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### **Life is Always Unfinished Business**

In the midst of the whirling day,  
In the hectic rush to be doing,  
In the frantic pace of life,  
Pause here for a moment.

Catch your breath;  
Relax your body;  
Loosen your grip on life.

Consider that our lives are always unfinished business;  
Imagine that the picture of our being is never complete;  
Allow your life to be a work in progress.

Do not hurry to mold the masterpiece;  
Do not rush to finish the picture;  
Do not be impatient to complete the drawing.  
From beckoning birth to dawning death we are in process,  
And always there is more to be done.

Do not let the incompleteness weigh on your spirit;  
Do not despair that imperfection marks your every day;  
Do not fear that we are still in the making.

Let us instead be grateful that the world is still to be created;  
Let us give thanks that we can be more than we are;  
Let us celebrate the power of the incomplete;  
For life is always unfinished business.

by Rev. Dr. Richard S. Gilbert

(Retrieved 12/26/18,UUA, <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/meditation/life-always-unfinished-business>)



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## Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

(unless otherwise noted)

January 6	Susan Daiss
January 13	Rev. Libby Moore
January 20	Rev. Lori Staubitz
January 27	Rev. Dr. Don Algeo
February 3	Darrell Dyke

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

### Coming Events

**Sunday, January 6** – Susan Daiss

**Monday, January 7** – 6:00 pm, Potluck Supper. Please bring a dish to pass and join us for good food and fellowship.

**Sunday, January 13** – Rev. Libby Moore

**Sunday, January 20** – 9:00 am, Board of Trustees Meeting

**Sunday, January 20** – Rev. Lori Staubitz

**Sunday, January 27** - Rev. Dr. Don Algeo

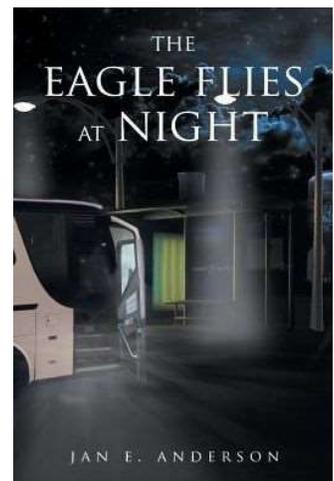
**Sunday, February 3** – Darrell Dyke

### Reminder: The Next Book for Book Discussion

The next book for discussion in February will be 'The Eagle Flies at Night' by Jan Anderson, author from the UU Church of Belfast, Maine. This is a fictional story about a spiritual community struggling to deal with an influx of refugees that have settled in their community.

*What does an ordinary community do when the state department settles refugees in their city? How does the arrival of refugees challenge the hearts and minds of residents? These are the questions Reverend Thomas Giles asks himself and his congregation as they wrestle with the ways that compassion is manifested in the city of Portland, Maine. (Retrieved 11/27/18, Amazon)*

The book can be purchased through Amazon or Barnes & Noble (e-book - \$10). Everyone is welcome to join the discussion even if you have not read the book.



## Please Sign-Up to Bring a Snack for Coffee Hour

Sign-up sheet available in the parish hall



### Joys and Concerns

Sunday, December 2

-Carol Taillie was so happy to spend some time visiting her eldest son. She was also proud that her granddaughter received the student of the month award for academics and character.

-Chris Loss was sorry to hear of the passing of former President George H.W. Bush at age 94 years. While she disagreed with many of his policies, he was a much kinder, gentler President than the man who currently occupies the office.

-Debby Rodrigues was remembering her friend Jim's first snowfall. His mother was in labor, but the snow was so deep that she couldn't get out. So the doctor came out and picked her up and took her to the hospital.

Sunday, December 9

-Diana Dudley had a joy that her son Mark and daughter-in-law Helen are here visiting.

-Rev. Susan Frawley recommended that everyone look up 'The Chalice Song' by Dan Flores on YouTube.

Sunday, December 16

-Darrell was in Pittsburg to check on the progress of Aidan's girlfriends brother (Devin), who had the miracle of receiving a liver. While there, he went to the zoo and was moved watching the penguins daily march.

