

# THE AMHERST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST NEWSLETTER

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## Important Information

**STREET ADDRESS:** 121 North Pleasant Street,  
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**INTERIM MINISTER:**

**The Rev. Cynthia Frado**

413-253-2848 (office) or 508-320-5771 (cell) or  
[therevfrado@aol.com](mailto:therevfrado@aol.com) Contact her for an appointment.

**CONGREGATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR:**

**Judy Mitrolka**

413-253-2848 (office) or [office@uusocietyamherst.org](mailto:office@uusocietyamherst.org)  
Office hours: Monday through Friday, 10:A.M.-2:00 P.M.

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:**

**Rebecca Fricke** 413-687-8722 or [rebfricke@gmail.com](mailto:rebfricke@gmail.com)

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Brenda Miller**

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## NEWSLETTER

Copy Editor: Janis Gray, 413-259-1584

Production Editor: John Foster, 413-253-2632

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](mailto: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

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### **June 3, 2018, 10:30 A.M. - *Why I Am a Unitarian Universalist***

The Rev. Cynthia A. Frado preaching

On this Membership Sunday, Rev. Frado will be sharing why she chose to dedicate her life's ministry to Unitarian Universalism. What does it mean to walk this UU path? How does it challenge us, inspire us, and enlighten us? This is a GREAT day to bring a friend to the meetinghouse!

*This service will include a ceremony in which the congregation formally welcomes those who joined us as members this year.*

### **June 10, 2018, 10:30 A.M. - *The Importance of Saying Good-bye: Transitions and Letting-Go***

The Rev. Cynthia A. Frado preaching

This being Rev. Frado's last service as an Interim at UUSA, she will be offering her final reflections on the State-of-the-Society and the process of transitions and letting-go in life in general. Today is also our Bridging Ceremony for graduating seniors and Flower Communion for the whole congregation. PLEASE BRING A FLOWER OR TWO TO SHARE!

*Many sermons and readings are posted on our website, [www.uusocietyamherst.org](http://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.*

### **The Sunday Services Committee needs help in organizing the 12 summer services**

Here are some opportunities for you to do just one thing: Send us your ideas for a service! Take responsibility for finding or filling the different roles people play in the service such as sanctuary keeper, greeter, joys and concerns leader, bell and greeting person, and social hour (juice and cookies). These services cannot exist without the help of all of us. Let us hear from you. With thanks in advance, The Sunday Services Committee. Please contact **Carol Rothery** if you are interested in helping: [carolrothery@comcast.net](mailto:carolrothery@comcast.net) or 413-253-3125.

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## Dedicated Offerings

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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. Forms for suggesting recipients for next year are available in the Meetinghouse office.

**Our May Dedicated Offering** raised \$917.01 for the Sanctuary Fund at First Congregational Church.

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.

## MUSINGS FROM THE INTERIM MINISTER'S INKWELL

### *Endings and Beginnings*

It is hard to believe that the end of my tenure at UUSA is fast approaching. In so many ways it feels like it has flown by, yet at the same time I am amazed at all that we have accomplished together these past two years. Even so, the work of the Society goes on.

While there are many changes that are happening all at once, the one constant (and perhaps the most important) is the dedication of this congregation to each other and to the Principles of our faith. Because of this I have great confidence that your next interlude with a new interim will continue to build upon all of your many

strengths in preparation for your eventual next chapter with a new settled minister. The future holds great promise

As I prepare to pass the ministerial torch to the next interim, I want to thank you for the privilege of serving this wonderful community. I have been inspired by your passions and compassion, by your intellectual curiosity and theological diversity, by your warmth and kindness as well as your generosity of spirit and resources. I can only hope that my brief ministry among you has helped to comfort and inspire you in this time of transition.

I am enormously grateful for your allowing me to walk part of life's journey with you, and I wish you abundant blessings and good will as you move forward in your search for a new settled minister.

In faith and peace...

Rev. Cindy

### **Special Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, June 3, 2018**

**11:30 A.M. at the UUSA Meetinghouse**

1. Vote to approve a slate of nominees to the Ministerial Search Committee.  
Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, June 3, 2018**

**11:45 A.M. at the UUSA Meetinghouse**

1. Vote to approve the minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting, held on June 4, 2017.
2. Vote to approve a slate of nominees to the Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst Board of Trustees.

