

# The UU Church of Buffalo



*Gather*

*Inspire*

*Transform*

April 2017 Newsletter

695 Elmwood Ave . Buffalo, NY 14222

716-885-2136 [www.buffalouu.org](http://www.buffalouu.org)



## Faith Matters: Spring into the Present!

Rev. Joan Montagnes

**I got caught in the great March blizzard of 2017.** Just as the first flakes began to float down from the heavens, I left Toronto and headed into the heart of the beast. It usually takes me about two hours to make the trip around the tips of the lakes back to Buffalo. By Hour Three I was getting visibly frustrated. By Hour Four I was getting desperate, wondering if I was trapped on a snowy mobius strip. By Hour Six I was getting close to weepy and could think of little else than wishing I was home in my snuggly bed with a hot cup of cocoa and I never wanted to leave home again. The only parts of me that were present then and there were my white-knuckled hands on the steering wheel and my very bleary eyes.

**But something strange happened when I finally got over the Peace Bridge** and left the highway. The snow was deeper on the roads. I had less control of the car. It swerved from side to side in the deep ruts and fishtailed around curves. That wasn't so strange, what was odd was that as soon as I turned onto Busti Avenue, I started enjoying myself. Although I was no less exhausted, what changed was that I entered the moment; fully present to every turn of wheel and



depression of the pedal, fully aware of other cars, traffic signals, and the winter wonderland Buffalo had become. As much as I wanted to get home and into my warm jammies, I was having fun getting there. **I was in the "Here and Now" instead of the "When will it ever be over?"**

**Life is short.** We can spend a lot of it in the dismal, misery of regretting the past and wringing our hands

about the future. Or we can create a better present by being present.

**Spring is just about the best season to be in the present moment.** You can practically see, smell, touch and hear the earth bursting open after winter's death. Gaudy flowers, flirtatious birds, warm breezes, and that funky scent of thawing earth. It's like life is wildly

waving colorful flags in our faces saying "Look at me! Look at me! I am alive!"

**Nature is alive and so are you.** Learn from the past. Plan the future. Stay on the path. Be here and now so you can have fun where ever you are going.

**Yours in faith and affection, Rev. Joan Montagnes**



## Joys and Sorrows



**Congratulations go to Stephanie Cole Adams who was recently recognized with an award** from the West Side Community Center for remarkable innovation and tireless leadership in reclaiming Massachusetts Avenue Park through such fun, free initiatives such as "Blanket the Park."

**We rejoice with Jackie & Ryan Knowles** who are expecting a baby in August.

**We send healing thoughts to Tim Ashton** who had hip replacement surgery recently.

**And we wish Bobby Baker a speedy and uneventful recovery.** Bobby had knee replacement surgery on March 13.



## Pulpit Previews

**April Worship Theme: Here and Now**



**This month, in all our ministries, we try to be in the Here and Now**



**“Not the Last Supper”**  
**Potluck and Maundy Thursday Service**  
**April 13, 6:00 pm**

**Join us for a short service** as we follow Jesus’ holiday adventures in Jerusalem. His lead-up to Easter morning. Sympathize as he goes from superstar to criminal in three short days. We’ll have a “Not the Last Supper” potluck dinner after the service – because in our church, no matter what happens, there will always be one more potluck.

**April 2 “Strawberry Moments”** Rev. Joan Montagnes

When the past is full of monsters, the future is equally terrifying, and the today is fleeting, the most precious moment may be right now. Don’t miss the sweetness.

**April 9 “Just Do It”** Rev. Joan Montagnes

It’s Volunteer Appreciation Sunday! You are the ones who show up. You do what need to be done for the greater good. That is the holy work of the world. Come and be celebrated! Remember, they also serve who sit and listen.

**April 13 “Maundy Thursday” 6:00 pm** Rev. Joan Montagnes

Enjoy Easter more. Easter is always a sunny way to celebrate spring. But the holiday really “pops” when you also feel the death that is defeated by Love. This short service will celebrate the passion before rebirth. There will be a potluck “Not Last Supper” to follow.

**April 16 “Rise Up! Rise Up!”** Rev. Joan Montagnes

***“Show your power. We’re dancing into the sun. It’s time for celebration. Spirit’s time has come.”***

These are the lyrics to Parachute Club’s 1983 “Rise Up”, a pop tune that just sings “Easter!” to me.

