

Issue

APRIL 2024

# 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**  
Rev. Michelle Buhite  
Office.....x102  
Cell....716-499-8343  
[minister@uuamherst.org](mailto:minister@uuamherst.org)

**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

## APRIL SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 AM

Sunday services are continuing as dual platform—both in-person and livestreamed. A link to our YouTube channel, UU Amherst, is available on our website. You can view the recorded service anytime on the channel. Invite friends and family! Remember that coffee hour follows.

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

Our congregation joins with hundreds of other UU congregations in the exploration of monthly themes from Soul Matters, a resource that is grounded in Unitarian Universalist values. This month we consider the theme of **Interdependence**.

**4/7 Eclipse** john Snodgrass  
Before there was Netflix, there was the Eclipse, a light-show in the sky that inspired great feats of human imagination and storytelling. As the solar eclipse approaches, we'll be exploring the significance of eclipses in world religions and mythologies.

john (the lower case is intentional) is a frequent guest preacher at UU Amherst. He teaches classes in religion at Canisius, has produced several original plays, and is the author of multiple books, including *Supernatural Shakespeare*, *Sun Dance*, and *Thirteenth Moon*.

**4/14 Bumpy Beloved Belonging** Kim Diana Connolly  
Did you know that scientists tell us the need to feel like we “belong” is one of our strongest needs as humans? This service will explore both the science and reality of what it means to **belong** as a UU... and not just the parts that make us part of a beloved community, but also the bumpy parts.

**4/21 The Problem with Principles** Scott Harrigan  
We are on the cusp of making the biggest change to the core of our faith since the Principles were first revised in 1985. In June we will vote on replacing the Seven Principles and Six Sources with value terms. Come discover the history of our Seven Principles and why we should seriously consider retaining them rather than replacing them.

**4/28 Interdependence: You Have Everything You Need** Rev. Michelle

**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

Dear friends,

April is a transitional month for those of us in the northern hemisphere. Oh, we'll probably see another snow or two, that's the nature of Spring in our part of the world, but we'll also see the slow resurrection of Life abundant. I find myself searching treetops for the first crazy-green buds. I've never seen April-green in any box of Crayolas. Aside from a couple of wanna-be's, the crayons just can't capture the effervescence of trembling life.

This April I am paying attention to my own slow resurrection, trying to capture the effervescence that will bring me back to life. Les and I are going on pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona in Scotland. We're going with a group from the Haden Institute, where I did my education in spiritual direction and Jungian dream work, although we are arriving a few days before the group so we can walk on the land of my ancestors (paternal). I have wanted to go to Scotland since my 4th grade teacher (Mrs. Sylvester) linked us up with pen pals, and mine (Karen Morris) lived in Glasgow. I remember being disappointed that she didn't have red hair in the picture she sent me of herself. I wonder if I'll recognize her in the faces of passersby in the city. (Fanciful, I know, but I will undoubtedly find myself searching for her. Then what?)

I hope to return refreshed and reset. It's been a very long time since I have drunk deeply from the well, getting along with tiny sips. I am grateful to those who are filling the pulpit and doing the work of ministry in my absence; honor their gifts with your presence and participation.

Be well,  
Rev. Michelle

### SCHEDULE CHANGES FOR APRIL

Rev. Michelle and Les will be away April 8-22. Camilla (UU Amherst bookkeeper) will be away April 23-May 7. With Camilla's absence, please be aware that the Office Administrator will only be able to address essential activities such as bank deposits. All other accounting questions/needs should be addressed to Camilla before April 23rd or after she returns. Anything regarding church business that requires immediate attention during Rev. Michelle's absence can be addressed to Randy Kent or Bruce Becker.

### 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](mailto: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

### HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT?

Email: [administrator@uuamherst.org](mailto: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

Thanks to all of our voting members who attended, in-person or on-line, our annual meeting on February 25th that made a quorum possible. We passed the both the 2024 budget and our annual contribution to the UUA, the latter keeps us in "good standing " which allows us access to grants and loans from UUA. We will be exploring those where appropriate later this year.

Two by-law changes passed, and based on concerns from the congregation we will look at further clarifying the membership language we have. The biggest change was to make the quorum for our meetings a percentage of voting membership rather than a fixed number, which should ensure we are able to conduct the necessary business of the church at our congregational meetings.

