



**September 23<sup>rd</sup> -September 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Sweet Beginnings**

**Rev. Joan Montagnes and Barry Finkelstein**

This Sunday is the first of the High Holidays in the Jewish Calendar, Rosh Hashana. Happy New Year! May it be a sweet year full of goodness, beauty, and justice. But before we can move on with carefree clean slate, we need to forgive ourselves and each other. Belonging to the beloved community means always being ready to say you're sorry.

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**Every month our congregation joins over 140 Unitarian Universalist Congregations in exploring a single spiritual theme. This month, we are asking:**  
**"What does it mean to be People of Belonging?"**

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## Our Current Masking Status

Our church is currently open for in-person services, and masks are optional. We do ask that masks continue to be worn should you meet any of the following circumstances:

- You are not fully vaccinated;
- You are moderately-to-severely immunocompromised or have discussed the need to mask with your healthcare provider;
- You feel more comfortable wearing a mask for personal reasons;
- You have had a known COVID-19 exposure within the past ten days; or
- You have left isolation following a COVID-19 infection within the last five days.

We also ask that if you display any symptoms of COVID-19, please join us virtually until your symptoms subside, regardless of a negative COVID-19 test.

Our VIRTUAL YouTube link is <http://live.buffalouu.org>. Sunday services start at 10:30am. Past services can also be found at the YouTube link.

## Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo - ORDER OF SERVICE - 9/25/2022

Bell

**Prelude** Hatikva by Samuel Cohen, arr. by Chris Sierzchula  
Chris Sierzchula - piano

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Joan Montagnes

Greet Your Neighbor

Call to Worship

Julie Taylor

**Musical Centering** Guided Sonic Meditation, led by Leanne Darling

**Chalice Lighting**

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

**Hymn #214** Shabbat Shalom

**Story For All Ages** *The Honey Bee and the Apple Tree* adapted from the book by Rabbi Joseph Meszler

**Offering**

**Musical Offering** ""Shehecheyanu"" by Ben Steinberg  
UUCB Choir, Chris Sierzchula - piano

**Homily** Sweet Beginnings

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Musical Reflection** ""Oseh Shalom"" by Ben Steinberg  
UUCB Choir, Chris Sierzchula - piano

**Homily** Sweet Dreams and Visions

Barry Finkelstein

**Hymn #1028** The Fire of Commitment

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

As we extinguish the flame of this chalice,  
may we carry its light with us into the world,  
in the power of peace, faith, justice and love.

**Benediction**

**Postlude** ""Hine ma tov"" traditional Hebrew folk song, arr. Iris Levine  
UUCB Choir

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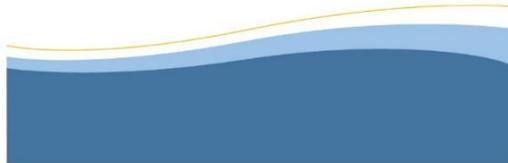


*You can share an offering with the church through the following methods:*

Donate via the church's Paypal account by going to [www.buffalouu.org](http://www.buffalouu.org) and clicking on the blue Donate! button.

OR

Send a check to the church by mail:  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo  
695 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14222  
Please write "Pledge" or "Share the Plate"  
on the memo line.



The congregation is governed by an elected [Board of Trustees](#). To reach them, please email [board@buffalouu.org](mailto:board@buffalouu.org) or attend their meetings. (3rd Wed at 7pm in the Alliance Room or via Zoom - <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/97736244745>)

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### **September's Share the Plate Recipient: Justice for Migrant Families**

Justice for Migrant Families is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency that provides support to individuals in the federal immigrant detention facility in Batavia through many different programs like a hotline, legal connections and a book program, information and resources to immigrant families in the community, and advocacy both within and beyond the local community. JFMF organizes at a local and statewide level for systemic changes to current immigration policies such as for the Green Light NY law that provides undocumented members of our community access to drivers licenses and works to build a more just world in which all people are treated with dignity.

### **Nominations for Share the Plate**

Share the Plate welcomes nominations for recipients for the 2021-2022 church year. Please send your ideas to Steve Wixson [wixsonsg@gmail.com](mailto:wixsonsg@gmail.com)

## We are collecting Dignity Bags for Justice For Migrant Families

**What is in a dignity bag?** An actual bag, backpack or duffle, used is fine. When people get released, the few belongings and papers that they get back are put in onion bags and white sacks by ICE. Traveling, often across the country, with these is another level of mortifying.

