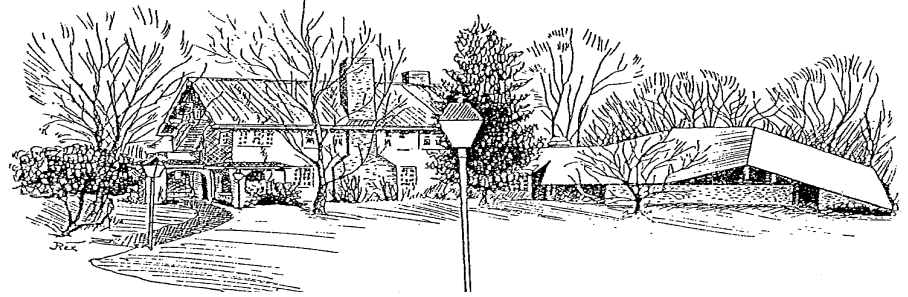


Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst  
6320 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221  
Phone: 716-634-3010



### *Our Leadership:*

#### **Developmental Minister**

Rev. Michelle Buhite.....(Office).....634-3010  
minister@uuamherst.org

#### **Minister Emerita**

Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener.....585-657-7526

#### **Office Assistant/Newsletter Editor**

Jaime Sheridan.....634-3010  
administrator@uuamherst.org

#### **Director of Religious Education**

dre@uuamherst.org

#### **Music Director**

Fran Landis.....694-1106

#### **Caretaker**

Chris Barry.....479-4239

**Normal office hours are from**

**9:00am until 2:00pm, Tuesday through Friday**

### **SUNDAY SERVICES IN FEBRUARY AT 10:30AM**

**7** *“Living Faithful & Principled Lives”* by Rev. Michelle Buhite

**14** *“When Love Calls”* by Rev. Michelle Buhite.

**21** *“Be a man: A journey of gender”* with Bob LaVallee. What does it mean to be a man and how does one’s concept of masculinity evolve over the course of life? Bob LaVallee is a third year student at Meadville Lombard Theological School and an intern minister at the Church of the Larger Fellowship ([www.questformeaning.org](http://www.questformeaning.org)). Born and raised in Buffalo, he is a veteran of the US Marine Corps, a yoga teacher, and is adventure-some to the point of recklessness in the kitchen.

**28** *“Generosity Sunday: The Sermon on the ‘aMount’”* by Rev. Michelle Buhite



### **Annual Budget Drive In February? Now that’s different!!!**

Yes. We are going to kick off the Annual Budget Drive much earlier than we have in the past few years. Our church year runs from July through June. For the past few years, we have started our drive in April. This resulted in beginning the new year with a proposed budget that was finally approved in September, a third of the way through the church year. However, this creates uncertainty on many levels. This year, *we will be returning to the best practice of developing an annual budget that reflects our full commitment to the ministry of our congregation that can be voted on at the Annual Meeting in June.*

*During the annual budget drive, you will be asked to make a pledge for the coming year. We will provide you with information about what it costs to maintain our programs and facilities. While this is important, you should also consider how has your life changed since you became part of this community.*

*The Annual Budget Drive is more than money. It also involves opportunities to become better acquainted with other friends and members, to celebrate our beloved community, to find new ways to express your commitment, to provide input about the future direction of our congregation.*

Remember, without you, there is **no** UUCA.

~Lauraine Marcus, Annual Budget Drive Chair

## MINISTER'S CORNER



Rev. Michelle Buhite

"It's hard to believe that it has already been six months since we embarked on this journey of Developmental Ministry together. We've been getting to know one another and laying the foundation for our shared ministry by developing a congregational covenant; a sacred promise of how we aspire to be

together. Now we can begin to realize our goals to build the community, to build trust within the community, and to provide for the existing and future community.

What will the coming months hold for us? How will we prepare ourselves to live into our goals and aspirations? If our goals were for physical fitness, we would likely engage a personal trainer or coach to challenge us, to encourage us, and to keep us on the right track.

I am very excited to announce that the Board of Trustees will bring in the Reverend Martha Munson to be our *congregational coach* for the next four months! Rev. Martha is an Accredited Interim Minister with extensive experience in leading congregations to their healthy best; and she is awesome at it! She will be working alongside me to challenge, encourage, and guide this diverse community into *Beloved Community*. Let's get fit!

