

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 164

September 2016

Sunday Calendar

September 4

Gary Alexander, Richard Kelly
Labor

September 11

Craig Milewski
Contemplation

September 18

Liz DeFonce
Soul Matters on Covenant

September 25

Welcoming Congregation Committee
"What's a girl, what's a boy?"

October 2

Rev. Joel Baer

Events Calendar

September 8

Welcoming Congregation Committee Mtg
6 PM, HSL Black Rm, potluck

September 10

Samaritan House Clean Up Day
(see article)

September 20

PBS airs Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War

September 25

Worship Planning Meeting following the
service ALL ARE INVITED

October 8

Multi-site Meeting at AUUC
with area Unitarian Universalists
and UUA Central East Region
Lead Joan Van Becelaere

The September SoulMatters theme is "Covenant"

We sometimes wrongly say it is the absence of creed that is most important to who we are [as Unitarian Universalists]. This is wrong. Any one of us could practice religious freedom at home on Sunday mornings. We could practice religious freedom all day long, every day, and never come into community. It is covenant that brings us out of isolation, covenant that brings us out of selfish concerns, out of individualism, to join ourselves to something greater, to become a part of a community that is working to practice love, to dwell together in peace, to seek knowledge and wisdom together, to find better ways to live our lives and live in the world.

~ Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray

Defying the Nazis: The Sharps' War is a new film directed by Ken Burns and Artemis Joukowsky about Unitarian minister Waitstill Sharp and his wife Martha who over a two year period secretly helped Jews, refugees and dissidents escape the Nazis. It airs at 9 PM, September 20. There is a companion volume of the same title. Consider watch parties?

President's Message

Church activity slows down in summer? Not at AUUC. Along with our Canton Unitarian Universalist stalwarts, Plattsburgh UUs joined us at the HUUTENANNY for the first time. Plattsburgh folks will be hosts at Meacham next year. They loved the site and plan to encourage their camping families to camp there next summer the week of the HUUTENANNY. Thanks to Joyce Henklein, Sue Grimm Hanley, Ginger Slater and Emily Warner for the worship service and music which our guests said was perfect for the occasion. Thanks too to the Hunt-Bull for games...seems to be their forte and I am looking forward to joining them in more game opportunities. Craig Milewski did a great job judging from among the three unique sand castles. Many AUUC people helped out in set up, great food and a special thanks go to Craig, Carolyn and Stanley who hung out with me to the very end of cleanup. It is great fun to be together in such a setting. AUUC will not host again until 2019 but keep ideas in mind.

This month the Welcoming Congregation Committee met and had many email exchanges exploring our own gender journeys and planning for a congregational September Service. The Board approved joining with the Quakers to adopt a room to refurbish at the homeless shelter Samaritan House. Watch for announcements! Fred Hunt-Bull hosted a game night. Many members responded to a survey concerning AUUC organizational support for New York's Aid in Dying legislation. More than half of our members responded affirmatively. There were no dissensions. Susan Arnold and Phyllis Magnus are spending a day at the Compassion&Choices booth at the State Fair in Syracuse on March 31, in support of Aid in Dying.

Those who attended the Religious Exploration's service appreciated learning about what is happening upstairs on Sunday mornings, and participating with Clementine, Sebastian and Vivian in the intergenerational service. Thank you Julia.

On October 8 the fall biannual Multi-site Meeting of area Unitarian Universalist congregations will be hosted by AUUC. The meetings are convened by our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Central East Region representative Joan Van Becelaere to address congregational concerns and for sharing ideas and programs in Environmental and Social Action, Religious Education, Worship and Stewardship. In the past meetings have been attended by Canton, Plattsburgh and Watertown churches. This is a daylong meeting with lunch. I hope AUUC will be well represented in attendance, whatever your interest. Please mark your calendars.

In peace, Phyllis

Community Clean Up Day at Samaritan House

Now that the Village has given the Ecumenical Council the green light to open Samaritan House, our community transitional housing solution, we're going all out to get the place up and running. There are many chores to complete so we can open our doors. The Implementation Committee has scheduled a community wide cleanup day for Saturday, September 10th starting at 9am and going until 1pm. The Council will provide a pizza lunch.

