

Issue

SEPTEMBER 2023

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

Our Staff:

Minister

Rev. Michelle Buhite
Office.....x102
Cell....716-499-8343
minister@uuamherst.org

Finance Clerk

Camilla Lee.....x103
bookkeeper@uuamherst.org

Office Administrator

Elaine Harrigan.....x101
administrator@uuamherst.org

Minister Emerita

Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 AM

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.

Supervised Care for Littles available in the room adjoining the Atrium.

September Multi Sensory Services for All Ages
Theme: WELCOME

Sept 3 *The Outdoors Has the Power to Change Lives*
Mike Radomski, guest

The outdoors have the power to change people, mentally and physically. After climbing a High Peak in the Adirondacks, Mike was inspired to make some drastic life changing choices. He will talk about how saying "yes" to climbing that mountain led him to create Outside Chronicles, the WNY Hiking Challenge, and inspire 1000's of Western New Yorkers to get outside. (See bio on page 4.)

9/10 *Gathered Here* Rev. Michelle

This Sunday we celebrate our faith community with our tradition of gathering and mingling waters that represent our summer adventures, whether those included travel to places or travels of the heart. Bring water from home or travels, or pour from the common cup. Come, come, whoever you are!

9/17 *Gratitude for Our Land and People* Eve Tulbert & Rev. Michelle
What does it mean to own, preserve, and be grateful for our Waterhouse Ecology Center? Where does spiritual appreciation of the land meet land management?

9/24 *How Wide is Our Welcome?* Rev. Michelle
Unitarian Universalism is a religion (!) that encourages each person's spiritual journey (!), drawing wisdom from world religions (!), the Bible (!), individual experiences of wonder (!), exemplars (!), and science (!). Exactly how wide is our welcome?

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



“Waiting for Things to Come Back Around”

Last month I submitted a bit of a teaser that we'd be going through a virtual book discussion together; I read the book and I'm discussing it with you! The book is *For A New Generation*, by Christian church builder, Lee Kricher. This month we address the first of five strategies: Adopt a New Mindset.

Kricher talks about letting go of waiting for things to come back around. He tells a story of a steelworker in Pittsburgh in the 1980's. The man had been laid off by one of the steel mills that had ceased operations. When asked what he planned to do for a living, the man replied, "I am not changing careers. My grandfather

was a steelworker, my father was a steelworker, and I am a steelworker. I'm waiting for things to come back around."

Spoiler alert: Things didn't come back around. They rarely do - whether it is in industry or in the life of a congregation. We've tried in many ways to live in a paradigm that is just plain over. Since September is the beginning of the program year, we have the opportunity to learn new ways of being and doing, starting now: adopt a new mindset.

One of the things that Kricher's church did to change their mindset was to trust their pastor as a change leader. That might seem self-serving, but I hope you recognize that all of my efforts in the past 8 years have been for the health and vitality of the congregation. Some changes have been intentional, while others have been thrust upon us. We've weathered the changes together. There will be more; *there have to be*. The past holds only lessons and memories - we cannot return there.

I'm excited about the program year before us. We're going to do new and exciting things. We are on our way to becoming a New Generation congregation.

Enthusiastically,
Rev. Michelle

COVID TASK FORCE UPDATE

Covid is still with us and showing a resurgence. The UUCA Covid Task Force is recommending the following guidelines, which follow the Center for Disease Control recommendation:

- Anyone who feels ill should not attend church or participate in other in-person activities regardless of whether they have tested positive for Covid or not.
- If you have symptoms of Covid (sore throat, cough, cold symptoms, fever, etc.) please test yourself.
- If you test positive for Covid you should quarantine yourself for 5 days.
- After 5 days you can end your quarantine if you no longer have a fever.
- Please wear a mask for 5 days when out in public after you end quarantine.

HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

This is a reminder that if you are experiencing financial hardship, you can reach out to Rev. Michelle, minister@uuamherst.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.

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

Our signature event, the Living Green Festival will take place on Saturday, September 23rd, with set-up to take place on Friday, September 22, followed by a pot luck and bonfire. All members of the congregation are invited! Please spread the word to family and friends. Volunteers will be needed: contact Jeanine Moyer if you're able to help out. We will need everyone involved to make it a successful event!

