

Issue

April 2023

The Foreword



UU AMHERST

*Fostering Justice
and Compassion*

The Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst
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SUNDAY SERVICES APRIL AT 10:30 AM

Mask wearing indoors is recommended, but not required. 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.

Dates marked with an (*) indicate when children and youth will be excused part-way through the service to participate in activities.

See inside for April Share-the-Plate details.

April 2* “Thanks to the Maple” john Snodgrass
As maple sap rises in late winter, we'll explore some indigenous traditions about trees and maple syrup.

John Snodgrass teaches Religious Studies at Canisius College, and he is the author of numerous books including "Sun Dance: Plains Life in Balance" and "Jolly Holidays." He lives in Buffalo with his bride and their four children.

April 9 **Easter: When Hearts Beat As One** Rev. Michelle
You might think you know the Easter story - but there's reason to believe we may have been missing one of the most important messages for over 2,000 years.

Children & Youth will be dismissed to special activities and rumor has it a very large bunny may be sighted...

April 16* **How to Feed Your Inner Atheist** Rev. Michelle
How's your inner Atheist doing? Hungry? Bingeing on the spiritual equivalent of snickers? Or have you been starving the poor dear? A balanced diet is important for all of us; including our inner Atheist.

April 23 **Earth Sunday** Worship Design & Green Justice Teams
Come and celebrate the precious, fragile, and resilient Earth we call home.

April 30 **Beltane: Hail the May Queen!** Rev. Michelle
Finally! After months of snow and cold and tentative daffodils and snowdrop flowers, we are ready to welcome the May Queen and her bounty.

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.*



MINISTER'S CORNER

The Soul Matters theme for April is *Resistance*. What an interesting choice for spiritual study. There are so many ways we can interpret that word... What are we resisting? What is resisting us? How can we embody and join the Resistance that is bringing more compassion and justice to a hurting world? My colleague, David Breeden captures the essence of spiritual resistance and our part in it:

Into the Circle by Rev. Dr. David Breeden

“We gather into this circle. We gather into this circle of care to dream, to envision, to embody and achieve the compassion we dream, the justice we envision, the dignity of each in an ever-growing circle of love and justice.”

I challenge you to invite these words into your daily life during the 30 days of April. Speak the words aloud each morning as you rise. If it feels strange to speak of “we” when you’re apart from this community, then try saying it to your reflection in the mirror. There is never a time when we are not part of a larger “we”. We are part of the great community of Life. We are held in a love that will not let us go. We are part of and held by the ever-growing circle of love and justice.

With hope,
Rev. Michelle

April Share-the-Plate

Throughout the month of April we will share the offering with the Green Justice Team, and specifically to raise funds for the upcoming Living Green Festival. For our first festival we had a generous matching-funds grant from the NYS Convention of Universalists. This year we are raising those funds as a congregation.

There are several ways you can participate:

- Write a check to UU Amherst with “Green” in the memo line
- Place cash in an envelope marked, “Green”

Go to our website, uuamherst.org, click on the giving link and then click on E-giving. Follow the prompts and put “Green” in the box after Share the Plate

Thank you for your generosity!

MINISTER'S HOURS

Rev. Michelle keeps office hours
Tues - Thurs. Contact her directly to set up an appointment. Fridays are her study & sermon writing day and she is off on Mondays.

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

BOARD REPORT

It is with great pleasure that the BOT would like to announce that the construction of our new sign has begun and we can look forward to the day when it is completed. Once it is completed, a celebration will be in order.

Our Annual Meeting, now held in late February, was successful with affirmative votes on the recommended contribution to the UUA, our 2023 budget and the new member for the Endowment Trust Board. Thanks again to the ET for their contribution to our operating budget. Also thank you to all who attended the meeting both in person and virtually, as our by-laws mandate a quorum of 50 members in good standing.



Speaking of attendance, thank you to all those who attended Joan Staple's Memorial Service and Joann Shafer's 90th Birthday Party. Both were held on the same Saturday, and both were very successful events. Very special thanks to Dian Tucker who worked very hard to coordinate them and avoid what could have been a confused situation .

