

THE ADIRONDACK COMMUNITARIAN



A Monthly Newsletter of the Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community

Volume 178

November 2017

Calendar at a Glance

November 5

Rev. Guy Lamothe
“Biocentric Ethics & Respect for the
Interdependent Web”

November 12

Dan Berggren
“Beyond Heaven and Hell”

November 19

Rosalie Fontana

“What Does it Mean to be a People of Hope?”

1:00-2:00 at St. Luke's
Transgender Day of Remembrance

November 26

Deb Nabor

“Model Global Citizen”

The nominating committee is seeking a candidate for President. If you are interested in serving or have ideas for nominations please contact one of the committee members: Laura Reid, or Emily Warner.

Laura: [518.354.8360](tel:518.354.8360) or
laurajeannereid@gmail.com



Welcoming Congregation Committee Update

We had a very successful LGBTQ Film Festival in the month of October, and requests to repeat it on an annual basis. A big thanks goes out to the committee members and also to those in the congregation who attended one or more of the films.

At our next meeting in December, the Committee will be discussing the final steps we need to take for the final push on our application for official “Welcoming Congregation” status.

Calendar for November

November 5: Rev. Eugene “Guy” Lamothe

Biocentric Ethics & Respect for the Interdependent Web”

A new ethics is emerging that proclaims we cannot live as an ecologically segregated species, and that our dependence on the ongoing integrity of the whole realm of life is absolute.

November 12: Dan Berggren

“Beyond Heaven and Hell”

Through the ages people have thought and taught about places of good and evil, real and imagined, in an afterlife or this one. This service offers a variety of views including the Bible, Jonathan Edwards and Garrison Keillor.

November 19: Rosalie Fontana

“What Does it Mean to be a People of Hope?”

Historian and social activist Howard Zinn suggests that "To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness."

1:00-2:00 at St. Luke's

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Presented by AUUC, First Presbyterian Church, St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Saranac Lake, & The Adirondack North Country Gender Alliance

To memorialize those who have been killed or murdered as the result of transphobia, (hatred or fear of transgender and gender non-conforming people).

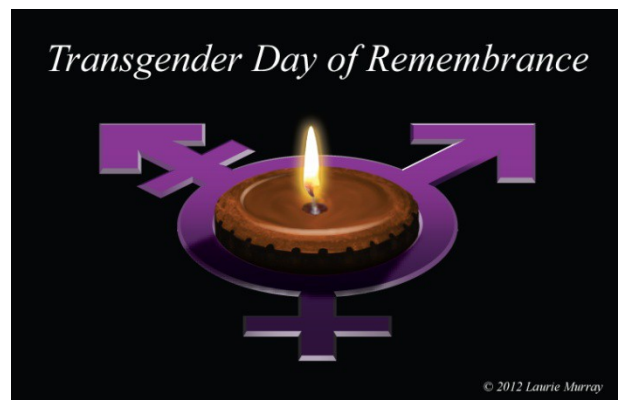
We also include people who died as a result of suicide. This day serves to bring attention to the continued violence and non-acceptance endured by the transgender community.

November 26: Deb Nabor

“Model Global Citizen”

Transgender Day of Remembrance 2017

Transgender Day of Remembrance occurs annually on November 20th, is a day to memorialize those who have been killed or murdered as the result of transphobia, (hatred or fear of transgender and gender non-conforming people). This day serves to bring attention to the continued violence and non-acceptance endured by the transgender community.



Transgender Day of Remembrance observance
will be held on Sunday November 19th from
1:00 – 2:00 pm. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church
136 Main St, Saranac Lake, NY

This non-denominational event is co-hosted by
Adirondack Unitarian Universalist Community, First Presbyterian Church and St. Luke's
Episcopal Church of Saranac Lake, NY, Adirondack North Country Gender Alliance.

