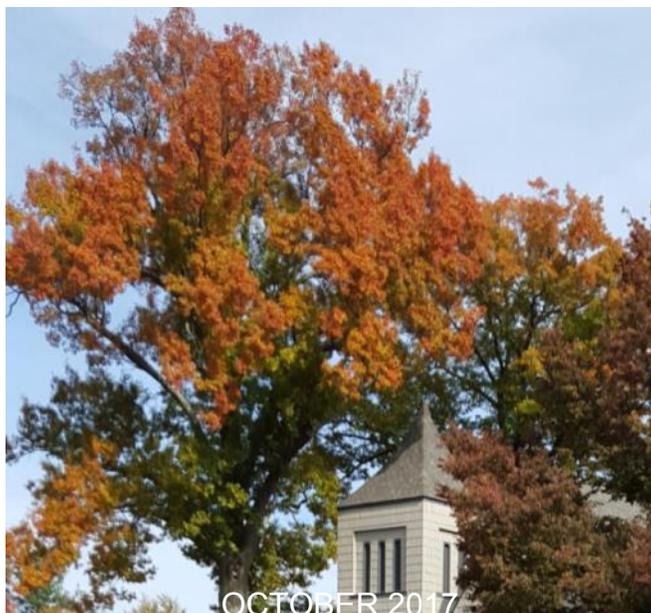


THE AMHERST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST NEWSLETTER

121 North Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 502, Amherst Massachusetts 01004

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Important Information

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NEWSLETTER

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Deadline for submissions: 15th of each month.

Please sign submissions, so we may reach you if we have questions. Submit entries one of two ways:

1. Email it to jsgray@crocker.com.
2. Mail it to 219 Wendell Road, Shutesbury MA 01072.

Please limit entries to 500 words (100 for the "For Your Information" section). Submissions may be edited to save space or to maintain a consistent style. Thank you!

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Schedule of Services

Sunday, October 1, 10:30 A.M. – *The Joy of Music*

The Sunday Services Committee and UUSA musicians

“Love is Friendship Set to Music.” These words by Joseph Campbell remind us that within our Amherst Unitarian Universalist family there are a remarkable number of talented musicians. Let us celebrate these friends together: hearing their stories, their music and the wisdom of the great musicians and philosophers. If you would like to read some short quotes, please arrive by 10:15 A.M. on Sunday to practice your lines. All are welcome.

Sunday, October 8, 10:30 A.M. – *The Native American Spirit*

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado preaching

Join us on this Indigenous Peoples weekend to celebrate the wisdom of Native American Elders. As we consecrate the Medicine Wheel, listen to the sound of the drum and let it carry you to that place where the heartbeat of nature speaks to your own spirit. This is an intergenerational service, so please feel free to bring your children or grandchildren!

Sunday, October 15, 10:30 A.M. – *To Be Spiritual, Sexual, and Human*

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado preaching

Our spiritual nature and our sexuality are inherently intertwined. The ultimate health of our intimate relationships is dependent upon our understanding of what it means to be responsible, sexual beings...in body, mind and spirit. Inspired by the Our Whole Lives curriculum, we will explore the importance of embracing what it means to be fully human. In today's service, we will be dedicating **Clara Herman**, daughter of **Ashley Carter** and **Greg Herman**.

Today is our Dedicated Offering Sunday

Sunday, October 22, 10:30 A.M. – *Beyond Categorical Thinking*

Ms. Donna Dolham preaching

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado officiating

Our service this morning is an introduction to the workshop that will follow the service. In preparing for our ministerial settlement search, we will be welcoming Ms. Donna Dolham, who will be preaching and leading a workshop called *Beyond Categorical Thinking*. This is designed to help our congregation in its discernment process. This is a very important day to be in the Meetinghouse!

Sunday, October 29, 10:30 A.M. – *Samhain: A Celtic Service of Remembrance*

The Reverend Cynthia A. Frado preaching

On this last Sunday in October, join us as we call the Directions and create sacred space, hang our leaves on the Tree of Life, and have a spice cookie and cider communion as we remember those loved ones who have gone before us. In the Celtic tradition, Halloween attire is acceptable! Following the service, the local businesses celebrate Trick or Treating on North Pleasant Street. This is definitely an intergenerational service!

