

# THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

**Volume 162**

**July 2016**

## **Calendar**

**July 3**

Russ DeFonce

Forum Discussion on Alternative Economics

**July 10**

Marika Ormel Cook

Speaking on the Refugee Crisis

**Special Collection: Bicycles for Refugees  
(see Tidbits)**

**July 17**

Wayne Walder

Can We Hope?

Hope is one of our coping and surviving mechanisms. We use hope to realize our goals. So why do we shy away from using it?

**July 24**

Vincine Fallica

A Personal Postulation on the Roots and Usefulness of Hatred

Why do humans hate without rhyme or reason? What purpose(s) does it serve. I share my thoughts on the subject.

**July 31**

Pianist Larry Ham and Saxophonist Woody Witt :Creative Collaboration

How do two jazz artists improvise and create together? What can we learn from their ways of interacting, about living more creatively ourselves--and becoming more truly engaged with the people in our lives?

## **Events Calendar**

**Tuesday, July 19**

Welcoming Congregation Committee  
Black Room, 5:30 Potluck

**Sunday, July 24**

AUUC Board of Trustees Meeting  
following the service

**August 7**

**HUUTENANY**

**Service at Meacham Lake with  
Canton and Plattsburgh UUs**

# 2016 HUUTENANNY

What is it? A gathering of the Unitarian Universalist northernmost New York State congregations (Canton, Plattsburgh, Saranac Lake). HUUTENANNY hosts year after year.

For what? Fellowship, worshipping together, play.

When? Sunday, August 7, beginning with a 10:30 worship service by AUUC  
Joyce Henklein is service presenter, Sue Hanley music

Then what? Fellowship, play, lunch, play.

SPECIAL EVENT: Sand Castle building contest.

What to bring? A dish for 8 to share.

Whatever you would like to grill for yourself.

Your own plates, utensils

Chairs for yourself/family.

Canoes

Admission fee: Parking fee per vehicle TBA



## Congregant Care and Concern

Dear AUUC members and friends,

Bob Sior who is fairly new to our congregation had a major motorcycle accident in Elizabethtown last weekend. He was medevacked to Fletcher Allen Hospital at UVM in Burlington where he underwent surgery to repair a broken leg and is suffering from additional injuries as well. He called Susan on Tuesday morning. Susan and Glenn visited him there on Thursday. To say he is in pain is an understatement. As he said, "I'm banged up pretty bad". At the present time he does not remember what happened before he fell into unconsciousness.

We know he would love to receive cards from our AUUC family. His address is:

Bob Sior

UVM Medical Center

111 Colchester Ave

Level 3/ Baird Building #392

Burlington, VT 05401

Susan Arnold

As many of you know, Kelly Metzgar underwent major surgery to complete her transgender journey this past week. She had been in preparation for a number of months. She left a message with Susan to let you know that her surgery went well and she thanks you all for your support. She will be in recovery for some time. She is currently recovering at Gaia House, 244 South Main St., New Hope, PA 18938 until Friday morning, 7/1/16.

Kelly will then return to Saranac Lake to continue her healing at home and her local address is:

71 Helen St.  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983.

Kelly is on Facebook and her cell phone is [518-637-7253](tel:518-637-7253). We know that she would love to hear from you.

Susan Arnold



### **President's Message**

This should be the easiest of messages to write, given all that our AUUC has accomplished this month...the Junquerama, the kick off of the Welcoming Congregation program, the Orlando Vigil, and our well attended Sunday services and meetings during some beautiful Sundays. We joined with our neighboring Unitarian Universalist (UU) congregations for mutual planning and in mourning. Several of us attended an Orlando Vigil at the UU Fellowship of Plattsburgh. In a Strategic Planning Meeting we took stock of our prospects for growth and listened to one another's statements of hope. I thank Ann Mullen and Vincine Fallica for organizing the Orlando Vigil that gave us opportunity for personal witness, and a surprising amount of community acknowledgement.

What is most imprinted in my thoughts and visual memories is the Junquerama. Some of the work had begun a month before when we changed the date of the sale and had to store a large amount of sale items.

