

Issue

February 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.

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Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener

SUNDAY SERVICES IN FEBRUARY AT 10:30am

Sundays in February: The Soul Matters theme for this month is TRUST. Different religions have different types of ‘trust language.’ Unitarian Universalists speak in terms of “a Love that will not let us go.” We are invited to trust Life to support and challenge us. Yes, a Love that will not let us go, but also a Love that will not let us get away with getting too comfortable or be ‘sort of’ committed to making the world a better place.

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Saying Yes to Little Things

Rev. Michelle Buhite

The only time we don't feel like we're in a vacuum is when we say 'yes' to little things.

10

Unafraid of the Dark!

Shari Halliday-Quan, Guest Speaker

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*Learning to Trust Again After the
Tree of Life Shooting*

Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein, Guest Speaker

Rabbi Alex came to Buffalo in 2008 to serve as the rabbi of Temple Sinai, now Congregation Shir Shalom. In addition to being a trained chaplain and gifted teacher, Rabbi Alex is a respected leader in the Buffalo area, working with leaders of all faiths to improve the quality of life in WNY and beyond.

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Entrusted to Our Care

Rev. Michelle Buhite

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



Well, we survived the Abominable Frozen Church Closing of 2019. A small reminder to check email or turn on the local news (channels 2 & 4) when the weather is lousy. I was telling a friend that this is the first time I've had to close on a Sunday in my seven years of ministry, so I trust we won't have to worry about this again until 2026.

This month begins with Ground Hog's Day and Imbolc, reminders that although it is still dark and cold, the warmth and light of spring will come again. We trust that process, whether we do so consciously, or not. Light a candle and offer a prayer of gratitude for the promise of spring.

February is also when we start thinking about sustaining the church in the coming year with our financial contributions. We often refer to this as *stewardship*, the responsible management of that which has been entrusted to our care. Board Chair, Angela and I have been using the phrase *financial continuity* as we begin to think about year-round opportunities to invite folks into thoughtful and sustained giving. As you consider how you will participate in

pledging your resources, challenge yourself to stretch spiritually and financially in the coming year. The world needs our message of radical hope.

In faith and affection,
Rev. Michelle



Programs Fair

Please join us during Coffee Hour in the Emerson Room on **Sunday, February 10, 2019** for a Programs Fair. Representatives from several of our active church teams will be available to share information about what they do on Sunday mornings. Stop by to say hello, learn more about what goes on behind the scenes, or share your great ideas!



Coming of Age Class Spaghetti Fundraiser

On Friday, February 1, please join us **in the UU Church of Buffalo** (Elmwood Ave, downtown Buffalo) Parish Hall from 6 - 7:30 pm for a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to help our Coming of Age youth earn funds for their heritage trip to Boston in June.

Enjoy a spaghetti dinner (there will be some gluten-free pasta available) with salad and bread for a sliding scale amount of \$8 - \$12/adult, \$6/child.



Faith Development Updates

Zoe Bell-Schwede

Director of Faith Development

dfd@uuamherst.org

Office: 716-634-3010 x104

The month of February begs to ask how we can work towards being a congregation that is built on trust. Trust is a multifaceted and complex virtue that some of us struggle with throughout our lives. Whether we have a hard time trusting others or even trusting ourselves, trusting does not come easy to most. Personally, I think that trust goes hand in hand with a certain level of vulnerability, and I can speak for myself that being vulnerable has always felt like a weakness or a failure. So let's take time to pause and spend February re-evaluating how we can extend our hands towards one another to build that bridge of trust.

- ♥ Our Coming of Age Class has an upcoming fundraiser at the UUCB church the first weekend in February which is a full service spaghetti dinner at 6pm. We hope to see you there!
- ♥ Crossing Paths has begun working on a new comprehensive curriculum called Living in UUville. These are discussion and critical skill based lesson plans in which the youth work towards bettering their hypothetical town that is fashioned after UU values.
- ♥ Spirit Play is still looking for volunteers for the second part half of the year, so if you are interested in assisting Jeanine Moyer and Linda Groat and the wonderful children of this congregation, please contact me!

Right Relations “Reborn”

On a snowy January night, nine of us who have been involved in various trainings and experiences in restorative practices met to make the first step toward a new team to take on the ministry formerly known as Right Relations. After a couple of discernment exercises to articulate aspirations/vision for the group and its impact on the congregation, and name the qualities team members would develop in themselves and foster in the congregation, we unanimously came up with the new name: The Reconciliation Team.



