

# THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 121

December 2012

## December Schedule

### December 9

“Bark of the Covenant”  
Stewardship drive, bring pledge  
cards for a chance at some  
fabulous prizes!

Food Pantry Drive: Please  
bring a nonperishable food  
donation.

There will be a special collection this  
Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, for UU congregations  
that were adversely affected by Hurricane  
Sandy.

SJC meeting 11:15

### December 20

Winter Solstice service 7PM  
followed by potluck

**Reminder, starting in January  
services will be weekly.**

“He who stumbles but does not halt is  
hastened on his way.”

-George Herbert

## Food Pantry Drive

The Social Justice Committee is holding a  
food pantry drive on the second Sunday  
service (Dec 9). Please bring a donation of  
non perishable food for the pantry.

Items the Pantry are in need of right now are  
peanut butter, jelly, and canned tuna.

Large cans of corn are also needed for the  
Pantry's annual Christmas food boxes.

The Pantry also needs volunteers! Contact  
Arlene Day at 891-2651 if interested, or stop  
by the pantry during operating hours. Pantry  
is open Saturdays from 10AM to noon.

### UUA at a Click

From the UUA site: “The 2012 Annual Report  
on Giving is now available! Within its pages,  
you will find information about the Unitarian  
Universalist Association's (UUA's) work  
during 2011-2012 as well as lists of our [honor  
and merit congregations](http://uua.org/giving/apf/110049.shtml)  
(<http://uua.org/giving/apf/110049.shtml> ) and  
our [Giving Society](http://uua.org/giving/friends/185556.shtml)  
(<http://uua.org/giving/friends/185556.shtml> )  
donors.

We hope that this report will give you a sense  
of what we have accomplished over the past  
year. This work would not be possible without  
our generous congregations and donors.”

To review the report or download it: click here:  
<http://www.uua.org/giving/report/index.shtml>

## **Social Justice Committee Report**

The Social Justice Committee has been remaining active in organizing projects over the month of November. Our latest short-term project is a food pantry drive. The public forum on education has been postponed until January after brief discussion. A few factors have played into this decision including difficult timing. We felt that January is the earliest date we can organize a quality forum. New date and time will be announced soon.

As a committee who is concerned with economic issues facing our community, we receive information on many potential projects. At this point in time we have to consider which ones to take on since our active core group is rather small for the workload everyone handles. As much as some of us would like to take on everything, we know it would be a very taxing task with our current membership.

We are always looking for more help though! If anyone is interested in joining our committee feel free to attend one of our meetings. Meetings are 11:15 after regular services. Contact info for chair members Steve and Courtney can also be found on the back page of the Communitarian. The more help we have, the more we can accomplish!

## **Worship Committee Report**

### **Weekly Services**

As a result of the priorities set at the Congregational Meeting, the Worship Committee is planning weekly services starting in January. This is an exciting venture. As this more than doubles our offerings, we will need everyone to pitch in to make it happen.

Our first and most pressing need is for presenters. If you have an idea you would like to put into a service, let us know. One of us will help you put it into service form, and be there on the day of the service to help with all of the details.

If you want to help by running a service, but have no idea for one, contact us – we have a million of them.

If you would like to lead a discussion on a particular topic, or one that we propose, just let us know. We will schedule you in.

Let's all work together to make this desired transition to weekly services a smooth and easy one.

### **Winter Solstice Celebration**

7pm on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, followed by a potluck coffee hour.

If you would like to participate in the planning, or in the service, or in the decorating earlier that day, please let me know.

Thank you,

Karen Graff

[kegraff@gmail.com](mailto:kegraff@gmail.com)

891-5735

*"Give what you have. To someone it may be better than you dare to think."*

*-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

## President's Letter

Dear friends,

December already! Karen and I had a great Thanksgiving with dear friends in Oakland, California, and arrived home to the first snow on the ground. I hope you all were able to be with friends and family for the holiday.

On another personal note – I know that all of us send out our sympathies and best wishes to Ginger Slater who recently lost her beloved dog, Rosie, in a tragic accident. We think of you with love, Ginger.

*Board business:*

Much of our last Board of Trustees' meeting was taken up with a discussion about the formation of the ministerial search committee. We will continue that discussion this Sunday and be ready to come back to you with details by the agreed-upon January 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. In conjunction with this, I had a wonderful discussion with the president of the Plattsburgh congregation, which is searching for a half-time minister, and I agreed to collaborate with them. Perhaps we can locate a minister willing to work three-quarters-time between both congregations. We will see what develops and I will keep you posted on this.

I also want to give you an update on one of our Board goals for this year: the Board minutes for the last 24 months have been gathered and collated into a binder that is now available for review by members. If you would like to review the minutes, please let me know and I will make sure you can do so.

All the best,

**Ann**

### **Poem for Knitters**

by Emily Warner

Forgive me

three times today

I ate my fill

and Jesus died in Africa.

Forgive me

For expectations about my future

working for assurances

for believing in this bill of goods

shackling me to destruction.

Forgive me

The buddha lived this day

in repose beneath the Bodhi tree

asking for nothing

receiving each breath with gratitude.

Forgive me

for my lack of faith

in life, in generosity, in compassion

for missing a day in the sun,

building a garden,

or kicking autumn leaves as I walk.

Forgive me

for the passing of this Earth

this soul home.

## Contact Numbers

[www.adkuu.org](http://www.adkuu.org)

President:	Ann Mullen	891-5735
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Treasurer:	Karen Graff	891-5735
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	Gail Brill	891-7230
	Karen Graff	891-5735
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	(starrypoetics@gmail.com)	
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	Elaine Holmlund	891-6717
Place:	Randall Swanson	891-3512
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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 heart, and helping hand" to**

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