



## June 2015 **POWERLINE** First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara **Sunday Services (11:00am)**

### **June 7:** "A Shamanic Student's Journey"

Hear about and experience some Native American shamanic traditions from a soon-to-be graduate of a local two-year program; some of it playful, some of it painful but all of it found to be powerful.

Jennifer Hill (formerly Gray) has been inspired by UU traditions since her first contact in 2000, and credits this UU background to enabling her to follow a calling toward shamanism. A Licensed Practical Nurse since 1993, she recently obtained a Practice Facilitator certificate from Millard Fillmore College/University at Buffalo. This training was obtained with the aim to assist physician offices in achieving better outcomes in healthcare at a reduced cost with happier patients and providers. Her specific interests in healthcare are around end-of-life care and mental health. Her fiancé, Paul Bradford, is a board member at the East Aurora UU church. Jennifer has two children, a daughter-in-law and one precious red-headed grandson. Jennifer's father, a "full-blooded" Native American of Mohawk and Tuscarora descent, was a Baptist preacher and she dedicates this service to him with Love (although she believes the subject matter would cause him to roll over a few times in his grave).

**June 14:** "Grace: Preparing our Hearts," with Rev. Theresa Kime. We will spend time this Sunday considering some understandings and attitudes that can enable us to be open to receive a "yes" from life.

### **New Members**

On Sunday, June 14, when Rev. Terry is with us, Julie Whittemore and Ryan Monteleone will join the church. If there is anyone else who is interested please contact Betsy Diachun (754-2830 - [ediachun@gmail.com](mailto:ediachun@gmail.com)) Come and welcome Julie and Ryan into our blessed community. Julie will be off to begin another phase of her adventure in life. Ryan lives locally and will be a sophomore at Niagara University next year.

**June 21:** We will celebrate our flower ceremony, so **please bring a flower(s) to put in our communal vase to be exchanged during the ceremony.**

There will be a picnic at Whirlpool State Park immediately following our last formal program for the year. We will again rent the picnic shelter there. The church will provide the paper products, drinks, hot dogs, hamburgers, rolls and garnishes. Please bring a dish or bag to pass

## **President's Corner**

My one year term to serve as the Church President has begun. I am looking forward to continuing to adapt our Church to operate without even a part time minister. Last year great steps were taken in that direction.

We not only need to maintain what was accomplished last year, but to continue the momentum which was developed. We need to continue on the right track.

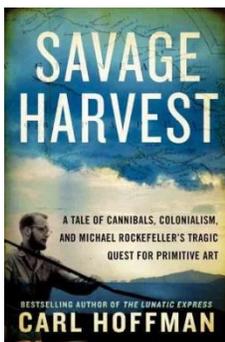
This will take all of us pulling together, but it will be fun and rewarding to continue to develop the Church into a sustainable free and open voice and presence to serve both our Members and Friends, and the community. We have many assets, the most important of which is our people. Our history and traditions are important. So is our historic building.

To help me keep focused and disciplined on these tasks I plan to be physically present in the Church each Monday during my term. I found this useful when I served in this position previously. I will spend Mondays dealing with Church business which comes up, but also to be available to anyone who wants to visit or talk, or share ideas or concerns about the Church. I will also continue to document the various systems and requirements of the building. This will be the day I try to work with volunteers and paid outsiders working on the building or programs.

I intend to be at the Church every Monday from about 9:30 AM until about 3:30 PM starting June 8. Please feel welcome to drop in during that time to have coffee or share lunch. This might be a good time to do some physical work on the building. Plenty of it is needed.

Peter Diachun

## **Book Club Wednesday June 17:**



At 7PM the book club will meet to discuss the book, Savage Harvest, regardless if you have read it all. Come and join the lively discussions.

## **FUUN Board**

The new Church Board met for the first time Sunday, May 31 for an organizational meeting. The following officers will serve next year:

President	Peter Diachun (elected by Congregation)
President Elect	Marge Gillies (elected by Congregation)
Past President	Bill Lisk
Secretary	Marie Howard
Treasurer	Betsy Diachun
Financial Secretary	Erica Kopp

The following committees will continue to function and operate critical portions of the Church:

- Sunday Morning Programs
- Finance
- Membership/Stewardship
- Budget
- Caring Circle

In addition we would like to activate a Social Action/Responsibility Committee and a Building and Grounds Committee.

Some committees meet regularly; others never meet, but just do the work.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of any of these committees, please talk with Peter Diachun.

## **Annual Meeting**

The 95th Annual Meeting of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara was held on Sunday, May 24, at 12:30. Peter Diachun became President. Marge Gillies President Elect, and Marie Spear-Howard were elected to the Board. . These new members join Paul Brundage and Teresa Labuszewski on the Board for the church year 2015-16. Teresa Labuszewski was honored as the Unsung Hero.

## **Three Testaments**

The 1st Baptist Church, across the street from us, is presenting a 3 act drama entitled "Three Testaments: Shalom, Peace, Salam" from June 12 to June 21 at 7:30 each evening. There are fliers about the event available at our church. Tickets are available at the door.