We look forward to spring with Easter arriving on April 9th, and for the first time in awhile, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt at Church.

Randy Kent, Board Chair linrkent@yahoo.com



ENDOWMENT TRUST

The February Annual Meeting was a landmark event with the budget including \$45,000 from the Endowment Trust. When the Endowment was created it was anticipated that when it reached \$1 million, it would begin contributing to the operations of the church ideally without touching principal. Endowment bylaws require a congregational vote if principal is used.

It is exciting that we, as a congregation, have reached this milestone. **AND** it is more important than ever to grow the Endowment to ensure its future role supporting the church's activities.

Joe Rautenstrauch completed his term on the Endowment as of the annual meeting. His work as treasurer has been deeply appreciated. Joining the Trust for a 5-year-term is Barry Kent.

Our next scheduled meeting is April 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Emerson Room. Church members are welcome to attend (please contact a Trustee in advance if you have a specific topic/question). One topic going forward will be determining the Endowment's future role in church budgets beyond this fiscal year.

Lauraine Marcus (cornell_marcus@yahoo.com) on behalf of the Endowment Trustees Elaine Cusker, Recording Secretary; John Thompson, Corresponding Secretary; Joe Rautenstrauch, Treasurer; Dorothy Reade, Assistant Treasurer

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Please note that the Refund the Pantry bins are now in the trash enclosure.

Thank you to Meg Sabella who is now the Chair of the Amherst Little Free Pantry. Cheryl will still be the contact person.

Thank you to Kim Diana Connelly and her law students who are working pro bono with the goal of the Pantry becoming an independent 501c3 organization. Thank you also to Marie Evans for doing all the work in exploring our non-profit status and reading the bible of information needed to get us to our goal. This is being done to help us more easily obtain grant money so we can keep our Little Free Pantry going.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed both money and food to keep the Pantry “stocked”. Without your help we would not be able to reach our goal of “food justice.”

Cheryl Tomasulo, cftomasulo@gmail.com

NRC APRECIATION DINNER

The UU Amherst Board is currently contemplating our congregation's honoree for the Appreciation Dinner. Please save the date: June 1, 6:00 PM, at the M hotel near the Galleria Mall (formerly the Millennium Hotel). No matter who is selected please consider enjoying a fine meal and supporting the person the board selects. It will also help to support the NRC which does a lot of fine work to benefit the larger community.



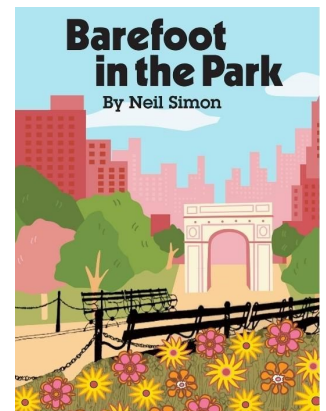
Any questions e-mail : kkuhn745@gmail.com or call Karen

THEATER LOVERS

Jewish Repertory Theatre's 20th Anniversary season will close with **BAREFOOT IN THE PARK** by Neil Simon, running April 27 through May 21. I will send an all-church email when the discount ticket order forms become available.

Last month, I had mentioned 5/14 as the outing, miscalculating the date for Mothers' Day. And Lebros will be closed for remodeling until mid-May, so plan for Sunday, May 21, for our group outing with dinner afterward.

Also, don't forget about John Snodgrass's play, **RUST AND REDEMPTION: REQUIEM FOR A BUFFALO GRUNGE BAND**, on stage at American Repertory Theatre of WNY, 545 Elmwood Ave, Thur-Sat, April 21-May 13. Synopsis: A song by Buffalo grunge band Sidewalk Nickel is finally getting a major release! But it's been almost twenty years since the band's bitter breakup. Now the surviving members and the dead guitarist's daughter must gather to divide the songwriting credit. Meeting at a bar, the broken band must settle its past in order to secure its legacy. And for this they must resolve their relationships with an absent father and long-lost friend. For ticket information: www.artofwny.org.



