

# Powerline

First Unitarian Universalist  
Church of Niagara

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

June 2016

*Learn, Love, Build a Better World*

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## **Summer Programs**

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### *Summer Programs begin June 26, 2016*

If you'd like to be a service leader for our casual discussions please contact Peter Diachun. Choose a subject of interest to you. Lots of help available

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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 Kris Parsons, Marge Gillies, Betsy Diachun, Peter Diachun and Shelley Baxter.

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

### **June 5: The Day The Earth Stood Still - A Nuclear Reflection**

When we speak of Nuclear weapons or energy, we still don't seem to understand what we are dealing with. With information, reflection and perhaps just a touch of irony, our speaker will bring this topic to the fore with a bang.

Ron Skowronski

### **June 12: "We've got your Back."**

Donna will be speaking on community, with quite a bit taken from experiences in Mexico where she and her husband spend their winters.

Donna Evans-Deyemond

### **June 19: Flower Communion**

Bring a flower to share for the ceremony

### **June 26: 11:30AM PICNIC**

The picnic will be held at Bond Lake. (We'll give out directions closer to the date.) Maybe Niagara Falls people can carpool from the church. Let Betsy (754-2830) know if you need a ride. There's fishing, kayaking, croquet, card games etc.

Hot dogs and Hamburgers, plus rolls, condiments, paper products will be provided by the church. Bring a dish to pass.

## **President's Message**

As summer is clearly upon us we need to organize our summer Sunday Morning Programs. Again this year as in the past several years, Members or Friends will take turns conducting less formal Sunday Morning Programs. Each person conducting the Program will select a topic of his/her choice. Usually a little background is provided which stimulates a discussion by those present. The person in charge of the service can arrange for someone else to help. There will be a sign up sheet for all the Sundays during the summer.

We had a successful Annual Congregational Meeting where several important decisions were made including accepting an offer from Susan Frawley to be our Student Intern next year, charging the Board to establish a Legacy Fund at the Niagara Branch of the Buffalo Area Community Foundation, and reactivating our NOAH membership. New Members of the Board of Trustees were elected who will assume office at the first meeting of the Board under the leadership of the new President, Marge Gillies.

We are constantly striving to be more active in social responsibility. There is a group in Buffalo which is encouraging us to participate with them in demonstrating for racial social justice. Betsy and I joined them once last year in a protest against a white supremacist militia demonstration in Buffalo. This group, Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) seems to be a legitimate organization with good Unitarian Universalist participation. Please read the invitation to us to participate in their first general meeting, Thursday, June 2. See the email below for the details. I am planning to attend and encourage others to join me. We can car pool.

Be cautioned that this group is inclined to purposefully be confrontational. Being arrested is a possibility. Let's attend this meeting and find out more about them.  
Peter

Dear friends,

I am excited to invite you to Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Buffalo's first general meeting. About a month ago, we organized to disrupt Donald Trump's rally in our city and began experimenting with deep canvass in Carl Paladino's neighborhood. We have big plans to invite more white Buffalonians into our movement for racial justice this summer and we need your help!

### **Thursday, June 2, 7-9 pm, Lafayette Presbyterian (875 Elmwood)**

Come meet other white anti-racists, learn about the work of SURJ, learn how to practice [deep canvass](#), and hear what we're up to next.

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) supports white people organizing for racial justice across the country. This work is grounded in accountability to the Black Lives Matter movement and shared values that you can find [here](#).

The best way to learn more and get involved with SURJ Buffalo is to join us next week! Please spread the word (on Facebook [here](#)), and let me know if you can make it. You can also email or call me anytime.

Love,

Whitney and the whole SURJ Buffalo crew

# UU Announcements



## **Volunteers needed!**

Back yard and front garden of First UU Niagara Church  
Saturday, June 11th 9AM  
Install plants and weed front garden  
Weed rear garden.  
Bring gloves and hat. Dress for the weather

## **Pledge Drive:**

Pledge-Drive Results as of 5/29/16:

From MEMBERS: \$35,334, a 4.2% increase over \$33,909 last year.

