

Issue

July 2022

# The Foreword



**UU AMHERST**

*Fostering Justice  
and Compassion*

The Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst  
6320 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221  
634-3010 (x101 for office)  
Office Hours Tues.—Fri. 9am to 2pm [www.uuamherst.org](http://www.uuamherst.org)

## Our Staff:

### Minister (sabbatical May-Sept.)

Rev. Michelle Buhite  
Office.....x102  
[minister@uuamherst.org](mailto:minister@uuamherst.org)

### Director of Faith Development

Angela Warren  
Office.....x104  
C: 716-380-0416  
[dfd@uuamherst.org](mailto:dfd@uuamherst.org)

### Caretaker

Chris Barry

### Finance Clerk

Camilla Lee.....x103  
[bookkeeper@uuamherst.org](mailto:bookkeeper@uuamherst.org)

### Office Administrator

Elaine Harrigan.....x101  
[administrator@uuamherst.org](mailto:administrator@uuamherst.org)

### Minister Emerita

Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener

## MINISTER'S HOURS

While Rev. Michelle is on sabbatical (May-August), there is a team managing her Pastoral and Sunday Worship activities. See contact information on page 2.

## Our Covenant

*Together we promise:  
To gather in compassionate  
community,  
To celebrate diversity of thought and  
unity of spirit;  
And to seek wholeness for ourselves,  
our children, and our world.*

## SUNDAY SERVICES JULY AT 10:30 AM

**Due to rising Covid rates, mask wearing indoors is recommended.** Sunday Services are continuing as dual platform—both in-person and livestreamed. A link to our YouTube channel is available on our website. You can view the recorded service anytime on the channel. Invite friends and family to church! Remember that coffee hour follows with beverages, only; no food!

### July 3rd General Assembly Service

This week's service will be a recording from the prior week's General Assembly. Your Faith Development team will be engaged in alternate activities.

### July 10th "Welcome" Rev. Sue Frawley

The concept of welcome as a noun, verb, adjective and, most important, daily living will be explored. See bio on page 10.

### July 17th "Stuck Together with God's Glue" Rev. Bruce Beisner

The seventh principle of our faith encourages us to live with respect for "the interdependent web of all existence." Most often we think of this statement as relating to our relationship with the natural world and our call to address issues like climate change. Imagine what might happen if we expanded this notion of interdependence and placed it at the center of our spirituality. Our sermon on July 17 will explore what it would mean to name and claim the web of existence and our inter-relatedness as the "god" we choose to worship. See bio on page 10.

### July 24th "Striving" John Snodgrass

Many religious traditions center on a lifelong struggle against fear and temptation, and even without religion we all strive for a positive sense of self. The struggle can be difficult, but it helps us to develop our strengths, accept our limitations, and understand our role in relation to the world around us. See bio on page 10.

### July 31st "Emancipation Day" Rev. Amy Beltaine

Emancipation Day (the end of slavery in the English Empire), in the Caribbean is celebrated as a part of Carnival. Freyasblot/Lughnasadh/Lammas (usually celebrated on August 2) is a festival to recognize the first fruits that are gathered after long and hard work. Let us explore the ways we "snatch joy from the jaws of despair." How have painful times and loss invited us into moments of joy? And how do joy and celebration help us through times of no hope? Our work is not done, but we must take time to celebrate! See bio on page 10.

## A REPORT FROM YOUR SABBATICAL TEAM

Dear Friends,

We have reached the midpoint of our Sabbatical. Thank you to all of you who have respected Rev. Michelle's Sabbatical and have not contacted her.

This is a good time to review what a sabbatical is. A sabbatical is NOT a vacation, it is an opportunity for:

**Reflection-** Rev. Michelle studies, writes, and learns new skills which she will then bring back and use to enhance the overall church experience.

**Renewal-** Creativity flows when synchronicity of the body, mind and spirit are in balance.

**Recharging/ Reconnecting-** Balance happens best when one is connected to that which gives ultimate meaning and purpose to life.

**Restoration-** As Rev. Michelle "recharges her battery" she will also restore a sense of healthy balance which will, in turn flow into the life of the congregation.

