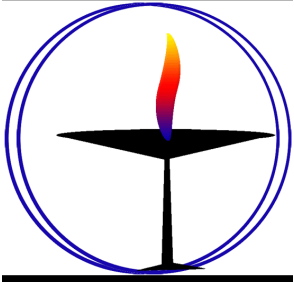


# The UU Church of Buffalo



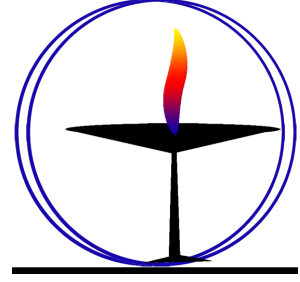
*Gather – Inspire – Transform*

**December 2014 Newsletter**

695 Elmwood Ave ∪ Buffalo, NY 14222

716-885-2136

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



**December 7, 10:30am**

***Rejoice, exult!-Dan Bassin and The UUCB Choir***

The UUCB Choir began the month with our annual December Music Sunday service. This year the Choir, Soloists, and Su Lee join forces with a chamber orchestra drawn from the ranks of the Buffalo Philharmonic to offer up a complete performance of JS Bach's "Christmas Oratorio, Part I." This special service marks the first time the Choir and Music Director Daniel Bassin will present a large-scale work by Bach, whose music has formed an important and cherished part of our church's musical traditions. We invite you to Rejoice, exult! Arise and glorify the days! with us in this magnificent music.



**December 14, 10:30am**

***Welcoming the Spiritual Hybrid – Making Home in the Wilderness***

It is no longer uncommon to be raised or formed by more than one culture, and to experience what has been called “spiritual envy”, growing from the appreciation of religious cultures not our own. But what if we discover within ourselves a sense of belonging in relation to more than one tradition?

**December 21, 10:30am**

***Season of Prophecy***

Grandmother Spider, Copper Woman, and the Virgin Mary- Do they have anything in common? We will explore cosmic and magical as well as earthly and political dimensions of the divine feminine through the lens of real lives

**December 24, 11:00pm - Christmas Eve**

***“Each night a child is born is a holy night.” - Sophia Fahs***

***Candle Light Service of Lullabies from Around the World, Readings, and Carols***

*"This is the night the stars left their habitual places and kindled wildfire tidings that spread faster than sound...In this night the lion spoke with deliberation, 'this is the end revolution'".*

Dorothee Soelle

*"Tell again the Christmas story:*

*Christ is born in all his glory!*

*Baby laid in manger dark*

*Lighting centuries with the spark*

*of innocence that is the Child*

*Trusting all within his smile."*

-- Langston Hughes

**December 28, 10:30am**

***Slow Down Sunday- Sue Frawley***

A peaceful easy mindful service designed to slow and savor the pace and energy of the holiday season. Families are encouraged to attend this child friendly service.



# THE INTERIM COMPASS

by Rev. Mary Hnottavange-Telleen

*Advent \* Festival of Lights \* Feast of Dedication \*  
Power of Darkness \* The Great Turning  
Light of the World \* Dance of the Spirit  
Child of God \* Day of Eternity  
Season of Joy!*



In coping with the realities of the changing seasons of our lives, with an inarticulate sense of loss, or with the sadness and strangeness of recognizing our unintended participation in the realities of injustice at home and abroad, we have all encountered a sense of personal and corporate powerlessness at various times. But now the seasons turn, and the time of the holidays - the Holy Days that coordinate with end of the calendar year 2014. Quietly expectation of a new year of possibility has already begun to grow in our hearts.

