

# THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 168

January 2017

## Calendar

### January 1

Craig Milewski  
"Gratitude"

### January 8

Rev. Wayne Walder  
"Peace: In this quiet time of the year how do we know peace? Can we be peaceful?"  
**Annual Meeting after service**

### January 15

Rev. Dave Weissbard  
"Dr. King's World House"

### January 22

Rev. Wayne Walder  
"Peace and the Common Good"

### January 29

Russ De Fonce, Steve DeHond, Elaine Holmlund, Walt Linck, and Cris Winters  
"Guns in America"

\* Can Peace help build the Common Good?  
Is it essential to build the Common Good?  
Does one need to change consciousness to build Peace and the Common Good?

## January Events

### January 8

Annual Meeting following the service.

### Friday, January 13, 6PM

Welcoming Congregation Committee

### Saturday, January 14

Partnership (Multi-Site) Meeting.  
Plattsburgh UU Fellowship

### Please Note!

### Church World Service Hygiene Kits

Please bring your contributions Sunday January 8 or leave in our collection bin at Historic Saranac Lake. Kits are being assembled January 14.  
Items: (hand towel, wash cloth, wide-tooth comb, nail clipper, bath-size soap in wrapper, tooth brush, and standard size band-aids).

# Trustee Bios

## Bio for Gary Alexander

If I am elected to the AUUC Board in January, it will be my third stint as a trustee since moving to the North Country in 2008. I previously served for a year in 2012, and for 19 months in 2014-2015. We belonged to a large {600+} UU congregation in Maryland for six years, and also participated in a UU Fellowship of ex-pats living in Lake Chapala, Mexico.

My work history includes seven years as a high school English teacher in the 1960's, twenty-five years as owner/operator of a retail business, and twelve years selling computer software and hardware.

I love to travel to faraway places, especially when I can practice my Spanish. I like to canoe and participate in other outdoor activities. I am a regular bowler, and play an occasional set of tennis. I enjoy most spectator sports, especially the political scene, and I am passionate about many social justice issues.

My wife Carolyn and I have been married for fifty-one years, and we now live in Tupper Lake. We have three grown children, and eight grandchildren from age twelve to age twenty-seven. Keeping track of their activities occupies a good share of our leisure time.

## Bio for Vincine Fallica

For those who don't know me, I'm the tall gender variable member in the back. Despite living up here for 29 of my 63 years, longer than I've lived anyplace else. I seem to be NYC at my core.

I've been lucky to have done a lot of different things professionally. Among others, I've been an RN, a commercial artist, pizzaiolo, press photographer, and am currently doing case work for the Office for the Aging.

I also share the development, along with my ex Nancy, for a 1991 model year Jacob, currently on display at Carnegie Mellon University as a graduate student refining the math to precisely measure the forces inside subatomic particles.

Additionally, she and I were among the initial instigators of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Conspiracy (one of my names they rejected!). This is way back before the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Coven (another name they rejected!) even had a book to sign. So it is with great pleasure that I have been invited and accepted a sentence as a board member to further perpetrate the activities of the Adirondack Double U Gang.



## In Memory of Carrie DeClerque



Carrie with Susan Arnold

Carrie DeClerque lived to be 90 before she died on December 27 from consequences of dementia. Because she had exercised for years at Fit for Life she was able to get out of her chair and walk (with her walker) until the very end. Carrie was a lifelong Unitarian and prior to attending AUUC she was a member of Philadelphia's mainline Unitarian community where she marched on Washington and was very involved in the major issues of women's rights, racism and equality for all.

A beautiful and loving woman she brought light and positive energy to her relationships with her many friends and family. She came to the Adirondacks as a child where her family had a camp on Big Wolf Lake. For many years she volunteered at The Wild Center in the membership department. She will be greatly missed by her children, grandchildren and first great grandchild who was born just prior to her death. -Susan Arnold

### Double Ewe Knitters

More than a dozen baby hats with pom-poms were donated to the newborn nursery in a basket before Christmas and other assorted knitted ware was given to the Grace pantry. We will not be meeting until late spring, but we have discussed having a mitten tree or display at Berkeley green before Christmas next year. -Joyce Henklein

## A Letter from Rev. Peter Morales

In lieu of a President's letter from Phyllis, here is a letter from the UUA President on this past election.

