



November 2017

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Member of the *Unitarian Universalist Association*

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From the Board President – “Duly Noted”

Autumn has been warm and very pleasant this last month or so, with perhaps one decent frost (at the time of this writing) to remind us that winter’s icy promise isn’t too far off. I won’t disregard the ease of living this season- too many have had it far worse- but I have enjoyed the warmth of the sun and the cool of the shade tremendously. Fall is by far my favorite of the temperate seasons with its cool nights conducive to good sleeping and days with just enough usable sunlight to get the many chores of harvest and preparation for winter done.

The Pullman board of trustees met for a Saturday of “workshopping” the meaning of the work it does and the trust it carries from the congregation to do that work. It has been suggested that we should treat the duties of the board as if we were a business. I wondered, then, just what sort of business are we in? That is where we began our mini-retreat. We discussed at length which needs we might fulfill. What do we provide to our communities- both the congregation and the wider “markets”? We concluded by composing a new Board Covenant, distinct from the congregational covenant that appears in the front of our hymnals and printed in the orders of service. This covenant is our promise to the congregation as we go about our job of polity:

Board Covenant 2017

We...

- Listen to each other and to the congregation with respect and responsiveness.
- Share communications responsibly and with appropriate confidentiality.
- Conduct ourselves with professionalism
- Avoid triangulation and speak directly to those involved.
- Respect roles and boundaries.
- Forgive and begin again with love

Your board promises to work toward the goals of your church, checking each decision against our newly minted *Board Mission Statement*:

“We, the members of the Pullman Memorial Universalist Church Board of Trustees commit to democratic governance, open communication and to adhere to the bylaws and the covenants of the church.”

The gold of summer’s sunshine, long hidden by the green of the leaves’ busy processes is now revealed- reflected back against crystal blue skies. The reds, russets and golds of the trees cannot stay long, as Robert Frost noted and Jack Frost guarantees, but for a time they remain as a reminder of sunnier days. Too soon the leaves will fall, allowing more of the remaining sunshine through.

Darrell A. Dyke



Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

(unless otherwise noted)

November 5 (<i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>)	Rev. Donald J. Reidell
November 12	Rev. Lori Staubitz
November 19	Susan Daiss
November 26	Darrell Dyke
December 3	Rev. Libby Moore

 Assisted listening devices are available for services – available near the lectern

Coming Events

Sunday, November 5 – Rev. Donald J. Reidell

** Immediately after the service, we will be celebrating Reverend Donald Reidell's 40th year in the pulpit. Cake and punch will be provided. Please feel free to bring additional refreshments. **

Monday, November 6 – 6:30 pm, Potluck Supper. Join us for good food and fellowship. Please bring a dish to pass.

Thursday, November 9 – 7:00 pm, Meditation with John Mosher, Ph.D. (*12/14/17 next month.*)

Saturday, November 11 – 9:00 am, Workbee. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Diana Dudley (diana527@gmail.com) with any questions.

Sunday, November 12 - 9:30 am, Finance Meeting/Building & Grounds

Sunday, November 12 - Rev. Lori Staubitz

Wednesday, November 15 - 6:30 pm, Board of Trustees Meeting

Sunday, November 19 – Susan Daiss

Following the service, the annual *PMUC Thanksgiving Dinner* will take place.

Sunday, November 26 – Darrell Dyke

Sunday, December 3 - Rev. Libby Moore

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner – November 19th



Immediately following the service on November 19, we will gather for the annual Thanksgiving Dinner. All are welcome. Please sign-up to bring a dish to pass. The sign-up sheet will be in the Parish Hall, or you can email Liz Schaal (lizanns@gmail.com). We are in need of volunteers to bring turkey, potatoes, turkey gravy, vegetable dishes, stuffing, rolls, and (of course) desserts.

Joys and Concerns

Rich and Eileen Della Costa - are proud to announce that they have a new granddaughter, Lucy! Lucy is the second child of Rich and Eileen's daughter Hannah and husband, who reside in Florida. Rich and Eileen spend a lot of time there and really enjoy their grandchildren! Congratulations on your new addition to the family!

Chris Loss - had a joy and a sorrow that her son, Dustin, has moved from Rochester to Syracuse and started a new job with Bristol Meyer Squibb. Chris and her husband, Ernie, helped him move his things to a locker in East Syracuse. He will be living with friends until he can find a place there. It's a joy that he's starting a new chapter in his life and a sorrow that he will be a bit farther away.

On October 8th, members of the church witnessed a large portrait of George Pullman crash to the floor in the middle of the church service, with glass flying all over. Thankfully, no one was hurt! Many thanks to C. W. Lattin for finding a new frame and hanging it back up!

Sara Phillips - and her husband, Tom, have returned to Florida for the winter! Sara will be missed here at PMUC, and Chris Loss has assured her that she will protect her hymnal while she's gone! Additionally, Sara's daughter, Samantha, and her fiancé spent several weeks in South Korea visiting friends. The pictures that were posted on Facebook of the area were beautiful!

Darrell Dyke and Tobin Carson - had a harrowing, long time following Hurricane Maria trying to locate Tobin's mother in Puerto Rico! It was many days before they could find her, and then they did find her but she had fallen ill, and was in the hospital! She will be coming to this area soon and will stay with them. Also, their son, Leyland, who just turned 18, has moved out of the house and will be staying with friends. It was very hard to let him go, Darrell said. He will be attending college and starting a new life adventure! Good luck, Leyland!

