

Issue

OCTOBER 2024

The Foreword

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



UU AMHERST

*Fostering Justice
and Compassion*

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

Director of Faith Development

Katie Cosgrove
dfd@uuamherst.org

Minister Emerita

Rev. Maureen Q. Thitchener

UU Amherst To Host NYSCU Annual Meeting *Theme: The Art of Helping—and Being Helped*

We are pleased to be hosting the annual meeting of the New York State Convention of Universalists (NYSCU), October 25-26; it promises to be a unique and inspiring conference!

10/25 Friday: Meet & Greet at The Mosey (7:30-9:30 pm) No charge

10/26 Saturday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm
Keynote speaker & workshops
Registration \$30 (NYSCU.org); \$35 on-site

(Let Lauraine know if you are planning to attend) No cost for volunteers to attend and participate.

The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Julián Jamaica Soto. Rev. Julián (formerly Theresa, pronouns are they/ them) is a Unitarian Universalist minister and activist. They have worked in parish ministry, interim ministry, and hospital chaplaincy with veterans. Rev. Soto lives in the Pacific Northwest and seeks to serve the mission and values of Unitarian Universalism, along with the healing of the world. The topic of their address will be “The Precious Light We Carry.”



There will be workshops about resources for congregations, Allyship Across State Lines, membership development, and Nature and Spirituality Practices.

As the hosts, we need folks to volunteer to be available to answer questions, give directions, address small problems, and help with registration (that’s an early bird job). Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Rev. Michelle or Lauraine Marcus.

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,

The theme for this month is Justice & Equity, which seems extra important for us to have this lens for seeing the world and our place in it, as the presidential election draws near. This month I share the words of Donald E. Robinson, president and founder of Beacon House, a nonprofit, community-based organization that provides social work services to at-risk children and youth in Washington, DC.

Social Justice

Many people use the term *social justice* in self-serving ways; what they mean by social justice is "just us." But social justice can only begin with the interaction between fortunate people and those who are disadvantaged. It is incumbent upon those who, by virtue of the accident of birth or other circumstances, have good jobs, good educational background, and good lives, to come to the assistance of those who face formidable obstacles to getting an education and leading fulfilling lives.

Social justice insists that people are not their circumstances; they are their possibilities. Social justice demands that all people, regardless of their birth circumstances, are entitled to a fair chance at life, every person has the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. - Donald E. Robinson

OCTOBER SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 AM

10/6 *Election Anxiety*

Katie Cosgrove

As we emotionally prepare for this upcoming presidential election, we may find ourselves struggling with anxiety and fear of outcomes that do not align with our personal or UU values. We will explore how we can channel our values and energy into meaningful purpose, community and change, no matter the final outcome.

Katie is not only UU Amherst's Director of Faith Development, she is also a trained trauma and grief specialist. It is from this point of view that she will offer some strategies for dealing with the stress of the days leading up to the election.

10/13 *Who's (Whose) On First?*

Rev. Michelle

What on earth does Abbott & Costello's famous routine have to do with creating a legacy?

10/20 *Dial M*

Rev. Michelle

More mysterious messages from MB.

10/27 *A Hammer, A Chisel, A Heart*

Rev. Julián Jamaica Soto

We all face mountains in life, both seen and unseen. What matters is how we choose to respond. This message draws inspiration from the story of Dashrath Manjhi, who, after a personal tragedy, set out to carve a path through a mountain. His journey challenges us to rethink what's possible, how we heal, and the role of persistence and vision in gathering hope and shaping our future. Join us as we explore what it means to overcome the obstacles that stand in our way—sometimes in ways we least expect.

Rev. Soto's biography can be found on the front page NYSCU article.

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.

BOARD REPORT

The Special Congregational Meeting held on September 15th was a great success. We had 49 voting members attend, more than required under the revised By-Laws. The authorization to spend up to \$80,000 for a new Sanctuary/Chapel heating system to replace the 60-year-old boiler that currently serves that purpose was passed. Thanks to our members who attended the meeting and made this possible.