See you in church,  
Rev. Michelle

### FEBRUARY DATES FOR RELIGIOUS ED.

**Sunday, February 7**  
RE Classes 10:30 am  
RE Soup and Treat Sale after the Service

**Sunday, February 14**  
Children's Chapel

**Saturday, February 20**  
RE Winter Outing; 10 am.

**Sunday, February 21**  
RE Classes 10:30 am  
RE Committee Meeting 12pm Bulfinch Room

**Sunday, February 28**  
RE/1st Light 10:30 am

### UUCA Proposed 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.

### **TALK BACK**

Did something in a sermon grab you? Do you have questions or concerns that the minister might respond to? Join a group chat at church on the second Tuesday of the month, **(Feb.9)** 11:00 a.m. in the Reeb Room. "Come, let us reason together!"

~ Rev. Michelle

### CONTINUING THE NOMINATING PROCESS



The application is enclosed in this newsletter, and will also be available online on the church website (<http://www.uuamherst.org/nominations-board-of-trustees/>). If you have the interest and desire to serve our community on the Board of Trustees please complete and submit ASAP. We will be meeting again in early February to plan the informational meetings for our interested candidates and other potential leaders.

Visit our website at [www.uuamherst.org](http://www.uuamherst.org)

### St. Lawrence District Assembly April 1 & 2, 2016 First UU Society of Syracuse & Crowne Plaza Hotel



The St. Lawrence UU District Assembly is scheduled for April 1-2, 2016 in Syracuse, NY.

Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> activities will be held at the First UU Society of Syracuse (109 Waring Road, Syracuse, NY 13224)

Registration, Musical Entertainment, Gould Discourse: Rev. Margaret O'Neill, Reception & Multigenerational Coffee House

Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> activities will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel (701 E. Genesee, Syracuse, NY)

Registration, Opening Worship, Keynote Speaker: Rev. Sue Phillips, Business Meeting (includes vote on "Regionalization"), Workshops, Closing Worship & Bridging

**Registration is Open!** District Assembly Website <http://www.sld.cerguua.org/conggrowth/districtassembly.html>

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS:

Firstly, a *huge, heartfelt thanks* to all who supported our Soup and Bake Sale in January! We truly appreciate all those who patronized our sale, as well as those who donated baked goods. See you again on February 7th!



### Events and Volunteer Opportunities:

- ◆ Prior to beginning a search for our new Director of Religious Education, Rev. Michelle would like to meet with parents and teachers to create a vision and direction for the RE program. Please keep an eye out for a date in the near future.
- ◆ **After church on January 31 is a meeting for parents of children who will be attending the 4-6 OWL this year. The meeting is mandatory**, so please be sure to put it on your calendar.
- ◆ Speaking of OWL, we are in need of volunteers to teach the 7-9 age level for future sessions. If you are interested, or merely curious as to what would be involved, please contact me.
- ◆ In addition to volunteers for OWL, we are still (always!) looking for classroom teachers as well as folks who may be willing and able to help periodically. Please consider giving some time to our fabulous youth!

-Jodi Howe, Religious Education Committee Chair



### UUCA Theater Lovers

Jewish Repertory Theatre's second production this season is **BAD JEWS**, running from February 4 to 28. Show times are Thursday at 7:30 pm, Saturdays at 4 and 8 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm. There is a form, in the church lobby on the table to the right of the Welcome Desk, to order discount tickets (\$25 each, for Saturdays and Sundays throughout the run. Box office price is \$38 per ticket). Checks for discount tickets must be received eight (8) days prior to the performance you wish to attend.

**A group of us will attend the performance on Saturday, February 6, at 4 pm, and go to dinner afterward at Lebro's.** If you have questions about tickets, please contact Sophia Veffer at 631-3228. If you'd like to go to dinner, please contact me by noon on Friday, February 5, so I can make a reservation at the restaurant. -Marie Evans ([evans.marie@gmail.com](mailto:evans.marie@gmail.com), 636-5770)

### UU GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

It's not too early to plan and Columbus is only a few hours' drive! Be part of this inspirational event! <http://www.uua.org/ga>

**June 22-26, 2016** Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High Street, Columbus, OH 43215



This year's theme is **Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect** "...General Assembly 2016 in Columbus Ohio will assemble leaders and communities of many faiths to worship together, learn from one another, and create a new vision of faith that no longer divides us, but connects us to an interdependent future that works for all."