Joan Chittester, a Benedictine Abbess with a revolutionary heart wrote in her book *The Heart of Flesh* about the powerlessness we experience in life: *"Powerlessness is not an accident of life; it is a condition of it. There is meaning in powerlessness. There is relevance in dependency. Without it we might never grow into spiritual beings at all."* Also: *"Powerlessness binds the human race above and beyond all distinctions...the essential message of life is that we are not self-sufficient...powerlessness saves us from stultifying self-centeredness"*. Finally: *"Once we have assessed ourselves and found emptiness, where we affect strength, we become less judgmental, less harsh, less demanding of others. We learn that no one deserves to be quashed because they fail to be like us...It is a powerful thing, powerlessness."*

December is the month of primordial re-energizing in the Northern Hemisphere - passing through the zone of deepest darkness, womb of night, frozen life, a rite of purification, bearing a flame which grows brighter and brighter, catching from wick to wick, spirit kindling spirit...until the whole world glows, and Hope returns from dimness, to glimmer, to shining, to the dazzling brilliance of a newborn sun.

All the festivals of the mid-winter season address the concerns of the diminished spirit, blighted by ignorance, oppression, addiction, isolation, arrogance. All these festivals have a penitential and purification aspect to them, a meditative dimension which encourages us as individuals, and as a body, to look at the ways we have strayed from the true path of life and joy and fruitfulness, encompassing everything from the most intimate aspects of our lives and vocational commitments, to the ways we act together as a community.

The interplay of light and darkness, of joy and reflection set the spiritual tone. This is the honored season to think about how you are living. Is it as you truly wish to live? It is a time to consider the ways you connect to others dwelling on the Interdependent Web, and to consider your own energy flow. It is also the time of *turning* and the rebirth of an ever more radical hope for peace, for reaffirming the primary power of universal love, and for returning from the interior journey to accept a place at the table which has been set for you in the community of the whole world's history. This is the moment when Ancient and Infant kiss.

With Love and Warmest Wishes,  
Rev. Mary

# All On Board

by Phil Nicolai, UUCB Board of Trustees President

This past Sunday marked the formal end of our annual budget drive. I want to acknowledge the generosity of so many of you who have pledged. As I write this column, many have yet to return their pledge cards. Naturally, I wish that this wasn't the case because it makes it hard for us to realistically budget for this coming year. However, when we reviewed the pledge payments last week at the finance committee meeting, the year-to-date payments were right on target. This is encouraging because it means that the pledges that were made last year are being honored. If those of you who haven't returned your pledge cards yet send them in this month, we should be in a good position to meet our expenses this coming year.



I've heard the argument that the level of uncertainty during an interim period makes getting pledges more difficult. It's said that uncertainty can lead to inaction. However, the level of activity within our congregation belies that assertion. Although we've been hearing much about what we would like a new minister to bring to the congregation, it's important to recognize how much you, the members of the congregation, are already bringing to the church. We have many ongoing activities in our church that are supported by your high level of stewardship - in the time you commit, in the talents you share, and in the money you give.

Earlier this month we provided housing for a family of four in our religious education classrooms through the Family Promise program. They have now successfully found a new home to live in. This is a success story coming directly out our stewardship.

This coming month our covenant group members are focusing on either recommitting to their existing groups or joining a new group to explore what spirituality means in their lives. (This is also a great opportunity for members not involved in covenant groups to consider joining one.) The support we give each other in our groups energizes us for the work that we do for church and the greater community. I don't think I would be out of line to say that they are sources of inspiration that enrich our stewardship.

For the past several weeks our choir has been preparing for Music Sunday on December 7th. They will sing the first cantata from Bach's Christmas Oratorio. We have been given an opportunity to develop our talents under the able leadership of our music director, Daniel Bassin. What a joy for all of us to enjoy the beautiful music of our choir, accompanied by musicians from the Buffalo Philharmonic, in the great acoustic space of our sanctuary. Have you ever dreamed of singing music like this? Call Dan. There's room in the loft.

It is truly a honor for all of us to preserve and extend the bounty our spiritual forbearers here in Buffalo left to us. These examples and so many more are what stewardship is all about: gratefully receiving the gifts we've been given and preserving and enhancing them for future generations.

Thanks to all of you for the many ways you have been good stewards of our church and, if you haven't already done so, please return your pledge card with a pledge that will enable us to continue the fine work we've been doing.