We feel this name is clear and concise, and if someone were to see an announcement recruiting team members or offering services, they would have a pretty good sense of what the purpose and end goals would be. We agreed that we would strive to have a pool of trained volunteers who could be called upon to assist in reconciliation efforts, thereby avoiding the burnout that a small team could experience.

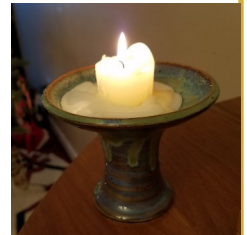
I can see this Team offering workshops in conflict resolution & resiliency, deep listening, living in covenant, etc - in much the same way that the Nominating Committee is beginning to offer leadership development opportunities.

I am excited that we have moved from contemplation to action, and look forward to continuing the training and discernment process to be able to offer this important ministry to Members and Friends of UUCA. ~Rev. Michelle



Though I've been a Unitarian Universalist for over a decade, I recently purchased my first chalice. I'm so happy to have my very own hand-thrown, glazed, and kiln-fired chalice, made by my seminary friend and talented potter, Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson.

Having the chalice in our dining room seems to encourage us to use it. We began saying grace as we light the chalice before our evening meal. During the Kavanaugh confirmation hearings, I lit our chalice in honor of the courage of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford and Anita Hill in speaking truth to power. When a UU friend is going through a difficult time, or whenever a UU friend or colleague dies, I now light the chalice and keep it burning, to see them through their life passage.



How do you practice our Unitarian Universalist faith in your home? Maybe you come to church on Sundays, and experience our community worship service, but there are many other ways to make our faith part of your day. Reminding ourselves of our connection to a larger tradition, by lighting a chalice when we want to give someone or something a little extra attention and energy, can be a way to bring our faith closer to home, and kindle the warmth of connection more often.

The Unitarian Universalist Association gives us the following background on this symbol of our faith:

“A flame within a chalice (a cup with a stem and foot) is a primary symbol of the Unitarian Universalist faith tradition. Many of our congregations kindle a flaming chalice in gatherings and worships, and feature the chalice symbol prominently.

Hans Deutsch, an Austrian artist, first brought together the chalice and the flame as a Unitarian symbol during his work with the Unitarian Service Committee during World War II. To Deutsch, the image had connotations of sacrifice and love. Unitarian Universalists today have many different interpretations of the flaming chalice, including the light of reason, the warmth of community, and the flame of hope.”

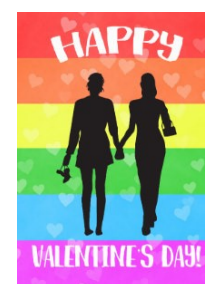
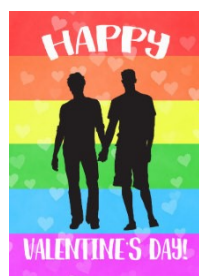
Through using the chalice, I've been inspired to create more unique home fire rituals. For example, an Alaskan friend died recently, and I wanted to honor her. I had a pretty red moose candle holder that my parents had sent me; all of a sudden, I realized that it was the perfect tribute. Now, a red candle is burned in the red moose candlestick whenever I need to honor an Alaskan friend who has passed on.



Burning a sage wand or incense stick can be another way to mark a new beginning, a cleansing, or a change of energy in the home. Sage wands and incense are available from local shops or online, and they're not expensive. My favorite is the classic Nag Champa, the Indian temple spice, which has a soft and unobtrusive aroma. Practicing a simple ritual like “smudging” a house can give you a fresh start and create a new emotional outlook, as well as making your home smell nice.

I encourage you to find ways to use simple fire rituals in your home. It's part of our Unitarian Universalist heritage. Remember, though, to be sure and make a habit of good fire safety whenever an open flame is part of your religious practice!

~Kristina Church, UUCA Ministerial Intern

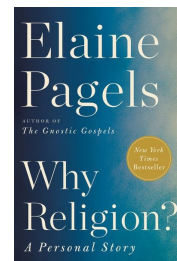


Adult Faith Development



Women's Afternoon Study Group-Tuesday, January 29, and Tuesday February 5 at 1:30 pm in the Living Room.

