

# THE AMHERST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST NEWSLETTER

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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## Important Information

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**STREET ADDRESS:**

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*The following staff can be reached by email or by calling the office and leaving a message: 413-253-2848*

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### NEWSLETTER

Copy Editor: Janis Gray  
Calendar Creator: John Foster  
Deadline for submissions: 15th of each month.  
Email them to [jsgray@crocker.com](mailto:jsgray@crocker.com).

Please understand we cannot cut and paste PDF files into the newsletter, so submissions should either be Word documents, rich text files or written in the body of the email. 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!

Printed on recycled paper



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## Schedule of Services

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*For a fuller description of upcoming services — and a link if they will be online — please check our weekly announcements, our website ([uusocietyamherst.org](http://uusocietyamherst.org)) or our [Facebook page](#) closer to the date! Thank you.*

### **IN PERSON, Sunday, June 6, 10:30 A.M. – Flower Festival, Part I**

**The Rev. Rachael Hayes**

Come back to the Meetinghouse for an outdoors Flower Exchange. Bring a flower (or a bunch) to put in the vase, choose a flower to take, and we'll snap your picture with the flower for a slideshow in the June 13 Flower Ceremony service on Zoom. There will be socially distanced and masked hymn singing, a community art project, and more! For those who prefer to worship online on June 6, we will arrange a visit to another congregation's online service. If you can't attend the flower exchange in person, please email a photo of yourself with a flower to the office by June 7 so you can be in the slideshow, too.

### **ON LINE Sunday, June 13, 10:30 A.M. – Flower Festival, Part II**

**The Rev. Rachael Hayes**

The Flower Ceremony Service will be held on Zoom, followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting.

### **ON LINE Sunday, June 20, 10:30 A.M. – Summer Solstice and Father's Day Service**

**The Rev. Rachael Hayes**

*Today is our Dedicated Offering Sunday.*

### **ON LINE, June 27, at NOON – General Assembly Sunday Morning Worship**

Join the largest annual gathering of UUs joining in worship. This powerful, communal worship experience will stream at 9 Pacific / 10 Mountain / 11 Central / noon Eastern.

Recognizing the importance of shared ministry and the many innovative approaches to worship created by congregations during the pandemic, UUA President, Rev. Dr. Susan Frederick Gray, selected the [First Universalist Church of Minneapolis](#) to serve as worship leaders for this year's GA Sunday Morning Service.

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### **The UUSA YouTube Channel is launched!**

Original content from some services from this worship year have already been uploaded, and others are on the way. To view them, click [here](#) — and don't forget to **SUBSCRIBE!**

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## Dedicated Offerings

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Our Dedicated Offerings over the three months of February, March and April raised \$2,818.51 for the **Amherst Survival Center!**

For the months of May and June, the **Food Bank of Western Massachusetts** has been chosen to receive our Dedicated Offerings. The Food Bank's mission is to feed our neighbors in need and lead the community to end hunger. It is the leading provider of emergency food and other food assistance to those at risk of hunger in Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties. Before the pandemic, its annual food distribution grew annually at an average of 6% but recently this has increased to 29%. This increased demand has led to plans for more warehouse space with development of a new headquarters at the Chicopee River Business Park. The Executive Director, Andrew Morehouse, and another Food Bank representative will bring us up to date on the new build and current operations on June 20 via Zoom. Donations can be made to the UUSA and sent by check to P.O. Box 502, Amherst, MA 01004-0502 or on our website: <https://www.uusocietyamherst.org/connection/donate>. Thank you so much for sharing what you can.



PLEASE get ready for some fun IN PERSON activities on June 6 outside the UUSA. Please try and come to the south side of the building for a quick RE check-in during the following times. If the time slot doesn't work for your family, come when you can. Activities will be set up around the building.

