

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo



MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

Gather ~ Inspire ~ Transform

695 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222

Phone: 716-885-2136

Website: www.buffalouu.org



Minister's Column: What does it mean to be People of Wisdom?



When you receive this newsletter, I will be on sabbatical. I will return to the church and to you, my beloved congregation, on April 1.

In the meantime, the Worship Associates and Sarah Martin will lead marvelous worship services. All pastoral care concerns will be managed by our Lay Pastoral Ministers (Bobbie Baker, Karen Jarvis, John Marohn, and Lynn Mancuso). We also have employed the Rev. Lynn Acquafondata as our Sabbatical Pastoral Care Minister. She will work with our Lay Pastoral Ministers and officiate at memorial services while I am away.



The staff know how to get in touch with me in emergencies.

All that said, I will be away for only six weeks and my bet is you will hardly know I am gone before I am back and asking you to volunteer for something.

There are many reasons for a sabbatical, but the most important are for a minister to grow in wisdom and energy and to return to the congregation and community refreshed so they can be the best minister they can be.

As I search for wisdom on my sabbatical, I will:

- Practice deeper intellectual humility,
- Search for an appreciation of broader perspectives,
- Seek a more profound understanding that social relations can change, and
- Open myself to a willingness to compromise and integrate different opinions.
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The Wise are not few in number, or some distantly saintly and superior variety of humanity. The Wise are all of us as we learn and grow. My prayer for myself, for our congregation, and for the world is that wherever we are and whatever we are doing, we are increasingly becoming People of Wisdom.

Yours in faith and affection, Rev. Joan Montagnes

the trend. Bounce, don't break. And keep digging. Always keep digging.

Yours in faith and affection, Joan



March 1: Where Wisdom Dwells, Charlene Montgomery

The seat of knowledge is in the head, but wisdom lies in the heart. A wise person knows out of experience --- It is the inner knowing what to do in a given situation. In some cases, the decision that is met appears to be irrational, but often it turns out to be the right thing to do. The wise person knows from within, supported by the insights gained from a reflective disposition. Profound but wise lessons can be drawn from the things that happened to you, hence increasing your wisdom about many aspects of life. Trusting in your own wisdom makes room for you to act and not wait for a guru to show you the way or a politician to fix society's problems.

March 8: Our Whole Lives, Sarah Martin

Comprehensive sexuality education is more than just the basics you may (or may not) have learned in health class. It's a fundamental part of our religious education programming and an exploration of relationships, communication, and self-care. Join us in celebrating a curriculum that enriches and saves lives.

March 15: Waking to Wisdom, Julie Taylor

We all had the experience. A conversation we play over in our heads. A situation that could have gone better. We agonize over what could have been said or done, and it is a hard road to forgive ourselves when we have a bad case of the "Shouldas." When we wake our inner selves to the wisdom within we have a chance of truly making a difference and moving those "Shouldas" to a way forward.

March 22: Honoring the Equinox, Sarah Martin

The balance of day and night harken the beginning of spring and the rebirth of everything green and beautiful in the northern hemisphere. What does it mean to celebrate the spring equinox in a time of climate change, political upheaval, and reckoning with our nation's history? We'll explore these themes in a participatory, multigenerational service.

March 29: Imagination, Ken Manly

When we think of human imagination, we may think first of all the ways it entertains, informs and comforts us. Imagination has a more serious duty as well; it allows us to understand, predict and control the natural world. In doing so, human imagination creates social realities that can be as compelling as natural realities.

SUMMER SUNDAY SERVICES

Spring hasn't even begun, but the Worship Ministry Team is already planning the Summer Sunday Service schedule.

Our theme for June will be "Thresholds." What transformative doorways do we pass through in life? Are there moments of change? A separation between past, present, and possible futures?

Our theme for July will be "Compassion." Compassion is a form of love. It literally means to "suffer with." Compassion breaks down the barriers between us and can change our hearts. What pain and overwhelming love has made the greatest difference in your life? When have you reached out to someone in need and felt their sorrow?

Our theme for August will be "Reverence." Reverence is about the honor or respect that is felt for or shown to someone or something. Do you ever feel so much awe and gratitude for something that it catches your breath? What to you is worthy of reverence and why? Nature? The human body in all its senses and experiences? A vision of the beloved community?

