

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 123

February 2013

February 3

The Third Principle

Flowers provided by The Alexanders

February 10

Board Meeting 8AM in RE room

Martha Swan

“The Beloved Community in an All-American City”

Flowers provided by Steve DeHond

SJC meeting 11:15 in RE room

February 17

Caring Committee Forum

Flowers provided by Vinnie Fallica

February 24

Service TBD

Flowers provided by Julia Goren

SJC meeting 11:15 in RE room

AUUC Community Meeting

There will be a brief congregational meeting after services on Sunday, February 17th. The purpose of this meeting is to validate the Board's selection of members for the Ministerial Search Committee. We believe the meeting should only take a few minutes. We will send out a list of committee members prior to the meeting. I hope you'll all attend!

UUA @ a Click

The Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office (UU-UNO) brings Unitarian Universalist (UU) values to the United Nations. They advocate on issues important to UUs, such as ; peacemaking; international rights for women and children; climate change; equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.

For more about the UU UN Office, click here:
<http://www.uua.org/giving/funds/200064.shtml>

Social Justice Committee News

On the evening of January 29th AUUC's Social Justice Committee held a public forum on education. Representatives from Saranac Lake Central, Northern Lights, North Country and Northwood were present to discuss their respective schools, what each school provides for students in terms of education, as well as answer questions from the audience regarding educational matters and challenges. Attendance was small but enthusiastic, half from the Committee and half curious members of the Tri-Lakes Community. The panelists enjoyed themselves as well, and we feel that this may be an issue to revisit in the future. It truly is amazing what educational options are available for children in our at times isolated area.

While we are one of the larger committees, we have a small core group and are always looking for new members. Meetings are second and fourth Sundays at 11:15 in the RE Room

Frequently active members are: Courtney Miller (chair), Steve DeHond (chair), Adrien Vlach, Gary and Carolyn Alexander, Suzy Fitzsimons, and Ginger Slater.

President's Letter

Dear friends,

Carnival is upon us – let's hope the weather holds this year so the Palace can remain open for the revelers.

I sense so much vibrancy springing forth in our congregation, and I hope you do, too. We had a terrific presentation at our last Board meeting from Susan Arnold and Julia Goren about the work of the Caring Committee. It was wonderful to spend some time with them and learn the many ways they are moving our community to a new level of member contact.

The Caring Committee is just one spark of new life that I notice. There are so many others – ranging from individual efforts (like the new “Happy Sweeper” task) to those of the committees.

I'd like to highlight one individual effort. For several years, Vincine Fallica has been clearing the snow from our walks before services. This mostly unnoticed shoveling has made it possible for us to enter the building without wading through snow. She has to pass the baton (shovel) on to someone else now. So, I'd like to say “thank you” to Vinni on behalf of us all.

Lastly, please feel free to join us at our Board meeting. We meet on the second Sunday of the month at 8:00 a.m. in the RE room on the third floor.

All the best,

Ann

Winter-Time

Robert Louis Stevenson

Late lies the wintry sun a-bed,
A frosty, fiery sleepy-head;
Blinks but an hour or two; and then,
A blood-red orange, sets again.

Before the stars have left the skies,
At morning in the dark I rise;
And shivering in my nakedness,
By the cold candle, bathe and dress.

Close by the jolly fire I sit
To warm my frozen bones a bit;
Or with a reindeer-sled, explore
The colder countries round the door.

When to go out, my nurse doth wrap
Me in my comforter and cap;
The cold wind burns my face, and blows
Its frosty pepper up my nose.

Black are my steps on silver sod;
Thick blows my frosty breath abroad;
And tree and house, and hill and lake,
Are frosted like a wedding-cake.



About Martha Swan

Martha Swan will be the presenter for our February 10th service. Her topic will be “The Beloved Community in an All-American City”. Mark your calendars for what will be an interesting and enlightening service.

Martha Swan’s bio follows:

Martha Swan is the founding director of John Brown Lives!, a freedom education project based in the Adirondacks that uses regional history as a portal for engaging communities in addressing social justice and human rights issues today.

