

# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BUFFALO

## May 2023 Newsletter

*Gather - Inspire - Transform*



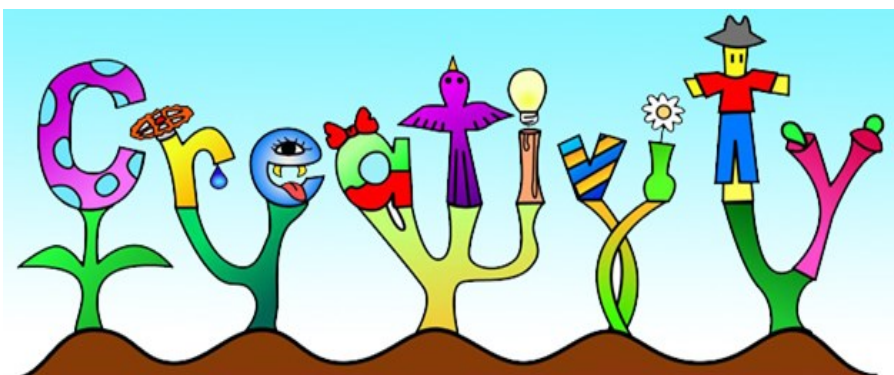
### **Minister's Column: What does it mean to be a People of Creativity?**

Endings and beginnings are exciting times of creative tension. We rest between the known and the unknown, certainty and uncertainty, hopes and fears, and loss and gain. These spaces between “what is” and “what might be” are alive with possibility.

But who wants all that tension? Who wants the anxiety? Who wants to leave the the “comfortable old rut,” especially when we were just getting used to the “comfortable old rut” after all the upheaval of the last three years? Especially when the rest of the world is violently reeling in unprecedented times.

Who wants the all this tension? Trust me, you do.

Apparently, our minds are designed to look for ways to stay comfortable. We look for opportunities to rest and conserve our energy and whenever we can, we hold energy back, just in case we need it for an emergency. We like the “comfortable old rut.” When we’re in a pleasant, easy or luxurious environment, our minds get the message that all is well and we can relax, but when we relax we shut off our motivation, attentiveness, and our creativity.



But just as you are kicking back with your feet up for the proverbial afternoon snooze on the sofa, something happens; like you have a baby, you get a promotion which means twice the work, or you move from one city to another. The “old comfortable rut” is not just gone, its obliterated. And your mind goes haywire. The good news is that our natural response to going haywire is creativity.

Usually when something comes up, we tackle the problems with our left-brain-directed thinking first. We look for technical solutions. We try to use tools at hand to resolve the issue and return to comfort. Only if the left brain can't solve the problem, or if it's a problem that the left brain doesn't like to work with (e.g. what color is a sunny day), will the left brain hand the problem over to the right brain and we start discovering exciting new ways of doing things. We find adaptive solutions. We get creative.

When allow ourselves to live in tension and uncertainty, rather than rush into solving a problem, the left brain is more willing to invite the right brain into activity. That's when you start to find more creative solutions and you discover your hidden superpowers.

Endings and beginnings are exciting times of creative tension. Allow yourself to live in this valuable period of being “in between.” Invite your right brain to the party. Your discoveries and your creativity may surprise you.

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

## Joys and Sorrows

We send healing thoughts to John Marohn as he struggles with cardiac difficulties. We are happy to report that John is moving back to Buffalo after a sojourn in Ithaca with his son.

Congratulations go to Eve Holberg and Doug Sherman who are brand new great aunt and uncle to Adrian Stanley Holberg, born to Brett and Emily. Oh joy!

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## Pulpit Previews

### May 7: The Power of Myth and Music, Jessie Downs

Following our MUUSIC Weekend performance of Henry Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas* on Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm, you can join the UUCB Choir and guest musicians for a more traditional Music Sunday on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. The service will feature readings from Joseph Campbell's *The Power of Myth* coupled with reflections by Dr. Jessie Downs on what happens when myth is set to music. Even if you saw the full opera on Friday, hearing select excerpts from Purcell's masterpiece again will encourage deeper reflection on its spiritual themes - the dark and light inside all of us, the needed catharsis of tragedy, and just what exactly it means to be human.