We have received the second quarterly check from the Endowment Trust to support our operating budget. Many thanks to them for the commitment they made.

Speaking of volunteers: thanks to Barry Kent, Don Tucker and their assistant for completing the exterior Emerson Room project by dealing with the decrepit wooden panels on the east side of the building that could not be removed by AVA roofing due to the potential damage to the Emerson Room's rubber roof. Hard work in the hot sun.

Gateway Update: As we have experienced an increase in trespassing on our campus by Gateway residents, the BOT reached out to the organization to request a meeting with their leadership, and they were very responsive. It did not hurt that their CEO is a member of UU East Aurora and named the late Mike Moran as his mentor. The meeting went very well, and in addition to increased cooperation between our two communities, we discussed arranging possible positive interactions with their residents and our congregation. We may see some of them at the Living Green Festival. On the cooperation side, we have authorized their supervisory personnel to come on to our property when necessary to search for a missing resident. They will have name badges identifying them as Gateway personnel.

Caretaker Last Day & Carriage House Repairs: Andy Andersen gave us notice that Friday, September 1st will be his last day as Caretaker. We are sorry to see him go as he has gone above and beyond his duties, undertaking and completing many projects either on his own or with the assistance of members of our community. When he came to us, he had indicated that he would be with us about a year so this is not a surprise. We need to have several repairs done to the carriage house before we can seek a new Caretaker. In the meantime, we are working on covering the Caretaker's responsibilities among ourselves. We will also be seeking volunteers to help clean the carriage house in mid-September.

Door Entry and Security: The BOT has engaged Amherst Alarm to provide security cameras at our two main entrances so that our staff and Rev. Michelle can determine who is at the doors. They will have the ability to remotely open the doors as well. We also expect to have an electronic entry system using key fobs for volunteers that need access when staff members are not present. We will be seeking donations to defray the cost of these improvements to make us all safer.

FUN-draising Group: As always, the FUN-draising group continues to be hard work. They have already created a large number of raffle baskets for the Living Green Festival with more in the works, and will be providing the food at the event. Be sure to save the dates for the following: Adult Cocktail Party, Saturday, October 14, in the Emerson Room, and a Pancake Breakfast to kick-off the 2024 Generosity Campaign, Sunday, October 15.

Generosity Campaign: 2024 will mark the 70th Anniversary of the founding of UUCA, which will be the focus of this fall's pledge drive. We are expecting our members to be generous with their pledges as our community keeps moving forward.

Randy Kent, Board Chair linrkent@yahoo.com



UU AMHERST BOOK GROUP

UU Amherst's Book Club alternates monthly between picking a general topic for the month (for which participants can choose any relevant book they'd like to read), and choosing one "common read" book. All are welcome to attend our discussions, whether or not you've "done the reading."

Book Club returns from summer on **Sunday, September 24, at 12 noon** in the church Living Room, when our topic will be **UU HISTORY**. At that gathering, we'll be choosing a common read book for October.



Suggested books (thanks for the list, Marge Marcille!) include:

Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women by Harriet Reisen (recommended by Ellen Doyno)

The Invention of Air: A Story of Science, Faith and Revolution (about Joseph Priestly) by Steven Johnson

American Bloomsbury by Susan Cheever - Personal stories of the Transcendentalists living in Concord in mid-19th century - all the famous characters (subtitle: *Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Henry David Thoreau: Their Lives, Their Loves, Their Work*)

Out of the Flames: The Remarkable Story of a Fearless Scholar, a Fatal Heresy and One of the Rarest Books in the World by Lawrence Gladstone and Nancy Gladstone - It's about Michael Servetus, martyred by Calvin.

The Great Agnostic: Robert Ingersoll and American Freethought by Susan Jacoby - Ingersoll was a resident of New York State - his home is open to the public. Not necessarily a UU but certainly a free thinker and all-around good guy.

The Life of John Murray by Iain H. Murray John Murray left England and established Universalism in the eastern US.

