

Issue

April 2019

The Foreword



The Newsletter of the

Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst

6320 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221

634-3010 (x101 for office) Office Hours Tuesday to Friday 9am to 2pm www.uuamherst.org

Amherst Little Free Pantry Questions: amherstlittlefreepantry@uuamherst.org

We challenge ourselves and the community to foster more compassion and justice in the world.

Our Staff:

Minister

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Minister Emerita

Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener

SUNDAY SERVICES IN APRIL AT 10:30am

Sundays in April: The Soul Matters theme for this month is **WHOLENESS.**

7

Full Circle

Kristina Church

During a worship service last autumn, the congregation shared favorite memories and fondest hopes for our Beloved Community. Now it's time to hear more about those stories. How can we give the present moment roots and wings, by honoring the past and embracing the future?

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Friending Death

Kristin Chambers

This reflection explores important questions about being mortal and the opportunity we now have, through NY's Physician Aid in Dying legislation, to make the actual process of dying more humane. Kristin Chambers, a longtime UU, experienced many aspects of this process during the years while her younger brother Mark died of ALS. Special plate collection today for Gerard's Place.

21

Together Today in Paradise

Rev. Michelle Buhite & Kristina Church

This multigenerational service will celebrate both Easter and Earth Day.

28

May Day

Professor John Snodgrass

A look at ancient ritualistic celebrations for welcoming May, and how some of these traditions have been pushed to the margins of society. We'll find some clues about old May games in the story of Robin Hood and the merry gang in Sherwood Forest. Professor Snodgrass teaches Religious Studies at Buffalo State, and Native American Religions at Canisius college. He has been a freelance Unitarian preacher for six years, and lives in Buffalo with his wife and their four children.

UUCA Covenant

Together we promise:

To gather in compassionate community,

To celebrate diversity of thought and unity of spirit;

And to seek wholeness for ourselves, our children, and our world.

MINISTER'S CORNER



It's 'feast or famine' – right? After being in the pulpit for 18 of 21 services since November, April looks like a cakewalk! Oh, you'll still see me on Sunday mornings, I just won't be doing much preaching. I'm excited for you to experience the speakers and topics this month.

The first week, our student minister, Kristina will be offering a follow-up service to the one she facilitated in November, based on your responses to important questions. The second Sunday my friend Kristin Chambers will share her passion for justice and compassion at the end of life. I met Kristin back in 2001 at the UU Congregation of Jamestown – and we've been friends and co-conspirators ever since!

Since this year Easter and Earth Sunday fall on the same day, Kristina and I are hatching (ha! See what I did there?) ideas to honor both of these meaningful holy days. And, of course, on the fourth Sunday our friend and 'free range' UU speaker, Professor John Snodgrass will share some insights with us about May Day's culture and customs.

Meanwhile, our church theme this month is WHOLENESS. I will be out of town April 3-10 for a second intensive (of four) in Spiritual Direction – an endeavor that is filling my own cup as well as giving me more skills to more effectively fill yours. May the warming days of April fill your hearts with love and joy.

See you in church!
Rev. Michelle

Special Plate Collection



Several years ago our Social Justice Committee, with Board approval, initiated a plan to introduce our congregation to some local organizations that serve the needy in our larger community. We invited representatives from several organizations to speak to the congregation at a Sunday service and we donated the plate collection that Sunday to the speaker's organization.

That first year we decided that we would "adopt" two of these organization - Jericho Road and Gerard Place - and make a yearly plate donation to them.



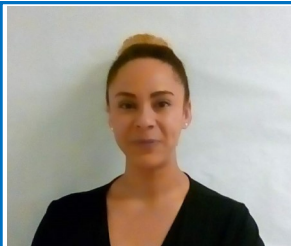
This year our Christmas plate collection went to Jericho Road (which has assumed management of VIVE.) **On Sunday, April 14, we will donate our collection to Gerard Place.** Gerard place provides housing and supportive programming for homeless, single parent families. Parents receive education and vocational training, life skills classes, counseling and safe housing for their family while their children's needs are also met.

Please make any check donations payable to the UUCA with Gerard Place written on the memo line. Thank you, in advance, for your caring generosity!