Many sermons and readings are posted on our website, www.uusocietyamherst.org. Click on the “SERMON ARCHIVE” button on the right side of the home page, and then on the title of the sermon you wish to read.

An Offering from the Interim Minister's Inkwell

When Nature speaks...the world has no choice but to listen

I am writing this column as Hurricane Maria is slamming Puerto Rico with raging winds and torrential downpours. Mexico is trembling from a massive earthquake and searching for survivors and bodies amidst the rubble and aftershocks. Texas, Louisiana, Florida, the Caribbean Islands, India . . . all brought to their knees as Nature unleashes its fury on an unsuspecting world. *Nature giveth and it taketh away*. It is humbling to know that we

are not entirely in control of our destiny, and that our relationship with the natural order needs to be one of respect. Nature is both precious and perilous, all at the same time.

Now, perhaps more than ever, Climate Action is so critical to our survival. While so much focus, energy and money must be channeled to those people and areas whose needs are of immediate concern, we must not lose sight of the larger ramifications that are already in play and which need our active response. To ignore the science and neglect the solutions would be folly. We are in a symbiotic relationship with the earth that requires our attention and devotion, NOW.

As the wheel of the year turns, and fall leaves are beginning to set the landscape into a blaze of unspeakable beauty and colors, let us not forget that we cannot live without the natural world, but it can live without us. So, walk gently, live responsibly, and do what you can to leave this earth habitable for future generations.

In peace and hope,
Rev. Cindy

Dedicated Offerings

Dedicated Offerings provide a way for our Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst community to recognize and financially support worthy organizations engaged in projects that reflect our guiding Unitarian-Universalist principles.

On one Sunday every month (except for June, July, and August) we schedule a Dedicated Offering (DO), recognizing that our Society needs our support on the other Sundays of the month. Dedicated Offerings are suggested by both individuals and committees of the Society, and the program is managed by the Minister and the Dedicated Offering Committee. Our goal is to cover a wide range of areas of need in our area and in the larger world, including these categories: local, regional, national, international, environmental, medical, educational, animal rights, arts/music/culture, and different ages and genders. Recipients for FY18 have been chosen. Forms for suggesting recipients for next year are available in the Meetinghouse office.

Thank you for showing your support for the Dedicated Offering program, not only with your contributions to the DO recipients themselves, but also with your contributions to the Society on other Sundays when our budget counts on those receipts. Remember that no one is required to contribute to our Dedicated Offering recipients – this is a voluntary initiative.

The September Dedicated Offering raised \$562 for **North Quabbin Citizen Advocacy**.

Two special collections in September raised \$1871 for the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's Hurricane Harvey** relief efforts.

The October 15 Dedicated Offering will raise funds for the new **Breast Center at Cooley Dickinson Hospital**, appropriately during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Here in Massachusetts, we have a rate of breast cancer that is 5% higher than the national average, and Hampshire County has the highest incidence of breast cancer in the state.

The new Breast Center opened in the summer of 2017. Cooley Dickinson's radiologists, surgeons, nurses, mammography technologists, facilities and environmental personnel, development staff and generous donors collaborated to design, build, fund, and execute the clinical operations of this unique center for breast care. The Center takes a multidisciplinary approach, with comprehensive services including: breast exams and screening, diagnostic breast imaging, biopsy and wire localization, ultrasound, and bone density screening. The Center has increased the space devoted to Cooley Dickinson's breast care services by nearly 2.5 times. This consolidation into a single, larger space will result in numerous benefits including: bright, welcoming space and dedicated entrance and spacious exam rooms.

The Center uses 3D mammography with C-View TM software for greater accuracy, lower X-ray dose, and less discomfort for patients.

Many members and friends of the UUSA have used the services of Cooley Dickinson for breast cancer diagnosis and treatment, so the new Center is a welcome addition to our community.

