

The Grapevine Newsletter



Revised July/August 2016

Published by **Pullman Memorial Universalist Church** Albion, NY

Member of *The Unitarian Universalist Association*

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Living On The Margins

We live on the margins of things.
We live on the borders of seasons, each struggling to cross over,
Confusing us with their spontaneous dance.

We live on the outer skin of the great earth ball,
Tenaciously clinging to precarious life.

We live at the cutting edge of history between a world that has died
And a world struggling to be born.

We live on a marginal planet in a great galaxy on the cosmic periphery.

We stand always on the threshold of a new day,
Looking both back and forward.

We stand on the brim of the hill of the unknown,
Wondering what lies beyond.

We assemble on the verge of mystic cosmic forces we do not understand,
Which require our response.

We pause at the rim of a future we cannot
Yet envision in all its dimensions of pain and glory.

May we look well to the growing edge,
The moving line between what we have been
And what we aspire to be;
Between what we have done in sorrow
And what we anticipate in joy;
Between what we have failed to do
And what we hope to be.

We live on the margins of things.
Let us be grateful.
Look well to the growing edge.

Richard S. Gilbert, from his book *Thanks Be For These*

Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

July 3	Rev. Donald Algeo with Darrell Dyke	Patriotic Service at Cobblestone with Gaines Congregational Church
NOTE: This summer we will return to our tradition of taking a break from regular Sunday services. Enjoy your Summer, join us for the picnic and return for a new season in September.		
August 7	Susan Daiss	Service at PMUC followed by Picnic
September 11	Rev. Lori Staubitz	We resume regular Sunday services.

Anyone may bring a snack for Coffee Hour and for the Cobblestone Service.

Coming Events

Although we are taking a break from regular services this summer there will still be a lot of activity at our church. Your board of trustees and church officers will be meeting to plan our future course, balance our budget and reconcile our differences. We need the support of all of our members and friends. Please join us for our summer events and services and share your aspirations for our church.

Sunday, July 3 – Patriotic Worship Service @ 11:00 am with Rev. Donald Algeo and Darrell Dyke at the Cobblestone Church in Childs. This is a joint service with the Congregational Church of Gaines and Pullman Memorial held at the historic church at 14389 Ridge Road West. Please note that cash in the offering plate is donated to the Cobblestone Museum to assist in upkeep of the building. (Envelopes and checks go to respective churches.)

Sunday, July 10 – Workbee 9:00 – 12:00

Sunday, July 17 – Board of Trustees meets at 9:00 – 11:00 am

Sunday, July 24 – Retreat Prep 9:00 – 11:00 am

Saturday, July 30 – Board Retreat

Sunday, August 7 – Annual Mid-Summer Service and Picnic at Bullard Park. Church will supply hot dogs & hamburgers; everyone may bring something to share.

Saturday, August 13 – Albion Sip & Stroll from 3:00 until 7:00 pm. Jim Hobbs and Debby Rodriguez will be leading our participation in this event.

Sunday, August 21st – Board of Trustees meets at 9:00 am.

Sunday, August 28th – Finance Committee meets at 9:30 am.

Our next newsletter will be the September edition. Please have submissions by August 28th. Send to: pmuc.albion@gmail.com or give to any Board member.

Sunday, September 11th – Rev. Lori Staubitz will lead our first service of the season.

Joys and Concerns

The congregation sang a belated 'Happy Birthday' to Diana Dudley on June 5th (her actual birthday was on May 27th) and Chris Loss made a cake in her honor! Diana continues to be an awesome and beautiful lady!!

Debby Rodrigues expressed joy that Jim Hobbs was out playing golf in early June at the Arc Picnic. He hasn't been able to do that in awhile due to health issues. It is so good to see that Jim feels so much better and he looks great!

Bonnie Beiswenger said on June 5th that she and her husband, Ron, will be heading back to Maine for about 3 ½ months. They usually spend some time there every year, and they enjoy the beauty and community. Bonnie said that while she is excited to get back to Maine, she is sorry to leave the church. Have a great time, Bonnie and Ron, and we'll be seeing you when you return!

