NY.

Nate is the Executive Director of the National Tuition Endowment student movement and a member of the young adult community in Metro New York. He is the founder of the Da Vinci College Foundation with the mission to be the first official UU college in America.

Nate is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Murray Grove Association.

Murray Grove Homecoming 2006

REGISTRATION

Name(s) _____

 Address _____

 Telephone _____
 Email _____

Suggested donation: \$8 donation per person
 children under twelve \$4; children under 5 free. \$ _____
 Number of box lunches _____ x \$8.50 \$ _____

Won't you please help support Homecoming 2006?

We appreciate your sponsoring Homecoming this year and in past years.
Your support makes this Homecoming celebration possible.
 Your donation will be acknowledged in the Homecoming program.

Vision Holder (\$500) \$ _____
 Heritage Holder (\$250) \$ _____
 Patron (\$100) \$ _____
 Sponsor (\$50) \$ _____
 Friend (\$25) \$ _____

Members are admitted to Homecoming free!

More importantly, we want your voice to be heard as a member of Murray Grove.

Won't you join the membership group today?

Individual (\$25) Family (\$40) Group (\$100) \$ _____

Yes, I would like to attend Friday night "Making Art Out of Our Vision."

I (we) will want overnight accommodations
 # _____ @ \$30/person \$ _____
 I (we) would like to register for the workshop only
 # _____ @ \$20/person \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:
Murray Grove Association, and send to:
 PO Box 246, Lanoka Harbor, NJ, 08734-0246
 Limited overnight accommodations available.

SEE YOU THERE!

detach and mail