**Rejuvenation/ Revitalization-** Lowering stress levels offers opportunities to increase one's overall well-being and make space for change of perspective, growth, new stories and new skills.

**Reclaiming-** The health of UU Amherst depends on our ability to take more ownership for decision making and the ministry of the church.

**Responsibility** – The congregation comes together and takes on leadership. The congregational benefits of a sabbatical can be opportunities for growth and overall learning experiences for everyone. This can be a time of discernment for decisions regarding the physical plant, programming, outreach and mission of the church as we grow forward.

The positives of Sabbatical remain long after the 4 months and will help the church blossom in new ways... beyond what we imagine especially when we work together to cultivate love and leadership.

The Sabbatical Team's worship responsibilities are visible every Sunday. Pastoral care is available on an as needed basis by Rev. Lisa Peterangelo. Rev. Lisa has been working with Cindy Baumgartner to plan Ralph's memorial service on Wednesday, July 13th.

We are looking for support on Sunday mornings for Greeters, Ushers, and Coffee Hour. It does mean getting to church at 10:00 a.m. instead of 10:30. But how wonderful to have someone to welcome newcomers and to get people settled in the sanctuary! Let us know if you can help!

If you don't catch us on Sunday with your questions or concerns, you can email the whole team at [uuca-sabbatical@googlegroups.com](mailto:uuca-sabbatical@googlegroups.com). As always, administrative questions should be directed to Elaine in the office at [administrator@uuamherst.org](mailto:administrator@uuamherst.org).

For your reference, your Sabbatical Team and each person's area of focus:

Rev. Lisa Peterangelo Pastoral Care [pete230237@gmail.com](mailto:pete230237@gmail.com)

Angela Warren Guest Speaker Contact [dfd@uuamherst.org](mailto:dfd@uuamherst.org)

Nancy Faery Worship Coordinator [nancyfaery4@gmail.com](mailto:nancyfaery4@gmail.com)

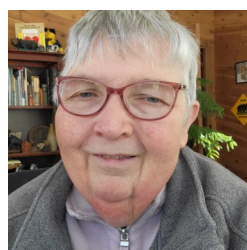
Lauraine Marcus Communication Coordinator [cornell\\_marcus@yahoo.com](mailto:cornell_marcus@yahoo.com)

Hella Jacob Guest Speaker Honoraria [hellajacob@me.com](mailto:hellajacob@me.com)

We have appreciated the positive support and feedback we have received for our efforts in May and June. We look forward to continuing to serve you during the coming months.



Rev. Lisa Peterangelo



Lauraine Marcus



Hella Jacob



Angela Warren



Nancy Faery

## BOARD REPORT

A sincere thank you all who participated in the 2022 Congregational Annual Meeting held on Sunday, June 12th. While meeting in person would certainly have been preferable, holding the gathering fully remote generally worked well. Hopefully, revisions to the state Religious Corporations laws (we must follow these rules when conducting business meetings) will be amended soon allowing future congregational meetings to be dual platform with both in-person and remote participation possible.

The congregation unanimously elected Bob Johnson, Randy Kent and Tom Langan to the Board of Trustees; Marjorie Buscher, Marlana Rice and Jackie Senders to the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee, and Dorothy Reade to the Endowment Trust. Congratulations to all!

On behalf of the my fellow Trustees and the entire congregation, I want to sincerely thank Laurie Kasnicki, Karen Thompson and Don Tucker for their service as their Board terms come to an end. In particular, we should all be grateful for Karen's dedicated and tireless efforts as Chair of the Board over the past two years. Thank you Karen for everything you have done in support of our beloved community.

Bob, Randy and Tom will be joining Linda Gardner, Jeanine Moyer and I on the Board. Unfortunately Emily Garrett has decided to step back from her Board position. We thank Emily for her valuable service on the Board - you'll be missed! The new Board will have the opportunity to appoint a replacement to complete Emily's unexpired term.