We will meet to read the articles in the Fall and Winter Edition of the UU World. Copies will be available at the meeting.



Thursday Night Book Club: Thursday, February 7th – 7pm in the Living Room. We are reading “Why, Religion” by Elaine Pagels; author of “The Gnostic Gospels”. We’ll discuss the first three chapters tonight. Contact Chris Barry

Current Events Discussion and Lunch: Tuesday, February 12th at 12:30 p.m. Please bring your lunch to the Emerson Room today and we will discuss events in the news.

Poetry as Practice: Sunday February 10th at noon in Reeb Room. Dorothy Reade presents poems on “Trust”

Women's Afternoon Study Group-Tuesday, February 26th at 1:30 pm in the Living Room.

UUCA Theater Lovers with Marie Evans

Our own Anne Gayley will be performing in LOVE LETTERS by A.R. Gurney, at O'Connell & Company this month. This show features a different duo of actors for each performance. Watch for an all-church email for Anne's specific date.



We have two events coming up in March. Contact Marie Evans for further information.

On Sunday, March 3, we'll attend the 2 PM show of TALLEY'S FOLLY at Jewish Repertory Theatre (final performance of the run), and go to dinner together afterward (Dutch treat) at Lebro's, Campbell Blvd. @ Dodge. Please use the discount ticket order forms at the bottom of the Church Life bulletin board in our lobby to order your own tickets from Sophia Veffler. Let me know by noon on Friday, March 1, if you'd like to be included in the dinner reservation.



The ticket forms are good for weekend shows throughout the run, if you can't join us on March 3.



SECOND GENERATION
THEATRE COMPANY

We have a unique opportunity for a show and talkback with Second Generation Theatre Company on Sunday, March 10 at Shea's Smith Theatre, 658 Main Street, Buffalo NY 14202. They are producing ANGELS IN AMERICA: Part One, Millennium Approaches, by Tony Kushner.* We'll carpool from church to attend the 2 PM

performance, then some of the cast and crew will meet with us afterward to discuss the production. Tickets will be \$20 -22 each, and I'll order them all together. Let me know by Wednesday, February 27, if you want to take part.

*The winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the Tony Award for Best Play, and the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play, Angels in America – Part I: Millennium Approaches is a multifaceted examination of AIDS and homosexuality in 1980s United States.

Directed by Greg Natale, Starring David Oliver, Kristin Bentley, Steve Copps, Ben Michael Moran & Eric Rawski. The full run of the show is March 8-24, 2019.

BOARD NOTES

Dear members and friends,

As we enter in to what has become in our recent UUCA past, the traditional month of Financial Stewardship, the Board of Trustees and other advisors from our beloved community have been exploring ways to execute a model of **Sustained Giving**. We are not alone in this new venture. There are other congregations in our greater Central East Region who are exploring ways to make this work. We will reach out to folks like these, as well as reaching in to gather emerging leaders from within our congregation to help us in our work.



As our transition to policy governance, advised by our Strategic Plan, begins, we affirm that the Board of Trustees, Nominating Committee, Finance Committee, and Personnel Committee are the Governance “leg” of the church, and the rest of our Teams fall under the realm of Ministry.

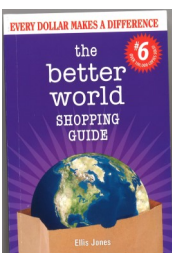
In our vibrant and changing congregation, when vacancies are left open for various reasons, they need to be intentionally filled. There is a place for all of us. Like fitting together pieces of a puzzle, this takes concentration and time. There are many places we need people to fit in. Are you a piece of the Governance Puzzle? We will have three vacancies on the BOT and three on the Nominating Committee to be filled in June. These nominations according to our bylaws are to be presented by April 1st. If you’re thinking about it, start with a conversation with a Board or Nominating committee member.

We have begun having work sessions for Financial Stewardship in between our regular BOT meetings, and have discovered how we will need a group of folks to assist with Financial Continuity advisement and execution moving forward. If this interests you, again, speak to one of us about it. If we approach you, please be open to the possibilities. Trust that we have not just seen you as someone fill a vacancy, but someone who we have thoughtfully considered might be an appropriate fit.