#### **Board of Trustees, Slate of new officers and members:**

Peter Lacey, Treasurer

Jeanne Ballantine, at large

Casey Flueckiger, at large

Rob Fuderich, at large

Susan Rice, at large

Joe Flueckiger, consulting board member

Continuing members:

Karen Fisk, President

Bo Mack, Past President

Lynne Latham, Clerk

Fran Plumer, at large

Emily Shankle, at large

3. Vote to approve the slate of nominees to the Leadership Development Committee

#### **Leadership Development Committee**

Tom Fricke

Joe Flueckiger

Bo Mack

4. Vote to approve the Budget for fiscal year 2017-2018.

Childcare will be available during the meeting. Please plan to attend.

On Friday, June 22, there will be a Memorial Service for parishioner Sylvia Stoneham who passed away last summer. Rev. Frado will officiate the ceremony in the Sanctuary at 1:00 P.M. with a reception to follow. All who knew Sylvia are invited to attend!



**Come to UUSA's Gala Fine Art Sale on Friday June 8 from 4-8pm!**

Bring friends, family, neighbors, and interested strangers for an evening of fine art sales, great fellowship, tasty wine and cheese, and live performances by UUSA musicians. Over 100 works by artists from near and far are offered for sale —at very reasonable prices! Everything raised in UUSA's major fundraiser of the year will support our local and international social justice, peace, and environmental programs. Artworks include paintings in oil, pastel, and watercolor; photographs; lithographs, drawings, and woodcuts; small sculpture; hand-made jewelry; ceramics; quilts; fiber art. Stop by during the Amherst Arts Night Plus on Thursday June 7 from 5-8pm for a sneak preview of the sale.

**Have a fun evening and go home with the perfect work of art to grace your home or to give as a special gift.**



**Religious Education Ministry**

**Thank You All and Happy Summer!**

Thanks to all of the RE volunteers for their dedication to the program – your faith and service are what keep our programs running. I would also like to thank all of the parents for bringing their children to us and teaching them to live our UU principles. We have incredibly thoughtful and caring children and I am so grateful to them for sharing their time with me. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at the UUSA for their generous pledge support. Your pledges enable our RE program to buy everything from glue to books to teacher and parent resources and staff trainings.

Have a wonderful summer and please remember that we will have childcare during summer services. Check the UUSA website for more information.

Thank YoUU,  
Rebecca Fricke

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## Our Caring Ministries

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Dear friends,

As we gallop apace towards summer, try so hard to express our deep appreciation to **Judy** and **Rev. Cindy**, as well as to welcome our new interim minister, we wish you a blessed summer of quiet connections, time to express your love...and yes, to worship.

*To worship is to stand in awe under a heaven of stars, before a flower, a leaf in sunlight, or a grain of sand.*

*To worship is to be silent, receptive before a tree astir with the wind, or the passing shadow of a cloud.*

*To worship is to work with dedication and with skill; it is to pause from work and listen to music.*

*To worship is to sing with the singing beauty of the earth; it is to listen through a storm to the still small voice within.*

*Worship is a loneliness seeking communion; it is a thirsty land crying out for rain.*

*Worship is a kindred fire within our hearts; it moves thorough deeds of kindness and through acts of love.*

*Worship is the mystery within us reaching out to the mystery beyond.*

*It is an inarticulate silence yearning to speak; it is the window of the moment open to the sky of the eternal.*

*Jacob Trapp*

Our minister, Caring Circle, and Pastoral Care Team are all available to help during difficult times.

**OUR CARING CIRCLE** co-coordinators are **Catharine Porter** and **Clare Bertrand**. Please contact one of them or your own Caring Person for rides, food, and simple needs. Other 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** co-coordinators are **Mary Wyse** and **Pete Rogers**. Other members are **The Reverend Elizabeth Alcaide**, **Charlie Atwood**, **The Reverend Cindy Frado**, **Rob Fuderich**, **Bo Mack** and **Fran Plumer**. Please contact one of them for more complex or personal needs.

From your minister, Caring Circle, Pastoral Care Team, and Small Groups.

We send our joyful thoughts to **John** and **Susan Barbaro**, **Paula Costain**, **Courtney Gordon**, **Gene Herman**, **Vickie Hinson-Smith**, **Carolyn Holstein**, **Lois Kackley**, **Jon Kent**, **Elizabeth Lindquist-Cock**, **Cindy** and **John McLean**, **Rachael Peterson**, **Fran Plumer** and family, and **Warren LaRoche** and for healing, wholeness, and peace.

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## Membership

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**Welcome to our newest member**, **Pat Rector**, who signed our membership book on May 20. She lives in Amherst.