Chris Loss was pleased that everyone pulled together to help with the Strawberry Festival on June 10 and 11th. We didn't make much money, but the church was open and we sold popcorn, donuts, coffee and water. Our restroom was a popular feature. Dennis Seekins was here to appraise books, and C.W. Lattin offered tours of the church. The Genealogical Society and the Cobblestone Society were here with booths.

Josh Rothamond sadly reported on June 12th that his father passed away recently. He will miss his dad very much, however, he was glad that he was surrounded by his family. They were able to talk to him and tell him what they needed to. Our thoughts are with you at this sad time Josh!

Jim Hobbs was excited to report on June 19th that his daughter has traveled to Paris for a three week period! It will be a great adventure for sure!

C.W. Lattin noted that members of Peg Wilson's family were in attendance on June 19th. Peg has been very much missed and it is wonderful that her family continues to visit here on occasion!

Diana Dudley praised C.W. Lattin for the beautiful floral display on June 19th. C.W. makes sure that there is a lovely display at every service. Many thanks C.W.!!

Chris Loss was sad to say that her grandson, Carson, broke his arm at a baseball game. Caden has been the Sandstone team's catcher and had been doing a great job. He's pretty bummed that he can't do his favorite things – play baseball, swim, and fish! Hopefully, he'll be on the mend soon.

Debbie Rodrigues was in Delaware for a family wedding and was pleased to say that family came from all over...New Zealand, France, etc. It was just so nice to see everyone together.

Tobin Moon Carson finished her medical residency and will be starting her career as a hospital physician at Rochester General in Rochester and UMMC in Batavia in July. A graduation ceremony was held at Terry Hills in Batavia to honor the achievement. Congratulations Dr. Carson!

Darrell Dyke - hit another milestone with his boys since the older one (Leland) is apparently applying for a job! The time has sure flown by!!

Rich Della Costa has gone down to Florida with his daughter, Hannah and granddaughter to help them move there. This is bittersweet for Rich and Eileen as they are happy that their son-in-law has obtained a great job but they will miss the family and especially that adorable granddaughter, Elise. It seems the way things are these days, but it's very difficult.

Chris Loss' joy is that her grandson's baseball team will enter the playoffs as the number one team!! Yeah Sandstone!

C.W. Lattin reminded everyone that this is the 1st Anniversary of same-sex marriage being legalized and cautioned that there are factions still trying to reverse this.

Chris Loss expressed concern about Britain voting themselves out of the EU and what the ramifications will be down the road!

Susan Daiss said what a joyous celebration of summer as she saw several Catalpa trees on Route 104. Rene' Schasel said that he has one tree in his yard and it is the bane of his existence since numerous items fall out the tree, including large leaves and clean-up is a pain!!

You may recall that a couple of years ago our congregation helped raise funds for Tyler who needed a diabetic alert dog due to rapid changes in his blood sugar. Tyler is now 11 and was featured on The Orleans Hub at school with his dog. You can read the story on the web site [HERE](#).

Pullman Plaudits

Diana Dudley has been working hard on getting the finances in order through this transition. Things are coming together and we are getting back on track. Thanks Diana!! She also received some help from Julie Andrews, Alan Nugent and Debbie Rodrigues.

Alan Nugent has done a tremendous job chairing the Finance Committee, repairing the endowment, working on the budget, and producing the Newsletters. Great job, Alan!!

Many thanks to Jim Hobbs for spending hours cleaning the carpet in the coffee hour room. It looks wonderful! And he used all green products! Diana Dudley cleaned the kitchen and Debby Rodrigues cleaned the bathroom! This was all done so the church would be presentable for the Strawberry Festival!