It has become increasingly clear to me in holding the position as chair just how many aspects of church run in to one another. In this vein it becomes increasingly clear why we need to train leaders and build relationships in order to create a solid foundation moving forward. Only in this way will we be able to more effectively fulfill our mission within the greater community. If we are not fully healthy ourselves, then how can we expect to help others? I am fortunate to see so many facets of where we have been, where we are now, and where we have the potential to go.

It is exciting to share this journey with so many thoughtful members and friends. We are building the future together. Let us trust each other in our work. Let us trust that our time, talent, and treasure will be put intentionally to good use. Thank you for being a part of this beloved community.

~Angela Warren, on behalf of the BOT: Dave Kofke, Doreen Park, Randy Kent, Wendy Scott, Jim Hartz, and Scott Harrigan.



Use your buying power for good! *The Better World Shopping Guide* will be available on Sundays in Emerson Room for only \$6.

See Pat Burke with questions.

CANVASS CAMPAIGN

Significant Shift in Methods of Financial Support

Like most churches, **UUCA depends upon the contributions of its Members and Friends** to sustain the physical buildings and grounds as well as the ministries and activities of the congregation. *Unitarian Universalist churches, unlike other denominations, are independent and self-sustaining.* Rather than receiving funding from a national organization, we contribute to the national Association, which in turn provides media visibility, curricula, and regional support staff to congregations.

Over the years UUCA has adopted and adapted methods and structures for raising the funds to keep our church vital. We are the beneficiaries of decades of visionary and generous folks who gave of their time, talent, and treasure to support this oasis of a reasoned faith and radical inclusion in the community.

This year your Board is experimenting with a shift to year-round financial continuity. That means that at four points during the year, we will encourage folks to financially sustain the operations and mission of this church. Those touch points will also be opportunities to evaluate your giving and if you wish to increase a pledge, or if circumstances require you to decrease.

This month everyone will receive a mailing from the church, offering the opportunity to live our values by contributing to UUCA's financial continuity. You will hear more about this model of giving and the ways you can make your cycle of contributions work for your situation, while still providing ongoing support of our mission and operations.

We become our best selves through spiritual practices, and generous and faithful giving is an important practice that ripples out and touches the lives of others. Together we make a world of difference.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE UUCA BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Every year, members of our Board of Trustees cycle off the Board, and new members are elected for 3-year terms. The Nominating Committee has begun looking for capable members to fill spots for the 2019-2022 terms.

Please give some thought on whether your ministry for the church next year is to serve on the BoT. Do you care deeply about whether our church thrives?

Are you an active participant in the life of the church who attends Sunday worship services and other programming on a regular basis? Do you enjoy brainstorming and problem-solving? Are you a team player who is willing to consider others' opinions, and yet also speak your own truth? Are you curious to develop a deeper understanding of Unitarian Universalism, while at the same time honing your leadership skills? Serving on the board is a very rewarding experience.

Please consider requesting an application or passing one along to someone you think might make a good candidate. The application is also online at <http://www.uuamherst.org/nominations-board-of-trustees/> Applicants will be invited to a conversation about board service in March. The new Board term begins at the Annual Meeting in June.

Applications due by February 10th.

To learn more, speak to a member of the Nominating Committee: Rosalind Sulaiman, Hella Jacob, Marie Evans, or Joe Rautenstrauch.

Significant Shifts in Governance & Operating at UUCA

As part of the recently adopted Strategic Plan, UUCA is moving into a 'policy-based' governance model, in which the primary responsibility of the Board is to provide leadership to the minister, staff, and congregation through a clearly articulated and coherent mission, vision, outcomes, and policies. Once the transition has been initiated, attention will be placed on updating the congregation's Bylaws and creating a Policy Book, a living document, open to refinement as conditions require.

The policy-based governance model that the Board is using to effect this transition is an adaptation of the Carver Model, as presented by Dan Hotchkiss in his book, *Governance and Ministry: Rethinking Board Leadership* (2nd edition). According to Hotchkiss, "**Governance** means 'owning' the congregation, holding and controlling its human and material resources, and making sure that they are used to serve its mission... Governance is holding the whole institution and its work in trust, voicing its intentions, and taking responsibility for its performance, **Ministry** is the rest of what a congregation does – the daily work of building a community, managing resources, and transforming lives."

