

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 107
October Services

October 2011
Announcements

October 9

Led by Christopher Courtright-Cox
"Christianity and Vegetarianism: Pursuing the
Ahimsa of Jesus"

Social Action Committee

The newly-formed Social Action Committee
will be meeting after the 4th Sunday service
on October 23. Anyone interested is invited
to join.

October 23

Larry Ham- Jazz Pianist and Lecturer
"The Spirituality of Jazz"

Flower Helper

Nancy Murphy is looking for someone to
assist her in recruiting flower providers for
our services, please see her if you are
interested.

Upcoming Services

November 13

Rev. Dave Weissbard
UU Minister and frequent guest speaker

A Letter from Ginger

Dear Friends,
Last year I attended the World Healing Day event in
Bellevue, Washington, on December 31st at 4 a.m.
(Noon, Greenwich Mean Time;
7 a.m. EST). This is an "instant" hour of meditation that
occurs worldwide with many millions of people
participating at the same time and proved to be one of
the most spiritually uplifting moments in my life. Never
had I felt such hope for the possibility of World Healing
and Peace on Earth. This event has occurred annually
since December 1986.

November 27

Karen Graff and Ann Mullen
A Service on Gratitude

Editor's Note

Sorry there was no September edition, but
that means October's is packed with notes and
letters including a letter from our President,
and the 2011 fiscal report. As well as Emily's
column which she wishes to continue. If things
look a little clunky, my apologies, I am still
working the bugs out.

-Courtney

I am hopeful of organizing this event in December 2011
with the support of our church members. The May
Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society (3800 E.
Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13214 - [315-446-8920](tel:315-446-8920) -
www.mmuus.org) is presently the only UU in NYS
participating; and, I plan to call there to learn how
they've organized their event. My research continues
and I will bring news to you all in the coming months.

In Service,
Ginger Slater

A Letter From the President

Hello Friends,

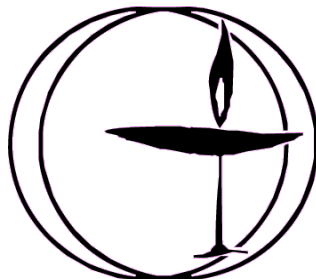
It is a new season here at AUUC and I am happy and proud to have been elected as the new President of the Executive Board. The summer in the Adirondacks was beautiful but for many of us and our neighbors it was devastating. It seems like autumn came all at once. Autumn and September specifically, has historically been the beginning of our church year and our fiscal year. For many reasons the board has decided to alter our fiscal year to match the calendar year. What that means, right now, is that we ask that you continue your pledging as you have until January 1st. For those of you that are new or have never made a pledge yet, I encourage you to speak with me about pledging as well as membership. We need the financial support of this congregation to stay afloat. In November we are going to begin our next stewardship campaign. At that time will lay out for the congregation what the budget has been and what it can be at current levels of giving.

We have a lot of important things on our agenda for the year to come. We have two big issues we will be tackling very soon. The first is increasing our membership by becoming more visible in the community and getting our message out. On this front we have jump started our advertising campaign and at our November 27th service, we will have "Open House Sunday." For that service our plan is to invite the community in to attend and learn more about who we are. More on that inside this Communitarian. We will also be hosting a SOUP and SANDWICH STOP for First Night in the John Black Room. Folks attending First Night can stop in, get a warm bite to eat and be on their way. More about that inside this issue too. Also we are launching (thanks to new board trustee Adrien Vlach) a Social Action Committee. This is a place where we can put our UU values to work in the community and the wider world. If you are interested in joining this committee, speak to Adrien.

The second big issue we are tackling is finding ministerial leadership. I will be meeting with the leadership of the our neighboring Plattsburgh UU Fellowship this weekend to talk about the possibility of sharing a part time minister. I'll keep you posted on the front as things progress.

We are sad to see both Nan and Don Palmateer and Marcy Woodland and her family leave us for New Hampshire and Colorado respectively. Nan and Don were actively involved with us for many years. Marcy has been an integral part of this congregation since our early days and has been the editor of the Communitarian for many, many years. We will miss you all! Good luck in your new adventure and please keep us posted. We would love to hear how things are going for you.

In Fellowship, Jason



Open House Sunday November 27

On November 27th, AUUC will hold a very special worship service. We are calling it AUUC's Open House Sunday. We will be inviting members of the community to come learn more about who we are. We are in a period where we are seeking additional members. Young families in particular. I encourage all of you to consider bringing someone you know to the Thanksgiving weekend Open House Sunday. We have a lot to offer as a liberal religious sanctuary for world weary souls.

In addition, we are looking for 5 or 6 members of the community that will speak for no more than 3-5 minutes at the service on "why being a UU is important to you?" "What has AUUC meant to you?" "Why do we need Unitarian Universalism in the world?"

If you are interested in stepping up to help with this very special service, please contact Gail at 891-0182 or at gailbrilldesign@gmail.com. Thank you!

