

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 142

September 2014

September Calendar

September 7

Installation of Rev. Jane Dwinell
Water Communion
Please bring a small vessel of water from
your summer adventures.

September 14

Service
Congregational Meeting following service.

September 21

Ginger Slater

September 28

Rev. Jane Dwinell



Special Worship Service on Sunday, September 7, 2014

The installation of our minister, the Reverend Jane Dwinell, will take place on Sunday, September 7 at the 10:00 a.m. Water Communion service.

Following the service there will be a celebration of champagne, a sherbet drink for the children and finger food.

We encourage everyone to attend this welcoming and homecoming for our fall services and religious exploration program.

Please contact Joan Kelly at:
joankelly166@gmail.com, or 523-1133, by
Tuesday September 2 if you can bring some
finger or dessert food. Sign-up sheets will be
available as well.

P.S. Be sure to bring a jar of water from home
or from your favorite place to add to our water
communion vase.

**We hope everyone can attend.
Many thanks, Joan**

There will be sign-up sheets available for
bringing finger foods and desserts.
Hope you can join us for the festivities!

"Surely there is enough space in this world for all"

-Taylor Caldwell

Words from the Minister
Rev. Jane Dwinell

I cleaned the oven the other day. I'm not much of a housekeeper, but a casserole had oozed over a few weeks ago, and every time I used the oven, it smoked and caked on even more. It would have made much more sense to clean the oven right away -- wipe up the spill from the casserole while it was still wet. I probably could have avoided all the smoking and caked on crud! Oh well.

Too often, we let things pile up -- with our housekeeping, with our health, with our finances, with our relationships -- until the crud is caked on and smoking. Then it becomes so much harder to deal with. But I think it's simply human nature to put things off until they demand our attention.

If you have personal concerns that are building in your life, or thoughts about how things are going at AUUC, please feel free to bring those thoughts and concerns to me. I know that having a minister at AUUC is a new thing, and we're all learning how to be together. But there are many things I can do for you besides lead worship, and attend board and committee meetings! I'm here to help AUUC become the best it can be, and to offer a listening ear and words of advice as necessary. Please take advantage of my presence. (Though I will not help you clean your oven...)

One thing I have to offer is a discretionary fund to help those in financial need. The Board has authorized \$500 for this fund, and I welcome anyone who wants to make specific donations to the fund. I can help pay utility bills, car repair bills, and emergency financial needs for anyone in the Tri-Lakes area whether or not they are part of the AUUC community. Let me know if I can help.

I would also be delighted to offer a child dedication service any time this fall. In the Unitarian Universalist tradition, children are dedicated within the community (not baptized). This is an opportunity to acknowledge the importance of children in our midst, and the gifts we all find in being part of their lives. Parents out there, let me know if you would be interested in having your child(ren) dedicated. This is for children of any age, not just infants!

I will also be holding a new member ceremony on October 5 during worship. If anyone is interested in becoming a member of AUUC, please let me know.

See you in church!

Jane

"Robin Williams was an airman, a doctor, a genie, a nanny, a president, a professor, a bangarang Peter Pan, and everything in between. But he was one of a kind. He arrived in our lives as an alien – but he ended up touching every element of the human spirit. He made us laugh. He made us cry. He gave his immeasurable talent freely and generously to those who needed it most – from our troops stationed abroad to the marginalized on our own streets..."

—Barack Obama

President's Letter
Susan Arnold

A Summer Evening's Post

While I was in the middle of multi-tasking last week, I quickly turned on my heel to go in yet another direction and ever so softly the words "life's not a goal or race" came streaming through my consciousness.

How many of you, like me, have found yourself racing around in our quick two months of summer with daily goals in mind, only to find at the end of the day the painting didn't get done, the lawn wasn't mowed, the canoe remained on the rack and you didn't find time to relax or be with friends and family.

While paddling up the Stillwater Reservoir last weekend, the words of our closing song, *Ours is a Simple Faith*, continued to occupy my thoughts. I sang the words over and over inside my head, imagining each of one of you joining my mind's chorus and thought how blessed we are to end our services with this contemplative and spiritual song.