### Stealth Greeters

~Lauraine Marcus, membership committee

On the UUA Growing Vital Leaders Blog, Rev. Renee Ruchotzke, Congregational Life Consultant for CERG wrote the following: "I'm a "stealth greeter" in my home congregation. I go up to newcomers after a service and strike up a conversation about what brought them to church that day, and then I listen. What are they looking for? Community, meaning, direction and connection to a purpose greater than themselves."

We also have "stealth greeters" on Sunday mornings, and we can always use more. When we actively listen to a newcomer, we are creating a connection. We are exploring: What do our spiritual journeys have in common? How can this traveler step beyond the threshold of the first visit and begin to explore the religious, social, ethical and other aspects of our beloved community?

Remember: there are information packets on the welcome desk that include the current newsletter. If they would like to receive information or to be contacted by the minister, yellow cards are available in the chapel and on the welcome desk—completed cards can go in the membership mailbox. If you know of a social event or a meeting that might be of interest, extend an invitation.

And one last thing, *remember to talk again the next time.*

*An email edition of this newsletter is now being distributed. If you did not receive a copy, please send an email to Scott Harrigan at [Harrigan@me.com](mailto:Harrigan@me.com). Hard copies are available at the Welcome Desk.*



## BOARD NOTES:

It's February, my favorite month. I was born in February. Valentine's Day is in February and soon my wedding anniversary will be too! Yay!

I'm excited about the direction leadership is taking this year at UUCA. We have so many wonderful opportunities to learn and grow. I describe them as wonderful because they truly fill me with wonder. "I wonder what *this* will be like... I wonder what *that* will be like... How might *this* change our perspective? How might *that* influence our choices?" I describe them as opportunities because that's what they are. An opportunity is a set of circumstances that make it possible to do something, and that's just what we have here.

In faith and service,

Ivy Yapelli ~ Board Chair, UUCA

### All Church In-home Potluck Supper

**Saturday, March 12, 6 pm**

Join us for an opportunity to meet informally with six to eight other members of our UU church in a more intimate setting. It is a chance to get to know each other better beyond the quick conversations of Coffee Hour.

*To make this a success, we need VOLUNTEERS to host and to be guests.*

The dinners are organized and hosted by a volunteer at their home. The host provides a main dish and all other attendees provide a side dish or other component of the dinner which they coordinate through the host. Your host will contact you the week of March 6<sup>th</sup>

**Sign up to be a guest or a host TODAY! You can register by calling Lauraine Marcus 633-7509 or by filling in the reservation form at the welcome desk**

**RSVP by March 6<sup>th</sup> NOON**



### UU-UNO's 2016 Intergenerational Spring Seminar!

April 7-9

More information and a tentative schedule and registration are available at [UUA.org/UNSpringSeminar](http://UUA.org/UNSpringSeminar).

This year's seminar, "The Colors of Inequality: Costs and Consequences," will address the interlocking issues of economic inequality and racial discrimination. It will feature keynote speaker [Dale Jamieson](#), an expert on environmental ethics and Professor of Environmental Studies and Philosophy at New York University. Join Unitarian Universalists and fellow global activists of all ages from across North America for 3 days of learning, dialogue, worship, and exploration as we work together to find ways to combat the critical challenges our globe faces.

## Fundraising Notes

Barbara Gauger Kent

We are over half way through the UUCA's fiscal year and working hard to meet budget obligations.

Our ongoing fundraisers are the *sale of TOPS cards* (5% goes to the UUCA) and GoodShop/GoodSearch. If you need help on how to use the GoodShop/ GoodSearch website, information can be accessed through the UUCA website.

The *annual Rummage Sale* will be held April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Save your rummage. This is a major fundraiser for the UUCA and your help is vital.

If you have items that could be used in a gift basket (*basket raffle*) please contact me so I can collect them and save them for baskets. We had a very successful Basket Raffle associated with the Fall Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale last year. I would like to see us build a favorable reputation in the community.

On Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, we will have our next Dining for Dollars event. This will be our *Kentucky Derby Party*. Keep your calendars open and sign up when the list opens.

Will we have a *Spring Auction* this year? It all depends on you. It is time to plan for this event and leadership is needed. Let's see what can be accomplished. Contact me and I will help to set you up with the information you need to plan a successful Spring Auction.

We will be developing 2 new fundraisers this calendar year, hopefully to fill empty spaces in the summer calendar. One will be a *Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ* sale (details to be arranged) and the other to be a *UUCA Tea Party and Basket Raffle*. We are in the early planning stages and welcome input.

Please contact Barbara Gauger Kent for further information. Thank you for all of your fundraising efforts. We look forward to an exciting second half of the fiscal year.

Sixty years ago, a great woman Rosa Parks, "sat" her ground. She was tired the daily injustices she had to endure. **In 2015, VOICE - Buffalo** has been accomplishing some great things to eliminate injustice in our community.

Here are some of the victories of **VOICE- Buffalo** this past year

- ◆ has grown to 54 member organizations
- ◆ trained over 100 leaders so far on Peace Circles and Peace Keeping in Buffalo
- ◆ had a historic victory in calling the County Legislature to reinstate the local Conditional Release Commission
- ◆ organized and won an agreement with Kaleida Health to pay to have 2 individuals trained as Community Application Counselors, which will enable them to go into the county jail and holding center to sign up returning citizens for the Affordable Care Act.

More to follow regarding our goals for 2016

~Social Justice Committee

**The Jericho Road/Vive Legacy plate collection** on December 27<sup>th</sup> was \$513.

Thank you to everyone for their generosity.

~Pat Burke, Social Justice Task Force

**HEART SUNDAY**

February 14, 2016 – Have your blood pressure checked!



**Health Awareness** - Suzanne Christ,  
RN, Faith Community Nurse, Caring For One Another

February is National Heart Month and this year we decided to repeat last year's event for our church community of taking blood pressures in the dining/living rooms after the Sunday church service. Lisa Mulder and myself from Caring For One Another will be taking the blood pressures. Anyone interested in having theirs checked please join us!

The American Heart Association has published a 2015 "Seasonal Update" entitled *Living a Heart-Healthy Life*. New studies show that the risk factors that lead to heart disease and stroke, such as high blood pressure, physical inactivity, and obesity, also contribute to dementia, Alzheimer's disease, memory loss, and cognitive dysfunction. The American Heart Association has developed the **My Life Check** program using **Life's Simple 7**, a simple seven-step list to help people live a longer, more productive, healthier life:

- ♥ Manage Blood Pressure
- ♥ Control cholesterol
- ♥ Reduce blood sugar
- ♥ Get active
- ♥ Eat better
- ♥ Lose weight
- ♥ Stop smoking

Make a resolution in the new year to take action on one or two of these changes. For more information visit the website:

[www.heart.org/MyLifeCheck](http://www.heart.org/MyLifeCheck)

Hope to see you Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February to check YOUR blood pressure!

**GREEN TIPS:**

**Remember to Reduce,  
Reuse, Recycle & Repair!**



1. You may already put glass and paper in the proper containers. How about all those other items such as computers, DVD players, TV's, compact fluorescent light bulbs? They should be recycled!
2. Don't forget to remove bottle caps. They are made of a different type of plastic and can blight the whole batch.
3. Return plastic bags to stores. Many stores accept them including Home Depot, Wegmans, and Tops

**Have an Announcement?**

Email: [administrator@uuamherst.org](mailto:administrator@uuamherst.org)

For Order of Service: by 10am Wednesday prior

For Emerson Room scroll: by 10am Friday prior

For Newsletter: by 10am on the 14<sup>th</sup> of month

**Foreword Music Notes**

~Wendy Scott, Ministry Council Music Chair

Happy February, everyone! January was a time of reassessment and planning for the Music Committee, and Rev. Michelle suggested focusing anew on tapping the congregations' own talent and love of music. To that end, she and Fran scheduled an **open mike night for Saturday, February 6 at 6:30 pm**. Come to Listen! Come to Perform! (Donated snacks appreciated.)

