

Lo and Behold

NOVEMBER 2018



*Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Glens Falls
21 Weeks Road, Queensbury, NY 12804*

*Our mission is to CREATE BELOVED COMMUNITY:
NURTURE the mind and spirit, INSPIRE peace and justice, SERVE with love and compassion*

NOVEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M.

Nov. 4 - "The Turning of the Seasons" - a recorded talk by Jack Kornfield.

Nov. 11 - Bob Rockwell - "Gender, Power, Destruction and the Evolution of Soul"

Nov. 18 - Rev. Barbara Threet - "To Be a Patriot Now" - Thomas Paine wrote, "These are the times that try men's soul". We may be rejoicing on Nov. 18, just a few days after mid-term elections, or we may be cringing. I do believe UUs can be - must be! - strongly patriotic, but what does that mean in our current political climate? Potluck following the service.

Nov. 25 - Karen Johnson - "Moon Phases across the Ages: A Pagan Point of View"

ORDER OF SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please submit announcements for the Sunday Orders of Service **before Wednesday noon** to Sally Strasser by phone 260-8313, or email salstrasser@verizon.net.

INFANTS & TODDLERS ARE WELCOME IN THE SERVICE. AN ADJACENT QUIET PLAY ROOM IS AVAILABLE.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE DURING SUNDAY SERVICES FROM MID-SEPT. - JUNE

LO AND BEHOLD

The UUCGF newsletter is **published monthly except July** and is distributed to members and friends of the Congregation. **THE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.** Articles may be given to Elayne Leonelli or sent to eleone31@roadrunner.com. For questions, call Elayne at 518-793-3081.

FROM REV. BARBARA'S DESK

I write this for the November newsletters of both the UU Church of Rutland and the UU Congregation of Glens Falls, about a critically important event: the mid-term elections on November 6.

Most of us have been following political developments in our country quite closely, some for decades and some only for the past few years. Most of us have strong opinions on a variety of issues or candidates: on some of them, we UUs tend to have similar opinions and on others we diverge considerably. One of the things we agree on just by being UUs is our fifth principle, which says we affirm and promote "the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large". A bedrock of democracy is the right to vote. The refrain "This is the most important year *ever* to get out and vote" has been sung before, and I don't know that 2018 can be declared The Most Important - only hindsight can tell us that - but I do know it is very important. So, a brief story:

Martin Niemöller was born in Germany in 1892. As a young man, he joined the German Navy, and at the outbreak of World War I, he was assigned to a U-boat, eventually becoming its commander. The Armistice Agreement, which took effect on November 11, 1918, stated that German commanders were to turn over their U-boats to England, but Niemöller and several other commanders refused, and so were discharged.

A few years later, he entered seminary and became a Lutheran minister. He was a supporter of the Third Reich for several years, but in 1934, when he and a few other church officials met with Hitler to discuss state pressure on churches, he realized that his phone had been tapped by the Gestapo, and that the Pastor's Emergency League, which he had helped found, was under surveillance. This meeting began to shift his thinking, and he came to oppose the rise of the Nazis. After the war, Niemöller was among the first to openly talk about the complicity of the German people - and of himself - in the Holocaust, publishing a book about that complicity and later speaking about it publicly. He died in 1984.

Niemöller is most widely known for a short poem he wrote. The words have appeared in many ways, altered to name different groups that have been subjected to persecution, but here's his original:

*First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist.
Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out— because I was not a
trade unionist.*

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.

This election does matter. If the issue or candidate you support is likely to win anyhow, your voice will give a stronger mandate. If the issue or candidate seems likely to lose regardless of your vote, your voice lets it be known that there are some who disagree. And if the issue or candidate is hanging in the balance, your vote might help tip that balance.

Your vote matters: your voice matters. The voices of your family, your friends, and your co-workers matter. Encourage others to vote - and vote yourself. Use this gift. VOTE!