10:30 A.M.— Preschoolers

11:00 A.M.— Elementary (K-5th)

**RE is thinking about transitioning to IN PERSON!** Families with children ages birth - 12th grade, please help Rebecca and the RE Ministry plan for this transition by filling out this form:

<https://forms.gle/mZJmSv8srievnKsu8>

Check out **Rebecca Fricke's** Director of Religious Education Blog for past descriptions of Sunday activities. Rebecca's blog includes written descriptions, website links and photos. Any questions? Ask! Want to get involved? Email Rebecca at [dre@uusocietyamherst.org](mailto:dre@uusocietyamherst.org).

<https://u2canuu.wordpress.com/>

## Coming on June 13: Should UUSA Adopt the Eighth Principle?

The proposed 8<sup>th</sup> Principle for all Unitarian Universalists reads:

*We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.*

The version for children:

*Build a safe and welcoming community, free of racism and oppression.*

**At our June 13 congregational meeting** we will vote on adopting the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle. You can read more background on the connection between the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle and events of the last few years in our UU Association

here: <https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/why-now> and **Rev. Rachael** spoke about UU Association history at our Feb. 28, 2021 service. The above link can also guide you to answers to common questions.

More than 40 congregations have adopted the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle. Each month there is a virtual Learning Circle to highlight and discuss how the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle is being implemented in congregations from Hawaii to Massachusetts.

This new principle would guide our actions as individuals and as a congregation as we move forward. Beloved Community happens when people of diverse racial, ethnic, educational, class, gender, sexual orientation backgrounds/identities come together in an interdependent relationship of love, mutual respect, and care that seeks to realize justice both within the community and in the broader world. It is an aspiration we work towards and hold as a vision. We can work together to develop skills and to recognize and critique the racial order in which we all live.

**Ellen Pile, Naomi Yanis** and **Betsy Wheeler** are promoting the 8<sup>th</sup> Principle. In the interest of trying out new ways of thinking and working they opted to call themselves ambassadors, not a task force, not a committee. The 8<sup>th</sup> Principle Ambassadors work as “promoters and representers” of the proposed principle at UUSA. Their work thus far has been to facilitate discussion, collect

thoughts and questions and provide answers and information as they are able. Do you have questions? Ellen and Naomi are available by phone or email and Betsy by text.



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## Green Sanctuary

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**Green Sanctuary Action table** The Green Sanctuary committee suggests a quick and easy action you could take to lobby for reduced methane emissions, based on the [2020Action May postcard](#). Methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, so while there is more CO2 being emitted by people, the methane emissions are also a huge problem. There are bills in the U.S House and Senate bills to reduce methane emissions. The Senate already passed their version of the bill and our Massachusetts Senators Warren and Markey both supported it. The House has not yet voted on their version of the bill. Also, there is currently money in the President's infrastructure bill to cap oil and gas wells that are no longer being used but are leaking methane. Please contact your US Senators and your US Representative to let them know you support emission controls of methane.

We are including sample letters to Senator Warren, Senator Markey and Rep. McGovern and links for contacting them. It will probably take about 10 minutes to contact them and copy and paste in the letters. Thanks for helping, if you have time and energy for this! If not, of course that's fine, too.

### [Senator Warren](#)

Dear Senator Warren,

Thank you for voting to pass S. J. Res. 14 to reinstate the EPA regulations to greatly reduce methane leaks. Please also make sure that the \$16 Billion in the President's Infrastructure Proposal for states to hire unemployed oil and gas workers to permanently cap 'orphaned' and abandoned oil and gas wells remains in the Infrastructure Bills that are passed in the Senate.

Thanks very much for your strong leadership on environmental issues!

<your name>

### [Senator Markey](#)

Dear Senator Markey,

Thank you for voting to pass S. J. Res. 14 to reinstate the EPA regulations to greatly reduce methane leaks. Please also make sure that the \$16 Billion in the President's Infrastructure Proposal for states to hire unemployed oil and gas workers to permanently cap 'orphaned' and abandoned oil and gas wells remains in the Infrastructure Bills that are passed in the Senate.

