

Powerline

First Unitarian Universalist
Church of Niagara

March 2016

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

Learn, Love, Build a Better World

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Spring Forward.

Daylight savings time is on Sunday

March 13th. Don't forget to set your clock ahead one hour.

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 or click the link. Please spread the word.

Many thanks to our Editor, Erica Kopp, and contributors Bonnie Soley, Kris Parsons, Bill Parsons, and Connie Garver, plus all the board members of the First UU Church of Niagara

Sunday Services 11:00am

March 6: “Why?”

In our time, we witness a great tug-of-war over theories of human origins and purpose. Should we take Biblical creation stories literally? Have scriptural explanations been disproven by scientific theories? And what difference does it make, the way we tell our origin story? We'll be exploring questions of origin and meaning, assisted by Enlightenment thinkers including Voltaire and Mark Twain.

j. SNODGRASS teaches Religious Studies courses at Buffalo State and Canisius College. He lives in Buffalo with his wife and three children.

You can watch his February sermon <http://www.firstuunf.org/speakers.html>

March 13: “Living Sunday to Sunday: Grief”

No one is spared loss, pain, suffering, or grief in their lives. Some losses touch us more deeply than others, perhaps, but with each opportunity, we touch our grief emotionally, mentally, physically, and spiritually. What does our faith tradition tell us about dealing with grief in our lives?

Rev. Ingram is the Minister of the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton, where she has served since August, 2010. Originally from the US, Victoria and her husband, Carl, continue to enjoy their Canadian experience.

Rev. Victoria Ingram

March 20: Ron Skowronski

March 27: For Some, Jesus is....

Various images of Jesus.

Rev. Don Reidell

President's Message
Word From The Front
2/26/16



Yesterday we received a message from Bob Lavallee encouraging us to join a counter protest to a rally today in Buffalo of the Three Percenters, one of the white supremacist militia groups involved in the Oregon stand off. Bob is a Unitarian Universalist ministerial intern who presented two of our Sunday Morning Programs recently. His message contained some detail from a local group, the

Rural Organizing Project, which was leading the counter protest explaining why we need to show that the white supremacist militia does not have much community support.

We sent out a copy of Bob's email to our Powerline list inviting any Church people who chose to join Betsy and me as part of the counter protest today.

There were about 25 demonstrators on each side of Niagara Square in Buffalo noon today. Both sides had signs. I had my bull horn. The Three Percenters had many large US flags. There were 8-12 UUs from the area with us.

The event was free from any aggressive confrontation. Individuals joined individuals from the other side to walk around the square each with our conflicting signs discussing the issues. Long respectful dialogs occurred between individuals from the opposing sides. Many points of agreement were found. Some areas of disagreement were also recognized.

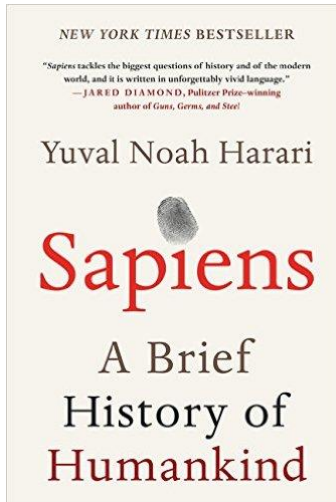
The leaders of the Three Percenters adamantly denied that they were either white supremacists or a militia. None of them displayed weapons, and we were told that those who had weapons were instructed to leave them at home.

It is believed that the Three Percenters plan another rally on March 5 in Buffalo. Betsy and I will be out of town, but anyone interested in participating in a counter protest should check with Bob Lavallee for details. blavallee1@hotmail.com Cell Phone 617-285-2338. Some pictures of today's event are shown.



UU Announcements

Book Discussion Group



As the little bad weather we have had this year managed to interfere with our February get together we will be discussing *Sapiens: a brief history of humankind* By Yuval Harari. This is a really good book that looks at things with a very different perspective. There is still time to read it and the discussion should be great even if you haven't finished the book. Lots of new ideas to talk about. Join the fun on Tuesday March 15th in Unity Hall at 7pm.

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
Issues of the Powerline are monthly, usually the first week of the month.

Artwork of any medium to fulfill our mission “to learn, love, and build a better world.” We want to support the visual arts community by offering this free service.