Inside the bag:

- 1 durable pocket folder for important documents
- 1 notebook and pen
- shoelaces
- 1 empty small refillable water bottle
- snacks appropriate for travel (power bars, nuts, crackers, cookies, etc.)
- hygiene supplies (toothbrush, toothpaste, hand wipes, deodorant, a pack of tissues, Dramamine for travel sickness, a comb)
- PPE supplies - mask and hand sanitizer
- 1-2 pairs of socks and underwear, label should say Men's
- a \$20 bill to buy snacks for their journey
- a hoodie, sizes S and M most used (airplanes and buses can be cool and weather changes rapidly)
- Items divided up in ziplock bags or, a box of ziplock bags also donated

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## Fall Congregational Meeting

Save the date! The Fall Congregational meeting will take place at noon on October 2nd, 2022. We will vote to approve the proposed 2023 annual budget as well as vote on bylaws changes relating to voting electronically and ratifying past votes. The Finance Committee as well as Governance will be on hand to answer all your questions. Come and be involved and learn about what's in store!

Members of the finance Committee will be available on Sunday the 25th, in the Alliance room at noon, to answer any questions or address concerns about the proposed budget.

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## Music Ministry

This Sunday's music will help ring in the Jewish New Year - Rosh Hashanah - and celebrate our coming together in stewardship. At the start of the service, pianist Chris Sierzchula will set the mood with a piano arrangement of "Hatikvah," a Hebrew song about longing for the

homeland. At the Centering, we welcome special guest Leanne Darling who will lead the congregation in a Guided Sonic Meditation, helping us to continue to gain comfort and confidence in lifting up our voices together as a community. At the Offertory and Reflection, the choir will sing two pieces by Ben Steinberg - "Shehecheyanu," a setting of a Jewish prayer that gives gratitude to God for new experiences, and "Oseh Shalom," a prayer for peace. As the Postlude, the Choir will share an upbeat a capella arrangement of "Hine ma tov," which translates to "How good and pleasing it is for people to sit together in unity."

If you enjoy this Sunday's Guided Sonic Meditation, or are looking to gain more confidence in making music regardless of your background in music-making, consider signing up for Leanne Darling's "Discover Your Music" workshop, which she will be holding next Saturday Oct. 1st from 1 to 5pm in the Alliance Room. For more information or to RSVP, contact Leanne at [ldarlingviola@gmail.com](mailto:ldarlingviola@gmail.com).

### Choir Notice

Do you enjoy singing? Are you looking for a supportive music-making community in which to share and grow your voice? Considered joining the UUCB Choir! If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jessie Downs - [jdowns@buffalouu.org](mailto:jdowns@buffalouu.org)

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### Religious Education and Adult Faith Development News

If you are interested in participating or need more information about any of the Religious Education news in this E-Blast, please contact: [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org).

### Message from the Director of Religious Education, Jess Pond

Hello UUCB!

Happy Autumn! The Religious Education year is off to a wonderful start, with over 40 students registered, more than 15 volunteers, and so much love and excitement to be together for another year!

It's never too late to register! Please complete this form if you would like to register your child for Religious Education classes: <https://forms.gle/4LzWAX73L8vwNQWV6>

Check out the RE Calendar here: <https://rb.gy/hxvmju>

Planning is underway for the annual Halloween Party & Potluck on Saturday, October 29! If you would like to volunteer to help with crafts, games, decorations, or food, please let me know as soon as possible.

And – announcing the UUCB Banned Book Club! Sharon Walker and Mary Louise Hill will facilitate four bi-weekly one and a half hour sessions, beginning Wednesday, October 5 at 7:00 pm in the Marge Gardner room. (Subsequent meetings: 10/19; 11/2; 11/16). Their first book will be Toni Morrison's The Bluest Eye.

If you are interested in any of the classes, projects, or other groups that we are starting, including Adult Faith Development, please contact me at [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org).

Bright blessings,

DRE Jess

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### **Pulpit Flowers Update**

Would you like to honor a loved one with flowers? Anniversary, birthday, dearly departed. If you would like to sponsor the pulpit flowers for a Sunday service, please contact Sandra Bissontz at [smp1127@yahoo.com](mailto:smp1127@yahoo.com) to inquire or place an order.

Available Sundays for the remainder of 2022 are as follows: three Sundays in October, the 9th, 16th, and the 23rd, and lastly, December 11, 2022. We are happy to take requests for the year 2023 if you would like to reserve a date. Cost is \$50. Please email Sandra Bissontz [smp1127@yahoo.com](mailto:smp1127@yahoo.com).