If you would like to offer our congregation a worship service for a Sunday between June 28 and September 6, please send the following information to Rev. Joan by April 1 at minister@buffalouu.org

- a sermon title
- a sermon blurb of 2-3 sentences

- a short bio of 2-3 sentences
- 250-word synopsis of your sermon
- an explanation of how your sermon fits into the month's theme
- and the dates you are available

We cannot guarantee that all who wish to preach this summer will have an opportunity to do so. We will work to serve the congregation as well as possible. A Worship Associate will assist you in crafting and presenting your service.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



Sarah Martin, Director of Religious Education

March is our month to celebrate Wisdom at the UU Church of Buffalo. It's also the time of year that I begin to take stock of our religious education programming, figuring out what worked best, what didn't connect, and what we might be looking at for next year. Over the coming months, with the help of the Religious Education Ministry Team, we'll draw on the collective wisdom of our RE teachers, staff members, and most importantly our children and youth, to weave together a program that will continue to encourage community-building, foster strong Unitarian Universalist values, and nurture the spiritual needs of our children and youth. If you had the opportunity to attend the February 16 Youth Service, you already know that the youth of our congregation are growing into strong, caring spiritual leaders and we are so very fortunate that they are willing to share their wisdom with us.

We've also been happy to offer the Our Whole Lives program to 7th and 8th graders on Sunday evenings this year. Our Whole Lives is the award-winning, lifesaving, comprehensive sexuality education curriculum that we offer at the middle school level every other year and at the K/1 and 4th-6th grade levels during the years in between. On March 8, our Sunday service will celebrate the Our Whole Lives program. After the service, there will be an opportunity in the Parish Hall to sign up to be part of the team that will bring Adult Our Whole Lives to our congregation!

Events coming up in Religious Education:

Sunday, March 8 – Girl Scout Sunday

Do you have a Girl Scout who attends UUCB? During the Time for All Ages on March 8, our congregation's Girl Scouts will be honored for the work they do in this organization! Girl Scouts should wear their vest or sash to the service. Scouts who participate in this ceremony will receive a patch.

Sunday, March 22 – Spring Equinox multigen service

There will be no regular RE classes on this day. Instead, children and youth are welcome to join their families in the service for this interactive celebration of the first day of spring!

Tuesday, March 24 – Family Worship

Join us in the Parish Hall from 7-8pm for songs, story, and activities to engage the whole family in a worship experience. The half hour worship will be followed by cookies, cocoa, and fellowship.

Friday, April 24 – Sunday, April 26 – Youth Con

Our UUCB Youth Group will be hosting a conference for youth from all over Upstate New York. We are going to need volunteers to help with preparing and serving meals and awake adult shifts during the night. If you would like to volunteer to help our youth make this event a success, please email lifespan@buffalouu.org

Adult Faith Development

There are so many opportunities coming up in Adult Faith Development this month! Email lifespan@buffalouu.org for more information about any of our upcoming offerings.

Contemporary Voices in Unitarian Universalism

Beginning Thursday, March 5 & 19, then following first and third Thursdays of each month
7-8:30pm, Marge Gardner Lounge

Do you want to learn more about diverse, contemporary voices in Unitarian Universalism? Participants will listen and view online sermons of selected Unitarian Universalist clergy throughout the US and Canada and share their reactions to those sermons. The course will be facilitated by John Marohn.

To register, call John at 716-861-4541, or email johntmarohn@yahoo.com

UU and YOU!

Saturday, March 7, 10am-12pm, Alliance Room

Join facilitators Shaun Doyle and Julie Taylor in an exploration of Unitarian Universalism and your place in it. We'll examine our own UU journeys and learn about Unitarian, Universalist, and Unitarian Universalist history. Free of charge

This class is required for membership

To register, click here: <https://forms.gle/AeHzruk1kkPVCvou9>

Or email lifespan@buffalouu.org

Women's Saturday Salon

Saturday, March 21 (and following third Saturdays of the month), 2-3:30pm, Alliance Room

While we can't have Gertrude Stein, we can try for the next best thing! Come with a quote, book, poem, thought, or statistic you would like to share and help cross-pollinate our intellectual curiosity. Facilitated by Nicole Urdang.

