

Powerline

First Unitarian Universalist
Church of Niagara

October 2017

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 or click the link. Please spread the word.

Many thanks to our contributors Marge Gillies, Betsy Diachun, and Judy Bongiovanni.

Sunday Programs

October 1: *How did we get here? An incomplete story on how humanism became part of UU*

One of the most important questions to ask about Unitarian Universalism is how we moved from our start as people asserting that there is one rather than three manifestations of a Christian divinity to the celebration of theological diversity that UU is today. I will offer an abbreviated version of that history with some observations about what it means for us today.

Bob LaVallee

Coffee hour: Marge Gillies

Usher: Stephen Wittkowsky

October 8: *Invisible People*

Children are always looking for invisible people - spirits and ghosts, elves and faeries - to make life more interesting. Meanwhile in the grown-up world, we're discovering invisible people all the time: people who have long been forced into "social invisibility" because of their race, gender or sexuality. In recent years, many of these people have been emerging into social visibility, inspiring a heated cultural debate about who gets to be socially and politically visible.

John Snodgrass

Coffee hour: Joy and Norm Rowlinson

Usher: Susan Diachun

October 15: *Ghosts of Change in the Air*

The coming of autumn is a time for death, renewal, revelry, sadness and remembering. Our past and future come together in a thin veil of falling leaves and temperatures and pumpkins and traditions. UU traditions of Fall and beliefs of what this time space holds will be revealed.

Susan Frawley

Coffee hour: Patty and Bill Lisk

Usher: Pat Velky

October 22: *Freedom of Choice*

The importance of choice in our lives

Rev. Donald Reidell

Coffee hour: Jen Hill

Usher: Shelley Baxter

October 29: Free Thinker Sunday

This will be the first “Free Thinkers Sunday” during the regular Church year. Several were conducted as Summer Programs using video presenters followed by discussions.

The topic of this Sunday program will be “Grace for Free Thinkers”. It will all be live except a short musical video which might be used. Peter Diachun will make a presentation “Grace Without Religion”. This will be about grace before dinner, grace as in “Amazing Grace”, and a philosophical concept of grace. A discussion of grace will follow. The format for this Free Thinkers Sunday will be similar to our other Sunday mornings—including music, joys and sorrows, and chalice lighting/extinguishing. It will be different in a few ways too.

Coffee hour: Kathy McCunn and Wally Lamb
Usher: Erica Kopp

UU Announcements

Hello Niagara Frontier people!

You know that since 1983 I've been involved with Hearing Loss Association of America, previously Self Help for Hard of Hearing People.

Its chief fund raiser is the Walk 4 Hearing.

The Walk 4 Hearing will move to Buffalo from Rochester.

On Sunday, Oct. 8, at 10am walkers will step off at the Ring Road in Delaware Park in the Queen City to support HLAA. A Rochester contingent will walk. You also know that I am a former Buffalonian member of Rochester HLAA who will join them.

I hope you'll want to support the Walk4Hearing.

Must everyone WALK in the park? If you want to, but donations are welcome! I've been profoundly deafened for at least 25 years and truthfully owe my survival to the support, education, and information I've obtained from HLAA. In turn, I advocate all over western New York for other people with hearing loss. Janet is just one of the 48 million Americans with hearing loss.

Although I no longer live on the Niagara Frontier, some benefits came about there because of my association with HLAA.

*First Unitarian Church of Niagara installed a hearing loop in its sanctuary in 2005 with advice from HLAA Rochester Chapter members. The great work of church leaders in supporting that hearing system led to other churches' installing hearing systems.

*Several NIOGA system public libraries installed hearing systems.

*People with hearing loss became aware of their options to improve their communication with amplified telephones, telecoils, etc. You know who you are. Each one, teach one.

*In turn, people with normal hearing have advocated for all of us because of HLAA networking. When lecturers say, "I don't need a microphone," they are told, "YES YOU DO!"

See the web site hlaa.org for details on what the national organization's recent activities encompass.

I'm asking you to help HLAA support, educate, advocate and inform people with hearing loss. How? On behalf of HLAA Rochester Chapter, with whom I'll walk, you can write a check payable to **Walk4Hearing**. Please mail it to me at

Janet McKenna
1315 Elmwood Avenue Apt. 1004
Rochester, NY 14260

Or give it to me if I see you before Oct. 8.

I'll forward any donations to HLAA Rochester Chapter team. Funds will be divided among the chapter, the national organization, and the Walk in Buffalo.

As a woman ashamed of her hearing loss who was transformed to an advocate for accessibility, education, information, and support, I thank you for your support for people of all ages with hearing loss.