(<https://vimeo.com/10022924>) It is definitely time to shake off the chill that’s been keeping us down and Rise Up!

**April 23 “Verdant Song”** Spring Music Sunday Service

Dr. Daniel Bassin will conduct the UUCB Choir, Su Lee, a sextet of accompanists, and dancers, in mystical and celebratory music by Abbess Hildegard von Bingen, Lili Boulanger, Buffalo’s Julius Eastman, and Aaron Copland.

**April 30 “Be Here and Now”** Rev. Joan Montagnes

A meditative time together for reflection and prayer in the present moment. Finding the Holy in words, music, and silence.





## Hear and Now

Sarah Martin, Director of Religious Education

**As I write this, the mid-March blizzard is in full swing, and it's hard to imagine the "Here and Now" of April at all.** I consider that in two months, I may be wearing sandals to work, instead of heavy snow boots, and navigating Elmwood Avenue more easily. But for the moment, that is not the here and now that I know. This month, I'd like to share a little story about the wonderful opportunity I've been given to experience the here and now each week.

**One of my children is participating in a program on Wednesday evenings.**

This program lasts for an hour, and is across town, so after drop off I head to the Tim Hortons next door and wait. Usually with a cup of hot tea, sometimes with a sandwich, and always with my laptop. Lately, I've been writing our weekly Religious Education emails from Tim Hortons.

**Sitting in a public place, I become privy to the conversations around me.** Especially the loud ones. Several weeks back, I started taking note of two gentlemen who spend this same hour at this same Tim Hortons. I gathered that they knew each other well enough to inquire about each other's lives, and it quickly became clear that they did not share the same politics. The first week, when a political issue arose, there was clear moment of discomfort, followed by twenty minutes of silence. After that, the two men reengaged in a much safer discussion about movies and long-cancelled television shows.

**The following week,** they only discussed movies.



**But the third week, something different happened.**

The more progressive of the two had clearly prepared to bring up politics again. This time he came armed with facts and references and specific examples. He started the conversation with a simple question, and his companion began to argue. The two men went back and forth, politely but tensely delving into the subject. It seemed like they were never going to find common footing, and that it was bound to end badly.

**And then something remarkable happened.** The more conservative man of the pair suddenly said, "Now that's something I agree with!"

**I don't remember the exact point in the conversation** when he said it, but it doesn't really matter. What matters is in that moment those two men – fully engaged and present in a conversation that had them on opposing sides – were able to hear each other clearly enough to find the piece of the puzzle that fit into both their arguments. The thing that makes them more alike than different.

# April 23 Spring Music Sunday Service

## “Verdant Song”

Daniel Bassin, Music Director



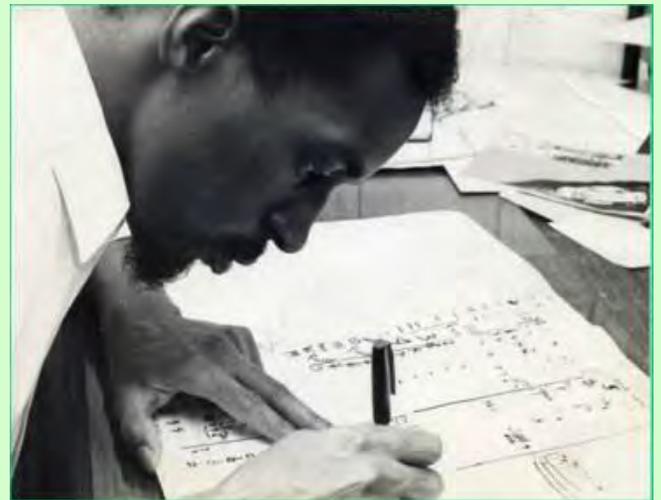
**Spring has sprung, and, for those of us in the UUCB Choir, spring means Spring Music Sunday!** A focal point of ‘Choir Season,’ Music Sunday services give us the opportunity to gather together for the joy of music, experiencing music-performance as a devotional, community gift, as we share in the rich fulfillment of music-as-worship. Again on the Sunday-after-Easter, our April 23<sup>rd</sup> Music Sunday Service, “Verdant Song” celebrates nearly 1,000 years of great choral music reflecting on our monthly theme for April, the *Here and Now*.