Shalom and Salaam,
Rev. Barbara

PASTORAL CARE ASSOCIATES

Rich Myette: richmyette@gmail.com 518-232-3351
Will Aitcheson: aitchesonw@yahoo.com 518-791-9307
Joan Reid: spiritualreid@gmail.com 518-744-0641

You may call any one of them when you are in need of pastoral care.

NOV. BIRTHDAYS

Jean-Marie Donnelly, Regina Hillier, Deborah Longh-Houtman, Frank Pusateri, Lynne Rosenthal, Steve Ruzbacki, Nanson Serrienne, Tim Shuler, Joyce Smith, Helen Stern

BOARD PRESIDENT'S NOTES

In the craziness of our current political turmoil it is nice to have a home base of people that I can feel at home with and who have similar values and sensitivities. You might say that we are sort of like a tribe, but an inclusive tribe, open to others who share similar values and sensitivities. Many of us play a role in the larger community. Coming together to worship on Sundays is a way to support each other and our values and is a source of solace in trying times.

Elayne Leonelli and I met with Brent McDevitt of Apex Solar on Monday, October 22 and paid a down payment of \$1,000 to get the process of installing solar panels on our south facing roof started. There are further evaluations and paper processing involved but hopefully we will have solar panels installed before the end of December. However, because we are closing in on the end of 2018 and there are many other entities (National Grid, Town of Queensbury, etc.) involved who need to each do their part in order for the system to be operational, it is possible the project will not be fully operational until 2019.

Jean Grant has volunteered to be a co-chair for the Buildings and Grounds Committee. We need another co-chair and some people willing to do some of the work involved in maintaining our building and grounds. Mike Goodwin has volunteered to assist Elayne Leonelli in some of the treasurer's work. Mike is well qualified being an ex-math teacher.

The second Friday in November, November 9, the Adirondack Friends of Jung will be showing another film at 7 pm at UUCGF. The film, "The World Within", includes interviews of Carl Jung talking about his life and work along with images and excerpts from his published journal, "The Red Book".

~ Bob Rockwell

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Here is a brief summary of July 2018-Sept. 2018 revenues and expenses for FY 2019

Total Revenues for July-Sept. 2018 were \$ 25,622.43

Total Expenses for July-Sept. 2018 were \$ 18,738.45

**First quarter pledge statements were sent out (via email or USPS) in mid-October.
If you have any questions, please contact Elayne Leonelli.**

*If you have any questions, please contact Elayne Leonelli at 518-793-3081 or eleone31@roadrunner.com
or Stephen Baratta at stephenbrtt346@gmail.com.*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education (RE) is available to all children grade 1 - 8. We will be continuing the exploration of Right and Wrong, using the *Amazing Grace* curriculum. Using stories from around the world we are delving into what is right and wrong, why it is right or wrong and how we can decide between them. We are using real-life scenarios with ethical questions the children may face as they grow and explore our UU Principles and their Sources to find the answers. Class size has fluctuated but

the energy level remains high. I've always thought that our UU Kids are Amazing and this year's group proves it once again.

~ Chuck Schiltz & Lora Hileman

SOCIAL ACTION

The Social Action Committee met on October 14, 2018 and discussed the Get-Out-the-Vote initiative. Diane, Lynn McDonald, Jean Grant, Susan and Jack Abbott registered about 40 people at tables outside of Walmart on two Friday afternoons. Sample ballots for the November 6th election can be found on your county Board of Elections websites.

The Committee voted unanimously to address Criminal Justice issues in the coming months. We will begin to collect information on re-entry programs after prison release and how to support family members visiting those in prison. We will be working collaboratively with Catholic Charities and the local NAACP as a Criminal Justice Committee initially addressing local racial profiling, sharing stories, and police and youth education programs.

Nanson Serrienne and Steve Baratta will spearhead a Holiday Outreach Program to prison inmates without relatives and friends on the outside in lieu of the traditional "Adopt-a-Family". Will Aitcheson who has worked in the prison system will guide us. We will begin collecting allowable gift items in November so our packages will arrive timely. Details will follow.

