

# Lo and Behold

JANUARY 2020



*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*

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## JANUARY SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 A.M.

Jan. 5 - "Mystery of the Magi" - Robert Rockwell

Jan. 12 - "The Death of Jazz: A Metaphor for the Life of Martin Luther King" - Sally Strasser

Jan. 19 - Rev. Barbara Threet - "Be Famous This Year!" - When we each hear the name of an individual or an organization, there's often an image that comes to mind, of a defining characteristic or an overarching goal or a noteworthy moment that has stuck. When someone hears your name this year, or the name of our church, what will come to mind?

Jan. 26 - "The Love Canal Lesson" - Richard Haas

### 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](mailto:eleone31@roadrunner.com). For questions, call Elayne at 518-793-3081.

### ORDER OF SERVICE ANOUNCEMENTS

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

INFANTS & TODDLERS ARE WELCOME  
IN THE SERVICE.

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

FROM REV. BARBARA'S DESK

All last night the wind howled and raged. The thermometer stands at zero now, as dawn approaches, and the wind chill is nearly -20. There are scattered power outages, and for those who must be out repairing wires, this must be brutal. And with temperatures this cold, there may be those who didn't survive the night. Branches are down and maybe trees too, blowing snow certainly made driving treacherous: it really was a wild and ominous night, even a dangerous night.

And yet, and yet...

At one point the wind stilled, and the nearly-full moon shown on yesterday's smooth snow, blown now into fantastically sculptured shapes, bright and blue-white and absolutely beautiful. And that was part of last night too.

Had the night been serene and warm, somewhere there still would have been struggle or sadness. It's always mixed, this life, and if yours (or mine) isn't mixed right at this moment, it will be soon. And whatever 'it' is, 'it' can be seen from many vantage points, and interpreted in many ways.

The world rages and howls too. Impeachment, border walls, Syria, anti-Moslem policies in India and here at home, disappearing bees, starvation in Yemen and Zimbabwe, and the list goes on. And yet - great acts of kindness still happen: you may even be part of creating acts of kindness.

In my own corner of little hill towns in western Massachusetts lives a fiercely independent woman who provided excellent, low-cost child care for decades in her home, and now runs an after-school program (also ridiculously inexpensive) at a local school, a woman much loved and widely admired. She lives in a small, simple old house where the wiring probably hasn't been upgraded since it was installed many, many years ago, and a power surge during a storm last summer destroyed all her major electrical appliances - fridge, washer, dryer, computer, TV, even the hot water heater. She told no one. She scraped together money for a mini-fridge and recently bought a new laptop, but the rest - she just lived without. And then a week or so ago she slipped, and on one cold day, she mentioned her longing for an actual hot shower, and the truth of her situation came out.

Yesterday, after a much localized GoFundMe appeal for \$1,000 for her netted over \$2,700, she wept. And so did everyone who knows her, and was overjoyed to contribute. Today she's buying a new water heater. And despite all the ugly and scary and unfair and unjust things in the world, there is a spot of joy - in all our hearts.

May you find places to be part of bringing joy and brightness and hope to some corner of the world in this 2020 year: indeed, knowing this UUCGF congregation, I know you already are. You are a blessing, and each of you brings blessings too. Happy New Year.

Shalom and Salaam,  
Rev. Barbara

## **NOTES FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT**

As a measure of how I am growing into my role, I now look forward to this monthly letter the same way I look forward to our monthly potluck: as an opportunity for the Board and myself to communicate clearly and connect dearly with our Beloved Community. During the December potluck, the Board identified for those present four goals to be attained this year: 1) finish updating our bylaws; 2) complete a healthy congregation policy; 3) rent our available RE space; and 4) finish our south side landscaping project. Topics to be discussed at our next Board meeting include: structural modifications (moving the RE door) in our available space to make it more attractive to prospective renters, and removing mice once and for all from the building. Administrative issues will include: revisiting our no pets policy, discussing appropriate use of announcements during worship, and continuing our first step of strategic planning by legally clarifying and codifying our property deed.

Some may wonder how mice as a topic rises to such importance as to become a board agenda item. Mice droppings have been found in general traffic and common use areas outside of the kitchen and coffee area. This presents a significant health hazard especially to young children who are crawling about. If you have any additional information, questions, or concerns on this or any other issue, please

contact or talk with me, Barbara, or any board member. We are keenly aware that communicating with the congregation is not just speaking clearly but also listening fully and thoughtfully.