In this model, everything is divided into either **Governance** or **Ministry**, with most of the programs, activities, and day-to-day responsibilities falling in the category of **Ministry**. A true governing board has only a few committees, including Finance, Personnel, Nominating, and Governance. These committees advise the Board in accomplishing their work.

A rose by any other name...

In management terms, *a committee is a group of people who are chosen or elected to make decisions about how a club or charity is run, and to make sure particular jobs are done*. Although it may seem like mere semantics, it is important that we limit our use of the term **committee** to just those groups that advise the Board in its work. All of the groups beyond the four listed above are **Ministry Teams**, and are the responsibility of the minister. A team structure is more nimble and expandable than a committee structure, and teams are properly aligned with helping the congregation live its mission, rather than making decisions about how the church is run, which is governance.

What does this all mean for how we interact?

- ♥ The Ministries Council now includes everything *except* the four governance committees. The Council will decide how often to meet together.
- ♥ All ministry teams are approved and supervised by the minister. A structure is in place for the formation of any new teams. As we adopt a team structure, some reworking of existing groups may occur, as necessary.
- ♥ All teams (new and existing) will need to adopt/create a covenant, goals & outcomes, and a purpose that aligns with and fulfills the mission of the church.



Coffee Drinkers Unite!

As many of you know, our coffee lady, Margot, fell and suffered a broken hip. Fortunately it can heal and she will soon be back on her feet.

Peg is our other regular coffee person.

We need YOUR help. We are asking everyone who loves 'that old cuppa Joe, 'the sweet tasting bean juice', 'that caffeine infusion', to assist with coffee hour two times a year. (We'll accept tea drinkers too!)

This will spread out the work and relieve Margot, Peg, Roger, Virginia and Jackie (who always step in to set up, clean up and do all the various choices that make coffee hour flow).

There is sign-up sheet on the coffee table on Sundays or just let one of us know what works for you.

All suggestions will be appreciated, read and hopefully used.
~Eileen McCallister, Margot Shoemaker, and Peg O'Shaughnessy



VOICE-BUFFALO 2019 MEMBERSHIP RETREAT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH
9:00 AM-3:30 PM
ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH
3269 MAIN STREET
BUFFALO, NY 14214



We are writing our own story, building our community, and taking back our city!

Transformative Training • Powerful Workshops • Help Build 2019 Campaigns

The retreat is free and meals are provided!