There should be a copy of *Bloomsbury* and of *Out of the Flames* in the Lending Library in the glass cabinet in the Emerson Room, along with other books that would fit the topic. All are probably available from Amazon, the library or people's favorite sellers. Another good option is inSpirit, the online UUAbookstore.org, which features the Skinner House imprint, or Beacon Press (beacon.org), the publishing arm of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.

Bio: Mike Radomski (from page 1)

The founder of Outside Chronicles, Mike is an avid outdoor enthusiast who enjoys hiking, climbing mountains, paddling whitewater, fly fishing and mountain biking. He is a licensed NYS Guide and a whitewater raft guide. Mike earned a Master's Degree in Great Lakes Environmental Science.

CONNECTIONS CORNER

Welcoming newcomers, connecting people to meaningful relationships and interests, developing programming and activities for youth, & growing membership in the congregation.

Led by Linda Joy Groat & Laurie Kasnicki

Many new things are happening on the Connections Team. We have updated UU Amherst business and UU Principles cards with a rainbow theme, reflecting our fun, welcoming, and informal congregation. The Connection cards now include a QR code, so newcomers have the option to fill it out on their phone. The card is connected to a spreadsheet which captures data that helps us to know how they found us, what's important to them and their interests. The Greeting Sign-Up has been expanded to include Chalice Lighting and other participation opportunities, and will continue to grow as a "one stop shopping" portal for all things Volunteer. Connections will host a table at the Living Green Festival, offering info about UU Amherst, congregation events, volunteer opportunities and projects. Anyone wishing to help with this can contact Linda Joy.

This month, we are going to try something new. Instead of "singing our children out" of the Sunday service, Rev. Michelle and I are going to work together to design multi-sensory services, incorporating elements that appeal to a wide range of ages and abilities, and inviting volunteers, as participants. We realize that families want to be in the service together. It may be the only time that children can see their parents/guardians engaged in activities like group singing, reading, meditation and peaceful reflection. We want to teach our children to be able to be present with people of all different ages and abilities, respect different beliefs, be calm and fulfilled. We can do this. Sure, there may be some squirrely wiggles, and at the same time, kids need these opportunities to practice their skills, to make mistakes, think it over and try again. Continuing to send them out no longer makes sense.

Please email Linda Joy at lmgeag@gmail.com to join our team. Everyone is welcome.

Linda Joy Groat, Team Lead LMGEAG@gmail.com



Photo of Sam Groat, celebrating his 17th birthday during coffee hour.



YOUNG ADULT BONFIRE

Come join us on Saturday, September 23rd at 8:00 pm for s'mores, campfire songs, and conversation! All young adults (21-35) are welcome to join. Please note that this is separate from the Living Green Festival occurring on the same weekend. Please bring a camping chair and beverages or food to share with the group and RSVP to Heike (hjacob@wellesley.edu) by Wednesday, September 20 so she can have an accurate headcount for planning purposes.



Save The Date!

2024 Generosity Campaign Kick-Off

Pancake Lunch

Sunday, October 15 - Following The Service
No Charge - Donations Welcomed!

There Will Be A Short Presentation
By The 2024 Generosity Campaign Committee
Childcare Will Be Provided!

*2024 - Celebrating 70 Years Of
Liberal Religion For The Northtowns!*

SEPTEMBER 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); Bul (Bulfinch-FD Wing); EC (Ecology Center)

Sunday, September 3rd

1:00 pm: Private rental EM

Tuesday, September 5th

12:00 pm: Women's Study Group Lunch EM

Thursday, September 7th

7:30 pm: Green Justice Team Meeting

Saturday, September 9th

9:00 am: Lace Guild Rental BUL

2:00 pm: Private rental EM

Sunday, September 10th

11:45 am: Little Free Pantry Meeting LR

Wednesday, September 13th (monthly 2nd Weds)

1:30 pm: Caring Team Zoom

5:30 pm: Finance Committee EM

7:00 pm: Marlana's Covenant Group LR

7:00 pm: Preaching by Parishioners Info Meeting BUL

Thursday, September 14th

7:30 pm: Green Justice Team Meeting

Wednesday, September 20th

1:00 pm: 3rd Wednesday Covenant Group

7:00 pm: Board Meeting EM

Saturday, September 23rd

12:00 pm: Living Green Festival

8:00 pm: Young Adult Bonfire

Sunday, September 24th

12:00 pm: Amherst Book Club

8:00 pm: Havurah Service Chapel

Monday, September 25th

10:30 am: Havurah Service Chapel

4:00 pm: Havurah Service Chapel/EM

RECURRING:

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

All "tree" names are for Village groups

Saturdays, September 2nd-23rd

7:00 pm: Birch Bunch Zoom

Sundays, September 3rd-24th

9:30 am: Church of the Wild continues through the month EC

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

Mondays, September 4th-25th

7:00 pm: Tulip Crabapple Zadmin (weekly)

L. Marcus

7:30 pm: Marvelous Maples (2nd & 4th Mon: 9/11 & /25) R. Palmere

Tuesdays, September 5th-26th

12:30 pm: Women's Study Group Zoom

Wednesdays, September 6th-27th

7:00 pm: Marlana's Covenant Group

(2nd Weds 9/13) LR

7:00 pm: Northtowns Village (3rd Wed 9/20)

7:00 pm: Bofinger Covenant Group (3rd Wed 9/20)

Thursdays, September 7th-28th

4:30 pm: Witch Dance Rehearsals (see page 7) watch *Weekly Update* for any changes to rehearsal schedule

Church of the Wild continues to meet in the Ecology Center at 9:30 am, Sundays through September. Participants are encouraged to bring a poem or meditation to share. 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.

Kitchen Storage: All opened packages must be enclosed in plastic containers or Ziplock bags before placing in cupboards.

Thank you.

THEATER LOVERS

Theater Lovers involves a group outing to the Sunday Matinee of a play, followed by dinner together afterward (pay your own way). I expect that we will once again be able to purchase discount tickets to Jewish Repertory Theatre (both for our chosen outing date and to other performances during the run), and I will send an all-church email once the forms become available. Last year our price was \$30 each; box office was \$48. JRT will be producing three shows during the 2023-24 season: "Sisters in LAW" (October 26 - November 19) about Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, "Kindertransport" (February 1 - 25, 2024) about a German Jewish woman who was sent as a 9-year-old to foster care in Britain just before the outbreak of WWII, and "Crossing Delancey" (May 9 - June 1, 2024) a romantic comedy set in NYC. Each show will have special programming on two separate nights: screening of a related movie, a panel discussion (for Sisters and Kindertransport), and a Pickle Party (for Delancey). See <https://www.jcbbuffalo.org/jrt-season-subscription> for details. JRT's performance space is in the Getzville Jewish Community Center, 2640 North Forest Road, Getzville. Our dinner venue is Lebro's at 330 Campbell Blvd. - Marie Evans

Marie Evans, evans.marie@gmail.com

WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

On September 5th, we will be meeting in person for lunch in the Emerson Room at 12:30 pm . Bring your own lunch and beverage. There may be the possibility of a hybrid meeting via Zoom that day if you are unable to attend in person.

As of now, the rest of our September meetings will be via Zoom. Those dates are: September 12, 19, and 26. We hope to add more in-person meetings as time goes on. If you are free on Tuesday afternoons, we would love to have you join our conversations. Hope to see you there!

For info, watch the *Weekly Update* or contact Marge Marcille memarcille@gmail.com

PREACHING BY PARISHIONERS INFORMATION MEETING

Wednesday, September 13 7:00 pm

Do you have a sermon in you? Are you ready to release that story to the world? Preaching by Parishioners, a unique program to UU Amherst is returning after a small hiatus (20+ years would make anyone tired!). Want to know more about it? Come to an introductory meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 pm (Bulfinch Room) or connect with Jerry Kent at jkentsult@gmail.com.



WITCH DANCE

To Benefit the Amherst Little Free Pantry

Saturday, October 28th 4:00 pm

Dessert Potluck with coffee and cider to follow .

****Weekly rehearsals will be on Thursdays 4:30-5:30 pm, during September and October.****

Calling all Witches and Warlocks who like to dance!
Participation is free. If interested in participating or volunteering, please contact Meg Sabella at megsabella712@gmail.com or text 303-506-7531.