## **Summer 2015 Sunday Programs**

June 28 through August 30

Traditionally our Church, like many other UU Churches, have simply not conducted any Sunday morning programs during the summer months. About 10 years ago we began conducting lay led programs on Sunday morning regularly in the summer months. It has become more common for UU Churches to conduct some kind of programs on summer Sundays.

We should probably reconsider our summer Sunday Program practice, but I have decided to take the responsibility of maintaining Sunday Programs this year. This will be simple this year.

There will be a program every Sunday this summer as usual at 11:00 AM. Anyone who chooses is welcome to lead a Sunday program. I will lead any Sundays when no one else volunteers to do so. The emphasis each Sunday will be on group participation.

The first two Sundays are already planned. They will consist of listening to a lecture on death and dying given at Chautauqua a few years ago. Each week we will hear about one half of the lecture followed by a discussion of what we have heard. We will be so flexible that we will not have this the second week if it is not well received the first week. Kathy McCunn heard the lecture delivered and purchased the CD. When Betsy and I heard the CD we felt immediately that it should be shared. I think many of you will find it worth while hearing.

Each Sunday program this summer will include a lighting and extinguishing of the chalice, and sharing of joy and concerns. The rest of the program will be up to the service leader that week, but will always contain a discussion.

Anyone interested in leading a program this summer should speak with me.

Peter

**Ann Perry, Sandy Perry's daughter, requested that we publish this flyer announcing a meeting on June 9 on plans to revitalize Buffalo Avenue.**

 **Niagara Opportunity Area  
Buffalo Avenue Corridor**

**The City of Niagara Falls has embarked on an exciting revitalization program for the Buffalo Avenue Corridor.**

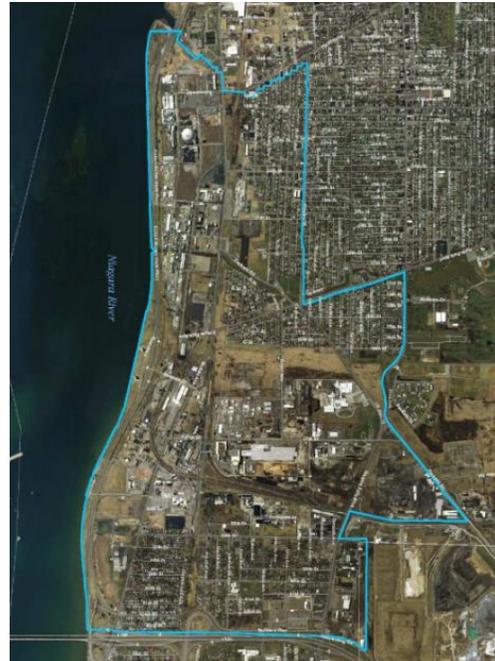
The City of Niagara Falls received a grant from New York State to prepare a strategy to advance redevelopment of underutilized sites in the Buffalo Avenue Corridor. **The revitalization program will focus on transformative redevelopment strategies along Buffalo Avenue, the Niagara River waterfront and adjacent areas that encompass more than 1,800 acres between the I-190 and 10th Street.** A preliminary plan recommended the development, redevelopment and repurposing of multiple nodes in the corridor including the intersection of Hyde Park and Buffalo Avenue; the Adams Transformer Plant; Niagara Falls Boulevard; and the Niagara River waterfront.

Local, regional and state partners and stakeholders will be involved throughout the project to help promote redevelopment of strategic sites. The comprehensive redevelopment strategy developed under this project will be market based in the community's interest. Complementary studies will also be prepared for the project to improve transportation, evaluate opportunities for green infrastructure and create plans for bicycle and pedestrian trails. A draft preliminary vision statement has been established to guide the project:

*The Buffalo Avenue Industrial Corridor will provide the City of Niagara Falls with mixed use redevelopment opportunities that will exploit and enhance exceptional transportation access and advantageous waterfront proximity while reducing environmental risks, improving neighborhood quality of life, encouraging growth of existing businesses and promoting "green" development.*

The benefit of the program is that it will provide:

- **A Market Based Revitalization Strategy** leading to actual redevelopment projects;
- **Access to Enhanced Property and Income Tax Credits;**
- **Grant and Financing Opportunities** for strategic sites and projects; and
- **Marketing** of strategic sites.



**JOIN US on JUNE 9<sup>th</sup> TO GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK ON EARLIER WORK**

**LOCATION:** NIAGARA FALLS COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTER CAFETERIA, (FORMERLY THE 60<sup>TH</sup> STREET SCHOOL) 6040 LINDBERGH AVENUE, NIAGARA FALL, NY

**TIME:** 6:30 PM

For More and Ongoing Information - <http://niagaraopportunity.org/>

*If you have comments or articles you may submit them to [ericakopp@yahoo.com](mailto:ericakopp@yahoo.com) with the subject "Powerline"*



June 2015  
 Return Service Requested  
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 639 Main Street  
 First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara

### UU Niagara Activities – June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Donna Evans	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Jenny Hill & Paul Recycle	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Terry Kime	15	16	17 7pm - Book Group @	18	19	20
21 Flower Communion Recycle 12:30pm - Board	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4