Last month I reported on the discovery in February of the failure of a pump in one of our five heating systems and it's replacement, resulting in heat again being provided to our main bathrooms. In early March, Rev. Michelle alerted us to the very worrying sounds coming from the furnace room on second floor of the FD wing. A quick call to J&S Mechanical, our primary HVAC contractor, resulted in a technician arriving rapidly to replace a badly overheated motor that was in the process of failing.

Due to the continuing issues with our numerous heating systems, raising money for their repair or replacement is the FOI for the next year or so. Don Tucker and Wendy Scott will be heading that campaign, and we all owe them our thanks for doing so.

In a sign of spring, Linda Joy is getting our Gardeners Group together. They may have some assistance this year as I reached out to our neighbors at Gateway who had previously expressed interest in having some of their people work alongside ours.

Our current BOT members would like to welcome our new members, Betty Crump and Wendy Scott. We look forward to working together.

Randy Kent, Board Chair (linrkent@yahoo.com)



---

## Funding Shared Ministry

Please consider giving to the Minister's Discretionary Fund throughout the month of April (or anytime!). The Fund represents one of the ways we engage in shared ministry as we provide financial assistance to members, friends, and others who need a bit of support. It used to be that a check for \$30 would pay a utility bill or purchase a bag of groceries... We all know that everything costs more these days and that paychecks and contributions simply don't stretch the way they used to. It is one of the many reasons our Little Free Pantry and Clothing Ministry are so busy. If you are experiencing abundance, please consider giving to the Discretionary Fund. Simply make checks payable to UU Amherst with "Discretionary" in the memo line.

Thank you.  
Rev. Michelle

*Although recipients remain anonymous (there is no reporting), scrupulous records are kept to ensure that monies are distributed responsibly, should there ever be an audit of the Fund.*



## ENDOWMENT TRUST

After the Annual Meeting in February, the Endowment Trustees welcomed Tammy Kofke who will be serving a 5-year term ending in 2029. An email discussion resulted in the following decision on officers for the coming year: Lauraine Marcus—chair, Barry Kent—Treasurer, Dorothy Reade—Corresponding Secretary, Tammy Kofke—Recording Secretary. The formal Board of Trustee request for \$51,000 contribution to this year’s church operating budget was received. After a series of motions and votes conducted via email, the Endowment authorized the financial advisor to buy short term bonds (3, 6 and 9 month) which will mature so that quarterly payments of \$12,500 can be made. Unlike this past year, the total contribution will be made within the church fiscal year.

The next scheduled meeting for the Endowment is April 16th at 6:00 pm in the Emerson Room. At that time, we will have new officers and a new trustee. If you are interested in attending one of our meetings, please let one of the trustees know.

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

---

## YOUTH FAITH DEVELOPMENT AT UU AMHERST

Faith Development (FD) within our Unitarian Universalist Congregation is for all ages and stages and families of all sorts and sizes. Youth Faith Development (YFD) focuses on those between the ages 0-18. Together, paid staff and volunteers from our congregation offer opportunities for spirituality, community and values building, through fun, intergenerational crafts, games and activities on Sunday mornings and during special events.

Our activities focus on our principles of **Respect, Dignity, Love, Democracy, Justice, Compassion, and Care for ourselves, each other, and Earth.** We actively promote and teach acceptance of our differences, work to dismantle oppression and discrimination, and we celebrate curiosity and learning.

Children and youth are always welcome in our Sunday services. About 15 mins into the service, youth are invited to participate in activities with staff and volunteers from the congregation. They return at the end of service, usually in time for the final song, because we think it brings good closure- though at times, we are having so much fun, activities may run a bit into coffee hour.

You may register your youth for our Faith Development program using the QR Code.



## Calling All Gardeners!

Want to get your hands in the soil? Join us as we plan and plant our vegetable beds and maintain our border and memorial gardens. BYO tools or use ours. No experience needed. Interested? Email Linda Joy Lmgeag@gmail.com.

# AMHERST LITTLE FREE PANTRY

We've moved!

**THANK YOU to Dian and Don Tucker** for designating space in the new Administrative Wing (formerly Main Street Children's Academy) for a pantry storage room and office, leading the transformation efforts, and especially for laying the carpet and cove moldings.

**THANK YOU** to our relocation crew who transferred our bulk stock from the lobby! **Roger Keeney, Jill Fondiller, Betty Crump, Marlana Rice, Meg Sabella,** and **Cheryl Tomasullo** who showed up to inventory, pack, move, clean, and restock. Special shout-out to Roger who brought dollies and wagons for the transport (including the gift of a sturdy new 3-shelf rolling cart), to **James Andrix** who helped pull up the scary old rug and carpet pad, to **Scott Harrigan, Meg, Betty, Kathy Moriarty,** and **Doreen Park** who worked on the painting over the past few weeks, and to Cheryl for spring cleaning our staging storage closet, reorganizing, and re-labeling the drawers.