**While our choral selections do reach back nearly a millennium, most of the masterworks we’ll share on April 23 were composed in the 20th Century,** with two of our featured composers having strong Buffalo ties. The centerpiece of our “Verdant Song” service is the great **Aaron Copland’s mid-century choral masterwork, “In the Beginning”**. This setting of the first two chapters of the book of Genesis was originally written for a 1947 Harvard “Symposium” concert, led by the eminent choral conductor, Robert Shaw. Ten years later, Copland would accept an invitation from Frederick Slee to become the first-ever Slee Visiting Professor in Music at UB.



**Had Copland returned to Buffalo just a few years later, he would have been amazed** by the hotbed of cutting-edge music and arts that had flourished in our area in the form

of the Center of the Creative and Performing Arts, which had formed in the early to mid 60’s at UB. Among the “Creative Associates” – a group of leading performers, composers, and interdisciplinary artists whose mark can still be felt on the Buffalo arts scene – a recent graduate of Philadelphia’s Curtis Institute of Music with a commanding baritone voice, prodigious talents at the keyboards, proved to be a powerfully-progressive composer for the group. His name was Julius Eastman.



**Julius Eastman grew up in Ithaca, and had early successes in New York City** following his Curtis graduation. Composer/conductor, Lucas Foss, then Music Director of the Buffalo Philharmonia Orchestra, persuaded Eastman to come to Buffalo and become a Creative Associate. Two of his works we’ll perform as part of Music Sunday come from this period: **his upbeat, pop-meets-minimalism anthem, “Stay On It”**; and his ethereal graphic score, drawn in the shape of the famous belly of the **“Buddha”**.

The third work of Eastman’s we’ll feature, does not, however, come from this bright period of creative groundbreaking. Rather, it is very likely Eastman’s final surviving score – **a deeply-focused, sincere, and occasionally desperate “Our Father”** for tenors and basses. You see, Eastman was *Here*, and while he isn’t here *Now*, his flame burned brightly during a period many in our area still fondly recall. Tragically, as these epochal centers of creativity gave way to the grim realities of recession and

draconian cuts to arts funding, Eastman grew uneasy with what he felt to be lacking in his career. He moved back to New York City just in time for the crack epidemic, and self-medicated himself throughout evictions wherein countless manuscripts were lost, and career-sustaining bridges were burned.

**He died back here in Buffalo, in Millard Fillmore Hospital, of heart failure, aged only 49.** Composer and musicologist Kyle Gann (whose *“Transcendental Sonnets”* we performed in its Buffalo premiere as part of our Barbara Wagner Tribute Fund kick-off performances in early 2014) was the one to finally break the news of Eastman’s tragic death in his Village Voice column, writing some eight months after his friend’s tragic end.



**Finally, our “Verdant Song” will include pieces by two genius composers** whose careers were separated by some eight-hundred years. **Lili Boulanger** (1893-1918) and **Hildegard von Bingen** (1098-1179) might be said to have very little in common, beyond being women, being Catholics, and being composers, but, their particular geniuses were inextricably linked to these threefold markers of identity. Hildegard, a prolific writer and composer, was a 12th Century nun who defied so many conventions. She not only had the temerity to speak of divine visions she experienced, but she also wrote them

down, to be shared throughout European Christendom, alongside her works on herbal medicine and mysticism. Her musical works include a morality play which is so forward-looking it is an opera in everything but name, some four centuries before the form began to flourish. **We will feature a song from her *Symphony of the Harmony of Celestial Revelations*, “O viridissima virga” (“O branch of freshest green”)** for our sopranos and altos.



