

# Powerline

First Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Niagara

October 2016

639 Main Street  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301  
716-285-8381

*Learn, Love, Build a Better World*

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The Powerline is a monthly publication of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara. It is free online to anyone who wishes to subscribe—members, friends, and anyone else anywhere in the country and beyond.

It's a simple one step process: Just email your request to [uuniagara@gmail.com](mailto:uuniagara@gmail.com) or click the link. Please spread the word.

Many thanks to our contributors Marge Gillies, Betsy Diachun, and Susan Frawley.

## **Sunday Services 11:00am**

### **October 2:** " The Last Man to Discover America

Christopher Columbus is one of only two people to have an American Federal Holiday named after them, and yet every year Columbus Day is surrounded by contention and indignation. Recently I read that Columbus was not the first, but the LAST man to "discover America." So why do we celebrate him? What do we know about Christopher Columbus, and what myths have arisen to fill the gaps? Most important, what do our cultural myths about Christopher Columbus tell us about ourselves?

John Snodgrass

*Coffee Hour Host: Patty and Bill Lisk*

### **October 9:** "'Hoping For A Good Life"

"Unitarian Universalists draw upon many sources which shape and describe our ethical values, including Secular Humanism, Religious and Mystical Humanism. Scholar Anthony Pinn is a Unitarian Universalist who brings us a challenge along with his invitation to a good life. But how we get to the good life matters."

Sally Hamlin

*Coffee Hour Host: Joy and Norm Rowlinson*

**October 16:** 'Fiddler on the Roof' As we come through the Jewish high holidays, we are reminded of the act of coming home and traditions. We will be exploring this idea and talking about oppressed groups who have difficulty going home."

Susan Frawley

*Coffee Hour Host: Jen Hill and Paul Bradford*

### **October 23:** "The Reality Before Us"

As inheritors of the liberal faith, what is our responsibility?

Don Reidell

*Coffee Hour Host: Susan Diachun*

### **October 30:** "Mending the Wall"

The wall of separation between Church and State is an essential part of our democracy, now under siege.

Rev. John Rex

*Coffee Hour Host: Stephen Wittkowski*

## **Minster's Message**

Greeting FUUN people ! I am so enjoying my internship here with you. I have had the privilege to be meeting many members of the Niagara Falls community and to represent FUUN at community meetings. One meeting that you want to take note of is with Temple Beth El. For those who may not know, Temple Beth El was the first meeting place of the Unitarian Church of Niagara Falls. There is a string history with the Temple community and I am so happy that it will be be reprised in a co sponsored lecture series to kick off at Temple Beth El on Friday , November 11. More on this in days and weeks to come. I will be having community office hours starting in October. I will be at 24 below on Thursday afternoons from 2-3 and at Orange Cat cafe from 12:00-1:00 on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. Stop on in and chat...

On October 9th, Interweave , the LGBTQiQAA group of UUA ( lesbian, gay, Transexual ,Bisexual, Queer, intersexed, Questioning, asexual and allies) will be revived as a WNY Cluster group with a kick off service at Amherst UU church at 2:00. I will be representing FUUN band all are welcome to attend. On October 22 Saturday at 2:00, a showing of Defying the Nazis will be shown at our church to a interfaith group. All are welcome to come watch together and then join in follow up discussion. Being a seminarian and an intern at the same time can be hard. Studies, papers, classes, meetings, duties, services, pastoral care, and any number of other time consuming tasks come up at any time. It is all part of ministerial formation. I am so blessed to be in a place that contributes to my growth, honors my needs and affords me so many ways to learn and experience.

Blessed Be, Sue

## **President's Corner: Marge Gillies**

Fall is already here! Temperatures have fallen and the leaves are contemplating new life as they set their buds for spring. First Unitarian Universalist Church services and activities have begun to sprout. Consider coming when you can. It just isn't the same without you.

### **Worship Schedule:**

The Worship Committee established an interesting group of four regular speakers this year. Check out their topics on page 2 of the newsletter. There are three ministers, Sally Hamlin, Susan Frawley and Don Reidell. John Snodgrass, Professor of Religious Studies is always interesting.