### May 14: A Year has Passed, Rev. Joan Montagnes

On the first anniversary of the racist murders at Tops, we reflect on our responsibility as neighbors. How did we help create the problem, how have we responded to the shootings, how can we help transform our community?

### May 21: Lessons from the Messes, DRE Jess Pond

We often find ourselves confronting messes in our lives beyond our control; messes made by our children, the government, unavoidable forces of nature. Psychologists have found that working in less organized environments can lead to more creative ideas. So, what can we learn from the messes? Join Director of Religious Education, Jess Pond, and the Religious Education (RE) volunteer team as we reflect on the end of the RE year and celebrate the transitions of our children and youth.

### May 28: A Shrine of Memory, Rev. Joan Montagnes

This Memorial Day Weekend we will continue our tradition of remembering those in our church family who have died. You will also have an opportunity to light a candle and name all your dearly departed of blessed memory. Bring a memento or a photo of your loved one. Together, in the Parish Hall, we will create a shine to those we love who live on in our hearts.

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## Tuesday 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!

## Summer Sunday Services Calling all Preachers!

Our marvelous Tech Team, Worship Associates and Musicians have created an easy way for you to offer your thoughts and spirit to your beloved congregation. We make it easy to put on a show. We want to hear your voice, see your face, share in your wisdom, and soar on your inspiration. And because you are a Unitarian Universalist, we know you have something interesting to say about something.

If you are interested in offering a Summer Sunday service, you will be assigned a Worship Associate who will partner with you all the way from Prelude to Postlude and everything in between. You can take on as much or as little of the service design as you like.

The Worship Ministry welcomes your submission. Just send Rev. Joan an email about your proposed service with:

- Your name
- Possible dates for your service – June 26 - September 4
- Sermon title
- A 10-50 word blurb describing your service
- A 50 word biography
- And if you like, an outline of your sermon so we know where you are headed.

Send your information to [minister@buffalouu.org](mailto:minister@buffalouu.org) We would love to hear from you!

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## OUR CHURCH HISTORY

Thirty-five years ago, novelist Kurt Vonnegut Jr. arrived at our church to give a lecture entitled, “How to Get a Job Like Mine.” The next evening, a new Requiem with text by Mr. Vonnegut and music by Edgar Grana was premiered by the church choir directed by Barbara Wagner.

These events are noteworthy because a new, feature-length video documentary produced by 3-time Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Robert Weide and Don Argott on Mr. Vonnegut “the first of its kind on Vonnegut” — was released in 2021 to favorable reviews and it prominently depicts the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo and its congregants. It is titled, Kurt Vonnegut: Unstuck in Time."

The film starts with Mr. Weide accompanying Mr. Vonnegut to our church; the church and our congregation then appear frequently throughout the film. This video documentary is available for viewing on DVD and on major streaming platforms including Amazon Prime and Hulu, and was nominated for "Documentary of the Year" by the London Critics' Circle Awards.

You are invited to view an exhibit containing front and rear views of the DVD, screenshots from the film featuring our church, and related documents in the display case in the Parish Hall. The exhibit is titled, “New Video Documentary Showcases 1988 Visit by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., to Our Church.” Enjoy!

Bill Parke, Church Historian

## Religious Education & Faith Development News



**Greetings from the Religious Education Ministry!**

**Jess Pond, Director of Religious Education**

Hello UUCB!

Believe it or not, we are coming to the end of the Religious Education year!

The last Sunday of regular Religious Education classes is May 14, and RE Sunday is May 21. On RE Sunday, we have a special worship service reflecting on the past year in Religious Education, and we celebrate the transitions of our children and youth and the dedication of our volunteer teachers. I hope you'll join in our celebrations and share in the special treats we'll have during coffee hour that Sunday!

As this year comes to an end, I can't help but start thinking about the year to come.

