



November 18th -November 25th

This Precious Day

Rev. Joan Montagnes

Our Thanksgiving Communion Service. A deliciously joyful morning of hymn singing flavored with gratitude for all our blessings.

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 Change?"

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.

In Case of Inclement Weather

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo's snow closure policy is that when SUNY Buffalo State College closes due to snow, UUCB closes. You can find information on snow closures for SUNY Buffalo State College at <https://suny.buffalostate.edu/>. Snow closures are typically listed in a red banner at the top of the website. This information is also available on SUNY Buffalo State College's facebook, twitter, and local news stations.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo - ORDER OF SERVICE - 11/20/2022

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude Album für die Jugend Op. 68 No. 24 "Ernteliedchen [A Little Harvest Song]" by Robert Schumann

Chris Sierzchula – piano

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Joan Montagnes

Greet Your Neighbor

Call to Worship

Fran Manly

Chalice Lighting

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

Hymn #68 Come Ye Thankful People

Story for All Ages “Fresh Hot Bread” after the book Thank you, Omu by Oge Mora

Offering

Musical Offering Album für die Jugend Op. 68 No. 30 “Untitled” by Robert Schumann
Chris Sierzchula – piano

Reading “Perhaps the World Ends Here” Joy Harjo

Hymn #70 Heap High the Farmer’s Wintry Hoard

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn #1008 When Our Heart is in a Holy Place

Thanksgiving Communion

Communion Hymn #1048 Ubi Caritas

Blessings for this Precious Day

Hymn #1010 We Give Thanks

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 Album für die Jugend Op. 68 No. 41 "Nordisches Lied [Nordic Song]" by Robert Schumann
Chris Sierzchula – piano

Family Promise Gifting Opportunities and Procedures

This Sunday, November 20 we will have our annual Mitten Tree up. In addition to mittens, scarves, and gloves for Journeys End we will have the opportunity to provide Christmas gifts to two families supported by Family Promise.

Here are the procedures we have been asked to follow in gifting these families.

1. Justice Ministry has created gift tags to be taken off the tree. Each tag includes the age and sex of the recipient as well as the specific gift requested.
2. We have created a spreadsheet which we would like anyone taking a tag to fill out identifying which gift tag they have taken for which individual. The tags will be numbered.
3. Each gift should be wrapped with the gift tag attached to identify who it goes to.
4. All gifts should be returned to church by December 11. Gifts will be taken to Family Promise on December 17.

Gift cards particularly from Tops or Visa cards also would be welcome to allow gifting flexibility. Please label the gift card amount.

We are excited about the opportunity to support Family Promise in its good works. We appreciate all the support that this generous congregation can provide.

If you have any questions or concerns after you commit to a particular gift, please contact Steve Wixson at wixsonsg@gmail.com

Music Ministry

The casual concert for this Saturday 11/19/22, Julia Cordani's Choral Ensemble Incipio, has been cancelled due to inclement weather. Stay Safe!

This Sunday's service will take the form of a "Gratitude Hymn Sing." This will give us all a chance to raise our voices in thanks and praise for all the good things in our lives as we move

into the holiday season. The service's featured hymns will be #68 Come Ye Thankful People Come, #70 Heap High the Farmer's Wintry Hoard, #1008 When Our Heart is in a Holy Place, #1048 Ubi Caritas, and #1010 We Give Thanks. Come join in our joyous sing along and receive the additional gifts of Chris Sierzchula's piano playing at the Prelude, Offertory, and Postlude.

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



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 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 or attend their meetings. (3rd Wed at 7pm in the Alliance Room or via Zoom - <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/97736244745>)

Transgender Day of Remembrance and Resilience



Transgender Day of Remembrance and Resilience has been canceled due to inclement weather. Stay Safe!

November's Share the Plate Recipient: Big Big Table Community Café



community café

Everybody eats. Everybody gives. Everybody matters.

Big Big Table Community Cafe at 272 Hudson St. has a focus on addressing hunger, reducing food waste, and building community. Healthy, seasonal food, portion sizes, and flexible pricing allow for guests of ALL ages and incomes to receive delicious meals. With pay-as-you-can pricing and a significant volunteer component in day-to-day operations, everyone can earn what they need by giving what they have in abundance. Whether a guest has cash, time, or groceries to exchange for their meal, Big Big Table is a restaurant that welcomes everyone who comes in the door. After all, our motto is "Everybody eats. Everybody gives. Everybody matters."