Marie Evans 716-636-5770, evans.marie@gmail.com

GREEN JUSTICE TEAM

The Green Justice Team is pleased to announce our new mission statement: **To promote the well-being of the earth and its inhabitants by encouraging our congregation to engage in green justice practices and activities, and by partnering with the larger WNY community.**

Planning has begun for the next Living Green Festival, which will be on Saturday, September 23. If you have ideas for individuals, organizations, or businesses that may be interested in giving a talk, leading an activity, or having a vendor space, please let us know. Look for the new Living Green Festival 2023 webpage on the UU Amherst website (search "Living Green") starting in early March.

Did you know that you can recycle your household batteries at UU Amherst? Place them in the Big Green Box in the lobby. Lithium ion batteries should be placed inside a plastic bag before being put into the box; there are bags by the box for your convenience. For more details on which batteries can and cannot be recycled in this box, visit the FAQ page for cirbasolutions.com.

Jeanine Moyer, Team Lead jeanine.moyer@gmail.com



The graphic features the text "demilitarization & abolition" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the text is a stylized illustration of three figures in purple and pink, with their arms raised in a gesture of protest or solidarity. To the left of the figures, the text "Minneapolis and Online" is written in a cursive font. To the right, "UU@UN Spring Seminar April 1-3" is written in a similar cursive font. At the bottom of the graphic, the phrase "resist policing and empire" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

The Unitarian Universalist Office at the United Nations, UU College of Social Justice, UU Service Committee, and Side With Love are excited to announce that the 2023 Intergenerational Spring Seminar will take place April 1-3, 2023, with the theme "**Demilitarization & Abolition: Resist Policing and Empire.**"

The event will be in-person at the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis with online participation options. **Register now for the 2023 Spring Seminar!**

Note: A special orientation for Youth and their adult Sponsors will be held the evening of March 31, so in-person Youth attendees should please plan accordingly.



Keynote Presenter: Andrea Ritchie Author of *No More Police*

Andrea Ritchie is a Black lesbian immigrant survivor who has been documenting, organizing, advocating, litigating, and agitating around policing and criminalization of Black women, girls, trans, and gender nonconforming people for the past three decades.

She co-founded the Interrupting Criminalization initiative with Mariame Kaba, as well as the In Our Names Network, a network of over 20 organizations working to end police violence against Black women, girls, trans and gender nonconforming people.

She has authored numerous books, research reports, articles, and opinion pieces on policing, criminalization, mass incarceration and immigration enforcement.

Help When You Need It

This is a reminder that if you are experiencing financial hardship, you can reach out to Rev. Michelle, minister@uamherst.org, for assistance from the Minister's Discretionary Fund. This Fund is made possible by the generosity of fellow congregants, and just one more way we demonstrate that no one is alone. We care for one another.

MARCH 2023 CALENDAR

PLEASE NOTE: Some meetings 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.

Room abbreviations: EM (Emerson Room); LR Living Room)

Saturday, Apr 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th

11:00 am: Dream Group LR

Sunday, Apr 2nd (monthly 1st Sun)

11:45 am: Little Free Pantry Team Meeting

Sunday, Apr 9th (monthly 2nd Sun)

11:30 am: Easter Egg Hunt (April only)

12:00 pm: Poetry as Practice Zoom & LR

Wednesday, Apr 12th (monthly 2nd Weds)

1:30 pm: Caring Team Zoom

6:00 pm: Finance Committee EM

7:00 pm: Marlana's Covenant Group LR

Saturday, Apr 15th

3:00 pm: j snodgrass Booksigning & Reading Chapel & EM

Sunday, Apr 16th (monthly 2nd Sun)

12:00 pm: FD Team Meeting Atrium

Tuesday, Apr 18th

6:00 pm: Endowment Trust Meeting EM

Wednesday, Apr 15th (monthly 3rd Wed)

1:00 pm: 3rd Wednesday Covenant Group Zoom

7:00 pm: Board Meeting EM

7:00 pm: Bofinger Covenant Group Zoom

Saturday, Apr 22nd

9:00 am: Ministry Council LR & Zoom

Sunday, Apr 23rd

12:00 pm: Communication Skills Workshop Chapel

Sunday, Apr 30th (monthly last Sun)

12:00 pm: UU Amherst Book Group LR & Zoom

Continued

RECURRING:

UU Universe-ity Sunrise Sessions continues M-F 8:30 am.