Thanks very much for your strong leadership on environmental issues!

<your name>

### [United States Representative Jim McGovern](#)

Dear Rep. McGovern,

Please vote to pass H. J. Res. 34, a Resolution to reinstate the EPA regulations to greatly reduce methane leaks. The Senate already voted to pass their version of this bill, as you probably know. Please also make sure that the \$16 Billion in the President's Infrastructure Proposal for states to hire unemployed oil and gas workers to permanently cap 'orphaned' and abandoned oil and gas wells remains in the Infrastructure Bills that are passed in the House.

Thanks very much for your strong leadership on environmental issues!

<your name>

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## Social Events

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**The Women's Circle meets** on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Next meetings are June 10 and 24. These are opportunities to meet with friends and become better acquainted with other women in the congregation whom you may not know as well. The group has been meeting on Zoom. Please contact **Sophie Rogers** for more information.

PLEASE NOTE: *At press time*, many of us were wrestling with moving back into the real world, maskless and indoors. We need to decide how we want to proceed with our meetings. Do we wish to meet in person outdoors, continue to meet remotely via Zoon, or in hybrid gatherings, with some in person, some on Zoom? Details to come. Stay tuned!

## In Memoriam

**Ann Jolly Howard**

**August 21, 1938—April 10, 2021**

Ann Howard, a longtime friend of our UU Society, first came into our circle when her husband, the Rev. Stephen Davies Howard, served as our Interim Minister from 1997-1999. Ann and Stephen raised their three children in Greenfield, MA, where she was an English Teacher at Greenfield High School for 30 years. The couple was living in Amherst when Stephen came to serve our pulpit. Several years after his passing in 2009, she returned to UUSA, attending our Sunday services and bi-monthly Women's Luncheons. She also served for a time on our Membership Committee.

She is survived by her three children Catherine Ann Nicholas of San Diego, CA, Dr. Elisabeth Davies Howard of Providence, RI, and Matthew Anson Howard of Amherst, MA. Her five grandchildren include Casey, Emily, Annelise, Nicole and Jackson. Her Brother and sister-in-law Carl and Beverly Howard reside in Albany, NY.

**Debora Davis**

**May 31, 1930—April 28, 2021**

Debora Macy Taylor "Debby" Davis passed away at the Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital in Ludlow, MA after a short illness. **A socially distanced memorial luncheon for friends and family is planned for Saturday, June 5** at the home of Taylor and Karen Davis at 577 West Street, Amherst MA, from 1:00—4:00 P.M. Masks will, of course, be required. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to her much loved Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst at: <https://www.uusocietyamherst.org/connection/donate/>.

Born in Springfield, MA, Debby grew up in a colonial-era house in Pelham. She attended Earlham College and completed her degree in elementary education at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. She married her first husband, Walter MacGrath, in 1951. Walter passed a couple years after that. Debby taught in Pelham and then at a military base in Germany for a year. Upon her return stateside, she met Robert Howe "Bob" Davis. They were married at the Unitarian Meetinghouse in Amherst, MA in 1962.

Debby and Bob bought an old dairy farm on West Pomeroy Lane in South Amherst where he ran his landscape business. Debby "did the books" in addition to raising a family, teaching, tutoring, and providing elder care. She was a longtime member of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst, serving as President of the Board of Trustees at one point and on ministerial search committees. UUSA was very much a home of acceptance and love for her and her son Dan. Debby was a lifelong believer in equal rights for women, people of color, and the LGBTQ community.

One of Debby's favorite places was her parent's gingerbread cottage in Oak Bluffs on Martha's Vineyard, where she'd spend the summer "Vineyarding" and showing guests around, including many UUs.