TDOR as it is often referred to was founded in 1998 by Gwendolyn Ann Smith, a transgender woman to memorialize the murder of her friend Rita Hester in Allston, Massachusetts. Currently, Transgender Day of Remembrance is observed in cities and countries around the world. As of November 2017 in the United States alone, 23 people have been murdered, just for being Transgender or Gender Non-Conforming, a majority of whom are Transgender Women of Color. It is time to stop this violence, hate and senseless death!

Today, the transgender community is making ourselves known. We are carving out our place in modern society. We are becoming more visible in the workplace, in our neighborhoods and in society.

Our great nation was founded on the principles of life, liberty, freedom and justice for all; yet even today we fail to live up to these lofty principles we so proudly profess. The transgender, gender non-conforming, non-binary communities are not looking for "more" or "special" rights; we are only looking for EQUAL rights already extended to other members of our society. We seek to accomplish this not only through legislative action, but more importantly through community education, understanding, acceptance and love!

For more information contact:

Kelly Metzgar 518-637-7253
Adirondack North Country Gender Alliance, Saranac Lake, NY



President's Message

Dear friends, See the many happenings in this Newsletter!

In January there will be a new Board President for AUUC. The Nominating Committee (Beth Phillips, Emily Warner and Laura Reid) is at work. I think any potential candidates would be heartened to know of offers of volunteer services in fulfilling the many tasks, some small, some large, of sustaining our fellowship. Over the past several weeks we have distributed lists of Community Sharing Offerings (opportunities). I am pleased at the responses from **the five** returned questionnaire. I know the Nominating Committee's task will be made much easier if a candidate knows there are willing supporters.

Copies of the questionnaire are available at the coffee table on Sunday mornings. Also, please check your emails.

Peace, Phyllis

A message from the December 2017 Soul Matters packet on HOPE:

Everything changes: there lies most of our hope and some of our fear....If you take the long view, you'll see how startlingly, how unexpectedly but regularly things change. Not by magic, but by the incremental effect of countless acts of courage, love, and commitment, the small drops that wear away stones and carve new landscapes, and sometimes by torrents of popular will that change the world suddenly. To say that is not to say that it will all come out fine in the end regardless. I'm just telling you that everything is in motion, and sometimes we are ourselves that movement.

Rebecca Solnit, The Case for Hope

A Letter to AUUC

The AUUCommunity received a letter from Hubert Parrow, Jr. of Henderson, Nevada – by way of our updated website! He says:

“I was in Saranac Lake the week of September 11 – 16 to complete the 6ers, which I was able to do in three days – not bad for a 62 years young guy – plus, I had beautiful weather. I’m a PSC Alum, Class of ’78, and am now retired in Nevada. I enjoyed my stay in Saranac Lake, and only wish that I had come across your community before I left town. I would have loved to stop by and meet the members. Congratulations in partnering with the Saranac Lake Library to show LGBTQ films, in hopes of educating all that may be interested. Keep up the good work, and continued success in growing the UU community in Saranac Lake.”



Fundraising Success!

AUUC participated in the Saranac Lake Village Flea Market on October 28-29. Participants had to be non-profit organizations, which also support other non-profits. (Our split will be with Grace Pantry.) We received a free spot in the Harrietstown Town Hall, with 13 other organizations.

Though we planned to share the insurance costs of renting the building for 3 days, that cost was actually covered by a generous donor, and a grant from the Ecumenical Council of Saranac Lake. So, we had a free, secured and weatherproof facility available for a day of set-up (Friday, 27th), and two days of selling to the public, netting \$643.05!

Gratitude to the sellers (Carolyn Alexander, Joan Kelly, Russ DeFonce, Phyllis Magnus, and Sue Grimm Hanley) and gofers (Terry Hanley, Rosalie Fontana), and to those who donated items (Karen White, Julia Goren, Ginger Slater, and all of the folks listed above!)