Thanks to everyone who came out and worked over the two days of the Strawberry Festival! C.W. Lattin was here each day the whole day offering tours, Chris Loss and Sara Phillips sold donuts and coffee and water and donated supplies. Dennis Seekins was here doing book appraisals. And other helpers included Liz Schaal, Alan Nugent, Diana Dudley, Rich Della Costa, Monica Beck, and Julie Andrews. Debby Rodrigues also donated popcorn, water and other supplies. Great job everyone!

Thanks to Rich Della Costa for agreeing to be Chairman, and Pat Cammarata as Vice-Chairman! This is a tough job but you both will work together and do a great job!

Darrell Dyke has been helping out by speaking in the Pulpit, working on the website, collaborating with the Pulpit Committee, and doing whatever else he can! Darrell is a tremendous asset here!! Super job, Darrell!

Chris Loss, Rich Della Costa, Pat Cammarata, and Darrell Dyke have been working on the Pulpit Schedule for next year.

Sara Phillips has resumed her job as Collector and has been trying to figure out the Paypal issues! Thanks Sara!!!

Bill Lattin has been providing coffee to the church, without reimbursement, for at least the last 20 years. So a big shout out of thanks to him for this and for all his other contributions that often are just taken for granted.

Chris Loss was manning the Strawberry Festival activities when the Health Dept. came calling. They wanted to know if a food service trained person was present, which there was not. We got a citation for that, but that night Chris stayed up late to take the online training. She is now our trained person, with her certificate posted in the kitchen. Big thanks to Chris for service beyond the call of duty!

Down The Stairs Recycling

Return-for-deposit bottles and cans, plus assorted metals, help generate additional funds for the church. Bins for these items are at the foot of the stairs between the kitchen and dining hall doors. Clean, washed metal objects may be mixed, but please separate aluminum from the rest.

Electronic Donations & Automatic Pledges

Our website pullmanmemorialdonations.com offers several choices for making contributions. Drop-down menus provide a variety of monthly and weekly automatic options. Alternatively, you can make one-time donations in any amount, learn where to send a check, or inquire about planned giving. All major credit cards and PayPal are accepted.

Eye on the Board

The Board met on June 19 and trustees and officers were poised to sign the conflict of interest forms but it was decided that they will first need to take time to read the Conflict of Interest Policy. Susan Daiss has agreed to provide pastoral care for the church, but she will need clarification on the duties. And the Pulpit Committee will meet to go over that and to determine compensation. The Board Retreat date with Joan Van Beclare has been designated for July 30th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The location will need to be determined. Board members will watch videos provided by Joan in preparation for the retreat. The Health Department found one violation at the Strawberry Festival and that was that no one present had a certificate in Food Safety. Chris Loss obtained that certification and other volunteers will be needed.

Discussion continues regarding policies concerning the Treasurer, whether to retain the Thaney group, and on whether to continue to pursue a 501C3. A new budget for the year is still being worked on. Bill Lattin presented a list of maintenance issues and projects which will cost up to \$2,800. Some of the work can be done at a workbee. The first workbee will be held on July 17. Supplies and materials will be available so that we can varnish doors, power wash the ramp, and work on cleaning up the foliage.

Darrell Dyke is working on a fall Jedi curriculum and also an adult RE program for the coming year. The Pulpit Committee is currently working on next year's schedule. Rev. Lori Staubitz has agreed to join us for a one time monthly arrangement. She is also available for workshops. We made around \$100 at the Strawberry Festival and the church was open for tours and book appraisals. We sold popcorn, donuts, coffee, and water. The Sip N Stroll will take place in August and Debby Rodrigues and Jim Hobbs will look into what we need to do for that. The Annual Picnic will be held on August 7th at Bullard Park following the service. The church will provide hot dogs and hamburgers, and everyone will be asked to bring a dish to pass. The congregation will be asked to RSVP so we will know who will be attending.

The Board looked over the many organizations we have been donating money to, and we will be finding out more about what membership in each organization entails and whether we should continue to contribute. Also discussed was a possible consolidation of committees and the need for more participation.

