

The UU Church of Buffalo



Gather

Inspire

Transform

March 2018 Newsletter

695 Elmwood Ave . Buffalo, NY 14222

716-885-2136 www.buffalouu.org



Faith Matters:

What does it mean to be People of Balance?

Rev. Joan Montagnes

When Mirai Nagasu landed the triple axel jump at the Olympics last month, I didn't get what all the fuss was about. Simply skating forward is enough of a challenge to my grace, strength and balance that I consider all Olympians super-human and semi-gods.

To me, the triple axel looked like just one more impossible feat until I watched a couple of mini-docs on how truly impossible it is.

Visualize this. You're racing across the ice at full speed and suddenly you skid off the edge of one blade (on purpose). Your skate turns perpendicular, which forces you to stop moving forward. All that momentum hurls you up into the air instead of across the ice (yikes!). While hanging midair, **you spin your body around 3-1/2 rotations in less than a second** (on purpose) — estimated by some studies to be **more than 300 revolutions per minute** (which simply beggars the imagination).

Finally, you land on the foot that you didn't use for the takeoff and you come down with immense force -- more than four times your body weight, which for me would be well over 600 pounds, on a 1/4-inch blade, and then somehow skate off into the rest of your life.



Yeah, right.

It is hard enough to find balance on a normal day with all the competing demands for time, energy, money, calories, emotions, and prayers. The dog needs a walk, you are late for class, the kids need to get on the bus, your parents want extra care, the snow needs shoveling, the bill collectors are calling and on top of all that you are expected to have read all the classics (in their original languages), have a transcendent spiritual life and look like a supermodel.

It is hard enough to find balance in our lives without having to think about balance in anyone else's life, but as we

know, we can never become People of Balance unless every person in the interdependent web is afforded the same opportunity of becoming a Person of Balance. We are called to balance the whole system. We need to live for justice, equality and compassion.

That, my best beloveds, is the triple axel jump we are put on earth to do. Let's be prepared to train every day. Fall down a lot. And rise again, eventually to do the impossible.

Yours in faith and affection, Joan



Joys and Sorrows



Our thoughts are with Paulette Notaro's husband, Peter Hassett. Peter has had complications from a broken leg in December. On Valentines Day he had corrective surgery and a hip replacement.

We share Lawrence Congdon's joy that his 5-month-old grand-nephew Carson was finally released from Oishei Children's Hospital after spending three weeks there, now eating again and gaining weight.

Our sympathies are with Mary Richert and her family. Mary's mother passed away last month. Our hearts are with them in this time of sadness.

We send healing wishes to Phil Nicolai. Phil suffered a heart attack last month. He is laying low and recovering. We are all learning just how many ministries he cared for!

Congratulations to Sandy Van Every. Sandy is newly a grandmother of Wyeth Alan Van Every of Brooklyn, NY. Wyeth and his parents are part of the Unitarian Universalist congregation there.

Pulpit Previews

What does it mean to be a People of Balance?

Worship Schedule

March 2018



March 4 **“Balancing the Scales”** **Rev. Joan Montagnes**

If only we were simply called to find balance in our own lives, but we are called to do so much more. We are called to balance the scales of justice – not with the sword, but with compassion and humility.

March 11 **“Weaving Webs”** **Dr. Rita Capezzi**

Sometimes it feels like the world is determined to tear us apart, to set us against each other, to isolate us from one another. What can we do to recognize the threads connecting us, to weave stronger strands of relationship, to value the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a small and vital part? **Rita is looking forward to her ordination** as a UU Minister this spring.