Fragrance Free Zone

Chemical Sensitivities: Please refrain from wearing scented products (perfume, cologne, etc.) on Sunday mornings. We have several people for whom these scents cause headaches and other allergic reactions. Thank you for helping make our beloved community welcoming to all.



Faith Development Updates

Zoe Bell-Schwede

Director of Faith Development

dfd@uuamherst.org

Office: 716-634-3010 x104

Spring is Here—with many exciting trips and events in FD!

Our Soup in the Jar Fundraiser for the Young Adult conference was a great success. Thank you to everyone who bought an item.

We have regular FD classes the first, second, and fourth Sundays of April . On Sunday, April 21st, Rev. Michelle and Kristina Church will be leading us in a multi-generational celebration of both Earth Day and Easter. After services on Easter Sunday , we will be having an Easter egg hunt from 11:30 -12:15 on both the first and second floors of the church. The kids will be able to pick their own treats and prizes.

There will be a Children's Chapel on May 12th for Mother's Day located in the Channing Chapel, and I'm looking for a few father's to help facilitate programming that day.

Please contact me if you are interested in helping FD in any way:



After services Sunday, April 7th

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Emerson Room

\$10 for a dinner with meatballs, bread, and salad

\$7 for a dinner with no meatballs, bread, and salad

Gluten free options for pasta and bread will be available

Benefits our Coming of Age Group as they raise funds for their annual trip to Boston

Thank you for your support!



Spring is officially here as I write this article. But here in Western New York, there's always a lag between arrival of the vernal equinox, and the unfolding of the season: birds chirping, flowers blooming, trees leafing out.

When, oh when, will we get to “the other side” and be in paradise? I'm always impatient to get on with it! But it's important to appreciate this fertile time, remembering that all seasons are sacred and beautiful, not wishing away the present moment. Perhaps lingering mud and dirty snow can teach us a lot about how to find beauty and peace amid the struggle!

I'm a reluctant expert on how to survive a late thaw, having lived in Alaska for almost thirty years, and now in Buffalo for eleven. It's the most difficult season for me, so I've had to learn patience with myself and with Mother Nature. Here are some of my intentional practices for surviving...and thriving...during this transitional season.

Pay attention. Each change of the light, each new smell of mud in the air, each tiny pale green bud on a slender branch, each new note of bird song, can be a moment for gratitude and delight. Almost every day brings a discernible change in the natural world during this time of preparation and renewal. Just noticing things can be a balm for the soul.

Get outside. Yes, even now when our weary bodies and souls are waiting for the weather to change, we benefit greatly from a shot of Vitamin D. Even if it's cold, go outside if you're able, and look around. Everything's getting ready to blossom, and seeing the signs of preparation up close can cheer us on a dreary day.

Find sensory experiences. We can't dig in the dirt yet, but we can knead some bread, or work with clay or finger-paints, to give hands tactile pleasure. We can't enjoy flowerbeds, but maybe we can splurge on some brightly colored tulips to enliven our table. We can't see a lot of color in our neighborhood, but we can wear a bright sweater, eat a rainbow of vegetables, paint a gorgeous picture. We can't hear larks singing in the meadow, but we can listen and sing along to hopeful music!



Embrace your moods. There's a reason for “spring fever”. Even though we can't make food out of it, as plants do, we still experience sunlight for what it is: the energy that powers all life. You may feel restless and blue because your mood doesn't match what you see out your window. Have compassion for yourself; realize this is a natural part of the season that will pass very soon.

Welcome in new energy. Some people really get into spring cleaning. Others prefer to embrace the energy of the spring winds and rains, by flying kites, splashing in puddles, or hanging out windchimes. Whatever you do, be sure to mark the season with some kind of personal ritual for welcoming spring!