# Leave A Legacy of Peace: A Faith Development Message for Adults

By, Sonja Jensen, CRE, Director of Lifespan Faith Development

December is a time for retrospectives about the past year and our lives in general. Lots of people prepare their top 10 lists on every subject under the sun. We assess how far we've come in the past year or even in our lives thus far.

As many of you know, I've recently taken some time to support my family through a crisis, there are many more miles ahead on this journey, and it has really gotten me thinking. When we are faced with the fragility of life, simple things take on greater meaning and others seem frivolous in comparison.

I know many of you think of me as the "Sunday School lady", but my role in the congregation is Lifespan Faith Development. The holidays can be fun, but they can also be hard on people, especially those in their later years. This column is written with the faith development needs of parents and older adults in mind. Here are some questions to ponder and suggestions to act upon this holiday season.



1. Think of how you have spent your time in the past year? Have you stayed in touch with family and friends that you love most? Have you spent real face time with them? Or, are you "meaning to get around to it?" If you have children at home, do you make time to actually listen to them and play? Or is every interaction a teaching or correcting time? If you have grown children, how has your relationship changed over the years? Tell your children what makes you proud.
2. "Peace on Earth, Good Will to All" is a lofty, but admirable, holiday sentiment. We may not be able to stop the wars in the Middle East, but we can start at home by learning to forgive and create healthier boundaries in our personal relationships. Are you holding on to grudges and petty wrongs with people that you love? What can you say or do to reconcile these relationships? Are you waiting for them to make the first move? How can you take action to bring peace back to your relationships and to your daily environment?
3. Think about the gifts you give this Christmas. Do you own your things? Or, do your things own you? Are you overwhelmed by possessions that demand cleaning, organizing, or maintenance, or just clutter up your space? Give yourself permission to begin slowly divesting yourself of the things that no longer bless you. This doesn't have to be a big project, just a weekly spiritual practice of letting things go. Maybe give some things as Christmas gifts that you planned to leave in your will. This way you will get to watch your family enjoy them.
4. Are you taking care of your health? Our bodies are resilient to a point. We can put off basic maintenance for a while with little consequences, but a long term pattern of this can lead to devastating effects that are difficult to reverse. Value yourself enough to invest in your long term health. If you've been putting off making a doctor's appointment, pick up the phone and do it today. Prioritize exercise and healthy eating. Keeping yourself healthy to enjoy your grandchildren is a greater gift that you may know.
5. Leave a legacy of ease. None of us want to think about a time when we are no longer here, but by putting together our legal papers, and having conversations with our families while we are healthy and well, we can ease the stress and pain on our families in times of crisis and loss. While you are healthy, and fully alive is the best time to prepare your health care proxies, trusts and wills, communicate your wishes, and advance directives. If you have young children it is important to designate who you would have care for them if you can't. While the holidays may not seem like a time to do this, it is a time when we often have extended visits where a conversation of substance can really happen face to face with loved ones. Take some notes this December and make an appointment with yourself to get the legal work done early in 2015. This holiday season, I wish you the peace of knowing that you are in good healthy relationships with your family and friends and that you have taken the time to care for yourself and make time for the people and things that matter most to you.

# UUCB Music Notes

by Dan Bassin, Music Director

December is always a wonderful month for music at UUCB, and this December is no exception! We begin the month with our superb Choir on display for our annual December Music Sunday, and of course the Choir contributions to our annual Christmas Eve service are a cherished tradition for congregation and choristers alike. In addition to their musical contributions to our regular and special holiday worship services this month, the Choir and UUCB Christmas Music Traditions will also be the focus of the Thursday, December 18th UUCB Women's Society Luncheon.