RSVP by Wednesday, February 4th to whitney@voicebuffalo.org



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

FEBRUARY 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Black History Month 10:30am - Church Service 11:45am - Young Adult 12pm - Little Free Pantry 12:30pm - Preaching by Parishioners 12:30pm - The Solar Home (Em) 1:30pm - Voice Lessons (choir) 7:30pm - AA (LR)	6pm - AA (LR) 7pm - Mankind (Reeb) 7pm - World Religions (Bul) 7:30pm - ACOA (LR) 7:30pm - Buffalo Recorder (Em)	10am - ACOA(LR) 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing) 1:30pm - Women's Afternoon Study Group(LR) 6pm - Blue Mtn.Potluck 7pm - Blue Mtn.(Reeb) (Em)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb) 7pm - Santosha Holistic (Chapel)	12pm - ROMEO's Lunch @ Buffalo Brew Pub 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 7pm - Thursday Night Book (LR)	Stewardship Campaign for UUCA Buffalo 6pm - Spaghetti Dinner at UUCA Buffalo 6pm - Women's Valentine Dinner (AE) -offsite 7pm - Cocktails and Conversation	Kitchen Cleaning 9am - Gluten Free Support (Em) 9am - VOICE Buffet (Reeb) 6pm - Buffalo Belles (LR) 6:30pm - Trivia Night -AE (Em)
9am - FD Facilitator Meeting (Bul) 10:30am - Church Service 11:45am - Young Adult (WV) 12pm - Equal Exchange (Em) 12pm - Poetry as Practice (Reeb) 12pm - Programs Fair (Em) 12:30pm - Coming of Age (Bul) 1:30pm - Voice Lessons (choir) 7pm - John Newman (Bul)	6pm - AA (LR) 7pm - Havurah board (Em) 7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	10am - ACOA(LR) 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing) 12:30pm - Current Events (Em) 6pm - Blue Mtn.Potluck 7pm - Blue Mtn.(Reeb) 7pm - Board of Trustees (Em)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb)	Valentine's Day 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 1pm - World Religions (Em)		Deadline for Newsletter
10:30am - Church Service 11:45am - Young Adult (WV) 12pm - Nominating Committee (Bul) 1:30pm - Voice Lessons (choir) 7:30pm - AA (LR)	Presidents' Day (regional) 6pm - AA (LR) 7pm - Mankind Project (Reeb) 7:30pm - ACOA (LR) 7:30pm - Buffalo Recorder (Em)	10am - ACOA(LR) 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing) 12:30pm - Women's Lunch (Em) 1:30pm - Caring for One Another (Em) 6pm - Blue Mtn.Potluck 7pm - Blue Mtn.(Reeb)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 1:30pm - Social Justice (LR or Em) 7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb)	Office Closed 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 1pm - World Religions (Em) 3pm - Grief and Loss (LR) 6:30pm - Gay & Lesbian Group*(Em)	7pm - Gerry Timlin Evening (Chapel & Em) 8am - set up adoption star 9:30am - Adoption Star (Chapel & Em) 2pm - set up soup (em) 5pm - Soup&Runes AE (Em)	
9am - FD Committee (Bul) 10:30am - Church Service 11:45am - Young Adult (WV) 12pm - UUUA Book Club(DR) 12:30pm - Coming of Age (Bul) 1:30pm - Voice Lessons(choir) 7pm - Divine Grace(Chapel) 7pm - John Newman (Bul) 7:30pm - AA (LR)	6pm - AA (LR) 7:30pm - ACOA (LR)	10am - ACOA(LR) 12:15pm - AA (LR, FD wing) 1:30pm - Women's Afternoon Study Group(LR) 6pm - Blue Mtn.Potluck 7pm - Blue Mtn.(Reeb) 7pm - Board of Trustees Working Group (Em)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 7pm - Life Ring Group (Reeb) 7pm - Snowbirds (Em)	12:15pm - AA (LR, FD) 1pm - World Religions (Em) 6pm - AA District Meeting (LR)		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 Reeb = Reeb Room WV - Whitney Young Room * =tentative



UUCA Book Club—

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

February 24th: “Where the Crawdads Sing,” by Julia Owens

March 31st: Topic is “mystery”

April 28th: “What the Eyes Don't See,” by Mona Hanna-Attisha Grace



Gerry Timlin Concert: Friday Night, February 22nd here at UUCA. More details to come. Contact Carol Joyce or Wendy Scott.

“A great favorite in the USA and Canada, this Delaware-based singer has enjoyed success all over the world. He was born in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland, where he developed an early interest in traditional Irish music and in folk music. From the beginning, Gerry displayed a musical talent, winning several singing competitions in Northern Ireland when he was still in his teens. He moved to the USA in the early seventies, and has been delighting audiences with his smooth baritone voice and his irreverent humor ever since.” More at <http://www.gerrytimlin.com/>



Retired Old Men Eating Out (ROMEOs):
Thursday, February 7th at noon at Buffalo Brew Pub.

Women’s Lunch: Tuesday, February 19th - 12:30 p.m. Meet in Emerson Room with your lunch from home for lively conversation with church friends.



Equal Exchange Chocolate, Coffee & Tea
February 10th @ 11:30 am in the Emerson Room



CULTURAL LITERACY FOR RELIGION: EVERYTHING THE WELL-EDUCATED PERSON SHOULD KNOW:

Select Thursdays at 1 pm in Emerson. This is an engaging way to understand and discuss world religions. Drop-ins welcome!

- 2/14 Judaism part 3
- 2/21 The Life and Commemoration of Jesus
- 2/28 Catholic & Orthodox Christianity

Sunday Young Adult Meet up (18-35 year olds): 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

This is a delicious Italian appetizer and it's vegan!



CAPANATA

- 1 large eggplant cut in 1/2 inch cubes
- 2/3 cup olive oil
- 1 1/2 cups sliced onion
- 1 cup diced celery
- 16 oz can diced tomatoes
- 1/4 cup wine vinegar
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- 2 Tbsp capers
- 1/2 cup chopped black olives
- 2 tsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp pine nuts



Using a deep pan or Dutch oven, Sauté eggplant until brown. Remove from pan. Sauté onion 10 minutes, add celery and tomatoes and cook 20 minutes. Add all other ingredients and cook at low heat for 20 minutes. Serve at room temperature with bread or toast.