Thank you!

Plan Ahead: *Dare to Lead* (Brené Brown) Book Discussion

Thursdays (10/5,12,19,26, 11/2,9,16, 12/7)

Via Zoom 7:00pm

Limited to 25 participants -

contact minister@uuamherst.org

(more info to come!)

GREEN JUSTICE TEAM

The Living Green Festival
Green Beyond Belief
Saturday, September 23,
12 noon to 7:30 pm

The 2nd Annual Living Green Festival is almost here! Among the scheduled activities are: Let's Goat Buffalo, green vendors and speakers, folk dancing with Martha Malkiewicz, labyrinth and nature meditation, storytelling, and nature mandala crafting with Earth Foraged Art. The FUN-draising Task Group is stepping up to provide healthy food choices with an "eating green café."



Also featured will be the fabulous "Reduce & Reuse" Basket Raffle with a huge assortment of baskets including Bills merchandise, home and holiday décor, personal care items, children's books and plush toys, and much, much more! A selection of clothing and household items from the Clothing Ministry will be available for a donation of \$1 per item.

Festival activities will take place around and in the church building. Some will be held in the Waterhouse Ecology Center on our grounds, located next to the basketball court at the edge of our parking lot, and some under the tent on the east side of the church.

Once again there will be free reusable shopping bags, made from recycled materials, available to the first 50 people to visit the festival information table.

We will start the weekend with setup on Friday followed by a potluck and bonfire for our congregation. Even if you're not involved in the setup process, please come out and take part in this pre-event gathering!

Please share the website with everyone you know! The easiest way to get to it is to go to UU Amherst's website, <https://uuamherst.org>, and click the link in the big yellow banner at the top. You can also scan the QR code, below, with your cell phone.



Finally, many volunteers are needed to make this event a success! For more information on how you can help out, please contact Jeanine Moyer.

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



COMMITTEE ON MISSION (CoM)

The Committee on Mission (CoM) met on June 29th to recap its work with the Connections, Green Justice, Food Pantry, and Caring for One Another Teams. CoM will continue to meet with teams & committees as needed to develop missions & goals & teach the circle way. If your team or committee would like to meet with CoM in the fall, contact Diane Bofinger at dpbofinger@gmail.com, 716-689-8954 (call), or 716-418-3272 (text).

The purpose of our work is to align the mission & 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.

Diane Bofinger, CoM Chair, and Committee Members, Marge Marcille (Scribe), and Jeanine Moyer (Board Liaison)

UU CAMPUS MINISTRY AND YOUNG ADULT (18-21ISH)

The UB Campus Ministry Advisors, Bob Johnson (main campus contact), Diane Bofinger, and Scott Harrigan, look forward to meeting over the next month to brainstorm ideas for the new school year. If you have ideas of things that we can do on campus and would like to join our discussion, please contact me.

Are you a young adult 18-21ish looking for connection with others in this age range or life stage? Let me know. You may be in college or considering college, but you don't have to be! There are many other life choices! Perhaps we can get a group together for support & exploration.

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

CLOTHING MINISTRY/FUNDRAISING TASK GOUP

The FUN-draising task force is busy making baskets for the basket raffle during the Living Green Festival on September 23rd and we will be selling food during the festival. Make sure you come with family and friends to see all of the green at UU Amherst!

On October 14th, Marlana Rice and the FUN-draising team will be hosting a cocktail hour for adults in the Emerson Room. Virtual tickets will go on sale at the end of September after Sunday service. We have a busy autumn planned, so hold onto your hats and see you soon.

The Clothing Ministry plans to open its doors during the Living Green Festival. Free will donations of \$1 per item will be gratefully accepted. We also plan another free room after cleaning out the church basement. Remember to take your holiday decorations out of the basement or they may end up in the free room.

This summer the Clothing Pantry Rack saw a lot of turnover. There appears to be a great need in our community for our pantry. Winter clothing, especially outerwear, will be gratefully accepted after the Living Green Festival. Thank you for all of your support for the greater community

Clothing Ministry Team, Dian (diantucker@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.