All "tree" names are for Village groups

Saturdays, Apr 1st-29th

9:30 am: Shared Caring Circle Zoom Zrev

7:00 pm: Birch Bunch Zoom

Sundays, Apr 2nd-30th

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

Mondays, Apr 3rd-24th

7:00 pm: Tulip Crabapple Zadmin (weekly)
L. Marcus

7:30 pm: Marvelous Maples (4/3 & 4/17)
D. Bofinger

Tuesdays, Apr 4th-25th

12:30 pm: Women's Study Group Zoom

Wednesdays, Apr 5th-26th

10:30 am: Willow Village Zadmin (2nd & 4th Weds: 4/12 & 4/26) J. Senders

7:00 pm: Marlana's Covenant Group (2nd Weds 4/12) LR

7:00 pm: Northtowns Village (4/19)

Ministry Council

The expanded* Ministry Council will meet in person on **Saturday, April 22nd** (9:00 am-12:00 pm), with individual team meetings as needed in the weeks between. Bring any items to the attention of Rev. Michelle (minister@uuamherst.org). All new ministry proposals and events go through Ministry Council.

(* The expanded Ministry Council includes not only ministry team leaders, but all who are interested in mission-driven programming for UU Amherst. All are welcome.)

Reminder: Groups please restore rooms before leaving. Return chairs to their places and take any papers (etc) with you or dispose of them properly. Thank you.



UU AMHERST BOOK GROUP

April's TOPIC is Dinosaurs. Read any book you'd like that touches on that theme, then join us for discussion on Sunday, April 30, at 12 noon in the church Living Room.

We alternate monthly between picking a general TOPIC (for which participants can choose any relevant book they'd like to read), and designating one "COMMON READ" book. We generally meet on the last Sunday of the month from September through May at 12 noon in the church Living Room. We've been doing hybrid meetings - some assemble in person and some join via Zoom. All are welcome to attend our gatherings, even if you haven't "done the reading." Contact Marie Evans or Grace Little if you need the Zoom link information.

Marie Evans, evans.marie@gmail.com

Lending Library

Check out the Lending Library in the glass curio cabinet at the north end of the Emerson Room (when building is open). Books in this collection include world religions and spiritual topics, both fiction and non-fiction. Sign out whatever you'd like in the spiral notebook, with an approximate return date.

Secular novels and books about social justice issues can be found in the church Living Room on the bookshelves. These are for sale—cost is a free will donation that benefits the Amherst Little Free Pantry.

Many thanks to the Book Lovers who organized and labeled the books in the Living Room!



john snodgrass
Book Signing & Reading
Saturday, April 15
4:00 – 6:00 pm

Light refreshments offered.

john will read passages from *Supernatural Shakespeare*, his recently published exploration of Shakespeare's masterful use of magic to enhance his literary work.

Books will be available for purchase & signing.
(The book is \$19.95, cash check and cards accepted.)

Communication Skills Workshop
Sunday, April 23, 2023 12:00 pm
Chapel (45-60 min)

Presented by the Leadership Development & Nominating Committee

Did you know that in the workplace, 86% of employees and executives cite the lack of effective collaboration and communication as the main causes for workplace failures? A church is not so different from a workplace - except perhaps less organized! Would you like to learn how to listen, communicate, and collaborate more effectively?

All are invited to participate in an interactive workshop, facilitated by Rev. Michelle, who taught Communications for many years at Jamestown Community College. The workshop will be fun, informative, and potentially life

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

“FUN” DRAISING TEAM IN ACTION

Join us on Easter Sunday for a Children’s Easter Egg Hunt! (See below). The children will spend some time in the service and the Easter Bunny will come to take them for crafts and hunting. Looking forward to a good turnout.

We are also planning an adults-only Kentucky Derby Happy Hour for Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 5:00-7:00 pm. Tickets will go on sale after the service on Sunday, April 16, 2023, in the Emerson Room. Join your friends and family for a rousing good time.

Also, if you don’t ask, you won’t receive...so, we are asking for a grill to be donated to the church for cookouts. Our previous grills have fallen apart and we are grill-less. If you have a grill just sitting in your garage we would welcome it with open arms. Our dream is a Blackstone Grill.