A Syracuse native, Swan lives in the Champlain Valley and teaches Spanish full time at one of New York’s smallest public schools located in the heart of the Adirondacks. In 2011, she was recognized along with students at the annual Representative Assembly of the New York State Union of Teachers for their efforts to address contemporary slavery and human trafficking. In 2012, she received St. Lawrence University’s annual North County Citation for the work of John Brown Lives! to engage Adirondack communities in the freedom history of the region and to promote human rights.

Before relocating to the North Country in 1997, Swan was the Development Director for the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York City and also worked in that capacity for the women’s organization, MADRE. In the 1980s, she worked with undocumented farm workers in different parts of U.S. and was a long-term volunteer with Witness for Peace in Nicaragua from 1985-1987 during the Contra war. Swan has been both a volunteer and a consultant for the D.C.-based National Religious Campaign Against Torture. She occasionally preaches in Adirondack congregations and contributes guest commentaries to North Country Public Radio

"To thine own self be true, and thou canst not be false to any other." -abbreviated from Shakespeare



News From the Caring Committee

Greetings from the AUUC Caring Committee,

Our committee members are Carolyn Alexander, Susan Arnold, Steve Borst, Carrie DeClerque, Julia Goren, Stanley Ingison and Karen White.

We are excited to let you know that we have met with AUUC’s Board of Directors which has approved our new committee description and plan of action for the year. We are looking forward to celebrating our lives with joy and supporting your needs and concerns over the coming year.

The purpose of the Congregant Caring Committee is to care for the well-being of the congregation of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community. Tending to the joys, sorrows, concerns and socialization of the congregation's members and friends is the committee's primary focus.

Our three major goals are to create an AUUC Community Members & Friends Directory; carry out a year-round calendar of activities; and to celebrate your joys and tend to your concerns with cards, visits and phone calls. We are planning holiday potluck gatherings at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas for us to socialize and enjoy a holiday meal. Holding a monthly Game Night was appealing to everyone as were continuing a new version of the Lunch Bunch, small evening get-togethers and occasional movie matinees.

At AUUC's February 17 service, we are planning a worship service Caring Forum to present our ideas and get your feedback about what you would like to see happening. We hope you will be certain to attend as your ideas are very important to us. Please let us know your ongoing joys and concerns so that we may celebrate your successes and be there to lend a hand. A suggestion basket will be made available during our services.



Spellbound
by Emily Brontë

The night is darkening round me,
The wild winds coldly blow;
But a tyrant spell has bound me
And I cannot, cannot go.

The giant trees are bending
Their bare boughs weighed with snow.
And the storm is fast descending,
And yet I cannot go.

Clouds beyond clouds above me,
Wastes beyond wastes below;
But nothing drear can move me;
I will not, cannot go.



Worship Committee Happenings

We, on the Worship Committee, are very pleased with our first few weeks of the new schedule. Thank you so very much for your support and enthusiasm, and for signing up to do so many things that need doing.

We had an extraordinary Forum Service last Sunday. Thanks to Joyce Henklein and Elaine Holmlund,

we launched a new kind of service for us. We had the rare opportunity to hear everyone's story as we answered a thought provoking question, and it was lovely and touching.

We will be doing these once a month, more or less. If there is something that you would like to explore in this way, please contact anyone on the Worship Committee and we will get it off the ground with you.

I am happy to say that, due to Jean Chamberlain's research, we have signed up for a UU service called Church on Line. It is part of Church of the Larger Fellowship.

Here is a blurb and a link:

The Church of the Larger Fellowship's mission is to provide a ministry to isolated religious liberals, promote the understanding and growth of Unitarian Universalism and institute programs to that end.

Learn more about the CLF at www.QuestForMeaning.org.

What this offers us is all kinds of materials to use, such as prepared services, sermons, workshops, and curricula for children and adults. Anyone who has an interest in presenting on Sunday will find it so much easier to put together a service easily and with confidence.

Please contact any of us on the Worship Committee if you would like to do a service.

Thanks again,

Karen Graff (with)
Jean Chamberlain
Bonnie Harlan
Elaine Holmlund
Joyce Henklein
Jason Brill
Ginger Slater



How do I love Thee? (sonnet 43)

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of being and ideal grace.
I love thee to the level of every day's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for right.
I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

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:	Courtney Miller	starrypoetics@gmail.com
	Stephen DeHond	sdehond@hotmail.com
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**