**All are invited to attend Restorative Practice Training on Saturday, March 30, from Noon to 2:00 pm, in the Bulfinch Room** (second floor of the Faith Development wing). This workshop will be an introduction to resolving conflicts and addressing breaches of covenant in ways that heal communities, calling on all parties involved to better understand one another and repair the harm. Students from UB's Environmental Advocacy Clinic will be the presenters. (These are the student attorneys who, along with students in UB's Entrepreneurship Law Clinic, have been collaborating with us as we work through the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. A Restorative Practices Policy will be part of ALFP Ltd bylaws.)

Food donations may still be dropped off on Sundays in the coat room - in the box or on the rack. Clean, returnable bottles and cans should be placed in the black Refund the Pantry cans next to the dumpster enclosure. Checks should be made payable to Amherst Little Free Pantry Limited and may be mailed c/o UU Amherst, or left in our mail slot in the hall outside the Library/Living Room. Online credit card donations:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\\_button\\_id=V8WPM6TYCYMHU](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=V8WPM6TYCYMHU).

Marie Evans, ALFP Ltd Chair



**SAVE THE DATES!**

**Family Nights & Potluck**

Saturdays 5:30-8:30 pm

Emerson Room

April 13

June 15

October 4

December 7

## APRIL 2024 CALENDAR

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

**Room abbreviations:** EM (Emerson Room); LR Living Room); Bul (Bulfinch-FD Wing); EC (Ecology Center)

### Tuesday, April 2nd

**12:30 pm:** Women's Group Lunch EM

**6:00 pm:** Lace Guild BUL

(also April 9, 16, 23 & 30)

### Saturday, April 6th

**10:00 am:** Grace Little Memorial Service Chapel

**10:00 am:** Lace Guild BUL

### Wednesday, April 10th

**5:30 pm:** Finance Committee

**5:30 pm:** CPR Training (rental) EM

### Saturday, April 13th

**12:30 pm:** Eckankar Group (rental) LR

**5:30 pm:** Family Game Night & Potluck EM

### Sunday, April 14th

**12:00 pm:** Poetry as Practice

### Tuesday, April 16th

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

### Wednesday, April 17th

**7:00 pm:** Board Meeting EM

### Thursday, April 18th

**5:30 pm:** NRC Meeting EM

### Saturday, April 20th

**9:00 am:** WNY Gluten Free Group EM (rental)

### Sunday, April 21st

**11:30 am:** UU the Vote Meeting Atrium

**12:00 pm:** Caring Team Speaker EM

### Saturday, April 27th

**6:00 pm:** Beltane Bonfire EC

### Sunday, April 28th

**12:00 pm:** UU Amherst Book Group—LR

## RECURRING:

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

All "tree" names are for Village groups

### Saturdays, April 6th-27th

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

### Sundays, April 7th-28th

**9:30 am:** Choir Rehearsal EM

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

### 4/7 (1st Sun)

**12:00 pm:** Amherst Little Free Pantry Meeting LR

### 4/14 (2nd Sun)

**12:00 pm:** Poetry as Practice LR

### Mondays, April 1st-29th

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

**7:30 pm:** Marvelous Maples (2nd & 4th Mon:  
4/9 & 4/23) R. Palmere

### Tuesdays, April 2nd-30th

**12:30 pm:** Women's Study Group (weekly) Zoom

### 4/16 (2nd Tue)

**4:30 pm:** Drumming Circle LR

### Wednesdays, April 3rd-24th

#### 3/6-3/24

**11:00 am:** Music Rehearsal Chapel

#### 4/7 (2nd Wed)

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

**7:00 pm:** Marlana's Covenant Group LR

#### 4/18 (3rd Wed)

**1:30 pm:** 3rd Wednesday Covenant Group

**7:00 pm:** Northtowns Village

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

### Thursdays, April 4th-25th

#### 4/4 (1st Thr)

**12:00 pm:** Men's Lunch (aka ROMEOS)  
(Buffalo Brew Pub)

#### 4/11 (2nd Thr)

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

**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.

## Ministry Train Update

All aboard the Ministry Train! Truly, all are welcome to attend the meetings that bring the various areas of ministry together for mutual support, encouragement, and generating new ideas to enhance our connections and live into our mission as a congregation.