**Please note** that **Patrice Pare** has a new email address: [plpare@protonmail.com](mailto:plpare@protonmail.com).

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## Social Events

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**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](mailto:msussma@music.umass.edu) for details.

**The Women's Lunch Group** now meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month (note change!) at noon for conversation and local, inexpensive cuisine. The next luncheon is June 14 at noon at Mosaic Café (Middle Eastern Restaurant), 78 Masonic Street, Northampton. The luncheon will be followed by a quick visit to **Naomi Yanis's** home which is nearby. 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 want to be on the e-notification list, contact **Sophie Rogers** at 413-772-9814 or [sophiesailing@gmail.com](mailto:sophiesailing@gmail.com).

**Pancake Breakfasts!** Stay tuned for information about our summer congregational pancake breakfasts, which will be returning to our social hall on the last Sundays of July and August.

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## Social Action



**Sanctuary** Our Society's help is needed to provide meals for Lucio Perez and his family when the family visits the week of June 25. Evening meals for Lucio are needed Tuesday (June 26) and Friday (29) for Lucio and three children, and on Monday (25) and Thursday (28) and Saturday (30) for Lucio, his wife and children. Lucio is still in sanctuary at First Church Amherst where he awaits a hearing date with immigration officials. If you can help, please contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, [mbsem@comcast.net](mailto:mbsem@comcast.net), 413-253-0894.

**Race Amnity Celebration** On **Sunday, June 10 at 2:00-4:00 P.M.**, Citizens for Race Amnity Now (CRAN) of Western Mass will hold a **Race Amnity Celebration** with stories, fellowship, music and dance at the Unitarian Universalist Society in the Social Hall. This free event is sponsored by our UU Social Action Community and the Town of Amherst. For information contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, [mbsem@comcast.net](mailto:mbsem@comcast.net).

**Not Bread Alone** - On **Saturday, June 30, eight (8) UUs are needed** at Not Bread Alone (NBA). We work in shifts, three-four people are needed to cook, 9:30 A.M. - @ 12:00 P.M.); three to serve lunch (11:45 A.M -1:30 P.M.) and at least two for clean-up (12 - @ 2:00- 2:30 P.M.). Since most students are NOT here, our UUs are needed. As we work under the direction of a crew chief, no experience is needed. We always have fun as we create new dishes. Volunteer and meet new people. NBA is located in the lower rear of First Congregational Church with access off Spring Street parking lot. If you can help, please contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, [mbsem@comcast.net](mailto:mbsem@comcast.net), 413-253-0894. THANK YOU!!

**Just One Thing** On the second Sunday of the month, **June 10**, a collection will occur for the **Survival Center**. Two weeks before the specific items needed are listed in the announcements. Your ongoing donations have been most helpful in feeding community members. THANK YOU!! For information contact **Mary Beth Seminario**, [mbsem@comcast.net](mailto:mbsem@comcast.net) 413-253-0894.

**ION Corner** On Sunday, May 9, the Interfaith Opportunity Network (ION) was pleased to present the Joan Lindeman Award to the Youth Group at First Congregational Church for their year-long study of world religions. Under the direction of John Aierstuck, the youth studied various religions from bygone and tribal religions to new religious movements. Their studies included attending services of Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, and Islamic services. Faiths studied without attending services included Hinduism, Buddhism, Janism, Sikhism, Confusianism, Taoism, and Shintoism. The Joan Lindeman Award is given to people and groups that demonstrate an understanding of the importance of learning about other faiths. The award is named for Joan Lindeman who was instrumental in founding ION in 2015. Submitted by the UU representative to ION, **Mary Beth Seminario**.

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## Denominational Affairs



**UU Summer Camp!** Are you looking for a fulfilling, wildly fun, outdoor experience for your young one? Unirondack, a UU summer camp nestled in the foothills of the Adirondacks might be the place for you. While our high school sessions are already full for the summer, **our 12-14 and 14-16 year old sessions still have room!**

Campers at Unirondack live the experience of building a unique, caring, UU community that puts their experience first. Build upon the values of the seven principles, we strive to create a camp community that is intellectually stimulating, welcoming to campers of all walks of life, and gives youth the opportunity to leave the rest of the world behind while they perform in talent shows, paint with watercolors over a wild Adirondack lake, swim and canoe in nature, and let their imagination run wild in theater and music. Email [Director@unirondack.org](mailto:Director@unirondack.org) or visit [www.unirondack.org](http://www.unirondack.org) for more info!