See more at: <https://www.cooleydickinson.org/programs-services/the-breast-center/#sthash.1B5Barfu.dpuf>

Ministerial Search Committee

Hello from your Ministerial Search Committee. By the time this newsletter hits the presses you will have already completed the Congregational Survey. Thank you for your time and effort! As you have probably already seen in other communications, we will also be gathering more input from you through Cottage Meetings. The cottage meetings are designed to be a small group of no more than 12 people and will take place at members' homes or at our Meetinghouse. This is another opportunity to share your ideas and hopes for a new minister. Cottage meetings will take place between October 1st through the 12th. Please look for sign-up sheets following coming services.

Then, on October 22, 2017, the Ministerial Search Committee, in partnership with the UUA, is hosting the **Beyond Categorical Thinking** (BCT) training. The BCT program is designed to promote inclusive thinking and help prevent unfair discrimination in the search process for a new minister. This program includes a three-hour BCT workshop following a Sunday morning service with facilitators trained by the UUA. In this workshop, UUSA members will:

- consider the hopes, expectations, and concerns they have for a new minister,
- learn more about the ministerial search process, and
- explore how thinking categorically about people sometimes interferes with choosing the best candidate.

Mark your calendars for BCT, October 22nd at 12 NOON following the service. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

We understand we are asking for a significant amount of participation from you this Fall. You might be asking, "Why can't we spread this out over the entire year?" The short answer is that we need your feedback to be able to write a comprehensive and inclusive Congregational Record. The selection of a minister is important and we take very seriously the charge granted to us by this Congregation. We have thought carefully about the process of selecting a new minister and deeply want what we write to reflect everyone's views. We have a very special and beloved community that has been built over time and we believe the right minister will both value this community and help us grow. In November, we will compile the information we have gathered and will report back to you what we have learned.

In Gratitude & Service,

Carolyn Cave, Jennifer Chylack, Lisa Cyr, Mary Herman, Anne Perkins, Steve Rice

PREVIEW OF COMING ATTRACTIONS!

How did Unitarian Universalism come to be all that it is today?

Well, it's a fascinating story! The UUA has produced *Long Strange Trip*, a six-part video series that takes us from the very beginnings to the present. Ron Cordes explores the history of UU thought and practice from the early liberal strands at the beginning of the Christian era to what we know today as UU. The Membership Committee will be showing the series over the course of six evenings this year.



Each evening we will view one of the chapters in the story (approximately one hour). Following that there will be a chance to discuss the film, based on a study guide by the UUA. Plan to come for the film and stay for the discussion, if you can.

Our journey starts with *In the Beginning* . . . to be shown Monday, October 9, 7:00 P.M. in the Social Hall.

The series will continue with *The Birth of Unitarianism; American Unitarianism (1620-1860); Universalism (1600-1860); Evolution (1861-1960);* and *Unitarian Universalism*.

Music Notes

From the keyboard of the Music Director:

We are back in full swing, so to speak, this fall! Our first week saw a great turnout of members and we are excited to be back up there giving the congregation music to hopefully enhance the experience of the UU services.

Be sure to support your favorite choir member with a pat on the back here and there as they work very hard to bring you a meaningful musical experience each week. It doesn't happen by magic! Rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 8:45 A.M. and there is always room for one more, as my mother-in-law would say about the holiday table. If you plan to join, just show up on a Sunday morning at 8:45 A.M. or get in touch with me,

Brenda Miller!

Our Caring Ministries



Into this space we exude who we are in the moment, as unfinished, evolving, imperfect, insightful, confused, loving, raging, imaginative, grieving, rejoicing, hurting, fearful, hopeful human beings...[It is] Sacred Space, that place where we receive each other on holy ground.

— From Rev. Cindy's sermon, To Bless the Space Between Us, on September 10, 2017.

As we begin this new year at UUSA, please know that your Minister, Cindy Frado, and members of the Caring Circle and Pastoral Care Team are here to listen, visit, run an errand, find professional assistance, and help in any way we can . . . part of our privilege of knowing each other and meeting each other in blessing.

Our Caring Circle coordinators are **Catharine Porter** and **Clare Bertrand**. Please contact one of them or your own Caring Person for rides, food, and simple needs. Caring Circle members are **Linda Callahan, Carolyn Cave, Sue Kelly, Karen Mack, Martha Nelson, Susan Rice, Chas Stevenson, Lynn Sussman** and **Gordon Wyse**.