Thanks also to my fellow members of the Heating Task Force, Bruce Becker, Barry Kent, and Don Tucker whose hard work and dedication over nine long months along with their invaluable experience and knowledge in these matters has made this possible.

Our work is not over as we will now see that the project moves forward to completion.

As explained at the meeting, we are raising money for the project which we hope will only cost \$70,000 and which is \$5,000 less than was raised for our new sign so we know we can do it.

With the heating season approaching we can't wait until all the money is raised to begin the project so we will use funds from the BOT Investment/Asset Account to fund the project while raising money to replenish that account just as one replenishes a personal savings account. We know that other needs for our facilities and programs will arise, so replenishment is mandatory.

One question that arose which was not directly answered at the meeting was why we have not gone to the Endowment Trust (ET) for the money as has been done in the past. In the last couple of years, the Endowment Trust, having reached their goal of one million dollars in funds for investment/principle, has generously contributed to our operating budget from the proceeds of their investments. This is fulfilling the purpose of the ET as stated in their founding documents. We are not able to do without that contribution to our budget and are not going to request a further sum which would likely necessitate them reducing the principle and jeopardize the value of the endowment.

See you at the Living Green Festival!

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



Save The Date!

2025 Generosity Campaign Kick-Off

Pancake Lunch

Sunday, October 20 - Following The Service
No Charge - Donations Are Welcomed!

There Will Be A Short Presentation
By The 2025 Generosity Campaign Committee
Childcare Will Be Provided!

*Help Support The Future Of
Liberal Religion For The Northtowns!*



UU Amherst 70th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, November 9
Reception - 5:30pm Dinner - 6:30pm
Program & Entertainment Following Dinner

\$40.00 Per Person
*Includes Reception, Dinner, All Beverages
& Entertainment*

Event Tickets On Sale NOW!



Scan This QR Code; Purchase At Coffee Hour
Or Mail A Check To The Church Office

JUSTICE ADVOCACY

Screening of “Bad Faith”

October 10, 7:00 pm Emerson Room

Learn about the rise of Christian Nationalism in the United States. We’ll watch a screening of *Bad Faith: Christian Nationalism’s Unholy War on Democracy*, a film that explores the rise of Christian Nationalism in the conservative movement in the United States and its opposition to American democracy.

November Election

It’s not too early to make sure you have a plan for voting in the November election. Voter turn-out will be a crucial factor in deciding the type of government we will have in 2025. High voter turnout across the country will also dispel claims that somehow the election was “stolen.” If you need a ride on election day or need help in applying for a mail-in ballot, email Ruth Bowen at altrbittnerbowen@gmail.com or call/text 484-343-0020.

Registration and Election Information

New York has robust election information online including on-line voter registration. You can also download forms you need for an absentee ballot and early voting with a mail-in ballot. **Go to elections.ny.gov**

KEY DATES:

October 26 Last day to register to vote

October 26-Nov 3 Early voting

November 4 Last day to request absentee or early mail-in ballot in-person at Board of Elections

INSIGHT SPEAKER SERIES

Tuesday, October 8th 7:00 pm Emerson Room

Topic: Wildlife 101: Living with Our Animal Friends

Speaker: Messenger Woods Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Center

Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators will be discussing ways we can co-exist and protect each other, our natural surroundings and all the inhabitants of our earth by education and example. Tips and keys on how to interact with wildlife will be discussed. Live Educational Ambassador Animals will be on site as well. Light refreshments available.

Tuesday, October 22nd 7:00 pm Emerson Room

Topic: Talk Saves Lives!

Speaker: Celia Spacone, Ph.D

This program, designed for adults, will raise your awareness of suicide risk factors, warning signs of suicide, and how to talk to a person of concern and get them help.

