



**Thoreau as Spiritual Guide:
Walden as a Guide for Spiritual Renewal and
Transformation
A Summer Discussion Series**

**Sundays, 5 p.m., Beginning June 11, 2006 – through July 23, 2006
at Friends Meeting House, 17208 Avenue 296, Visalia, California**

Sponsored by Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia

Our guidebooks for this summer's series will be:

Walden by Henry David Thoreau

Many editions available –including free on the Internet:

Illustrated and annotated HTML version at:

<http://thoreau.eserver.org/walden00.html>

Searchable Word .doc file at:

<http://www.archive.org/details/Walden>

*Thoreau as Spiritual Guide: A Companion to Walden for Personal Reflection and
Group Discussion* by Barry M. Andrews (Skinner House Books, 2000)

- available from any of these sources:

www.uua.org/bookstore

www.amazon.com

www.bn.com

It is not absolutely *essential* that you obtain either of these books to participate in our summer series, but you will get more out of it if you do get hold of a copy of *Walden*.

The leaders' resource will be the Barry Andrews book identified above; interested participants may also be interested in obtaining a copy for personal reflection.

"In *Walden*, Thoreau ... opens the inner frontier of self-discovery as no American book had up to this time. As deceptively modest as Thoreau's ascetic life, it is no less than a guide to living the classical ideal of the good life. Both poetry and philosophy, this long poetic essay challenges the reader to examine his or her life and live it authentically."

- [Kathryn VanSpankeren](#)

Series Schedule

Week 1: June 11, 2006:

Andrews: "Self-Culture: Transcendentalism and the Care of the Soul"
"Guidelines for Leaders" (actually Group guidelines)

Thoreau: Read the Preface or Introduction of whichever edition of *Walden* you have.

Week 2: June 18, 2006

Andrews: "How Do We Spend our Lives?"

Thoreau: "Economy"

Week 3: June 25, 2006

Andrews: "How Do We Wake Up?"

Thoreau: "Where I Lived and What I Lived For"

Week 4: July 2, 2006

Andrews: "How Do We Grow?"

Thoreau: "Reading" and "Sounds"

Week 5: July 9, 2006

CELEBRATE HENRY DAVID THOREAU'S BIRTHDAY ON JULY 12!

Andrews: "Society and Solitude"

Thoreau: "Solitude" and "Visitors"

Week 6: July 16, 2006

Andrews: "The Spiritual Life"

Thoreau: "Higher Laws"

Week 7: July 23, 2006

Andrews: "How Then Shall We Live?"

Thoreau: "Conclusion"

Questions?

Contact: Harold Wood

green@uuvisalia.org

559-739-8527

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