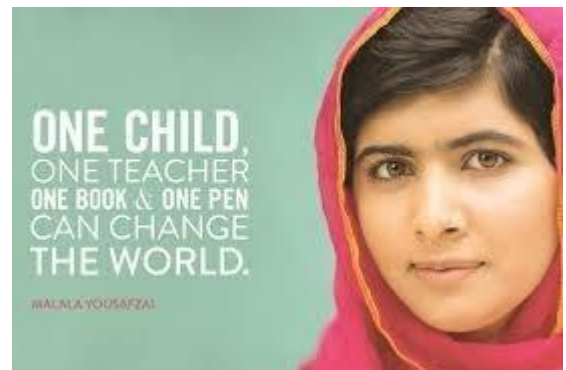
TOTAL '16-'17 Drive results: \$35,900

**Who was Mary Magdalene** and why is she important today? Why should we care about the *Gospel of Mary* and what it says. Recent research has a lot to say about her and how Christianity took a turn from what was intended.

The Gnostic Society Library , Gnostic Scriptures and Fragments, The Gospel According to Mary Magdalene, An excellent new print edition of the Gospel of Mary of Magdala is "The Gospel of Mary of Magdala: Jesus and the First Woman Apostle by Karen L. King (Polebridge Press, Santa Rosa, California, 2003);pp. 3-12.

## **Book Discussion Group**

As a source of the Living Tradition of Unitarian Universalism, "Words and deeds of prophetic women and men challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love."



This month we will be discussing the ideas in *H is for Hawk* by Helen Macdonald. Come and share your opinions. We will be meeting June 21, 2016 at 7pm in Unity Hall

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.

Kris Parsons [Parsonsite4@gmail.com](mailto:Parsonsite4@gmail.com)

Ylli Haruni <http://www.ylliharunifineart.com/>

Shelley Baxter [one4shell@yahoo.com](mailto:one4shell@yahoo.com)

## Reflections

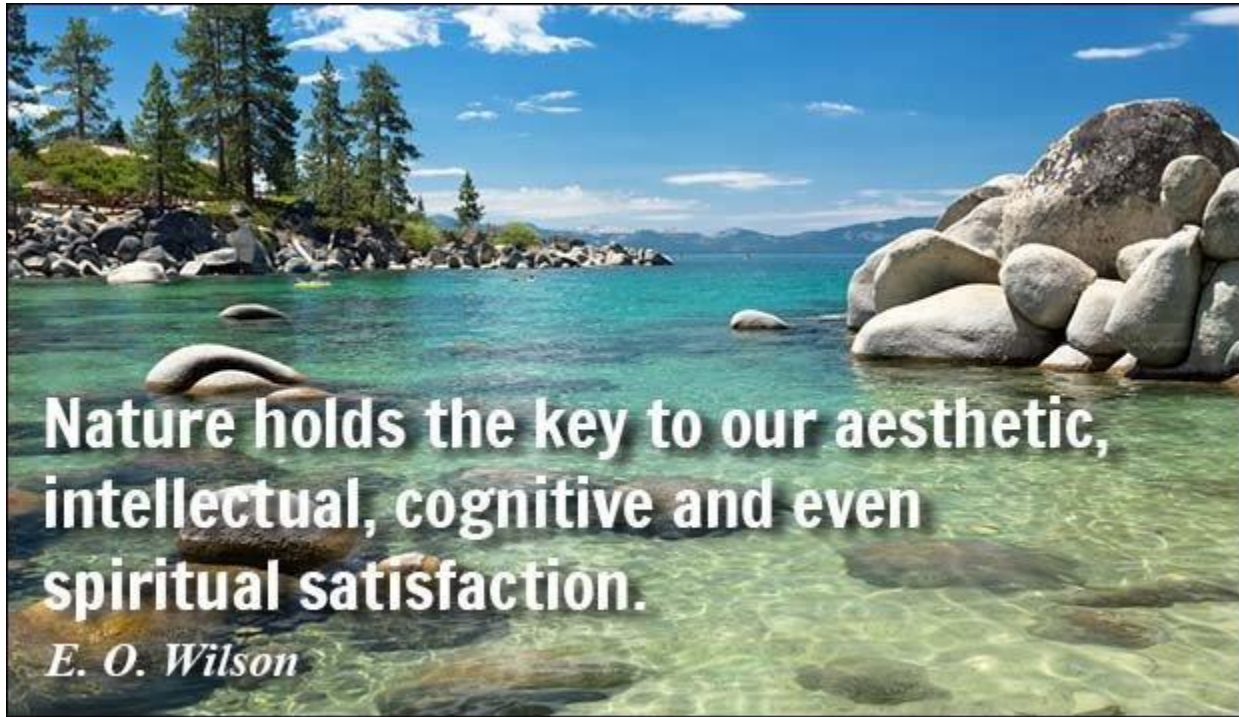
Earth mother, star mother,  
You who are called by  
    a thousand names,  
May all remember  
    we are cells in your body  
    and dance together.  
You are the grain  
    and the loaf  
That sustains us each day,  
And as you are patient  
    With our struggles to learn  
So shall we be patient  
    with ourselves and each other.  
We are radiant light  
    and sacred dark  
    -the balance-  
You are the embrace that heartens  
And the freedom beyond fear.  
Within you we are born  
    We grow, live, and die-  
You bring us around the circle  
    To rebirth,  
Within us you dance  
Forever.