Our Pastoral Care Team coordinators are **Mary Wyse** and **Pete Rogers**. Other members are **The Reverend Elizabeth Alcaide, Charlie Atwood, The Reverend Cindy Frado, Bo Mack, Fran Plumer,** and **Libby Walton-Stanforth**. Please contact one of them for more complex or personal needs.

Our loving thoughts to **Vickie Hinson-Smith, Ann Howard, John and Susan Barbaro, Carol Rothery, Millis Mershon,** and to **Debby Davis** on the loss of **Robert**, her husband, on September 14.

Crafting for Connections at the UUSA

Anointing Oils—October 21

Beads of Gratitude—January 20

Traveling Table-Top Altars—April 7

Saturdays from 9:00-11:00 A.M.

*Create Simple Projects and Learn Practices for
Creativity and Contemplation—led by Kelly Aiken and Rebecca Fricke*

Please RSVP for each craft gathering two weeks prior to the event—

FrickeDRE@gmail.com or 413-687-8722

Separate material fee for each activity.

For ages 14—100

****Part of the UUSA Lifespan Education Program****





Religious Education Ministry

Thank you to all of you who attended the UU Fall Picnic! It felt more like summer than fall, but we all appreciated the sun while in the shade of the large beautiful trees and the pavilion near the water. Hopefully this will become a UUSA tradition. (A few scenes from our picnic are below.)

The RE program is off to a great start and a fast pace. This year, just like last, we are lucky to have the dedicated and very experienced leadership of **Jacy Armenti** running the pre-school program, **Karen Fisk** and **Mary Cornell** leading the High School Our Whole Lives group, **Tom Fricke**, **Libby Walton-Stanforth** and **Polly Peterson** facilitating the Middle School Neighboring Faiths program, and **Kelly Aiken**, who will be helping me with our Crafting for Connections sessions (see page 5 for details).

I also want to thank **Lesley Smith** for dedicating her mindfulness talents to the elementary program once a month, and to **Kate Rice** for her dedication to helping me facilitate the Youth Group. And last but not least, I want to thank the RE Ministry, who will be stepping in to help on an as-needed basis. During the course of the year, we will have newsletter pieces about each of our individual programs.

If you work with or know of a community organization that the children could support in some active way, please let me know. If you are interested in sharing yourself or a talent or interest that you think the children would appreciate, please talk to me. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me.

Thank you for sharing and caring,
Rebecca

Mindfulness Group UUSA member **Jessica Murphy** offers mindfulness classes to our UUSA congregation. The next dates and times are Tuesday, October 3 and Tuesday, October 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jess at 413-575-1963 or jessica.mindfulness@gmail.com for details.

(frickeDRE@gmail.com, 413-687-8722)



Green Sanctuary

Look for the Green Sanctuary Committee's Action Table in the Social Hall on the second Sunday of every month. We will provide information on an environmental issue and a way for members of the congregation to contact legislators or other key people. We want to make it easy for you to take action on critical issues. Please visit us!

The Green Sanctuary Committee will meet on Thursday, October 26, 7:00 P.M. at the home of Gordon and Mary Wyse, 219 Lincoln Ave., Amherst.

Social Action



Please Help Us to Keep the Dream Alive!



The Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast and Scholarship Award Program *needs YOUR help* to keep it viable, vital, and visionary.

Begun 33 years ago, the *Annual MLK Breakfast and Scholarship Award Program* is seeking support from volunteers in the larger community to help bring new energy and ideas to the different tasks that are essential to the continued success of the program. The event is always MLK weekend, and the planning for it has just begun. **Do you have a few hours to spare to help with this year's preparations? Here are the areas where there are opportunities for your input/expertise/service.**

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Responsible for drafting the MLK Scholarship application package, distributing to high schools in the area, receiving the application packages and selecting the award winners. Also responsible for liaising with the Board to determine the amount and disbursement of awards. Will have to read and assess essays. Preference for persons with experience in academia and passion for academic excellence and service to society.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE: Responsible for putting together a detailed program of activities for the MLK Breakfast and Awards Ceremony. This involves the invitation of speakers, musical (choral/instrumental) groups, presenters, etc as determined by the Board. Preference for persons with organizational skills.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE: Responsible for generating funds from individuals, businesses and organizations primarily for the scholarship awards and also for the running of the MLK organization. Preference for persons with fundraising experience and/or ideas. Might require some canvassing and walking from business to business.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: Responsible for advertising activities of the organization to the general public and to specific target groups. Persons with publicity skills and experience in advertising through the electronic media, or social networking and the print media will be most welcome to this committee.