Email lifespan@buffalouu.org to register

UUA Common Read: An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States

Book Discussion

Sunday, March 22, 12:30-2pm, Alliance Room

This year, the UUA's Common Read is An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz. We will be hosting a missed age discussion of the book for both the adult and young people's versions of the book. This discussion will be facilitated by Jim Jarvis and Sarah Martin. If you would like to order a copy at a discount (\$8 per book for either edition), please email lifespan@buffalouu.org

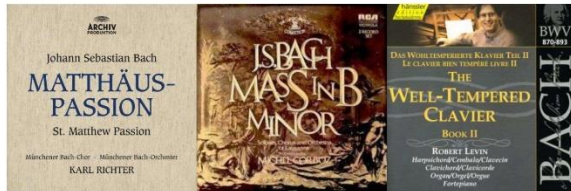
Memoir Group

Do you have a story to tell? Have you been waiting for just the right the opportunity to write down the story of your life? Do you want to collect precious memories in a format you can pass down to your family? Our Tuesday night memoir group is looking for new members! This group operates on the premise that everyone is a writer, no matter level of skill or experience. We get together to share our stories in small pieces and encourage one another on the path to creating a memoir. If this sounds like something you'd like to join, even if Tuesdays are not right for you (the group may be amenable to changing the night based on attendance), email lifespan@buffalouu.org for more information!



**REFRESHMENT FOR THE SOUL:
THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF
JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH**

MICHAEL HARRIS, INSTRUCTOR



14 WEDNESDAYS, 9:30-11:30 A.M., JANUARY 8 TO APRIL 8
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BUFFALO
695 ELMWOOD AVENUE AT WEST FERRY STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14222
COST: \$75 FOR FULL COURSE, OR \$10 PER SESSION
FOR INFORMATION CALL 716-885-2136,
OR EMAIL AT office @buffalouu.org

Johann Sebastian Bach's place in the musical firmament is high indeed. For Beethoven, he was "the immortal god of harmony. For Gounod, "Bach is the most comprehensive; he has said all there is to say." And Brahms agreed: "Study Bach -- there you will find everything." This course will look at Bach's encyclopedic musical mind, and show how he summed up the Baroque Age with such masterpieces as the Brandenburg Concertos, The Goldberg Variations, and The St. Matthew Passion, while with his visionary late works like the Mass in B Minor and The Art of the Fugue gave us tantalizing clues to the music of the future. As we listen to this fascinating music, we'll prize, along with Glenn Gould, what "is valuable beyond all its skill and brilliance... its humanity."

Week-by-Week Syllabus

- Session One (January 8): The Family Business -- The Like of J.S. Bach and the Bach Family
- Session Two (January 15): Bach the Apprentice -- Teachers, Influences and First Jobs
- Session Three (January 22): Bach the Lutheran -- His Use of Chorale Melodies
- Session Four (January 29): Bach at the Court of Weimar -- Organ works and Cantatas
- Session Five (February 5): The Dance of God -- Bach and the Dance Suite
- Session Six (February 12): The Monophonic Bach [Cello Suites; Violin Partitas]
- Session Seven (February 19): Bach in Cothen -- The Concerto Principle
- Session Eight (February 26): Bach, Master of the Keys -- The Well-Tempered Clavier
- Session Nine (March 4): Bach in Leipzig -- The Church Cantatas
- Session Ten (March 11): Bach the Dramatist -- The St. John Passion and The St. Matthew Passion
- Session Eleven (March 18): Bach the Borrower -- Secular Cantatas and The Christmas Oratorio
- MARCH 21 -- HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BACH!!**
- Session Twelve (March 25): Bach and the Variation Principle -- Goldberg Variations
- Session Thirteen (April 1): Apotheosis of the Latin Mass -- Mass in B Minor
- Session Fourteen (April 8): Canon Law for the Ages -- the Contrapuntal Bach
[The Art of the Fugue and The Musical Offering]



Daniel Bassin, Music Director

This March, we join hundreds of Unitarian Universalist congregations in pondering the Soul Matters monthly thematic question, *What Does it Mean to Be a People of Wisdom?* Further, in commemoration of Women's History Month, your UUCB Choir and music program professional staff and volunteers will devote our programming to a celebration of the legacies and lasting contributions of women composers and musicians. As with our February offerings, celebrating Black History Month, this month will be filled with both familiar 'Choir favorites' as well as some new and less familiar masterworks. While each month during our formal church year and 'Choir Season' we seek to complement each service's message with bespoke musical selections drawn from familiar repertoire and what we hope to be new favorites, the opportunity to celebrate Women's History Month musically would not be complete without reflecting on our community's enduring musical legacy from the historic leadership of our late Minister of Music, Barbara Wagner as well as the dynamic leadership of our current Soprano and Alto section leaders, Jessie Downs and Helen Lowry. Therefore, we can look forward to special surprises and features for these two brilliantly-gifted musicians among us, while we also honor the legacy of Maestra Wagner through selections by women composers she brought into our Choir repertoire. We look forward to sharing this musical month of March with each of you!