First Night Soup and Sandwich Stop

AUUC to host a Soup & Sandwich Stop @ First Night
We will be setting up a "quick stop meal" for folks participating in First Night.
If you are willing to be on this committee, please contact Gail @ gail@gailbrilldesign.com

"It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness"
Chinese Proverb

Thoughts From Emily

This past weekend (Sept 24-25) I unsustainably drove back and forth to Canton twice to attend the Local Living Festival at the Cornell Cooperative Extension farm. I have been going to this festival, which is an offshoot of the Energy Fair formerly held at Canton ATC, for some years. It is an eyeopener. Area businesses demonstrate an array of available solar technologies, food preservation techniques, small farm animals and simple devices for living at a more sustainable level. Speakers included Matthew Stein, MIT graduate in engineering and author of [Making Shift Happen: Transforming Collapse into Global Renaissance](#) and Bryan Welch publisher of Mother Earth News.

One speaker, Jon Rosales, wore a T-shirt that said "Subsistence is Life" and in his talk "Thoreau Now" iterated the theme of many presenters that we are beyond the point of "sustainability", that is continuing to live at the level of energy and resource use that we currently live at.

An important aspect of the coming trends caused by global warming (caused by the overuse of fossil fuels) is the necessity of community. No one person can survive or thrive without the help of others. As independent as I intend to be I can only physically do so much, can only mentally comprehend and use some knowledge and barely have enough hours in my own personal day to accomplish the basics.

Within AUUC we have many talented people. If this community can answer any aspect of the upcoming wave of change with right living solutions the members of this community need to know. How we raise ourselves above subsistence depends on all of us. How do you see the future and what talents can you share?

My thoughts,
Emily

Treasurers Report Fiscal Year 2011

General

The 2011 Fiscal Year runs from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. The Income Statement is as follows:

AUUC Income Statement Fiscal Year 2011

INCOME

Donations	\$ 1,281.20
Pledges	\$ 23,120.50
Fundraising	\$ 1,910.22
Other	\$ 594.00
Total	\$ 26,905.92

EXPENSES

Rent	\$ 10,200.00
Office Expense	\$ 462.36
Supplies/Equipment	\$ 302.15
Advertising	\$ 1,976.11
Telephone	\$ 326.72
Food	\$ -
RE	\$ 84.03
Childcare	\$ 220.00
Music	\$ 2,000.00
Ministers/Service	\$ 1,675.00
Ministers Expenses	\$ 78.00
UUA Annual Expenses	\$ 2,240.00
SLDUUA	\$ 776.82
Leadership Development	\$ 238.24
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 775.00
Building Fund (50% Fundraising Income)	\$ 1,053.67
Piano Expenses	\$ 160.00
Other	\$ 2,978.68
Total	\$ 25,546.78

NET

\$ 1,359.14

Comments on Fiscal Year 2011:

This past year, we again had positive Net Income. This was despite having Income 8% (\$2,400) below the budget. All income categories missed. Collection plate income was \$400 under budget. Pledge Income missed because prepaid pledges (for the following fiscal year) were considerably less than last year. Fundraising Income was well below budget after adjusting for income from closing a fundraising related checking account. A new account was later opened and the opening balance expensed. We had only the Garage Sale this year which was a success but had planned for second fundraising event which did not occur.

Expenses were \$3,700 under budget, primarily from \$2,500 less than budgeted spending on ministers due to more than planned lay led services and very low minister travel related expenses, and \$600 below budget spending on advertising. Most expense categories came in below budget. An exception was the Other Expenses category which was considerably higher due to Community Service contributions that totaled \$1,911, only \$711 of which were funded by special collections. Music expenses were also over budget mostly due to an increase in the fee paid to the musicians.

Two deposits totaling \$1,054 were made to the Building Fund in Fiscal Year 2011, both from sharing of the fundraising profits. No other contributions were made. Slightly less than half of the total deposit amount was from fundraising income generated in the previous fiscal year.

The Building Fund total on June 30, 2011 was \$15,918 of which \$10,266 is in a Vanguard Money Market Fund, \$5,652 in the Vanguard Social Index Stock Fund. After a very rough start for the stock fund portion, as of June 30th it was well in the black.

At the end of the 2011 Fiscal Year the Community Bank Account balance was \$12,318. General Cash held in the Vanguard Money Market totaled \$29,000. The balance of the Community Bank Fundraising account was approximately \$750.

My term as Treasurer ended on June 30th with Karen Graff taking over. Thank you to all who have helped me over the years.

Chris McGrew

Contact Numbers

www.adkuu.org

President:	Jason Brill	891-7230
Vice President	Ann Mullen	891-5735
Secretary:	Vanessa Houghtlin	
Treasurer:	Karen Graff	891-5735
Trustees:	Sue Grimm	891-0455
	Adrian Vlach	946-7465
	Laura Reid	359-2019
Worship Committee:	Nancy Murphy	891-6602
	Emily Warner	891-1047
	Karen Graff	891-5735
	Elizabeth Phillips	354-8218
Children's Programming:	Gail Brill	891-7230
Communitarian:	Courtney Miller (starrypoetics@gmail.com)	
Community Outreach:	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Congregant Care:	Susan Arnold Carrie DeClerque	
Flower Power Program:	Nancy Murpy	891-6602
Place:	Randall Swanson	891-3512
	Stanley Ingeson	946-7465



**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 heart, and helping hand" to

**Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community
89 Church Street
Saranac Lake, NY 12983**