~Kristina Church, Ministerial Intern

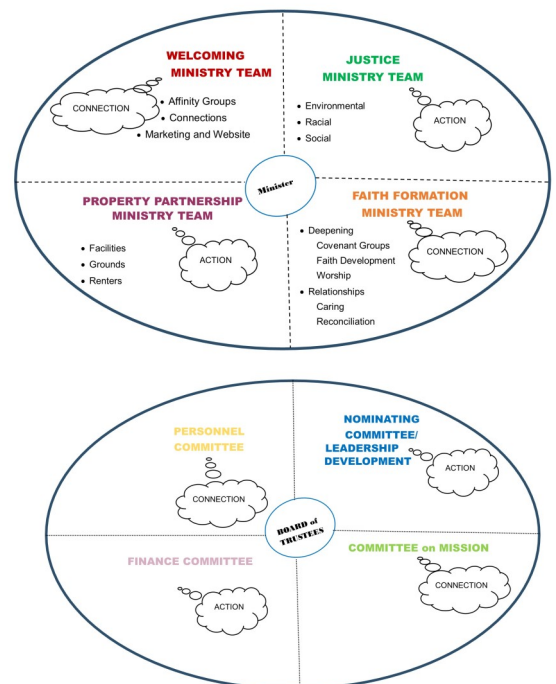
Governance & Ministry Update

After much study, conversation, and ‘baby steps,’ the Board of Trustees officially adopted a system of policy governance. We will be learning on the job as we discern how best to tailor this form of governance for the needs of UUCA. It may take us some time to not stumble over the vocabulary of committees, ministry teams, and task forces, but the clarity that results from these efforts will be well worth it. Check out the interactive display on the glass wall in the lobby!

Committees of the Board: Personnel, Finance, Nominating/Leadership, Committee on Mission*

Ministry Teams: Welcoming, Justice, Faith Formation, Property Partnership

(*Group titles are still works-in-progress)

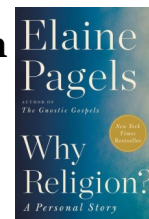


Adult Faith Development



Women's Afternoon Study Group-Tuesday, April 2nd at 1:30 pm in the Living Room. Gather to learn about 6 women who won historic firsts in politics.

Thursday Night Book Club: Thursday, April 4th at 7pm in the Living Room. We are reading "Why, Religion" by Elaine Pagels; author of "The Gnostic Gospels". Contact Chris Barry



Current Events Discussion and Lunch: Tuesday, April 9th at 12:30 p.m. Meet in the Emerson Room to discuss the events in the news after lunching together.

Poetry as Practice: Sunday April 14th at noon in Reeb Room with Jackie Senders as presenter

Women's Afternoon Study Group-Tuesday, April 23rd at 1:30 pm in the Living Room. We will watch a DVD for Earth Week in the Living Room called "When Plants Talk." Who knew?

Women's Afternoon Study Group-Tuesday, April 30th **No Meeting due to preparations for the Rummage Sale** —contact Pam Kent to volunteer or just stop in today for an hour or two and help with set up! Many hands needed!



In Home Potlucks—April 27th at 6pm

This is a fun evening of good food and conversation in the homes of UUCA friends.

To make this a success, we depend on some to volunteer to host a dinner. As host, you specify the number of guests, if it is kid-friendly and if it is vegetarian, vegan or meat. The host prepares the main course and assign sides and desserts to guests.

Look for Sign-up sheet at Welcome Desk in April.

If you have any questions, contact Lauraine Marcus, Jackie Senders, Karen Kuhn or any other Member of the Connection Team.

BOARD NOTES

Dear members and friends,

Together we promise:

To gather in compassionate community;

To celebrate diversity of thought and unity of spirit;

And to seek wholeness for ourselves, our children, and our world. ~UUCA Covenant



On October 14, 2018, we came together in celebration to welcome Reverend Michelle Buhite as our settled minister. During the service, we were called to action by her colleague, Rev. Dr. Elaine Strawn, as she delved into the promise we have made together. She marveled at the certainty of our covenant, and asked us to pause and listen to ourselves, to deeply understand our covenant's meaning, to help, in effect, build strength that will propel us towards our mission to foster more compassion and justice in the world.

During the month of April as we explore the theme of wholeness, it seems fitting to spend some time considering what this means. Although I was not active in the crafting of the covenant itself, when we were asked periodically by the team to review their words, the meaning of the word wholeness was called into question. If we say we are seeking it, do we imply that we are not yet whole? Or that we are broken? Even if we do, are we comfortable recognizing our own imperfection?