Enjoy!

This recipe makes a generous amount, enough for eight people or so.

GREEN SANCTUARY *combines with* **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Dear friends,

At the January Green Sanctuary meeting, I resigned from the Green Sanctuary committee after serving as chair for many years. My health and other commitments do not offer me the time and energy to continue in this role. I will however continue in my dedication to preserving our planet for future generations.

I am proud of what we have accomplished at UUCA over the years: the solar panels, recycling at Church, Equal Exchange sales of coffee and chocolate, a change of all the Church lighting, native plants in the garden, field trips, letters and phone calls to those in power, speakers and much more. We have helped create an attitude of green consciousness about improvements and maintenance of the building among those responsible for it.

I thank you for your contributions, and hope you will continue the fight for a cleaner environment, be it individually or with others.

~Carol Wells

Green Sanctuary has merged with Social Justice!

Many of us in Social Justice support Green Sanctuary, so we have combined meetings looking at goals and how we can help each other. Join us next time on **Wednesday, February 20th at 1:30 pm** in the Living Room ~Pat Burke and Margot Shoemaker



**GREEN
SANCTUARY**



AMHERST LITTLE FREE PANTRY UPDATE

Thanks to all the volunteers, especially those who braved the cold and snow during the January storm to keep the Amherst Little Free Pantry going.

We heard from a Mom working two jobs and going to school who needs help making ends meet. We also heard from a social worker who was assigned late on a Friday afternoon to assist a disabled homeless man. The social worker said he didn't know who else would be open at that hour and that we are definitely helping people who fall between the cracks.

Due to the extremely cold weekend in January, we had to temporarily remove canned goods from the Pantry because they could freeze and the cans would bulge, spoiling the food. The cans are back in the Pantry now.

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.
- Ronald Reagan



We could really use kid's individual juice/milk boxes, granola bars, fruit, tuna, soup, cereal, laundry detergent, dish detergent, deodorant and toothpaste.

Thank you for your continued support. For questions or comments please contact Maria Ceraulo at amherstlittlefreepantry@uuamherst.org. The Little Free Pantry Group meets the first Sunday of the month after services. Our Next meeting is February 3 at noon in the Living Room. All are welcome to come hear about latest pantry developments and share their ideas.



Looking to Escape the Cold? Want to See San Diego? Are March 2nd through 7th good dates for you?

Consider **visiting San Diego with the First Unitarian Universalists of San Diego!** San Diego has so much to offer: beautiful beaches, hip urban areas, a World-Famous Zoo, inspiring universities, and a park filled with fascinating museums. And we have even left most of a day for you to tell us where you want to go!

Please go to www.firstuusandiego.org/sdvisit to see the details of this exclusive and all-inclusive tour. Funds raised will be used to support a number of social justice projects near the border. Hope to see you in San Diego!

Help us Grow

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help our church grow. Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. You won't need to write checks and prepare envelopes every week. And even when you can't attend services, your electronic contributions will arrive without delay. **Visit our website www.uuamherst.org/giving-3-2/**



Fall Auction Upcoming Open Events Sign up at the

Welcome Desk or contact the Office (634-3010 x101 or administrator@uuamherst.org) .Checks can be mailed to church or left in locked mailbox outside the office.

The Environment, the Future, and You

Light Refreshments will be served. *The Solar Home (Feb) and Nuclear Power: Is It A Part of Our Carbon-Free Future? (March)*

Date/Time: First Sunday of Month (2/3 and 3/3), Emerson Room at 12:30 pm

Cost: \$5 / one talk Host: Scott Harrigan

MOVIES OF THE COLD WAR

Refreshments will be served, including wine and popcorn. The films are: "Dr. Strangelove"(1964), and "The Death of Stalin"(2018)

Dates: 2nd Fridays 2/8/19 & 3/8/19 in Emerson Room

Cost: \$7 for one Spots left: 16 Donated by Randy and Kimberly Kent

Super Bowl Party!

Wine, Beer, and pop provided. Pizza and a variety of other appetizers and snacks will be served. (If there are special dietary needs, we will accommodate those needs. Please advise of these needs by Jan 30th to kkuhn745@gmail.com). Parking is limited to 4 cars in the driveway, street parking available but there are no sidewalks.