Sunday morning, December 7th officially begins the holiday season at UUCB – at least if our Choir and Johann Sebastian Bach have anything to say about it! While Bach composed his Christmas Oratorio (actually a series of six separate cantatas) for specific days of the Christmas Season, i.e. beginning Christmas Day, and following on the ensuing holidays of the Christian Calendar, we're taking just a bit of liturgical liberty by beginning the month of December with Part I of this majestic, splendid work. Beginning with a rousing choral number, *Jauchzet, frohlocket!* (Rejoice, exult!), complete with trumpets and drums – and two dozen other instrumentalists drawn from the ranks of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra – we can't think of a better way to share the joy of community, holiday celebrations, and also a musical return to the beloved tradition of Bach performances, here at our church.

Following our service on Sunday, December 14th the music will continue into our Parish Hall, when Director of Lifespan Faith Development, Sonja Jensen, leads a Cookie Exchange and Caroling event. We encourage you to bring your voices and a festive spirit, in addition to seasonal cookies and snacks. The caroling will continue that Thursday as members of our Choir and I share in performance of some of our favorite songs of the season, while also discussing the various Christmas music traditions at our church at the Women's Society Luncheon. This should make for an interesting and enjoyable half-way point between our Bach Christmas Music Sunday, and our musical offerings for this year's Christmas Eve service. Reverend Mary Hnottavange-Telleen has shared with me some beautiful and compelling pieces of music which will complement that service's treasured processional and candle-lit elements – I'm truly excited to share these with our Choir and each of you...but will resist sharing further details, so that these pieces remain the extraordinary musical Christmas gift to our Choir and each of you from our minister.

We look forward to sharing and celebrating with you all December long, as we lift-up our voices in celebration, in joy, and in community. Enjoy the music!





# Get on the Bus Gus, Make a New Plan Stan

by Christine Derby-Cuadrado, Membership Coordinator

My newest read has become a book recently released titled, “UNWELCOME: 50 Ways Churches Drive-Away First Time Visitors” by Jonathan Malm. I remember reading the title and thinking, “Really? Fifty?”



Then Paul Simon’s immortal tune, “Fifty Ways to Leave Your Lover,” began to sound in my head and I immediately bought the book wondering what all fifty were.

What caught my attention even more than the book was the competition they held along with the book release. The competition was: “Church Visitor Horror Stories- What’s your worst?” I was totally drawn in. The first prize horror story went to first-time visitors who witnessed the pastor getting fired right after the service and the bad-mouthing that ensued. Second place belonged to visitors who were asked to move by a congregant because they were in his “regular” seat. In third place was the couple who visited a church and felt they were stalked and held captive by an “over-welcoming” church.

I try to visit other churches and faiths to keep a fresh perspective of what it feels like to be a newcomer. I will admit I have experienced the last two situations frequently. I remember it felt incredibly unfriendly to be asked to move by an irate congregant because I sat in his “regular” seat. I have felt the huge creep-vibe from an over-zealous church hell-bent on not letting me out the front door unless I gave them my social security number, a copy of my tax return and my first child.

As the Membership Coordinator of the UUCB I have had people approach me with their horror stories. These were helpful to me to a certain degree by providing me with some direction. Be confident that the stories that were confided to me were not the top three winners of the competition related to the book.

After focusing on the negative, I feel a need to look at the positive. I invite you to share a time when you felt warmly welcomed here or while visiting another religious institution. What about it made you feel welcomed and invited?

Name: (optional)

Where did you feel welcomed?

Why were you there?

What made you feel welcomed?

Is it OK to share your story? Yes No

Please leave your completed copy at the Welcome Table. Thank you.



# News from the Ministerial Search Committee

Respectfully submitted by Rita Capezzi for Dave Batt, Gigi Helliwell, Richard Leimbach, Martha Malkiewicz, Juli Van Woert, and Steve Wixson

On November 16, we led our worship service, “Walking into Community,” celebrating our congregation and imagining how we might grow into our future with a new settled minister. We were so pleased to integrate our children into part of the service, as well as to have our dedicated RE teachers present. The choir got us up and on our feet, and moved our spirits as well with “Siyahamba,” “Lean on Me,” and other songs important in the traditions of this church. The service was very well-attended, and the Committee received many positive comments, including after service during our “talk back” session in the Alliance Room. At the session, the Committee discussed the status of the search, including what we are able to share and what must remain confidential. Rev. Mary was present to help explain this important process.