She is survived by her sister Sally Hohenthal and her husband Eric, of Oak Bluffs, MA; her son Taylor Davis, his wife, Karen Davis, of Amherst, MA and their three wonderful children Ryan, Patrick, and Meghan; and her son, Daniel Davis, and his wife, Pamela Mattson of Hopkinton, MA. Debby was also lucky enough to have three great grandchildren and nieces and nephews. Debby was predeceased by her husband, Bob (2017).



**Mark F. Ledwell**

**February 9, 1953—May 5, 2021**

Mark Ledwell was also a friend of our UU Society—as Co-Principal of Wright Builders, the general contractors that carried out the renovation and expansion of our Meetinghouse. Many of us, not just those on our Building Committee, got to know this kind and generous man during the years of planning that took place before ground was broken in 2013, and, of course, also during the work itself.

In the course of the project, two pin oak trees were cut down to enable the expansion of our meetinghouse into

the space previously occupied by our larger parking lot. They'd been planted with others along Kellogg Avenue round 1902 by the town's first tree warden (two other pin oaks remain on our property); the decision to remove them was not taken lightly.

Mark, a master woodworker, arranged to have the fallen trees' trunks planed into planks, and from these he created four benches.

In a letter to our minister, Mark later wrote, "My inspiration was to honor and preserve something of the great trees that had to come down to build the addition. While one was rotted the other was not and was certainly majestic, an important Urban landscape. I thought it would be a fitting tribute . . . to use wood from the tree to fabricate benches for all. Scott Donovan [a UMass graduate student and UUSA member at the time] offered help with the design, primarily the carved-out designs on the backs of the benches. One is a huge pin oak leaf, another is growth rings, the third is of a stylized nut and branch pattern, and the fourth bench-back shows a pattern of branches copied from a photo of the actual tree."

These benches became a personal gift from Mark to our UU Society and to all the neighbors who pass our way. One bench was installed in the small garden spot next to the southeast corner of the meetinghouse, two grace the walkway leading to the ramp, and one stands in front of the meetinghouse on our plaza. The benches were blessed and dedicated as part of a Sunday service on October 18, 2015, with Mark as our honored guest.

Those of us who'd known Mark, a resident of Charlemont, were saddened to learn a sudden illness had taken him from our world this May. The family requests in lieu of flowers that a donation is made in his honor to The Children's Advocacy Center of Franklin County and the North Quabbin, PO Box 1099, Greenfield, MA 01302.

*Mark Ledwell, center, was joined by RE students and other UUs on one of his benches in October 2015.*



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## Our Caring Ministries



Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul  
And sings the tune without the words  
And never stops at all.  
— Emily Dickinson

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

Our Caring Circle coordinator is **Catharine Porter**. Please contact her or your own Caring Person for rides, food, and simple needs. Other Caring Circle members are **Linda Callahan, Kate Dahlstedt, Gabriela Horvay, Mary Latham, Karen Mack, Lynn Sussman, and Gordon Wyse**.

Our Pastoral Care Team coordinators are **Fran Plumer** and **Charlie Atwood**. Other members are **Elizabeth Alcaide, Rob Fuderich, Gene Herman, The Rev. Rachael Hayes, Carol Johnson, Pete Rogers, and Mary Wyse**. Please contact one of them for more complex or personal needs.

As always we send love and support to all who are struggling with illness, bereavement, or difficulties of any kind in your lives or the lives of your loved ones. We also remember those affected in so many ways by the pandemic and by the recent events in the nation's capitol. We send a message of hope that all of us as individuals, and the nation as a whole, can heal from these traumas.

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## Music Notes

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Five fully vaccinated members of our choir gathered outdoors with **Brenda Miller**, Music Director, in several locations on May 7 to record their separate parts onto Brenda's I-Phone. She'd later use an app to combine their voices into a round, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, for use in the May 9 service! Here Brenda, at left, works with **Fran Plumer** and then **Pete Rogers**.



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## ION Corner

On Sunday, May 16, 80 people from 20 different faith groups to learn and share at the ION- (Interfaith Opportunities Network)- sponsored "Faith Roots of Racial Justice" gathering.