Have you ever wanted to teach a religious education class, volunteer in the nursery, or join an adult faith development ministry team? Now is your chance! We will need at least fifteen volunteer teachers, youth advisors, and a few additional nursery volunteers in the upcoming year, as our religious education program and attendance continue to grow!

I am also working on forming two ministry teams for next year: Adult Faith Development, and Religious Education for children, youth, and parents. Would you like to see more faith development programming for adults? Talk to me about joining the Adult Faith Development Ministry Team! Would you like to help with special programming for kids and parents, including potlucks and party planning? Talk to me about the Religious Education Ministry Team!

As always, feel free to reach out to me with any questions or thoughts about Religious Education for any age group at [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org).

I SO look forward to celebrating our Religious Education ministry with you all, as well as the many celebrations we have to come as our year comes to an end and summer begins!

Bright blessings,

Jess

**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>

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**NURSERY IS OPEN!** I am very excited to announce that a new childcare supervisor has been hired, and our nursery will now be open for our littlest members on Sunday mornings, 9:30-12:30. Parents are welcome to bring infants, toddlers, and pre-k children to the nursery immediately upon arrival on Sunday mornings, or after the Time for All Ages when the children leave the service for RE classes. There will be a sign-in sheet in the nursery that you will be asked to fill out during drop-off.

**VOLUNTEER IN THE NURSERY:** In addition to our childcare supervisor, I will be building a list of volunteers to act as the second adult in the nursery for best safety practices. Listen to the streamed worship service while serving the young families in our community! If you would like to volunteer to help in the nursery or for childcare for special events, please email me at [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org).

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**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL) CLASSES!** With a holistic approach, OWL provides accurate, developmentally appropriate information about a range of topics, including relationships, gender identity and



expression, sexual orientation, sexual health, and cultural influences on sexuality. Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their relationships, sexual health and behavior.

It is my hope that we will be able to provide an abbreviated series of workshops for the K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade groups in June or July this summer, with 5 or 6 trained volunteers. There is an online training in May with seven sessions, and all sessions are mandatory to be considered fully trained. Registration for the training is due by March 27. All costs for the training will be covered by the RE budget. If you are already trained in OWL and you would like to help out with workshops this summer, or if you would like to sign up for the training in May to be able to volunteer, please email me at [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org) ASAP! Let's bring OWL back!

## Adult Education Offerings

### **SHAW GOOD TO BE BACK! A Preview (and Review) of the 2023 SHAW FESTIVAL**



**Michael Harris, instructor**

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo  
695 Elmwood Avenue; Buffalo, NY 14222  
11 meetings; Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
May 10 to July 26, 2023**

**Cost: \$70 for course, or \$10 per session**

The course will start remotely using the Zoom platform, with the option to move to in-person meetings at UUCB. To register, send your check (made payable to UUCB) to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo; 695 Elmwood Avenue; Buffalo, NY 14222. [Put 'Shaw Fest 2023' on memo line of check.] For information, call 716-885-2136, or email us at [office@buffalouu.org](mailto:office@buffalouu.org).



### **SHAW GOOD TO BE BACK! – A PREVIEW (AND REVIEW) OF THE 2023 SHAW FESTIVAL**

"Curtain up! Light the lights!" Now that the pandemic is receding, it's a great time to return to the Shaw Festival, and this course is your handy guide to its upcoming season. Anchored by the classic show-biz musical *Gypsy*, the playbill features two premieres of legends: the Hindu epic *Mahabharata* and the C.S. Lewis Narnian tale *Prince Caspian*. Bernard Shaw is represented by the witty comedies *The Apple Cart* and *Village Wooing*, plus his Irish compatriot J.M. Synge by *The Playboy of the Western World*. Novelists James Baldwin (*The Amen Corner*) and Edith Wharton (*Shadow of a Doubt*) provide gripping drama, while Tom Stoppard (*On the Razzle*) and Noël Coward (*Blithe Spirit*) leave 'em laughing. In short, let Shaw entertain you, and you'll have a real good time, yessir!

