



May 19th – May 26th

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.

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 Creativity?"

Our Current Masking Status

Our church is currently open for in-person services, and masks are optional.

FOR CURRENT COVID RECOMMENDATIONS PLEASE VISIT:

<https://buffalouu.org/frequently-asked-questions>

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.

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.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo - ORDER OF SERVICE - 5/21/2022

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude "Pure Imagination" from Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory by Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley

Michael Harris – voice, Chris Sierzchula – piano

Welcome and Announcements

Shaun Doyle

Greet Your Neighbor

Call to Worship Gandhi Peace Greeting

Spirit Play Class (Grades 1-3)

Chalice Lighting

We light our chalice to remind us to use our powers

To heal and not to harm

To help and not to hinder

To bless and not to curse

To serve the spirit of freedom.

In the freedom of truth and the spirit of love,

we unite for the worship of the holy

and the service of humanity.

Hymn #6 Just as Long as I Have Breath

Story for All Ages Be a Maker by Katey Howes

Jess Pond

Offering

Musical Offering “Forever Young” by Bob Dylan, Rod Stewart, Jim Cregan, and Kevin Savigar
Jessie Downs and Helen Lowry – voices, Chris Sierzchula - piano

In the Middle Class Reflection

Grades 4-6

Heeding the Call Class Reflection

Grades 7 & 8

Teacher Recognition Ritual

Sermon Lessons from the Messes

Hymn #1051 We Are

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 A Web of Holy Relationships by Lyn Cox

Postlude “A Million Dreams” from The Greatest Showman by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul
Taryn Goehrig – voice, Chris Sierzchula – piano

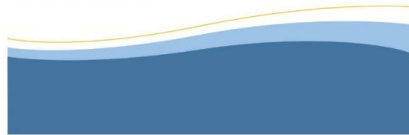


You can share an offering with the church through the following methods:

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>)

Send in Photos of Rev. Joan

We are organizing one big send off for our beloved minister, Joan Montagnes in the month of July. (More on that later!) To help celebrate our time together we are asking for your help. We will be asking for lots of help, but for right now, we are looking for photographs of Joan! These photos can be candid. They can be on or off the Church grounds. They can be digital or physical. We have a use for both! Please bring the physical photographs to Church and drop them off with Bridget Evans or Sandra Van Every. You can also mail them to the church! If you have digital photos please email them to bae812@gmail.com. Let's contribute to celebrate all of the 8 years we have had Joan as our minister! Thank you!

Music Ministry

On Saturday May 20th 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 21st 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 "Forever Young" as made famous by Rod Stewart. As the Postlude, Taryn Goehrig will sing "A Million Dreams" from The Greatest Showman.

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



May's Share the Plate Recipient: 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](#)

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

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 UUCB's Parish Hall at 695 Elmwood Avenue.

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 to express interest or to request a reduced cost. Questions may also be directed to Buffalo Nekanehsakt buffalonekanehsakt@gmail.com

Food Not Bombs Food Drive

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.

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

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>

We hope everyone will join us for the RE Sunday worship service this Sunday where each class will reflect on what they've learned, and we'll recognize the special contributions of our wonderful RE teachers!

After the service, Eileen Katz and Lucy Sloan will be holding an orientation for the Pre-K & Kindergarten class for next year in their classroom upstairs – new families and alumni are all invited to talk about the class and have some goodies!

For Fellowship Hour, we'll also have Anderson's Ice Cream Truck in our parking lot at 12:00 with special treats for everyone. Come join the celebration!

Volunteer in the Nursery

Our religious education ministry continues to grow, and it needs your support! Next year, we will need lots of volunteers for nursery supervision, teaching Sunday morning classes, youth advisors, an Adult Faith Development Ministry Team, and a Religious Education Ministry Team. If you feel called to volunteer and support our religious education ministry, chat at coffee hour with Jess Pond, our Religious Education Director, or email her at jpond@buffalouu.org.

Hearts & Hands



UUCB Fun & Fellowship Auction

We are at 82% of our \$14,000 goal.

There are still events and items available for bidding. Log onto the Auction website for details of each item:

Auction Link: <https://www.32auctions.com/uucbauction2023>

If you are not registered, we will register you and place your bid for you.