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

Kris Parsons Parsonsite4@gmail.com
Bill Parsons Parsonsite4@gmail.com
Connie Garver conniegarverart@gmail.com
Bonnie Soley bonnie@artruidoso.com
Shelley Baxter one4shell@yahoo.com

Reflections

On Meeting God

Hello at last.
I know now why they say "Higher power",
It took me such a long time to get up
here,
So many years of struggle.
Now that I am here
I still cannot find what I need
I have asked friendly angels, darling
cherubs,
Even the harp player does not know.
"Where is the complaint department?"
For wondrous one, that gave me such
gifts
That oftentimes my heart would glow,
Who put me down beside a rhythmic sea
to calm my soul
And stimulate my mind,
There are mistakes made every day.
And God, I hate to be the one to tell you
this,
But often they are made in your name.
I know how busy you are keeping all the
stars aloft,
The trees from bending in the gale,
the rivers in their beds.
I know making the mind of man
receptive to beauty,
Must be a consuming task,
But please,
Could you distribute Peace?

Hilde Oleson



Photo, Erica Kopp

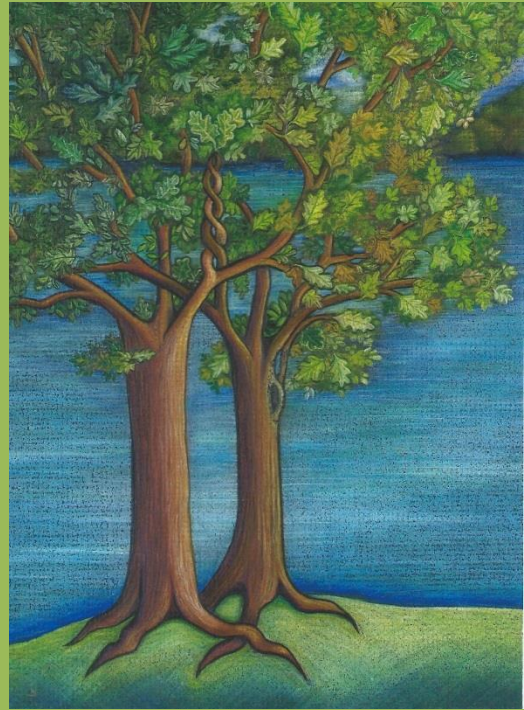
Visual Arts



Kris Parsons 'Turkeys in Flight'



Oakwood Cemetery Niagara Falls, New York
"Niagara Painter" Shelley Baxter



"Trees" Connie Garver



Bill Parsons "Ice Age Niagara"



Bonnie Soley

LaSalle PRIDE, LaSalle Yacht Club,
Niagara Tradition Home Beer & Wine Supplies,
& Mayor Paul Dyster present:

Niagara Falls



Sat., April 30, 6 PM – 10 PM

Open House at the LaSalle Yacht Club



Jazzline Band

Jennie Jones, Dennis Warne, Jenny May & Joe Ferrara

Food Service Dancing Exhibits

A canoe party led by Cavalier LaSalle & Father Heeneppin will arrive at 6:30 PM

55 Donation welcomed to benefit: Community Mission, St. Vincent DePaul Food Bank, Tesla at Niagara Museum, Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Society, St. John de LaSalle Boy Scout Troop 841, and NY Fireman Toys for Christmas Fund in memory of Chris Kusela.

LaSalle PRIDE 425-4005 or email igravesNBS@aol.com

Park Place Historic District Block Club Important Dates

Next Meeting



Tuesday, March 8th

5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Niagara Hub Conference Room

640 Park Place

ALL INTERESTED
IN THE DISTRICT
ARE WELCOME TO
ATTEND

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - Special Event

Saturday 7/23 10 AM – 4 PM

Niagara Falls Garden Walk

AND

PPHDBC – First Annual Porch Fest 2 PM – 4 PM



ParkPlaceHDBC@gmail.com

Written Image Publishing, along with

WNY Women in the Arts Festival 2016

&

24 Below Gallery & Café

Present:

*In Celebration of Women:
An afternoon of artful expression*

Saturday, March 26th 2016

12:00 noon to 8:00 pm

24 Below Gallery & Café

435 3rd Street Niagara Falls NY 14301

Browse the offerings of local artists:

Bernadette Hoppe

Jeanne Kratt

Betsy Marie

Monica Stanley

Be inspired by local poets:

2 pm Herb Kauderer

6 pm Monica Stanley

Mediumship Readings available by *Betsy Marie*

Free admission

Tasty meals, treats and beverages will be available to purchase throughout the event from the delicious 24 Below Gallery & Café Menu

MARCH 8 **GAMALIEL**
WESTERN NEW YORK
VOICE-Buffalo & NOAH

**WORKFORCE TRAINING & DIVERSITY
PUBLIC MEETING**

Featuring:
U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR THOMAS PEREZ
&
U.S. CONGRESSMAN BRIAN HIGGINS

TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH @ 5:30 PM
BENNETT HIGH SCHOOL
- LOCATED AT 2882 MAIN ST., BUFFALO, NY 14214

U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez & U.S. Congressman Brian Higgins join with VOICE-Buffalo & the Niagara Organizing Alliance for Hope (NOAH) for a public meeting to seek solutions to racial and economic disparities across Western New York through innovative workforce training and placement programs that serve African Americans, Hispanics, refugees, those in poverty, those with disabilities, and other communities of color.

Partners include:
Catholic Charities of Buffalo | Back to Basics Outreach Ministries | PUSH Buffalo | Niagara University | National Community Reinvestment Coalition | Try-It Distributing | Erie Community College

**NIAGARA FALLS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

TOUR GUIDE TRAINING
"POWERFUL PEOPLE, POWERFUL PLACES"
Niagara Falls, Buffalo Ave History Tours

Walk along Buffalo Ave and explore the past. View the homes and meeting places for some of America's greatest thinkers, inventors and industrialists. These dreamers, scoundrels and visionaries changed the shape of history. Discover their secrets and learn to tell their stories.

6 Week NFHPS Certification Course
March 5th - April 16th
Saturdays 9am - 3pm, 1231 Pine Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14301
\$25 tuition
includes all books, materials, 1 yr NFHPS membership.

REGISTER TODAY : (301) 651-7011 / www.NFHPS.ORG

Classes and lectures at **nacc**
Niagara arts & cultural center
1201 Pine Ave., NF, NY
www.thenacc.org

March along the Portage
Free Niagara History Lectures: Thursdays at 6pm

March 10th, 6pm: "Fortifying the Frontier Protecting the Portage" by Jason Buckley
March 17th, 6pm: "Temple Tower, 1833-1872" by Lewis Buttery
March 24th, 6pm: "Commerce and Trade along the Niagara Portage" by Mark Henso

FREE PUBLIC LECTURES

St. Lawrence District Assembly

April 1 & 2, 2016



First UU Society of Syracuse & Crowne Plaza Hotel

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Friday, April 1st. Activities will be held at the First UU Society of Syracuse
109 Waring Road, Syracuse, NY 13224 Musical Entertainment

- Gould Discourse: Rev. Margret O'Neill
- Reception & Multigenerational Coffee House

Saturday, April 2nd activities will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel
701 E. Genesee, Syracuse, NY

- Opening Worship
- Keynote Speaker: Rev. Sue Phillips
- Business Meeting (includes vote on "Regionalization")
- 2 Workshop Sessions (5 workshops offered in each session)
- Closing Worship & Bridging

[District Assembly on the Web](#)

Full [Brochure](#)

[Online Registration](#)

[Online Registration Youth & Youth Sponsor Forms](#)

[Exhibit & Sales Application](#) - tables are limited

Firm Deadlines

March 1

- Childcare
- Scholarships

March 15

- Online/Advance registration will close – after that date you may only register on-site
- Youth Caucus registration due – Youth who register onsite may **NOT** stay overnight at the church

If you wait to register onsite, please know this:

We must give a final count of all participants for lunch to the hotel by March 21st. If you have not registered or you have not contacted the district office to let us know you are coming by then, we cannot guarantee you lunch.

***If you have comments or articles you may submit them to
ericakopp@yahoo.com with the subject "Powerline"***



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

UU Niagara Activities – March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Recycle	29	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Pastor Kammer	12
13 Recycle	14	15 7pm - Book Group @	16	17	18	19
20 12:30pm - Board	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Recycle	28	29	30	31	1	2