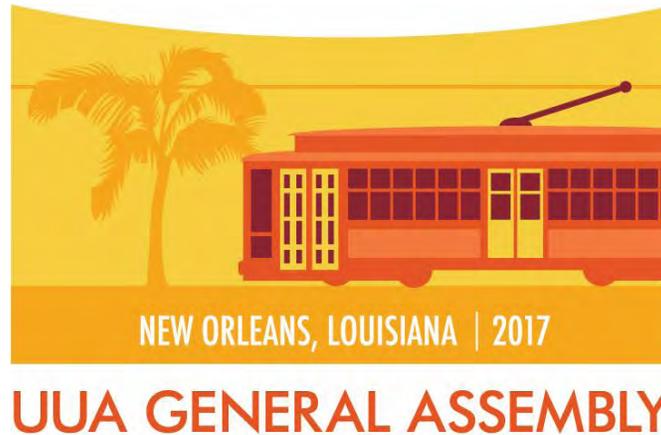
**Finally, the service will begin with an orchestration of a work by the first woman ever to win the *Prix de Rome* – Europe’s most famous composition competition. Lili Boulanger’s work probably survives due to the long career of her surviving sister, Nadia (1887-1979).** Nadia Boulanger became the most important composition and music teacher of the early 20th Century, teaching, among others, Aaron Copland, Virgil Thomson, Astor Piazzolla, Philip Glass and Quincy Jones! Tragically, Lili, the younger sister lived only into her 24th year. A lifelong survivor of chronic illnesses, Lili’s weakened immune system would give out only five years after her Rome Prize success. Thankfully, her dedication to her musical craft has left us with several powerful psalm settings which followed her Prix de Rome-winning composition, *Faust and Helen*, and also the imaginative *“Hymne au soleil” (Hymn to the Sun)* which will act as our service’s ‘musical centering’.

**We look forward to sharing this crowning jewel of our Choir Season with you later in April, but don’t think for a second that’s where the music begins and ends this month!** As we begin with Rev. Montagnes’s *Strawberry Moments* service, you can expect to hear a certain classic by The Beatles. Also, in addition to our customarily-musical **Easter Sunday service on April 16**, there will be a **special 6:00 pm service on Maundy Thursday**, leading up to the Easter holiday. Finally, please be sure to check your weekly bulletins for special music features throughout the month, as well as specifics on our weekly Choir, soloist, instrumental, and guest artists’ musical contribution to each Sunday service.

# Beyond the Hedge

## Denomination and Interfaith Connections

Sharon Walker



Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, 900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130

### What's happening this year?

**Election of new UUA President: For the first time in our UU history we will have a woman president**

**Democracy is a core value of our faith.** In June, delegates will vote in New Orleans for our next UUA President and open Board and Committee positions. Delegates may vote at General Assembly or absentee. Our presidential candidates for 2017 are the Rev. Alison Miller, the Rev. Jeanne Pupke, and the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray at the UU Ministers. More information on the candidates to follow.

### 2017 Ware Lecturer – Bryan Stevenson

*Since 1922, the Ware Lecture has been a centerpiece at the annual national Unitarian assembly, and then at the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly. Past Ware Lecturers include the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Saul Alinski, Kurt Vonnegut and May Sarton.*

**Bryan Stevenson is the founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) in Montgomery, Alabama.** Mr. Stevenson is a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated and the condemned. Under his leadership, EJI has won major legal challenges in eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, exonerating innocent death row prisoners, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill, and aiding children prosecuted as adults. He is the recent author of the critically acclaimed New York Times bestseller and 2015-2016 UUA common read, *“Just Mercy”*, which was named by Time Magazine as one of the 10 best books of nonfiction for 2014 and has been awarded several honors, including the Carnegie Medal by the American Library Association for the best nonfiction book of 2014, and a 2015 NAACP Image Award.

**For complete information please go to the GA webpage:** [www.uua.org/ga](http://www.uua.org/ga).  
On- and off-site participation as well as scholarship opportunities are available.  
Anyone may attend.



## Racial Justice Ministry Team

### “Each Day a Gift”

Barbara Kloberdanz

**We are reminded regularly that for our own personal mental health we should live in the moment.** This is a method proposed to avoid unnecessary anxiety and worry and allow us to be in a calm and contented place. For many of us these days this is increasingly difficult. I offer the thought that we can have knowledge of both our history and important goals for our future and yet live here and now and take joy in the daily accomplishments that give us peace at the end of each day.

**A few years ago our congregation participated in an intensive workshop** that was called “Appreciative Inquiry.” During these sessions we learned about listening deeply to one another.

**This is a practice that we can continue as we live in the here and now.** Remembering that the hardest things to change are attitudes, we can keep our eyes and ears open and respond appropriately and without anger to opinions with which we disagree.