Just prior to Thanksgiving, we finalized our Congregational Record, the representative portrait of congregation that is posted by the UUA Transitions Office and available to ministers-in-search. The draft was reviewed by Rev. Craig Schwalenberg, our Ministerial Search Representative, and Interim Minister Rev. Mary. This month, we turn our attention to the Congregational Packet, detailed materials about the church and the neighborhood that will be shared with interested ministers-in-search later in the year. Once again, we express profound gratitude for the work done by the 2013 Search Committee. We anticipate using much of the information already gathered and prepared by last year’s committee.

Finally, we want to encourage all of you to make your pledge to the 2015 Budget Drive. Prospective ministers will consider the economic health of our church. When you make a financial commitment to the church, you demonstrate true stewardship and acknowledge that, as much as we might individually enjoy UUCB and the opportunity it affords each of us, the church has a higher purpose. Only if we take responsibility to fully fund this sacred place can we ensure that we will continue to have a place to develop our spirits so that we might serve the needs of the larger community of which we are a part.



Respectfully submitted by Rita Capezzi for Dave Batt, Gigi Helliwell, Richard Leimbach, Martha Malkiewicz, Juli Van Woert, and Steve Wixson

# DAN BASSIN and CHOIR AT WOMEN'S SOCIETY

## DECEMBER PROGRAM

On Thursday December 18, Dan Bassin and choir will perform holiday favorites to regale us all. Make your reservation for what surely will be a delightful afternoon

We will convene at 11 A.M. for fellowship, appetizers and beverages including wine. At 11:30 the performance will start. Then at 12:30 a special holiday catered lunch will be served.

The fee for the lunch is \$15. if paid in advance and \$17. if paid at the door. Reservations can be made in the parish hall on Sunday December 7 and on Sunday December 14 or at Josettepc50@gmail.com. Payment can be mailed to the church labeled, Attention: Josh Layton. Make your check payable to the UUCB and on the memo line write, Women's Society Program. WE HAVE A NEW POLICY: You can continue to pay on the Sundays in person, but if you are mailing in your payment your check must be received in the office by FRIDAY DECEMBER 12 or else payment will be \$17. at the door. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

FOOD DRIVE: The Women's Society is asking for donations for the Food Drive. The selected items for the month of December are hearty canned soups. NOTE: Due to the weather related cancellation of our November program if you have already purchased pasta and sauce items, they will gladly be accepted along with the canned soups.

## *Covenant Groups*

### Covenant Group Program News

Changes are on the way in our UUCB Covenant Group Program. In late January 2015, an “open enrollment” period will be offered. For those who are currently members of a covenant group, you will have three options. After personal reflection and discussion with your group members, you may decide to either stay with your current group, commit to a new group, or consider a break from active participation. In preparation for this decision, your group facilitator(s) will be engaging you in the discussion topic of “Recommitment” in either your December or January covenant group session.

If you choose to recommit to your current group, a spot for you will be guaranteed. If you would like to explore the opportunity to develop deeper relationships with other congregants with whom you have not been in group, you can ask to be placed in another group. You will be provided with information about meeting dates and times, so you can indicate preferences. If you choose to take a break, you are welcome to re-join your current group or another group at any time in the future. None of these choices are permanent. If this works as well as expected, we hope to repeat this process again next year.

If you are not currently in a group, but are considering this, an Orientation for prospective members will be held in January. Watch for announcements. For more information, you are encouraged to talk with your covenant group facilitator or, if you prefer, you are welcome to contact the Covenant Group Facilitators steering committee, through Beryl Smith at beryljeanne@hotmail.com.



## We Want Your Access and Inclusion Suggestions!

It's hard to change what you don't know about. Over the past year, the Access and Inclusion Ministry Team (UAIM) has been actively seeking out information about the effect our facilities and behaviors have on welcoming and meeting the needs of people with disabilities.

