



The Transcendentalist movement that *exploded* around Emerson was the most luminous American contribution to religious and spiritual thought.

But the story isn't over.

Meet the Transcendentalists and learn their story and how **we can extend their vision** for today and tomorrow.

Meet contemporary visionaries like Ken Wilber, Andrew Cohen, and Aurobindo.

Call it evolutionary enlightenment. See what this compelling spiritual vision means in your life, what it means for the world.

Religion will serve either as a powerful lock on the archaic past, or as a powerful engine for the evolution of consciousness. Here's an evolutionary spiritual vision that can revitalize our Unitarian Universalist movement.

Coming to the **Unitarian Universalist Church of Manchester**
 669 Union Street, Manchester, New Hampshire • 603.625.6854
 FIVE WINTER THURSDAYS AND A WEEKEND, 2011

“ PARTICIPANTS SAY: ”

“You gave new life and meaning to the great visionary leaders that shaped Unitarianism and this country. And the leap to our need for evolutionary enlightenment is brilliant. This message — and these workshops — need to be shared by all UU congregations: it really is the way to increase our growth in the right evolutionary practice.”

“I found your series not only intellectually stimulating and personally meaningful, but also, at my life's present point, especially relevant. I also find you immensely likable. In addition, at this juncture in my life's journey, your manner of presentation suited me well.”

“Had been struggling with why cultivate a spiritual practice — this is very useful.”

“Very timely and enlightening: conducive to soul growth.”

“Wonderful! This is fascinating and inspiring stuff.”

“The bringing together of the Transcendentalists with the Cohen material is very forceful — ties together two important passions.”

“I found these sessions to be most worthwhile. Andrew Cohen's teaching was completely new to me and quite thought-provoking. The brief meditation session on Saturday afternoon brought me closer to what I've always imagined a meditative state would be like than anything else I've tried. I'm interested in exploring that further.”

“I would definitely recommend this course to other UU congregations and persons. Abundantly relevant, informative, and inspiring. Extremely engaging and exciting for me. I hope Jay gets to do a national tour with this! His presentation engaged and stimulated me and clearly did so for others. The seminars expanded my knowledge of both Transcendentalist and UU history (and their relationship) and brilliantly traced these to present-day figures such as Ken Wilber and Andrew Cohen. Also, all this pointed to clear social action implications. I'm deeply grateful.”

PART ONE: THE TRANSCENDENTALISTS

SESSION I THURSDAY, JAN. 20, 2011, 7-9 PM

UNITARIANISM BEFORE EMERSON

You might be surprised! What was “Supernatural Rationalism”?
The appearance of a spiritual revolutionary.

SESSION II THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 7-9 PM

“THE NEWNESS”: HARBINGERS OF THE REVOLUTION

It’s an amazing story, and even UUs know little of it.

SESSION III THURSDAY, FEB. 3, 7-9 PM

THE CUTTING EDGE: SYSTEMS SHAKE

The Transcendentalists as leaders of the anti-slavery movement; Emerson, Theodore Parker, and Senator Sumner.

SESSION IV THURSDAY, FEB. 10, 7-9 PM

STORIES FROM THE FRONT LINES/LEGACY

Brook Farm, Walt Whitman, later Transcendentalists
and the enduring legacy.

PART TWO: INTEGRAL SPIRITUALITY

SESSION V THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 7-9 PM

A CONTEMPORARY ENLIGHTENMENT

Think the story ended somewhere in the 19th century? Wrong! How the Transcendentalists’ work is extended in the work Ken Wilber, Andrew Cohen, and other pioneers who pursue the Transcendentalist vision — the evolutionary dimension of spirituality.

WEATHER MAKEUP DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

PART THREE: EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT

SESSION VI SATURDAY, FEB. 26, 9AM-12N

WHAT IS EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT?

Presentation, conversation, and Andrew Cohen’s evolutionary/revolutionary approach to spiritual life — presented by Andrew Cohen, via video

SESSION VII SATURDAY, FEB. 26, 1-5 PM

THE UNIVERSE AWAKENING TO ITSELF THE PRACTICE AND PURPOSE OF MEDITATION

SESSION VIII SATURDAY, FEB. 26, 7-9 PM

BECOMING THE AUTHENTIC SELF

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 10 A.M.

WORSHIP

Jay Deacon preaches on
Context: The Farthest Reaches of Possibility for Congregational Life
— a Higher “We”!

SESSION IX SUNDAY, FEB 27, 12-1:30

Everyone is welcome to this session!

LIVING EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT

WHAT KIND OF CONGREGATION?

ABOUT JAY DEACON

Dr. Deacon currently serves half-time as minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Manchester, NH. He has served congregations in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, Illinois, Florida, and the United Kingdom. He led the creation of Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Oak Park, Illinois by consolidating two UU congregations. He led UTUUC from 1993 to 2002 — a period of growth, spiritual development, deepening community, social witness, and restoration of the historic building.

As Director of the UUA Office of GLBT Concerns in the 1980s, Jay led the development of the Welcoming Congregation Program. He’s currently working on a book titled *Magnificent Journey: Religion as Lock on the Past or Engine of Evolution*. He lives in the Western Massachusetts town of Westhampton.