Our speaker, Celia Spacone, PH.D. is the Coordinator of the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Erie County, an organization that fosters a community of hopefulness, safety, and shared responsibility and works to prevent suicide and suicide attempts by increasing awareness, promoting resiliency and facilitating access to resources. The Coalition is supported by the Erie County Department of Mental Health and is administered by Crisis Services. Light refreshments available.

Witch Dance

Saturday, October 19 4:00-6:00 pm

To Benefit the Amherst Little Free Pantry

Expect some mischief, a bonfire, and the Be Witched Buffalo dance group that will join us! Cider and snacks will be for sale. The event will take place outdoors or the Emerson Room in the event of inclement weather.

Please consider sponsoring a dancer, bringing an item for the Pantry (please no glass), or making a tax-deductible donation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will help us serve our community during the upcoming winter months.

If you're interested in participating or volunteering, contact Meg Sabella at megsabella712@gmail.com or text 303-506-7531.



UU AMHERST BOOK GROUP

UU Amherst's Book Club meets in the church Library/Living Room at **noon** on the **last Sunday of the month** (September through May). We alternate 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 meetings, whether or not you've "done the reading."

September 29: BOOK

For September, we are "first readers" of a new book and the author is discussing it with us. The working title is *Wild Bliss! How Nature Unleashes Our Inner Wisdom and Restores Our Wholeness and Well-being*, written by our UU Amherst Administrator, Elaine Harrigan.

October 27: TOPIC

For October, our topic will be DISABILITY. Read any book you'd like that fits the theme, then join the discussion to share yours and hear what others read. Suggested titles include *Loving Our Own Bones: Disability Wisdom and the Spiritual Subversiveness of Knowing Ourselves Whole* by Julia Watts Belser, who was the Ware Lecturer at General Assembly 2024, and *Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories from the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Alice Wong, which has been a Common Read for several organizations and universities.

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



Did you know that we have a gender-neutral restroom? This private restroom can be found on the second level of the house portion of our building. If you're offering a tour to a newcomer, be sure to mention that we have this accommodation.

OCTOBER 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); Murray Meeting Room (MMR)

Tuesday, October 1st

12:30 pm: Women's Group Lunch EM

Saturday, October 5th

5:30 pm: Family Game Night

Sunday, October 6th

12:00 pm: Amherst Little Free Pantry Meeting LR

Tuesday, October 8th

7:00 pm: Insight Speaker Series EM

Thursday, October 10th

7:00 pm: Screening: "Bad Faith" EM

Friday, October 11th

7:30 pm: Havurah Service Chapel

Saturday, October 12th

10:00 am-5:30 pm Havurah Service Chapel/EM

Sunday, October 13th

12:00 pm: Poetry as Practice LR

Tuesday, October 15th

6:00 pm: Endowment Trust Meeting EM

Wednesday, October 16th

7:00 pm: Board Meeting MMR

Thursday, October 17th

6:30 pm: Volunteer Play/Workshop FD/MMR

Saturday, October 19th

4:00 pm: Witch Dance Chapel

Sunday, October 20th

12:00 pm: Generosity Campaign Kick-off Pancake Lunch EM

OCTOBER CON'T

Tuesday, October 22nd

7:00 pm: Insight Speaker Series EM

Friday, October 25th

7:30 pm: NYSCU Conference Meet & Greet @The Mosey

Saturday, October 26th

9:00 am: NYSCU Conference @ UU Amherst

Sunday, October 27th

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, October 5th-26th

7:00 pm: Birch Bunch Zadmin

Sundays, October 6th-27th

10:30 am: Sunday service—in-person and livestream; coffee hour following

10/20 (3rd Sun)

12:00 pm: Faith Development MMR

Mondays, October 7th-28th

10/7 & 10/14

4:00 pm: Witch Dance Practice EM

Weekly

7:00 pm: Tulip Crabapples L. Marcus Zadmin

Tuesdays, October 1st-29th

10/1

12:30 pm: Women's Group Lunch EM

10/8-29

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

Wednesdays, October 2nd-30th

1:30 pm: Caring Team Zoom

7:00 pm: Marlana's Covenant Group LR

10/16 (3rd Wed)