Unitarian Universalism as a faith teaches us that all questions do not have definitive answers, and that this is okay. Living out a covenantal faith and not a creedal one allows for continuing exploration of our own personal belief systems. When we gather each Sunday in compassionate community, we are an assembly of all of those differences and similarities, welcoming our neighbors' diversity, re assembling each time a little bit differently as each one of us grows and changes, and as the grouping of souls changes from gathering to gathering. Yet, during these gatherings, we are whole. Those present are celebrating a wholeness that grows and changes.

One of the most fulfilling volunteer experiences for me at UUCA was teaching our Junior Youth group. Our curriculum for a few years was called Riddle and Mystery from Tapestry of Faith. It was largely based on Paul Gauguin's famous triptych: "Where do we come from? Who are we? Where are we going?", which also makes its way into a familiar tune we sing at UUCA regularly on Sunday mornings. Other questions explored were: Does God exist? What happens when we die? How can I know what to believe? What does Unitarian Universalism mean to me?

Part of the teaching was having them accept that these big questions have so many different answers for each person. Most times as individuals go through life, the answers change as our wealth of experience grows. This is the hope of our faith.

To see young people have an "aha" moment when they realize it is acceptable to not know all the answers to all of the questions is truly a joy of life. When we realize this, no matter how old we are, it brings a sense of peace and relief. We are off the hook from coming up with exactly perfect answers, yet we still need to keep asking the questions, seeking wholeness within mystery and wonder. Let's all remember and be grateful that we belong to a place where this is encouraged.

~Angela Warren, BOT Chair

OFFICE

It's Spring, and the winds of change are blowing.

Those crafty winds blew an opportunity for our beloved administrator, Jaime, to take a position in her field of Chemistry. She will be with us through April 26 to help with the office transition. We wish her well in this new adventure!





HAND IN HAND

Stone by Stone

Canvass Update

2018-2019 Fiscal Year

Goal Amount: \$243,000

Total Amount Pledged: \$203,071

Number of Pledging Households: 141

2019-2020 Current Campaign

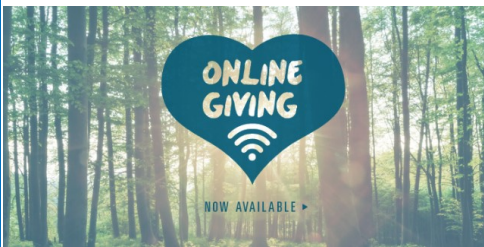
Goal Amount: \$250,000

Total Amount Pledged to Date: \$142,648

Number of Pledging Households to Date: 86

Total expected Pledges: 150

Do you Write Checks? Just a friendly reminder to please write the entire fiscal year on your pledge checks. This helps the office process your check more accurately and quickly. On payments for *current* fiscal year (which ends June 30th), please write '2018-2019' in the memo line. Please write '2019-2020' in the memo line for payments on pledges for the *next* fiscal year (7/1/19 to 6/30/20) .



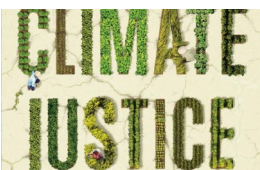
Tired of Writing Checks? Looking for a way to 'Be Greener' this Earth Day? Use online 'egiving' instead. Go to www.uuamherst.org and click on the 'Giving' tab in the top right corner to get to our online giving page or go directly to www.uuamherst.org/gving-3-2/

There are resources and directions to get you started. You can make payments through a credit card or directly from your bank account. Call Camilla Lee in the office (634-3010 x103) if you have questions.

~Thank you, Hella Jacob, UUCA Treasurer

A Conversation About the End of the World:

Militarism, Climate Justice, and You



WHEN: Tuesday, April 2, 7:00 PM, Emerson Room

WHAT: Urgently calling religious liberals of all faiths, for a much-needed conversation.

Humanity's climate emergency is now so grave that climate scientists are raising the prospect of human extinction. Hoping to spark principled resistance by religious liberals, facilitator Patrick Walker will cite mainstream militarist narratives—such as Russiagate hysteria and the slanted media portrayal of Venezuela's crisis—as types of foreign policy “business as usual” liberal churches must forcefully oppose if we wish our voice to count in saving a livable climate and, ultimately, human civilization.