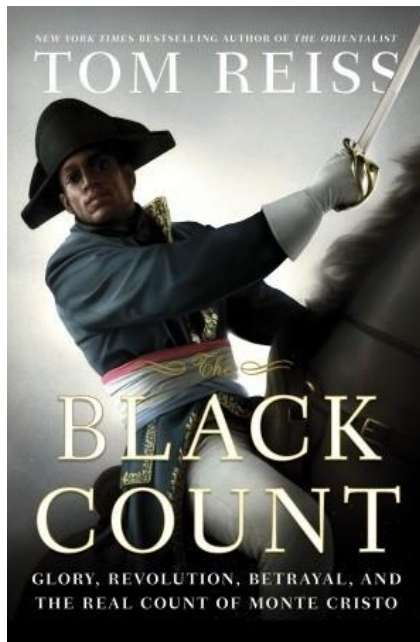
Gratefully,

Janet McKenna

Heart, Love, and Soul

BASKETS are back in Narthex for small personal hygiene items to be given to Heart, Love and Soul for their clients. Don't forget to share shampoo, deodorant, soap etc. which you might get in your travels and don't plan to use.

Book Discussion Group



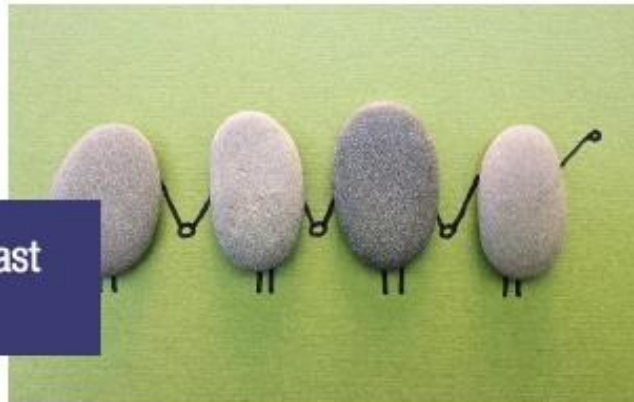
Our readers and talkers will meet September 19 at 7pm in Unity Hall. We will be discussing *The Black Count* by Tom Reiss.

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.



UNITARIAN
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ASSOCIATION

Central East
Region



Leadership as a Team Sport

We know that the model of church from the 1950s & 60's baby boom years is no longer sustainable. Today people face different challenges, have different needs and different expectations of institutions. We will explore newer models of ministry that growing congregations are offering such as lay ministers, associates programs, family ministry and more!

Shared ministry is the core of what we do in our congregations. This leadership conference is designed to address a number of common areas of shared ministry for congregations. The day features a keynote by Rev. Renee Ruchotzke followed by workshops on various areas of shared ministry and networking time.

**Saturday, October 14, 2017
1:00pm-5:00pm
UU Church of Buffalo**

695 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo NY 14222
There is no charge for this event.

Please Register by October 13

<https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/k189inbl1wo40go/>

KEYNOTE:

CO-CREATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONGREGATIONS

**How might we find ways to offer
the love and grace of Unitarian
Universalism to a world that
needs us?**

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke



Among UU and Friends

Marge Gillies won a LIFETIME Achievement Award for her outstanding services to the community. She has assured us that she will not be ending her service but will continue to seek publicity in the news.

Approximately twenty drippy members and friends had "The Best Water Ceremony Ever" riding on the Maid of the Mist. We hope to make news with that endeavor but even if we don't we all had a wet good time.

Save the date! There will be a Potluck Mystery Halloween luncheon after church on Sunday October 29th. More details to follow.

Visual Art

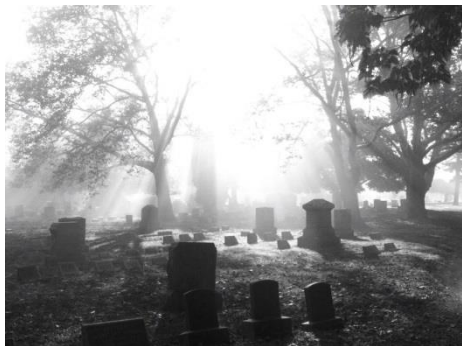


New Mexico Spring

Bonnie Soley

Community

Oakwood Cemetery Daredevil Tours: Tours of the Oakwood Cemetery are open to the public at 763 Portage Rd. on Sundays through October. Book an 11 am or 1 pm tour online or at the cemetery office at 284-5131. Donations are \$10 per person, seniors, students and military \$8.00. Tours are one hour.



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



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E-mail uuniagara@gmail.com
<http://firstuunf.org>
Find us on Facebook



"Singles Social Club" established over 36 years 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

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



October 2017
Return Service Requested
Niagara Falls, NY 14302
PO Box 2566
639 Main Street
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara

UU Niagara Activities October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Oct 1 Bob LaVine	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 John Stodgrass 8 Recycle	9	10	11	12 6:30p Pride Unity Hall	13	14
15 Susan Fratey	16	17 7p Book Group	18	19	20	21
22 Don Reidel 8 Recycle	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Free Thinker Survey	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4