March 18 **Children’s Spring Play**

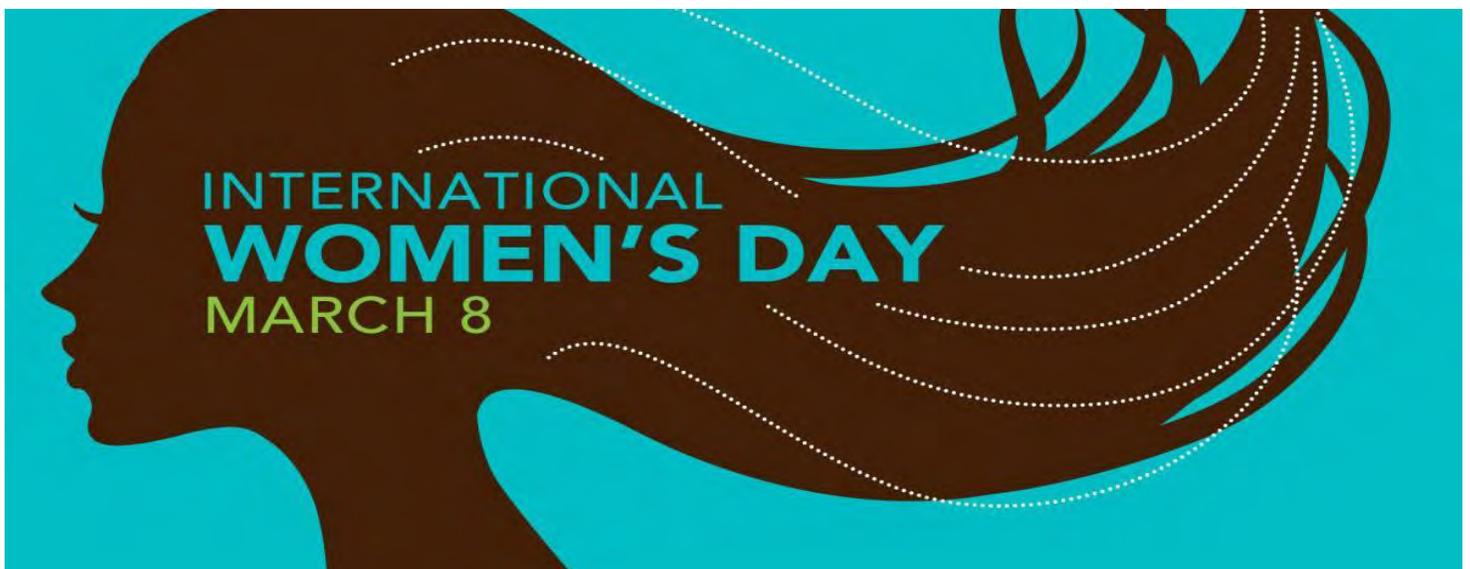
Our children take a break from their religious education classes to put on a play for you! Director of Religious Education Sarah Martin ‘directs’. An annual UUCB tradition.

March 25 **“Finding a Balance”** **Rev. Joan Montagnes**

It seems impossible in our busy schedules to find time to balance heart and soul. Competing distractions, diversions and demands impinge on the health of the spirit. Suddenly, we can find ourselves tumbling off life’s tightrope and into the abyss.

March 29, 7:00 pm “Maundy Thursday” **Rev. Joan Montagnes**

A contemplative service of music and words. Where there is love and rebirth there is also pain.





Religious Education and March Events

Sarah Martin, Director of Religious Education

I've written and rewritten this newsletter piece a hundred times, it seems. And none of them have been right, so I keep starting again. You see, the deadline for the newsletter is the 15th day of the month, and in February, on the 14th, there was yet another school shooting in the U.S., this one in Parkland, Florida. Anything I was going to say before that was quickly rendered irrelevant. As I sit here writing this (hopefully) final draft, it has been ten days since the shooting in which seventeen people were murdered with a weapon of war inside an institution of learning. That makes me nine days overdue.

At first, the thing keeping me from getting my words just right was grief. Another school shooting. Another in a list of so many. As if one by itself wouldn't be too many. I had to send an email to the families in our Religious Education program that day, and it was an email I've written before. I didn't want to write it, not again. I didn't want this to be happening again. I was running out of things to say. What do we say when nothing feels like it's ever going to change?

But then something happened. And over the next ten days it kept happening. And it felt like, finally, something was going to change.