If you would like to purchase a "seat" or item, email Juli Van Woert (JVW61@aol.com) or Tom Muka (muka61@aol.com) to place your order. We will place your bid, and notify you of what you have won and what you owe.

Thank you for your generosity and support!!

Auction Update: DON'T MISS OUT

Space is available for these May & June events

E-mail muka61@aol.com to reserve your space

E-3 No Illusions Allentown Walking Tour - Saturday, May 27, 2023 @ 10:45 AM

Donor: Renee Geraci Available: 18 Price: \$20.00

"The goal at No Illusions Tours is to add new stories by telling the story of Buffalo's hidden past, dispelling the illusions about this area and lifting the city up by breaking it down." Meet Maria Blair, creator of No Illusions, for a 90 minute tour of Allentown. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be ready to appreciate this unique city neighborhood like never before. Accessibility: 90 minute walking tour

E-4 Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Patriotic Pops (2 tickets) – Saturday, May 27 @ 7:30 *Donor: Robin Parkinson* Price: \$40.00

E-5 and E-6 Artist Ben Perrone's Triangle House Tours - Saturday June 17, 2023

Choose one: 10:00-11:30 am **or** 2:00-3:30 pm

Donors: Ben Perrone & Gerry Evans Site: 133 School Street, Buffalo 14213 Price: \$10.00

Art and Architecture have been dynamically blended by Ben Perrone's vision in designing and building "the most modern house in Buffalo". This home, including a studio "is a geometric marvel." As well as being a steward for the Earth in creating an energy efficient home and studio, Ben's art has involved "anti-war

installations as well as projects supporting, enhancing and saving the environment.” Ben is graciously opening his home and studio for you to do a self-guided tour, Ben will be available to talk with and answer questions while you enjoy a glass of lemonade/tea on the patio.

E-9 A Cheese-Tasting Event – Saturday June 24, 2023 @ 6:00 PM

Donor: Joan Montagnes Minimum: \$40.00

Meet some of the finest cheeses of the world. And each of these inherently worthy and dignified cheeses can stand alone, but each also has its BFFs. Experiment with scrumptious pairings of wine, fruit, pickles, chutneys, cured meats, nuts and honey. Let the combinations blossom on your tongue, and most important, enjoy, enjoy, enjoy! Accessibility: Stairs to get into house. Allergen alerts: house with cats, heart-stopping dairy.

Other considerations: Limited parking on Irving Place. Let Joan know if you want to carpool or are willing to share your car.

Help us meet our \$14,000 goal! Thank you for your support of the UUCB Auction.

Shaw Good to Be Back! -- A Preview (and Review) of the 2023 Shaw Festival

Starting on Wednesday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m., Michael Harris will be leading an eleven session Zoom course about the 2023 Shaw Festival. Each week, we'll take a play in the Shaw Festival season, learning about its history and hearing Mike's reaction to its production at the Festival. The cost is \$70 for the full course or \$10 per session. Make your check payable to UUCB; put 'Shaw Festival 2023' on the memo line, and include your email address so we can send you the Zoom link. For more information, contact Mike Harris (mharris@buffalouu.org) or call the Church Office at 716-885-2136 (email: office@buffalouu.org).

To the Friends of Janet Sciolino

Janet Sciolino, of blessed memory, passed away on January 18, 2023. Her cremains will be interred in the UUCB Memorial Garden on May 27. All friends of the family are welcome.

To the Friends of Herman Trotter and Rosa Whetzle Trotter

There will be a joint memorial service for Herman Trotter, longtime member and choir member of this church from the early 1960s until the late 1990s, who passed away March 12, and his wife of 28 years, Rosa Whetzle Trotter, who passed away on April 8. The service will be Friday, May 26 at 10:30 AM, at Trinity Episcopal Church (371 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY). Friends are invited to join the families in celebrating their lives.

Pulpit Flowers Update

To remember a loved one or recognize the hard work and efforts of our UU family, flowers make a perfect tribute. For \$50 you can share beautiful fresh flowers with the congregation and take home a fragrant arrangement. Check out the flower chart in the Parish Hall for available dates. Contact Sandra Bissontz at smp1127@yahoo.com to place your order, or if you have any questions.

Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch



Reverend Joan hosts a Tuesday Morning Coffee Klatch each week from 10am-11am. Coffee and tea are available at the church. No program, no agenda, just a time to get together with good company.