Hope you'll join this timely conversation.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst
 6320 Main Street Williamsville New York 14221
 716.634.3010 www.uuamherst.org

APRIL 2019

AA = Alcoholic Anonymous
 AE = Auction Event
 ACOA = Adult Children of Alcoholics
 Bul = Thomas Bullfinch Room
 Ch = Chapel
 DR = Dining Room
 Em = Emerson Room
 FD = Faith Development Wing
 LR = Living Room
 Reb = Reeb Room
 WY = Whitney Young Room
 * = tentative

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	15	16	17	18	19	20
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	29	30	1	2	3	4
	7					
Spaghetti Lunch						Central East Region Small Church Cong
9:30am - set up for spaghetti	6pm - AA (LR)	10am - ACOA(LR)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)	12pm - ROMEO's Lunch @ Buffalo	7pm - Cocktails and	Kitchen Cleaning
10:30am - Church Service	7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing)	7pm - John Newman (LR)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)	Comersation (offsite)	10am - Santosha Event
11:45am - Young Adult Meet-Up	7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	1:30pm - Women's Afternoon Study Group (LR)	7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb)	7pm - Thursday Night Book Club (LR)		6pm - FD Event (FD Wing)
12pm - Little Free Pantry (LR)	7:30pm - Buffalo Recorder (Em)	6pm - Blue Mtn. Potluck (LR)	7pm - Santosha Holistic Center (chapel)			
12pm - Preaching by Parishioners (chapel)		7pm - Blue Mtn. (Reeb)				
12pm - Spaghetti Lunch (Em)		7pm - Board of Trustees Meeting (Em)				
1:30pm - Voice Lessons(Choir)						
7:30pm - AA (LR)						
10:30am - Church Service	Tax Day	Deadline for Newsletter(Em)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)		9am - Gluten Free Support Group (Em)
11:45am - Young Adult Meet-Up (W)	6pm - AA (LR)	10am - ACOA(LR)	1:30pm - Social Justice meeting (LR or Em)	3pm - Grief and Loss Support (LR)		6pm - Buffalo Belles (LR)
12pm - "Justice on Earth" Book(LR)	7pm - Mankind Project (Reeb)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing)	9pm - PUSH Buffalo Potluck (Em)	3:30pm - set up for seder		
12pm - Equal Exchange coffee (Em)	7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	12:30pm - Women's Lunch (Em)	7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb)	4:30pm - Seder Supper John Neman Mission (Em)		
12pm - Poetry as Practice (Reeb)	7:30pm - Buffalo Recorder (Em)	1:30pm - Caring for One Another (Em)				
12pm - Preaching by Parishioners (chapel)		5:30pm - Endowment Trusts (Em)				
1:30pm - Voice Lessons(Choir)		6pm - Blue Mtn. Potluck (LR)				7:30pm - John Newman Easter Special Event (Chapel & Em)
7:30pm - AA (LR)		7pm - Blue Mtn. (Reeb)				
Earth Sunday	Easter Monday	10am - ACOA(LR)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)		8am - set up for breakfast
Easter Sunday	6pm - AA (LR)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing)	7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb)	6pm - AA District Meeting (LR)		9am - Pancake Breakfast (Em)
10:30am - Church Service	7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	1:30pm - Women's Afternoon Study Group (LR)	7pm - Snowbirds (Em)	7pm - Full Council Meeting (Em)		12pm - clean up
11:30am - Easter Egg Hunt (all)		6pm - Blue Mtn. Potluck (LR)		7pm - Havurah Board (Bullfinch)		6pm - In Home Potluck(s) (offsite)
11:45am - Young Adult Meet-Up (W)		7pm - Blue Mtn. (Reeb)				
12pm - Preaching by Parishioners (chapel)		7pm - Board of Trustees Meeting (Em)				
7:30pm - AA (LR)						
Rummage Sale Set up week						Rummage Sale
Fire Drill	6pm - AA (LR)	10am - ACOA(LR)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)	12pm - ROMEO's Lunch @ Buffalo	Rummage Sale	10am - Rummage Sale
11:30am - Church Service	7pm - Mankind Project (Reeb)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing)	7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD Wing)	Seaway Gathering, Ithaca, NY	
11:30am - Fire Drill	7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	5pm - Garden Fresh Foodie (Bul)		7pm - Thursday Night Book Club		
11:45am - Young Adult Meet-Up (W)		6pm - Blue Mtn. Potluck (Reeb)				
12pm - Preaching by Parishioners (chapel)		7pm - Blue Mtn. (Reeb)				
12pm - UUCA Book Club (DR)						
12:30pm - Coming of Age (Bul)						
1:30pm - Voice Lessons(Choir)						
3pm - GBYSO Rehearsal						