Hy Carrel will be dining at Big Big Table around noon on Monday November 14th and he enthusiastically welcomes anyone to join him for lunch. Big Big Table also invites church members to spread the word by following on social media, sharing posts and buying a token to share a meal with a friend.

UUCB Shopping List for Big Big Table

Baking Supplies

unsalted butter
eggs
kosher salt
all-purpose flour
milk
sugar
dark brown sugar

Cooking Supplies

canned beans
veggie broth
extra virgin olive oil
canned tomatoes
tofu

Produce

celery
carrots
onions
garlic

Restaurant Supplies

a label maker
cork, chalk, or dry erase boards

Basket for items for Big Big Table is available near the garden entrance.

Nominations for Share the Plate

Share the Plate welcomes nominations for recipients for the 2023. Please send your ideas to Steve Wixson wixsonsg@gmail.com

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.

Message from the Director of Religious Education, Jess Pond

Hello UUCB!

It's never too late to register for Religious Education! 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>

I am very excited to say that we will be welcoming the children back for the beginning of worship services starting on November 20! I look forward to seeing a multigenerational congregation for the stories in service again.

Special RE events this week!

Sundays after services – Join us in the Parish Hall to decorate gift bags for the Holiday Bags Prison Project! The table will be in the Parish Hall every Sunday until Thanksgiving.

And exciting Adult Education Programs!

Sundays at 3:00 – Intro to Sufism-Islamic Mysticism with Yunus Kumek! In this course, we will examine the practical aspects of Sufism in our everyday life, especially focusing on meditative, philosophical, and psychological practices that have relevance and meaning in personal spiritual journeys. The class will meet on Sundays, 3:00-4:00 in the Marge Gardner room.

Registration is \$5 per class.

If you are interested in any of the classes, projects, or other groups that we are starting please contact me at jpond@buffalouu.org.

Bright blessings,

DRE Jess

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.

Pulpit Flowers Update

To remember a loved one, or recognize the hard work and efforts of our UU family, flowers make a perfect tribute. Floral bouquets for the pulpit can be ordered for 2023. Please contact Sandra Bissontz at smp1127@yahoo.com to inquire or place your order. Cost is \$50 and the flowers are yours to take home after the service. If you chose not to take them, they will be given to Veteran's Hospital.

Come Join the Snow Ministry!

UUCB is in search of kind and fit volunteers to assist us with snow removal of our garden walkways and deicing this winter season. We do have a company that assists us with snow removal for the sidewalks and parking lot. However, our garden walkways need to be free of snow for those visiting our church. We have all the materials necessary for the job, we just need your help! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kaylan Ruiz, the office administrator at office@buffalouu.org or call 716-885-2136 ext 4.

Growth Through Service

We have been asking for your treasure these past weeks and many have answered the call to rebuild our community. Your donation of dollars is vital.

There is another way to rebuild our community: With your time.

The Nominating Committee has a short survey <https://forms.gle/p6xHZiDY8P9ccEXx9> that will match your passions, interests and skills with our ministry teams, committees, task forces, and ALL the things we do in covenant.

Church work is the best work. It will feed your soul in new and exciting ways.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey: <https://forms.gle/p6xHZiDY8P9ccEXx9>

Thank you

Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch



Usually, Reverend Joan hosts a Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch each week from 10am-11am. Coffee and tea available at the church. No program, no agenda, just a time to get together with the minister. But not this week, voting is more important than coffee!

“Welcome to our Church!”

Question: Is there anything better than being welcomed with a smile and a friendly hello as you enter the church through the Ferry Street doors or the Garden Entrance?

Answer: Yes, being the one handing out the smiles and welcomes to everyone who passes through those doors.

You know who was good at that? Beryl Smith. The smile and welcome our beloved Beryl shared with members, friends, frequent visitors, and first-timers was how she gave a piece of her heart to this community.

It is in Beryl’s memory and spirit that the Welcome and Connections ministry team will help us recreate this community.

You can join in this ministry team and feel the joy from making a connection by saying, “Hello, welcome to our church.”

Interested in feeling that joy? You can make that connection at the welcome table in the Parish Hall, where you will be greeted with a smile.

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!

HOLIDAY BAGS PRISON PROJECT

We have just gotten word that the prisons (Albion and Wende) will be allowing us to do the Christmas Bag Prison Project this year—first time since COVID hit!!