**Special Meeting:**

Please mark your calendar for a meeting with representative, Holly Mergenhagen of the Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo regarding a Legacy Proposal for our church. This is a very important and interesting opportunity. Holly will be here during Coffee Hour on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Be sure to join us at coffee hour later for follow-up discussion and other FUUN people. It's a great opportunity to get to know everyone and enjoy a diversity of views concerning just about every topic imaginable. I have heard that not everyone knows everyone else's name. It pains me when I attend a funeral service and learn something about one of our members or friends that may have been a further connection between us. I wish I had known them better. So I have devised a few challenges for you-not every Sunday, but throughout the year-to keep you on your toes.

**First UU Work Day:** Many thanks to Peter and Betsy Diachun and Jessie Higuera for coming to the work day at church. Jessie made the stainless steel in the kitchen sparkle for the first time in a long time. Peter ventured onto the roof for some much-needed repairs and Betsy worked to spiff up the sanctuary. There is much more to do, including some plastering and painting for anyone interested. A children's corner is being created in a section of Unity Hall.

**Congratulations to all nominees at the YWCA of the Niagara Frontier Awards**

**Ceremony** last Tuesday night. Tina and Andrea Galyn were among the nominees. I am very humbled to have been recognized for my work in the community. Thank you Betsy Diachun and Kathy McCunn for attending as a representative of First UU.

**Caring Circle:** For our community outreach, the Caring Circle will be assembling baskets to contain non-consumables for people in our church community in need. When someone is on social services assistance, food stamps are only used for food that can be eaten. This makes life very difficult for people who cannot afford such things as toilet paper, paper towels, sanitary napkins, deodorant, tooth brushes and other hygiene items, perfume, cologne, or pet food among others. Please consider bringing any unused items during the next few months to be given out before the holidays.

**Student Intern: Sue Frawley**

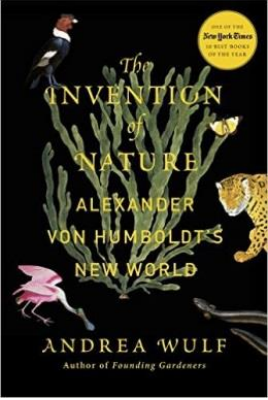
Be sure to read Sue Frawley's newsletter article on page 3. She is visiting members at their homes and is making herself available on the Fourth Wednesdays in Lewiston at the Orange Cat from noon until 1 pm and 24 Below on Third Street in Niagara Falls on Thursdays to meet with the community. Feel free to join her and bring your friends to be introduced. Read more about Susan's activities in this edition of the newsletter.

All the best, Marge

# UU Announcements

## **ATTENTION:**

### **Book Discussion Group**



Our non-fiction selection for October 25th is *The Invention of Nature* by Andrea Woolf. It is about the adventures and amazing discoveries of Alexander Von Humboldt who shaped our way of looking at and understanding nature.

Our group tends to talk about ideas presented in our books so it is not necessary to have read the book to attend and share your opinions (although it helps). Everyone is welcome so join us for a chat.

PLEASE NOTE a change in the Book Club meeting day in Oct. from the 3rd Tuesday to the 4th Tuesday, Oct. 25 - still at 7 PM to 8 PM.

Judy Bongiovanni Lewiston, NY USA

Attention all artists “Do you have a painting, photograph, a poem, or a brief reflection to share for the online version of the Powerline. It’s really easy to do and free. Just email your submission to the Powerline at the church address: [uuniagara@gmail.com](mailto:uuniagara@gmail.com)

Visual artwork is the property of the artist. For reproduction, please inquire with the artist by their email contact below.

# Reflections

It isn't love that makes the world go round  
but compassion – starting over in gentleness  
when love hasn't been enough or other factors have  
failed:

a gentle refusal to blame oneself or others  
and just begin again.

Nancy Shaffer (Unitarian Universalist,  
clergy) *While Still There Is Light: Writings  
From A Minister Facing Death*

# Meditation

*Daniel Henderson (1880-1955)*

In certain parts of Great Britain, where families commonly kept beehives, people believed the first thing you should do when a relative dies is to tell the bees.