7pm: Divine Grace (chapel)
 7:30pm: AA (LR)



UUCA Book Club—

Meetings on the last Sunday of the month at noon in the Dining Room.

March 31st: We will discuss "Where the Crawdads Sing," and share the books we read that were mysteries.

For April, we will discuss "What the Eyes Don't See," by Mona Hanna-Attisha.

Remember, when ordering books online, if you use smile.amazon.com and select UUCA Endowment as your charity, a percentage of the sale goes toward the Endowment Trust!

Equal Exchange Chocolate, Coffee & Tea

April 14th @ 11:30 am in the Emerson Room.

Help connect small farmers in the South to citizen-consumers in the North by purchasing these fair-traded, delicious items.

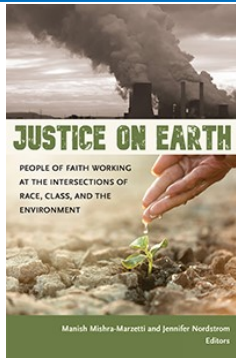


Retired Old Men Eating Out (ROMEOs):

Thursday, April 4th at noon at Buffalo Brew Pub.

Women's Lunch: Tuesday, April

16th - 12:30 p.m. Meet in the Emerson Room to chat and laugh while lunching together.



"Justice on Earth" is the UU Common Read for 2018/19. It's a fabulous collection of essays, many of them by UU ministers and activists, about people doing justice work on the borders of our society.

For some of us, it may be a new way of looking at climate work, and a new way of looking at social justice.

Most importantly, it's a thought-provoking and inspiring read!

Sunday, April 14th and Sunday, May 5th at noon in the Living Room, join Ministerial Intern Kristina Church for a book discussion.

You do not need to have the book, or have read the book, to participate.

More at : <https://www.uua.org/environment/called-intersections-justice>



Sunday Young Adult Meet up (18-35 year old's):

Sundays at 11:45 AM - meet in the Emerson Room for snacks & fellowship. At Noon, go to the Whitney Young Room on the 2nd floor of the Faith Development wing for discussion, fun, connection, and spiritual growth. Questions? Contact Director of Faith Development, Zoe Bell-Schwede at dfd@uuamherst.org



UUCA GET COOKIN'!

With Christine Boczarska & Faith Pham, Caring For One Another Committee



Here is an easy dessert that makes a lot.

RAISIN SOUR CREAM BARS By Prudence N Filling

- 2 1/2 cups raisins
- 1 cup white sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 1/2 Tbsp cornstarch
- 1 1/2 cups sour cream
- 1 tsp cinnamon

Crust

- 1 3/4 cups rolled oats
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 3/4 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 cup chopped walnuts (optional)



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour or line with parchment paper a 9x13 pan.

Cook first 6 ingredients over low heat until well blended, stirring, about 20 minutes. Set aside to cool.

In a separate bowl mix brown sugar, oatmeal, baking soda, butter, flour and salt until crumbly. Press 1/2 of the mixture into pan.

Pour cooked mixture over crust. Add walnuts to remaining crust mixture and crumble over the top.

Bake for 20 minutes or until the crust is lightly browned. Cool and cut into bars.

The bars turn out crunchy, moist and buttery.



Movie Night: We will meet at the Dipson theatre on May 14th for a 7:30pm presentation of "A Prayer for Compassion"

The film follows Thomas Jackson on a quest that crisscrosses America and takes him to Morocco for the UN Climate Conference and throughout the Indian subcontinent to ask the question, "Can compassion grow to include all beings?"