Next meeting via Zoom:

Saturday, April 27th, 10:15 am-11:45 am

See *Weekly Update* for link

Meeting ID: 854 5343 3514

Pass Code: MINISTRY

## Grace Little Memorial Service April 6, 10:00 am

All are welcome to come and celebrate Grace's life. Reception to follow.



## Membership Coffee & Conversation

Interested in becoming a member of UU Amherst? Rev. Michelle will hold a time for coffee and conversation in the Atrium (adjacent to the Chapel), immediately following the service on Sunday, May 5th. Learn what membership in this beloved community entails.

## Men's Monthly Lunch

The UU Amherst's Men's Lunch (aka ROMEOS) meets every month on the first Thursday at the Buffalo Brew Pub. Come and enjoy good conversation, food, and drink. We meet at 12 noon and stay as long as conversation and schedules guide. We discuss a wide range of topics driven by interests and events of the day. For directions/menu, visit [buffalobrewpub.com](http://buffalobrewpub.com) Hope to see you there.

## Tuesday Women's Group

This month our in-person meeting will be Tuesday, April 2nd. We will meet in the Emerson Room at 12:30 p.m. Bring your lunch and a beverage. Other meeting dates via Zoom are: April 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th.

## MINISTRY & MORE

### Music at UU Amherst

#### Choir Call-Out & Rehearsals

If you are a singer in search of a song, join the choir! They meet Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Emerson Room (where the coffee happens). Questions? Contact Linda Delorey ([Imscapecod@yahoo.com](mailto:Imscapecod@yahoo.com)) (note that the first letter is a lower-case "L") for information and for the rehearsal schedule.

#### Instrumentalists Wanted

Do you play an instrument? Would you like to be part of a pick-up ensemble or even a soloist? Great! Contact Rev. Michelle ([minister@uuamherst.org](mailto:minister@uuamherst.org)).

\*\*\*

### Coordination of Caretaker Duties—April

Sunday, March 31 - Saturday, April 6 - Don Tucker  
Sunday, April 7 - Saturday, April 13 - Dian Tucker  
Sunday, April 14 - Saturday, April 20 - Bob Johnson  
Sunday, April 21 - Saturday, April 27 - Randy Kent  
Sunday, April 28 - Saturday, May 4 - Bruce Becker

\*\*\*

### UU Amherst Drumming Circle

The new UU Amherst Drumming Circle meets the second Tuesday of the month in the Living Room, from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. We hope to use the Waterhouse Ecology Center once the weather gets warmer. If you have your own djembe drum, conga, bongo, bodhran, shakers, castanets, etc. please join in! We have a few percussion instruments like shakers at church. Contact Cheryl Tomasulo with any concerns. 716-523-0954.

\*\*\*

### Save the Date!

#### Kentucky Derby Party, May 4th

Get out your fancy hats—the Kentucky Derby Party returns May 4th. Watch for details in the *Weekly Update!*

## UU AMHERST BOOK GROUP

Meet us last Sundays at noon in the Library/Living Room to talk about what we've been reading.

Our topic for April 28 is Time. Choose any book you'd like that reflects that theme. It can be fiction or nonfiction. A few suggestions: *Sea of Tranquility* by Emily St. John Mandel, *Kindred* by Octavia Butler, or *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking.

The book for May 26 is *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams.

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



---

## THEATER LOVERS

The final show of Jewish Repertory Theatre's season is the romantic comedy *Crossing Delancey*, which runs May 9th to June 1st. Save the date Sunday, May 19th for our group outing to the play and dinner. I will send an all-church email when the discount ticket forms become available.

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



## Summer Institute Registration Open

Join us for a time of community, fellowship, networking, fun, music and so much more. There is programming for children, youth, young adults and adults - you will need to choose what you want to do (or not) each day! Learn more about this year's adult morning seminars and afternoon workshops at the CERSI website. You can still apply for a job at CERSI to underwrite part of the cost of attending and be part of the team that makes the magic happen. Scholarship applications are open with a deadline of May 31. Do note that registration rates go up June 1, so you want to register soon!

The 2024 theme speaker is Rev. Julian Soto, a UU minister and activist, presenting **"Unlikely Superheroes: Skills for Practicing Faith and Ethics in Tough Times."** Rev. Soto brings a remarkably loving presence and a depth of spiritual leadership. Prior to being a minister, they were also a teacher and a lawyer. Each of these has been a way for them to engage with people, with transformation, and with the goal of making the world a better place. UUMAC, the UU Mid-Atlantic Community will once again be joining CERSI at PennWest for the annual gathering.