We're not done yet. Our church community is a dynamic environment that changes all the time. That's why we are encouraging anyone who enters our church to share their observations and suggestions on ways to make the UUCB a more welcoming environment for people with disabilities. If you think you see something that should change in the building or behaviors, please let us know.



There are suggestions forms in the literature racks at both doors, at the welcome table, and from the ushers. Just drop the completed form in the church mailbox across from the office. You can also email your suggestions to the [uaim@buffalouu.org](mailto:uaim@buffalouu.org). Your name and contact information on the form or the email are essential so that UAIM can follow up if there are questions. Please, use the forms and email address only for suggestions pertaining to welcoming and meeting the needs of people with disabilities and not general church suggestions.

### **GREAT NEWS: MORE UUCB VOLUNTEERS TO APPRECIATE! Lifespan Faith Development to join UUCB Volunteer of the Year Celebration in 2015.**

We're looking forward to our biggest celebration ever, when we hold our combined LFD/UUCB Volunteer of the Year service in March. We plan to honor those wonderful people who raise their hands and say 'yes, I will' to meet needs, to move things forward, to do the things that need to be done in and for UUCB.

In past years, Volunteer Appreciation Sunday has honored individuals or groups as a church-wide Volunteer of the Year, while the Religious Education folks had a separate program singling out one RE Person of the Year. But we are one church family, and in acknowledgement of that reality, we are combining the two programs, and awarding special recognition in three categories: UUCB Volunteer of the Year; UUCB Faith Development Person of the Year; and – new for 2015 – Child or Youth Volunteer of the Year.

The UUCB **Volunteer of the Year** may be an individual or a group (Team), who has made a significant contribution of service to the church.

The LFD **Person of the Year** may be a teacher, advisor, teaching team, Souper Sunday volunteer, Faith Development Team member, or other volunteer who has had a significant impact on the growth or quality of the program, or on the experience of program participants.

The **Child or Youth Volunteer** should exemplify the values of Unitarian Universalism in their service to UUCB, the larger Buffalo community, or global causes.

So look around you, make a note of those you think may deserve special recognition, and say 'thank you!' Be ready when we call for nominations from you for each of these categories. When the nominations are in, we'll ask you to choose the 'best of the best.' And then, we'll have a grand Celebration!

– Lifespan Faith Development & Celebrations Teams

# Sharing the December Plate with The Western New York Peace Center



In keeping with our mission to create a more just and compassionate world, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo shares our weekly collection plate with a local agency, living out our generosity in the Buffalo community. The December Share the Plate recipient will be the Western New York Peace Center. Founded in 1967 the Western New York Peace Center works for peace and justice at home and abroad. Through five different task forces they bring their words to action.

The five task forces are; the War Resisters Support Network, the Latin American Solidarity Committee, the Prison Action Committee and Anti-Fracking. Through such events as a panel discussion at the Buffalo Law School on the relevance of Martin Luther King and Ghandi to recognize the International Day on Non-Violence and “Let’s Funk not Frack Open Mic Night” at the Gypsy Parlor to bring awareness about the threats hydraulic fracturing poses to New Yorkers the Peace Center seeks to educate and bring change to the many Social Justice issues facing our community and the world

In the Share-the-Plate program, the church donates half the unrestricted donations made during each Sunday's offertory to a designated charity or organization identified by the Social Justice Task Force under policies formulated by the Board of Trustees. Recipients of the UUCB Share-the- Plate program must be either a 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 non-profit organization, and they must do work that is consistent with Unitarian Universalist principles. Any member of the congregation may nominate a recipient organization through the UUCB Social Justice Task Force.

Pledge payments may still be placed in the collection plate, either in a donation envelope or clearly marked “pledge” in the memo line. All undesignated cash goes to Share the Plate. If you wish to donate to Share the Plate by check, or with cash in an envelope, please note “Share the Plate” or just “Share” in the memo line or on the envelope. Envelopes are available from the ushers.