The kids started shouting. With an outstanding amount of bravery and confidence and wit, these young people took on the politicians who have failed them, the leaders and media personalities who would shut their voices down, and even the National Rifle Association. I've been following a handful of them on Twitter for a week now, and while I am impressed with their steel fortitude and sharpness, I am not surprised. Have you spoken to our youth recently? Any of them? If not, I invite you to do that in the Parish Hall during coffee hour sometime. Just sit down beside one of them and strike up a conversation. I promise, you will be blown away at the depth and wisdom of these children of ours.





I am also not at all surprised to see this generation affecting change in such a concrete way, and I am heartened to see so many adults rising up in support of them. A lot has been said on social media this week about how we've spent the last few decades feeding our youth a steady diet of dystopian fiction, where teenagers are the ones finally say "Enough!" and win the day. We've raised our kids to know they can be Harry Potter, or Katniss Everdeen. I think it's more than that, though. The youth of every generation has been on the leading edge of social change. The youth of this generation, however, have a host of technological tools at their disposal to amplify their voices and reach larger audiences than ever before. They can shout louder, and over more distance, than their predecessors.

But we know this isn't the first time in recent history that youth have raised their voices against injustice and violence. In fact, part of what I've been struggling with is the disparity in our treatment of and willingness to listen to these incredible youth from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High and the brave, amazing youth who protested in Ferguson and elsewhere for Black Lives Matter. Youth who ended up in jail or branded as thugs and rioters for protesting. Youth who were not assured by colleges and universities that protesting for their lives wouldn't affect their college admissions if they were to be suspended or arrested for it. I am glad people are listening now, I wish more people had listened earlier. Another layer on top of all of this grief and struggle is how institutionalized racism drives our narratives and our reactions.

I can't talk about one group without addressing the other. It's all intersectional. Our struggles are a part of one another and we cannot separate them out piece by piece and address them individually. Kimberle Williams Crenshaw, who introduced the concept of intersectionality, explains it like this: "If we aren't intersectional, some of us, the most vulnerable, are going to fall through the cracks." On March 24, we can support our youth by participating in the March for Our Lives, which will be taking place in Washington D.C. and all over the country. The Buffalo March will take place at 1:30 pm at Niagara Square. But we can do more than that, too.

We mourn for the lives lost at MSD High School, and we mourn for the lives lost at the hands of a system of institutionalized racism. It's not enough to focus our attention on either/or. We must choose both/and. Every time, both/and. We must recognize and fight back against the toxic masculinity that feeds harassment and violence, against the power structures that uphold racism and marginalize people of color, against the homophobia and transphobia that imperils the LGBTQA+ community, against the microaggressions and outright bigotry that demean and ostracize the disabled.

The youth see where we have failed on all these levels and they are stepping up to lead the way. We need to listen to them. ALL of them.

[Youth Con News](#)

Speaking of our youth, we will be hosting a youth con March 16 - 18 here at the church. We are in desperate need of overnight awake adults and kitchen staff!

Awake adults can choose one of four shifts: Friday into Saturday from 11:00 pm – 3:00 am or 3:00 am – 7:00 am, or Saturday into Sunday, 11:00 pm – 3:00 am or 3:00 am – 7:00 am. We only need two awake adults on each shift. If you can donate four hours to our fabulous youth that weekend, it would be appreciated!

Saturday, there will be three meals that need kitchen teams: Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner.

You can sign up to volunteer for one of these slots at the Religious Education table on Sunday morning! Please support our youth in hosting this con!

[March Adult Education Highlights](#)

[UU and You](#)

Through tracing your own spiritual journey, you will discover what place you may have in the rich history of Unitarian Universalism. Find out what we are all about in this interactive two hour course.

Saturday, March 24

10:00 am – 12:00 noon

Community Room

Free of Charge

[Community Training](#)

[Opioid Overdose Recognition & Naloxone Use](#)

Invest two hours and learn how to save a life with this class sponsored by Erie County Department of Health.

