

# THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

**Volume 170**

**March 2017**

## Service Calendar

**March 5**

Craig Milewski  
"The Land Ethic"

**March 12**

Nancy Lewin  
"What's Detachment Got to Do With It?"

**March 19**

Frank Lescinsky  
"Shrines: What are They? What are They  
Good For?"

**March 26**

Gary Alexander  
"Preaching to the Choir"

## Events Calendar

**March 5**

11 AM  
AUUC Board Meeting  
All are welcome.

**March 12**

11 AM  
Welcoming Congregation Activity: On Gender

Feel free to discuss personal, professional, social, and/or cultural aspects of gender, or anything else relating to gender, in all its forms. All are invited.

**11:20 am,**

*Historical event: Vincine Fallica; My birthdate  
& time.*

Vini asks the question, "Will you still need me.  
Will you still feed me, when I'm sixty-four

## The Month Ahead

### What to Expect From Our March Services

#### **Craig Milewski: "The Land Ethic"**

Aldo Leopold, ecologist and writer, "...purposely presented the land ethic as a product of social evolution because nothing so important as an ethic is ever 'written.' It evolves in the minds of a thinking community". This will be an exploration of the land ethic and the manifestations of its stirrings.

**Nancy Lewin: “What’s Detachment got to do With it?”**

An inquiry into the relationship between Love and a Buddhist-inspired concept of Detachment. Nancy was a co-founding member of the AUUC and currently a member of the UU Fellowship of Plattsburgh.

**Frank Lescinsky: “Shrines: What are They? What are They Good For?”**

We will have a discussion of shrines inspired by informal roadside shrines Frank saw while touring Argentina. The shrines are dedicated to two individuals who are locally considered to be responsible for miracles. Frank had mixed feelings regarding the shrines and the stories behind them.

**Gary Alexander: “Preaching to the Choir”**

My sermon will suggest that if we hope to succeed in the battle for hearts and minds, we must resist the temptation to spend all of our time and energy talking to those who already agree. Instead, we must explore ways to engage with the opposition that might change at least a few minds.

**Support for the Undocumented  
A Letter Published in the NYT on 02/24/17**

To the Editor;

I am writing in support of a woman I know about. She is an immigrant, and she is from a country in which there has been much terrorism recently. I am worried that she may be sent back. Perhaps she is “undocumented.” I don’t know what that term means.

She has no documents saying she belongs here, and she has no relatives living in the United States. She is dressed strangely, wearing only a robe. She lives in New York City, where there have been raids looking for undocumented immigrants. She probably has no criminal record.

But if the authorities want to charge her with something, they probably can. She constantly stands in one location, so she could possibly be charged with vagrancy. Her only possessions seem to be a torch and a tablet. Her name is Liberty. I fear for the future of Liberty.

KEITH EDMONSON, Mount Prospect, Ill.



**The New Colossus**  
**Emma Lazarus**

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,  
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;  
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame  
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name  
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand  
Glow world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command  
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.

"Keep ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she  
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
*I lift my lamp beside the golden door!*"

## Religious Leaders Gather to Show Support for Aid in Dying Legislation



Reverend Richard Gilbert, a retired minister, speaking in Albany alongside other religious leaders who support aid in dying legislation.

Religious leaders gathered in Albany to show their support for aid in dying legislation. The event was part of a larger campaign advocating for terminally ill patients to have the right to ask for medical assistance to die.

Reverend Richard Gilbert, a retired minister of the First Unitarian Church in Rochester, spoke at the rally.

“The end of life is a very sensitive issue and religious communities have a very strong interest in this because people turn to their religious community for aid and assistance in trying to figure out what life is all about and how they can face death with dignity,” Gilbert says.

The event was organized by [Compassion & Choices](#), an organization that is campaigning for New York to become the 7th state to legalize aid in dying.

“As a minister of over 55 years, I’ve of course seen many people die, and some tragically, in great pain and despair. A medical aid in dying legislation will provide them with the opportunity to die with dignity at a time of their choosing with their friends and loved ones around,” Gilbert says.

The legislation was [reintroduced](#) to the New York legislature last month.

<http://wxxinews.org/post/religious-leaders-gather-show-support-aid-dying-legislation>

# On the Freedom of the Press

Benjamin Franklin

While free from Force the Press remains,  
Virtue and Freedom cheer our Plains,  
And Learning Largesses bestows,  
And keeps unlicens'd open House.  
We to the Nation's publick Mart  
Our Works of Wit, and Schemes of Art,  
And philosophic Goods, this Way,  
Like Water carriage, cheap convey.  
This Tree which Knowledge so affords,  
Inquisitors with flaming Swords  
From Lay-Approach with Zeal defend,  
Lest their own Paradise should end.

The Press from her fecundous Womb  
Brought forth the Arts of Greece and Rome;  
Her Offspring, skill'd in Logic War,  
Truth's Banner wav'd in open Air;  
The Monster Superstition fled,  
And hid in Shades her Gorgon Head;  
And lawless Pow'r, the long kept Field,  
By Reason quell'd, was forc'd to yield.

This Nurse of Arts, and Freedom's Fence,  
To chain, is Treason against Sense:  
And Liberty, thy thousand Tongues  
None silence who design no Wrongs;  
For those that use the Gag's Restraint,  
First rob, before they stop Complaint.

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**We the member congregations of the Unitarian  
Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and  
promote**

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person.*
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.*
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to  
spiritual growth in our congregations.*
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.*
- The right of conscience and the use of democratic  
process within our congregations and in society at  
large.*
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and  
justice for all.*
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of  
which we are a part.*



**From the "Church of the open mind, loving hearts, and helping hand" to**

**Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community  
89 Church Street  
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