

## Reverend John Buehrens

Reverend Buehrens brings not only a national perspective on economic justice, but also the understanding of a parish minister. He has been a prominent figure on the national religious scene for years, has served as special advisor to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and is a prolific author.

The economic meltdown at the national and world levels has pervaded the religious consciousness. The recession has not only a social, political and economic impact, but also a moral and spiritual one as well. How do we respond as individuals, as a congregation, as a religious movement? Reverend Buehrens will outline his views on this troubling topic.

## CONFERENCE THEME

The economic meltdown at the national and world levels has pervaded the religious consciousness. The recession has not only social, political and economic consequences, but also moral and spiritual implications as well. How do we respond as individuals, as a congregation, as a religious movement?

This fourth annual conference of the St. Lawrence District Social Justice Council features John Buehrens, former President of the UUA. John brings not only a national perspective on economic justice, but also the understanding of a parish minister. He has been a prominent figure on the national religious scene for years, has served as special advisor to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee and is a prolific author. Skinner House Books will soon publish his book, co-authored by Rebecca Parker of Starr King School for the Ministry, *Maintaining a House of Hope*.

Workshops led by activists will focus on this theme through specific topics of interest to UU's in New York State and beyond. Welcome to the conversation - a conversation we hope will be prelude to action.

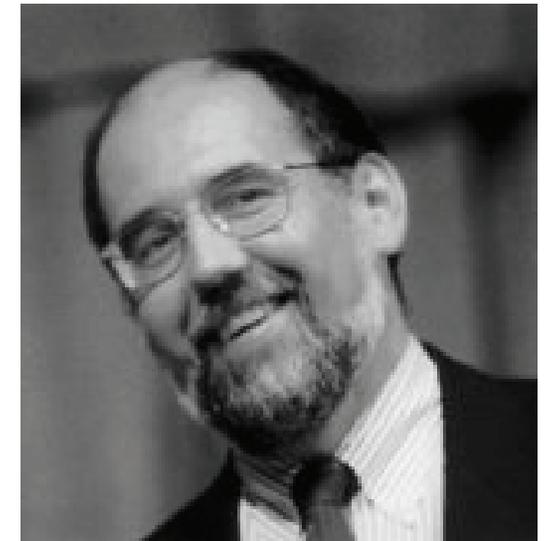
St Lawrence District  
Unitarian Universalist Association  
695 Elmwood Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14222-1697

**DOING JUSTICE IN  
AN  
ECONOMIC TSUNAMI**



**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF AMHERST,  
NEW YORK  
6320 MAIN STREET  
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221**

**SPONSORED BY  
THE ST LAWRENCE DISTRICT  
SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 7, 2009  
9:00 AM TO 4 PM**



**THEME SPEAKER:  
REV. JOHN BUEHRENS  
FORMER PRESIDENT,  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
ASSOCIATION,  
PARISH MINISTER,  
FIRST PARISH  
NEEDHAM, MA (UU)**

## Schedule

9:00: Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:45 Welcome and Greetings

10:00: Ingathering Worship:  
Rev. Tim Ashton, Parish Minister  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst

10:15: Welcome from the SLD Rev Tom Chulak

10:30: **Key Note Rev. John Buehrens**  
**"Maintaining a House of Hope"**

11:15: Q & A Moderated by Rev. Dick Gilbert

12:00 to 12:45 Lunch Emerson  
Room

12:45 pm **Plenary Session** Emerson Room

"Race, Class and Economic Justice"

Moderator: Rev Richard Gilbert

Response by: Rev John Buehrens

Formal remarks will be followed by facilitated  
discussion at each table.

1:45 pm Introduction of workshop presenters

2:00 pm to 2:15 pm Move to workshops

2:15 pm to 3:30 pm Selected Workshops

3:30 pm Closing Worship Rev. Joel  
Miller  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo

## AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

### **Workshop 1 Jacqui Williams** **What role does race play** **in economic justice?**

Jacqui C. Williams, Co Chair of Catalyst will facilitate a discussion around some historical and recent examples where access to economic opportunity has been along racial lines. Unevenly distributed forms of risk call us to look at the role of race in understanding the needs and impact of economic justice.

### **Workshop 2 Rebecca Elgie** **The shifting sands of universal health care**

Rebecca Elgie —Co-Director of Tompkins  
County Health Care Task Force will explore the  
very latest proposals and asses the state of the  
current debate in congress.

### **Workshop 3 Rev. Richard Gilbert** **"Is Ours a Class Church?"**

Demographically Unitarian Universalism tends  
to be a faith for the educated and afflu-  
ent. Why? And what should we do about  
it? The workshop will examine this perennial  
issue

### **Workshop 4 Robb Smith** **Race, religion and political street fights** **in the NYS Senate**

Robb Smith, Executive Director, Interfaith Im-  
pact of NYS will explore this summers coup that  
brought the legislative session to a halt and  
how that has affected legislative issues that are  
important to liberal faith communities.

## REGISTRATION FORM

**To facilitate conference planning, please  
pre-register by October 1.**

Pre-registration fee (includes lunch): \$30  
(Child care and Friday night hospitality only  
with pre-registration)

**Registration fee at door \$35**  
**Lecture only \$10**  
**Students \$10**

**Make checks payable to " St. Lawrence  
District"** and mark for "SJC Conference"

Mail registration form and check to:

St Lawrence District  
Attn. Sue Tabone  
695 Elmwood Ave,  
Buffalo, NY 14223-1697,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Request for display table \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide details for special dietary con-  
cerns, accessibility concerns, or if child care is  
needed. (only available with pre-registration)  
Child Care Needed \_\_\_\_\_(ages)\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_Friday Night Home Hospitality needed

Workshop Preferences  
First choice

Workshop 1 Jacqui Williams \_\_\_\_\_

Work Shop 2 Rebecca Elgie \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop 3 Rev Richard Gilbert \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop 4 Robb Smith \_\_\_\_\_