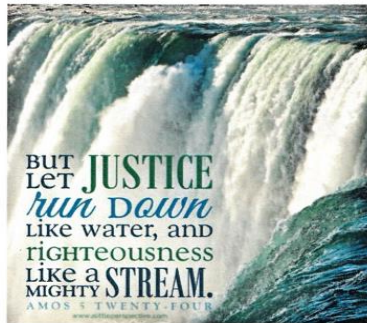
BEES, GO TELL THE THINGS HE TREASURED —  
OAK AND GRASS AND VIOLET —  
THAT ALTHOUGH HIS LIFE WAS MEASURED  
HE IS WITH THEM YET!  
TELL THE WILD ROSE AND THE CLOVER  
THAT THE EARTH HAS MADE HIM OVER!  
TELL THE LILTING, LOITERING STREAM  
HE IS SHARER OF ITS DREAM!  
WHISPER TO THE APRIL WOOD  
OF HIS BLENDING IN ITS MOOD!  
TELL THE WIND HIS SPIRIT FLOWS  
IN WHATEVER PATH IT BLOWS!  
TELL THE THRUSH IT DRAWS ITS ART  
FROM THE RAPTURE OF HIS HEART!  
BEES, TO HIS GREEN SHELTER BRING  
ALL OF EARTH'S BRIGHT GOSSIPING:  
TALES OF FEATHER, FLOWER, OR FUR;  
SAP UPMOUNTING; WINGS ASTIR!  
NOW WE MAY NO MORE ATTEND HIM,  
BID HIS LOVED WILD THINGS BEFRIEND HIM!



## **NOAH: Ten Years Strong. . . and Growing**

*Niagara **O**rganizing **A**lliance for **H**ope (NOAH) celebrates ten powerful years of justice and community-building work in Niagara Falls and Niagara County.*

Join us as we recognize our community leaders and support NOAH's accomplishments at our annual banquet  
FEATURING Keynote Speaker US Representative Brian Higgins



### **NOAH Banquet**

Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm; cocktail hour at 5:30 pm  
Antonio's Banquet & Conference Center  
7708 Niagara Falls Boulevard  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Tickets are \$50.00 per person  
To Purchase Tickets or for information, please contact Linda at (585) 590-6807 or email  
[NoahBanquet2016@gmail.com](mailto:NoahBanquet2016@gmail.com)



# First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara

Facilities available for Wedding Services,  
Receptions, and Celebrations



639 Main Street,  
Niagara Falls, NY 14032 - 2566  
P.O. Box 2566  
(716) 282-8381

E-mail [uuniagara@gmail.com](mailto:uuniagara@gmail.com)  
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"Singles Social Club" established over 36 yrs ago. We are a friendly group that welcomes newcomers to our activities, game nights, dances, picnics, restaurants and much more....come join us! (Ages ranging 50 to 80 years old now, but all welcome) Call for more info 716-550-1232. Find us on facebook: Singles Social

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*If you have comments or articles you may submit them to  
[ericakopp@yahoo.com](mailto:ericakopp@yahoo.com) with the subject "Powerline"*



October 2016  
 Return Service Requested  
 Niagara Falls, NY 14302  
 PO Box 2566  
 639 Main Street  
 First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara

## UU Niagara Activities - October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 Don Reidell "The 8 am - Recycle	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 John Snodgrass 11 am - "The Last Man	3	4	5 6:30pm - NOAH	6 5pm - wedding	7 3pm - J. Morrow's	8
9 Sally Hamlin 8 am - Recycle 11 am - "Hoping for a 2pm - Cluster Group	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Susan Frawley 11 am - "Fiddler on the 12:30pm - Board	17	18	19	20	21 Showing of "Defying	22
23 Don Reidell 8 am - Recycle 11 am - "The Reality 12:30pm - Holly	24 7pm - Book Discussion	25	26	27	28	29
30 John Rex 11 am - "Mending the	31	1	2	3	4	5