Summary of the July Board of Trustees Meeting

The Board of Trustees met on July 13. It was a very productive meeting and much discussion took place and many decisions were made. The following are the most important and pertinent information to share with the congregation:

- There will be brief congregational meetings held on a quarterly basis to facilitate communication and to keep the congregation informed of church matters.
- A Congregational meeting, tentatively scheduled for 9/14/14, will be held after the worship service. The purpose is to approve bylaw changes and 2014's amended budget and to bring the congregation up to date with the AUUC board's business and plans.
- Ann Mullen will organize a diaper drive for Grace Pantry in the fall. Supplying needed supplies and staffing to the Grace Pantry is being considered as an idea for our AUUC 2015 mission outreach project.
- The front lawn AUUC sign will be upgraded with the name of our minister and the time services are held.
- The church will purchase fair trade coffee and this cost will be added to the budget.
- We reduced our contribution to the UUA to \$520.00 and budgeted \$702.00 to the UU St. Lawrence District.

- AUUC has received two grants and this money will be added to the budget. There may be designated uses for the money and this is being researched.
- Lay led services are encouraged and Jane will be happy to work with anyone who would like to do so.
- There will be two services per month given by Rev. Jane Dwinell, one service per month will be lay led and one service per month will be done by a guest speaker.
- Per board approval the guest speaker will be paid \$175 per service for the remainder of 2014. The Worship Committee was informed of this decision.
- Money was put into the budget for leadership development, allowing members to attend district meetings or other relevant events.
- The board has approved an idea called "Sharing the Plate" which will be taken to the congregation at the 9/14 meeting for its approval. The loose money put into the offering plate will be designated for a critical need in our community.

Respectfully submitted by Jean Chamberlain, Secretary

Among Ourselves AUUC News Tidbits

Our summer services were enhanced by the presence of Jane Chamberlain who lives at Will Rogers, Mike and Killen Vaughan who live in Elizabethtown, Barbara Gant who has come back to live in Saranac Lake and our longtime time friends, Morag and Bruce Dudley. We are happy to have the opportunity to meet and talk with you.

Cleaning out your closets?

At summer's end we hope you'll stuff all your old treasures in bags and boxes and save it for our spring Junqueorama fundraiser next May!

Next Congregational Meeting

All members (with voting rights) will be receiving an email or letter in early September inviting them to attend a special Congregational Meeting after our September 14th service. A revised set of bylaws and 2014 budget will be voted on and word has it that a special award will be given to an esteemed member of our congregation. Don't miss it!



Gratitude for AUUC Volunteerism

One of the ways we as humans make our way through this busy and tumultuous world is by helping one other on a daily basis. Volunteerism is a way of life for many. It makes us feel better about ourselves and has a positive effect on the person or group in which we are involved.

We are truly amazed by and wish to thank the small army of volunteers within our Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community who have volunteered their precious time and talents this summer to create summer services, two Communitarians, a new Religious Education program, a fall schedule of worship services, financial reports, email announcements, board minutes and last but not least prune trees for Historic Saranac Lake. You're the best!

**AUUC's Board of Trustees: Susan Arnold, Jean Chamberlain,
Gary Alexander, Joan Kelly, Ginger Slater and Chi Chi Sloan**

Worship Committee Report

We have had such a great summer thanks to the efforts of the AUUC'ers who led various discussion groups: Elaine Holmlund, Joyce Henklein, Karen Graff and Walt Linck. We talked about climate change, child-rearing practices and what we should learn from our Native Americans. The abbreviated schedule seemed to work well for the summer. Of course, we are blessed to now have our own Jane Dwinell who led four stimulating services during July and August.