#### Course Syllabus

- Session One (May 10): *Karma, Dharma and the Gods – Mahabharata* (2023) by Philip Akin and Miriam Fernandes, after the Sanskrit epic poem
- Session Two (May 17): Shaw Returns to Narnia – *Prince Caspian* (2023) by Damian Atkins, based on the C.S. Lewis novel.
- Session Three (May 24): A Spree in Vienna – *On the Razzle* (1981) by Tom Stoppard, based on a farce by Johann Nestroy.
- Session Four (May 31): The Ultimate Stage Mother – *Gypsy* (1959) by Arthur Laurents, Julie Styne and Stephen Sondheim, after the memoir by Gypsy Rose Lee.
- Session Five (June 7): Getting His Irish Up – *The Playboy of the Western World* (1907), by John Millington Synge.
- Session Six (June 14): Love from A to Z – *Village Wooing* (1933) by Bernard Shaw; In the *Spiegel tent* (*A Game of Love and Chance and Mother, Daughter*)
- Session Seven (June 21): Governing the King – *The Apple Cart* (1928) by Bernard Shaw
- Session Eight (June 28): Putting the Irish Down – *The Clearing* (1993) by Helen Edmundson
- NO CLASS ON JULY 5**
- Session Nine (July 12): Unsettled Minister – *The Amen Corner* (1954) by James Baldwin
- Session Ten (July 19): Woman with a Past – *The Shadow of a Doubt* (1901) by Edith Wharton
- Session Eleven (July 26): Ghost of a Chance – *Blithe Spirit* (1941) by Noël Coward



## Banned Book Club with Mary Lou and Sharon

“Books Unite Us. Censorship Divides Us”

In May, we will continue discussing Vol I and II of Art Spiegelman’s graphic novel Maus, the last book in our series for this congregational year.

All are welcome and you can join us at any time. We meet the first and third Wednesday of each month, from 7:00 - 8:30 in the Marge Gardiner Room. For more information, including suggestions for next year, contact Mary Lou Hill and Sharon Walker at [uucbbbc@buffalouu.org](mailto:uucbbbc@buffalouu.org) or Jess Pond at [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org).

**INTO TO SUFISM** - The class will take place on Sundays 12:30-1:30 pm in the Marge Gardner room. The registration fee is \$5/session. Please register by emailing Jess at [jpond@buffalouu.org](mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org).

## Music Notes

### Dr. Jessie Downs, Music Director



**The month of May kicks off with UUCB’s first-ever MUUSIC Weekend!** The Music Ministry hopes to see many of you at our production of Henry Purcell’s opera Dido and Aeneas on Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. For those curious for more context about the story, the show, and our interpretation, come for the 7pm pre-show talk. Come to the show itself for the beautiful music and heart-wrenching story, performed splendidly by our choir, soloists, and guests. Afterward, stay for a reception of food, socializing, and celebration!

Then, on Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> at our usual 10:30am service time, enjoy un-staged excerpts of the show accompanied by reflections on the power of myth and music.

**The second Sunday in May** will mark the one-year anniversary of the horrible mass-shooting at the Tops grocery store in Buffalo. Joan will be reflecting on this tragedy with an eye towards how we can be people of vision and move towards a better tomorrow. On this reflective service, cellist Jonathan Kaledin will share a prelude and postlude from the Bach Cello Suites. The choir will also share two favorites from their repertoire - “Road Not Taken” with music by Randall Thompson that sets the famous poem by Robert Frost, and Bob Chilcott’s arrangement of U2’s “MLK.”

**On Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 2pm**, cool off from Porch Fest with a more classical musical offering inside our sanctuary walls. UUCB pianist Chris Sierzchula will share with us selections from his diverse solo piano repertoire.

**Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> is RE Sunday.** The service will open with Michael Harris’s rendition of “Pure Imagination” from Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. At the Offertory, Jessie Downs and Helen Lowry will share their version of Rod Stewart’s “Forever Young.” As the Postlude, Taryn Goehrig will sing “A Million Dreams” from The Greatest Showman.

**On Sunday May 28<sup>th</sup>** we will observe Memorial Day and reflect on the lives of those whom we have loved and lost. Chris will share reflective solo piano numbers as the Prelude and Postlude. At the Offertory, Helen will sing “Remember Me” from Coco, and the UUCB Choir will sing Moses Hogan’s arrangement of “We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace” as the Reflection.

