

Online Worship Service

Join us for worship at 10:30am on Sundays; either by computer at <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/367428065> or phone +1 646 876 9923 and use the password 367428065

Pulpit Previews



Friday Night Candlelight Vesper Services: You Spoke, We Heard You!

Every Friday night in October Rev. Joan will hold Vesper Services at 7:00 - 730pm outside in the garden.

A short, spiritual, face-to face service at the church. Prayers for our time, music, ritual, kinship.

Please wear your mask, keep safe distance, and bundle up.

If these services are well-attended, they will continue into the foreseeable future.

Oct 4: Will Listen for Change, Rev. Joan Montagnes

"I was in prison and you came to visit me." When people are incarcerated, much of the free world conveniently forgets about them. But prisoners are people too. Voices call out from behind bars. Listening is the spiritual equivalent of feeding the hungry and housing the homeless.

Oct 11: Answering the Call of Love, Shawn Doyle

Listen deeply to members of the of the LGBTQAI community. Hear all the joy, struggle, pain, pride and beauty. Together, using only the power of our love, we can create a true sanctuary for all.

Oct 18: this amazing day, Rev. Joan Montagnes

Its poet e.e. cummings birthday! The man without capital letters would be 126 years old today. We'll reflect on some of the many gifts his life gave us.

Oct 25: Now's the Time, Rev. Joan Montagnes

Its Celebration Sunday! A day to reflect and revel in our shared ministry to each other and our wider community. This is our stewardship service, a time to remember with our gratitude those who gave in the past so we could have a church today. A time to continue with our generosity to build a world of faith, peace, justice and love.

Joys and Sorrows

We are holding David Clark and his family in our hearts. David's younger brother, Mark, recently passed away after an accident.

We offer sympathy to The Rev. Michelle Buhite who serves the UU church in Amherst. She was once our ministerial intern. Michelle's mother recently passed away after a long illness.

We are sending healing wishes to Georgia Pooley. Georgia broke her leg a last month and is now home recovering.

Congratulations to our Religious Education Director, Sarah Martin, who received an award from the Unitarian Universalist Association's Lifespan Faith Engagement Office citing her completion of 75 hours of Renaissance Module continuing education training.

On September 5, it was our delight to partner with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst in ordaining the Rev. Kristina Church to the Unitarian Universalist ministry.

Religious Education & Adult Faith Development News



Sarah Martin, Director of Religious Education

It's not too late to be part of Religious Education this fall at UUCB! Here's a list of our fall program offerings:

PreK – Sundays at 12 noon, class will meet on Zoom for a live chalice lighting, story, and a video tutorial of an accompanying craft. We will be using the Padlet app to provide links for families to connect with the lessons and craft tutorials on their own time.

Spirit Play (K-2) – Sundays at 1 pm class will meet on Zoom for stories, wondering questions, and sharing time. Supplementary online materials will be available via the Padlet app.

Workshops (K-5) – Sundays at 2 pm, class will meet on Zoom to engage with monthly themes and rotate through Music, Art, Science, and Social Action sessions.

Graphic Novels (4th-9th Grade) – Sundays at 3 pm, class will meet EVERY OTHER WEEK on Zoom will encourage spiritual exploration, deepen knowledge of Unitarian Universalist History, and call us to action based on our UU values, all while creating original graphic novels and stories. On the off weeks, we'll use the Padlet app to connect students with videos, recorded interviews, links to webcomics and UU history sites, and interactive activities.

Coming of Age (8th-9th Grade) – Sundays, 6 pm. (Already in progress but open to new members) Class meets twice a month online, exploring their journeys as Unitarian Universalists, learn about our Unitarian Universalist history, and developing their personal faith credos. This class involves fundraising for an end of the year heritage trip to Boston (June 2021, hopefully!)

High School Youth Group (9th-12th Grade) - Our high school youth meet weekly to check in with one another, have fun together, engage in social justice actions, and plan or participate in local and regional youth conferences with other UU youth. All high school youth are welcome to join. Email lifespan@buffalouu.org to get connected with our high school youth group.

Padlet

You may have noticed that many of our classes are using the Padlet app to connect as well as Zoom classes. If your child is interested in participating but doesn't like Zoom, if you miss a class, or if you just want to explore the week's themes with your child in addition to Zoom, check out the class Padlet. We'll update our Padlets each week. The Graphic Novels class will have special information and links on their Padlet the weeks that they don't have class on Zoom.