The next UUCGF Social Action Committee meeting will be on the Sunday, November 11, after service.

Open Door Soup Kitchen

Our UU commitment is for 3 volunteers to assist with serving meals at the Open Door located at the corner of Lawrence St. and Walnut St. in Glens Falls on the **4th Monday of each month** from **4:15 pm to 5:45 pm**. Three volunteers will be needed **for Monday, November 26**. Please contact Diane Collins (518-792-2811) to sign up. Contact Diane at dc.wildflowers@gmail.com or (518) 792-2811 to volunteer to help. Please let her know ASAP.

~ Diane Collins

ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

This year we will be doing something different for our Adopt-a-Family program at Christmas. Steve Baratta and Nanson Serrienne (thanks to Nanson for taking this project on alone for so many years) will be working in conjunction with Will Aitcheson and Diane Collins from the Social Action Committee, and the theme will be a "holiday outreach program". We will be collecting supplies to put into packages for inmates who have no relatives or friends on the outside. The prison we will be focusing on is the NYS Washington County Correctional Facility. We will also be asking folks if they would like to buy a book to donate to the prison library. This is no small undertaking, because of the rules and regulations from NYS Dept. of Corrections and each individual facility. The 4 of us (and anyone who wants to help) will be putting collected items into individual packages and they will be brought to the prison. Any items you buy have to be in the original package as sold by the manufacturer. You can buy different types of items if you want but each one must remain in the original packaging. To do the books, the regulations require that they be ordered from specific online retailers (we don't know which ones yet) and sent directly to the prison. Therefore, if you would like to donate a book or books please put a monetary contribution for the cost of the book (plus approximate shipping) into the donation box by the Christmas tree in the foyer and we will see to it that the books get to the prison. **Once again anything donated on the list must be new and in original manufacturers packaging.**

The categories of what can be included for a package are: food, toiletries, clothing, checkers and chess sets and art supplies. Once again being cognizant of where these items are going I may have to further refine some of the categories as information becomes available (i.e. color and type of clothing, can they receive razors and if so what type, pens, pencils, or other sharp implements). We would not be able to make this happen without the expertise and time that Will is dedicating.

So in closing look for the Christmas tree in the foyer and we will keep an inventory of what we get and update what's needed so we can try to get everything covered for some packages and hopefully get

some books into the library prison. Thanks also to Nanson and Diane and the Social Justice committee which has decided that one area of focus this year will be restorative justice (prison reform work). Happy holidays to all.

~ Stephen Baratta

MONTHLY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Reading/Discussion group will meet on **Monday, Nov. 12th** at noon in the church Fellowship Hall. Bring your brown bag lunch. We will discuss Part II of Surviving the Future. I have several extra copies of the book for anyone who would like to join us, or read along, even if you can't come to the meeting.

~ Harvey Noordsy

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

During this month's Membership Committee meeting, we decided we needed to make a master supply list for all the supplies we regularly use during coffee hour. Then we will have that up in the kitchen where we can keep track of it. If any members see a need for any supplies, like sugar, cream, etc., please let us know as soon as possible. Jean Grant is in charge of ordering the coffee, so please contact her if you see we are running low.

We greatly appreciate all those that help out and bring treats for coffee hour, but we would like to remind everyone to please take home any leftover foods that you may bring. The refrigerator gets pretty packed quickly, and lots of stuff ends up going bad and being thrown away.

We will be making a sign-up sheet for "Potluck help crews," where members can sign up to help set up and/or clean up afterwards. The job has mainly fallen on a certain few, and as it's a pretty big job, we could really use all the help we can get on those days. The sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the dining hall. We remind members that they are responsible for the dishes they bring to the potluck, and any heating or refrigeration it may need. We acknowledge that we are truly blessed as our potlucks have all been very wonderful, with so many yummy dishes to share! Many thanks to all of you!