Every room needs cleaning and straightening. The kitchen needs a crew to get it sorted out and organized. The basement needs a thorough sweeping. For adventurous souls, the roofs need to be cleared of accumulated needles and debris to avoid leaking. There is a freezer in the kitchen that needs defrosting. All in all, a lot of cleaning work.

Volunteers should bring mops, brooms, rags, paper towels, vacuum cleaners, cleansers, glass cleaner, tools and a willing spirit. Please let me know if you want to participate. I'm coordinating the chore list for the day. If you know anyone else outside the congregation that might be interested in helping, I would appreciate it if you let them know.

The address of Samaritan House is 37 River St. Please DO NOT park in front of the house, but rather, across the street or on an adjoining street. We have only two parking spaces available to us.

Thanks in advance!

Ann Mullen ann.cmullen@gmail.com

Unitarian Universalist minister and Buddhist teacher Joel Baer will lead a retreat day with the Saranac Lake Rising Light Sangha on October 1st. He will be the Sunday service presenter at AUUC the following day, October 2. UU members interested in attending this year's retreat may contact Jen Curry at 891-3652 or jenanandadesigns@roadrunner.com

“Only that day dawns to which we are awake.”

Henry David Thoreau, Walden

Update from the Welcoming Congregation Committee

We're quite excited about our upcoming service on September 25th! A few things to note:

- It will be experiential and participatory – we're not going to stand up and lecture to you;
- You'll learn a lot about yourself and our community – you'll look inside yourselves and witness others doing the same;
- You'll get a chance to “fill in the blanks” about the complicated topic of sex-gender;
- You'll have fun!

We will be sending out a few simple, short materials in advance to get your thinking started.

Please join us at this service. It will serve as the foundation for future educational experiences.

Where are we on the three requirements for obtaining recognition from the UUA as a Welcoming Congregation?

- Community – we've already sponsored one event, the Orlando Vigil, and we're planning another to participate in the National Transgendered Day of Remembrance on November 20th.
- Education – we are hoping for a large turnout on September 25th; not only have we promised that fun will be had, but we also must demonstrate to the UUA in our application that the congregation is committed to this process. A simple way to do that is to show up.
- Congregation – we plan to work with the Board to update our materials (by-laws, website, guidelines for guest speakers, etc.) to make sure they reflect our commitment to the process.

One last note – as part of this process, the committee has spent a lot of time talking about their “gender journeys,” and we've read a lot of really interesting material. If you'd like to see some of it, please let us know and we'll make it available to you.

Committee members: Phyllis Magnus, Beth Ann Phillips, Liz and Russ DeFonce, Vincine Fallica, Ginger Slater, Kelly Metzger, Laura Reid, Ann Mullen





Double ewe Knitters

Double ewe Knitters met on August 18 at Donna Woods home in Jay. We enjoyed the afternoon at this charming cabin and were impressed with John's flower gardens. We decided to knit items that we preferred, hats , etc. We identified a few resources, locally and in Germany for Syrian refugees. Donna and Joyce will be knitting a few "Cross-country" ski hats for the Jingle Junqerama. Our next meeting will be on Wed, October 19 at Elaine Holmlands. We encourage those knitters who cannot attend to contribute to our knitted ware by knitting at home and then making a contribution. Joyce Henklein

Doug Rubio's service on PostSecret, an ongoing community mail art project created by Frank Warren in 2005, in which people mail their secrets anonymously on a homemade postcard, can be followed on the web at postsecret.org. Instructions to postcard senders were, "Your secret can be a regret, fear, betrayal, desire, confession, or childhood humiliation. Reveal anything -- as long as it is true and you have never shared it with anyone before. Be brief. Be legible. Be creative." Well over a million postcards have been received.



Contact Numbers

www.adkuu.org

President:	Phyllis Magnus	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 Henklein	891-7761
Caring & . Membership:	Susan Arnold	891-3744
Communitarian:	Courtney Miller	starrypoetics@gmail.com
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 and Social Action:	Stephen DeHond	sdehond@hotmail.com
Social Media:	Kelly Metzgar	891-0454
	Sue Grimm Hanley	637-2794



**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