**STARHAWK**

# Meditation

## EARTH CENTERED TRADITIONS.

*One source of the Living Traditions that we Unitarian Universalists share is that “**Spiritual teachings of earth centered traditions celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.**”*





## Visual Arts

This is a free service that supports the greater community of artists by providing space and contact information for people to inquire about their work.



Photograph by  
Kris Parsons



Shelley Baxter



Ylli Haruni  
"Spring at Delaware  
Lake Buffalo"  
Oil on cavass 20 x 16

# Community



Mark Your Calendars! The Next NF Pints for Progress is  
Thursday June 9th at 6 PM.

We are taking it back to where it all started 3 years ago –  
THE PARK PLACE MARKET  
630 Main Street Niagara Falls.

For those who have the blahs and a computer, check out the free  
website, <http://www.calm.com>

To test your memory, math skills and cultural IQ, check out: Free AARP Brain Games.

## PUBLIC PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR JUNE 2016 NIAGARA FRONTIER REGION NEW YORK STATE OPRHP Niagara County

Saturday, June 4; 9-4 pm National Trails Day-  
Length of Gorge Hike.

Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park

For hike information and registration visit:

<http://www.americanhiking.org> or call  
[\(716\) 282-5154](tel:(716)282-5154).

Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>; 6 pm-8:30 pm

Gorge Hiking Series: American Falls Gorge Trail  
and 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Schoellkopf Disaster  
Niagara Falls State Park

Information and registration: [\(716\) 282-5154](tel:(716)282-5154)

Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 am- 12:00 pm

Gorge Hiking Series: Great Gorge Railway Trail  
Niagara Falls State Park

Information and registration:

Call [\(716\) 282-5154](tel:(716)282-5154)

Saturday, June 18: 2-5 pm and Sunday June 19  
12:00 pm-5 pm

Fairy House Festival sponsored by Artpark & Co.

Earl W. Brydges Artpark State Park

For info and fees call Artpark box office at [\(716\)  
754-4375](tel:(716)754-4375)

Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>: 1:30-3:30 pm

Celebrate Flag Day at Old Fort Niagara  
Fort Niagara State Park

Information and registration call

[\(716\) 282-5154](tel:(716)282-5154)

Group rate and parking fees apply.

Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>: 10 am to 12:00 pm

Pet Friendly Walk

Earl W. Brydges Art park State Park

Information and registration

call [\(716\) 282-5154](tel:(716)282-5154)



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Use

Contact: Lewis Buttery (716) 434-5051

### *Historic Terrapin Tower Celebration to be held June 6<sup>th</sup>.*

The unveiling of a draft interpretive sign about the Terrapin Tower that stood at the brink of the Horseshoe Falls from 1833-1873, will be held on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at Terrapin Point on Goat Island. This sign was created by Lewis Buttery founder of the BRI-NK Foundation and Museum. The BRI-NK Foundation is hosting this event and is co-sponsored by the Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Society.