People had their hearts broken and minds opened by the words of the opening speakers. Rev. Dr. Jacquelyn Smith-Crooks described the life of her great grandmother and then 8 year old grandmother, who were slaves in the south. She told how their lives were controlled and that they always had to think before they spoke and acted. She also spoke of coming to Amherst in the 1950s and looking for a religious home. She initially came to our UU but found a permanent home at Goodwin Memorial AME Zion. Dr. William "Smitty" Smith, a Baha'i, described a ride he took in the south in the '50s with a white friend while in his early 20s to attend a Baha'i gathering at a white man's home in the countryside. As the KKK was very active then, he was concerned what could happen if the car was stopped. He was also nervous about entering the home of a white man he did not know. Upon arriving at the house he was able to relax and then feel accepted when told he was very welcome, as Baha'is believe in the oneness of the human family. He went on to become a leader in the Baha'i faith.

Jeff Gold of the Jewish Community Center and Shaykh Mirza Yawar Baig from the Hampshire Mosque also shared their thoughts about working together for racial justice.

Individuals had an opportunity to respond but technical difficulties with Zoom prevented the originally planned breakout groups for people from different faiths to share their racial justice activities. ION intends to host a future event for such sharing.

Mary Beth Seminario  
UU Representative to ION

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## Here We Have Gathered

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*Here we have gathered, gathered side by side,  
circle of kinship, come and step inside!*  
(Hymn #360, Singing the Living Tradition)

A look back at UUSA based on June newsletters from 25, 15 and 5 years ago:

### June 1996:

**Social Events** Swimming, eating, fellowship! Our Annual Picnic Potluck will be held Sunday, June 16, 11:00 A.M.– 3:00 P.M. unless you are notified otherwise. It will be held at the home of Diane Westfall and Kenton Thrarp. They live in Amherst at 371 Montague Road (aka Route 63), just past the Cherry Hill Golf Course. They have a swimming pool for all to enjoy, and toys and play space for children.

Bring food to share. There will be an outdoor grill for cooking on. The Society will provide beverages, plates, and cups.

Luba Reep, Debby Davis, and Jan Stevens  
Social Events Committee

**Adult Programs** The Sunday Evening Discussion Group will next meet on Sunday, June 9, at 7:30 P.M. at the Meetinghouse. An *Atlantic Monthly* article on the effects of the increasing number of aging Americans will be discussed. Copies of the article will be available in the Meetinghouse office.

**From your Copy Editor** Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers who showed up time and time to collate, fold, stuff, label, “butterfly” (they know what that means!), and sort the 275 newsletters mailed each month. The faithful include: **Florence Bert, Debby Davis, Ted Ennis, Marilyn Gonter, Chad and Betsey Johnson, Marjorie Karlson, Kathy McCue, Howard and Luba Reep**, and pinch-hitter **John Foster**. My apologies if I’ve omitted anyone — your help was greatly appreciated at the time, even if now it’s all a blur . . .

Other UUs are welcome to join us next year! The newsletter mailing party, usually on a Wednesday or Thursday morning, lasts about two hours. You need not come every month, and you may stay as little or as long as you like. If interested in helping out with a worthy task — while enjoying pleasant company — just give me a call. Thanks!

Janis Gray

### June 2006:

**Fundraising** Looking for hosts! Reservations are rolling in for our October 13-15 Emily Dickinson’s World Bed & Breakfast Weekend. Many are UUs eager to meet their Amherst counterparts. Thank you to **Nan Wiegiersma** and **Pat McGarry** for already stepping up to offer a bed Friday and Saturday night, and breakfast Saturday and Sunday morning.

We do not expect hosts to accompany guest(s) to any of the weekend’s events or provide transportation. Just a clean, private place to sleep and a simple breakfast each morning are all they need. (And if you don’t feel up to cooking, store-bought bagels or other breakfast fare are quite acceptable!) We will provide a list of “Helpful Hints for Hospitable Hosts” with more information and suggestions.

