



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

Member of *The Unitarian Universalist Association*

Visit our Website pullmanmemorial.org -- Follow us on facebook.com/pullmanmemorial

Autumn's Call

Endings and beginnings: sinking and rising, goodbye and hello, a door closes, another opens, all experiences of death and rebirth, which we witness first hand in the seasons throughout the year. Each of the seasons offers wisdom for the spiritual journey, but autumn is a season of transition, reminding us that our lives are constantly in flux. Of course, change is always with us, but autumn can bring us to a deeper awareness that we live in a continual cycle of renewal.

As an autumn meditation, head into a nearby park or wood and practice being absolutely present to the world. Bring yourself fully present to each step and breath. Ask yourself the questions: How do I walk in the world? How do I want to walk in this world? Does the way you walk and move through life reflect your most authentic life? If not, how might the season guide you in the act of letting go of what no longer serves you or your relationship to the universe?

Gather objects along the way – a brilliant leaf that tumbles in front of you, a stone that feels solid and cool, a broken branch laying on the ground as an offering. Bring them home and lay them in a sacred space, an honoring of the gifts of the season. Continue to listen for their call to you as the autumn unfolds. Let them become a guide for the days ahead.

From Christine Valters Paintner, Ph.D., Abbey of the Arts, Patheos website

Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

October 2	Rev. Richard Hood	Visit from our Minister Emeritus
October 9	Darrell Dyke	"Prepare to Meet Thy Soapmaker." Jedi Academy at 12:00 after Worship Service
October 16	Susan Daiss	Topic TBA
October 23	Rev. John Rex	Topic TBA Jedi Academy at 12:00 after Worship Service
October 30	Rev. Lori Staubitz	Topic TBA
November 6	Rev. Donald reidell	Topic TBA

A sign up sheet is available for anyone who wishes to bring a snack for Coffee Hour.

Coming Events

Tuesday September 27 – Holy Family Catholic Church, our neighbor across the street, welcomes District Attorney Joseph Cardone on Tuesday, September 27th at 6:30pm in the Lyceum to discuss **Domestic Violence** - Why it's an important issue; what police, DA, courts and we can do to help. Panelists include Doris Valentin, Buffalo Diocese; Chris White, Parole and former Orleans County Probation Officer. Sponsored by the Social Justice Committee.

Sorry for the short notice on this event. If you share their concern for this issue please contact Debby or Diana as they have been attending the Social Justice meetings at Holy Family. Volunteers are needed to help domestic violence victims in our community.

Wednesday September 28 – At 6:30 pm we will watch the Ken Burns special “We Who Defy Hate” on how Unitarians worked to save victims of the holocaust. Please encourage our neighbors of faith to gather with us.

Sunday October 2 – Rev. Richard Hood, our Minister Emeritus, returns to our pulpit. We don't know the topic of Dick's sermon but we can be pretty sure his service will end with *“And now may truth make us free, hope never die, and love live eternally in all our hearts.”*

Monday October 3 – **Pot-Luck at 6:30.** Please join us for good food and fellowship – and some fun and games. Please bring a dish to pass and your favorite game.

Saturday October 8 – **Work bee from 9:00 to 12:00.** We will be having a work bee on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Everyone is invited to join in and do whatever needs doing.

Sunday October 9 – **Finance Committee meets at 9:30**

Sunday October 9 – Darrell Dyke "Prepare to Meet Thy Soapmaker."
Jedi Academy at 12:00 after worship service.

Sunday October 16 – Susan Daiss

Sunday October 23 – **Board of Trustees meet at 8:30** (Yes 8:30, not a typo.)

Sunday October 23 – **Rev. John Rex**
Jedi Academy at 12:00 after worship service.

Sunday October 30 – **Book Discussion group meets before service**

Mark the date of October 30th on your calendars! The book discussion group will meet from 10-11 on that day to talk about *'A Mother's Reckoning – Living In The Aftermath of Tragedy'* by Sue Klebold, mother of the infamous Dylan Klebold, one of the Columbine shooters. She writes about how events unfolded, how the family was treated, lies promoted about their family, clues she missed, and having a son she loved so dearly become a reviled figure. All are welcome for the discussion even if you haven't read the book.

Sunday October 30 – **Rev. Lori Staubitz**

Sunday November 6 – **Rev. Donald Reidell**

Share the Pulpit

Our pulpit committee is excited to have begun our "share the pulpit" initiative. Some of our ministers have invited members to join them in leading Sunday Services. If you would like to volunteer to read the welcome/announcement message, chalice lighting words and other elements of our worship, please contact Chris Loss, Rich Della Costa, or Darrell Dyke. What a wonderful way to serve our congregation!