- At our last meeting of the worship committee on August 6, we discussed plans for the fall and winter. Each of us will be contacting various lay speakers and ministers to join us during the coming months. We are particularly looking forward to a Credo service on November 9.
- Our musical support will vary somewhat this fall. Barb Curtis will have one Sunday free a month; substitute accompanists are John Holmlund and Silas Swanson. Sue Grimm Hanley will help us with this new effort.
- We decided to see if the congregation would like to again purchase AUUC t-shirts from Bear Essentials. They are fun to wear during fund-raisers and HUUtenuanies! We also discussed a new fund-raiser: a craft and bake sale to be held in the John Black Room during the Sparkle Village weekend in December. Joyce Henklein will gather crafts; Karen Graff offered to help with the bake sale. We are also thinking about having a church craft-producing workshop sometime in November so everyone can get in on the fun!
- Our next meeting will be 10/1 at 10 am at Elaine Holmlund's home. New members are encouraged and welcome!

-submitted by Elaine Holmlund, chair



Small Group Ministry

There will be a small group ministry group starting in October on the second Saturday from 9 - 11 a.m., location to be determined. Small Group Ministry, also known as Chalice Circles and Covenant Groups, is a gathering of 6-10 people who meet on a regular basis to have an opportunity to talk about meaningful subjects in a deeper, more intimate way.

Mary Riley, who with her husband Max has recently moved from Long Island to Elizabethtown, will lead the group. She has experience doing so at her previous UU congregation. Please sign up at church -- there is a signup sheet on the table -- or email Mary at mary_riley_us@yahoo.com.

**"Every lofty religious mind belongs not to the church, but to religious humanity."
-Albert Schweitzer**

News from the RE Committee

We're looking for a few good people! Actually, we're looking for everyone who can help to do so!

As we swing into fall, here are a few highlights of our Sunday School program for the children and teens of our congregation.

- Last year, we served our families with children with a nursery and a religious enlightenment program each Sunday. Between one and three children attend the nursery and between two and eight children attend our RE program.
- Teachers last year included Julia Goren, Ann Mullen and Gail Brill. Elodie Linck staffed the nursery.
- The total number of possible students, from infants to teens, that could participate in our RE programs is 18!

This year, we're going to ask each member of the congregation who is able to assist at least one class on Sunday. We're also looking for substitutes! We'll be approaching you, but if you'd like to volunteer, our doors are open!

Our curriculum for the children in the RE program is going to be "Holidays and Holy Days," adapted for the age range of our children, which is from age 6 to about 8 or 9. We're also looking to have two children's services this year. We're hoping the teens will take leadership on planning and preparing these services.

We're also hoping to start a teen group. Volunteers are also needed to staff that. Julia Goren and Ann Mullen are co-chairs. Please contact us at jgorenster@gmail.com and ann.c.mullen@gmail.com.

Thank you!



Coffee Hour Sign-Up

The Worship Committee and the Board hope to make it easier and more doable for members to take turns in signing-up to provide refreshments for after services. The person who signs up is asked to provide a simple refreshment, such as a baked good of your choice (cookies, brownies, breads, etc). If someone would like to provide more variety, that would be a personal choice, not the expectation.

Please feel free to sign up with another person and do the refreshments together. A Board member will make and set up the coffee and tea service each Sunday. The board approved the purchase of Fair Trade coffee to be solely used for our coffee hour. The purpose of this fellowship time is to socialize with one another and build relationships in our community and not pose a hardship on anyone.

Members will no longer be formally asked to bring flowers for the services. However, if the spirit moves you on one particular Sunday, please feel free to bring flowers from your garden or a shop to enrich the beauty of the service. There are plenty of glass vases available in the kitchen. Flowers are always a lovely touch.

The procedure for refreshment sign-up for a Sunday remains basically the same. There will be a sign-up sheet on a table when you attend services where you can sign up for a convenient Sunday. If we have Sundays without anyone signing up, members will be called, on an alphabetical basis, and be asked to take an upcoming Sunday to provide refreshments.

Jean Chamberlain will be in charge of the refreshment sign-up. Jean may be calling you if there are Sundays without anyone signed up. Jean will also send a reminder call or e-mail the week before you are scheduled to provide refreshments.

Thank you for your willingness to sign-up and occasionally provide refreshments to other members and friends of our Community. This time together, after the services, is very important for all of us. Your help is greatly appreciated!

