

The Grapevine Newsletter

January 2018

Published by **Pullman Memorial Universalist Church, Albion, NY**
Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association

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Welcome to 2018



The Sanctuary of PMUC beautifully decorated for the holidays.

Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

(unless otherwise noted)

January 7

John Mosher,



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



Coming Events

Sunday, January 7 – John Mosher, Ph.D.

Monday, January 8 – 6:00 pm (earlier time), Potluck Supper. Join us for good food and fellowship. Please bring a dish to pass.

Thursday, January 11 – 7:00 pm, Meditation with John Mosher, Ph.D.

Saturday, January 13 – 9:00 am, Workbee. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Diana Dudley (diana527@gmail.com) with any questions.

Sunday, January 14 - 9:30 am, Finance Meeting/Building & Grounds

Sunday, January 14 - Susan Daiss

Sunday, January 21 - 9:00 am, Board of Trustees Meeting

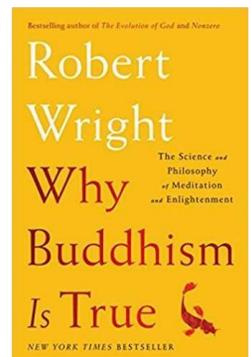
Sunday, January 21 – Rev. Lori Staubitz

Sunday, January 28 – 9:30 am, Book Discussion – The book for discussion will be,

Why Buddhism is True: The Science and Philosophy of Meditation and Enlightenment by Robert Wright.

You do not have to have read the book to attend. Please join us!

Sunday, January 28 – Rev. Libby Moore



Please note: Some of our members and friends have sensitivities to fragrances and strong scents. We ask that you refrain from wearing strongly scented products when attending church so as not to negatively affect the health of those with sensitivities. Thank you for your cooperation.

Joys and Concerns

November 26

-Darrell Dyke had the joy of a house filled with people included his kids and his Mother-In-Law for Thanksgiving.

-Liz Schaal expressed sadness about the tragedy in Egypt. On the flipside, she attended the holiday parade in Medina, complete with fireworks. It was a nice time!



Joys and Concerns continue

-Chris Loss - said it was a great joy to have her family over for Thanksgiving, and every year it gets more precious to have them around.

Dec 3

-Diana Dudley - was joyful about the beautifully decorated church, thanks to C.W. Lattin. C.W. received a round of applause for his wonderful work.

-Joyce Riley - has been out of town lately helping her son in his divorce battle. He was awarded equal visitation of his son, and Joyce said that this six year old makes her heart sing.

-Debby Rodrigues - is so happy to have acquired a new family! Being part of this Syrian family's lives has been so rewarding, and the children give her so much energy and joy! The experience has been life-changing!

Dec 10

-Sylvia Goodstine has been delighted to work with Tom McDonald, who seeks out Snowy Owls. He lets her assist with weights, measurements, and blood samples. She checks to see how healthy the owls are, and has the pleasure of letting them go free!

-Darrell Dyke - said he has special trees he will miss this year! Certain trees have always held a special place in his heart.

-Michelle - can relate to Rev. Staubitz's sermon about the trees, and will share this with her friends in Puerto Rico. During hurricane Maria, leaves fell off the trees and many were wiped out. It's a good idea to go out and praise the avocado trees that are starting to come back!

Dec 28

-Diana Dudley- sadly will be making the journey to Syracuse this weekend to attend the Memorial Service of Luther Robinson, her ex-husband and the father of her children. Lute died on December 28th of cancer. Our warmest condolences on your loss, Diana!

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).

Please Sign-Up to Bring a Snack for Coffee Hour

Sign-up sheet available in the parish hall



Meditation for a New Year

My friends, we have arrived.

We are here, in this new year.

We have crossed the boundary of time, into the next year, with all its resolutions and plans and schedules ahead of us.

Let us pause, for just this moment, before we move boldly onward.

Let us pause to hear the breathing of those around us, to feel their presence in this room; to know their presence in our lives.

Let us pause to consider the trees, their branches stripped bare, their elegant architecture on display.

Let us pause to feel the spirit of life and love that ties us to each other, that winds its way through our very bones and settles in our hearts.

Before we march forward, armed with resolutions that will shortly be forgotten in the day-to-day of living, let us notice what it is that remains every year, every day. What exists beyond schedules and months, beyond time. It welcomes us to life, not just at the start of the year, but every day. And let us answer . . . Amen.



“Trees in the fog” by [Simon Koopmann](#) / CC BY-SA

By [Amanda Poppei](#)

(Retrieved 12/26/17 from <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/meditation/25402.shtml>)

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.

“Let us make our future now and let us make today’s

dreams tomorrow’s reality.”

— Malala Yousafzai

Eye on the Board

Some good news: The endowment continues to do very well, and PMUC’s insurance company has issued a check for the wind damage claim.

Marilyn Champeney from Marilyn’s Tax and Accounting Service has completed her audit for the time period of April 2016 through March 2017 and “found no problems”.