We discussed briefly, a need to help get some help together for the Building and Grounds Committee. Steve Barrata will be making a list of the various jobs that the Building and Grounds Committee are responsible for, so we have a better idea about what is needed. We know we need to get some cleaning up done outside before the cold and snow come, and hope to get that organized soon.

We are happy to say that we will most likely have a New Members Ceremony in November, and are excited to welcome at least two new members at this time, Mike and Jackie Goodwin! As always, we could still use more people to sign up for the coffee hour teams. As they say, many hands make light work! So if you would like to be on one of the teams, please let me know, or you can contact me at krystyne444@gmail.com. Our next Membership Committee Meeting will be on **Thursday, Nov. 15th** at 12:00 p.m. All are welcome!

~Krystyne Wozniak

NOVEMBER COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

1st Sunday, Nov 4th

Team Coordinator

Kendra Schieber
518-744-7396
Kenschieb@yahoo.com

Team Members

Kate Durning	518-260-4072	none
Zahira Hussain	518-743-9798	Ajee55@yahoo.com
Joseph Kern	518-792-1461	josephwkern@gmail.com

2nd Sunday, Nov 11th

Team Coordinator

Pema Reed
518-747-9713
pritaji@yahoo.com

Team Members

Felice Best	518-361-4774	fclauder@hotmail.com
Beth Shropshire	518-791-7861	bshropsh@nycap.rr.com
Margaret Whittaker	518-743-1655	whittakerm899@gmail.com

3rd Sunday, Nov 18th

YEA POTLUCK DAY!!!

4th Sunday, Nov 25th

Team Coordinator

Martha Torregrossa
518-798-0286
lottot@roadrunner.com

Team Members

Joyce Smith	518-793-6379	smithpjny@gmail.com
Linda Westlake	518-636-3306	llwestlake@roadrunner.com

MEMBERS & FRIENDS DIRECTORY CHANGES

Please add the contact information for **Lora Hileman**, 105 Needle Park Circle, Apt. 23, Queensbury, NY. Her phone no. is 865-603-4224. (She is helping Chuck Schiltz with the children in Religious Education.)

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

Our Sunday service on October 21st was very inspirational for many who attended. Rev. Barbara's sermon was called "Radical Hospitality", and she reminded us of the Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism and how we need to apply them as we share our personal and often strong convictions with others. At the end of the service, she asked us to think of someone we were grateful for and to write a note to that person to let them know. The receiver did not have to be present. We then moved about the room and delivered our letters. For many, this was a very touching moment. After that, we sang to each other, then to the whole group, the following: *"From you I receive, to you I give. Together we share, and by this we live."* The service was then followed by a wonderful potluck luncheon, and a Board, Minister and congregation, community meeting.

CRANDALL PUBLIC LIBRARY

In the Public Interest Film Series

Weapons of the Spirit

Monday, Nov. 19, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.

This documentary by Pierre Sauvage is his deliberate attempt to understand why an entire village population rescued thousands of Jews while the whole world appeared to have turned its back on their persecution by the Nazis and the Collaborators.

*Films presented by TriCounty NY Transition in collaboration with
Crandall Public Library.*

Films are free and post-film discussion welcomed.

BUILDING YOUR OWN THEOLOGY CLASS

The monthly **Building Your Own Theology** class, as described in the Minister's column in the October newsletter, will be held at the church on Saturday mornings from 10:00 to noon. The dates are: Nov. 17, Dec. 15, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, Mar. 16, Apr. 20, May 18, and June 15. Rev. Barbara will send out a short reading or question for reflection about two weeks before the first class. For subsequent classes, these materials will be provided at the previous month's class. Regular attendance will greatly enhance our discussions. If you'd like to participate and haven't already contacted Rev. Barbara, please do so at brthreet@gmail.com.

UU CAFÉ

UU CAFÉ will be meeting Saturday, November 24th from 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. Call Sally Strasser at 518-260-8313 for information.