It's the season for zucchini, and stuffing and baking them is a delicious way to enjoy them. There are many options for ingredients to stuff zucchini with. You can go with meat, cheese, bread crumbs and vegetables, eggs, mushrooms, but the most important thing to remember is to pre-bake them.

Stuffed Zucchini with Fresh Vegetables

Time: about 1 hour total.
Set oven to 350°

2 large zucchini
1/2 cup bread crumbs, plain or seasoned
1 medium tomato, chopped
1/2 small onion, chopped
2 Tbsp butter
4 large portobello mushrooms, chopped
4 Tbsp grated Parmesan cheese
Salt and pepper



Important: Wash the zucchini and microwave whole for about 4-6 minutes until softer but not mushy. You can also cook them whole in a toaster oven at 350 degrees until softer but not mushy. Allow to cool and cut each in half lengthwise, scooping out the seeds so you have a nice trough to fill. Reserve the seeds,

In a saucepan melt the butter over medium heat and add the breadcrumbs, onion and mushrooms and cook until the veggies are soft.

Remove from heat and mix in the zucchini seeds, chopped tomatoes and Parmesan cheese. Add salt and pepper to taste. Fill each zucchini with the mixture.

Place the filled zucchini on a parchment lined pan and bake in a 350 degree oven for about 1/2 hour until lightly browned. Serve with salad and your main course. Leftovers can easily be refrigerated and reheated.

You can also add cooked Italian sausage, cream cheese or one whipped egg to the cooked mixture, as you prefer. The fresh taste of zucchini is a good compliment for any stuffing you add to it.

PS: These are also good warm or cold, sliced in small pieces, as appetizers.

Enjoy, Christine

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

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

The next meeting of the Amherst Little Free Pantry will be on September 10th at 11:45 am. We will be discussing a Pantry booth for the Living Green Festival on September 23rd and get a list of volunteers to help out.

The UB Law students are wrapping up the by-laws for the Amherst Little Free Pantry, LTD. Just a little fine tuning needs to be completed. Thank you to Stephanie Burke and Keith Hurley from the Clinical Legal Education Program and Professor Kim Diana Connolly for all your detailed work .

Th Pantry stock is much depleted! Your help is needed!

Rev. Michelle recently sent out an All Church message, pointing out the essential work of the Pantry which does not receive funds from the church operating budget. If you can help with food donations (see list below of most needed items (no glass containers!))

If you have the capacity to help, now is the time. You can bring non-perishable food (no glass jars) when you come to church. You can donate money so the Pantry team can purchase what they need. For now, the process for checks remains the same: Make payable to UU Amherst with "Pantry" in the memo line.

Much needed items for the Pantry:

Pasta and pasta sauce, Chef Boyardee or similar canned meals, tuna/chicken in cans, canned fruit, canned refried beans and baked beans, feminine hygiene esp. tampons, milk in boxes, rice/potato boxes, mac and cheese, granola bars and cereal.

Cheryl Tomasulo; Meg Sabella, Pantry Chair, megsabella712@gmail.com



ENDOWMENT TRUST

This past month's activities included: the transfer of matured bonds permitting the payment of the second installment of \$11,250 to the church 2023-24 operating budget and the depositing of donations totaling \$155 into the checking account.

As of August 22nd, the Endowment's total value was \$1,017,150.45. Checking account balance was \$12,377.13.

In the fall, expect an introduction to the Gift Giving Policy approved by the Board of Trustees and Endowment. Our next priority will be to revitalize the Legacy Circle--Elaine Cusker, Barry Kent and Dorothy Reade will develop a plan to touch base with those who previously notified the Endowment that it was included in their wills as well as encouraging new commitments.

Thank you to those who made donations to the Endowment during June in the memory of Ken Stewart: Douglas and Delores Funke, Susan Sherman, Marie Evans, Sylvia Moran; and in honor of Pat Burke's 80th birthday: Linda and Eric Groat. In July, Hinni and Ria Martens made an unrestricted donation to the Trust.

Our next scheduled meeting is October 17, 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).

Lauraine Marcus, on behalf of the Endowment Trustees Elaine Cusker, John Thompson; Dorothy Reade; Barry Kent

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

6320 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221
634-3010
www.uuamherst.org