1:30 pm: 3rd Wednesday Covenant Group

7:00 pm: Northtowns Village

Thursdays, October 3rd-31st

Weekly

10:00 am: Current Events (weekly) Zoom

10/3 (1st Thr)

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

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. **Watch the Weekly Update or All Church email for October date and details.**

Tuesday Women's Group—October

This month our in-person meeting will be Tuesday, October 1st. We will meet in the Emerson Room at 12:30 p.m. Bring your lunch and a beverage. Other meeting dates via Zoom are: October 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. See the Weekly Update for Zoom link and pass code.

Men's Lunch—October (aka ROMEOS)

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.

Coordination of Caretaker Duties—October

Sun September 29 - Sat October 5 - Bob Johnson

Sun, October 6 - Sat, October 12 - Barry Kent

Sun, October 13 - Sat, October 19 - Bruce Becker

Sun, October 20 - Sat, October 26 - Randy Kent

Sun, October 27 - Sat, November 2 - Don & Dian Tucker

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 & MORE

Music at UU Amherst

Choir Call-Out & Rehearsals

If you are a singer in search of a song, join the choir! Questions? Contact Linda Delorey (lmscapecod@yahoo.com) (note that the first letter is a lower-case "L") for information.

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).



Weekly Zoom

Thursdays, 10:00 am

Taking action to make the world a better place is the hope of us all, but sometimes we just need to unwind and talk with like-minded souls. Grab your mid-morning cup of coffee and join us for a lively discussion of important issues. Topics to be decided by group or lightly facilitated as needed. See *Weekly Update* for Zoom link and passcode.



Family Game Night & Potluck
October 5th 5:30-8:30 pm
Emerson Room

Save the date:
December 7th

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Volunteer Play/Workshop October 17, 6:30-8:30 pm Murray Meeting Room

Come play and learn how to interact with the various UU Amherst communities! Want to get involved but nervous to start or not sure what you'd like to do? This is the perfect opportunity to expand your community and become familiar with the various volunteer positions available and how your skills match up. We'll have fun and even feed you soup!



Questions? Contact Katie Cosgrove: dfd@uuamherst.org

The Language of Gender

We're thrilled to announce that we have a professional speaker coming from Gender Equality of New York to offer a session on "The Language of Gender" following the service November 17th at 12 noon. This is a wonderful opportunity to come learn about the intricacies of gender, pronouns and identities!

In community,
Katie Cosgrove she/her
Director of Faith Development

AMHERST LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Most needed: Peanut butter and jelly, pasta and sauce, soup, coffee, (no glass containers, please!) and volunteers!

Join us Saturday, October 19, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, for the Witch Dance. This free event will take place outdoors or the Emerson Room in the event of inclement weather, and Be Wicked Buffalo will be performing with and for us. We'll gratefully accept food or monetary donations. Cider and snacks will be available for sale. You may Sponsor A Witch, too! Help them reach "tools of the trade" goals: Candle, Pointy Hat, Wand, Broom, Potion Bottle, Cloak, Amulet, Spell Book, Chalice, Black Cat, Cauldron. Visit <https://givebutter.com/JF3Wub> or scan the QR code on one of our flyers in the lobby.

Questions? Contact Marie Evans, ALFP LTD Chair

THEATER LOVERS

Jewish Repertory Theatre's season begins with an exclusive regional premier of "a genre-defying true story of a reluctant World War II hero and Holocaust witness" - **Remember This: The Lesson of Jan Karski**. The show will run October 31 - November 24. Save the date Sunday, November 10, to attend the matinee performance then go to dinner together at Lebro's Restaurant. Watch for all-church email when the discount ticket order forms become available for our outing. The price will remain the same as last year, \$30 per ticket (about 40% less than box office purchase).

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

NOMINATING & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

We want to sincerely thank Marjorie Buscher for her past year and a half of service to this committee. Marjorie has resigned to pursue other endeavors.