The Building & Grounds Committee will meet with Country Contracting in January to obtain a new estimate for roof work since the old estimate passed the 30-day time limit. The next step will then be to have a congregational vote since the repair will be over \$5000.

Some issues with the furnaces have come up. Turnbull was called and the ignitor for one of the furnaces had to be replaced. In addition, the thermostat on the other furnace was replaced.

The meditation group continues to be well attended, and John Mosher plans to continue to have the group into the new year. John Mosher has also agreed to provide the Sunday service for the January 7th date.

The search continues for an affordable piano for the church. Donations in memory of Ron Beiswenger were received to go towards the purchase of a new piano and are greatly appreciated.

A letter of record from a member was read at the board meeting and the original letter placed on file. There will be a note put in the newsletter reminding attendees to be respectful in regards to people sensitive to perfume and strong scents.

Discussed the possibility of selling PMUC t-shirts and sweatshirts for fundraising purposes.

Darrell Dyke will be starting a new video series, “Long Strange Trip” dealing with the history of Unitarian Universalism. Dates to be announced.

One more photo from Rev. Don Reidell’s 40th year celebration at PMUC held in November.

Dennis' "special" gift for Don.



Pullman Plaudits

-C.W Lattin- outdid himself decorating the church for the holidays this year! Beautiful job!

-Debby Rodrigues - has added to many of our special services this year by inviting the Qadour family, and their seven children (Abdulraheem, Hassan, Marah, Lelass, Aeshaa, Rawaa, and baby Mohammed). This polite, lovely family is always so gracious. And Mrs. Qadour has provided such delicious treats! Debby's work with this family to help acclimate them to a new environment has been an inspiration to us all.

-Sylvia Goodstine - on December 17th told the story of Hanukkah, and the Menorah, and the correct way to light the Menorah. This was a real treat! Thank you Sylvia!

-Many thanks to all who participated in the Potluck Supper on December 4th! There was such a variety of food, and lots of wonderful conversation. And we enjoyed pierogis!

-C.W. Lattin was here on December 2nd as a host and tour guide. The Cobblestone Society and Museum Christmas Tour of Historical Homes on that day included our church. This generated many positive comments on Facebook!

-The Meditation Group on December 14th was well attended, but the group had a bit of trouble with the heating here. Fortunately, Diana Dudley found a smaller room for them to use that was warmer and cozier! Again thanks to John Mosher, PhD, for his expertise and to Diana for opening the church!

-Much appreciation to all who were patient when the Annual Candlelight Service was canceled due to the weather. The safety of our ministers and participants is primary!! However, we had a lovely service the next day, Sunday, December 24th at 11:00 a.m. Thanks to Al Capurso, Diana Dudley, and Nancy and Ron OneSong for providing lovely special music! Darrell Dyke should be commended for his leadership! Susan Daiss and Darrell Dyke did a wonderful job. Also, the sing-a-long in the Social Hall was a lot of fun! And the Qadour girls joined in!

-Don Olsowski, our part-time custodian, has been keeping the church vacuumed and cleaned up, and has been removing snow in front of the church for services! Great job, Don!

-Generous donations given in memory of Ronald Beiswenger in the amount of \$1440 will be designated to help in the purchase of a new piano for the church! This is per the request of his wife, Bonnie.

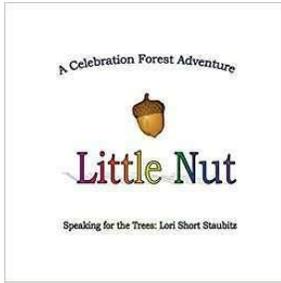
-Sylvia Goodstine has been bringing cookies, cheeses, brownies, and other goodies at each coffee hour! Many thanks Sylvia!

-Diana had the furnace fixed, as neither one was working! So we have bought ourselves some time, but it won't be much longer before we may have to purchase one or more furnaces. Much appreciation, Diana, for making sure we have heat!

-Darrell Dyke, Tobin Moon Carson, and their son Aiden have embarked on a trip to Ireland over the holidays! Happy and safe travels!

-Thanks to Rich Della Costa for agreeing to give a talk on cinema for the Annual Fireside Service!





A reminder that Rev. Lori Staubitz is inviting everyone to help Create Celebration Forest...a virtual Forest that we can make real with direct planting or donations for tree planting. To help things along, "Little Nut" has been published on Amazon.com. Proceeds from this book go to establish this Forest.

Please let your friends know!

And if you have a photo and story to share about your own special tree, please be sure to post it to <http://www.celebrationforest-org.com/>.

Support PMUC and the Planet



Just a reminder – We have a bin for refundable cans/bottles and one for aluminum. Both our church and the environment benefit!!

The bins are located in the vestibule at the ramp entrance.

Please be sure the aluminum is clean and labels are removed.

Please do not crush the aluminum.

Editor: Liz Schaal, pmuc.albion@gmail.com

We are a welcoming congregation