The congregation also overwhelming approved moving forward with the installation of the new digital sign for the church. The vote to authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$76,000 for the new sign allows for the final design to be concluded, vendor contracts awarded, necessary town approvals and permitting obtained, and the required ancillary infrastructure improvements completed to proceed as quickly as possible, all in advance of the actual sign installation. Given the current challenges facing the construction industry, it is unclear how long this entire process will take, but we will keep you informed.

As a Reminder, the new sign is being fully funded by generous member donations and with the financial support of the Endowment Trust!

The congregational vote to revise the By-Laws to reflect a change in the church's operating and budget year to a January - December calendar year basis failed to attain the required 75% affirmative approval margin. Accordingly, the proposed interim six-month July 1 - December 31, 2022 operating budget (and UUA contribution) was not able to be considered during the meeting. The new Board, in collaboration with the Finance Committee, will be reviewing all of the available alternatives (which could include an e-vote on the proposed By-Law revisions). A special congregational meeting will be required no matter what course is determined; stay-tuned for more information.

The new Board will have met by the time you are reading this in order to elect its officers for the upcoming period and to set its near-term action priorities. Check the Weekly Update of June 24th to learn who has been elected to serve as Board Chairperson; Vice-Chairperson and Secretary.

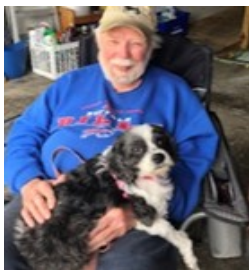
Significant opportunities & challenges face the congregation and the new Board will strive to provide effective leadership while working collaboratively with all segments of our church to balance both the realities of the immediate pressing financial concerns and our mutual desire to grow our membership, improve our facilities, and expand our outreach, connection and support to the broader community, all while living the seven UU principles of our cherished liberal religion.

Bruce Becker, Board Secretary



NOTE: Color scheme & street number placement have not been finalized.

## MEET YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE



(William) John Thompson,  
Chair

- BS University of Georgia ( Majors: Chemistry and biology)
- Worked 40 years as a Field Investigator with the Food and Drug Administration with expertise in medical devices and drugs. In that role doing on site investigation of manufacturers with blood products, pharmaceuticals and medical devices. Data analysis imperative to determine drug safety and efficacy. Supervised and trained FDA Field Investigators, negotiated merit awards for employees under my supervision. Was called upon to testify as an expert witness on the state level cases involving revoking medical professional licenses in various areas of practice.
- Started an independent family church in Lexington, KY
- Served on 2 church boards in North Carolina and Kentucky
- Co-led the annual generosity drive for the last 6 years
- Chair UUCA Finance Committee for 3 years
- UUCA Endowment Trustee 1 year
- Direct my own investments through Morgan Stanley for 30 plus years



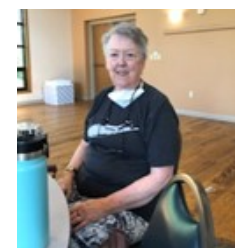
Karen Thompson

- Owned and operated a flower and gift shop with 6 employees for nine years
- WTA contract negotiator for 139 employees for over 25 years at Wilson Central School 4 times as lead negotiator
- Math Council facilitator through N-O BOCES for 21 schools for 5 years
- Elementary math coach for 6 years
- NYSUT region 6 leader of the year 2016
- UUCA pledge drive lead 6 years
- Pledge drive hospitality chair 2 years
- Led appeal for 3 FOI
- UUCA Board terms 2 times, 2 years chair, 3 years vice chair
- Chaired: Personnel Committee 6 years, Right Relations 12 yrs, Membership 6 yrs, Finance Council 4 yrs., Finance Committee 3 years
- Treasurer EAA Chapter 84
- Chair the financial book review for Eastern Niagara Retired Teachers
- 40 years in education as a teacher and coach



Dennis Bihl

- Served 10 years on the UUCA Endowment
- Chair of Endowment 2 years
- Ran UUCA Annual Pledge Drive 1 year
- UB graduate
- 54 years with Huy Construction Company as Construction Supervisor
- Direct my own investments with Ameritrade