Dear Colleagues,

These are tough times. We are living in the midst of historic cultural turmoil. Long festering resentments are being unleashed, posing immediate threats to the most marginalized in our society and presenting long term danger to our natural environment.

People are understandably anxious. I hear reports of a spike in attendance at [Unitarian Universalist] worship services across the country. *Thank you.* Thank you for your courage, your perseverance, your faithfulness.

I believe we are entering dangerous times. I expect that the new administration will unleash human rights abuses aimed at migrants and Muslims shortly after it takes office. In the longer term, other marginalized groups (women, the poor, people of color, transgender people, etc.) will be in danger. We are already seeing an increase in violent acts by people who see the election as validation of their hate.

Among the dangers we face is the temptation to “normalize” the situation. I pray that the incoming administration will prove to be more humane than its rhetoric and many of its most ardent supporters. I see no evidence that this is the case. *None.* It is irresponsible folly to act as though we are in a normal transition between administrations.

We must prepare to provide *sanctuary* and *resist*.

First, we must provide sanctuary in the broadest and richest sense of the term. We begin with offering safe places for reflection and healing for our congregants and for those coming to seek spiritual community. But these times demand more. We must provide sanctuary to those most vulnerable. In particular, migrants (primarily from Mexico and Central America) may well face mass deportation. In addition, Muslims have been targeted.

Second, we must prepare to resist human rights violations in active ways. We must make it much harder to deport, register, discriminate and despoil.

In the past most of our work for justice and compassion has been positive. We have been advocates for marriage equality, racial justice, civil rights, immigration reform and environmental justice. To use a sports metaphor, we have played offense. We joined with others to advance an agenda. Today we must prepare to “play defense.” We will have to respond quickly to acts of the government. We will have to react rather than act. We will need to be agile and fast.

As always, the key will be to work together. We are effective when our congregations and ministers work together at the local level, combined with support from regional and national staff. We make a difference when we form strong partnerships with other faith groups and secular organizations.

At the national level, we are working to form partnerships with other faith groups and other UU organizations. I invite you to visit the “Show the Love” hub on [uua.org](http://www.uua.org) (<http://www.uua.org/action/show-love/resources>) for resources. I encourage you to see what colleagues are doing and to share what you are doing on <http://www.uua.org/action/show-love>.

In the coming weeks you will hear more as we work together to support you. For now, I want each of you to know that you are not alone. Together we are strong. Together we inspire one another. Together we can do this. We need one another.

Thank you again for all you do.

Love will guide us. Hope will sustain us. Ultimately we shall prevail.

Faithfully,

Peter

Selma, 2016

Fifty years ago they marched  
For the right to vote.  
They marched bravely, proudly  
Across the Edmund Pettis Bridge.

An average looking bridge,  
But from below, its soaring arches  
And graceful and fluted buttresses  
Form an informal monument;  
An impressive monument  
To impressive achievement.

But there, below that glory  
Is a sad, decaying park.  
Meant to be a formal monument  
With gazebos and outdoor stage.  
Now weedy, rotting and collapsed,  
An unintended monument  
To the work still to be done,  
To attitudes still to be changed.

Frank Lescinsky

After a visit to Selma, Alabama with his wife Lethe in the Spring, 2016



## Contact Numbers

[www.adkuu.org](http://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
Membership:	Joyce Henklen	891-7761
Welcoming Congregation	Ann Mullen	891-5735
Worship:	Elaine Holmlund	891-6717
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
RE:	Vanessa Houghtlin	891-1195
	Julia Goren	845-216-3810
Environmental and Social Action:	Stephen DeHond	
	<a href="mailto:sdehond@hotmail.com">sdehond@hotmail.com</a>	
Social Media:	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 hearts, and helping hand" to**

**Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community  
89 Church Street  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983**