Padlet links are available here:

PreK Padlet: <https://padlet.com/sarahmartindre/vlhroi0qwfvgm3fl>

Spirit Play Padlet: <https://padlet.com/sarahmartindre/gpcs9berf1y5ddct>

K-5 Workshops Padlet: <https://padlet.com/sarahmartindre/wt0tsg7u709k843a>

Graphic Novels Padlet: <https://padlet.com/maloneykl/yd6rg738kwy8u3m4>

Haunted Halloween Yard and Nov/Dec Packet Pick Up

We can't have the Halloween Party this year, but that doesn't mean we can't have some Halloween fun! Our November/December take home packet pick up will be held on Friday, October 30 from 6 – 8 pm. We are going to ask families to sign up for staggered time slots. You can come to the church parking lot, pick up your packet and some Halloween treats, take a walk through our spooky haunted yard, and have a family picture taken at a UUCB

Halloween backdrop. Even if your child's class doesn't have a packet to physically pick up, you are welcome to drop by for some Halloween fun. Everyone MUST wear a mask covering their nose and mouth and maintain a safe social distance from folks outside your family. Keep watching the Religious Education email for more information.

To subscribe to the RE email, you can use the form at the bottom of the following page:

<https://www.buffalouu.org/welcome.html>

ADULT FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday Night Memoir Group

Our Tuesday Night Memoir Group is getting the band back together and there's only one thing missing. YOUR stories! If you're interested in joining this group for Zoom meetings, please email lifespan@buffalouu.org.

Facilitators and Tech Assistants Wanted for Online Fall Adult Faith Development Classes

We've gathered some great information about what you're looking for in adult programming at the UU Church of Buffalo, and now we need to facilitators and tech assistants to help make it happen. Do you have an area of expertise in Spiritual Development, UU History, UU Theology, or a skill to share? If you're interested but fear you don't have the experience to make it happen, don't worry, we can provide premade curriculum or Zoom training! If you have an idea for a great class you'd like to offer, we'd love to work with you on that, too! Email lifespan@buffalouu.org for details.



AND IF I'M ELECTED...!
GREAT RACES FOR THE U.S. PRESIDENCY

**Discussions Led by Michael Harris, Sponsored by Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo
Online Zoom Meetings; Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. through December 16th, 2020,
Cost: \$10 per Session.**

If we compare presidential elections to horse racing, then many have been 'photo finishes' that have been won by a nose. In this course, we'll look at the most thrilling and controversial of America's presidential campaigns and discover the surprising number of nail-biters in our nation's history. It shows the truth that every vote counts!

Our meetings will take place virtually by computer or phone through the Zoom platform. To register, send your check, made out to UUCB, to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo, 695 Elmwood Ave.; Buffalo, NY 14222. The church office will send the Zoom meeting number and instructions for logging-in to your email address. For more information, call the UUCB Office at 885-2136.

Course Syllabus

Session Five (October 7): Grover Cleveland – 3 Presidential Campaigns

Session Six (October 14): Taft, Teddy & Woodrow – Campaign of 1912

Session Seven (October 21): "Dewey Defeats Truman" – 1948 Election

Session Eight (October 28): Rise of the Kennedys – Campaign of 1960

No Class Session on November 4!

Session Nine (November 11): Nixon's the One – Campaign of 1968

Session Ten (November 18): The Reagan Revolution – 1980 Election

Session Eleven (November 25): Rise of the Clintons – Election of 1992

Session Twelve (December 2): Recount! – Bush/Gore Election of 2000

Session Thirteen (December 9): The Obama Effect – Election of 2008

Session Fourteen (December 16): What Happened?? – Election of 2016

MUSIC NOTES



Daniel Bassin, Music Director

During this month of October, we join hundreds of *Soul Matters* congregations in asking the question, *What does it mean to be a people of Deep Listening?* As a musician with some specialization in contemporary composition, reading the term, ‘Deep Listening’ immediately fills me with nostalgia and a sense of wonder at how even small expressions of an individual’s artistic purview can have lasting impact. The term, though now frequently encountered in Unitarian Universalist covenant groups and in restorative justice and other social practices, was originally coined by the American maverick composer and sound improviser, Pauline Oliveros (1932-2016), as something of a pun after descending into a cave for a recording project. The musician’s goal of such an aural focus sought to bridge the gap between composition and improvisation, in order to arrive at and uplift the creative spark within a performing collective. As a community of shared values together at the precipice of our moment – election, pandemic, societal comeuppance for the legacies of white supremacy and systemic injustice, – we face a mandate to listen deeply and to grow and change together.