Dorothy Reade

- Degree in accounting
- Staff accountant at Foundation for Jewish Philanthropy for 15 years until retirement
- Very interested in the financial health of UUCA



Barry Kent

- Served on Board - 2 times
- Former Board Chair and Vice Chair BSME – RPI
- Dedicated at UUCA at the Christmas 1958 service
- Worked on / developed about 20 UUCA Budgets
- Former chair of finance committee
- Chair of the pledge drive (6 times)
- Chair of the Capital Campaign for the 1999-2000 (new Emerson Room)
- Business Background - Sales Manager for \$30M company

**WE ARE:**

**ALL CONNECTED**

**STRONGER TOGETHER**

**LOVE'S HANDS IN THE WORLD**

**CALLED TO CREATE JUSTICE**

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE ANOTHER AND THE EARTH**

## FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Dear UU Amherst Members and Friends,

As we honor the wheel of the year entering into the summer months, we fill ourselves with the vitality of this time, and we look to move more deeply into Discernment of the direction of this beloved community.

Over the next two months, I will aspire to visit our small group ministries as we remember that Faith Development is for All at UU Amherst. The Thursday Lunch with Friends Zoom will be used for two Discernment Circles on July 7th and 21st at noon. This is a starting point to seriously ask ourselves what our core values are and how we show them to the world.

As the sign project moves forward to show the community better who we are, have we really figured out what is going on inside? Inside the building and the rest of the campus we so cherish, is there a reflection of what we will be shouting at the street to “get younger families” here? Are we asking the right questions in the first place? How can we continually improve our processes to be the most inclusive we can possibly be, even among ourselves, BEFORE we grow. What happens when harm is done? Do we have the resiliency to repair it, or do we leave the circle?

Our ongoing projects have been set up in the Emerson Room for all to enjoy as they wish. Thanks so much to Marge Marcille and Joan Sillman for your help in coordinating this our harden sign project for the gardens outside in preparation for the Living Green Festival.

“Friends, as we dream of the season ahead, let’s all sit more with what we believe, what we want, what we are becoming.

Let’s see if our deepest motivations in fact have even deeper motivations. If our deepest needs have even deeper needs. If our dreams have even deeper dreams.”

In Service,  
Angela Warren, UU Amherst Director of Faith Development



## GREEN JUSTICE TEAM

The planting has begun in the new garden beds in the front of the church! We have introduced tomatoes, peppers, celery, squash, cucumbers, eggplants, onions, garlic, potatoes, artichokes, collard greens, kale, and herbs. The literal fruits of this labor will help to provide the Amherst Little Free Pantry with fresh produce. Sunflowers have also been planted across the property. We will nurture them to show our solidarity with Ukraine and with peace. If you are interested in helping out with this effort, please contact Angela at [dfd@uuamherst.org](mailto:dfd@uuamherst.org).

The planning for the Living Green Festival, scheduled for the weekend of September 9 through 11, is well underway. If you're interested in helping out with the planning and organizing efforts, please attend one of our upcoming meetings or reach out to Jeanine at [jeanine.moyer@gmail.com](mailto:jeanine.moyer@gmail.com). We will be meeting in-person at the church on Thursday, June 28th at 6:00 pm. Please feel free to bring a brown-bag dinner for yourself; we will eat before exploring the grounds to determine the best layout for the festival. We will then meet virtually on Thursday, July 7th at 7:30 pm via Zoom.

In addition to planning for the festival, we will need many people to volunteer to help out throughout the festival weekend. There will be many tasks, including setup, take-down, security (providing directions and ensuring that people don't wander into parts of the church not open for the festival), and even goat watching! We will be asking for volunteers for specific tasks and shifts as we get closer to September, but if you know now that you will be able and willing to help out then please let us know. —Jeanine Moyer

## JULY 2022 CALENDAR

**PLEASE NOTE:** In person meetings are now able to resume. Some will continue to be virtual-only; others will be dual platform (Zoom and in-person); and some in-person only. See the notation after the meeting. Zoom links for general church groups are published in the *Weekly Update* unless they are hosted on a private account. Zoom events taking place in the Zadmin, Zfd, or Zrev rooms are identified with the abbreviation.