Mark Porter - traveled to the St. Lawrence area to see family and he visited his old church in Massena. He has asked for prayers and thoughts for his friend, Bob, who is battling cancer.

Diana Dudley - welcomed her handsome grandson to church on October 8, and they spent the day together. He is the son of Diana's daughter, Holly. Also, Diana traveled by train and bus to Boston for a week to visit relatives.

Alan Nugent - has ventured back to Florida for the winter again! He will be missed very much, but will return in the spring. Alan will continue to monitor our endowment expertly, as he has been doing!

Patricia Cammarata - has taken several trips lately! She visited friends in Arizona and saw endless blue skies with fluffy white clouds, which happens often there. She also had the good fortune to see the Shaw Festival at Niagara on the Lake.

Joyce Riley - has been a new face and a welcome addition at the church!!

Please Sign-Up to Bring a Snack for Coffee Hour

- Sign-up sheet available in the parish hall



Eye on the Board

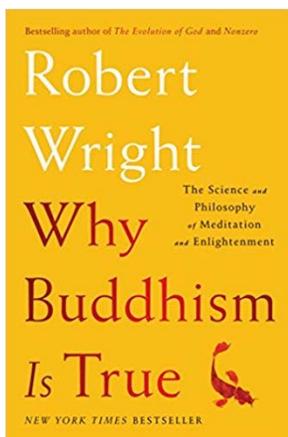
- Guests attending the October 15 board meeting included Julie Andrews, Monica Beck, and Bonnie Beiswenger.
- The board voted and approved Sylvia Goodstine as a board member replacing Pat Cammarata who had resigned earlier this fall.
- The Treasurer's report included a discussion regarding the amount due to the UUA for membership, and the need to review our current membership list for accuracy.
- For the Pulpit Committee's report, the meditation groups' good attendance was commented on, and the details for Reverend Donald Reidell's 40th year in the pulpit celebration were discussed.
- The Building and Grounds' report led to further discussion on the needed roof repairs. Diana Dudley is also spearheading a project to fix the dining room chairs.
- Monica and Bonnie brought up their concerns regarding the church piano. Rich Della Costa will be gathering more information regarding what possibilities exist for replacement.
- A nomination for the Humanitarian Award was voted on with the hopes of presenting the award in February.

Share the Pulpit Continues

If you would like to volunteer to be a worship associate and read the welcome/announcement message, chalice lighting words, and other elements of our worship, please contact Chris Loss (closs1626@gmail.com) or Darrell Dyke (darrell.dyke2@gmail.com).

Next Book Discussion – January 2018

The next book discussion will be in January 2018. (The exact date will be announced in the December newsletter.) The book to be discussed is *Why Buddhism is True: The Science and Philosophy of Meditation and Enlightenment* by Robert Wright. Bonnie Beiswenger will lead the group.



In Why Buddhism is True, Wright leads readers on a journey through psychology, philosophy, and a great many silent retreats to show how and why meditation can serve as the foundation for a spiritual life in a secular age. At once excitingly ambitious and wittily accessible, this is the first book to combine evolutionary psychology with cutting-edge neuroscience to defend the radical claims at the heart of Buddhist philosophy. With bracing honesty and fierce wisdom, it will persuade you not just that Buddhism is true—which is to say, a way out of our delusion—but that it can ultimately save us from ourselves, as individuals and as a species.

(Retrieved 10/26/17, Amazon)

* The book is available for loan via the NIOGA and Monroe County library systems.



Pullman Plaudits

Darrell Dyke - facilitated the Board Retreat on October 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A lot of great work was done on the board Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Covenant. Many thanks to Diana Dudley, Alan Nugent, Liz Schaal, Rich Della Costa, Judy Weinrich, Patrick Polland, and Chris Loss for attending and working so hard! It was a very productive day!

John Mosher, Ph.D.'s meditation group has been a success with twelve people in attendance in October! And thanks to Liz Schaal for creating a poster! Thanks to Liz Schaal, Diana Dudley, Joyce Riley, and Chris Loss for helping with the chairs!

Diana Dudley, Judy Weinrich, Sylvia Goodstine, all helped with applying the wood 'rounds' to about 25 chairs on October 17th! This will allow these chairs to be used again!

Debby Rodrigues and Jim Hobbs hosted a house clean-up for the Qadour family on October 14th. A donation had been taken at the church, and we raised \$577, which will be used for essentials for this lovely family! Debby and Jim have worked so hard to help them out!

Diana Dudley, Dennis Seekins, and C.W. Lattin have spent more time looking over roof proposals, and recently spoke with Jim Babcock.

Rev. Lori Staubitz has written a children's book entitled 'Little Nut - A Celebration Forest Adventure'. Congratulations Lori!

Two books were recommended from the pulpit this month: 'The Education of Little Tree' by Forrest Carter (recommended by Rev. Lori Staubitz), and 'Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers' by Anne Lamott (recommended by Rev. Libby Moore). Check them out!

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness:
only light can do that. Hate cannot drive
out hate: only love can do that.”

— **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Many thanks to everyone who attended the Potluck Supper on October 2nd! We had about ten people and lots of great food!

Sylvia Goodstine has agreed to serve on the Board of Trustees until the end of the year! Also, she has been bringing some great goodies in for coffee hour!

Thanks to Pat Cammarata for leading the book discussion on October 1st. We read 'Life's Work - A Moral Argument for Choice' by Dr. Willie Parker. It was an amazing, surprising book!

Mountain Maude (actually Rev. Lori Staubitz) visited the church on October 8!

Pullman Memorial Universalist Church

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We are a welcoming congregation