## From the Board

As members of UUCB we anticipate the arrival of spring and the glorious blossoming of our garden. The Board is grateful for the folks who stepped up to the task of the Interim Minister Search Committee. As is true for many, there is the excitement of what and who will be in Pulpit and great sadness to have Rev. Joan move on. Rev. Joan carries our love and fellowship in all her future endeavors. As a Board we continue to look at and review our policies so they reflect who we want to be. We are hopeful that more of you look to how to be actively involved. Every committee, every activity needs you. The rewards are countless.

- Kate Bell-Schwede

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### How to be in touch with your Board of Trustees:

- To reach the Board, email [board@buffalouu.org](mailto:board@buffalouu.org).
- Attend Board meetings (3rd Wed at 7pm in the Alliance Room or via Zoom): <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/97736244745>.
- To view Current Board of Trustees members click here: [Governance](#).



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### Always be aware that Rev. Joan's Identity can be Used and Abused!

Many emails that look like they are from Rev. Joan are not! Rev. Joan will never: Ask you for gift cards via an email or send you an email on an account ending with gmail.com – **trust only her buffalouu.org account**. If you receive one of these emails, block the sender so they will be unable to send you any more requests. Sadly, there is nothing the church can do to stop the emails because they do not come from the church.



## May Share-the-Plate: [Providence Farm Collective](#)



Providence Farm Collective, founded in 2019, supports refugee, immigrant and Black communities by providing farmland, farming and business education, technical assistance, and markets. The farm helps immigrants from 21 different communities including Somali Bantu, Liberian, Congolese, and Burmese to pass on their cultural traditions and foods. It serves as a summer youth employment program and supports incubator farmers who are working to start their own agricultural small businesses. Following a successful capital fund drive in collaboration with Western New York Land Conservancy, PFC has purchased its farmland in Orchard Park, securing this fertile land for immigrant farmers and saving it from encroaching development.

You have the chance to tour the farm and share a farm-to-table lunch with the farmers on Saturday June 3. A \$34 donation is requested but you may pay what you wish.

Sign up individually at:

[Providence Farm Collective Tour and Lunch Tickets, Sat, Jun 3, 2023 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

or contact [marialtesta@gmail.com](mailto:marialtesta@gmail.com).



### Social Justice action on Earth Day

Who knew it could be so much fun to pick up trash together?!

Scajaquada Creek is a little cleaner after Waterkeeper's annual Shoreline Sweep thanks in part to at least 17 folks representing UUCB who picked

up bags of trash. Other UUs worked at several other locations in the Buffalo area. We did our small part for the interconnected web.

### Pulpit Flowers



To remember a loved one or recognize the hard work and efforts of our UU family, flowers make a perfect tribute. Lots of Sundays are available for ordering Pulpit Flowers. Please consider reserving a date to schedule your floral tribute soon. For \$50 you can share beautiful fresh flowers with the congregation and take home a fragrant arrangement.

In an effort to save the planet, we are asking those who purchase flowers going forward to consider NOT taking home the plastic pot the arrangement is in. After the service, the flowers will be removed from the pot and placed in a large plastic bag. This will make it easier to carry the flowers home, as we encourage those who pay for the flowers to get more enjoyment from their purchase. The florist will re-use the pots, cutting down on our consumption of plastic. If you purchased flowers in the past, you could return the pot(s) to Sandra Bissontz or Ted Bieniek. If you still want to take home the entire arrangement, pot and all, that's OK too. We will ask you after that particular service if you would like to return the pot for re-use. Just contact Sandra Bissontz at [smp1127@yahoo.com](mailto:smp1127@yahoo.com) to place your order, or if you have any questions .



**In the month of May, the Justice Ministry is organizing a non-perishable, vegan food drive for Food Not Bombs!**

Food Not Bombs is a direct action mutual aid group with a rich history dating back to the 60s protests movements. They have chapters in cities around the world, and their philosophy is that food is a right not a privilege. They give out food to anyone who wants it, no questions asked. And they prepare the food every Tuesday at 11am here in our very own church.