### Coffee Hour

Our fellowship time over a beverage has returned, but food during coffee hour has not. The potential for exposure to the Covid virus is directly linked to the amount of time we linger at the table. Unless it is a church activity (picnic or special event), we will not be including snacks at coffee hour.

**Sunday, July 3rd** (monthly 1st Sun)

**11:45 am:** Little Free Pantry Meeting LR & Zoom

**Thursday, July 7th**

**7:30 pm:** Green Justice Team Meeting Zoom

**Sunday, June 10th** (monthly 2nd Sunday)

**12:00 pm:** Poetry a Practice Reeb & Zoom

**Wednesday, July 13th** (monthly 2nd Weds)

**1:30 pm:** Caring Team Zoom

**2:00 pm:** Ralph Baumgartner Memorial Service

**7:30 pm:** Green Justice Team Zoom

**Sunday, July 17th** (monthly 3rd Sun)

**11:30 am:** FD Team Meeting

**Tuesday, July 19th**

**6:00 pm:** Endowment Trust Meeting EM

**Wednesday, July 20th** (monthly 3rd Wed)

**1:00 pm:** 3rd Wednesday Covenant Group Zoom

**5:00 pm:** Finance Committee EM

**7:00 pm:** Bofinger Covenant Group Zoom

**Thursday, July 21st** (monthly 3rd Thu)

**12:00 pm:** UU Amherst Book Group Lunch—Off site

**7:00 pm:** Ministry Council Zoom

**Thursday, July 28th** (monthly 4th Thu)

**7:00 pm:** Covenant Group EM

Continued

**RECURRING:**

**UU Universe-ity Sunrise Sessions continue M-F, 8:30 am.**

**Saturdays, July 2nd-30th**

**9:30 am:** Shared Caring Circle Zoom Zrev

**7:00 pm:** Birch Bunch Zoom Zadmin

**Sundays, July 3rd-31st**

**10:30:** Church service—in-person and livestream  
Coffee Hour following

**Mondays, July 4th-25th**

**7:00 pm:** Tulip Crabapple Zadmin (weekly)

L. Marcus

**7:00 pm:** Lighthearted Larches (7/4; 7/18)

D. Tucker

**7:30 pm:** Marvelous Maples (7/4; 7/18)

D. Bofinger

**Tuesdays, June 5th-26th**

**12:30 pm:** Women's Study Group Zoom

**Wednesdays, July 6th-July 27th**

**10:00 am:** Sabbatical Team Meeting Zoom

**10:30 am:** Willow Village Zadmin (2nd & 4th Weds: 7/13 & 7/27) J. Senders

**7:00 pm:** Northtowns Village (7/20)

**Thursdays, July 7th-28th**

**12:00 pm:** Lunch with Friends Zadmin Zoom

### MINISTRY COUNCIL

The Ministry Council meets via Zoom on the 3rd Thursday of each month. If you'd like to attend the meeting, contact Lauraine Marcus (cornell\_marcus@yahoo.com) for the Zoom link. No proposals for new ministries will be entertained during Rev. Michelle's sabbatical.

### HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT?

Email: administrator@uuamherst.org

For Newsletter: by 10:00 am on the 16th

For Website: two weeks prior to event

For All Church list serve: daily during the week.

For Weekly Update: Fridays by 10:00 am

**Administrator/Office Hours:**

**Tuesday through Friday—9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

# Living Green Festival

September 9-11, 2022



Let's Goat Buffalo Returns!

Folk Dancing    Storytelling with Perry Ground

Forest Bathing    Labyrinth Walk

Tours of the Grounds

Guest Speakers

Campfire & Music, Friday

Skiffle Minstrels, Saturday

Food Trucks    Basket Raffle

Vendors with Information about Living Green

**Sponsored by the Green Justice Team**



## UU AMHERST BOOK GROUP

Our next meet up is an off-site on Thursday, July 21st. We've reached the in-person capacity, but have arranged for a special one-time Zoom link for those who would like to join virtually. We will be discussing a topic: gun control / the NRA.