Again our thanks to all the committees for their tireless labors of love that sustain us.

Happy holidays to all.

~ Will Aitcheson

**PASTORAL CARE ASSOCIATES**

Rich Myette: [richmyette@gmail.com](mailto:richmyette@gmail.com) 518-232-3351  
Will Aitcheson: [aitchesonw@yahoo.com](mailto:aitchesonw@yahoo.com) 518-791-9307  
Karen Johnson: [dooddust@yahoo.com](mailto:dooddust@yahoo.com) 518-796-5674  
Rev. Barbara Threet: [brthreet@gmail.com](mailto:brthreet@gmail.com) 978-855-7236  
Robert Rockwell: [robertrockwell1938@gmail.com](mailto:robertrockwell1938@gmail.com) 518-796-9879

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

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Will Aitcheson (President)  
Beth Shropshire (Vice-President)  
Felice Best (Secretary)  
Mike Goodwin (Treasurer)  
Andrew Houtman, Elayne Leonelli

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Cosimo Alessi, Karen Johnson, Ann Blanchard, Rich Myette, Pema Reed, Margaret Whittaker

**UUCGF MEMBERS & FRIENDS DIRECTORY**

Changes and additions to the 2019-2020 Directory

Please CORRECT the address for:

Marion Payne - it should be 51 Evergreen Ln., Apt. 104, QBY 12804

Robert Rockwell and Miranda Kyhill - 19 Logan Ave., GF 12801

Please ADD:

Scott Sires, 50D Broad St., GF 12801 - email: [SSires64@gmail.com](mailto:SSires64@gmail.com)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Here is a brief summary of July 2019 - Nov. 2019 revenues and expenses for FY 2020

**Total Revenues for July - Nov. 2019 were \$ 43,482.46**

**Total Expenses for July - Nov. 2019 were \$ 30,141.32**

*If you have any questions, please contact Mike Goodwin at 631-332-9310 or [jmgoodwin55@gmail.com](mailto:jmgoodwin55@gmail.com)  
or Elayne Leonelli at 518-793-3081 or [eleone31@roadrunner.com](mailto:eleone31@roadrunner.com)*

*The Finance Committee members are Karen Johnson, Joyce Smith, Maureen (Dye) Reilly, Steve Baratta,  
Mike Goodwin and Elayne Leonelli, facilitator*

**THANK YOU TO ONE AND ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

**ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROJECT**

The Adopt-A-Family Program this year was a success thanks to the generosity of our UU Congregation!!!!!! Three precious children received the gift of love and joy this Christmas, in addition to pre-holiday winter worthy clothing. Thank you for all the expressions of UU spirit and compassion. May we hold these dear young ones in our hearts throughout the year.

Steve Baratta and Nanson Serrienne

## 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 **4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month** from **4:15 pm to 5:45 pm**. Three volunteers will be needed for **Monday, Jan. 27th**. Please contact Diane Collins at [dc.wildflowers@gmail.com](mailto:dc.wildflowers@gmail.com) or (518-792-2811) to sign up. Please let her know ASAP.

## MEMBERSHIP & HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Present at this month's meeting on December 13 were: Rev. Barbara Threet, Julia O'Rourke, Betty Noordsy, Lynn McDonald, and Jean Grant

Committee members discussed plans to continue cleaning / organizing the kitchen in January. A memo will be posted on the refrigerators. The goal is to have only one refrigerator running most of the year.

The committee maintains a list of those who sign the visitors' book and will continue to update the information. We have had many new visitors come to our UUCGF services. It was wonderful to see ten children scurry off to RE during the December 15th service!

We have been contacted by a woman who attended the UUCGF Spaghetti Dinner. She is in the process of sorting through three households and would like to donate items to our kitchen. We will be working with her over the next few months.

It was decided during the December Potluck that a *Coffee Hour Team* will be assigned to volunteer for the Potluck luncheon, which is held on the **third** Sunday of each month. This team is to do **only** the tasks they normally would do to set up for coffee hour. Other volunteers will be setting up tables and chairs, as well as helping with clean up. This decision was made because often the same people have been doing the work each time. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their effort and wonderful food for our Potlucks.