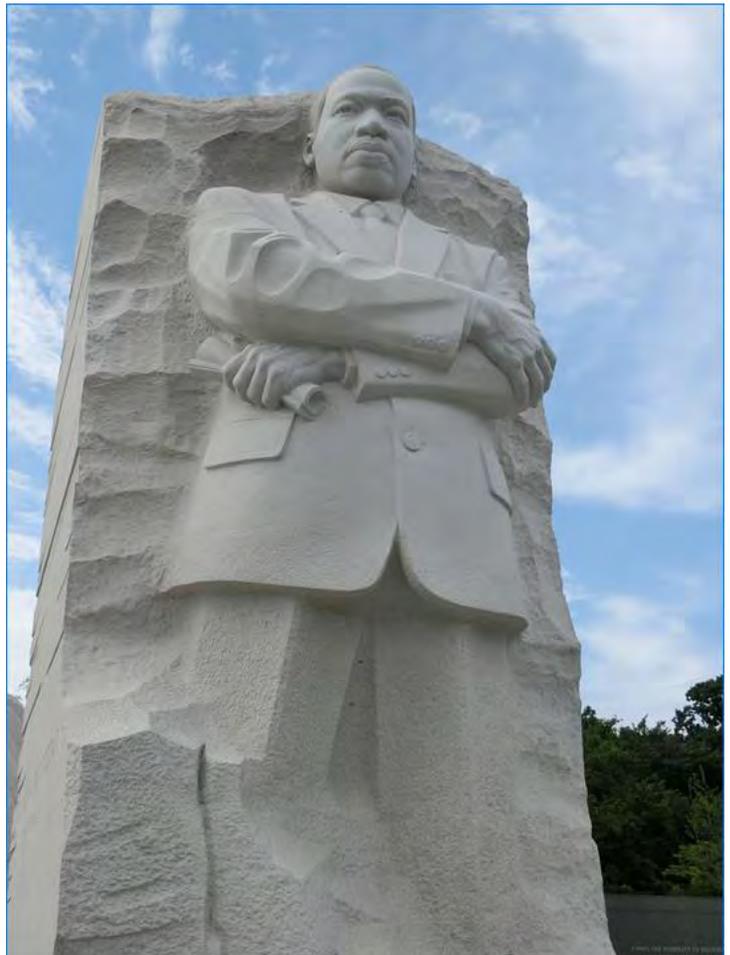
**As members of the Racial Justice Ministry Team we are working to bring more awareness of these important** issues to our community both inside our congregation and out in the greater area. As Rev. Joan reminds us each week, we are not alone. We are learning to be persistent and to use our days wisely as we work towards our goals. Each day is a gift for us to use in conversation with one another. Working together helps us to lean on each other for the strength that we need to keep going right now – in the Here and Now.

**Thanks to Sharon Walker, there will be a Unitarian Universalist Association Western New York Cluster event on Saturday, May 13, for viewing of the movie “13th”.** There will be lunch and childcare available and after lunch a discussion of the movie.

**Our contact at the national Unitarian Universalist Association, Rev. Renee Ruchotzke,** Central East Region’s Congregational Life Consultant, will be with us and notice of this event is being shared throughout the cluster. This should be a good opportunity for fellowship.

**In the meantime,** here’s something to think and talk about with each other – we have a goal of displaying a “Black Lives Matter” banner here at UUCB.

**Here and Now – be thankful for each day and the opportunity to work for our values.** Please join us as you are willing and able.





## WNY Unitarian Universalist Cluster Event



13TH

Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo  
695 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo NY 14222  
Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>; 9:30 am to 2:00 pm.

The Racial Justice Ministry and Denomination and Interfaith Connections teams of the UU Church of Buffalo will be hosting a showing and discussion of the Oscar-nominated documentary *13th* by Ava DuVernay; a film that takes an in-depth look at the historical and social connection between slavery and our American prison system.

Check-in at 9:30 am, film at 10:00 am, followed by a luncheon at noon and afternoon discussion.