In the past, our church members/families participated in different ways. Here are a few opportunities to add to your calendar for this year:

Decorating/coloring bags in Parish Hall-adults & kids

Collecting ramen noodle packets (individually cellophane wrapped--NOT cups) DONATION TOTE IN GARDEN ENTRANCE LOBBY

Donating funds to assist with sock purchases (We now buy one pre-approved pair of white cotton socks for each person) Checks can be made out to Peaceprints of WNY—"Socks for Prison Project"--written in memo line

Inviting individuals/families to participate in the packing: Friday, 12/9, either 10 am - 12 pm OR 6-9 pm--Blessed Trinity Church, 317 Leroy Ave,
Please contact me to donate checks or for any questions.

Paulette Notaro

Women's Society

Paoletta666@gmail.com

Volunteers Needed-From Compassion to Action

Our Women's Society of the Unitarian Universalist Church in cooperation with the peace prints Prison Ministries, need volunteers to fill Holiday bags with our donated ramen noodles, Book Sale paperbacks, and items donated by other community groups. The two thousand three hundred (2300) bags that need filling, will be distributed to the Womens' and Mens' Correctional facilities in Albion and Wende, in time for the holidays. Volunteers are needed for Friday December 9th at the Blessed Trinity Church at 317 Leroy Ave., Buffalo (1/2 mile from

Main St.) There are two shifts that volunteers can participate in 10am-1pm and/or 6pm to 9pm. Whenever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness. Please contact Paulette Notaro at paoletta4@icloud.com.

Volunteer Compost Custodian Needed

For the past 20 years our church has maintained a large compost pile receiving spent plants from the garden and at one time 40 trees on our property. This saved the City of Buffalo an entire gigantic garbage truck full of waste that would have gone into an overtaxed landfill instead of nurturing beautiful flora. Rev. Joan has advised the current custodian that if he ever expired working on the compost, it would be weeks perhaps before we found him. Time for a new custodian. The job is not time consuming...just arduous for the few hours spent on it. The compost pile is treated three times per year, each taking about three hours. The first is the formation of the pile in November from garden waste and leaves deposited by our landscaping crew. Everything has to be turned over six inches at a time and wetted down with a hose. The second turning in April, maybe Arbor Day, is simpler, but still needing wetting. The third turning near Bastille Day in July is a breeze, maybe a little wetting. End of September: Black Gold, some of the best stuff you can put in your garden.

Be brave.

kelleranthony290@gmail.com

Memorial Plaque

The plaque on the right side of the church containing the names of those whose cremains are in the Memorial Garden area was updated October 30. These names were added:

Grace Burgdorf Martin

Douglas Bissontz

Clifton Lund

We advertised once for a new Keeper of the Plaque in this article that ends up far at the bottom of the Weekly Blast, needing the patience of Job to find it. Kudos to Ron Houk for volunteering for this position. He mentioned a kindness shown to his family by the keepers of this plaque years ago. kelleranthony290@gmail.com



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

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

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

Family Promise: Holiday Giving Program



The Holidays are Coming!

Our Holiday Giving Program is back again!

Whether you are new to this program, or coming back to it for another year, please know that we are so grateful for your support, and are so excited for the amazing holiday season you all will help create!



Here's the Deal

- *You can choose the size of the family you are able to adopt (larger donor groups may get matched with multiple families). This can work for individual families, offices, faith groups, etc.
- *Expect to spend a minimum \$50+ per person in your matched family, but you can exceed this if you want to.
- *We are asking that, at minimum, each person receive a "basic needs" gift of socks and underwear and additionally two gifts from their wish list.
- *You can choose between purchasing actual gifts or mailing us gift cards to limit exposure during COVID.
- *We are also collecting gently used winter gear for our families (coats, hats, gloves and boots). Please ask your friends and family for donations and give as you are able.

Our google form is open, sponsor to family matches will be made mid November, and the program will conclude on delivery day in mid December.

Please reach out to Jenn at outreach@fpwny.org with any questions.

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. 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.

“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

Food Not Bombs

Food Not Bombs is 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. They also need grocery bags. Paper, reusable or plastic.



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 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 Friday.

Monthly Newsletter

Please send any announcements for the newsletter to newsletter@buffalouu.org by the 15th of the month.

Email any UUCB-related photos to office@buffalouu.org to be featured in future eBlasts!