On Sunday, October 4th, we gather in the virtual realm of Zoom for Rev. Joan Montagnes’s sermon, *Will Listen for Change*. Our music begins seasonally, with Bernice Petkere’s jazz standard, *Lullaby of the Leaves*. Soloist, Helen Lowry, will offer up the song “Children will Listen” from Stephen Sondheim’s musical, *Into the Woods*, as well as song lead the beloved hymn, *There is More Love Somewhere*. Our solo quartet will be heard in the hymn, *Wake Now My Senses*, and a musical reflection of Deep Listening will be played on our Sanctuary Steinway by Jonathan Vogtle, György Kurtág’s piano piece, *The very last conversation with László Dörnyei*. Finally, Jon will conclude the service with a movement from the unjustly neglected pianist composer, Vladimir Drozdov’s *Au Tombeau de Rachmaninoff*.

Julie Taylor and Shawn Doyle will lead the service on National Coming Out Day, October 11th, *Answering the Call of Love*. Your UUCB Choir and Soloists have again dedicated themselves to a digital recording project, making sure the eponymous hymn for this service sounds as rousing and inspiring as when we gather in person. Service music begins with Billy Strayhorn’s jazz masterpiece, *Lush Life*, and we’ll also hear from our solo quartet in Amy Beach’s choral anthem, *Peace I Leave with You*.

Our service on the 18th *this amazing day*, takes its title (and capitalization) from the 20th century poet and polymath, e e cummings. A setting of his poem, *i thank You God*, will be performed by our soloists on a service that also features Matthew Spaulding’s rendition of “Simple Song” from Leonard Bernstein’s *MASS* and a new arrangement by Jessie Downs of Duke Ellington’s *Come Sunday*. We’ll work through a ‘new’ hymn on this service, too: #357 in *Singing the Living Tradition*, “Bright Morning Stars.” Jon Vogtle’s service prelude will introduce the piece, and we’ll sing it during the service as well as the opening hymn from *Singing the Journey* (our ‘Teal’ hymnal), “Morning Has Come.”

Finally, we end the month with our Stewardship Sunday worship service, *Now’s the Time*. Music for that festive service kicks-off with Charlie Parker’s famous blues that gives our service its title. Our own Michael Harris has created for this service a bespoke version of Leslie Bricusse’s *Once in a Lifetime*. We’ll also hear John Coltrane’s *After the Rain*, and lift up our collective voices in the hymns *Enter, Rejoice and Come In* and *Oh, We Give Thanks*.

Auction News

“This Little Light of Mine”

“This Little Light of Mine,” is Peter Sloan’s donation to the 2020 Fun & Fellowship Auction. Each year, Peter creates an original linoleum block print representing a revered aspect of UUCB life. This year’s piece depicts a sanctuary chandelier, which is actually an “electrolier.” The electroliers that grace the ceiling of our beloved sanctuary are made especially beautiful with the addition of candles lighted for Christmas Eve services.

Most people would call these works of art chandeliers, but technically “chandelier” means the fitting was originally made for candles. Electroliers began to appear in the early 1900’s as people began to convert their homes to electricity and wanted a beautiful ‘chandelier’ powered by this incredible new energy. Electroliers were wired for electricity as well as being fitted with candle holders. Preservationist Tom Yots shared this quote from the August 4, 1906 Buffalo Courier: “The electroliers are lanterns of isinglass and wrought iron, suspended by iron chains from the woodwork. They are most artistic.”



During our time apart, an original print has been seen each week hanging to the right of Rev. Joan during our virtual worship services. This lovely image, entitled “This Little Light of Mine,” has come to represent the radiating warmth of the UUCB community, as each of us brings our “little light” into connection with each other. Such a welcoming image calling us all together.

Peter’s original block print, valued at \$250, will be auctioned to one lucky bidder at the end of 2020. But we wanted to make this image available to everyone, as a symbol of the connection the UUCB community has maintained in this most challenging of times. Peter has worked with a local graphics company to produce affordable copies for all. Printed on 11” x 17” card stock, prints will be made-to-order locally and shipped in a sturdy cardboard mailing tube. \$25.00 includes the print, handling and postage.

If you would like a print for your own home or to give as a gift, place your order via e-mail to JVW61@aol.com. Include **the number of prints, the complete name and address to whom they should be mailed, and your phone number**. Prints will be mailed after payment is received. Send a check (write PRINT on the memo line) to UUCB, 695 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222. To pay by credit card, [click HERE](#) to go to the church PayPal account.