As always, the committee invites everyone to sign up to be a *Greeter*. Members, friends, and first time visitors always enjoy seeing a friendly face welcoming them to join our Sunday services. A special thank you goes to Karen Johnson and Julia O'Rourke who often volunteer when no one else has.

Our next meeting will be January 17th at noon.

~ Jean Grant

## January 2020 Coffee Hour Schedule

### **1st Sunday, Jan. 5th**

#### **Team Coordinator**

Betty & Harvey Noordsy  
518-798-0330  
[noordsyb@roadrunner.com](mailto:noordsyb@roadrunner.com)

#### **Team Members**

Nancy Kimball 518-668-0115  
Lynn McDonald 518-494-8001  
Claire Epworth 518-656-9534

[nmkimball@live.com](mailto:nmkimball@live.com)  
[birches27@aol.com](mailto:birches27@aol.com)  
[Claire@ice-makers.com](mailto:Claire@ice-makers.com)

### **2nd Sunday, Jan. 12th**

#### **Team Coordinator**

#### **Team Members**

Jane Kana  
518-792-6024  
janezee@roadrunner.com

Diane Collins  
Jean Grant  
Elayne Leonelli

518-792-2811  
518-798-8291  
518-793-3081

dc.wildflowers@gmail.com  
jeanne421@hotmail.com  
eleone31@roadrunner.com

### 3rd Sunday, Jan. 19th **\*POTLUCK DAY**

#### Team Coordinator

Pema Reed  
518-474-9713  
pritaji@yahoo.com

#### Team Members

Felice Best 518-361-4774  
Beth Shropshire 518-791-7861  
Julia O'Rourke 518-668-3190

fclauder@hotmail.com  
bshropsh@nycap.rr.com  
orourke191@verizon.net

### 4th Sunday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>

#### Team Coordinator

Martha Torregrossa  
518-798-0286  
marthatorregrossa@gmail.com

#### Team Members

Joyce Smith 518-793-6379  
Linda Westlake 518-636-3306  
Kim Yazic 518-409-4163

smithpjny@gmail.com  
llwestlake@roadrunner.com  
kikifalcon27@yahoo.com

*If you are unable to volunteer on your scheduled date, and time permits, please contact a volunteer from another team to trade Sundays with. If there is an emergency, please notify your team leader, if possible.*

*Thank you for volunteering your time and delicious treats to UUCGF's Sunday coffee hour.*

**\*POTLUCK DAY** - It was decided during the December Potluck that a *Coffee Hour Team* will be assigned to volunteer for the Potluck luncheon, which is held on the **THIRD** Sunday of each month. **This team is to DO ONLY the tasks they normally would do to set up for coffee hour.** Other volunteers will be setting up tables and chairs, as well as helping with clean up. This decision was made because often the same people have been doing the work each time. Thank you to everyone who volunteers their effort and wonderful food for our Potlucks.

#### LET THERE BE LIGHT!

We finally have one of the big lights in our parking lot providing better lighting in the mid-area of our first parking lot area. Because the lights are on private property, we have to pay National Grid monthly in order to have them operating. We decided that because we have solar to help with our electric expenses, we could now afford to pay the monthly charge of about \$21. The cost would double if we paid for both of them to be operating.

#### FUND RAISING

The Fund Raising Committee currently has a couple of ideas under consideration for spring 2020. There will be a Fund Raising Committee meeting after coffee hour on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020.

Fund Raising to meet after coffee half hour on Sun. 1/5/20.

Please contact me [dooddust@yahoo.com](mailto:dooddust@yahoo.com) with information, input, & ideas.

~ Karen Johnson

#### BUILDING YOUR OWN THEOLOGY, PART II

Last year a group of UUCGF members and friends gathered once a month for a class facilitated by Rev. Barbara, in which we explored a specific theological concept. Class members receive an emailed

reading a week or so before class which is related to that month's topic, and our discussions are lively, thought-provoking, and fascinating, as we explore our varying opinions and experiences.