Date: Sunday, February 3, 2019 at 5:30 pm , 39 Tudor Ct., Getzville

Cost: \$30.00 Spots Left: 7 Donated by John Thompson, Karen Kuhn, Barry and Barbara Kent

Trivia Night

Pub-style quiz featuring five rounds of questions in a variety of fun categories. All ages welcome. Play by yourself or in a team of up to four people. Light refreshments will be served.

Date/Time: Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 6:30pm in the Emerson Room

Cost: \$10/person, or \$25/family Donated by Adel and Rosalind Sulaiman



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.

When is it again?

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

www.uuamherst.org



Be part of our Photo Directory!

Whether you are new to the church, were not able to be photographed the last photography session, or if you would like a different photo in the directory we have great news...Lifetouch is coming to do additional photography! All of those previously photographed in the last four years and those photographed in the upcoming session will be included in the Updated Photo Directory. Also, if your contact information has changed, please notify the Church Office. More information on this event will be

coming in an email to you from Lifetouch as well.

Photographs will be taken: Monday, March 4, 2019 from 1pm to 8pm

Sign-up one by one of the following convenient ways:

1. Sign-up on-line at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y8bveqq6/>
2. Call Jaime in the office at 634-3010 x 101
3. Sign-up after Church on Sunday 2/3 or 2/10 at the Welcome Desk

SOME QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE:

What will I receive for coming in? You will receive a free 8 x 10 and a copy of the updated Photo Directory.

Is there a charge to be photographed? **There is no cost to Church or to you** for participating. Each family will be given the opportunity to purchase additional portraits for families and friends, if interested.

I am in the directory, but would love a new family portrait for this year: By all means schedule an appointment and Lifetouch will again give you a free 8 x 10 of your directory pose.

Thanks for making sure you are part of our Photo Directory!



Central East
Region

Answering the Call of Love Youth Revival Comes to Central East Region!

Youth Ministry Revivals (YMR) are weekend-long events that seek to inspire, innovate and celebrate Unitarian Universalist youth ministry. Developed in collaboration by the UUA's Youth Ministry Roundtable and traveling around the country, no two YMRs will be exactly the same as we incorporate the local culture, invite in community partners, and continually adapt to our current social and political climate. The Central East Region is this year's host! Join us March 1-3, 2019 at Cedar Lane UU Church in Bethesda, MD. Registration is open at <https://tinyurl.com/youthrevival19>

NOTE THIS ONE HAS A FEB 1 DEADLINE

Spend a week with UU's at Summer Institute

CERSI (formerly SI) Jobs/Camperships: Apply Now!

It takes many hands to create the magic of CERSI and your hands can play a part. That driver who takes you around in the golf cart? Campership. The person who teaches you a new art? Campership. The nurse who patches up your kid? Campership. Tie dye, bookstore, choir, religious education, vespers child care. All those activities are made possible by fellow CERSIers who applied for camperships. Each of these positions comes with a financial *thank you*. The value of the campership is tied to the actual costs and to the amount of work involved with doing the job. Learn what jobs are available and get links to apply at <http://www.cerguua.org/bettertogether/2018/12/17/>



Endowment Trust

The Endowment Trust is an important funding source for the church. It is a resource to help with major facility projects and this year contributed to the annual budget. This money came from accumulated interest from investments managed by Angelucci Wealth Management. It manages special accounts such as the Music Fund.

It is important to keep the Endowment Trust growing so we can continue to be a financial resource for the church, when needed. We should all consider adding the church in our wills. But in the meantime, smaller, periodic gifts can be a great benefit to the ET and the church, as well as being the perfect gift in memory of friends or loved ones who have died. Even if you are not thinking about a formal commitment, you can support the Endowment if you use Amazon.com. Sign up for smile.amazon.com, designate Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst Endowment Trust and a percentage of all of your purchases will go to the Trust.

The Endowment Trust continues to meet quarterly, usually the 3rd Tuesday at the church. At the meeting, Mr. Angelucci of Angelucci Wealth Management reviews the status of our investments and explains the nuances of risk analysis and prudent investment strategies to assist the trustees in making informed and careful financial decisions on behalf of the Trust. All are welcome.

More at: <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/image/uu-valentines>

Unitarian Universalist Valentines



*We go
together like
a flame and
a chalice.*

Unitarian Universalist Valentines

*I love you
more than
fair trade
coffee...*



Almost.