BREAKFAST COMMITTEE: Responsible for arranging for the purchase and serving of the meals at the breakfast, setting up the cafeteria and recruiting volunteers who serve as ushers and servers during the breakfast. Preference for persons who desire to joyfully serve and who can work together in a team.

The MLK Program Board is also looking for a *secretary* (preferably someone who is good at taking and keeping records and will be responsible for writing letters on behalf of the organization), a *treasurer* (preferably someone who has book keeping experience and is willing to work on the team of the Fundraising Committee).

**Please contact: Richmond Ampiah-Bonney at rampiahbonney@amherst.edu OR
Elizabeth Bell at lizbell2016@outlook.com**

Just One Thing On October 8, the second Sunday of the month, a basket will be placed in the foyer for donations for the Survival Center. Watch your weekly Sunday Bulletin (emailed announcements) about what is most needed this month. As always, anything you can give is most appreciated. For information contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, mbsem@comcast.net, 413-253-0894.

A Human Rights series of documentary screenings and/or panel discussions Starting October 18, 2017. The Social Action Committee's first event will be a screening of the documentary "Harvest of Empire," exploring the forces that have historically shaped the current mass in-migration to the USA, particularly but not exclusively from the south, followed by a moderated discussion and card- or letter-writing drive.

The human rights series will focus on issues such as refugees and immigrants, children's rights, human trafficking, hunger, racism and mass incarceration, and explore ways in which we can make a difference as Unitarian Universalists and as concerned citizens. Other events will be held November 15, February 21, March 23, and April 25 at the UUSA Sanctuary. Specific topics TBD. Any questions or suggestions can be directed to **Maria Lydia Spinelli** – spinelliml@gmail.com – 708-567-1759

Closing AFSC in Western Mass Since its founding in 1968 by Frances Crowe, the Western Massachusetts branch of the American Friends Service Committee has endeavored to resist the military-industrial complex, preserve the civil liberties of all people, push back against oppression, and cultivate youth leadership in the movement for social change. Unfortunately, because of major budgetary shortfalls at the AFSC's national level, the program in Western Massachusetts will officially end its work on September 30. After 49 years of tireless commitment to nonviolence and justice in Northampton, AFSC of Western Massachusetts will be closing its doors. But, as Frances Crowe has said, the work continues! So join them to say goodbye and celebrate the past directors of the office, and learn about how we're going to keep the legacy of the AFSC office going! We will have music, refreshments, and more on Sunday, October 29 from 2:00 – 3:30 P.M. at First Churches of Northampton, 129 Main Street, Northampton. **This event is co-sponsored by the UUSA Social Action Committee.**

UUSA COMMUNITY BREAKFAST NEEDS YOU!

The UUSA has been providing volunteers for the free Community Breakfast in the Willie Eaton Social Hall every Wednesday for three years. We serve 80-120 guests a freshly cooked hot meal of eggs, home fries, sausages, pastries, cereal, toast, juice and coffee or tea – all provided by Amherst's Craig's Doors. Our breakfast is important as the Amherst Survival Center, which is open other days, is closed on Wednesday.

Our breakfast team works closely with Craig's Doors, which helps people find ways to become empowered and improve the quality of their lives through the creation of safe, respectful shelter and housing.

We regularly experience a shortage of volunteers both in the summer and the church year. Dishwashers and cleanup crew are especially difficult positions to fill, but many other jobs are also available. See list below.