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### **Territorial Acknowledgement, Art, and Re-Empowerment**

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo acknowledges that the ground upon which we meet rests on the traditional territory of the Hodinöhsö:ni' people, original nations of this land who continue to call for justice and self-determination. We encourage you to deepen your relationship to the indigenous people of this area by visiting this exhibit at the Buffalo History Museum.

#### **Hodinöhsö:ni' Resurgence: Marie Watt, Calling Back, Calling Forward**

The Buffalo History Museum | July 13 - October 30, 2022

Renowned Seneca artist Marie Watt and a co-creative team are testing the possibilities of Indigenous "resurgence," the action of reestablishing Indigenous power and presence, at our

museum. At the center of the exhibit are a selection from Watt's diverse beadworks, textile works, and sculpture, as well as important objects from Seneca history. The exhibit will ask guests to consider the relationship of the museum to Indigenous communities and seek to facilitate indigenous re-empowerment. We can't wait to see you for this groundbreaking exhibit.

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### **Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch**



Join Rev. Joan for a cup of joe (or tea, or cocoa) Tuesday mornings 10am-11am in the parish hall. No program, no agenda, just fellowship and good company. All welcome! Someone might even bring cookies!

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### **The Great Pumpkin Hunt: October 8**



Mark your Calendars for the Second Annual Great Pumpkin Hunt. This multigenerational field trip is fun for all ages. Bring your family and friends. We'll head off to Badding Bros. Farm Market where their pumpkin fields offer a beautiful selection of different sizes and shapes, perfect for carving, cooking, and painting. Grab a wagon and pick out your perfect pumpkin; orange, warty, blue, or striped, they have unique options to delight everyone in the family. Gourds also come in all different shapes and sizes; ranging from elegant to spooky, find perfect options for fall decor or crafting. Halloween and thanksgiving decorations, fabulous farm animals, delicious produce, and an autumnally themed playground. We'll meet at the church for carpooling at 10am.

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MOVI Presents:

# The Untold Story of Traditional African Dance

## Panel Discussion

**Naila Ansari: Discussion Facilitator**

**Celeste Lawson • Natasha Perkins**

**Griot Alassane Sarr of Senegal Dakar West Africa**

**Matthew Clark • Dominic Giambra**

Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo

695 Elmwood Ave

Buffalo, NY 14222

Saturday September 24

4:30pm Doors open • 5:30pm Panel discussion

Free-event • Vendors

Co-sponsors: Claire Schneider & Jean-Michel Reed •  
Pick of the Crop Dance



## The Western New York Refugee Film Festival

Dear Friends of the WNY Refugee Film Festival,

Our next film, "**Accept The Call**," will be on **Thursday, September 29th, at 7pm**. The screening will be followed by a talkback with director Eunice Lau and film subject Yusuf Abdurahman. This film promises to be one of the more heartrending, thought-provoking films of our season! If you have an Ambassador Pass or have otherwise already registered just for this film, be on the lookout 2 days before the screening for Zoom access instructions. For those who have not registered and would like to attend, please register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yz4vehpn>

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We are co-hosting two free **Outdoor Family Movie Nights** - with the Buffalo Olmstead Parks Conservancy to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Frederick Law Olmstead. Bring a blanket, lawn chair, and picnic basket and join us! Fun for all ages!

**September 16, Cazenovia Park, approx. 7:30pm - Academy-award nominee "The Breadwinner"**

**September 23, Riverside Park, approx. 7:30pm - Marvel superhero blockbuster "Shang-Chi and the Legend of The Ten Rings"**

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**Saturday, October 15th**  
Community Beer Works  
7-10pm

**Early tickets are \$30 or 2/\$50!**

Tickets include door prize entry, a complimentary beverage, appetizers, live music, games, and more!  
Visit [bigbigtable.org/bash-2022](http://bigbigtable.org/bash-2022) or scan the code below for more info!

PRESENTED BY **RICH FAMILY COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

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### Women's Society Luncheon

The Womens Society will kick off their first luncheon on October 20th with speaker Jackie Abarella. Jackie will give us a talk based on her recent Burchfield exhibit at the Buffalo History

Museum. Tickets will be sold after the services on October 9th and 15th for \$20 . We will have appetizers before her talk at 12 and serve a lunch at 1. Hope to see you there.

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## ***Covenant Group Orientation***

***Sunday, October 23rd, 2022***

***12:00 – 2:00 PM***

### **The Covenant Group Ministry is welcoming new members to our groups**

Covenant Groups are not just for church members. If you seek to connect with others as you deepen your own spirituality, we invite you to join a group where together we reflect on the monthly ministry theme, share and listen deeply to each other. Each group, consisting of 8 committed members, with two trained facilitators, meets monthly. We welcome each other as we return to the safe sacred space that we have created together.