Nothing prepared us for the quantity of contributions of items. Work began on Wednesday to begin bringing the items to the Arnolds' home, and sorting and pricing was going on through early Friday evening. Many AUUC members and friends helped along the way, but there were a few tireless workers who stuck to the task from the beginning to the very end, including the clean up stretching into Monday and beyond...Susan Arnold, Jean Chamberlain, Joan Kelly, and me. This annual event was not quite the fun it used to be. Many of us are getting older. The money we raised did not balance with the amount of effort. The Board on Sunday decided not to continue this event. We do plan to continue our Christmas Janglerama. We would welcome hearing your fund raising ideas...perhaps a raffle. To our tired workers but steadfast workers...Thank you!

Phyllis

## AUUC Sponsors Vigil for Orlando Victims

The AUUC sponsored a vigil and memorial service for those murdered and injured in Orlando at the nightclub Pulse on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. in which we affirmed the right of all humans to live in full expression of who they know themselves to be. It was simple and moving. Around 60 people attended, most local folks from churches and the community. We also had a wonderful contingent of young people from Camp Colby, a DEC camp, who told us that they were grateful that they could participate in honoring the victims.

Thanks to every one involved: Vini Fallica and Ann Mullen for organizing the vigil, Phyllis Magnus who reminded us that action must accompany anger, Jason Brill who undertook the daunting task of reading the names of the victims, and Reverend Joann White of the First Presbyterian Church, who gave an inspiring closing prayer. Our hymns were “We are a gentle, angry people” and “We shall overcome” accompanied by Sue Grimm Hanley who is always so generous with her time. Vini also served as MC and read a poem called “Hand in Hand,” and Ann made a brief statement about the need to combat hate and fear with love.

If you missed the article in the Enterprise about the vigil, click here:

<http://www.adirondackdailyenterprise.com/page/content.detail/id/563339/>

An injury to one is an injury to all.

-Ann Mullen



### [Welcoming Congregation Update](#)

There's a lot of enthusiasm about the Welcoming Congregation program! Here's what's happened since the last Communitarian.

- The committee has met twice. There are ten of us, but we'd welcome new members. We are: Elaine Holmlund, Vincine Fallica, Laura Reid, Beth Ann Phillips, Susan Arnold, Kelly Metzgar, Phyllis Magnus, Liz DeFonce, Russ DeFonce and Ann Mullen.
- Highlights of our first two meetings: At the first, we sketched out a preliminary calendar for the next several months. At the second, we had a stimulating and wide ranging discussion on gender and gender conditioning, dipping into such subjects as “the third gender,” nature vs. nurture, memories of our own conditioning as girls and boys, and much more. (I told you we're a fun committee.) This work is in preparation for our first congregational workshop, which is tentatively scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup> at our

regular Sunday service. The topic will be gender, gender roles and gender conditioning. As with many, if not most of the workshops, this one will be experiential and participatory in nature, with discussions and an exercise that are aimed at consciousness raising.

- The congregation voted at its community meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup> to support the program. That's a huge milestone because it is one of the requirements for recognition by the UUA. Thank you!

If you have any questions, please let one of us know!

-Ann Mullen



### WORSHIP NOTES

Our AUUC Sunday services have been scheduled through September. This gives our Worship Committee opportunity to begin thinking of the themes and experiences we would like our services to reflect through the coming year. We are subscribers to Soul Matters Sharing Circle and have those resources to aid our planning. I will be contacting AUUC members soon to schedule a planning meeting.

### Soul Matters Themes for 2016-2017

*The following themes have been selected by vote of numerous participating congregations. AUUC has the option of engaging with these themes, or choosing alternative themes for our 2016-2017 calendar. The following quotes from the Soul Matters Sharing Circle website:*

UU religious community is a precious gift. Within it, we find values and questions that are rarely encountered elsewhere in our lives. Values and questions that push us, ground us and remind us who we most deeply are. So this year our themes honor this gift of community and its role as caretaker of values. Together we will ask: What is it we find when we gather? And what is it we are asked to share with the world?