It all begins on the first of the month, with Charlene Montgomery's service, *Where Wisdom Dwells*. A service with this title practically begs to have our Choir sing Dr. Ysaye Barnwell's beloved anthem, *Breaths*, where the composer sets Birago Diop's earth/Gaia centric poem, "Listen more often to things than to beings..." As a contrast and complement to the familiar Barnwell tune, we will reach into our Choir library for an inspired rarity – Gwyneth Walker's setting of E.E. Cummings' *I Carry Your Heart*. When Director of Religious Education, Sarah Martin, takes the pulpit on March 8th, we will learn more about our church's sex ed program, *Our Whole Lives*. Service music shifts from choral anthems to anthemic popular music with a special presentation of the Indigo Girls song "Ghost" from their album, *Rites of Passage*. Your Choir will also offer up one of the final masterpieces of 20th century Chilean singer/songwriter and folklorist, Violeta Parra, *Gracias a la Vida*.

Waking to Wisdom is the title of Julie Taylor's service on March 15th. A musical contrast across centuries will be on display, featuring two exceptionally gifted artists whose genius were nearly eclipsed by their domineering, artistically-jealous husbands. Cher's *If I Could Turn Back Time* will be heard alongside Clara Schumann's choral Ave Maria – a depiction of a Venetian pilgrimage to a poem by Emanuel Geibel. Sarah Martin also leads our annual Springtime service, *Honoring the Equinox*, on March 22nd. Service music will include a solo piece, *I am Light* by American singer/songwriter, India Arie, as well as a rousing choral anthem from the early history of the Women's Suffrage movement, English composer, Ethel Smyth's 1910 *The March of the Women*. Finally, we close out the month with Ken Manly's service, *Imagination*. A UUCB Choir favorite by a composer who will feature in our November 2020 Music Sunday service, Joan Szymko, will be heard – her Langston Hughes setting, *I Dream a World*. In addition to some additional solo and ensemble pieces, this final service in Women's History Month will also give a preview of our forthcoming April 19th Spring Music Sunday service, *Romantic Liberation* – we will close out the month with a choral benediction in the form of a piece from Amy Beach's 1891 collection of Choral Responses, Op. 8, *Peace I Leave with You*.





Sharon Walker, uucb.wny.specevents@gmail.com

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS



Jubilee Anti-Racism Training

April 10-12, 2020; 1st Universalist Church, Rochester, NY. For more information check out our Justice Ministry Team column.

Sources of Hope: Seaway Spring Gathering:

May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society 3800 E Genesee St, Syracuse, NY 13214, United States. Our world needs hope in these troubled times. We will spend the day building resilience and interconnection in ourselves, our faith communities, and beyond.

Friday Gould Discourse: Growing Souls in Congregations, presented by Leah Purcell, CRE

Leah is the Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry at the 1st UU Society of Albany. She is a national leader among religious educators.

Friday's events will take place at First UU Society of Syracuse, NY

Saturday Gathering: Rooted for this World: Building Safety in the Body

Paying attention to and caring for our bodies will help us build the resilience we need in these troubled times.

Saturday Keynote Speaker: **Rev. Megan Visser, MA, PhD(c)**

Saturday's events will take place at **May Memorial UU Society, Syracuse, NY**

Registration opens February 28!

For more information contact cer@uua.org.



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

New this year! General Assembly is a wonderful experience whether you are new to our faith or been involved forever. It is very costly, which deters too many of us from attending. Again, check out our Justice Ministry Team column. The team is developing a scholarship program to assist those you who wish to go but financially can not afford it.

Registration Now Open! Adult full-time registration is \$400 through March 15. NEW! Registration Payment Plan: With a \$50 down-payment, the cost of registration can be paid over the course several months. Final payment must be received by February 29, 2020. When the final registration is complete, special consideration for dormitory lodging bundles, financial aid and volunteer opportunities will become available. See <https://www.uua.org/ga> for more info and to register.

UUCB Interfaith Connections



WNY Interfaith News VOICE Buffalo our interfaith social justice partner

Join the UUCB/VOICE Buffalo Peace Hub; 2nd Tuesday of each month; 6:00pm Check-in and Refreshments, 6:30-8:30 Circle, 2nd Fl., Alliance Rm

Supporting our congregation's commitment to social and restorative justice change in our community.