“There is a quality of listening that is possible among a circle of human beings, who by their attentiveness to one another create a space in which each person is able to give voice to the truth of his or her life. Where there is this kind of listening and speaking, a new kind of community is born - a community of life.”

- Rebecca Parker, Unitarian Theologian

The Covenant Group program is an established small group ministry in UU churches all over the country. If you are interested in learning more, please stop by the Welcome table where you can pick up a brochure, talk to a representative, and ***register for the Orientation session***. You may also contact us at [covenantgroups@buffalouu.org](mailto:covenantgroups@buffalouu.org).

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# DISCOVER YOUR MUSIC

Whether you are a singer-songwriter, a shower singer, a trained musician, a table drummer or someone who just loves music, come discover the fun and joy of improvised music!

No experience in improvisation? No problem. Bring your instruments, including interesting sound makers, voice and body percussion!

Saturday, October 1st, 2022  
1 to 5 pm

The Alliance Room  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo  
695 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14222

Fee: \$30, \$25 for students and UU members  
Cash, Check, PayPal and Venmo accepted

Contact Leanne Darling at  
[Ldarlingviola@gmail.com](mailto:Ldarlingviola@gmail.com)  
for more information and to RSVP



A Music for People Workshop  
[www.musicforpeople.org](http://www.musicforpeople.org)



## Buffalo State College Social Work Undergrads Seek Life Story Participants

Are you interested in assisting undergraduate students to learn about human development and the life course by sharing your own life story? Berg Miller, Assistant Professor in the Social Work Department, seeks adults age 60 and older who would be willing to meet for 3-4 interviews (lasting approximately 3-4 hours in total) during the Fall 2022 semester (primarily September-October) to share their experience, including beliefs, family-of-origin, how you

were raised, marriage and partnership, children and pets, and major world events that have shaped you. Students will accommodate preferences for ZOOM or phone interviews. Students will use this information to prepare a PowerPoint presentation for their class, which can be available to participants at the completion of the students' preparation. If you would like to offer to be a participant, please email Berg directly at [millerbk@buffalostate.edu](mailto:millerbk@buffalostate.edu)

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### **Sponsor a UUCB Underwriter Spot on WBFO!**

One of the most popular choices in our Spring Survey was advertising on WBFO. Well the time has come! This is Church shopping season. Let's give the people a wonderful choice! Join with fellow church members and friends in bringing our beloved congregation to the air waves. Let the world know about our fabulous music program, our uplifting worship, our deep care for children, and our inspiring ministry to one another.

Our local NPR Station will work with us to create four wonderful weeks of community outreach. Gather more! Inspire more! Transform more! Maybe you already donate to WBFO. Consider channeling your donation through our Underwriter project. WBFO will still receive your support, and the church will benefit from spreading the word. Twice as much bang for your buck!

Become a sponsor. Help GROW our church! Drop your contribution, marked WBFO Promotion, in the plate on Sunday or drop it off in the church office or donate on our website using the blue Donate button. However you choose, the main thing is to just do it! Thanks!

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### **Is your loved one buried in the Memorial Garden?**

On August 20, these eight names were added to the plaque for the Memorial Garden in church on the right-hand wall as you enter:

Kevin McWha Steele	Barbara Wagner
Albert Somit	John Lock
Barbie Corder	Joanne (Dodie) Lock
James Marshall Kieffer	Ingeborg Barrus

If your loved one was buried in the memorial garden and their name is not on the plaque, please tell us at [kelleranthony290@gmail.com](mailto:kelleranthony290@gmail.com).

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## Family Promise

Family Promise Update Family Promise is a unique homeless shelter for families, including men and teen boys, who are searching for permanent housing. The Center is located on the SS Columba-Brigid RC church campus, 75 Hickory St. at Clinton. Not only shelter, but connections to supportive services, assistance with apartment deposits, rebuilding confidence and hope mean that in the past year, FP was able to help 45 families, six families at a time with a 97 % success rate. There are many ways to help. Here are three. Thank you. You will receive much more than you have given. Family Promise volunteers are fabulous! -Nancy Wilkins

## Volunteer with Us!

### Weekend Fun Activities!



On Saturdays between 12pm-2pm and Sundays 1:30pm-3:30pm, we invite 1-4 volunteers at a time into the building to do fun activities around the shelter. Share your special gift with us! Bake a special treat with our kids, organize an amazing craft, offer haircuts, bring your therapy

dog or email us below to brainstorm how we can best use your talents! Schedule your activity at the link below and someone from our team will reach out to you! For more information, contact Jenn our Community Coordinator at: [outreach@fpwny.org](mailto:outreach@fpwny.org)