Joys and Concerns

Monica and Fiona are now visiting Scandinavia and will be coming home soon after a two week trip. They have traveled to 4 countries via plane, train, bus, and boat and enjoyed a very exciting time.

Tobin flew, with the help of "angels," to Anaheim, CA to take the hands-on portion of her medical boards. The grueling, written exams were on September 24th in Williamsville. She succeeded on both fronts! She begins her new career on the 27th.

Danny Wright - said his sister-in-law, Nancy, has terminal cancer. It's been very hard for the family. Our thoughts are with you, Danny and Lynn, at this sad time!

Darrell Dyke - expressed concerns about water issues. Due to weather patterns, drought, some people who vitally need water do not have access to it.

Chris Loss - once again had to report of a relative with cancer – her husband Ernie's uncle Danny Daniels was diagnosed with lung cancer and is now in hospice care at home. Chris said that it seems that cancer is at epidemic proportions.

Debby Rodrigues - is concerned with the plight of the Native Americans in North Dakota, fighting the pipeline.

Sara Phillips - has a joy that her daughter, Sam, and her boyfriend have traveled here from Denver for the long weekend. They will be running in a Triathlon in Canandaigua.

Rich Della Costa - speaking on behalf of the Board, it has been a good summer filled with lots of work done and a lot of cooperation. The Board members and officers spent an entire Saturday discussing what has happened and learning how to decide what to prioritize, set some goals, and help the church through the healing process. They decided on three goals: reconciliation and relationship building, getting more organized, and encouraging more lay participation. These goals will be posted in the church for everyone to view.

Diana Dudley - wowed everyone again by taking 1st place in an Arc 5 K race. She ran in the over 70 category and was actually the only participant.

Chris Loss - reported that Pat Cammarata had a heart attack on September 15 and went first to Strong West and was transported to Unity Hospital. It seems to have been a stress event and somewhat mild. Pat spent a few days at the hospital and now is home to rest and recuperate. It is hoped that within a few weeks that she will make a full recovery. She has had quite a few visitors! Here's hoping for a speedy recovery, Pat!

Jim Hobbs - said his son Andrew celebrated his 26th birthday recently!

Bonnie Beiswenger - said it is a joy that she and Ron are back from Maine. It is also a sorrow to leave friends behind! She said it is obvious that a lot of work has been done – the church looks great! And she really loves the posted goals. Welcome back Bonnie and Ron!!

Dennis Seekins - thanked Jim and Jake Hobbs for all the incredible work they have been doing on the church, including varnishing the doors.

Diana Dudley - today (the 25th) is her eldest son Mark's 63rd birthday!! She is very grateful for all that he has brought to her life!

Chris Loss - had a sorrow that her daughter's father-in-law is at Highland Hospital with diabetic ketoacidosis. He is very sick and lucky to be alive!!

Bob Trolley and his wife, Donna, have attended several Sundays now. Bob was a long-time member years ago and served as Chairman of the Board at one time. It is great to see Bob back here!! His mother, Lola Trolley (deceased), was also a dedicated member in the past. Welcome back Bob!!

Pullman Plaudits

Kudos to Debby Rodriguez for her continuing efforts on Going Green and recycling bottles and cans. Not only are we helping our environment but have raised over \$25 so far this year. (Note update on recycling items below.)

Leland Dyke turns 17 on Oct 9th! He is taking, along with his home studies, English 101, Chemistry, and Personal Finance classes at Genesee Community College. He is very excited to have this opportunity to get a head start on his first degree.

Diana Dudley and Alan Nugent were recognized at the Board Meeting on 9/25 for their hard work on the Treasurer reports. They look great!

Jim and Jake Hobbs were also recognized at the Board Meeting for the excellent job they have done working on various projects at the church including varnishing the doors, dealing with outside foliage, cleaning the carpets, work on the ramp, etc. They have taken a tour of the entire building to point out areas that need work. Jim has obtained quotes for work to be done on the carpet, drywall in the basement, and other various work.

Debby Rodrigues has done a great deal of work researching various insurance companies and the Board recently voted to go with Emery and Webb. This company affords us more coverage for a reasonable price and it also is the insurance company of choice for other area UU churches.