Online Registration: www.ecdoh-may9a.eventbrite.com

Wednesday, May 9

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Parish Hall

Registration required (see link above)

And more to be announced – look in the Friday e-blasts!

March 2018 Music Notes

Daniel Bassin, Music Director



This March we ask ourselves, *What does it mean to be a people of Balance?*

Balance is crucial for our beloved Choir and Music Program this time of year, because as winter turns to spring, our focus turns increasingly towards our Spring Music Sunday service (which will take place on April 8, but more on that next month!) while simultaneously giving our all each week for our regular service music. Our music selections this month reflect a rich balance of traditional, historic, contemporary, and experimental pieces to complement a wide-variety of settings for worship and meditation. A highlight of the month will be a special service of music and words for our Maundy Thursday service on March 29.

We begin the month with Rev. Montagnes's March 4 service, *Balancing the Scales*. There's a musical pun available in the word *Scales*, and our service prelude and postlude will counterbalance service music of unique scope and historical depth. Su Lee will start the service on our sanctuary organ with an enigmatic and powerful work by the contemporary Estonian composer, **Arvo Pärt**. The piece she'll play, an arrangement of Pärt's 1963 choral work entitled, "*Solfeggio*" (which our Choir has performed in the past), is constructed of the simplest musical elements – the seven pitches of the C-Major scale – yet it attains an almost overwhelmingly powerful impact. The UUCB Choir will sing two contrasting anthems: "*Lift Every Voice and Sing*", written by the brothers **James Weldon and John Rosamond Johnson** in celebration of Lincoln's birthday in 1900; and "*We Are One*", a 2008 gospel-inflected anthem with text adapted from Deuteronomy by Canadian composer, vocalist, and clinician, **Brian Tate**. We look forward to sharing this special service with each of you.

Dr. Rita Capezzi leads the March 11 service, *Weaving Webs*, which will feature works by two UU composers: Mark David Buckles' evocative setting of The Seventh Principle of Unitarian Universalism, "*Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are all a part*", and Elizabeth Norton's ethereal round on Rev. Dr. Rebeca Parker's "*There Is A Love*".

Our annual Spring Play will take place on March 18, led by Director of Religious Education, Sarah Martin, with musical selections featuring our in-house keyboard-and-brass duo. And we will finish out the month with a Sunday service of musical surprises, as our Music Program staff and friends prepare for our special Maundy Thursday service.

Maundy Thursday, March 29, will be celebrated at UUCB this year with a special, meditative service of music and words. The unusual sight of two grand pianos in our sanctuary during the month of March will culminate in a performance of American minimalist composer, **Steve Reich's revolutionary 1967 composition for piano duo, "*Piano Phase*".** This central meditation on the Maundy Thursday service will complement both a contemporary *Kyrie* and a Bach arrangement by contemporary Hungarian composer, **György Kurtág**, as well as selections by **Samuel Barber and Gustav Mahler, sung by soloists Jessie Downs and Helen Lowry. This special service is not-to-be missed!**



A TRIBUTE TO
MAESTRA BARBARA WAGNER

BY THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH CHOIR OF BUFFALO

OLA GJEILO'S 21ST CENTURY CLASSIC
WITH CHOIR AND STRING ORCHESTRA

SUNRISE MASS



SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH - 10:30A.M.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BUFFALO
695 ELMWOOD AVE @ W. FERRY

Beyond the Hedge Denomination and Interfaith Connections

Sharon Walker

Registration opens March 1, 2018!

June 20 – 24, 2018, Kansas City, MO



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

“All Are Called”

Grounded in a deep belief that we are all prophets, Unitarian Universalists ask, ‘How can we faithfully meet the demands of our time?’ The call to witness and act for justice in our society and in the world is clear. So, too, is the call to examine our structures and practices, dismantling and transforming those which fail to recognize the full humanity of all people and to honor the interdependent web of life. Join us in Kansas City as we dive deeply into questions of mission for our Unitarian Universalist Association, for our congregations and communities, and for each of us as individuals. Together, we’ll ask:

- **Who and how are we called to be** at this time, individually and collectively?
- **How are we called to act** and to live?
- **How does our Unitarian Universalist legacy strengthen us in living out our mission?** In what way does our legacy present challenges and impediments to answering our call?