### Join Our Move Team!



Want to make a BIG difference in the life of a family moving into an apartment? Join our move team! Our move team is made up of people who are willing to help us move furniture and apartment essentials into apartments. We need heavy lifters! We typically move on Saturday mornings but also call for help in a pinch. By putting your name on our list, you are agreeing to receive asks for help and you can pick and choose when you are free! To sign up, email Jenn our Community Coordinator at [outreach@fpwny.org](mailto:outreach@fpwny.org)

### Make Us Fleece-Tied Blankets!



Help our families in shelter from the comfort of your own home by adding a personal touch to our family rooms with cozy, hand-made fleece-tied blankets! Make them in fun kids patterns to fit our twin beds (50 x 75 inches) or in more understated patterns for our parents (60 x 80 inches). (Please no smaller sizes, the bigger the better!). If you would like to donate, contact Jenn our Community Coordinator at: [outreach@fpwny.org](mailto:outreach@fpwny.org)

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## Buffalo Families Fund

Our community is coming together in powerful ways to help after the mass shooting on Buffalo's East Side. We serve over 50 families in the immediate area of the attack and more than 500 families in surrounding areas. Some of our families do not want to leave their homes or send their children to school because they are afraid. We know we can help to bring stability with our work. We need you to help meet their immediate basic needs and more. We are asking you to give gift cards from stores such as Tops, Wegmans, Save-a-Lot, Aldi's, Instacart or Amazon for food, diapers, formula, medications, cleaning supplies and other household and security-related items. You can also help with transportation with gift cards for fuel, Lyft or Uber. You can drop gift cards off to 844 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209 from 9am – 4pm. We are also asking for monetary donations that can go to help with (or assist with) requests to provide added safety measures to homes and more. Monetary contributions can be made to Child & Family Services' Buffalo Families Fund at [cfsbny.org](http://cfsbny.org). Some of our families are still processing what they need as they try to get through each day. We will be here when they need us with your support. Give today to help bring comfort and security.

If you need extra support during this difficult time, Child & Family Services is here to help. Please call 716-842-2750 to talk to a counselor.

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### **“No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in our Town”**



Our Women's Society wishes to establish donating to Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) as a year-round activity of our UU Church. Just as there is always a need for food donations 365 days a year, there continues to be a year-round need for bedding and bunk beds for the children of the Greater Buffalo area. Please continue to donate new, twin-size cloth mattress pads, sheet

sets, comforters, blankets, and pillows. A corral for your donations has been placed in the foyer at our Garden entrance

. Thank you for your continuing support and generosity. The kids and their parents really appreciate your gifts

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### Food Not Bombs

Food Not Bombs is once again cooking at the UU on Tuesdays! They are looking for #5 containers with lids, as indicated in the triangle on the bottom of the container. Best containers are from restaurant take out, large yogurt, cottage cheese, Cool Whip, etc.



### Donations Sought for Food Not Bombs

Buffalo Food Not Bombs is seeking donations of folding tables, bike carts, and food storage bins- if able to donate any of these, please speak with a participating UUCB member or [reach out to them through their Facebook page](#).



The Food Bank of WNY and Meals on Wheels for Western New York have joined forces to become FeedMore WNY! FeedMore WNY offers dignity, hope and a brighter future by providing nutritious food, friendship and skills training to its Western New York neighbors in need. [FeedMore WNY](#).

**Click on the flyers and links below to read more about other upcoming events in the community**



**Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst.** UUCA is located at 6320 Main Street in Williamsville  
[Read about their upcoming events and more in their newsletter](#)



[UUA News & Updates](#)

[UU World Blog](#)

## DEADLINES FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE NEWSLETTER

### **Weekly Announcements**

eBlast and Order of Service announcements should be sent to [announcements@buffalouu.org](mailto:announcements@buffalouu.org) by NOON on Wednesday.

Full announcements are published in the eBlast; please send a 50 word/2-3 line version for the Order of Service.

eBlast is sent out every Saturday at noon.

### **Monthly Newsletter**

Please send any announcements for the newsletter to [newsletter@buffalouu.org](mailto:newsletter@buffalouu.org) by the 15th of the month.

Email any UUCB-related photos to [office@buffalouu.org](mailto:office@buffalouu.org) to be featured in future eBlasts!