The Slate of Nominees for the 2025 Congregational Annual Meeting was announced in September from the pulpit, in *The Foreword*, and the *Weekly Update*. An Additional announcement was made in these communication sources, that during the month of September, “any voting member of the congregation may send suggestions for nominations to any member of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee.”

The committee members completed an internal policy and procedure document. Two members of the committee were welcomed at the Board of Trustees September meeting to introduce the proposed policy and procedure, and also to discuss some clarification recommendations for changes to the Article VII Bylaws
NOMINATION AND ELECTIONS.

The committee is currently working on the development of a leadership program for December presentation from the pulpit.

Suzanne Christ, on behalf of Committee members: Jacquelyn Senders, Chairperson; Marlana Rice; Marjorie Buscher; Jacqueline Babka; Linda Gardner, nominee of the Board of Trustees

FUNDRAISING TASK GROUP

The Living Green Festival with the Revised Rummage Sale, Basket Raffle, and Living Green Cafe (all Fundraising Task Force endeavors) are now behind us. We will evaluate our successes and plan for next year. Hopefully, you all enjoyed the LGF and are ready to support our beloved community over the next few months. Our annual pledge drive, a chapel boiler fundraiser, and the ET Legacy Society revival are all taking place over the next few months. With your support we look forward to the end of 2024.

Karen Thompson, Pam Kent, Dian Tucker, Barbara Kent Gauger

CLOTHING MINISTRY

The Clothing Ministry has switched over to autumn/winter season clothing. We also have put out clothing that could be used as Halloween costumes. We continue to be amazed at the need in the community. If you have winter or other cold weather clothing or Halloween costumes you wish to donate, we are now accepting those donations. Contact us if you have any questions.

Clothing Ministry Team, Dian (diantucker17@gmail.com) and Don Tucker, Pam and Jerry Kent, Barry Kent and Barbara Kent Gauger

Spooky Happening! John Snodgrass will be leading Haunted History Ghost Walks in Buffalo this fall, telling local ghost stories and sharing some macabre moments of Buffalo history.

The tours begin at 7:00 pm and will take approximately 90 minutes.

Allentown on Fridays 10/4, 10/11, 10/18 and 10/25 (Meet at 6:45 pm at 245 Allen St)

Theater District Saturdays 9/28, 10/5, 10/12 and 10/19 (Meet at 6:45 pm at 674 Main St)

Reservations: masonwinfieldghostwalks.com, or you can show up and pay \$20 cash on the night of the tour.

Please note: If you are approached at church by someone asking for money, please direct them to Rev. Michelle for assistance from the Minister's Discretionary Fund. Contributing to the fund is our shared ministry to help those in need.



ENDOWMENT TRUST

Food for thought: Should October be renamed **Generosity** Month?

This month giving is a “hot” topic (excuse the pun)! More immediate need is to raise funds for the new heating system for the chapel/sanctuary (winter is coming). On October 20th the Generosity Campaign to fund church operations for 2025 gets started. In between these two, on **October 13th**, the Endowment Trust will be talking about long-term giving to grow a source of secure income to assist the church in meeting its operating and capital expenses without relying exclusively on annual fund raising. After service, the Endowment will provide a light lunch and Mike Angelucci from Level Finance will speak on creating living legacies and how to donate stock. So – **SAVE THE DATE- October 13th!!!**

The next scheduled meeting for the Endowment has been changed to **Tuesday, October 15** at 6:00 pm in the Emerson Room. If you are interested in attending our meeting, please let one of the trustees know.

Lauraine Marcus, on behalf of the Endowment Trustees John Thompson, Dian Tucker; Barry Kent, Tammy Kofke

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.