The call of our faith has a place for each of us. Join us in Kansas City to build courageous, collective leadership with tools, skills and connections. For more information go to <https://www.uua.org/ga>.



Faithfully Bringing Forth Justice

Peace Conference Training

Thursday, March 1, 5:30 – 7:30 pm Registration and refreshments at 5:00 pm

R Healin Center, 1057 Kensington Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215

If you are wondering how you could help with creating alternatives to arrest and suspensions, you might want to consider becoming a Peace Conference facilitator. Peace Conferences can be used in situations where a harm has been done that needs repair, and using the restorative practice of a Peace Conference will be more effective than using our criminal justice system. With that in mind you are invited to our monthly First Thursday Peace Conference Practice. The foundation of restorative practice, Peace Circles will be the focus of March’s training.

March 15 Women's Society Luncheon – 11:30 am

Dale Anderson

“My First 50 Years at the Buffalo News (and why everybody should write their own obituary)”

At 11:30 am Dale is a Buffalo News feature writer, music critic and proprietor of the OlafFub Sez column. He will speak on highlights of his extremely varied career over his many years at the Buffalo News.

Before Dale's talk, refreshments will be available 11:00 – 11:30 am. (\$3 donation).

Dale will speak from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm with Q and A until 12:30 pm.

The program is free for Women's Society members and is \$5 at the door for non-members. No reservations are necessary just for the program.



A pre-paid catered lunch will be served at 12:30. Cost: Women's Society members - \$15; non-members - \$20. Lunch may be paid for after the church services on March 4 and 11 or by mailing a check made out to "UUCB" to: Church Office, Unitarian-Universalist Church of Buffalo, 695 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222. Write "Women's Society March luncheon" on the check's memo line. The check must be received in the Church Office by noon on Friday, March 9.

UUCB Women's Society goes to the Shaw Festival – June 20

Get your tickets now!

**See the Tony Award Winning musical
“Grand Hotel”**

on Wednesday, June 20. The discounted ticket price of \$51 includes a pre-show talk at 11:00 am and the matinee at 2:00 pm. Lunch is on your own in historic, strollable Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada. Be sure to bring a passport or enhanced driver's license for the border crossing. The Women's Society will facilitate car-pooling. Ticket sales continue in the Parish Hall after the service on March 4 and March 11 and April 8 and April 15. More info at <http://www.buffalouu.org/womens-society.html>.



Social Action Sunday Events (SASE)

What wonderful, sassy people we are! February started with a bang! Less than one week after we wrote postcards about overly aggressive traffic stops and checkpoints, the Interim Police Commissioner announced that Buffalo's Strike Force (responsible for many resulting arrests) is being disbanded. It's good to be part of change for the better in our community.

In March, as we consider what it means to be a people of Balance, we are called to restore balance by working to dismantle systemic injustice in a number of arenas.

Women's Health – Tuesday, March 13, is New York State's Planned Parenthood Day of Action in Albany, rallying and meeting with lawmakers to ensure continued access to sexual and reproductive health care. Register at <https://goo.gl/forms/Yhj6KN2Uz7yfle5J2> for free roundtrip bus transportation, a free lunch and Planned Parenthood swag.

Economic Justice – Almost 50 years after the original Poor People's Campaign, it's clear that the message needs to be repeated. Buffalo has already begun to collect and film personal stories, which will be a focal point of a media event on Wednesday, March 30, to unveil the Truth Commission on Poverty. It would be wonderful to have a strong contingent from UUCB show up, listen to our neighbor's stories, and find out how we can join in designing and supporting local grassroots efforts.