Liz Schaal has done a great deal of work updating and revising the Membership list!!

Darrell Dyke has been updating and revising the church website and facebook page! Check both sites out and take a look! Great job, Darrell!

Darrell Dyke and Rich Della Costa have been in the pulpit serving as Worship Assistants recently. Darrell served in that capacity for Rev. Lori Staubitz, and Rich assisted Rev. Peggy Meeker. More lay participation is one of the three goals chosen by the Board.

Chris Loss, Darrell Dyke, and Diana Dudley have been making sure the Wayside Pulpit has speaker names and dates for all to see!!

Pat Cammarata, Diana Dudley, and Chris Loss worked on the child safety policy, which is required by the new insurance company. It was decided that Darrell Dyke and Diana Dudley will be the principal child supervisors. Pat will write up our church policy, which was revised to fit our circumstances.

Rich Della Costa had the goals worked on by Board members and officers at the Board Retreat over the summer printed on large paper and hung up in the social hour room. They look great!

Update on Recycling: Please Note

The aluminum recycling is starting up well, just remind yourself to *separate the deposit aluminum (soda cans, bottles etc) from container aluminum*. Kindly be sure it is clean. We are **not** recycling tin cans (soup, tuna beans etc) because it only brings in 1 cent / lb and is really dirty to work with on site. We made about \$25 so far!!! Do the right thing. Recycling bins are now located in the vestibule at the ramp entrance.

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.

Thomas Paine: Profession of Faith, from The Age of Reason (1794)

I believe in one God, and no more; and I hope for happiness beyond this life.

I believe in the equality of man, and I believe that religious duties consist in doing justice, loving mercy, and endeavoring to make our fellow creatures happy.

But lest it should be supposed that I believe many other things in addition to these, I shall, in the progress of this work, declare the things I do not believe and my reasons for not believing them.

I do not believe in the creed professed by the Jewish church, by the Roman church, by the Greek church, by the Turkish church, by the Protestant church, nor by any church that I know of. My own mind is my own church.

All national institutions of churches – whether Jewish, Christian, or Turkish – appear to me no other than human inventions set up to terrify and enslave mankind and monopolize power and profit.

I do not mean by this declaration to condemn those who believe otherwise. They have the same right to their belief as I have to mine. But it is necessary to the happiness of man that he be mentally faithful to himself. Infidelity does not consist in believing or in disbelieving; it consists in professing to believe what he does not believe.

Eye on the Board

At the Board of Trustees meeting on September 25th, the Board voted to change our insurance company to Emery & Webb, which will provide more coverage and liability for a reasonable price. Emery & Webb require that several repairs will be made and that we will have child safety policies and procedures in place. All of the requirements are being addressed, but cannot be accomplished within the 30 day period, so a 60-90 day waiver will be requested. A sub committee met to go over the child safety (sexual abuse) policies, and Pat Cammarata will write up the policy. Three recommendations were approved for work to be done on the church, including replacement of the carpeting (for an amount not to exceed \$2,200), drywall work in the basement (not to exceed \$3,000), and roof repair (not to exceed \$500). When this is accomplished, the church will be safer, the terms of the policy will be satisfied, and work that we have wanted done for awhile will be accomplished. Jim Hobbs obtained quotes for all of the work. New filters have also been installed in the furnaces.

Key Bank will take over from First Niagara Bank as of October 11th, but our accounts will remain the same and we will be able to use our checks. We have received some quarterly dividend payments from the endowment and there are sufficient funds for the work noted above.

The Board recognized work of Diana Dudley and Alan Nugent on the Treasurer and Finance reports!! Jim and Jake Hobbs were also recognized for all the work they have done on the church, including varnishing the doors, work on the ramp, clearing out the foliage, cleaning the carpets, and so much more.

Darrell Dyke has been updating the website and the church Facebook page. He has also been preparing for the Jedi program, and the adult RE program (based on the PPS program 'Defying the Nazis - The Sharp's War', which begins on September 28th. He has invited the Sufi group Neighbors of Faith to attend.

The Pulpit Committee has filled almost all of the slots for the year. And programs of interest to the congregation, including special services are being explored. A book discussion group has been planned for the end of October.

Liz Schall has updated the Membership/address listing, and Chris Loss has updated the fee schedule.



From Pearls Before Swine

Pullman Memorial Universalist Church
PO Box 87 10 East Park Street, Albion, NY 14411
Editor: Alan Nugent, pmuc.albion@gmail.com