Suggested donations included but not limited to:

Spices  
Carbs & vegan proteins  
Canned beans (legumes)  
Crushed tomatoes  
Tomato paste  
Tomato sauce  
Canned vegetables  
Large burrito tortillas  
Chili Paste  
Coconut milk  
Canned Asian vegetables

Anything is welcome, as long as it's vegan and nonperishable! There will be a basket in the garden entrance.



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**I have found that among its other benefits,  
giving liberates the soul of the giver.**

Maya Angelou

## Witness to Injustice: Unraveling Historic Native and U.S. Relations

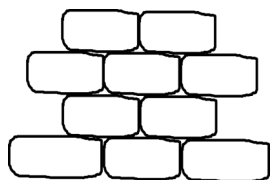
Our Justice Ministry team is excited to invite Buffalo Nekanehsakt to facilitate this exercise on Saturday June 10, 2023 from 12pm to 3pm in our Parish Hall.

This interactive group exercise is a teaching tool that uses participatory education to raise awareness of the history of the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in the part of the world now known as the United States. Through the use of meaningful quotes, and blankets that represent part of Turtle Island (the Western Hemisphere), we explore this shared history that most people rarely learn in traditional settings. We engage in a conversation about the European colonization of Turtle Island in order to deepen our understanding of the denial of Indigenous peoples' nationhood throughout U.S. History. The anticipated cost would be \$25. Our workshop will be similar to the one shown here <https://vimeo.com/129161339>

Please email Hy Carrel [hcarrel@gmail.com](mailto:hcarrel@gmail.com) to express interest or to request a reduced cost. Questions may also be directed to Buffalo Nekanehsakt [buffalonekanehsakt@gmail.com](mailto:buffalonekanehsakt@gmail.com)

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## Memorial Pathway - Paver inscriptions due by May 7!



Orders for paver inscriptions in the Memorial Pathway are processed only once a year. They are due by May 7, 2023. Inscriptions may be one, two, or three lines long. Each line may have up to 14 letters and spaces. One or two I's allows one more letter per I. The cost of the paver is \$150 each. Ashes may be submitted for placement in the Memorial Garden at no cost, or for an offering of \$100 directly under the inscribed paver. Submit text and checks to the office made out to UUCB and the word paver in the For or Memo line. Any questions call Tony Keller at 716-860-0984 or [kelleranthony290@gmail.com](mailto:kelleranthony290@gmail.com).



The **Western New York Refugee Film Festival** continues! This season has a bit of everything: from an unlikely friendship between a Syrian Kurdish refugee and former member of the KKK, to a gay refugee from Uganda now living in Canada and grappling with his new-found freedom during the pandemic, to an Afghan filmmaker documenting on his cell phone the flight of his family on foot to Europe, and much more. **Please see trailers and bookmark the schedule page here:** [www.wnyrff.org](http://www.wnyrff.org) Our film festival is still **virtual and FREE!** If you are able to give, **donations** towards the vital work of Journey's End and to help us cover the costs of the festival are most welcome (suggested donation: \$100). Four films left: April, September, October, December!



**UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
PITTSBURGH • JUNE 21 - 25, 2023

**Represent OUR Congregation this summer at  
the General Assembly!**

General Assembly is the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists, where we conduct business of the Association, explore the theological underpinnings of our faith, and lean fully into our mission and principles. The dates are June 21 - 25, 2023 online or in-person in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Our congregation can send up to 7 delegates. Please consider attending on-line or in person! Pittsburgh is an easy drive from Buffalo! More info from Rev. Joan or check [UUA.org](http://UUA.org).

# Communicating and Connecting at UUCB!

A list with descriptions of our communication channels. Check them out!

## PUBLICATIONS

**The E-Blast.** E-mailed every week, usually on Friday, and provides brief, current news, announcements, and updates.

**Submissions due by NOON on Wednesday. Send to [office@buffalouu.org](mailto:office@buffalouu.org).**

**The Monthly Newsletter.** More in-depth, published every month of the year. Here you'll find Rev. Joan's letter to the congregation, what's coming up in R.E./Adult Ed, and Music, along with news, events, announcements for the coming month (and beyond!).