VOICE member organizations have teamed up to offer Peace Circles with the long-term goal of UUCB becoming a Community Peace Hub site. The Tuesday circles at UUCB are focused on restorative practice and justice in our Buffalo Public Schools as mandated by New York State. To support these actions, we need to know what restorative practice is and experience it for ourselves. The Tuesday circle attracts many from the Buffalo community and participant feedback has been inspiring. Growing out of these circles, many participants are becoming "circle keepers" as well as participating alongside VOICE leadership in meetings with Buffalo Board of Education members, teachers, and union leaders. Our UUCB circle has become a model of the potential for circles. On January 29th, Whitney Walker, VOICE Buffalo Executive Director, Rev. Denise Walden, VOICE Organizer, and I met with the board of trustees at UCC Church of the Nativity. Nativity, a member of VOICE, heard of the good work that has been happening here and is interested in becoming a peace hub and offering circles. Tuesday, February 11th, we circled with Phil Rumore, President BTU, BPS parents and students, along with concerned city residents on the subject of school suspensions. All were forthright and engaged leading to another eye opening and moving evening. If you'd like more information, email uucb.wny.specevents@gmail.com

Better yet. Come and experience our circles for yourself.

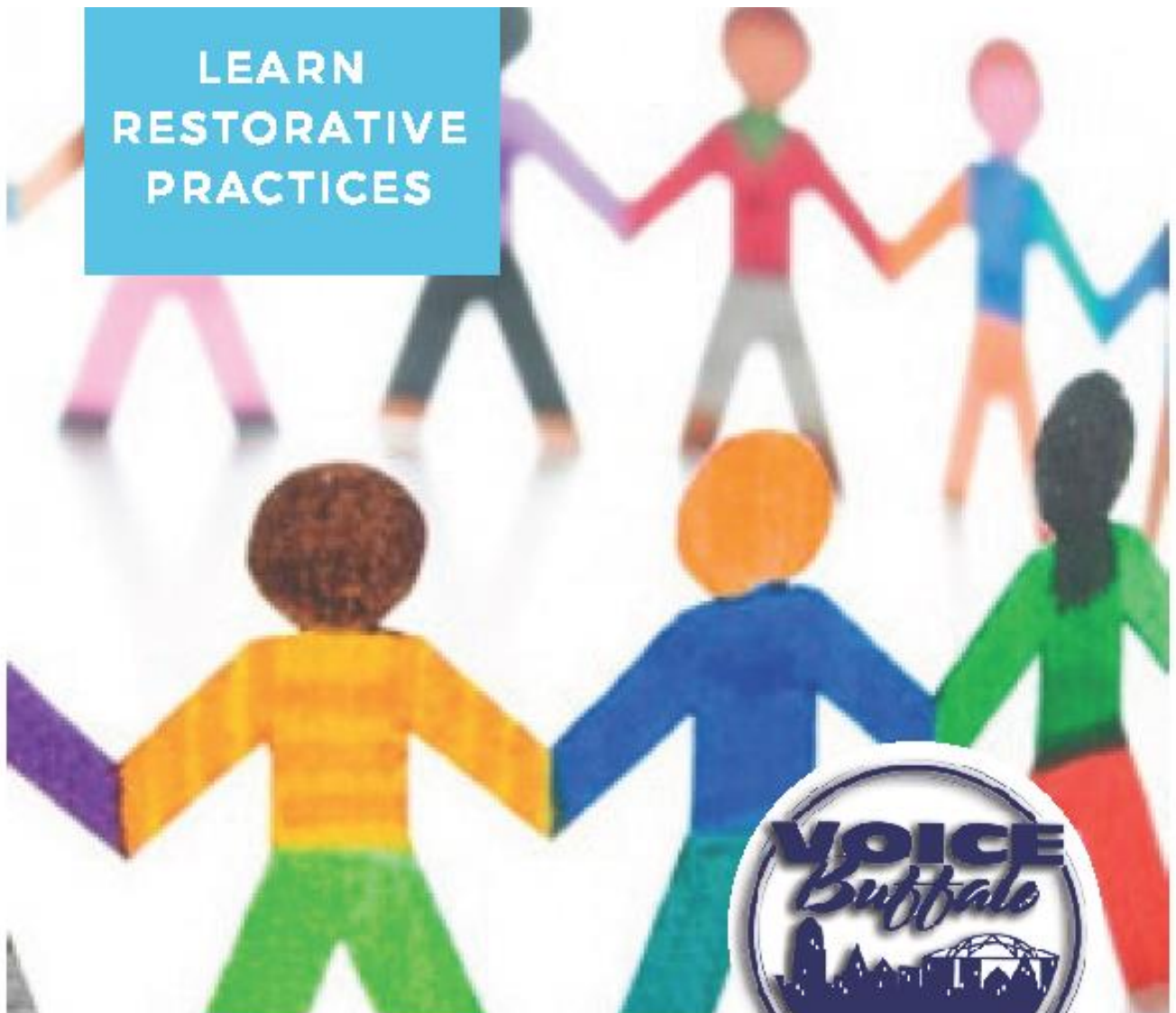
Our monthly newsletter comes to you through the hard work and love of many volunteers and church leaders. I am taking a short survey of readership for this column.