Pre-registration required - \$8.00 at the door to cover snacks and lunch

Register online at: <https://goo.gl/forms/VlfYL7M0fb9DGoG13>

Registration Deadline: Monday, May 8

Need Childcare? Registration Deadline: Friday, May 5

Suggested donation for Childcare \$5/child, \$10/family

# What Is Universal Design & Why Is It Important At UUCB?

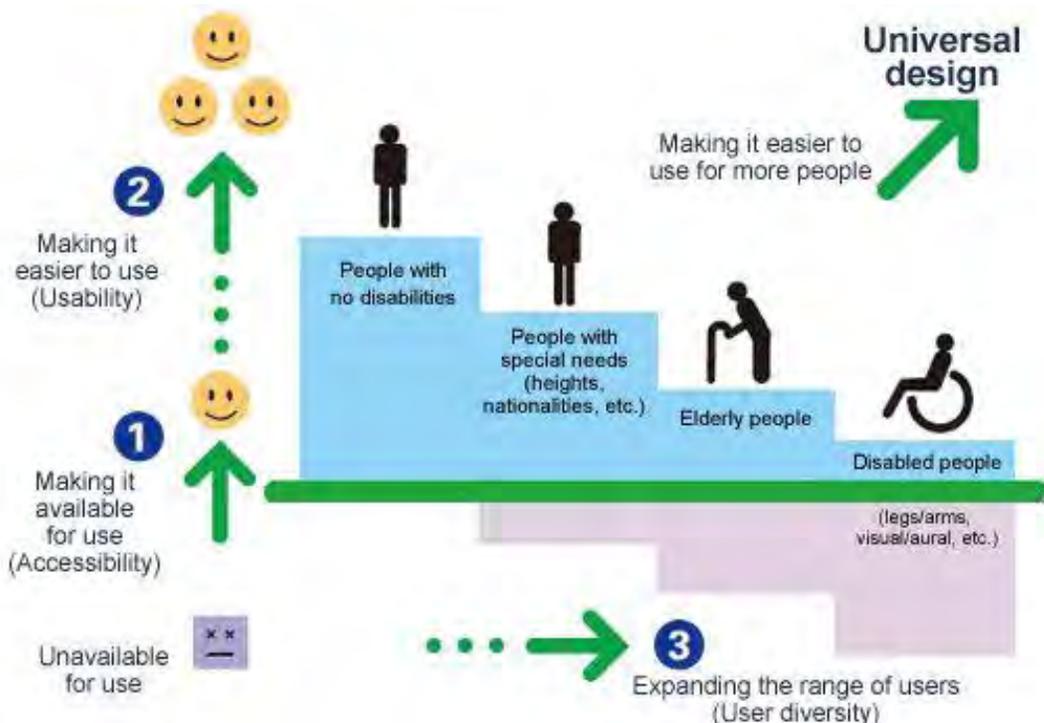
## UUCB Access and Inclusion Ministry

**How is Universal Design (UD) relevant to the UUCB?** Universal Design is about designing buildings, products, programs, digital technologies, and community spaces in a way that most people are able to participate without the need for individualized accommodation. By including many different individuals Universal Design promotes a welcoming environment that assumes that all individuals are important and contribute to our church community. The UUCB Access and Inclusion Ministry (UAIM) believes that Universal Design is an important aspect of social justice and should be considered in all aspects of the UUCB.

**What are some UD examples past, present and future?** I'm sure many people don't think of the Garden Entrance as UD but we could have ramped the Ferry street doors instead; what big difference in how that would feel. UAIM asked Josh to print the order of service for February 26 on yellow paper. It won't make a difference for many but could make some feel much more included. We want to make the UUCB website accessible to screen readers, and make sure folks can increase the font if that makes it more accessible. The pew cuts in the sanctuary are UD, creating space for people who use wheelchairs and strollers to sit and be comfortable.

**The UAIM is excited to get people thinking about UD when they plan activities, physical changes to our beautiful church, and how we welcome and include everyone in our church community.** We have a list of things we are working on and will be updating you from time to time. We look forward to working with all of you and welcome your suggestions (suggestion box in the church hall).