Ongoing efforts by the Social Justice Task force are the collection of non-perishable food donations for the Network of Religious Communities as well as recycling of old cell phones and printer cartridges. Donations can be left in the baskets at both entrances to the sanctuary. The next meeting of the Social Justice Task Force will be December 14, 2014.



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## The UU Church of Buffalo Staff

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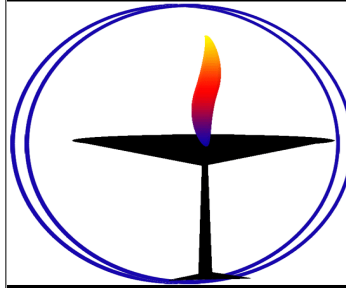
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716-838-1255  
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## Happening at the UUCB

### UUCB Yarnbusters

An open knitting group; not for knitters only. Church membership not required. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month in the Women's Lounge from approximately 6:30 to 8 "or so." Can't make it at 6:30? That's okay. This is not a meeting, drop in when you can. So... Grab your sticks, hooks or needles and join us on Tuesday, December 9 and 23th. For more information email me, Sharon Walker, at [sharonw447@gmail.com](mailto:sharonw447@gmail.com).



### Pulpit Flower Ministry

December is a wonderful time of year to remember the people and events that have added meaning to our lives in the past as well as the present, and to consider the possibility of paying tribute to them through our flower ministry. There are some Sundays that are still available in 2015. If you would like more information about participating in our ministry, please stop by the flower table after the service on Sunday, email us at [pulpitflowers@buffalouu.org](mailto:pulpitflowers@buffalouu.org), or call us at 716-885-2136 ext.4.



## Fun and Fellowship Auction news

It's almost auction time!  
January 18, 2015 marks the biggest fun(d)raiser of the year.

We are seeking donations and help with this year's fun and fellowship auction. Can you offer a donations - social events of all kinds are extremely popular - picnics, dinners, cocktail parties, chocolate tasting, wine tasting...? Or perhaps you could teach a skill - jam making, ballroom dancing. It doesn't have to be fancy or exotic - people at UUCB here just love to get together!

Do you want to help but not commit to an event? There are opportunities to assist with auction events or with the auction itself.

And everyone can bid! There will be no registration fee so we hope EVERYONE will check out the auction offerings before and after church on January 18.

Questions? Ideas? Donations? Contact [mariatesta@roadrunner.com](mailto:mariatesta@roadrunner.com)

## Books Glorious Books

The Annual Women's Society Book Sale is scheduled for February 2015 and that seems like a long



time in coming. However, life being what it is. And time tending to fly by. This is a reminder that if you plan to donate books, how about bringing them sooner rather than later. That would be a big help to our intrepid sorters. Books may be placed in the area near the stairs at the Elmwood entrance. If you have large amounts and you want to bring them during the week, please call ahead to make sure someone is available to let you into the building. If you have any questions please contact Barbara Kloberdanz at [bklober@aol.com](mailto:bklober@aol.com) and of course, many thanks.



## "DO YOU HEAR THE PEOPLE SING?" -- A CELEBRATION OF FOLK MUSIC

### Michael Harris, Instructor

What is 'Folk Music'? Is it music of the 'common people', the lower classes, or does it belong to all social strata? Is it rural or urban music? Is it local music or is it national? Is it an oral tradition passed from person to person, or is it formally composed? We'll talk about all these issues in this survey of leading figures in the folk movement: song 'catchers' like Cecil Sharp, Charles Seeger and Alan Lomax; folk-influenced composers like Ralph Vaughan Williams, Bela Bartok and Aaron Copland; and notable folk troubadours like Woody Guthrie, Josh White, Harry Belafonte, Joan Baez and Bob Dylan. In the words of Louis Armstrong: "All music is folk music. I ain't never heard a horse sing a song!"

Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Alliance Room; 13 sessions starting on January 7, 2015. Registration cost: \$75 for the full course, or \$10 per session. If paying by check, please make it payable to UUCB.