-Jessica George saw 'Hamilton' two weeks ago and said it was amazing. Everyone please make a point to go see it!

-Monica Beck was sad that her 15-year-old dog died after Thanksgiving. It is so hard to lose a beloved family member. Condolences to you and David. Monica added that they may be fostering a dog in January because their other dog is so lonely.

-Susan Daiss's joy today is being here with everyone!

\*IMPORTANT\*

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.*

## Cards We Received

- Rev. Susan Frawley sent a thank you note to us for hosting her ordination. She wrote, "Dear Pullman Memorial Universalist Congregation, I thank you with the fullness of my heart for your gift of ordination. You are an amazing congregation and I am so honored by your faith in me. Thank you for the lovely service and delicious potluck. You are the best!! All my love and admiration, Sue".
- The Hood family (Rev. Richard Hood and wife, Molly) sent Holiday greetings to the congregation. They wrote, "Dear Family and Friends....For the Hood family, 2018 can be summed up in two words, 'busy' and 'travel'. We are blessed with continuing health which allows us to stay active. During the year we traveled on a Mississippi Riverboat with old Rochester friends. It was wonderful to connect once again. We also did a Caribbean Cruise and a Voyage to Alaska. We made a quick trip to California to see our granddaughter perform the title role of 'Annie' for the Oakland Children's Theater and two journeys to Rochester to be part of Pine Brook School's 25th Anniversary and to attend a Divinity School Reunion with old friends. During the summer, of course, we were in Maine. Molly remains part of a number of activities. She plays the dulcimer in her weekly jam and the ukulele in the Sun City Uke Band. She is a member of knitting groups in both South Carolina and Maine and enjoys card making and book club. Dick's activities are substantially less. He plays bridge twice weekly and does simple projects in the Sun City Workshop. He preached monthly this year at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Bluffton and occasionally at his home church in Savannah. In September we had quite the scare when we were struck by a strong 'microburst' on our section of Pemaquid Trail. Fortunately, there were no injuries or serious damage to homes, but our neighborhood lost over 100 trees, and we were trapped by trees and downed wires in our home for over 2 days. This past year our son Dave achieved a lifelong dream. He was elected Chief of the Honeoye Falls Fire Department. His wife is taking a well-deserved sabbatical from Hochstein Music School. Oliver is in 4th grade and continues his quest to master all of technology. He is now in his 5th year of studying cello. In Oakland, Alex and Amy are settling into their new home. Daughter Celia is a 4th grader active in a number of art activities, especially performance. Son William is now in kindergarten. He spends his spare time building



with Legos just about anything you can think of. A career in construction design is in his future. All of us Hoods were saddened by the loss this year of loyal and loving pets. Alex's family lost Hannah, their affectionate Boxer. David's family lost Oscar, their frisky Maltese. All of us will miss our dog's part in our lives. In this time of uncertainty and divisiveness, we hope that everyone can share the joy and peace that this season brings. Our best to all of you. Love, Molly and Dick Hood"



## Eye on the Board

- The Board of Trustees met on Sunday, December 16th. Alan reported that November investment balances remain well off the highs, and we also ran a cash flow deficit in November. However, we can still end the year on a positive note as we will receive dividends from our Vanguard funds the last week in December.
- The Building and Grounds report indicated that heat tapes have been put up. We will have a spring cleaning of the upper room. Don has been snow blowing and may go over his hours for the month. A motion was made and carried to pay Don \$25 per snow blowing event after he reaches his maximum hours. A motion was also made to pay Mr. Flatt \$800 for the heat tape and application to the roof at the entrance of the church.
- The January pulpit is set, but will need final word on January 27 and February 3. The meditation group will resume in the Spring when John Mosher is recovered from his surgery. And a book discussion on 'The Eagle Flies at Night' will be held in early February.
- A Board spring mini retreat is being planned for Saturday, March 9th for half a day. It may be held at an outside location.
- The Board agreed to have the Refugees Welcome sign back up.
- Plans were made for the Annual Candlelight Service and the Annual Fireside Service. Jessica George and Sylvia Goodstine agreed to purchase gifts for the children. The Candlelight Service will be held in the evening and there will be no morning service. Rich Della Costa will give a talk on cultural change through the arts for the Fireside Service.