Thank you for your support of the auction and the work of UUCB. Your “little light” is a gift to us all.

ALSO AVAILABLE SOON - “West Ferry” - A print by Peter Sloan Capturing UUCB’s Heart and History

During our time apart, an original print entitled “West Ferry” has been seen hanging to the right of Worship Associates Fran and Ken Manly when they participate in our virtual worship services. This stunning image of the West Ferry doors represents not only UUCB’s intention to be a welcoming space for all, but it captures the rich architectural history that secured UUCB’s place in the National Register of Historic Places. The large arched oak doors, embellished with wrought iron decorative ornamentation resembling fleur-de-lis, are recognized not only for their charm and beauty, but for their place in social justice history. In 1968, during the draft resistance movement, police surrounded and stormed the church through these doors, in an effort to arrest anti-war activists who had sought sanctuary in UUCB. This print is timely in both its symbolic preservation of irreplaceable iconic structures and its reminder that UUCB has long been engaged locally and nationally in Social Justice issues,

You will soon have the opportunity to purchase this print, honoring not only our desire to return to our beloved sanctuary through these beautiful doors, but recognizing the important role they played in UUCB’s history of social activism. **Details of purchase will be available in a future e-blast and the November newsletter.** For information, write to JVW61@aol.com

Universal Accessible & Inclusion Ministry Team (UAIM)

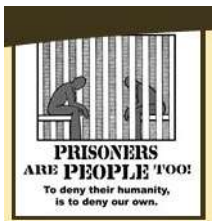
There are any number of conditions that may create disabilities and limit full societal access. This month UAIM wants to highlight arthritis.

Arthritis means inflammation of the joints. The term, 'arthritis' is often used to refer to any disorder that affects the joints. There are 100 types of arthritis. In the United States, 40 million people have some type of arthritis. 2 in 5 adults over 65 have some form of arthritis. The two major types are Osteoarthritis and Rheumatoid Arthritis. Osteoarthritis usually comes with age and mostly affects the fingers, knees, and hips. Rheumatoid Arthritis is when the body's own defense system doesn't work properly. It affects joints and bones, and my also affect internal organs any systems. Other types of arthritis are gout, juvenile arthritis, ankylosing Spondylitis, psoriatic arthritis and reactive arthritis. More Women tend to have rheumatoid arthritis, whereas men tend to have gout. Gout is caused by crystals that build up in the joints. It usually affects the big toe but may affect other joints.

UAIM hopes you find this information useful. Our team misses face-to-face contact as does everyone else. We hope you are able to get outside and find fun activities.



Share-the-Plate October – [Prisoners are People Too, Inc.](#)



For the last fifteen years, this has been our mantra and our motto: Prisoners Are People Too; to deny their humanity, is to deny our own. This is our wholehearted belief. It defines and guides the work we do for incarcerated people and their families. It leads us as we educate the community about criminal justice issues. We support our returning citizens as they strive to be assets to their families and this community. The work we do can, at times, be frustrating and disappointing but it can also be fulfilling and gratifying. We encourage prisoners and their families to stay positive as we fight against inhumane and unprofessional treatment. We urge prisoners to keep their eyes on the ultimate prize which is their release.

Floyd, from Buffalo, went to prison 15 years ago ... leaving two sons behind who are now 16 and 17 years old. Floyd came home 3 weeks ago. He has worked with us for 9 months, preparing for his release. Pictures, letters, and infrequent visits helped him to stay somewhat connected to his children for 15 years, but they are teenagers now with "lives of their own." Floyd has a curfew now that has him in the house at a time earlier than his teen sons.

We are so proud of this man who favorably impressed the NYS Parole Board at his FIRST Parole Board hearing with his statements of remorse, rehabilitation, and plans for the future. We will continue to support Floyd during his reentry process.

Visit our website at the link above and learn about what we are doing to support the growth of the community's knowledge and understanding of the prison industrial complex, the plight of prisoners and prison families, and the challenges of re-entry.

Social Justice Ministry

Important information about the 2020 Election Dates and Deadlines (General Election):

- Friday, October 9: Deadline to register to vote in the General Election (including Early Voting period).
- October 24 - November 1: Early Voting Dates for General Election
- Tuesday, November 3: General Election

Absentee Voting

Qualifications to Vote by Absentee Ballot

- Absent from your county or, if a resident of New York City absents from said city, on Election Day.
- Unable to appear at the polls due to temporary or permanent illness or disability; or because you are the primary care giver of one or more individuals who are ill or physically disabled.
- A resident or patient of a Veterans Health Administration Hospital.
- Detained in jail awaiting Grand Jury action or confined in prison after conviction for an offense other than a felony.