If you have questions or want to volunteer, please contact **Janis Gray**.

**Board News** Highlights of May Board of Trustee’s Meeting:

- The Board reviewed the recommendations from the Safe Congregation Committee regarding plans and policies for safeguarding our children, youth, and vulnerable adults. We encourage you to review these recommendations on the Society website and to comment to the Safe Congregation Committee (see more information elsewhere in the newsletter). The recommendations will come up for final review and approval at the June, 2006 board meeting.
- The FY 2007 budget was approved pending raising approximately an additional \$10,000. If these additional pledges are not secured, cuts in the budget will be made at the June, 2006 meeting.
- Preliminary recommendations from a stained glass consultant suggest that our stained glass windows are



very precarious. For the sake of the safety of both congregants and the windows, plans should be made to remove the windows in the near future. This will be a major undertaking both financially and aesthetically. Watch for more news on this issue.

- The board approved a proposal to invite children to attend the beginning of “upstairs” worship on the Sundays that Alison is in the pulpit beginning in the fall.

### **Pulpit editorial on the La Farge Stained Glass**

By Nan Wiegersma

I am very interested in the visual arts and especially interested in stained glass, since learning this craft about 20 ago. Since I joined this Society, I have joined with others in their concern about the La Farge and Tiffany stained glass masterpieces [at UUSA] and their deteriorating condition.

My personal interest has particularly centered on our La Farge triptych because of the message it speaks to me, not simply because of its artistic beauty. Its message involves theology and politics. In the upper left is the depiction of John the evangelist. La Farge depicted him using the head of an angel from a previous work, obviously symbolizing evangelistic mysticism. In the center is the charismatic prophet, Jesus, who preached love and peace. On the right is Paul, missionary and apostle to the gentiles. He and his sword symbolize the missionary and militaristic side of the Christian religion. This part is, at once, opposed to mysticism, as in the real versus the ideal, and also sometimes co-existing with the evangelical mysticism. In the present time, the evangelical is in tandem with militaristic missionary zeal (as with GW Bush as the evangelical and Chaney and Rumsfeld as the militarists).

The ambiguous message depicted here of love and peace, propelled by intolerance and missionary zeal, is a problem with all of the “religions of the book,” not just Christianity. Judaism, Christianity and the Moslem religion share the same ambiguities and perils because of contradictions deeply imbedded in these major religions of Western and Middle Eastern civilizations. If we think for a minute, we can point out mystics, fundamentalists and militarists standing beside the prophets in these other two religions, also. (I will let you speculate on that yourselves.)

I agree with Alison’s suggestion on Earth Day, that we need a new theology for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The best in Unitarianism is, for me, not a movement away from the “Lord in Three Persons” from Christianity, but a movement away from the realities of intolerance and aggression that stand beside teachings of peace and love. My view of *Unitarianism is as a unification of the ideals of peace and justice with the acceptance of differences among peoples* that moves us away from the contradictions of our historic roots. As I stare at the glass each Sunday, I see reminders of failed politics and theology of the past and also a picture of the terrible contradictions our country is now embroiled in concerning the Middle East!

I wish that we could all see beyond Christian symbols in the glass and see the contradictory archetypes that are a part of all three religions “of the book.” Liberal religion can separate from the mistakes of the millennia but it is important for us to keep the images of our heritage before us as we try to create those different directions. will continue through the end of May to collect food in Religious Education on Sunday mornings.

### **June 2016:**

#### **Religious Education Ministry UUSA Youth Group Travel to NYC**

On April 10 and 11, the UUSA Youth Group went on a trip to New York City to see the Unitarian Universalist All Souls Church, which is right in the middle of Manhattan. Arriving at about 10:00 in the morning on Sunday, we met our tour-leader / docent Laura Pederson, whom **Karen Fisk**, the UUSA Youth Group leader, had gone to school with. After meeting Laura, we went to All Souls where we saw a child dedication and listened to a very moving sermon on the expectation and abundance of violence in men. After the sermon and social hour, we went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, specifically to see the impressionist and cubist paintings it had on show and a copy of George Washington crossing the Delaware. Finally, at around 5:00, we headed over to Laura’s apartment which overlooks Central Park to eat dinner and sleep.