NIPPER CLUB

This group is a monthly gathering of lovers and collectors of recorded music. We share our favorite LPs, CDs, MP3s, cassettes, and smart phone downloads, Round Robin style. We bring to vivid life records from the 118 year history of recorded music on this planet, and we marvel at what we hear. **Please call Sally (518-260-8313) for information about the next meeting.**

MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Former member, James Joseph, has recently opened Sharp Presents, a storefront shop for the gift basket business he has run for 16 years. The shop is located at 1088 State Route 9 in Queensbury. For more information, please look at the website, <https://sharppresents.com>.

Ben Tater is recovering from a badly sprained ankle.

CONDOLENCES TO:

..... Louise Hanson whose dog, Dakota, died the end of August.

SPECIAL THOUGHTS TO:

..... Debbie McNally who fell in August and broke her right ankle and her left wrist

..... Maureen Dye whose two sisters are dealing with serious health issues

..... Andy Houtman whose brother is dealing with some health issues

THANKS TO:

..... Lora Hileman for helping Chuck Schiltz with Religious Education

DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

For further information about these items, please check the UUA web site at www.uua.org and www.uua.org/ceer for the Central East Region

Rev. Barbara Threet attended the recent New York State Convention of Universalists Annual Meeting in Syracuse. She told us that our congregation is now a member of NYSCU. In January 2018, we wrote a letter to request that UUCGF be admitted as a member. At this recent annual meeting our request was approved. This is the organization which has given us the opportunity to apply for two loans to help us pay for two capital improvement projects - some repairs to our parking lot and a new roof. They provide 3 year interest free loans. We repaid the first one in full within the three year period. We have only \$3,000 remaining on the second one and we should be able to make that final payment in Oct. 2019. Both loans have been a big help.

Board Members

Robert Rockwell, *President*, Carol Strasser, *Vice-President*

Felice Best, *Secretary*, Stephen Baratta, *Treasurer*

Will Aitcheson, Andy Houtman, Elayne Leonelli

Music Accompanist: Ray Savastano
Worship Chair: Sally Strasser
Website: www.glensfallsuu.com
Office phone: (518) 793-1468
Mailing address: P.O. Box 534, Glens Falls, NY 12801

REGULAR BUILDING USE

Mondays at 7 p.m. - Jungian Discussion Group facilitated by Bob Rockwell - RE room
Mondays & Wednesdays at 5 p.m. - AA meetings - Fellowship Hall
Tuesdays from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. - Yoga classes - Fellowship Hall and
6:00-7:30 p.m. - Belly Dance classes - Fellowship Hall
Wednesdays from 2:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
every two weeks - Margaret Lampasi's voice lessons - large RE room
Thursdays at 4 p.m. - Scrapbook group - Fellowship Hall

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONTACT Donna Garvin at drgarvin@outlook.com before scheduling **ANY UU** meeting or other event to insure there are no conflicts that might reduce attendance at both events.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun., Nov. 4
10 a.m. - Sunday Service
Tues., Nov. 6
BE SURE TO VOTE
Fri., Nov. 9
7 p.m. - "The World Within" - A film about Jung
Sun., Nov. 11
10 a.m. - Sunday Service
11:30 a.m. - Social Action Committee
VETERANS DAY
Mon., Nov. 12
12 noon - Book Discussion Group
Wed., Nov. 14
6:30 p.m. - Board of Trustees meeting
Thurs., Nov. 15
12 Noon - Membership Committee
Sat., Nov. 17
10 - Noon - Building Your Own Theology adult RE class
Sun., Nov. 18
10 a.m. - Sunday Service
POTLUCK FOLLOWING THE SERVICE
Board/Minister/Congregation meeting
Mon., Nov. 19
6:30 p.m. - Film at Crandall Public Library - "Weapons of the Spirit"
Thurs., Nov. 22
HAPPY THANKSGIVING
Sat., Nov. 24
7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. - UU Café
Sun., Nov. 25
10 a.m. - Sunday Service
Mon., Nov. 26
4:15 p.m. - Open Door serving