A once a year gathering of like-minded individuals can be life changing. CERSI has been described as an all-inclusive vacation for the family where children can grow, and everyone can be nurtured. Please join us.

Learn more at the CERSI website - [www.cersiuu.org](http://www.cersiuu.org).



## The UU Lending Library

Ever wonder about that book-filled glass cabinet at the back of the Emerson Room? That's our Lending Library - books about ours and other world religions, and spiritual or justice themes. I took the opportunity to reorganize and label categories when the Emerson Room rug was replaced: UU History, Atheism/Humanism, Leadership, World Religions, Theology, Spiritual Practice, Biography & Memoir (including some DVDs), Children's, Written by Congregants, Life Transitions, Social Justice. Sign out books on the honor system by writing the date, your name, and the book you've borrowed in the spiral-bound notebook.

Our most recent donation comes from Diane Bofinger: *ACTIVE HOPE: How to Face the Mess We're In With Unexpected Resilience & Creative Power* by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone. This book is shelved in the Social Justice section and was the topic of a church book discussion group in February 2023. Macy is a longtime activist, philosopher of ecology, Buddhist, and prolific author whose focus is *The Work That Reconnects*.

Questions? Contact Marie Evans



---

## GREEN JUSTICE TEAM

Following the Green Justice Team's first meeting of the year on March 7, many thoughts about our purpose and rationale for presenting the third annual Living Green Festival emerged.

UUCA has been researching and acting on projects that use its space in environmentally friendly ways. It has installed solar panels on the roof, earned a green certification, reduced the use of lighting and disposable products, planted crops and trees, organized a food pantry, instituted various recycling efforts, and planned renovations to our facilities with the best practices in renewable design and building.

The Living Green Festival, originally planned to take place in Fall 2021 to celebrate the reopening of the church, had to be moved forward with the first one in September 2022. All the better for arranging a fun, informative, and inspiring event! We are now planning for this year's Living Green Festival to take place on Saturday, September 28.

For the future, UU Amherst aspires to become a local hub of environmental information and green practices, introduce the community near and far to our principles and projects, to engage other like-minded groups and organizations, and to inspire those enthused to join us in action to replace environmentally unsound habits. We welcome all friends, known and new, to our "green sanctuary"!

Wendy Scott, [scottw@buffalostate.edu](mailto:scottw@buffalostate.edu)

## 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 UU Amherst 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.

### Spring Lemon Ricotta Pasta

Recipe from Dash’s Market

- 2 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 cup panko crumbs
- 1/2-1 tsp crushed red pepper flakes
- 3/4 lb of angel hair pasta
- Kosher salt and black pepper
- 6 Tbsp cold salted butter
- 1 lemon, sliced, seeds removed
- 1 cup fresh basil, chopped
- 1 zucchini or yellow summer squash, very thinly sliced
- 3-4 cloves garlic, minced or grated
- 2 Tbsp fresh thyme leaves (or 2 tsp dried thyme)
- 8 oz ricotta cheese, whipped if desired

Heat a large skillet over medium heat. Add the olive oil, the bread-crumbs, and crushed red pepper flakes. Cook, stirring occasionally until the breadcrumbs are toasted all over, about 4 minutes. Remove the breadcrumbs from the skillet. Lastly season with salt.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook the pasta according to package directions until al dente. Drain.

Meanwhile, set your skillet over medium-high heat. Add the 2 tablespoons of butter and lemon slices. Sear until the lemon is caramelized, about 1 minute per side. Remove the lemon from the skillet. Finely chop the lemon slices and mix with the basil.

To the skillet, add the remaining butter, zucchini, garlic, and thyme. Season with salt and pepper. Cook until the zucchini is golden, 5 minutes. Watch the garlic closely. Remove from the heat, stir in the pasta and half of the lemon/basil.

Spread the ricotta into bowls. Add the pasta. Top with breadcrumbs and additional lemon/basil.



### First Aid Kit Locations

The safety committee has updated the supplies in first aid kits located throughout the building. You can find them in the Administrator’s Office (supply cabinet); Bulfinch Room, and the Kitchen. There is a sign in each room identifying where you can find the kit.

### 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



## April U.U.—U.N.NEWS

9 March 2024

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 2024, 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



**UU AMHERST**

*Fostering Justice and Compassion*

6320 Main Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
634-3010  
[www.uuamherst.org](http://www.uuamherst.org)