**You are all welcome to the UAIM meetings on the second Wednesday of the month, April 12, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, in the Parish Hall.**



## Wednesday Mornings with Michael

Michael Harris, Instructor

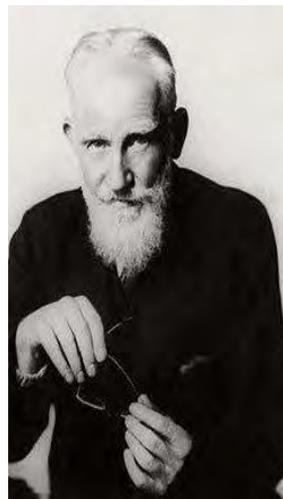
### **“There’ll Be Some Changes Made!” A Preview of the 2017 Shaw Festival**

12 sessions in the UUCB Alliance Room

Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:30 am, from May 2 to July 26

Registration: \$75 or \$10 per session

For more information or to register call the Church Office at 885-2136



HE KNOWS  
NOTHING; AND  
HE THINKS HE  
KNOWS  
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THAT POINTS  
CLEARLY TO A  
POLITICAL  
CAREER.  
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

New Shaw Festival Artistic Director Tim Carroll says that “I believe in theatre that’s unpredictable, that’s different every night – that talks with you, not at you.”

This fresh, bracing attitude should make the 2017 Shaw Festival like no other, and this course will cover it all. Along with its expected Bernard Shaw productions (“**Saint Joan**” and “**Androcles and the Lion**”) and its big, lavish musical (“**Me and My Girl**”), the accent will be on new work: modern masterpieces like “**The Madness of King George**” by Alan Bennett and “**Dancing at Lughnasa**” by Brian Friel, as well as revisionist takes on “**Dracula**”, tales of Oscar Wilde, “**Our Town**”, and Dion Boucicault’s “**The Octoroon**”. And to celebrate Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> birthday will be two plays ripped from Canadian history: Rick Salutin’s “**1837: The Farmer’s Revolt**” and Michael Healey’s “**1979**”. With promises of active audience participation and surprising ‘Secret Theatre’ events popping up all over Niagara-on-the-Lake, you’d best follow Mr. Carroll’s advice to “Fasten your seatbelts!”

### **::Week-by-Week Syllabus::**

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Session One (May 3):</b>      | Exit Maxwell, Enter Carrol – A Shaw Festival Turning Point  |
| <b>Session Two (May 10):</b>     | Joan of Arc among the Literati – <b>Saint Joan</b> , by George Bernard Shaw   |
| <b>Session Three (May 17):</b>   | Sovereignty and Insanity – <b>The Madness of King George</b> , by Alan Bennett  |
| <b>Session Four (May 24):</b>    | The English Class System in Song and Dance – <b>Me and My Girl</b> , music by Noel Gay, book and lyrics by Douglas Furber and L. Arthur Rose                  |
| <b>Session Five (May 31):</b>    | Canadian Content, Part One – <b>1837: The Farmer’s Revolt</b> , by Rick Salutin   |
| <b>Session Six (June 7):</b>     | Canadian Content, Part Two – <b>1979</b> , by Michael Healey  |
| <b>Session Seven (June 14):</b>  | Irish Memory Play – <b>Dancing at Lughnasa</b> , by Brian Friel   |
| <b>Session Eight (June 21):</b>  | Christians (and G.B.S.) in the Arena – <b>Androcles and the Lion</b> , by Bernard Shaw  |
| <b>Session Nine (June 28):</b>   | Oscar Spins a Story – <b>Wilde Tales</b> , Oscar Wilde stories adapted by Kate Hennig   |
| <b>NO CLASS ON JULY 5!</b>       |   |
| <b>Session Ten (July 12):</b>    | A Feminist View of the Count – <b>Dracula</b> , by Bram Stoker; adapted by Liz Lochhead   |
| <b>Session Eleven (July 19):</b> | Conversing with the 19 <sup>th</sup> Century on Race – <b>An Octoroon</b> , by Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins, adapted from Dion Boucicault’s “ <i>The Octoroon</i> ” |
| <b>Session Twelve (July 26):</b> | An “Our Town” for the 21st Century – <b>Middletown</b> , by Will Eno  |

# Women's Society Program and Luncheon

April 20, 11:30 am

**"Give Her of the Fruit of Her Hands: The Women's Suffrage Centennial in Buffalo"**

**Speaker: Melissa Brown, Executive Director, Buffalo History Museum**



**Ms. Brown will enthrall us** with an account of how Buffalo women struggled for the right to vote.

**Light refreshments at 11:00 am** will precede Ms. Brown's talk.

**Lunch and dessert will be served following her talk.**

Cost of the lunch is \$15 for Women's Society members and \$20 for non-members. The talk alone is free for members and \$5 for non-members. Reservations may be made and paid for after Sunday services. Mailed payments for the luncheon must be received in the Church Office by Friday, April 14.