1. On a scale of 0-5, how often do you read this column?
2. On a scale of 0-5, when you read it, do you find it informative?
3. On a scale of 0-5, do you feel encouraged to action?

Please respond to me at uucb.wny.specevents@gmail.com



LEARN
RESTORATIVE
PRACTICES



MONTHLY PEACE CIRCLE PRACTICE

2nd Tues. of Each Month | 6:00-8:30PM
UU Church of Buffalo | 695 Elmwood Ave.

Registration and Refreshments at 6:00PM - Circle 6:30-8:30PM

UAIM – ACCESSABILITY and INCLUSION MINISTRY NEWS

"If you're dealing with a mental health challenge, you are not alone. Approximately 1 in 5 Western New Yorkers are living with a mental health diagnosis, yet many people suffer in silence because of the discrimination that goes along with it... When we talk about mental health, we help everyone find their voice." - Erie County End the Stigma Campaign <https://letstalkstigma.org/>



The terms psychiatric disorder, mental illness, and brain disorders describe a wide range of conditions that may affect a person's thoughts, actions, and feelings. Many people recover from mental illness, other people have ongoing difficulties, and some people continue to experience periodic difficulties that require acute treatment.

When interacting with people who have a mental health condition, do not assume that people with mental health difficulties have a cognitive disability. Also, treat people who have a mental health disorder as individuals. Do not make assumptions based on your own experience with other people with mental health difficulties.

UAIM Book of the Month Recommendation: "A Mind Apart: Travels in a Neurodiverse World" by Suzanne Antonetta. The author, Suzanne Antonetta, draws on her personal experience with manic depression, as well as interviews with people with multiple personality disorders, autism, schizophrenia, and other neuro atypical conditions, to construct a fascinating portrait of how the world shapes itself in minds that are profoundly different from the norm.

JOYS, SORROWS & CONCERNS TABLES

The Pastoral Care & Support Team would like to remind people that there are two Joys, Sorrows & Concerns tables at Sunday Service (one at the Ferry Street Door and the other near the Parish Hall door). One purpose of these tables is to take a moment to light a candle and reflect on someone or some Joy, Sorrow, or Concern in your life. Another purpose is to fill out a yellow card with a Joy, Concern or Sorrow in your life to be read during the Pastoral Prayer. A member of the Pastoral Care & Support Team stands at the Ferry Door Table to answer any question you may have or need assistance in filling out the card.

JUSTICE MINISTRY

JUSTICE MINISTRY TO HOST A RESTORATIVE CIRCLE

After church on Sunday, April 5th, please join members of the Justice Ministry Team and Deacon Jerome Wright (VOICE Buffalo Board member) in the Parish Hall. After we explore a model solitary confinement cell, we will hold a Peace Circle to discuss solitary confinement.

COVENANT GROUP MINISTRY NEWS

The Covenant Group Ministry is thriving and growing. We recently welcomed nineteen new people into our Covenant groups. These twelve groups are led or co-led by eighteen facilitators.

Most of our groups are at capacity, so we are planning to offer a facilitator training session in March (TBD) to make the creation of new groups possible. If you are currently a UUCB member (or soon will be) and have experience as a Covenant Group member, please consider becoming trained as a facilitator.

Providing service to both UUCB and the larger community is a mission of the Covenant Group Ministry. In 2019 four groups hosted coffee hours. One group donated the "Welcome Back BBQ" to the Fun & Fellowship Auction, which involved working together to create the well-attended lunch, raising \$630 for the work of the church. With the 2020 Auction just around the corner, groups are enthusiastically putting their heads together to come with a creative offering for this year!

The Covenant Group program is an established small group ministry in UU churches all over the country. Covenant groups, led by trained co-facilitators, create an opportunity to develop relationships, explore our personal values and beliefs, and support and strengthen our church – one small group at a time.

If you are new or not-so-new and would like to experience the connection that our model of "deep listening" inspires, please contact us at covenantgroups@buffalouu.org, or stop by the Membership and Connections table in the Parish Hall after church on any Sunday. We look forward to – truly – getting to know you.



