

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 139

June 2014

June Calendar

June 1

Dr. Elizabeth Hall

"A Christian View of LGBT People in the World"

Social Justice Committee Meeting 11:15
RE Room

June 8

Dan Berggren

"Appleseeds: The Words of Pete Seeger"

June 15

Rev. David Weissbard
Topic TBA

Social Justice Committee Meeting 11:15
RE Room

June 22

Magpie

50th Anniversary of Freedom Summer

June 29

TBA

Our Annual Pride Service

June is LGBT Pride Month in New York, a time for LGBT people and their allies to celebrate victories as well as call attention to continued oppression. There is much for us to celebrate in the U.S. this year. On the other hand, oppression has sharpened for people in Russia, India and Nigeria, among other places, often supported by established religions.

Please join us for this service by Reverend Dr. Elizabeth Hall.

Dr. Elizabeth S. Hall is the Executive Director of Homeless Solutions in New Jersey. She is an ordained Presbyterian Minister and served in pastoral ministry for fourteen years at congregations in Buffalo and Troy, New York before continuing her ministry at the Homeless Solutions. Dr. Hall earned a M.Div. degree from Drew University and a Doctor of Ministry from Columbia Seminary. Earlier in her career, Dr. Hall had been a case manager for the Department of Public Assistance in Pennsylvania.



Congregants Henrietta Trapp and Carrie DeClerque eagerly awaiting the service. Then ministerial candidate Jane Dwinell was unanimously elected afterward.

Words from the Minster

(editor's note: On May 4, ministerial candidate Jane Dwinell preached from our pulpit. Shortly afterward there was unanimous decision that we wanted her as our minister. Here is her first column for the Communitarian!)

Hello everyone! I am delighted to be part of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community, and look forward to working with you as we move forward into the next phase of the AUUC.

Some formalities: Because I am working 1/4 time, and primarily working from home, I thought I'd let you know the best way to get in touch with me. I will be leading worship twice a month, and will try to attend worship on the other Sundays if I am available. The AUUC is my church community as well, and I want an opportunity to be enriched by worship, and to have some extra time to get to know all of you. So, you're welcome to corral me at Social Hour if you want to speak with me about anything. I will also be attending meetings on Sundays afternoons, and possibly on Saturdays -- we'll see what happens as time goes on. In the meantime, feel free to email me anytime (janedwinell@gmail.com) or give me a call at 802-279-9565 anytime between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Obviously, if it is an emergency, feel free to call me at anytime. I am happy to speak with you in the evenings, but it would be best to make a prior appointment. I promise I will return all emails and phone calls within 24 hours. If you leave a phone message, let me know if it is an emergency, and I'll call you back ASAP.

If you want to meet in person, and can't wait until Sunday, you're welcome to come to my home in Addison, VT (near the Champlain Bridge -- 1 1/2 hour drive from Saranac Lake). Or we can plan to meet in Elizabethtown or Keene to save one person driving so far.

And, please call me Jane. (You're welcome to refer to me as Rev. Jane or Rev. Dwinell in public situations, to indicate that I am the minister of the AUUC, but when it's just us, Jane will do.) I also don't wear ministerial robes, unless requested to for rites of passage (weddings, memorial services, child dedications). I feel that robes give too much of a feeling of separation between you and me. I am not better than all of you, just different, with a different set of skills and gifts. Mine are no better or worse than yours! (And, truth be told, I find robes pretty uncomfortable, and not all that attractive!)

A little bit about myself: I live on the shores of Lake Champlain with my husband of nearly 30 years, Sky Yardley. We just purchased this property last fall, and built a house that we moved into last winter. Prior to that we lived in a tiny house on wheels, traveling around the U.S. Building houses seems to be an avocation with us -- we have built 5 houses together as a couple, renovated one, and built numerous outbuildings (we're just finishing a small shed!). I keep saying, "This is the last one!" and then it isn't. When we're not building houses, we love to garden, boat, ski, kayak, play disc golf, watch movies, do crossword puzzles, and read. And, I'm a big knitter, mostly knitting hats, mittens, and slippers for charity. Sky loves to hike, and is looking forward to learning more about the Adirondacks. We are big football fans, following the New Orleans Saints (we lived there for a few years), so my time may be a little more tight during football season :^)! I'm assuming there is a great sports bar in Saranac Lake or Lake Placid where I can watch the game. (Let me know if you have any suggestions.) We have two adult children -- Dana, 27, lives in Montpelier and is a self-employed graphic designer, and Sayer, 23, lives in Burlington and is a manager and chef at one of the Skinny Pancake restaurants.

I, for one, am thrilled that this long, cold winter is finally over. I love the richness of spring, the brilliant greens (even though I am color-blind) and the scent of the lilacs that are now blooming in my yard. Spring gives me hope, and hope is what I have for the AUUC. Life is good!

See you in church.

Jane

"The service of the highest is a cosmic patriotism which calls for volunteers"
-William Jones

The Social Justice Committee Wants You!

