



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.

---

---

“ 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 EVENING, 7-9 PM

### UNITARIANISM BEFORE EMERSON

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

SESSION II FRIDAY MORNING, 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 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.

## PART THREE: EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT

SESSION V SATURDAY MORNING, 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

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

SESSION VIII SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30-3:30

Everyone is welcome to this session!

### LIVING EVOLUTIONARY ENLIGHTENMENT

### WHAT KIND OF CONGREGATION?

### THE FARTHEST REACHES OF POSSIBILITY

### 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. More info: [jaydeacon.net](http://jaydeacon.net)



Dear colleague or adult education programmer —



A lifelong spiritual quest, years of study, and a rich career of teaching and preaching a forward-looking Unitarian Universalist spiritual vision — equip me now to offer your congregation the seminar event described in the accompanying brochure.

I'm excited about the prospect of acquainting UUs with this revolutionary chapter in our own story, and acquainting them, too, with the expanding vision and unbounded potentialities that flow, still, from it. A profound grasp of the evolutionary impulse at the heart of the Transcendentalists' work still drives many in our time who now call us to higher possibilities. The future is ours to create. Never before has the journey of life stood at a precipice quite like the one we now face. It's time for a spiritual revolution. Consciousness and culture must take another leap. We know we don't have long to make it happen.

I hope you'll give serious consideration to offering the program. Colleagues are invited to share the experience without charge. In order to bring it to your congregation, I require a per-person registration fee of \$75. I bring the program along with loads of projected images, a digital projector, and audio equipment. You will need to provide the place and a screen.

On my website, I provide lots of reading items, which can also be provided in print form.

You can reach me at [fjdeacon@uuma.org](mailto:fjdeacon@uuma.org), or by phone:

413-210-1479, or by post:

E. Jay Deacon

39 Stage Road

Westhampton, MA 01027-9655