



The UNSF Beacon

*The Weekly Newsletter of
The Unitarian Society of Northampton & Florence*

Board Report

April 12, 2022

Vol. 3, Issue 4.2

Visit us on the web at www.uunorthampton.org

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Board Report: March's Meeting

Here are the highlights of topics covered at the Board meeting on March 21st.

- We heard a wrap up of the Stewardship Campaign and looked over a preliminary budget for next year with David Nelson.
- We updated an agreement with Irida for use of our kitchen for pierogi production through December 2022. In this new agreement, her son, Jayden, will be permitted to help in the kitchen with packaging the pierogis, but he will not be involved in the food preparation.
- Going forward, the Board will be in communication with guest service leaders prior to their service.
- A proposal was discussed for a method of raising funds to support Ukrainian and other refugees. The idea, originating from our Climate Action Group, combines a collective action to reduce our fossil fuel use (in order to contribute to lower demand for Russian oil) and raise money through pledges tied to the actions and direct contributions.
 - The plan was subsequently discussed and approved at the Coordinating Council meeting on Monday April 4.
- We formalized and approved the agreement for the transfer of our framed painting of Charles Burleigh to the Forbes Library.
- USNF will celebrate its 200th anniversary in 2025. We were pleased to hear that in preparation, Rich West and others will update the description of our USNF history.

- Our annual meeting is set for Sunday May 22. Jan Nettler has graciously offered to moderate.

--submitted by Molly Hale

Faith in a Few Words

Faith in a Few Words: call for 6 word credos

Although UU's are not known for their brevity, when the Rev. Janet Bush shared her practice of developing 6-word credo in her March 6 sermon, it seemed to resonate with the congregation. There was palpable buzz as people shared their 6-word credos with each other after the service, focusing on the distillation of something essential, and sharing it.



On May 1, David Mix Barrington will be sharing his credo with the congregation, an annual tradition that, over time, has created many opportunities for us to know each other, and to be known. We would like to include 6-word statements from members of the congregation in the service, as companion pieces to David's credo, illustrating our diversity and our unity.

If you would be willing to share your statement, please send email it to sabbatical@uunorthampton.org by April 20th, or bring it with you to the service on Sunday. Please indicate if it's OK to share your name. We would appreciate hearing from many of you. In complicated and difficult times, seeking the essence of ourselves and each other strengthens us, reassures us, centers us.

Janet Spongberg

General Assembly Registration Now Open!

Every year, our denomination's governance entity, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) hosts the General Assembly (GA), where UU's from all over the world gather to conduct business of the Association; explore the theological underpinnings of our faith; and lean fully into our mission and principles. It is a time to find new energy as well as learn innovative ideas to bring back to our home congregations and community-at-large.

The theme for this year's GA, is *Meet The Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community*. It take place in a hybrid environment, both in-person in Portland, Oregon, and virtually over zoom, June 22-26.

Registration for virtual participation is open. The UUA may provide some financial support for registration - on a first-come, first served basis.

Register now at uua.org/ga/registration



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY MULTIPLATFORM / PORTLAND • 2022

Help with Our Easter Can Hunt!



This Sunday, RE will host a hunt for non-perishable foods to donate to the Northampton Survival Center.

Help us donate to the Northampton Survival Center:
[list of non-perishable foods to donate](#)

If you come on Easter, you can leave donations in a box at the door or hide them on the front lawn (weather permitting) or downstairs (if inclement weather). Earlier donations can go to the office. If you have questions, email dre@uunorthampton.org.

Cathedral in the Night May Donation

We are volunteering to donate a meal for Cathedral in the Night on May 8. Would you like to donate [shepherd's pie](#) or [vegetarian shepherd's pie](#)?

Sandwiches? Water bottles?

We have received donations to help cover the cost of the ingredients and also have casserole pans for your use (contact Barbara, below).

We are also looking for volunteers serve food for approximately 30 minutes. Questions? Contact Barbara Smith smithbooksandpaper@gmail.com, 413-575-4903. Thank you!

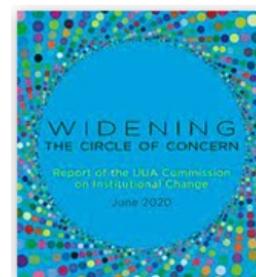


Adult Education



April Spiritual Discussion Group
Awakening
Wed, April 20, 10 –11:15 am, via [Zoom](#)

Everyone is invited to join our small group discussion to discuss and contemplate the many meanings of awakening and what it means for you right now.



April's Widening the Circle Discussion
Restoration & Reparations
Thursday, April 14th: 7 –8:30 pm, via [Zoom](#)

We hope you will join us as we share our thoughts on this complicated issue in what will be our final listening circle for this year.

<https://zoom.us/j/98681411085>

Meeting ID: 986 8141 1085

<https://zoom.us/j/91395063898>

Here are links to the readings and audio

reading: [Preface | UUA.org](#)

[Restoration and Reparations | UUA.org](#)

For more information, email dre@uunorthampton.org.

Learn more on our website: [USNF Adult Education Offerings](#)

Beacon Schedule

The USNF Beacon is published on Tuesdays with featured articles appearing each week. Pictures/Illustrations are strongly encouraged!

The monthly schedule is:

Week 1 - Minister's Notes

Week 2 - Board Report

Week 3 - Committee Reports and Articles

Week 4 - Religious Education and Faith Development

Week 5 - Editor's choice for months with 5 Tuesdays

Articles/photos are due the Friday before the week they are to be published.

Articles should be 250 words max. For longer articles, please contact the [editor](#).

Send Submissions, **with the word Beacon in the subject line** to:

newsletter@uunorthampton.org

Contact
Us



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The Reverend Janet C. Bush, Minister

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Frank Taillon, Custodian

Office Hours: Mon., Tues., and Thurs., 9 AM - 4 PM, Please call before coming.

Partner of the Unitarian Congregation in Homoródkarácsonyfalva, Transylvania (Romania)