"You have to live by shedding"

-Robert Frost

AUUC T-Shirt Sale

Please order your AUUC T-shirt soon! There is a sign-up sheet and catalogue on the table at Sunday services where you can choose your color and size. Note that ladies' sizes may not come in all colors and be sure to check the appropriate column in the catalogue for availability. We would like to place our order by the end of August. If you have questions, please contact Elaine Holmlund at 891-6717 or at elaninh1938@gmail.com.



Ecumenical Council Highlights

The following are highlights of the Ecumenical Council for August:

Samaritan House Homeless Project:

- The youth at the Guggenheim House held a car wash to raise money for the Homeless Project on Wednesday, August 6th. Thank you!
- EC president Rich Loeber and treasurer Karen Fraser attended the Upper Saranac Lake Association meeting on August 9th to raise awareness about homelessness in the Tri-Lakes area and our efforts to provide a solution.

Grace Pantry:

- Grace Pantry has reopened after being closed for Baldwin House construction. Each week, the Pantry serves about 45 families representing about 125 people in those families.
- Our current needs are laundry and dish detergent and diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6). About half our customers use diapers. Contact Vance Mortensen at vance.mortensen@gmail.com for delivery instructions.
- Three faith communities have committed to a program called "Adopt the Pantry for a Month." These communities will underwrite and/or supplement the Pantry's stock for one month each. Those faith communities are: the Adirondack Alliance Church, the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community and St. Luke's Episcopal Church. We're seeking additional "adopters;" contact Vance.
- The Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community is promoting a diaper drive to benefit Grace Pantry among its members through September.

CROP Walk: this year's CROP Walk will be held on Saturday, October 18th. We're hoping for a nice turnout! CROP Walk has been around since 1969, and is organized by the Church World Service, a coalition of 40 denominations. CWS is focused on fighting hunger and poverty worldwide, including in the US. Funds raised by the CROP Walk benefit our local community and others in need.

"Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned."

-Peter Marshall

AUUC 2014 Events Calendar

Sunday, September 7:	Jane's installation and luncheon celebration after service
Sunday, September 14:	Special congregational meeting after service
Wednesday, October 1:	Worship Co. meeting at Elaine Holmlund's at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, October 5:	New member ceremony during worship service
Monday, October 15:	2015 Budget and Stewardship Drive planning begins
Sunday, November 23:	Pre-Thanksgiving Service with Jane
Saturday, December 6:	AUUC Holiday Bazaar held in John Black Room
Sunday, December 7:	Annual Meeting after service
Sunday, December 21:	Holiday Service with Jane

Barter

Sara Teasdale

Life has loveliness to sell,
All beautiful and splendid things,
Blue waves whitened on a cliff,
Soaring fire that sways and sings,
And childrens' faces looking up
Holding wonder in a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell,
Music like a curve of gold,
Scent of pine trees in the rain,
Eyes that love you, arms that hold,
And for your spirit's still delight,
Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness,
Buy it and never count the cost;
For one white singing hour of peace
Count many a year of strife well lost,
And for a breath of ecstasy
Give all you have been, or could be.



Contact Numbers

www.adkuu.org

Minister:	Jane Dwinell	(802) 279-9565
President:	Susan Arnold	891-3744
Vice President	Joan Kelly	572-6054
Secretary:	Jean Chamberlain	354-8061
Treasurer:	Gary Alexander	354-7823
Trustees:	Ginger Slater	637-5717
	Chi Chi Sloan	354-3607
Caring Co.	TBD	
Coffee Hour:	Jean Chamberlain	354-8061
Communitarian:	Courtney Miller	starrypoetics@gmail.com
Double Ewe: Knitters	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Place:	Randall Swanson	891-3512
	Glenn Arnold	891-3744
RE:	Gail Brill	586-1063
	Julia Goren	845-216-3810
	Ann Mullen	891-5735
Social Justice:	Stephen DeHond	sdehond@hotmail.com
Social Media:	Gail Brill	586-1063
	Kelly Metzgar	891-0454
Worship Co.	Elaine Holmlund	891-6717



**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
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Saranac Lake, NY 12983**