



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

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How I Go to the Woods

Ordinarily I go to the woods alone, with not a single friend, for they are all smilers and talkers and therefore unsuitable.

I don't really want to be witnessed talking to the catbirds or hugging the old black oak tree. I have my way of praying, as you no doubt have yours.

Besides, when I am alone I can become invisible. I can sit on the top of a dune as motionless as an uprise of weeds, until the foxes run by unconcerned. I can hear the almost unheard sound of the roses singing.

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If you have ever gone to the woods with me, I must love you very much.

By Mary Oliver who sadly passed away on January 17, 2019, at the age of 83. Sometimes referred to as "the unofficial poet laureate" of the Unitarian Universalist denomination; Mary Oliver will be greatly missed.

(Oliver, Mary. *Swan: Poems and Prose Poems*, 2010, p. 5)

Service Schedule – Sunday at 11:00AM

(unless otherwise noted)

February 3	Darrell Dyke
February 10	Rev. Lori Staubitz
February 17	Susan Daiss
February 24	Rev. Susan Frawley
March 3	Rev. Lori Staubitz



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



Coming Events

Sunday, February 3 – 9:30 am, Book Discussion (*See below for more information*)

Everyone is invited to join the discussion regardless of whether you have read the book.

Sunday, February 3 – Darrell Dyke

Monday, February 4 – 6:00 pm, Potluck Supper. Please bring a dish to pass and join us for good food and fellowship.

Sunday, February 10 – Rev. Lori Staubitz

Sunday, February 17 – 9:00 am, Board of Trustees Meeting

Sunday, February 17 – Susan Daiss

Sunday, February 24 - Rev. Susan Frawley

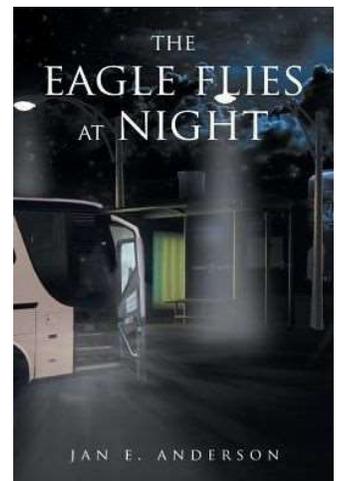
Sunday, March 3 – Rev. Lori Staubitz

Please Join Us at the Next Book Discussion February 3rd, 9:30 am

We will be discussing '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. **Everyone is welcome to join the discussion even if you have not read the book.**



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.*

The 125th Annual Congregational Meeting, 11 am – 1 pm, April 28th

- Please plan to attend the *125th Annual Congregational Meeting* on **Sunday, April 28th**.
- Every year this meeting is held to address the congregation and report on the progress of the year, vote on Board members and officers for the coming year, and give the congregation a chance to have a voice and add their input.
- *The meeting will be held in lieu of a regular church service at 11 am. Lunch will be provided.*
- Your attendance is very important because business cannot be conducted unless there is a quorum of 15 voting members present!
- **Please RSVP to Liz Schaal (lizanns@gmail.com) by Saturday, March 30th to let us know if you will be attending.**

Joys and Concerns

Sunday, January 6

-Chris Loss- said that the holidays with her family were wonderful and she feels so grateful to have them, and so glad that all went well.

-Diana Dudley- also feels so blessed that she grew up in the 1930's in a house filled with love and great parents. So she tries to give back by providing music at the local nursing home, often along with Al Capurso.

-Rich Della Costa- visited his son Dave and wife, Yoko, and spent time with his new granddaughter. Yoko's sister also came to visit and it was interesting to share cultural differences. It's interesting that Rich's dad fought the Japanese during the war, but never harbored and feelings against them. And now he would be proud of his great granddaughter.

-Darrell Dyke- thought of Debby Rodrigues as he was flying in from Chicago and saw a snowy owl flying by the plane. Debby had recommended that everyone visit the airport to see these magnificent creatures.

Sunday, January 13

-Monica Beck- was sad that a dear friend died of cancer after a brief struggle. Mary was involved with art in Rochester.

-Chris Loss- her heart goes out to federal workers who will be going without pay during this ridiculous government shut-down. Many workers are sitting idle and stressing over how to pay the bills, while parks are overrun with garbage. The damage done to namesake protected trees at Joshua Tree National Park is horrific! This madness needs to end!



Joys and Concerns *continued*

Sunday, January 27

-Liz Schaal- is proud of a friend from Maine who participated in the Women's March there. Her friend noted that members of a UU Church came out to clap for them as they walked by, and they were so appreciative.

-Jessica George- was glad to hear that the family of a teen who had been incarcerated and later found innocent has been awarded \$3.5 million dollars. The boy had taken his own life as a result of the sad mistake.