We look forward to seeing more of you in 2023.

Barbara Gauger Kent bgtubo944@hotmail.com

Candy-Free Easter Egg Hunt Sunday, April 9th

Easter is coming soon and the bunny is coming to our congregation! We are planning an Egg hunt for Easter Sunday. It will be a Family Friendly Service and an indoor hunt led by the Bunny.

Kids will collect eggs and turn them in for prizes at the bunny store. This is a NO CANDY event with toy prizes.

The Bunny will hop into our church service and lead the children to the Egg Hunt.

Please invite your family, Grandchildren and friends to join us!



FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Continuing with our schedule of activities to be provided on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, we will be frosting spring-themed cut-out cookies on April 2nd. On April 16th, Eve Tulbert will be with us to explore the nature on our property. She always has fun activities.

FD Team

Old Magazines Needed!

Do you have piles of magazines with interesting images or great photos in them (like Architectural Digest, National Geographic...)? You can recycle them into wonderful works of art by bringing them to church for collage projects. Please place them in the designated box in the main lobby.

COMMITTEE ON MISSION (CoM)

After finishing our work with the Green Justice Team (GJT), the CoM is gearing up to meet with the Connections Team and the Leadership Development and Nominating Committee (LDNC) who are both ready to meet with us. We will soon set times to meet with these two groups to help them establish their mission and goals.

The purpose of our work is to align the mission and goals of all of the ministry teams and BOT Committees with the mission of the church. This written information will inform the rest of our church community about the work of each team/committee and enable these groups to continue their work as leadership changes over the years. If any other teams or committees would like to meet with us during this church year, please contact Diane Bofinger (dpbofinger@gmail.com).

Diane Bofinger, CoM Chair, and Committee Members, Marge Marcille (Scribe), Jeanine Moyer (Board Liaison), and Barbara Brooks (Our newest member)

UU YOUNG ADULT AND CAMPUS MINISTRY

Bob Johnson recently became a new Religious Advisor with the UB Campus Ministry Association. He will be the main contact on campus and will attend the once-a-month Friday meetings of the CMA. Scott Harrigan and I will continue as Religious Advisors and plan to work with Bob to come up with 1-2 programs to offer on campus each semester. Thank you, Bob!

Our church UU Young Adult Group (generally ages 18-35ish) has been inactive at this time. If you are interested in participating and would like to be added to our text and E-mail lists and join our Discord Group, send your

E-mail and cell phone number to me. We try to keep the group informed about church activities and emerging young adult events. The group can engage in discussion on the Discord group. If you have contact with UU Young Adults at other colleges or in your work environments, let them know about us, too. All young adults (UU or Exploring) are invited to be added to our lists. If you have any ideas or would like to initiate an activity, let me know and I will promote it and help to gather a team. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Diane Bofinger (she/her/hers) (716-418-3272)

CLOTHING MINISTRY

Welcome to "Out of the Closet," our new space in the Faith Development wing, next to the Channing Chapel. Twice a year we plan on opening up the room for congregation shopping. Our first endeavor will be the last Sunday in March, after the service. All are welcome. We will have another in the fall. This is in addition to our rack near the Food Pantry. It is almost time to switch seasons so we have a lot of work ahead of us. Come help by choosing an item (or two or three) to take home with you. Free will donations are always accepted.

Your Clothing Ministry Team, Dian (dianltucker@gmail.com) and Don Tucker, Pam and Jerry Kent, Barry Kent and Barbara Kent Gauger

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.

Artichoke Stuffed Mushrooms

From Allrecipes ChicagoCookie84-Anita
Total Time 45 min. Serves 8

1 Tbsp olive oil
24 button mushrooms (about 24 or 1 lb) stems removed and chopped
1 cup chopped onion
2 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 tsp salt
1/4 tsp black pepper
1 (12 oz) jar marinated artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese, softened
1 cup shredded Italian cheese blend
2 Tbsp sour cream
Chopped fresh parsley for garnish



Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Line a 10 x 15” inch baking pan with parchment paper.