**If joining via Zoom: 1:00-3:00 pm:**

**Zoom Link: (clickable link will be published in the Weekly Update and sent to members via email)**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337696726?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337696726?pwd=ZjRPeE5YVHdNSENRUy9lZm9lRFRDdz09)

[pwd=ZjRPeE5YVHdNSENRUy9lZm9lRFRDdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85337696726?pwd=ZjRPeE5YVHdNSENRUy9lZm9lRFRDdz09)

**Meeting ID: 853 3769 6726**

**Passcode: 087899**

**One tap mobile:**

+19292056099,,85337696726#

**Dial by your location**

+1 929 205 6099

**Meeting ID: 853 3769 6726**

Our next meeting at church will be Sunday, September 25th, at 12:00 pm in the Living Room. We'll be discussing one book - *Paradise Falls: The True Story of an Environmental Catastrophe* by Keith O'Brien. It's about Love Canal in Niagara Falls, NY.

If you have any questions, please contact Marie Evans or Grace Little.

## Lending Library

Check out the Lending Library in the glass curio cabinet at the north end of the Emerson Room (when building is open). Sign out whatever you'd like in the spiral notebook.

(Secular novels and books about social justice issues can be found in the church Living Room on the Bookshelves.)

## Contributing to UU Amherst

1. The **Giving** option on the church website (uuamherst.org)
2. A NEW phone app "**GivePlus+**" for your phone
3. Texting a donation to phone # **833 987 1968**
4. Mailing a check [remember to fill in the Memo]
5. There is the traditional Sunday Plate
6. Don't forget Legacy Giving - in your will

## AMHERST LITTLE FREE PANTRY

**"Category of the Month": Canned Fruit and Fruit Cups**

**Category of the Month means the Pantry has a shortage of those particular items.** However, ALL food and personal care donations are gratefully received **at any time**. Also, the Pantry could use bar soap and deodorant now that it's summer.

### REFUND THE PANTRY

**The collection bins for recycling are available. PLEASE BAG CLEAN CANS & BOTTLES RATHER THAN PUTTING THEM LOOSE INTO THE BINS TO DISCOURAGE ANTS.**

Best of luck to MARIEL GOUSIOS as she heads off to begin her college adventures. Mariel developed the Refund The Pantry fundraiser and raised over \$800 for the Pantry over the last 2 years! Muchas Gracias!

A huge thank you to JUDY CHURCHILL for taking on the Refund the Pantry fundraiser. Judy has been a Pantry volunteer since its inception.

She will pick up all the cans and bottles donated in our bins near the garden closest to the trash area. Please rinse your cans and bottles and place them in plastic bags to make Judy's job a little less sticky!

—Cheryl Tomasulo, cftomasulo@gmail.com

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## ENDOWMENT TRUST

Marie Evans, outgoing trustee and chair of the Endowment, wrote an extensive review of the Trust's activities over the course of the past 12 months in the Church Annual Report. To get a sense of the Church/Trust interdependence, please read that report. Marie has served 5 years as an Endowment Trustee and more recently as its chair. She will be missed. At the same time, the Endowment looks forward to Dorothy Reade joining its membership, having been elected to a 5-year term at the Annual Meeting.

The Trust is aware of the current volatility of the financial markets in which we have our investments. We are maintaining a 60/40 stock/bond ratio. We will continue to discuss this with Michael Angelucci, Certified Financial Planner of Level Financial Advisors. Our next meeting is scheduled for July 19th, at 6:00 pm at church. At that meeting, the Trustees will determine their roles for the upcoming year. Church members are welcome to attend (please contact a Trustee in advance if you have a specific topic/question).