Are you interested in making your community a better, more equitable place for everyone? Do you want to help in educating the public on issues that affect our overall well-being? Do concepts like equal rights and economic justice make you excited? Do you have any big ideas on how to go about building a better world? If so, the Social Justice Committee wants you! Meeting days and times are on the calendar on the front page. You can also contact Steve DeHond through email sdehond@hotmail.com.

A Note From the President

Thank you all for voting in our new slate of officers who are each committed to serving with passion and commitment. When I first talked with Ann Mullen about my desire to run for president of the board of trustees, I thought I would be using my skills to guide us through a tough year with so many of our leaders feeling burned out and what could have been a long search for a part time minister. Like you I continue to be amazed at how quickly everything fell into place within a few months' time. Rev. Jane Dwinell is the embodiment of the vision we created for our future and my sense is that our congregation is ready to step in and move forward.

We didn't get to this point without the guidance of our leaders and officers past and present, the devoted work of our volunteers, the willingness of our congregation to embrace change and the expertise of our members serving on the Ministerial Search, Worship, Social Justice, Caring and Religious Exploration committees. We are, each of us, involved in the life of our AUUC community whether we are members or loyal visitors.

For those of you who missed the introduction of Jane Dwinell to our congregation on May 4th, I thought you might like a summary of Jane's official calling to serve as our minister. Jane's sermon was well received by the congregation and her children's story was a big hit with multiple voices chiming in to answer her questions. Following the service Jane and her husband, Sky, went for a walk while our congregation voted unanimously to call her as our minister. She was happily informed of our choice and joined us for our Twelfth Anniversary luncheon celebration which hosted 65 visitors and members. The following week our negotiation committee met with Jane to finalize her contract which is now official.

I look forward to serving you with accessibility, honesty and an open mind. I too promise along with Jane to answer all emails and calls within 24 hours. My phone is 891-3744 and my email address is sarnold3744@verizon.net. Please do not hesitate to call with your ideas, concerns or to make plans for lunch.

Here are some important dates and information:

June 1: Board retreat with Jane following worship service

June 8: Worship Committee meeting with Jane - same time

Board of Trustees

President: Susan Arnold

Vice President: Joan Kelly

Secretary: Jean Chamberlain

Treasurer: Gary Alexander

Trustees: Ginger Slater

Chi Chi Sloan

With AUUC love and excitement for our future,

Susan

"Religion without a great hope would be like an altar without a living fire"

-Henry Van Dyke

2014 Huut'nanny!

In 2011, as a member of the St. Lawrence UU District Board, Gail Brill wanted to bring the Canton and Plattsburgh congregations together with the ADK UU Community as a way to feel that we are all a part of a greater whole. The idea for a summer gathering was born called the HUUTNanny. Conceived as a day of music, games, food and fellowship, it first took place at the Fish Creek campground. Turn out the first year was great and we all agreed that this event should continue, with each congregation rotating the organizing responsibilities.

2012 we relocated the event to Meachem Lake, south of Malone. The site we wanted at Fish Creek was booked. This site proved to be much more centrally located for all 3 congregation. Games, lots of laughs and some amazing pot luck picnic food were on the menu that year.

In 2013, the day was rained out, so it was cancelled.

This year's event is scheduled for July 20th. The Canton Church is taking the lead. There will have an outdoor service at the lake. Stay tuned for more details regarding car pooling.

**Below is the schedule for this year's event, hope to see you there!
Attached with this issue is a guide from the Canton Church with a map
and what each congregation should bring. Please note it lists the
previously scheduled date. The event is July 20**

July 20 Meacham Lake Outdoor Service and HUutenanny

Join friends from the Adirondack UU Community in Saranac Lake, the Plattsburg UU Fellowship and the Canton UU Church for a day of inspiration, food and fun at beautiful Meacham Lake.

Program Schedule: UU Worship Service 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM; Huutenanny 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM, includes Pot luck lunch 12:00 PM -1:00 PM (**Note: We ask that you please be punctual in your arrival for the Worship Service at 10:30 AM or the Huutenanny at noon.**)

Huutenanny program:

1:00-2:00 PM Sing-Along (Music lyrics provided by Canton UU Church)

2:00-3:00 PM Activities to include ladderball game, Joy of Cooking Charades, canoeing/kayaking

3:00-4:00 PM Boating, swimming, etc.

4:00 PM Official close of Huutenanny 2014

Worship Service: Lay Leader – Jon Montan

Theme: “That Which Works, Persists” - Reflections on the beauty of our existence on this planet.

HUutenanny Activities: Program by UU Canton Church; also swimming, boating (bring your own watercraft), Joy of Cooking charades, Music, etc.

The day-use fee at the campground is \$8.00 per car. Car pooling is encouraged.

Contact Numbers

www.adkuu.org

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Children's Programming: Gail Brill 891-7230

Communitarian: Courtney Miller
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Double Ewe Knitters: Joyce Henklein 891-7761

Caring Committee: TBA

Social Justice:
Stephen DeHond sdehond@hotmail.com

Place: Randall Swanson 891-3512
Glenn Arnold 891-3744



**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
Saranac Lake, NY 12983**