The next day, we first went to the UUA’s office for the United Nations’ religious embassies (UUUN), where we learned about the role the office plays and how they connect the UN’s mission with the UU’s seven principles. We then strolled across the street to the United Nations itself and went on a guided tour through the main building, seeing the rooms where the General Assembly and Security Council meet, and even seeing a brief

section of a different committee in progress. Our last stop, before we had to ride back to Amherst, was at the 9/11 memorial and museum, where we saw the foundations for both buildings of the former World Trade Center which have now been turned into fountains, and went through the 9/11 museum that now stands between them. The whole Youth Group loved every bit of the New York trip and we all thank the congregation for providing money for the UN tour and 9/11 museum tickets, and we are also thankful to **Libby Walton-Stanforth** and **Tony Dinsmore** for chaperoning. It was wonderful to see the ways in which UUism manifests itself in such massive aspects of American culture like the UN or the 9/11 museum, or even in a city as big as New York City. Thank you so much!

Jack Dinsmore – Youth Group

**Social Events** June 12, 2016: Farewell Celebration for [our minister, retiring from full-time parish ministry] **Alison** to follow our traditional Flower Communion. Start thinking about the kind of fruit salad, tossed salad, potato or pasta salad that you might bring to share. (Finger sandwiches will be provided.) Stay tuned for details via global email (and a clipboard circulated at Social Hour).

**Stained Glass** Sunday, May 22 was a very special day for our Angel of the Lilies – a family reunion! Nigel Johnson, president of Cohoes Design Glass Associates, the studio that restored the Tiffany in 2013-2014, returned to our meetinghouse to give an illustrated presentation about The Angel of the Lilies. **Janis Gray's** continuing research on Sarah Louisa Frothingham, the young woman the window memorializes, had revealed in 2014 that she had not died childless (as we Amherst Unitarians had long supposed), but had left behind a 14-month-old baby. The discovery led Janis to try to locate some living descendants of Christine. On May 9 of this year, she sent letters and invitations to Nigel's talk to four siblings (two brothers and two sisters).

She heard from all four a week later. They said that before UUSA reached out to them, their family had not known of the existence of a Tiffany window commissioned by their great-great-grandfather, Henry Bigelow Williams, in memory of their great-great-grandmother! Two said they hoped to come to our event. The day of the talk, Andrew Coleman arrived with his wife Maria and their two children, Natasha and Hunter (great-great-great-grandchildren of Sarah Louisa). Soon after, Andrew's sister, Susan Linzee Coleman Jewell, arrived with her husband Frank. The family was clearly moved by the sight of the window. And those UUs present were moved, in turn, when Andrew showed us an album of family photos from the 1800s, and then presented our UU Society with the originals (not copies!) of three photos to keep: one of Sarah Louisa, one of Henry Bigelow Williams, and one of Sarah Louisa with their daughter, Christine.



When our congregation received The Angel of the Lilies from the American Unitarian Association in 1925, our minister, The Rev. Henry Goodson Ives, contacted the minister of the former All Souls Church in Roxbury to learn what he could about the window. He was told that Sarah Louisa “is said to have been a beautiful, charming young wife and it is supposed that the angel was intended to bear some suggested likeness to her, though of course not a full likeness.” This May, as our gaze moved from our angel, to the photos in our hands – and even to the face of Natasha Coleman (in the center of the photo below left) – we saw likenesses, indeed!



*L-R: Susan Linzee Coleman Jewell and Frank Jewell; Hunter Coleman; Natasha Coleman; Maria Coleman; Andrew Coleman*