Tickets at <https://www.tugg.com/events/a-prayer-for-compassion?fbclid=IwARoMNYVbOMvVPYnXPzodRPF8hoO3k1NNHAvII31d-cPjEkdGez-vPvcWuo4>

Contact Vanessa Dawson for more information.

AMHERST LITTLE FREE PANTRY UPDATE

Join us Sunday, March 31st at 9am in the Emerson Room for Fifth Sunday Social Justice Sunday

We will be preparing take-home bags and lists to help donors to the pantry

Donations needed at this time:

- ♥ Canned ham
- ♥ Canned tuna
- ♥ Pasta
- ♥ Mac n' cheese
- ♥ Pasta sauce (no glass)



So many in our community help make the Free Pantry work—Thank you to PB Jelly Headquarters in Lockport, NY for some much needed PB and J donations. Also a shout out to General Mills for a large cereal donation. Thanks as well to the WNY Gluten Free Group for some much needed gluten-free items. And thanks also to Carol Taylor of Lifetouch photography for promoting the pantry during our recent photo directory update.

The Little Free Pantry Group meets the first Sunday of the month after services. Our Next meeting is [Sunday, April 7 at 12:30pm in the Living Room](#). (Note the late start time so everyone can go enjoy Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser in Emerson Room after services) All are welcome to come hear about latest pantry developments and share their ideas.

Thank you for your continued support. For questions or comments please contact Maria Ceraulo at amherstlittlefreepantry@uamherst.org



2019 VOICE-BUFFALO ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

APRIL 11 FROM 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

BUFFALO-NIAGARA CONVENTION CENTER

JOIN US IN HONORING LOCAL LEADERS IN SOCIAL JUSTICE

This is Voice's major annual fundraiser. Tickets are \$55-\$60/person. We are trying to get a table (10 people) together for the event. Contact Margot Shoemaker or Pat Burke to sign up.



Pancake Breakfast

April 27th from 9am to noon in Emerson Room.

To support Penelope's Place Animal Sanctuary

All welcome

Vegan Pancakes

Sausage,

OJ, coffee

\$10/plate

Contact Vanessa Dawson for more.

When is it again?

**Visit our website for the
calendar, news and event
information.**

www.uamherst.org



You are invited to join us for a week of multigenerational fun and inspiration

With Keynote Speaker
Dr. Ysaye Barnwell



July 7-13, 2019, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

Details at www.cersiuu.org

Are you excited about Building a Vocal community this July?

The time to register for CERSI is here! The registration window begins and ends earlier this year, and air conditioned dorms are limited and provided on a first come first serve basis, so register today! Registration \$0 registration fee before **May 15** (\$75 registration fee after May 15). Registration closes **June 15**

For more information about registration, visit www.cersiuu.org/register We look forward to seeing you in July!



Are you a Chalice Lighter?

A chalice lighter is an individual who contributes three times a year to calls to support congregations engaged with growth or expansion projects. Anyone can be a chalice lighter and help grow Unitarian Universalism! Learn more about the program and sign up at <https://www.uua.org/central-east/programs/chalicelighter>

Central East
Region

Lending Library

A spring-cleaning occurred in the glass cabinet in the Emerson Room and it's better-organized now. Our collection is mostly books, but there are a few DVD's and one VHS tape. The themes range from UU history and leadership, other world religions (Christian, Muslim, Mormon, Native American), humanism and atheism, spiritual practices (including meditation books), aging and grief, conservation, social and economic justice issues, African American history and justice-seeking, to local interest. We have volumes by UUCA congregants and friends Joan Lorch Staple, Laura Pedersen, and the late Ryan Stadler. We also have several works each by Madeleine L'Engle and Karen Armstrong. Genres include nonfiction, memoir, and fiction. There are even children's books (including a guidebook for a UU Boy Scout religious badge). Loans are on the Honor System. Sign out your selections in the spiral notebook on the 3rd shelf.



Clean out your Closets!

**The UUCA Annual Rummage sale is coming!
Friday, May 3rd to Saturday May 4th**



Don't throw it away!