**Mary Morris Burnett Talbert (1866-1923)**

Buffalo and national suffragette leader, educator, feminist, national director of NAACP's Anti-Lynching Campaign, first African-American delegate to the International Council of Women



## UUCB Women's Society Book Sale



April 22 & 23 and 29 & 30  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Moving? Downsizing? Sick of double stacking your bookshelves? If yes, then it's time to prune your library and donate your excess** hardcover and paperback books to the upcoming Book Sale. Adult, young adult, and children's books are wanted for the sale. Also, we'd like audio-books, sheet music, and puzzles. Sorry - we cannot accept recorded music in any format, encyclopedias, or textbooks.

**Please leave your donated materials at either the Garden Entrance or at the side of the steps inside of the Elmwood Avenue entrance.** The last day that we can accept materials is Sunday, April 16. All proceeds from the Book Sale support the work of our church.

## Family Promise Host Week April 14 – 21



**Four times a year, our church hosts families who are without a home.** While Family Promise is helping the families find a new place to live, we provide food and shelter for up to three families or 14 people. You'd be amazed at how our basement is transformed! Our host week is fast approaching. Can you help our guests feel welcome?

**We need about 35 volunteers to set-up and take-down the rooms, stay overnight, provide a meal, and staff the building.** We work in pairs and only a few hours at a time. Come sign-up at the table in the Parish Hall or contact us at [familypromise@buffalouu.org](mailto:familypromise@buffalouu.org).

**AND – the Family Promise Team is hosting a basement Spring Cleaning on Saturday, April 1, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon.** All are invited!! Please bring a mop, bucket, rag, sponge if you have them – but most of all, bring yourself!

## Universal Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry Team (UAIM)



Our third UU principal is “Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.”

**The Universal Accessibility and Inclusion Ministry Team (UAIM) often speaks about being more inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities.** But as we work on being more inclusive and accessible are we connecting these concepts to spiritual growth and sacredness of our religion? As we implement the goals of UAIM are we thinking of the end product and forgetting to be aware that we are also doing spiritual work? We are not any secular organization; we are a church looking after the spiritual growth of all our members.

**Eli Clare brought this to our attention when we spoke to him after service.** Having never spoken in a church before, Eli was in awe of the feeling of sacredness of our building. So how do we incorporate spiritual growth as we strive to be more accessible and inclusive? To answer this question we must look at the following:

- Are we truly committed to becoming a welcoming church for everyone?
- Are we becoming more accessible so we can be more inclusive?
- Do we still see the disability before we see the person?
- Do we do unto others instead of with others?

## N4KO “Not for Knitters Only”



**Facilitator: Sharon Walker**

**The “Not for Knitters Only” group will be meeting on April 11 and April 25.** Please join us from **about 6:30 – 8:00 pm** in the Marge Gardner Meeting Room. This is an open group, church membership not required. For more information, email me at [sharonw447@gmail.com](mailto:sharonw447@gmail.com)

**Baby Blankets and Hats for Newborns of UUCB Families**

**Knitters and crocheters, looking for a project?** Minister to our families and give the gift of a layette for our newborns and at dedications. For more information please email Sharon Walker at [sharonw447@gmail.com](mailto:sharonw447@gmail.com).



Karen Streech

**The UU Church of Buffalo Staff**  
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**Music Director:**

Daniel Bassin

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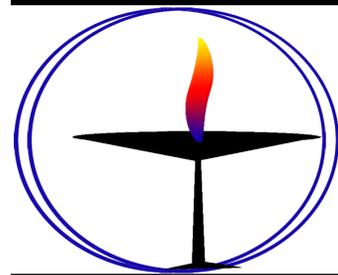
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Su Lee

[organist@buffalouu.org](mailto:organist@buffalouu.org)

**Nursery Care Coordinator:**

Morgan Silver



**Church Administrator:**

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