Our themes related to this concept:

*A community of...*

September: Covenant

October: Healing

November: Story

December: Presence

January: Prophecy

February: Identity

March: Risk

April: Transformation

May: Embodiment

June: Zest

**Phyllis Magnus**

## Unitarian Universalist Congregations Meet

*Four members of AUUC participated in this multisite meeting, Freb Hunt-Bull, Donna and John Wood and Phyllis Magnus. Canton UU President Margaret Harloe offered to let us share her summary of the meeting with you. The next cluster meeting will be held at AUUC in October.*

*Participation is great opportunity for UU sharing.*

### Strengthening our North Country Cluster Connections Through Multisite Ministry

On Saturday, June 11, members of our congregation hosted friends from the Adirondack UU Community, the UU Fellowship of Plattsburgh and All Souls UU Church in Watertown to continue our discussion of multisite ministry. This was the second meeting for three of these congregations and we were pleased to welcome the Watertown congregation to the conversation. When we first met last October, we explored ways that our cluster congregations could support one another and the growth of UUism by sharing our expertise, support and resources such as RE curricula. Four areas of collaboration have emerged: religious education, worship and music, stewardship and social action.

Our regional primary contact, Joan Van Becelaere, was a great resource as we debriefed what has happened over the last six months and looked ahead to more and stronger connections. She helped to stimulate a lot of good and thought-provoking conversation by showing us a video called *When God Left the Building* about the demise of church as an institution over the last 30 years, a trend that is especially noticeable but not exclusive to younger adults. Reasons for such disaffection include a feeling of being let down by institutions (including but not limited to church), and common experiences of condemnation or judgment in mainstream Christian/Protestant denominations. It was a sobering documentary, but the hopeful news is that the inclusive and welcoming message of Unitarian Universalism, our commitment to social justice and our efforts to build communities both within and beyond our congregational walls offers a different, and to many, a more attractive option.

Working to build a stronger web of interconnection between UU congregations in the North Country is a smart and positive step. By supporting each other, sharing ideas and building relationships we are positioning ourselves to move into the future...and making new friends in the process! Along those lines, mark your calendar for the 2016 HUUTENANNY, Saturday, August 7, at Meacham Lake. The AUUC is hosting this year and it will once again be a fun day for all. Stay tuned for more details.

Margaret Harloe  
North Country Cluster Cheerleader

## Tidbits

Adirondack Friends of Refugees is collecting donations to help refugees in Germany in rural areas outside of Berlin. Donations for the project, Bicycles for Refugees, will be used to purchase parts for donated bicycles and provide training in bicycle repair, safety and traffic rules. Checks may be made to St. John's Church with "Bicycles for Refugees" in the memo. A special collection will be taken during the offertory July 10."

# To Summer

### **William Blake, 1757-1827**

O Thou who passest thro' our vallies in  
Thy strength, curb thy fierce steeds, allay the heat  
That flames from their large nostrils! thou, O Summer,  
Oft pitched'st here thy golden tent, and oft  
Beneath our oaks hast slept, while we beheld  
With joy, thy ruddy limbs and flourishing hair.  
Beneath our thickest shades we oft have heard  
Thy voice, when noon upon his fervid car  
Rode o'er the deep of heaven; beside our springs  
Sit down, and in our mossy vallies, on  
Some bank beside a river clear, throw thy  
Silk draperies off, and rush into the stream.  
Our vallies love the Summer in his pride.  
  
Our bards are fam'd who strike the silver wire:  
Our youth are bolder than the southern swains:  
Our maidens fairer in the sprightly dance:  
We lack not songs, nor instruments of joy,  
Nor echoes sweet, nor waters clear as heaven,  
Nor laurel wreaths against the sultry heat.

## Contact Numbers

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

President:	Phyllis Mangus	354-1379
Vice President	Joan Kelly	572-6054
Secretary:	Jean Chamberlain	354-8061
Treasurer:	Sue Grimm Hanley	637-2794
Trustees:	John Wood	946-2275
	Joyce Henklen	891-7761
Caring & . Membership:	Susan Arnold	891-3744
Communitarian:	Courtney Miller	<a href="mailto:starrypoetics@gmail.com">starrypoetics@gmail.com</a>
Double Ewe: Knitters	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Place:	Randall Swanson	891-3512
	Glenn Arnold	891-3744
RE:	Vanessa Houghtlin	891-1195
	Julia Goren	845-216-3810
Environmental Action:	Stephen DeHond	<a href="mailto:sdehond@hotmail.com">sdehond@hotmail.com</a>
Social Media:	Kelly Metzgar	891-0454
	Sue Grimm Hanley	637-2794
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  
89 Church Street  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983**