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

Gathering of Grievers

There is a Gathering of Grievers that meets regularly the second Sunday of the month. We meet in the Gardner Room (next to kitchen) at noon. We welcome anyone who is grieving the loss of a loved one because we know that grief needs to be shared. For more info, contact Bonnie Collins at 716 967 9268.

Buffalo Collage Club

Ready to play? Member and art educator Julie Carter is hosting the Buffalo Collage Club at our Church! Be ready to use varied materials and play with shapes, textures and colors to create a unique collage each month. Julie will provide guidance and a changing theme. No experience necessary. Feel free to bring any materials you'd like to use or simply work with what is provided. This class is free of charge. We meet at Church on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 7pm to 8:30pm. See you there!

WBFO Promotion

If you think promoting UUCB through spot announcements WBFO was a good idea, here's your chance to put your money where your opinions are. Mark your donations "WBFO Promotion" and all of WBFO's listening audience will hear what this church has to offer, thanks to your generosity.

Garden News

This is one of the most exciting times in the UUCB Garden. New growth is appearing and much maintenance must be done. We invite all who love gardens to help out at one or all these Saturdays at 9:30AM:

- ❖ June 3 prune the hedge in preparation for Ingathering.
- ❖ June 10 build a special raised bed as a gift to the community and for which we have a grant.
- ❖ June plant the dahlias, which have almost become our church emblem.

Tree Planted in Memory of Doug Bissontz

A native species redbud tree was recently planted in the southeast corner of the UU campus in memory of long-time UU member Doug Bissontz. Doug passed away in February, 2021. Bridget Evans generously offered to prepare the site, plant the tree and stake it for support. Doug's family is so grateful for Bridget's hard work.



Women's Society News

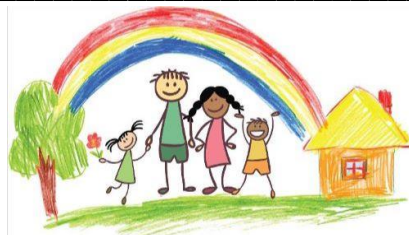
Gypsy at Shaw Festival

There are tickets available at the Women's Society table for Gypsy at the Shaw Festival on June 15 but they are going fast! \$50 for members, \$55 for non-members. And for just \$10, you can also register for Michael Harris's class on Gypsy on May 31 at 9:30 (via Zoom) so you will know all about the show and its history before you go.

"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.



Family Promise News

Family Promise is a unique shelter for families with dependent children who are searching for permanent housing. It is one of only two shelters which keeps families together, not separating teen boys and fathers from young children and mothers. The Center is located on the SS Columba-Brigid RC church campus, at 75 Hickory St. You can help by signing up to bring groceries for one meal. The center will provide a shopping list and a date to drop off the

groceries, or you can order a meal online to be delivered for you. Ms. Reese at the Family Promise Center will help you with the details. Thank you!!!

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.

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

Nancy Wilkins, UUCB Family Promise Coordinator

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 are afraid to leave their homes or send their children to school.

We know we can help to bring stability with our work we need you to help meet their immediate basic needs and more.

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Here are some ways you can help:

- ★ Gift cards for food, medication, cleaning supplies from Tops, Wegmans, Save-a-lot, Aldi's Instacart or Amazon
- ★ Gift cards for fuel or Lyft or Uber
- ★ Gift cards can be dropped at 844 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, NY from 9 AM to 4 PM
- ★ Monetary donations to assist with added safety measures for homes can be made to
- ★ Child & Family Services' Buffalo Families Fund at cfsbny.org

With your support we will be here for the families as they try to get through each day and determine what they need to feel safer and more secure. Child & Family Services is here to help anyone who may need extra support during this difficult time. Please call 716-842-2750 to talk to a counselor.



Donations Sought for Food Not Bombs

Food Not Bombs is asking for clean, dry #5 containers with lids. Examples are from large yogurt, cottage cheese or round or rectangular take out containers. Not sure how to identify a #5 container? Check the bottom for triangle with 5 inside.

Buffalo Food Not Bombs is seeking donations of folding tables, bike carts, and food storage bins- if able to donate any of these, please [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.

Please send a 50 word/2-3 line version for the Order of Service.

Eblast and Order of Service Entries may be edited for clarity and space.

Eblast is sent out every Friday.

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!