6:00 – 8:00 A.M. Opening Volunteers

Preps food; sets up breakfast room

7:00 - 9:00 A.M. Cooking Support 1

Preps food; cooks

7:00 - 9:00 A.M. Set up food

Sets up dining hall, wraps food

7:00 - 9:00 A.M. Dishwashing

7:45 - 10:00 A.M. Greeter

Greets guests, monitors foyer, counts attendance

8:00 - 10:00 A.M. Dining Hall Monitor

Maintains dining hall supplies of coffee, tea, juice, bagels, pastries, condiments, milk, cereal, etc., and keeps tables clean

8:00 - 10:00 A.M. Food Server

9:00 - 11:30 A.M. Dishwashing and Clean Up

9:00 - 11:30 A.M. Kitchen Support 2

Preps food, cooks, helps with kitchen clean-up

10:00A.M. - 12:00 P.M. Cleans and Locks up

Confirms final clean up and locks up

Contact **Clare Bertrand** at clarebertrand@gmail.com. She will send you a weekly email reminder with a link where you can see what positions are available for each week. For questions or more information contact Clare, or **Sophie Rogers** at sophiesailing@gmail.com.

We hope you consider joining our wonderful fun-loving team.

Fundraising



UUSA Raffle Quilt News! Many know that a quilting bee is a gathering of friends and neighbors who come together to work on creating a quilt. The historical purpose behind this event was to enlist the help of several people in order to get the quilt finished in a much faster fashion than if just one person worked on the quilt. While this is still an advantage to the quilting bee, the primary purpose behind modern bees is to socialize with others who enjoy the craft of quilting. At a quilting bee, several individuals who enjoy quilting often gather together in order to either create the squares (called “blocks”) to be made into a quilt; or, as in the case of our UUSA bee, people came together to add their individually pieced blocks to form a common quilt. On September 16, a number of UUSA Quilters and helpers came together to complete the quilt “top” for this year’s Raffle Quilt.

Back in late Spring, **Sandy Sladen** and **Rachel Peterson** reached out to UUSA members who might be willing to piece (sew) between ten and 15 9.5” blocks of a given design. The response was positive, so Rachel designed a block of grey with a “wonky” (purposely uneven) pink corner and sent out instructions to interested and willing participants. Blocks came from: **Lynne Latham, Darcy Dumont, Louise Grosslein, Karen Fisk, Susanne Personette, Sue Roznoy, Sandy Sladen and Margaret Manson, and Rachel Peterson.** The Bee included **Sophie Rogers** and **Fran Plumer**, whose assistance was invaluable! The resulting finished “top” is seen in the photos. The next steps include putting the quilt “sandwich” together (top, batting, backing), which Rebecca Fricke has agreed to quilt, and Rachel Peterson will finish. We hope to have the quilt finished in early/mid October so that we can start early this year, selling tickets for the raffle of this beautiful quilt. Our quilt raffles have been very successful fund raisers in the past and with the help of the congregation, we can expect to sell many more tickets! Look for the quilt to be hanging in the lobby soon!



Social Events

The Men's Breakfast Group meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 A.M. at Kelly's Restaurant (314 College Street, Amherst). Contact **Michael Sussman** at msussma@music.umass.edu for details.

Women's Lunch The Women's Lunch Group meets every other Thursday for conversation and local, inexpensive cuisine. The next luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, October 5 at Fresh Side (39 South Pleasant Street, Amherst). We welcome every woman, whether new to our Society or a longer-time member or friend. It is not necessary to RSVP, but if you have questions, need help finding a ride, or want to be on the e-notification list, contact **Sophie Rogers** at 413-772-9814 or sophiesailing@gmail.com.

October Social Supper Karen and Bo Mack will host our monthly social supper on Saturday, October 14 at 6:00 P.M. at their home on 61 Hulst Road in South Amherst (off Bay Road). Call them at 413-253-3530 to get directions to their house and to ask what dish to bring. Although it's by no means a requirement, consider using even one local ingredient in whatever dish you prepare. And, if you bring a dish containing shellfish, please label your dish, as we have some folks with severe allergies to shellfish. Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you! ALL ARE WELCOME!

Rhythms of Life: Evenings of Drumming, Rattling and Merriment, Saturday, October 22, November 18, and December 16, 7:00 – 8:30 P.M. in the Willie Eaton Social Hall. Bring drums and rattles for yourself and to share. This will be an evening of free-form letting loose through rhythm. No experience necessary!

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will meet Wednesday, October 11, at 7:15 P.M. at the Meetinghouse, in Judy's office.

