



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.

Details inside 

RETREAT LEADER: JAY DEACON

Dr. Deacon is the Unitarian Universalist minister who led the creation of Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation by consolidating Oak Park's two UU congregations. He led UTUUC from 1993 to 2002 — a period of growth, spiritual development, deepening community, social witness, and restoration of our historic building.

Jay has served congregations in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Illinois, Florida, and the United Kingdom. He's currently working on a book titled *Magnificent Journey: Religion as Lock on the Past or Engine of Evolution*. He lives in Western Massachusetts. More info: jaydeacon.net

**For registration information and
to register, call Unity Temple UU
Congregation at 708.848.6225
or email egage@unitytemple.org**

PART ONE:
THE TRANSCENDENTALISTS

SESSION I THUR, JAN. 21, 7-9 PM

UNITARIANISM BEFORE EMERSON

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

SESSION II FRIDAY, JAN. 22, 9-12 A.M.

“THE NEWNESS”: HARBINGERS OF THE REVOLUTION

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

SESSION III FRIDAY AFTERNOON 1-5

THE CUTTING EDGE: SYSTEMS SHAKE

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

STORIES FROM THE FRONT LINES/LEGACY

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

PART TWO:
INTEGRAL SPIRITUALITY

SESSION IV FRIDAY EVENING 7-9

A CONTEMPORARY ENLIGHTENMENT

Think the story ending 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.

PART THREE:
EVOLUTIONARY
ENLIGHTENMENT

SESSION V SATURDAY, JAN. 23, 9-12

WHAT IS EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT?

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

SESSION VI SATURDAY AFTERNOON 1-5

THE UNIVERSE AWAKENING TO ITSELF

THE PRACTICE AND PURPOSE OF MEDITATION

SESSION VII SATURDAY EVENING 7-9

BECOMING THE AUTHENTIC SELF

SUNDAY A.M.

BEGINS WITH WORSHIP AT 9:30 & 11:15 IN THE TEMPLE

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

SESSION VIII SUNDAY, JAN. 24, 1:30-3:30

Everyone is welcome to this session!

LIVING EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT

WHAT KIND OF CONGREGATION?

THE FARTHEST REACHES OF POSSIBILITY