SPRING HAS SPRUNG!! It's Time for the UUCB Fun & Fellowship AUCTION

Mark your calendar for the **Fun & Fellowship AUCTION** on **March 29, 2020** in the Parish Hall, before and after church! The 2019 Fun and Fellowship Auction was a great success, with over \$16,500 donated to support the work of this church community! Congratulations again to the winning bidders who have had the opportunity to be together in fun and fellowship throughout the year! And of course, thank you again to our generous and creative donors who made it all possible!

What is a Fun and Fellowship auction? Unlike standard auctions of "stuff", we offer our-selves, our time and our talents in the form of picnics, dinners, kayaking, gardening, sewing, yoga classes, historical tours, crafts, hiking and biking, poetry readings, and even a homing pigeon encounter! Stop by the Auction table to pick up a Donor Worksheet, and to talk to members of the Auction Team

about your ideas. Don't miss out on the fun! Start planning to **donate, bid and buy!** For more information, contact JVW61@aol.com or Maria Testa at marialtesta@gmail.com.

SHARE THE PLATE



SHARE THE PLATE AND JUSTICE MINISTRY TO SEND TWO OF OUR OWN TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Justice Ministry Team and Share the Plate, with support from our Board of Trustees, has decided to direct March's Share the Plate contributions to sending two UUCB members to this summer's General Assembly in Providence, RI (Wednesday, June 24th – Sunday, June 30th).

Have you ever been to General Assembly? Do you even know what it is?

General Assembly is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. In other words:

- We gather with people who share our religious values and do the work of our religion
- We meet to decide how we govern ourselves at a national level
- We deliberate and decide on our important social statements
- We participate in workshops to help us grow in faith and justice
- We hang out with people in settings where we don't have to describe or defend our religious beliefs, because they already know – imagine that!

Because we think this is such an important opportunity, the Justice Ministry Team and the Board want to ensure that new people have the opportunity to attend and represent our congregation.

Two scholarships of \$1,000 each will be made to the first two eligible applicants received in the church office. You must meet the following qualifications:

1. Have never attended General Assembly before
2. Could not afford to attend without financial support from the congregation
3. Are willing to serve as a congregational delegate (attend the daily business meetings and cast votes on the issues)
4. Are willing to participate in a worship service at UUCB after General Assembly, to help the rest of the congregation understand what is happening at the national level of our faith
5. Are a member in good standing of UUCB

Important dates and amounts:

The scholarship is priced to cover a large portion of registration, travel, accommodation and meals – which you will be responsible for arranging for yourself.

Registration costs \$400 per adult until March 15th, then increases to \$500 until April 30th and finally costs \$525 until the event itself

More specifics can be found at <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>

Housing information can be found at <https://www.uua.org/ga/travel> and fills up quickly.

If you have other questions, you can contact **Liz Parke** at eparke@me.com or by calling her at 716-877-4686.

PULPIT FLOWER MINISTRY



March Schedule:

March 6th.....Kathy Burke

March 15th.....open

March 22nd.....Bill & Liz Parke

March 29th.....John Rex

The next available flower dates are March 15 , April 26, May 24 and 31. Please stop by the Flower table after most Sunday services, email us at pulpitflowers@buffalouu.org, or call us at (716) 885-2136X4 if you are interested in participating in this wonderful ministry by sponsoring some love flowers for one of our upcoming services. The donation to the Church is just \$35.00 for the cost of the flowers, you will have your desired text dedication printed in the eblast and the Order of Sunday Services, and you may choose to take the flowers with you after the service or donate them to a charity.



WOMENS SOCIETY NEWS – March 19 Speaker/Luncheon



March 19 at 11:30am **JACKIE ALBARELLA** will discuss her book, **WOMEN IN THE CITY OF GOOD NEIGHBORS**

Celebrate the FIRST DAY OF SPRING by coming to hear Jackie talk about the 42 local women featured in her 2019 “coffee-table book,” WOMEN IN THE CITY OF GOOD NEIGHBORS. These are women who have dedicated their lives to making WNY a better place to live and work.

Refreshments at 11 am (\$3 donation); Jackie’s presentation at 11:30 and Prepaid Luncheon at 12:30. Pre-pay for the luncheon after the service on Sunday, March 8 or 15 (Women’s Society Members - \$15, non-Members - \$20). You can pre-pay by mail. Make your check out to UUCB and write Wmns. Society Lunch on the memo line. Mail to: Church Office, Unitarian-Universalist Church of Buffalo, 695 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222. Check must be received in the Church Office by FRIDAY, MARCH 13.