Membership

Do you wish you'd been included in our UU Society "Family Album distributed last June?" We know a number of individuals, couples and families were not around when the photos were being taken by **Sandy Sladen** and **Margaret Manson** over the course of a number of Social Hours last fall.

We will be happy to prepare a "second edition" of the album. If you were not in the first one, just submit a (fairly recent!) photo of your own to **Janis Gray** at jsgray@crocker.com, bring it to her on a Sunday, or mail it to her at 219 Wendell Road, Shutesbury MA 01072 (be sure to write your name(s) on the back!). Janis can scan photos submitted in person or by postal service and return it to you.

The photo could be of yourself, of you and your partner, or of your entire family. Please choose a photo that:

- shows people from the chest up (rather than from head to toe), so readers can better see their faces
- is in "landscape" orientation (wider than it is tall), rather than "portrait" orientation (taller than it is wide). This will make it *much* easier for Janis to add your photo to the existing layout of the album.

UUSA Safety Policies – Effective Sept 1, 2017

Policies to help provide a safe and enjoyable environment in our Meetinghouse apply to ALL RENTERS AND OTHER USERS OF OUR BUILDING, **INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE UUSA AND THEIR GUESTS**, and are effective September 1, 2017.

At least two adults must be present in the same room whenever a child or children are present.

Each renter or other user of UUSA space is responsible for seeing that the person or persons admitted by the user are there to attend the user's program or event. This means, among other things, that:

- 1) The user is responsible for monitoring persons entering to be sure they are there to attend the program, meeting or other event, and that they go only into the areas of the building being used in connection with the user's program, meeting or event;
and
- 2) If the user is not able to monitor persons entering the building once the program, meeting or event begins, then the user must lock the exterior doors. (Users may share their cell phone number or post the number on the door to facilitate late entry.)



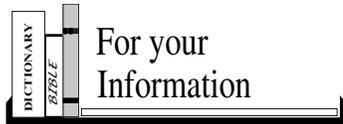
Gilded Age Meets Downton Abbey — A Mindful Journey to England in 2018 for UUs and their friends, facilitated by Worldwide Quest in Toronto, Canada.

Cora, of Downton Abbey fame, is the inspiration for this journey. She was based on the American heiresses who arrived in England during the late 1800s and married for love or to rescue a great estate in distress. We will focus on some of these heiresses, while we explore their homes and visit Downton Abbey film sites.

Highclere Castle was the home of heiress Lady Almina Carnarvon, and was also used as the fictional home of Cora. American Consuelo Vanderbilt married the 9th Duke of Marlborough and saved Blenheim Palace with her fortune. Another heiress, Jennie Jerome, married the 8th Duke of Marlborough's brother, and gave birth to Winston Churchill there. The great-grandmother of Diana the Princess of Wales, she was an American Heiress and the future kings of England are her descendants.

We'll stay for five nights in Oxford — the unique university town of amazing bookstores, unusual architecture, historic pubs, and eclectic free museums. We see where JRR Tolkien met with the *Inklings*, Lewis Carroll dreamed up *Alice in Wonderland*, CS Lewis had a magical wardrobe, Inspector Morse solved many crimes, and Bill Clinton didn't inhale. Two nights in the Midlands and one in London complete our itinerary.

The challenge of this journey is that Highclere Castle and Althorp House aren't posting their opening times for 2018 until October, and we can't ask for tickets before then. At that time we can confirm the dates and the finalized itinerary and costs. We are aiming for May or September 2018. The journey will be mindful, fun, and informative, with some time for you to explore your interests – especially in Oxford. Email UU Beverly Carr at beverlz@me.com or see <http://beverlz.wix.com/beverlzjourneys>



Your newsletter copy editor received an email from a former minister of our UU Society, The Rev. Mason Olds. He served us in the mid 1960s, a period that included the beating death of Unitarian and civil rights proponent James Reeb and the start of the Vietnam War protests. The Rev. Olds wanted us to know he has just published a novel, *Beginnings: How It Was*. It takes place in South-West Georgia on a utopian farm in 1957 during an earlier time in the struggle for racial justice in this country. (Paperback, published by Inkwaterpress— Inkwater.com.)