Fran is planning to make a *short survey of music abilities and interests for church members of any age* who want to share their talents, to tell what they are (talents) and how they (members) would like to participate. She is also devoted to having anyone willing and qualified take part in musical activities ranging from Sunday services to talent nights. Let's all dust off our fingers and voices and revitalize our interest!

For *music events*, there will be several music-themed-movie nights, starting with The Soloist on January 29; look for more in February and March. A spring coffeehouse is in the works, performer uncertain yet but definitely local talent. We had so much fun on the lawn with Lee Ron Zydeco last summer that we will repeat that, looking to add other lawn activities to make a whole afternoon of entertainment.

Watch this space for more information!

**Lending Library**

Laura Pedersen's book of humorous nonfiction essays *Life in New York* is a winner in the Nonfiction category for the **2015 Seven Sisters Book Awards**. The award celebrates the stories of women and those who tell them.

The full list of 2015 Winners:

Fiction/Mainstream: Elizabeth Collison, ***Some Other Town***  
Children's Literature: Gwennie Kloster, ***The Princess and the Terrible Secret***

Non-Fiction (a tie): Hannah Norhaus, ***American Ghost*** and  
Laura Pedersen, ***Life in New York***

Poetry: Ellen Hagan, ***Hemisphere***

First Book: Sarah Kotchian, ***Camino***

Fiction/Other: Leslie Peitrzyk, ***This Angel on My Chest***  
Winner of the 2015 Best Book: Leslie Peitrzyk, ***This Angel on My Chest***

There are several of Laura's books in UUCA's Lending Library, located in the glass cabinet in the Emerson Room (between the floor-to-ceiling rear windows). A spiral notebook is available to sign out any of our fiction or non-fiction books. We're on the Honor System - no fees, no due dates!

Any questions, contact Marie Evans.



## CURRENT EVENTS DISCUSSION/LUNCH

*Tuesday, February 9th -*

12:30 p.m. - We'll be in the Emerson Room to discuss the events of the day. Bring your lunch and join us!

### Women's Lunch

*Tuesday, February 16th - 12:30 p.m. -*

We'll be in the Emerson Room to laugh and chat as we have lunch together. Bring your lunch and join us. No agenda today.



## DOMINOES

We meet, play, bring something edible to share, chat and just have fun! This is a very relaxing time, although we do discuss issues (we're Unitarians!) We've gotten to know each other which is another way to group cohesiveness. You may join us at any time on Mondays at 1:30pm in the Emerson Room.

## MEN'S LUNCHEON

On the first Thursday of every month, all men are invited to get together for lunch at Buffalo Brewpub, 6861 Main Street (at Transit Road). The ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) have great conversations over lunch. There is no agenda, but we are never at a loss for words. Come join in our sharing of ideas; neither retirement nor old age is a strict requirement for participation!



We will be selling coffee, tea, hot chocolate and candy bars on Sunday, February 7 after the service. Stop by the table and help support the farmers in various parts of Central America.  
~ Jim & Doreen Park

### Adult Religious Education

#### Poetry As Practice

Feb. 7 at Noon in the Reeb Room - Marie Evans will present poems by Marie Howe. All are welcome!



## Women's Afternoon Study Group

*Tuesday, February 2 - 1:30 p.m.* We will discuss the articles in the UU World Winter Edition with the voting booth on the cover. See you in the Living Room.

*Tuesday, February 23rd - 1:30 p.m.* - We will start Women's History Month early by watching a DVD about Louisa May Alcott in the Living Room.

**NEW: Love Feast Thursdays 6-7:30pm**

Are you looking for a deeper connection? Do you need a little mid-week pick-me-up? Would you like to experience your faith more intimately?

*Love Feast Thursdays* might be just what you need! Enjoy a light dinner at 6pm, Family Vespers at 6:30, and alternating weeks of drumming and Tai Chi at 7. Come to any of it or all of it. Begins February 4<sup>th</sup>. All ages welcome!



## CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Our committee accepts requests to provide assistance for our church community. We have a group of dedicated volunteers who are willing, ready and able to serve their church community by:

- Visiting hospitals, nursing homes, and individual homes; or doing phone check-ins.
- Sending cards.
- Providing rides to Sunday church services.
- Providing Caring Health Awareness information by our Faith Community Nurse
- Transportation to Special Events at Church
- Pet Therapy

You may call us or ask on behalf of another member by contacting **Suzanne Christ:** phone 716-632-6920 or email [magicame1@verizon.net](mailto:magicame1@verizon.net) OR **co-chair, Ivy Yapelli:** phone 254-338-8248 or email [ivyapelli@gmail.com](mailto:ivyapelli@gmail.com)

**Our next meeting is on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 11am in the Emerson Room for all members and any newly interested persons.**



## COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION

Friday: Feb. 5th



Are you looking for an affordable night out with old friends and maybe some new ones? Then this is the place for you! Come unwind and relax with fellow UU's for cocktails and conversation on the first Friday of the month **at 7:00PM**. All people age 21-121 are welcome. February's location is Billy's at 1424 Millersport Hwy, Amherst, NY 14221, near the Marriott. See you there!  
-Ivy Yapelli (questions? txt/call) [254-338-8248](tel:254-338-8248)

## Winter Weather is Here!



Church closings due to severe weather will be announced on Channels 2 and 4.  
Stay Safe!





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

# February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b></p>  <p>1:30 Dominoes (Em)                      6:00pm AA (LR)                      7:30pm ACOA (LR)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>10am ACOA (LR)                      12:15 AA (LR)                      1:30 Women's Study Group (LR)                      7:00 Blue Mountain (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>12:15 AA (LR)                      1:30 Green Sanctuary (LR)                      6:30 Newman Ctr (RE Wing)                      7:30 Ministry Council (Em)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>11am Caring For One Another (Em)                      12pm ROMEOs Lunch                      12:15 AA (LR)                      6pm: Love Feast Thursday (Em)                      6pm Mindgardens (LR)</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>5pm (AE) Not a Snow-bird Evening (LR)                      7:00pm Cocktail &amp; Conversation                      7:30pm SOS (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>4pm: Theatre Lovers Outing                      6:30pm Frozen Delights/                      Open Mic Night (chapel)</p>	
<p><b>7</b> <i>Fair Trade Coffee</i></p> <p>9:30 Creative Interchange                      10:30 Church service/RE                      11:30 RE Soup Sale                      7:30pm AA</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>1:30 Dominoes (Em)                      6:00pm AA (LR)                      7:15 Finance Council (LR)                      7:30pm ACOA (LR)                      7:30 Mankind Project (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>10am ACOA (LR)                      11am Talk Back (Reeb)                      12:15 AA (LR)                      12:30 Current Events/Lunch (Em)                      7pm Membership (LR)                      7pm Blue Mountain (Reeb)                      7pm Chinmaya Mission (Bul)</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>12:15 AA (LR)                      4:30 Newman Ctr (Em)                      7:30 Board Mtg. (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>12:15 AA                      6pm: Love Feast Thursday (Em)                      6pm Mindgardens (LR)</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>7:30pm SOS (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>7pm Valentine's Day Bash (Music)</b>                      7pm Buffalo Belles (LR)</p>
<p><b>14</b> <i>Valentine's Day</i></p> <p>9:30 Creative Interchange                      10:30 Church service/Children's Chapel                      11:30Heart Sunday (LR)                      7:30pm AA  <i>Deadline for newsletter</i></p>	<p><b>15</b> <i>President's Day</i></p> <p>1:30 Dominoes (Em)                      6:00pm AA (LR)                      7:30pm ACOA (LR)</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>10am ACOA (LR)                      12:15 AA (LR)                      12:30 Women's Lunch (Em)                      7pm Blue Mountain (Reeb)                      7pm Programs Council (LR)                      7pm Chinmaya Mission (Bul)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>12:15 AA (LR)                      7:00 Social Justice (LR)                      7:30 Preaching By Parishioners (LR)</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>12:15 AA (LR)                      6pm: Love Feast Thursday (Em)                      6pm Mindgardens (LR)</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>7:30 Humanist Reading Group (LR)                      7:30pm SOS (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>10am RE Winter Outing                      1pm Yapelli/Delavan Wedding (Chapel)                      6pm Private Event</p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:30 Creative Interchange                      10:30 Church service /RE                      11:45 Campus ministry (Reeb)                      12 RE Comm (Bul)                      7pm Newman Center (Bulfinch)                      7:30pm AA</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>1:30 Dominoes (Em)                      6:00pm AA (LR)                      7pm Youth Orchestra Rehearsal (Chapel)                      7pm Green Cuisine (Em)                      7pm Newman Board (Bulfinch)                      7:30pm ACOA (LR)                      7:30 Mankind Project (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>10am ACOA (LR)                      12:15 AA (LR)                      12:30 Women's Lunch (Em)                      7pm (AE) Lively Book Discussion (Em)                      7pm Blue Mountain (Reeb)                      7pm Chinmaya Mission (Bul)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>12:15 AA (LR)                      6:30 Newman Ctr (RE Wing)                      6:30 Snowbirds (Em)                      7:30 Preaching By Parishioners (LR)                      7:30 Worship (Bul)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>12:15 AA (LR)                      6pm: Love Feast Thursday (Em)                      6pm Mindgardens (LR)</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>7:30pm SOS (Reeb)</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>5pm (AE) Dinner at the Parks</p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30 Creative Interchange                      10:30 Church service/RE/1st Light                      12:00 pm UUCA Bookclub                      6:30pm (AE) Play Reading (Em)                      7:30pm AA</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>1:30 Dominoes (Em)                      6:00pm AA (LR)                      7pm Youth Orchestra Concert (Chapel)                      7:30pm ACOA (LR)                      7:30 Mankind Project (Reeb)</p>					