Speaking at the event will be Congressman Brian Higgins, a representative for Assemblyman John Cerreto, Mayor Paul Dyster, Niagara Falls City Historian Elaine Timm and Western District Director of New York State Parks Mark Thomas.

The event is part of a three day celebration marking the arrival of Robert Nichols, an important figure in the history of the Niagara region, by his descendants on the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his arrival to Niagara County in 1816.

Nichols, a stone mason, was best known for building the famous Terrapin Tower, the stone landmark at the brink of the Horseshoe Falls which stood from 1833-1873. He was also building the Lewiston 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church when he died on 1834.

Robert was one of ten children of William and Keziah (Fitts) Nichols. On September 1<sup>st</sup> 1796 he wed Esther Pierce, sister of Gad Pierce, who owned the Gad Pierce Tavern on the site of today's main branch of the Niagara Falls Library and after whom Pierce Avenue is named. Nichols brought his family here in 1816 and stayed with the Pierce family until he purchased property in Lewiston. Robert's funeral was held in the uncompleted church and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery on Portage Road in Niagara Falls.

His children were Esther Nichols Williams, who moved to Wisconsin, then Illinois, where she is buried; Gad Pierce Nichols who is buried at the Lewiston 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church and Priscilla Nichols Buttery who is buried at Oakwood Cemetery along with her husband, parents Robert and Esther and Uncle Gad Pierce.





The Niagara Arts & Cultural Center Presents

# The Crystal Gala



June 3rd, 6-10pm

Look back with us on our journey from  
*abandoned school to thriving arts center!*  
Join us as we welcome HERITAGE TOURISM into downtown NF

Opening of the UGRR Exhibit!  
Niagara Cultural Awards  
Art Exhibits & Live Music

General Admission \$80.00 / Members Admission \$60.00  
or \$700 for Reserved Table (10 Tickets)  
Tickets for the *Crystal Gala* on sale now at  
[www.thenacc.org](http://www.thenacc.org)  
Or visit our main office,  
1201 Pine Avenue • Niagara Falls, NY  
Contact (716) 282-7530 or [info@thenacc.org](mailto:info@thenacc.org)

**The Riverstone Grill**  
For the best in friends, food and drinks

# HISTORIC TOURS

[www.nfhps.org](http://www.nfhps.org)

*You Can Walk through History*

Wednesday at 6:00 pm  
Sunday at 3:00 pm

Niagara Visitor Center  
10 Rainbow Blvd., Niagara Falls NY



Your tour will be led by  
a NFHPS certified guide

Stories of natives & settlers, tourists,  
freedom seekers, industry & inventors

Factories & Mansions  
Electricity & Conservation






## TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

Tuesday's at Riverside United Presbyterian - 815 84th St, Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
Call Shelley for more info 550-1232

Light Yoga (Standing and Sitting) at 5:30PM.  
Weigh in at 6:00PM  
Meeting starts at 6:30PM.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara  
Facilities available for Wedding Services,  
Receptions, and Celebrations



639 Main Street,  
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(716) 282-8381

E-mail [uuniagara@gmail.com](mailto:uuniagara@gmail.com)  
<http://firstuunf.org>  
Find us on Facebook



"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*



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

## UU Niagara Activities - June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 Judy Bongiovanni	30	31 6pm - TOPS	1 6pm - Historic Tours	2	3 6pm - The Crystal	4 9am - Gorge Hike 3pm - Historic Tours
5 Recycle Ron Skowronski	6 10:30am - Terrapin	7 6pm - Gorge Hiking 6pm - TOPS	8 6pm - Historic Tours	9 6pm - Pints for	10	11 9:30am - Gorge 3pm - Historic Tours
12 Donna Evans-	13	14 6pm - TOPS	15 6pm - Historic Tours	16	17	18 1:30pm - Flag Day 2pm - Fairy House 3pm - Historic Tours
19 Flower Communion Recycle 10am - Pet Friendly 12:30pm - Board	20	21 6pm - TOPS 7pm - Book Group @	22 6pm - Historic Tours	23	24	25 3pm - Historic Tours