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add chopped mushroom stems and onion and cook, stirring occasionally for four minutes. Add the garlic and cook another minute until the onion is translucent. Season with salt and pepper and transfer to a large bowl.

Stir artichoke, cream cheese, Italian cheese blend and sour cream into mushroom mixture. Stuff mushroom caps heaping full with mixture and arrange on the prepared baking pan.

Bake until the mushrooms are tender and the filling is bubbly, about 20 minutes. Let stand five minutes before serving. Garnish with chopped parsley.

This can serve as a yummy hor d'ouvres as well.

Tip:
If you like lasagna but don't like fussing with the big flat noodles, use rigatoni noodles instead. Layer your ingredients the same way you normally do, with the partially cooked rigatoni, and bake as usual. You will find the dish is much easier to serve, with a good ratio of noodles to filling. This also works well for eggplant parmigiana.

This is a delicious and quite rich dish that makes a fancy side dish to any dinner. And you can freeze them for serving later.



April U.U.—U.N.NEWS

14 March 2023

According to the U.N. Charter, the primary purpose of the U.N. is to eliminate the scourge of war and promote human rights—in a word, the maintenance of international peace and security. However, the U.N. at present does not have the power to maintain world peace. That is because the U.N. does not possess its own effective system of collective security to keep the peace, thereby allowing for universal and complete disarmament under U.N. auspices. The world spends over a trillion dollars a year on armaments. The United States of America spends at least 700 billion dollars per year on such instruments of death and destruction. Other U.N. Member States are not blameless either. The human family needs a change of heart and needs to concert its swords into ploughshares under U.N. auspices; otherwise, the future of humanity is bleak, indeed.

During January 2023, U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres addressed the 193 Members of the U.N. General Assembly on this matter. In his first address of the new year to the U.N. General Assembly, he called for action to address threats to world peace in the world's hotspots, action to promote sustainable development and action to protect the Earth. "We are capable of global citizenship and all U.N. Member States must also do their part to empower the U.N. itself." The U.N. should not have to plead with its 193 U.N. Member States to support its main purpose: the maintenance of international peace and security.

U.N. Secretary-General Guterres deplored the continuing violence in Ukraine, Syria, South Sudan, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine, etc. "The international community must also focus greater attention on the interrelated threats of organized crime, terrorism, piracy, extremism, and trafficking in drugs, people and arms," he said. This includes continuing to strive towards achieving a nuclear-weapons-free world. U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres also emphasized the need to make progress towards achieving the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the U.N.'s Agenda 2030. The current, virulent global pandemic must be eliminated in a scientific manner. This is a matter of the utmost urgency. Too many people doubt the efficacy of the current vaccines and the need to wear masks.

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres also warned all 193 U.N. Member States against succumbing to the myth that sustainable development is incompatible with robust action to control climate change and global warming. "Evidence shows that the goals of eradicating poverty, promoting inclusive growth and keeping global temperature increases below two degrees Celsius, are mutually reinforcing," U. N. Secretary-General António Guterres argued. A voluntary climate change treaty (the Paris Agreement on Climate Change) has been adopted by the international community and should be implemented as soon as possible.

Humanity's major problems—world peace, universal disarmament, sustainable development, global warming, war, terrorism, militarism, poverty, natural and manmade disasters, diseases and human rights violations, etc. need an effective U.N. to solve them. Unfortunately, these are the actual problems of our troubled, interdependent world and they have not yet been solved. There is no time to lose. The human family needs to get its house in order or perish. This sad situation may not be pleasant to contemplate, but it is the truth. The insurgency against science, reason, logic and truth must cease. What human beings have created, human beings can change. A more humane and just world is still possible. However, human beings have to make this happen and to accomplish this they must overcome the forces of social inertia and human complacency.

David Slive, U.N. Envoy

WE ARE:

ALL CONNECTED

STRONGER TOGETHER

LOVE'S HANDS IN THE WORLD

CALLED TO CREATE JUSTICE

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ONE
ANOTHER AND THE EARTH**

 UUA.ORG/IMAGES



UU AMHERST

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
CHURCH OF AMHERST

Fostering Justice and Compassion

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