-Rich Della Costa- went in for an angiogram and an anomaly in an artery in his heart was discovered, which resulted in him having stents put in. And as a result, he is feeling a lot better and getting stronger! Thank goodness for modern medicine!

Please Sign-Up to Bring a Snack for Coffee Hour

- Sign-up sheet available in the parish hall



Eye on the Board

The Board of Trustees met on Sunday, January 27th. The Treasurer and Finance reports were approved, with December ending in the black. We received \$3,137 in dividends from Vanguard.

The Building and Grounds report was reviewed. The icicle situation at the entrance of the church is not resolved despite the recent application of heat tape. Country Contracting has been out and Klaus Flatt will be back to assess the problem. Don Olsowski, in addition to his regular duties, removed snow from the sidewalks and ramp, worked on carpet stain removal in the Social Room, hooked up a new phone and two extensions, glued and replaced two pew arm rests, started cleaning and organizing the basement kitchen area, and helped Bill Lattin rehang the basement entrance door. And C.W. Lattin replaced a bulb in the east attic area and took down the holiday decorations.

The Pulpit is all set for February, and the book discussion on 'The Eagle Flies at Night' will be held on February 3rd.

The Annual Meeting date has been set for April 28 from 11:00 to 1:00. No regular service will be held and RSVP's will be sent out, with a final tally at the end of March to determine if we will have a quorum.

A Mini Board Retreat has been scheduled for March 9 from 10:00 - 1:00. Attracting new membership will be discussed at the Mini Retreat, as well as the Strawberry Festival.

The Nominating Committee will be activated, and information has been given to the committee members.

Scholarship information will be resubmitted to the Albion School District.



* PMUC Pledges *

The budget year for PMUC ends 3/31/19. Please remember to honor your pledge. Contact Sylvia Goodstine (mgoodstine@yahoo.com) if you need a current balance or need to adjust your pledge amount.

Pullman Plaudits

-Rich Della Costa did a beautiful job at the Annual Fireside Service explaining what Dada art was and which names were most influential, including Hannah Hoch, Raoul Hausmann, and others. He showed examples of this unique type of art and how it was used to send messages. The movement emerged as a reaction to World War I and the rise of Nationalism. Tracy Billings added her art expertise as well! There was a good turnout for this service.

-Don Olsowski has been busy in addition to his regular duties as custodian. He worked on removing carpet stains in the social room, hooked up a new phone and two extensions (which he donated), put away the 'Welcome Immigrants and Refugees' banner, glued and replaced arm rests in two pews, started cleaning and organizing the kitchen area, assisted Bill Lattin in modifying and rehangng the basement door, and removed snow from the sidewalks and ramp each Sunday. Wow...great job Don!

-C.W. Lattin has also been quite active this past month! He crawled into the east attic area and replaced a bulb in a light that faces Park Street, took down the holiday decorations, and continues to turn up the heat every Sunday. He also continues to be the contact person for building use such as weddings, memorial services, and community meetings. Thanks so much Bill!

-Sylvia Goodstine has distributed yearly contributions for tax purposes to members and friends!

-Diana Dudley is working on trying to fix the icicle problem by the front door. After heat tape had been applied recently, we thought we had solved the problem. But it may take a bit more work! Diana has had Country Contracting back to check, and Klaus Flatt will take another look. If there is a way to fix this problem, Diana will do it!

-Darrell Duke-has been traveling often to Chicago to attend his classes at the Meadville Lombard Theological School. He has been bonding with the other students and learning a lot. This church is sponsoring him as a ministerial aspirant, and he is being mentored by Rev. Lori Staubitz. It has been difficult balancing his Board Chair responsibilities with the high demands of his classes. But we are so proud of his commitment both to this church and his emerging career! He needs our support and encouragement!!

-Thanks to all who attended the Potluck supper on January 7th. We ended up with vegetables, salad and dessert but it was all delicious, and we had a great discussion!!

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) or Darrell Dyke (darrell.dyke2@gmail.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.

Don't Hesitate

If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give in to it. There are plenty of lives and whole towns destroyed or about to be. We are not wise, and not very often kind. And much can never be redeemed. Still, life has some possibility left. Perhaps this is its way of fighting back, that sometimes something happens better than all the riches or power in the world. It could be anything, but very likely you notice it in the instant when love begins. Anyway, that's often the case. Anyway, whatever it is, don't be afraid of its plenty. Joy is not made to be a crumb.

By Mary Oliver

(Oliver, Mary. *Swan: Poems and Prose Poems*, 2010, p. 42)

Pullman Memorial Universalist Church

PO Box 87, 10 East Park Street, Albion, NY 14411

Editor: Liz Schaal, Assistant: Chris Loss, pmuc.albion@gmail.com



We are a welcoming congregation