**We'll be meeting on the Saturday mornings before the third Sunday (that's Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 14, Apr. 18, and May 16) from 10:30 to noon.**

### **UU MONTHLY READING/DISCUSSION GROUP**

We will meet on **Monday, January 13, at noon** in the church Fellowship Hall. We will discuss part II of **Jeremy Rifkin's The Smart New Deal**. Contact Harvey Noordsy ([hnoordsy@gmail.com](mailto:hnoordsy@gmail.com)) for more information.

~ Harvey Noordsy

### **ADIRONDACK FRIENDS OF JUNG**

The Adirondack Friends of Jung meets the **second Friday** of the month to look at videos about Jung and his ideas from You Tube and other sources. These videos become jumping off points for discussion to promote deeper intellectual understanding of Jung and his thinking. **We meet the second Friday of the month at 7 pm. This month's the meeting is on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Bob Rockwell for more information at 518-796-9879.**

### **UU CAFÉ**

**UU CAFÉ** will be held on January 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-10 p.m. Contact Sally Strasser at 518-260-8313 for more information.

### **SPIRITUAL DIRECTION**

Bob Rockwell recently started participating in a program at the Consultation Center of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany to train to become a "Spiritual Director". As part of the training, the students are encouraged to take on clients who are interested in furthering their spiritual growth and understanding of themselves. Please contact him at 518-796-9879 if this might interest you.

**Music Accompanist: Ray Savastano**

**Worship Chair: Sally Strasser**

**Website: [www.glensfallsuu.com](http://www.glensfallsuu.com)**

**Office phone: (518) 793-1468**

**Mailing address: P.O. Box 534, Glens Falls, NY 12801**

### **MEMBERS & FRIENDS**

Some members & friends may remember former member, Elaine Winslow. Her mother, Alice R. Winslow, died on Nov. 29, 2019. We extend our condolences to Elaine and to her family.

In a note Elayne Leonelli received from Lynne and Warren Rosenthal, they expressed how much they miss their friends at UUCGF. They are now living and working in the Rhinebeck, NY area.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

..... Bob Rockwell & Miranda Kyhill on the purchase of their new home at 19 Logan Ave. in Glens Falls

### **SPECIAL THOUGHTS TO:**

..... Maureen (Dye) Reilly's son-in-law who is recovering from back surgery

..... Carol Strasser is recovering from a bone infection which necessitated a tooth extraction

### **THANK YOU TO:**

- ..... David Legg who often helps with the dishes after our potlucks
- ..... Joseph Kern for repairing the knob on the cover of the decaf coffee pot
- ..... Nanson Serrienne and Stephen Baratta for setting up and coordinating our Adopt-a-Family program
- ..... Everyone who bought presents or donated money to make our Adopt-a-Family program a success

### **DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS**

*For further information about these items, please check the UUA web site at [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org) and [www.uua.org/cer](http://www.uua.org/cer) for the Central East Region*

### **REGULAR BUILDING USE**

**Mondays** at 7 p.m. - Jungian Discussion Group facilitated by Bob Rockwell  
**Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays** at 5 p.m. - AA meetings - Fellowship Hall  
**Tuesdays** from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. - Yoga classes - Fellowship Hall and  
7:00-8:30 p.m. - Belly Dance classes - Fellowship Hall  
**Mondays** from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
**every two weeks** - Margaret Lampasi's voice lessons  
**Thursdays** at 4 p.m. - Scrapbook group - Fellowship Hall

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

### **JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Wed., Jan. 1**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**Sun., Jan. 5**  
10 a.m. - Sunday Service  
**Fri., Jan. 10**  
7 p.m. - Adirondack Friends of Jung  
**Sun., Jan. 12**  
10 a.m. - Sunday Service  
**Mon., Jan. 13**  
Noon - Monthly discussion group  
**Thurs., Jan. 16**  
6:30 p.m. - Board of Trustees meeting  
**Fri., Jan. 17**  
12 Noon - Membership Committee  
**Sat., Jan. 18**  
10:30 a.m.-noon - Building Your Own Theology, Part II  
**Sun., Jan. 19**  
10 a.m. - Sunday Service  
**POTLUCK FOLLOWING THE SERVICE**

Board/Minister/Congregation Conversation

**Mon., Jan. 20**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

**Sat., Jan. 25**

**7:30-10:00 p.m. - UU CAFÉ**

**Sun., Jan. 26**

10 a.m. - Sunday Service

**Mon., Jan. 27**

4:15 p.m. - Open Door serving