Blueberries are still in season so this recipe takes advantage of the supply. This came from *The Buffalo News*

Blueberry Coffee Cake

For streusel topping

6 Tblsp packed light brown sugar
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
Pinch of ground nutmeg
1/4 tsp salt
1/2 cup all purpose flour
4 Tblsp unsalted butter,
cold, cut into 1/2 inch chunks

For the cake

6 Tblsp unsalted butter, at room temperature
3/4 cup granulated sugar
2 extra large eggs, at room temperature
1 tsp vanilla extract
Zest and juice from 1 1/2 lemons
2/3 cup full fat sour cream
1 1/4 cups all purpose flour
1 tsp baking powder
1/4 tsp baking soda
Generous pinch of kosher salt
1 1/2 cups fresh blueberries
(an 8 ounce container)
Powdered sugar for garnish (optional)

Preheat oven to 350F. Butter and flour a 9 inch round baking pan. May use parchment paper or a springform pan.

Prepare streusel: Combine brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt in a bowl. Add flour then cut the butter in using a pastry blender or two knives, until crumbly. Set aside while you prepare the cake batter.

Prepare the cake: Cream the butter and sugar until creamy, about 4 to 5 minutes using an electric mixer on high speed. Reduce the speed to low and add eggs one at a time until combined. Add vanilla, lemon zest, juice and sour cream. In a separate bowl whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.

With the mixer on low add the flour mixture to the batter and mix until just combined. Using a spatula gently fold in the blueberries making sure the batter is completely mixed.

Spoon the batter into the prepared pan and spread the batter out evenly. Crumble the topping evenly over the batter.

Bake 40 to 50 minutes until a cake tester comes out clean. Cool completely before serving. If desired sprinkle powdered sugar over the top.



U.U.—U.N.NEWS

19 August 2024

2024 United Nations Day Message

24 October is United Nations Day; that is because the United Nations Charter was adopted on that day in 1945 in San Francisco, California. United Nations Headquarters in New York City was not finished until 1952. 2024 is the 79th anniversary of the United Nations. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, America's thirty-second President, is considered to be the "father of the United Nations." Every year, U.N. Day is celebrated at U.N. Headquarters in New York City and throughout the world. The United States of America should also participate in the celebration by dismantling its global empire and global military machine and by thoroughly making the United Nations the focal point of our foreign policies.

What are the purposes of the United Nations? The main purposes are to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, to recognize the dignity and worth of the human person, to acknowledge the equal rights of men and women and nations large and small, to encourage respect for international law, to promote better standards of life in larger freedom, and to maintain international peace and security.

The United Nations is a noble, humanitarian experiment. Despite all the criticism of the organization, the United Nations has been a relative success. It has prevented another world war, promoted social progress and is in the process of realizing its purposes, principles and reforming itself.

Why is the actual United Nations so different from the U.N. Charter itself? This is a difficult question to answer. Almost all 193 United Nations Member States do not want to subordinate their sovereignty to the United Nations. Consequently, the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council do not want to elect a first-rate U.N. Secretary-General committed to realizing and strengthening the United Nations Charter. Also, the U.N. is a complex bureaucracy and its international civil service and peacekeepers have many inadequacies. There are also many other problems and dilemmas hampering the United Nations.

All this must change. To realize the U.N. Charter, the United Nations must possess the power to eliminate the scourge of war and promote human rights. To accomplish this, the United Nations must create its own effective system of collective security and a better means for promoting human rights. At the present time, universal and complete disarmament and world peace under U.N. auspices are, unfortunately, unfulfilled dreams.

Nevertheless, on United Nations Day, 24 October, all 193 United Nations Member States and all people should resolve to translate the United Nations Charter into reality in our troubled, interdependent world. The future of humanity depends on an effective United Nations and its ability to maintain international peace and security. The time to make this happen is now; otherwise, the future of humanity is bleak, indeed. As H. G. Wells wrote in *The Outline of History*, "human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe." The problems facing humanity are grave, but human reason and ingenuity can solve them. The United Nations must be made to work and for this to happen, the United States of America must support it. There is no good reason why the history of the future cannot be brighter than the history of the past unless human stupidity and irrationality prevail.

David Slive, U.N. Envoy



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Williamsville, NY 14221
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