**Submissions due by the 15th of the preceding month (with some leeway, please let us know if you will be late). Send to [newsletter@buffalouu.org](mailto:newsletter@buffalouu.org).**

**To sign up for our newsletters above, go to <https://buffalouu.org/sign-up>**

## THE UUCB WEBSITE

- Learn about [who we are as UUs](#), and find answers to [FAQs](#).
- Read about our [Accessibility and UAIM Program](#), and who to contact for more info.
- [The current E-Blast](#), which includes the Order of Service. Posted on Friday evenings.
- [The Monthly Newsletter](#) (plus links to past Newsletters)
- Info on [Religious Education and Adult R.E.](#), how to [get involved](#), and become a [member and pay your pledge](#).
- [Sermons and Services](#) archive.

\*Please note: The tabs on the homepage contain info, make sure you click on them (not just the subtabs)\*

**Questions? Comments? Concerns? Email us at [website@buffalouu.org](mailto:website@buffalouu.org)**

## OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT

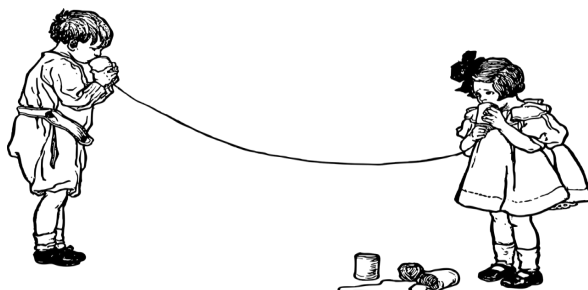
**There is a "Who's Who" bulletin board** in the Parish Hall that has photos of our Staff, Board of Directors, and Lay Pastoral Ministers.

**Board of Trustees** - You can be in touch with the BoT via email, attend board meetings in person or via Zoom, and see the Current Board of Trustees members on the website [HERE](#).

We have a **Religious Education/Welcome Table** in the Parish Hall on Sundays.

**Announcements** are made near the beginning of the church service on Sundays.

**Facebook Pages for our Church in general [HERE](#), for Religious Education [HERE](#).**






**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](http://www.buffalouu.org)

<p><b>Minister:</b> Rev. Joan Montagnes <a href="mailto:minister@buffalouu.org">minister@buffalouu.org</a></p>	<p><b>Administrator of Facilities and Communication:</b> Kaylan Ruiz <a href="mailto:office@buffalouu.org">office@buffalouu.org</a></p>	<p><b>Director of Religious Education:</b> Jessica Pond <a href="mailto:jpond@buffalouu.org">jpond@buffalouu.org</a></p>	<p><b>Music Director:</b> Dr. Jessie Downs <a href="mailto:jdowns@buffalouu.org">jdowns@buffalouu.org</a></p>
<p><b>Care Network:</b> Ginny Vaughan 716-768-1077 <a href="mailto:wixsonsg@gmail.com">wixsonsg@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Gatekeeper:</b> Sara Kirkland <a href="mailto:office@buffalouu.org">office@buffalouu.org</a></p>	<p><b>Administrator for Finance:</b> Donna Sentz <a href="mailto:donnasentz@buffalouu.org">donnasentz@buffalouu.org</a></p>	<p><b>Organist/ Accompanist:</b> Chris Sierzchula</p>
<p><b>Nursery Care Coordinator:</b> TBH</p>		<p><b>Monthly Newsletter</b> <b>(submissions due by the 15th)</b> <a href="mailto:newsletter@buffalouu.org">newsletter@buffalouu.org</a></p> <p><b>Weekly Announcements (E-Blast)</b> <b>(submissions due by NOON Wednesday)</b> <a href="mailto:announcements@buffalouu.org">announcements@buffalouu.org</a></p>	



**A chalice alit since 1831**

A sanctuary on the National Registry of Historic Places