Keep good condition items from your spring cleaning to donate to the sale.

We want it all-clothing, books, furniture, household items, toys, etc. etc.

Donations will be accepted at church starting Sunday, April 28th.

Contact Pam and Jerry Kent with questions or to volunteer.

All Help Appreciated! Many hands needed!

UUCA Theater Lovers

Jewish Repertory Theatre's season-ending show is a world premier! **Looking through Glass**, by Ken Kaiser, is directed by Saul Elkin, and stars Arin Lee Dandes, Angelo J. Heimowitz, Thomas Loughlin, Tina Rausa, and Nick Stevens. It runs May 9 through June 2.



Synopsis: *After going against the wishes of her heart and marrying a man just to please her parents, Leah is possessed by the soul of her true love. Can an exorcism untangle their souls, or will they be forever entwined for the rest of eternity? A haunting and romantic modern-day rendition of the Jewish Classic "The Dybbuk" by S. Ansky that reminds us love is a destiny that can't be escaped.*

Discount ticket order forms for weekend performances are available in the church lobby, in the manila folder at the bottom of the Church Life bulletin board. (If you'd prefer to go to a Thursday evening show, call Sophia Veffer at 631-3228, and she can make arrangements). Checks for the play tickets must be received eight days before the performance date. Our cost is \$25 each. (Regular box office price is \$38).

On **Sunday, May 19**, a UUCA group will meet at the Maxine & Robert Seller Theatre inside the Jewish Community Center, 2640 N. Forest, Getzville, to attend the **2 pm** presentation, then go to Lebro's Italian restaurant for dinner afterward (Dutch treat). Order your tickets through Sophia, and contact me by noon on Friday, May 17, to be included in the dinner reservation

~Marie Evans



U.U.-U.N. NEWS

According to the U.N. Charter, the primary purpose of the U.N. is to eliminate the scourge of war and promote human rights—in a word, the maintenance of international peace and security. However, the U.N. at present does not have the power to maintain world peace. That is because the U.N. does not possess its own effective system of collective security to keep the peace, thereby allowing for universal and complete disarmament under U.N. auspices. The world spends over a trillion dollars a year on armaments. The United States spends at least 700 billion dollars per year on such instrument of death and destruction. Other U.N. Member States are not blameless either. The human family needs a change of heart and needs to convert its swords into ploughshares under U.N. auspices; otherwise, the future of humanity is bleak, indeed.

During January 2019, U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres addressed the 193 Members of the U.N. General Assembly on this matter. In his first address of the new year to the U.N. General Assembly, he called for action to address threats to world peace in the world's hotspots, action to promote sustainable development and action to protect the Earth. "We are capable of global citizenship and all U.N. Member States must also do their part to empower the U.N. itself." The U.N. should not have to plead with its 193 Member States to support its main purpose: the maintenance of international peace and security.

U.N. Secretary-General Guterres deplored the continuing violence in Syria, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine, etc. "The international

community must also focus greater attention on the interrelated threats of organized crime, terrorism, piracy, extremism and trafficking in drugs, people and arms," he said. This includes continuing to strive towards achieving a nuclear-weapons-free world. The U.N.'s Secretary-General also emphasized the need to make progress towards achieving the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the U.N.'s Agenda 2030.

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres also warned all 193 Member States against succumbing to the myth that sustainable development is incompatible with robust action to control climate change and global warming. "Evidence shows that the goals of eradicating poverty, promoting inclusive growth, and keeping global temperature increases below two degrees Celsius are mutually reinforcing," U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres argued. A legally binding climate change treaty (the Paris Agreement on Climate Change) has been adopted by the international community and should be implemented as soon as possible.

Humanity's major problems—world peace, universal disarmament, sustainable development, global warming, war, terrorism, militarism, poverty, natural disasters, diseases, and human rights violations, etc. are interrelated and need an effective U.N. to solve them. Unfortunately, these are the actual problems of our troubled, interdependent world and they have not yet been solved. There is no time to lose. The human family needs to get its house in order or perish. This sad situation may not be pleasant to contemplate, but it is the truth.

~David Slive, UN Envoy



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