KEY:  
 AA- Alcoholic Anon.  
 AE - Auction Event  
 ACOA - Adult Children of Alcoholics  
 Bul = Bulfinch Room  
 DR = Dining Room  
 Em = Emerson Room  
 LR = Living Room  
 SOS = Non-religious sobriety group



6320 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221

**UUCA**

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
CHURCH OF AMHERST

*we are a welcoming community*

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## U.U.-U.N. NEWS

On 9 November 2012, U.N. Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon reiterated his call for more action to control climate change while addressing the U.N. General Assembly. His address was delivered in response to the destruction caused by Hurricane Sandy. "Storms and emergencies pose great tests and challenges. They bring out the best in people who work beyond the call of duty in trying and even heroic circumstances...But emergency situations can also lay bare where we may have been operating on flawed assumptions and must do better. Such was the case over the last two weeks.... The U.N. continued to provide its vital global services despite major disruptions,...At the same time, where there were mistakes-there must be lessons to be learned. We are determined to work with all of you to learn and move forward." The U.N. General Assembly also devoted a minute of silence to all the storm's victims.

Not only the U.S. eastern coastline and the New York metropolitan area were effected by this "once in a generation storm", but also damaged were many Caribbean U.N. member states including Haiti, Cuba, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and the Bahamas. In the wake of the hurricane, the Secretary-General pledged the full support of the U.N and expressed his solidarity with all the storm's victims. Hurricane Sandy's arrival and its effects on New York City caused the U.N. to be closed for an unprecedented three days, before re-opening on Thursday, 1 November 2012. As a result of this storm, U.N. headquarters sustained minor damage. "Let me also stress that our global services were provided without interruption. Many of the

staff worked around the clock," Mr. Ban said, "but more information about the storm should have been conveyed to the public."

In their remarks to the special session of the U.N. General Assembly, both the Secretary-General and the U.N. General Assembly President, Mr. Vuk Jeremic, raised the issue of climate change. "Extreme weather events caused by global warming are but one manifestation of the reality of climate change. This is a very serious issue that requires us to work much more closely together in order for it to be adequately addressed," Mr. Jeremic said.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban-Ki-Moon acknowledged the difficulties in attributing any single storm to climate change. "But we also know this: extreme weather events due to climate change are the new normal." The world's best climate scientists have been sounding the alarm for many years. The U.N. Secretary-General said the challenge before the international community remains clear and urgent: a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and the need to reach a legally binding climate change agreement by 2015. "This should be one of the main lessons of Hurricane Sandy. The U.N. and human family need to control climate change before it is too late," emphasized Mr. Ban. Such an agreement though far from being perfect was recently adopted in Paris. 29 October 2015 was the third anniversary of Hurricane Sandy and its horrible destruction. Let us take unequivocal steps to ensure that such horrific weather events never occur again; otherwise, the human family will be gradually rendered extinct. The time for decisive action is now.

*~ David Slive, U.N. Envoy*