Systemic Racism – Last month, a screening of the Blackness Project sold out at the Burchfield Penney. We are in discussions with the directors to see if we can host a showing at UUCB and continuing the conversation. Watch your Friday e-blast for dates and times, as we firm this up.

April Preview

1. VOICE Buffalo hosts its Annual Awards and Fundraising Dinner on Friday, April 20, at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. UUCB will fill two tables and invites you to join us for \$55 per ticket. Email Sharon Walker at sharonw447@gmail.com to reserve a seat for yourself, purchase a seat for someone else, and/or to discuss sliding scale payment.

2. Copies of the book "Elite: Uncovering Classism in Unitarian Universalist History" are available from Sarah Martin. This SASE book study will examine our history of elitism in education, class, and race – and discuss how this continues to affect us today.

We make the opportunities easy for you!

Liz Parke, SASE Ministry Team Chair

Staffing changes at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo

It's been an exciting year for us. Our administrative functions have been re-imagined and re-organized. We had one retirement, one resignation, two job positions invented, one position eliminated, and two hires. Whew! Just so you know who to talk to about what, here are the details.

Bookkeeper. This position has been rolled into the new full-time Administrator for Finances.

Administrator for Finances – Donna Sentz



Talk to Donna about anything to do with money – your pledge, your ministry team's remaining budget, your tax statements, etc. Donna also will handle the data management for membership and stewardship. Donna works 9:00 am -5:00 pm Monday – Friday.

Administrator for Facilities and Communication – Cynthia Machamer



Talk to Cynthia if you want to reserve a room, you have a minor building maintenance concern, or you want our Gatekeeper, Sarah Kirkland, to support your ministry for the church. Cynthia also oversees the Newsletter, Friday e-blast, Orders of Service, congregational mailings, the website and all other communication media.

Cynthia is in the office 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm Fridays, and 8:30 am – 3:30 pm Sundays.

Choir Soprano Soloist and Section Leader – Jessie Downs



Jennifer Mernitz, our wonderful Soprano Soloist of 23 years, retired last June. **Jessie Downs joined us as acting Soprano Soloist in September**, and in February we joyfully hired Jessie in a part-time, permanent position.

We continue to search for a Tenor Soloist.

Other than that, as far as this minister knows, staffing is stable. Sarah Martin remains your Religious Education Director, Sarah Kirkland remains your Gatekeeper, Dan Bassin remains your Music Director, Su Lee remains your Accompanist, Helen Lowry remains your Alto Soloist, Michael Harris remains your Bass Soloist, Morgan Silver remains your Childcare Worker, and I remain your humble servant.

Yours in faith and affection, Rev. Joan

Summer Worship Services

Spring has barely begun, but the Worship Ministry Team is already planning the Summer Sunday Service schedule.

Our theme for June will be “Blessing”. What does it mean to be blessed? What does it mean to be a blessing? The old English root for the word comes from the word “Blood.” That might mean sacrifice, or it might mean something more akin to heart and life.

Our theme for July will be “Story”. Our lives are not just made up of stories; they are also *made by* stories. Who among us hasn’t felt compelled by a story? Stuck in a story? Hopeless about the way our story will end up? Simply put, stories write us as much as we write them.

Our theme for August will be “Grace”. The deepest and most sacred experience of joy comes from encountering a gift you didn’t expect, earn, create or even deserve. And who of us hasn’t been a recipient of that kind of gift? Grace is our way of humbly acknowledging the astounding fact that no matter how tragic or bleak things get, the evil simply can’t shut out all the good, the fear can’t squeeze out all the love. Grace is nourishment for the soul.

If you would like to offer our congregation a worship service for a Sunday between June 24 and August 26, by April 30 please send Rev. Joan 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.



Our March Share the Plate recipient HOME – Housing Opportunities Made Equal



HOME is a civil rights organization whose mission is to promote the value of diversity and to ensure equal opportunity to housing and communities of choice for all. HOME fights housing discrimination and provides advocacy, education and fair housing enforcement to Western New Yorkers.

