

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 118

September 2012

September Schedule

September 9

Jason Brill
Water Communion

Remember to bring a small container of water from your summer travels or other place of importance to you to share in the water communion.

SJC meeting 11:15

September 23

David Weissbard
Topic TBA

SJC meeting 11:15

October Schedule

October 14

Dr. Eileen Raymond
South Africa

SJC meeting 11:15

October 28

David Weissbard
Topic TBA

SJC meeting 11:15

About Eileen Raymond and her October 14 Service

On Sunday, October 14, Eileen Raymond, a member of the UU Church of Canton, will share with us some of the lessons for life learned from the South Africans among whom she has lived and worked over the past three years. Her sermon title will be: *Lessons from Madiba: Resolve, Reconciliation, Respect*. She is willing to talk with folks informally or formally about her experiences following the service.

Eileen Raymond grew up as a Unitarian in Massachusetts and is a longtime member of the UU Church of Canton. She retired from SUNY Potsdam in 2009 as associate dean and professor emeritus in the Department of Special Education. In 2009-2010, she served as a Fulbright Scholar at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, and she continues to work with NMMU colleagues on curriculum development for pre-service teachers as a Research Associate in inclusive education. Her current research focuses on issues relating to Universal Design for Learning and effectively serving diverse students in inclusive classroom settings.

“Loyalty to petrified opinions never yet broke a chain.”
-Mark Twain

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

I think we can all agree that our future as a congregation depends on how well we can cultivate a membership base, and a spiritual experience that is diverse - diverse in a deep and lasting way. Diverse in a way that sustains us individuals and as a religious group, diverse in a way that keeps us coming back.

What kinds of threads make up the fabric of diversity? There is a long list, a laundry list, if you will, but certainly a mixture of ages and kinds of families belong on that list.

At our last service, we had a dear little being that was complaining in the only way he or she knew how, by fussing a little. I said that it was “music to our ears,” and I know that many of you agree. The presence of young families brings with it a promise of longevity to our UU community.

In order to make good on that promise, though, we need a strong religious education program. What does strong mean? Well, the UUA has given us a strong curriculum and wise guidelines informed by the experiences of many other congregations, large and medium congregations, as well as small ones like ours.

Right now, the RE program relies on a handful of people to keep it going. Given how critical young families are to our future, we should be looking at a better way of doing things: “many hands make light work.” It would be great if each of us who is able to, would volunteer to assist at RE at least once per year.

I think about myself. I’m pretty good with kids one-on-one. Larger groups are outside my comfort zone. Still, I will volunteer to assist. What I’m thinking might be a good first step is to put together a ready-made list so that when we run into an issue of coverage, as we did for this coming Sunday, our RE teachers don’t have to go through the angst of an e-mail appeal.

What are your thoughts?

Best regards,

Ann

P.S. There is a Board meeting this Sunday, September 9th, at 8:00 in the RE room at HSL. All are welcome to attend. BYOC (“C” = coffee).

Congregant Care News

“We’re happy to see that Carrie DeClerque has recovered from surgery and is back home in our congregation. The AUUC Womens' group will start up again in October at a time and place to be announced. Our Care Committee will meet in October. If you would like to be involved, please give Susan Arnold a call at 891-3744. We’d like to have some help making plans to create some friendly times together. Men are wanted and invited. Likewise let us know if you know someone who would like a visit or a card. That includes you! We’ll see you at our next service.”

Susan

After Apple-Picking

by Robert Frost

My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree
Toward heaven still,
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill
Beside it, and there may be two or three
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.
But I am done with apple-picking now.
Essence of winter sleep is on the night,
The scent of apples: I am drowsing off.
I cannot rub the strangeness from my sight
I got from looking through a pane of glass
I skimmed this morning from the drinking trough
And held against the world of hoary grass.
It melted, and I let it fall and break.
But I was well
Upon my way to sleep before it fell,
And I could tell
What form my dreaming was about to take.
Magnified apples appear and disappear,
Stem end and blossom end,
And every fleck of russet showing clear.
My instep arch not only keeps the ache,
It keeps the pressure of a ladder-round.
I feel the ladder sway as the boughs bend.
And I keep hearing from the cellar bin
The rumbling sound
Of load on load of apples coming in.
For I have had too much
Of apple-picking: I am overtired
Of the great harvest I myself desired.
There were ten thousand thousand fruit to touch,
Cherish in hand, lift down, and not let fall.
For all
That struck the earth,
No matter if not bruised or spiked with stubble,
Went surely to the cider-apple heap
As of no worth.
One can see what will trouble
This sleep of mine, whatever sleep it is.
Were he not gone,
The woodchuck could say whether it's like his
Long sleep, as I describe its coming on,
Or just some human sleep.

Contact Numbers

www.adkuu.org

President:	Ann Mullen	891-5735
Vice President	Gary Alexander	354-7823
Secretary:	Laura Reid	359-2019
Treasurer:	Karen Graff	891-5735
Trustees:	Karen White	524-1100
	Adrien Vlach	(734) 474-4706
	Jason Brill	586-1064
Worship Committee:		
	Gail Brill	891-7230
	Karen Graff	891-5735
	Elizabeth Phillips	354-8218
Children's Programming:	Gail Brill	891-7230
Communitarian:	Courtney Miller (starrypoetics@gmail.com)	
Double Ewe Knitters:	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Congregant Care:	Susan Arnold	891-3744
	Carrie DeClerque	891-2207
	Emily Warner	891-1947
Social Justice:	Adrien Vlach	946-7465
Flower Power Program:		
	Elaine Holmlund	891-6717
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**