Trustees continuing forward are Joe Rautenstrauch (term expiring in June 2023); Elaine Cusker (2024); Lauraine Marcus (-2025); and John Thompson, at-Large (-2026). New Trustee: Dorothy Reade (-2027); Church Board Liaison: TBA

-Lauraine Marcus, for Trustees Marie Evans, Joe Rautenstrauch, Elaine Cusker, and John Thompson



## COMMITTEE ON MISSION

With the end of the church year, Suzanne Christ rotated off of the Committee on Mission (CoM). Thank you, Suzanne, for your dedication and hard work in helping to form the CoM and serving as our chair for 3 years. You will be missed!

Diane Bofinger is our new chair and Marge Marcille is our new scribe (minute-taker). Jeanine Moyer is our liaison member from the Board. We are awaiting Board approval of a nominated new member to serve a 3-year term and replace Suzanne.

As we transition into the summer and new church year, the members of the Committee on Mission (CoM) are eagerly preparing for the coming year. Having met with three teams over the past year we are now looking at the selection of two teams with whom to begin work in the fall. As we begin anew with these two teams, we will be revisiting the three teams with whom we have already conferred to see how efforts are going in reaching their goals. It should be an exciting year!

—Diane Bofinger, CoM Chair



## COVID CORNER

Two plus years of masking, hand washing, social distancing, vaccinations, etc. “It is no longer necessary to wear a mask”...you have no idea how many times I heard this when I traveled recently. The world opened up and I was able to take my long delayed transatlantic voyage to Europe followed by 3 weeks cruising the Mediterranean Sea. It was glorious! We masked, washed, social distanced, got a vaccine booster 2 weeks prior to travel, tested ourselves the day before leaving the ship. Whew, we dodged the bullet...Covid negative. Three more days before we fly to Toronto (no Covid test required to enter Canada). Long flight where we were among the very few who wore masks. Upon entry, we were chosen for a “random” Covid test. Barbara...negative. Barry...POSITIVE.

What happened? We protected ourselves but no one protected us. The virus is out there. There will be more mutations. You don’t know who among us are immune compromised.

The UUCA will continue to monitor the county, state, and national Covid requirements. We will continue with air filters and promote dual platform services. We will open up based on governmental requirements. This is not perfect, but isolation is not the answer. Welcome to our new normal. Stay safe, stay informed, and assume those around you may be immune compromised.

We are a caring community. Care enough to help keep our community safe and healthy.

—Barbara Kent Gauger

## BECOME A CHALICE LIGHTER



A chalice lighter responds to three calls a year for contributions that are pooled to fund special grants for UU churches in the Central East Region (CER). Contributions can be in any amount-\$20 or more per call is recommended, but whatever you can afford will be thankfully accepted. As our congregation is receiving a grant of \$20,000 to upgrade our technology, you can see how your contributions are valuable. Helping neighboring congregations to realize their dreams is a splendid way to cooperatively grow the faith. To sign up just go on line to: [www.uua.org/central-east/programs/chalicelighter/cerclsignup](http://www.uua.org/central-east/programs/chalicelighter/cerclsignup)

## CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER RECIPES Provided by Christine Boczarska and Faith Pham

Christine Boczarska and Faith Pham are sisters and dedicated members of our Caring For One Another group. They provide occasional meals to church members on an as-needed basis. With the meal they generally include a “goodie bag” and a card on behalf of the Caring Group. Each month you’ll find one of their healthy recipes here in *The Foreword* often incorporating fresh vegetables and even gluten-free.

This is a quick, refreshing meal that is heavy on veggies and delicious.

### **Vietnamese Lettuce Wraps**

Pork roast, or any meat, cold and thinly sliced  
Bibb lettuce leaves or a similar type, washed and dried  
Carrot sticks, thinly sliced  
Cucumber sticks, thinly sliced  
Scallions, thinly sliced lengthwise  
Sprouts  
Cilantro or parsley if you prefer  
Cellophane noodles, cooked and cold. Available in the Asian food section in the supermarket.  
Hoisin sauce

Serve each ingredient on a separate plate. To assemble, take a lettuce leaf and in it place some of the above ingredients, to your taste. Drizzle on hoisin sauce, wrap the lettuce leaf in a roll, tuck in one end, and eat by hand. Delicious with beer. Prosecco or seltzer water accompaniment.