How to Vote by Absentee Ballot

Applications for Absentee Ballots are available at your county board of elections.

You may also download a PDF version of the New York State Absentee Ballot Application Form:

[Download English Form](#) ( 485KB)

The Justice Ministry Team invites you to join our Advocacy Team. As a member of the team, you will contact legislators, policymakers, friends, family, and neighbors in order to advance a justice cause. This may take the form of phone calls, emails and/or postcards and you will be expected to contribute in only those ways you feel comfortable and have the time to devote.

Please contact Kathy Taylor (ktay0409@gmail.com or 203 605-1544) to join the **Advocacy Team**.

Endowment Committee News

Silver Linings, Lasting Influences

Driving to lunch with a friend after the ingathering service, I listened to part of a conversation featuring Esther Perel, a relationship therapist, who noted that in her recent conversations with clients and in observing our society in general during this period, she, too, spoke of people “reaching for essence.”

Perhaps we could consider this introspection, this house-cleaning, this reckoning as a silver lining during this extraordinary time. When, throughout all this time of uncertainty, sorrow, and upheaval, we keep coming home to UUCB and the people who make it UUCB, that feels pretty essential to me.

During our lunch, my friend asked how UUCB’s endowment initiative was going, and I was pleased to share that at least seven individuals had indicated their intent to leave a legacy gift to UUCB since our first congregational meeting last fall. We also talked a bit about fundraising in general and I shared how in my 30+years of working with donors, I had seen many people (most of whom would not have described

themselves as wealthy) become visibly moved, proud, and content for having made provisions for college students seeking a better life.

That donor satisfaction at having reinforced their deeply-held core value was their vicarious gift to me, for which I will be forever grateful, and calls to mind a quote by philosopher, poet, and Unitarian minister Ralph Waldo Emerson that summarizes the relationship between philanthropic benefactors and beneficiaries. (Please forgive the gender references – he didn't know what we know now.)

It is one of the beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.

While we are in a time of social distancing, we continue to welcome discussions regarding providing for our (and for future generations') essential resource, UUCB. A good starting place is Diane Bockrath, who heads the Endowment Committee. She may be reached at 716-876-2986; diloboc@yahoo.com. You may also check out our Endowment Brochure on the UUCB website: buffalouu.org/endowment-contributions.html

- Submitted by Jane Armbruster on behalf of the Endowment Committee

Widow and Widowers Circle

At this point we are not meeting at all but I am available by email (collinsb@buffalo.edu) or by phone (648 4455) or text (867 9628). Rev Joan has offered the church zoom for a meeting if there is enough interest. Let me know by email, phone, or text if you want such a meeting. Stay safe! Namaste, Bonnie

FeedmoreWNY - Volunteer and help our community!

Hi, my name is Kathy Taylor and I began attending UUCB right before the pandemic hit. I recently began a part-time job with FeedmoreWNY and see their urgent need for volunteers to deliver meals in the City of Buffalo. From packaging food to delivering freshly-made home-delivered meals, volunteers make a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve. There are many ways you can volunteer!

Visit <https://www.feedmorewny.org/get-involved/volunteer> for an opportunity that is right for you. Please also feel free to contact me, Kathy Taylor, at ktay0409@gmail.com or 203-605-1544 with questions. Thank you!





We gather in loving community, inspiring one another, to transform ourselves, to create a more just and compassionate world

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo

695 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo New York 14222
716-885-2136 www.buffalouu.org

Minister: Rev. Joan Montagnes minister@buffalouu.org	Administrator of Facilities and Communication: Ashley Mountcastle office@buffalouu.org	Director of Religious Education: Sarah Martin lifespan@buffalouu.org	Music Director: Daniel Bassin music@buffalouu.org
Care Network: Ginny Vaughan 716-768-1077 wixsonsg@gmail.com	Gatekeeper: Sara Kirkland office@buffalouu.org	Wedding Coordinator: Helen Lowry weddings@buffalouu.org	Organist/Accompanist: Jonathan Vogtle
Administrator for Finance: Donna Sentz donnasentz@buffalouu.org	Nursery Care Coordinator: Morgan Silver	Newsletter (submissions due by the 15th) newsletter@buffalouu.org Weekly Announcements (submissions due by NOON Wednesday) announcements@buffalouu.org	



A chalice alit since 1831

A sanctuary on the National Registry of Historic Places