Its services include landlord certification, fair housing and tenants' rights training, investigation of housing discrimination complaints, fair housing investigation

and filing of complaints about housing discrimination and fair housing violations. HOME provides technical assistance to government, community services and housing providers and maintains a fair housing database.

Through its Community Housing Center, HOME provides mobility counseling and a range of other specialized support services including housing search assistance to holders of Erie County Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. Since 1999 the Community Housing Center has helped more than 4,000 families.

Universal Access and Inclusion Ministry Team

UAIM would like to thank the congregation for supporting us for the last four 4 years in our endeavor to become a certified Disability/Ability Action Congregation from the UUA through its EqUual Access pilot program. This is quite an honor. Only 3 other UU churches in the country have become certified so far. If you would like more information on what the team needed to do to obtain this honor please talk to our team.



ACCESSIBILITY AND
INCLUSION MINISTRY
AIM PROGRAM

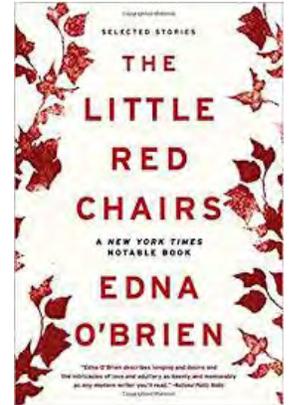
Committed to the full inclusion of people with disabilities

One of the primary goals of this certification process was to “Respectfully, openly and successfully welcome people with their disabilities and their families into our congregation”. While this certification is a marker of the progress we have made, the UAIM team recognizes that our work continues both in terms of physical accessibility and our congregational ability to welcome and integrate people with disabilities into the life of the congregation.

TEAM Members: Tony Keller, Janie Kustreba, Lynn Mancuso, Sophia Roberts, Ginny Vaughan and Steve Wixson. Tony Keller, Lynn Mancuso and Ginny Vaughan have been on the team since its formation.

UUCB Book Group Meeting on Monday, March 26 at 2:00 pm

Our group will be discussing *“The Little Red Chairs”* by prize-winning Irish author Edna O’Brien. Newcomers who have read the book are always welcome to join us. Everyone who plans to come needs to tell our host-of-the-month, Evelyn, at evyida@aol.com so that she may plan for seating and refreshments.



Looking ahead:

April 30 at 7:00 pm – *“Gateway to Freedom”* by Eric Foner

May 21 at 7:00 pm – *“News of the World”* by Paulette Jiles

June 25 at 5:00 pm – *“Underground Railroad”* by Colson Whitehead

Putting Your Money Where Your Heart Is

So, how did we do with our annual pledge campaign? The good news is that we exceeded last year’s total by a bit, with a total of about \$378,000 in pledges from just about the same number of pledge units as last year (225). Considering that just 3 years ago we raised \$300,000 from 200 pledge units, we are on the right track.

Consistent with last year, the median pledge was \$1000, meaning that half of the pledges are greater than and half less than this amount. We were heartened by the fact that nearly twice as many people increased their pledges (69) as decreased them (38). We also received 17 pledges from people who had not pledged in 2017.

The not so good news is that the pledge drive total as of early February was slightly short of the 2018 budget goal of \$385,000. But that can change! It is not too late to make or increase your pledge. No amount is too small or unappreciated.

This is our beloved community and we are all its stewards.





NEW COURSE FOR LOVERS OF CLASSICAL MUSIC!

THE SOUNDS OF INTIMACY: THE ART OF CHAMBER MUSIC

MICHAEL HARRIS, INSTRUCTOR



Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo

695 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo NY 14222

14 Sessions: Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

January 10 – April 11, 2018

Cost: \$75 for Full Course, or \$10 per Session

Phone: 885-2136 email: office@buffalouu.org



THE SOUNDS OF INTIMACY: THE ART OF CHAMBER MUSIC

MICHAEL HARRIS, INSTRUCTOR

If ever the statement “Less is more” were applicable, it would certainly be the case with chamber music.