AUUC Website Updates

Our website (adkuu.org) received major updates this month from Kathi Tevlin of In The Woods (our Website Goddess!) Besides a cleaner, brighter physical appearance, please notice the new Calendar format! Also, all Communitarians from 2012 to the present are loaded, and much more easily accessed (one click!). What you can't see is the amount of work Kathi did to prevent a system crash, which involved installing a new module (which the Calendar is part of.) Sermons will be loaded soon. I am presently examining other UU websites, to see what we can add to our menus. Ideas are welcomed! (Please call or email Sue Grimm Hanley.)

Just a note of interest – the Accotink UU Community in Virginia “got there first”, claiming the domain name of auuc.org. But I think that adkuu suits us just fine!

AN INVITATION TO OUR “SOUL MATTERS” GROUP

Why join a Soul Matters Group?

Simply put, Soul Matters groups offer the gift of spiritual connection. Around us swirls a shallow, frantic and materialistic culture that leaves us cut off from our deepest selves, life's gifts and needs greater than our own. Many of us come to church hungry to mend these sacred connections that get frayed and torn. Soul Matters exists to support this journey of reconnection to life, others and our selves.

We do that by listening. Fundamentally, that what Soul Matters is: an invitation to listen more deeply and intentionally, in three distinct ways:

First, we listen to each other.

“There is a quality of listening that is possible among a circle of human beings, who by their attentiveness to one another create a space in which each person

is able to give voice to the truth of his or her life. There is the miracle of authentic narrative, made possible by listening that holds still long enough to let our truth be told.” (Rebecca Parker, Theologian)

Second, we listen to our lives. (A sacred way of engaging the world.)

“You never know what may cause them. The sight of the Atlantic Ocean can do

it, or a piece of music, or a face you've never seen before. A pair of somebody's

old shoes can do it.. You can never be sure. But of this you can be sure. Whenever you find tears in your eyes, especially unexpected tears, it is well to pay the

closest attention. They are not only telling you something about the secret of who you are, but more often than not (the Sacred) is speaking to you through them of the mystery of where you have come from and is summoning you to where you should go next.” (Fredrick Buechner, Christian novelist)

Finally, we listen to our deepest selves. (Introspection)

“So, what do we do in a circle of trust? We speak our own truth; we listen receptively to the truth of others; we ask each other honest, open questions instead of giving counsel; and we offer each other the healing and empowering gifts of silence and laughter... Our purpose is not to teach anyone anything but to give the inner teacher a chance to teach us. (Parker Palmer, Quaker teacher)

Our first meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place on Monday, December 4th from 6 – 8 pm in the upper meeting room. I will be facilitating and would like to hear from anyone interested in attending if they have an issue with the time or with the meeting taking place upstairs. I will also need to have an approximation of how many plan to attend so that I can provide printed materials for all.

Our first meeting will focus on our Group Covenant. *“A covenant is a list of ways we agree to be together as a group. It includes the promises, practices and behaviors that guide our time together...we are bound by the way we promise to treat each other, rather by common beliefs and creeds. So forming a covenant isn't just about good group process...It is the means by which we are held together in community.” (Facilitator's manual)*

I do not have a plan for serving refreshments at this early stage, but you may bring your own beverage and snack.

I will be available after Sunday services if you have questions. I can also be reached by phone at 518-637-5717, email at vslater66@gmail.com, or Facebook messenger at Virginia Slater. We will be posting Soul Matters information on our website at www.adkuu.org

Contact Numbers

www.adkuu.org

President:	Phyllis Magnus	354-1379
Vice President	John Wood	946-2275
Secretary:	Vincine Fallica	Vfallica@outlook.com
Treasurer:	Sue Grimm Hanley	637-2794
Trustees:	Gary Alexander	354-7823
	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Membership:	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Welcoming Congregation	Ann Mullen	891-5735
Worship:	Elaine Holmlund	891-6717
Communitarian:	Courtney Miller	starrypoetics@gmail.com
Double Ewe: Knitters	Joyce Henklein	891-7761
Place:	Randall Swanson	891-3512
RE:	Donna Wood	946-2275
	Julia Goren	845-216-3810
Environmental and Social Action:	Stephen DeHond	
	sdehond@hotmail.com	
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 heart, and helping hand" to

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