TRIP TO THE SHAW FESTIVAL, Tuesday, June 16 - Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada.

Enjoy the Tuesday June 16 matinee performance of the **beloved musical “GYPSY.”** Tickets are US \$ 45 and are on sale while they last. Inquire about availability at the Women’s Society table in the Parish Hall after the service on March 8 and 15. (Avoid disappointment, please be sure your border crossing documents are in order).

UUCB BOOK GROUP MEETING: March 30 at 7pm



We will be discussing THE HELLO GIRLS: America's first women soldiers, by historian Elizabeth Cobbs. Everyone who has read the book is welcome. Please let our host-of-the-month, Don, know that you are coming (432-2732 or donbehr@aol.com).

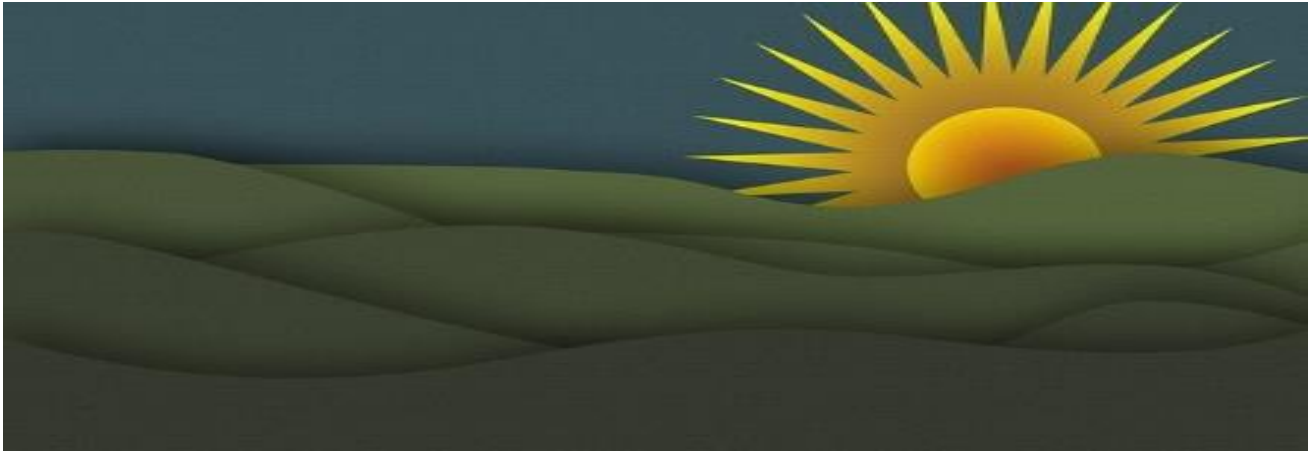
Looking ahead: April 27 at 7 pm - MADAME FOURCADE’S SECRET WAR by Lynn Olson; May 18 at 7 pm - THE WATER DANCER by Ta-Nehisi Coates, June 29 at 5 pm - THE NICKEL BOYS by Colson Whitehead.

WIDOWS and WIDOWERS CIRCLE: A monthly gathering of Women and Men who have lost their partners.



Our Widow and Widowers Circle meets the first Sunday of every month at noon in the Marge Gardner Room. All widows and Widowers are invited. We use the time to share our grieving process and help each other adjust to the transition. You may bring a lunch and/or a friend.

For more information contact Bonnie Collins via email at collinsb@buffalo.edu or by phone and/or text at 716-867-9628.



We gather in loving community, inspiring one another, to transform ourselves, to create a more just and compassionate world

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo

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Minister: Rev. Joan Montagnes minister@buffalouu.org	Administrator of Facilities and Communication: David Drost office@buffalouu.org	Director of Religious Education: Sarah Martin lifespan@buffalouu.org	Music Director: Daniel Bassin music@buffalouu.org
Care Network: Ginny Vaughan 716-768-1077 wixsonsg@gmail.com	Gatekeeper: Sara Kirkland office@buffalouu.org	Wedding Coordinator: Helen Lowry weddings@buffalouu.org	Organist/Accompanist: Jonathan Vogtle
Administrator for Finance: Donna Sentz donnasentz@buffalouu.org	Nursery Care Coordinator: Morgan Silver	Newsletter (submissions due by the 15th) newsletter@buffalouu.org Weekly Announcements (submissions due by NOON Wednesday) announcements@buffalouu.org	



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