To make this vegetarian, substitute seitan, fried portobello mushroom strips or crisply fried tofu for the meat.

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## SUNDAY SERVICE OFFICIANTS

### **July 10th Rev. Sue Frawley**

Rev. Susan Frawley is an Amherst resident who works as the Pastor for the Hamburg UU church. Rev. Frawley also does circuit pulpit supply in WNY. She currently works as a legal assistant for Center for Elder Law and Justice.

### **July 17th Rev. Bruce Beisner**

Rev. Bruce Beisner serves as minister of All Peoples-a Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Louisville. He is a graduate of Meadville Lombard Theological School and led the Bay Area UU Church in suburban Houston, Texas for nine years before coming to Kentucky in the summer of 2021. Bruce and his husband, Jim, now reside just up the street from Churchill Downs and are the proud "parents" of two beautiful basset hounds named Rose and Lily.

### **July 24th John Snodgrass**

John Snodgrass teaches courses about myth, ritual and critical thinking at Canisius and Medaille. He is the author of "Chaos" and "Supernatural Shakespeare: Magic and Ritual in Merry Old England." He and Elizabeth live in Buffalo with their four children.

### **July 31st Rev. Amy Beltaine**

Rev Amy Beltaine provides a UU ministry of spiritual mentoring through individual and group appointments, Sunday services, rites, and rituals. Helping friends and family of the oppressed to break open instead of being broken by the pain in the world. When (spouse) Hawthorne and Amy are not pulling their little home behind them, they are at home in Portugal or in Portland, Oregon. A graduate of Meadville Lombard School for the Ministry, Amy is on the coordinating committee of the UU Spiritual Directors’ Network and chair of the Spiritual Direction program at Cherry Hill Seminary. Amy is a nearly life-long earth-honoring Process Pan-en-theist...and... aspires to become a *Love-Ninja*. Connect with Amy at <http://amybeltaine.info>.



## July 2022 U.U.—U.N.NEWS

14 June 2022

### “The Rule of International Law and the U.N.’s Agenda 2030”

The rule of international law is the foundation of the United Nations. On the international level, it is fundamental to international peace and security. All 193 United Nations Member States have an obligation to abide by the United Nations Charter and the wider body of international law. All 193 United Nations Member States are expected to abide by these laws and work to ensure that seeking world peace is the essence of the United Nations work to promote the rule of international law at the international level.

On 24 September 2012, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a Declaration emphasizing the importance of the rule of international law. The United Nations provides rule of international law assistance to over 150 United Nations Member States. The United Nations has also developed a large body of universally agreed upon norms and standards. The Declaration builds upon the fundamental formula of the 2005 United Nations World Summit. There is no peace without development; there is no development without peace; and there is no lasting peace and sustainable development without respect for human rights. The United Nations’ challenge now is to implement this Declaration. Promoting the rule of international law is, therefore, an extremely important task for the United Nations. Coordinating this process is very difficult, given the large number of United Nations Member States and their usual intransigence. United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres is attempting to promote this process of coordination.

The challenge for the United Nations, therefore, will be to encourage all 193 United Nations Member States to implement the United Nations Agenda 2030 and the U.N.’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The U.N. Agenda 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The United Nations Agenda 2020 is devoted to enhancing the rule of international law and encourages all 193 United Nations Member States to abide by it. At the present time, most U.N. Member States abide by the rule of international law and the U.N. Charter only when it is compatible with their foreign policy objectives. That is why the United Nations is unfortunately of less importance that it ought to be.

The time to implement the U.N.’s agenda 2030 is now. This will help the international community give the rule of international law the central role it deserves in world affairs. The international community must develop new approaches to implement the rule of international law. The United Nations should help all 193 United Nations Member States to strengthen the rule of international law and ensure that abiding by the rule of international law promotes world peace, international security, and human rights—the primary purpose of the United Nations and its Charter.

This is not an easy or simple task, but it needs to be accomplished if the human family is to endure and have a bright future. There is no time to lose: the United Nations must be made to work now and only intelligent human beings can make this happen.

—David Slive, U.N. Envoy



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