## 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!!*

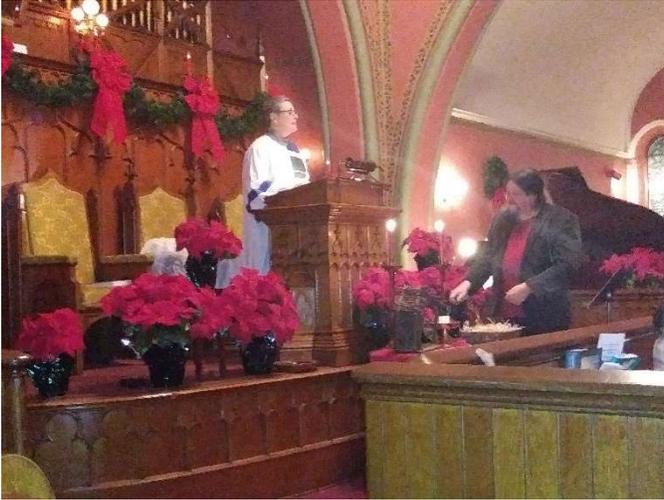
- The bins are located in the vestibule at the ramp entrance.
- Please be sure the aluminum is clean and labels are removed.
- Please do not crush the aluminum.

## Worship Associates Needed!

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](mailto:closs1626@gmail.com)) or Darrell Dyke ([darrell.dyke2@gmail.com](mailto:darrell.dyke2@gmail.com)).



## Pullman Plaudits



*Rev. Lori Staubitz and Darrell Dyke, Annual Candlelight Service*

- Many thanks to everyone who gave generously to help the Qadour family have a merrier holiday season!

-Thanks to C.W. Lattin for decorating the church for the holidays, as he has done for so many years! The church looks absolutely beautiful!

- Another reason the church looks fantastic is also because of all the hard work done by our custodian, Don Olsowski! Exceptional job, Don! He has also been putting the speaker and sermon titles on the outside board.

-Sylvia Goodstine lit the Hanukkiyah on December 9th and gave a Jewish prayer. She used the middle candle, called 'smash' to light the candles.

-Max Goldhirsch, son of Susan Frawley, played both the prelude and the postlude on December 9th! Great job Max!

-Sylvia Goodstine provided most of the goodies for coffee hour, but Monica Beck, Chris Loss, and Bonnie Beiswenger also brought some items! Many thanks!

- Thanks to all who attended the Potluck supper on Monday, December 3rd. Around 12 people were there, and we had wonderful food and exciting conversation.

-Sylvia Goodstine and Jessica George purchased gifts for the children for the Annual Candlelight Service on December 23. They were adorable socks stuffed with gifts. The kids loved them!

-Rev. Lori Staubitz did an amazing job with the Annual Candlelight Service! It was an evening of music, inspiring words, and interactive activities! Al Capurso, Monica Beck, and Bonnie Beiswenger provided music for the event! Everyone had an opportunity to hold a baby, and place straw in the manger to represent a challenge they face in life. We sang 'Silent Night' by candlelight, and processed to the coffee hour room. And then we sang Christmas Carols! We had punch, provided by Darrell Dyke and family, and lots of goodies. It was well attended; a wonderful evening.

-John and Connie Mosher attended the Candlelight Service, and it was John's first evening out since his heart surgery. John hopes to host the meditation group sometime in the spring. It was great to see them!

-Bonnie Beiswenger organized the candles for the Candlelight Service, and Chris Loss brought three hand held battery operated candles for children too young to handle the regular candles.

-Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to our Florida snowbirds...Alan Nugent and Sara Phillips!



**Pullman Plaudits** *continued*

-Thanks to Diana Dudley, electrical tape has now been applied to the roof so that we will no longer have giant icicles hanging by the entrance to the church! Klaus Flatt of Gaines Electrical Service did the work.

**More Photos from the Annual Candlelight Service (12/23/18)**



*Monica Beck singing*



*Placing straw on the manger*

**Pullman Memorial Universalist Church**

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*We are a welcoming congregation*