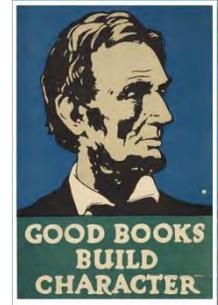
Using just a handful of performers, its musical content is often more moving and profound than many works for orchestra – and yet it’s often overshadowed by music written for large ensembles. We will sample the aural delights of duets, piano trios, string quartets and other small-scale groups – musical conversations in which every player and note is important. The course will take special notice of the repertoire performed at the Buffalo Chamber Music Society (Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn and Shostakovich) as well as that annual WNY institution, the Slee Beethoven String Quartet Cycle. Armed with fresh musical insights, you’ll feel ready when intimacy comes a-calling!

Syllabus

Session 1 ♦ January 10	Downsizing ♦ Getting Our Chamber Music Bearings; the Early Ancestors
Session 2 ♦ January 17	The Baroque Sonata in Church and in Chamber ♦ Corelli, Handel and Telemann
Session 3 ♦ January 24	J.S. Bach and the Power of One ♦ the Cello Suites and Solo Violin Works
Session 4 ♦ January 31	Franz Joseph Haydn ♦ Inventing the Classical String Quartet
Session 5 ♦ February 7	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart ♦ The <i>Galant</i> , the Jestings and the Dissonant
Session 6 ♦ February 14	Ludwig van Beethoven ♦ The Emergence of the Romantic String Quartet
Session 7 ♦ February 21	A Private Music ♦ Beethoven’s Late String Quartets
Session 8 ♦ February 28	House Music ♦ The Domestic Side of Franz Schubert and Felix Mendelssohn
Session 9 ♦ March 7	Johannes Brahms ♦ Inheriting Beethoven’s Chamber Music Legacy
Session 10 ♦ March 14	Just Plain Folk ♦ Nationalism in Chamber Music
Session 11 ♦ March 21	Chamber Music à la Française ♦ Debussy, Ravel and Poulenc
Session 12 ♦ March 28	Dmitri Shostakovich ♦ Chamber Music as a Composer’s Confessional
Session 13 ♦ April 4	The Kronos Quartet ♦ A String Quartet for the 21 st Century
Session 14 ♦ April 11	Chamber Explorations along the Silk Road ♦ Yo Yo Ma and Friends

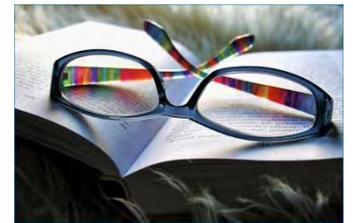
Women's Society Used Book Sale

UUCB's annual book sale will be held the weekends of April 28 and 29, and May 5 and 6, 2018. We are now collecting your books, i.e. hardbound and softcover books of all topics, children's and young adult books, art books, puzzles and games, books on CD. Please, no reference books or encyclopedias. If you have questions, contact Joyce Bol at joukjebol@gmail.com.



Turn Your Clutter into Clear Vision and Renewed Hope!

Our UUCB Women's Society is requesting donations of eyeglasses and sunglasses in good condition. The lenses may be prescription or non-prescription. Your eyeglasses will be recycled and sent to people in low income communities and to international charitable organizations. Changing lives, one pair at a time!



There is an eyeglass collection bin in the Garden Entrance vestibule next to the Food Pantry collection bin.

Questions? Please contact Paulette Notaro: paulettenotaro@buffalouu.org.

**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

695 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo New York 14222

716-885-2136 www.buffalouu.org

Minister:

Rev. Joan Montagnes
minister@buffalouu.org

**Administrator of Facilities and
Communication:**

Cynthia Mackamer
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:

Paulette Notaro
weddings@buffalouu.org

Organist/Accompanist:

Su Lee
organist@buffalouu.org

Administrator for Finance:

Donna Sentz
bookkeeper@buffalouu.org

Nursery Care Coordinator:

Morgan Silver

Newsletter:

novaheart721@gmail.com

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A sanctuary on the National Registry of Historic Places