

Love is the spirit of our church, where ...

...we gather to worship...

...we create a welcoming, nurturing religious community for all...

January Theme: TRANSFORMATION

January 25 – “To Change the Future, Change the Story”

In his book, *The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*, David C. Korten writes, “Those who control the stories that define the culture of a society control its politics and its economy.” To change the future, we have to change the story we tell ourselves.

February Theme: RESISTANCE

February 1 – “The More Things Change... Unmasking the New Jim Crow”

According to a popular proverb, “The more things change, the more they remain the same.” Sometimes things appear to change on the surface without ever changing on a deeper level, and the status quo is maintained and reinforced. In her book *The New Jim Crow*, Michelle Alexander looks at how today’s system of mass incarceration closely resembles the post-Reconstruction reality of the Jim Crow Era. This morning we look both at our country’s resistance to true transformation and the ways in which we are called to resist injustice today.

February 8 – “Resistance and Revolution in Romania”

This morning we hear the story of Laszlo Tokes, the minister who is credited with starting the revolution that ended the regime of Ceausescu in 1989. Tokes’ story provides us with some historical context for looking more closely at our relationship with our Hungarian Unitarian partner church in Andrasfalva, Romania. Please join us after the service for our annual fundraising brunch to support our sister church!

February 15 –

February 22 –

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Telephone: 978-456-8752

P.O. Box 217, #9 Ayer Rd. Harvard, MA 01451.

e-mail (church) admin@uuharvard.org ; minister@uuharvard.org (DFF) dff@uuharvard.org

Music Director, Music@UUHarvard.org

Minister: 978-456-9021. Director of Faith Formation: 978-456-7788. Web site: <http://uuharvard.org/>

What is the UU Partner Church Council?

The UU Partner Church Council is a non-profit 501(c)3 membership-based organization composed of individual and institutional members and governed by a twelve-person Board of Directors. UUPCC is an independent affiliate of the UUA.

The UUPCC exists to connect Unitarian Universalist congregations and individuals in North America with congregations around the world. The UUPCC is committed to supporting and fostering:

- ◆ Personal Transformation by giving individuals the opportunity to learn and reflect on unique international experiences that result from face-to-face contact and discussion with the people of a country about global and social justice issues.
- ◆ Congregational Partnerships that join two communities in a long-term, mutually-caring relationship where each community learns from the other.
- ◆ Student Sponsorships that help to educate the next generation of Unitarians and UUs and help to break the cycle of poverty.
- ◆ Community Capacity Building that equips Unitarian Universalist partner congregations with tools, ideas, and training that allows them to become the architects and managers of community development within their broader communities. www.uupcc.org.

Registration is now open for the 2015 Transylvania Spring Pilgrimage (On A Budget). 2 life-changing weeks in Transylvania for under \$1,150! Main trip runs from April 15-30, 2015 with optional pre-trip extension to Budapest and post-trip extension to the Wooden Churches & Painted Monasteries of Maramures and Bucovina. This is a trip not to miss! Register today! For more information go to the UU Partner Church Council Website: www.uupcc.org.

Since the mid-1990's, we have sustained a relationship with our Unitarian partner church in Andrasfalva, Romania. Unitarianism in Transylvania – the region within Romania, where our partner church is located – looks somewhat different from the Unitarianism with which we are more familiar in this country. However we have historically shared the foundational beliefs that God is One, not three, and that Jesus was not divine, but human – a wise teacher and prophet.

Transylvania has a long history with Unitarianism. It was the home of the world's first and only Unitarian King, John Sigismund, who issued the Edict of Torda, otherwise known as the Act of Religious Tolerance and Freedom of Conscience, in 1568. Sadly, such tolerance was not known for most of the region's history, and the Ceausescu regime of the 70's and 80's was particularly oppressive for many, including the Unitarians.

The Unitarians in Romania are Hungarian, making them both an ethnic and a religious minority. Transylvania is largely populated by ethnic Hungarians, but Unitarians are a small minority even within the region. Andrasfalva is a small, remote, rural village of approximately 10,000. It is a farming village and people there live simply without many modern conveniences. Transportation is primitive and slow. The roads are unpaved.

When our congregation first partnered with the Unitarians in Andrasfalva, they did not have a church building. Thanks to the leadership of Jim and Mary Donald and George Krusen, we raised the money for them to build a church, the cornerstone of which was laid in 1995. The building was completed in 1999. Over the years, some of our members – including some of our youth – have had the opportunity to visit, though not for quite a few years.

Today the people of Andrasfalva are still very poor, materially speaking. The Romanian economy has been very similar to the economy of Greece in the last decade. There have been harsh austerity measures and political unrest. There are few jobs to be had in and around the remote villages. The families there subsist by farming. Many of the young people have moved away to the cities or elsewhere in the E.U. in search of economic opportunity.

Our lives here are very full and busy. We have our own struggles, to be sure. It is all too easy for us to forget about our partner church, far across the ocean, on the other side of the world. And yet, they depend on us and on our generosity. Our financial contributions help pay for their taxes and for their minister. And it is equally true that there is much we could learn from them if we were to get to know them better, and to engage this partnership more fully than we do.

Our annual Partner Church potluck brunch is coming up on February 8th. This has been our single biggest fundraiser over the years to support the Unitarians of Andrasfalva. I strongly encourage you to come and share in the food and fellowship, and then make a generous contribution to the hat as it is passed again this year from table to table.

This spring, we will be hearing more about our partner church, and exploring how we might deepen our relationship. If you have particular ideas or interest or questions regarding this endeavor, please do be in touch!

See you in church, Rev. Wendy



The “(Almost) Everything Under the Sun” Auction is March 14th!

The HUUC’s Annual Auction is a fun night of silent and live auction bidding for treasures, services, events and vacation homes, as well as a potluck dinner with an International theme. The silent auction begins at 5:00pm, the staggered closing of the silent auction rooms happens between 6:15 & 7:00 and at 7:15, the live auction begins. If you would like to attend, please complete a Reservation Form (see link below). And if you have something you would like to donate to the auction, please complete the Donation Form (see link below). You can reserve online, download and print out the forms by going to the church’s website www.uuharvard.org or find hard copies of the forms in the foyer of the church. On the website, there are also lots of great ideas for what to donate, if you are having trouble coming up with ideas of your own. The deadline for completing your donation form is **February 16th** and your reservation forms are due on **March 11th**. Help us make this auction a financial success by attending, donating and bidding! There is a suggested donation of \$20 per person (at the door). Hope to see you there!

On line Donation Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BIEXJU1Ia1EUtHN87pUZnDWjRwRei6rPpGSpfdiBHs4/viewform>

On line Reservation Form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GhWA5T2vjgqL2Oa_xN6L8c_WN3Z8zq2nsh2YPZ4H3L4/viewform

If you have questions, please contact Pam or Glen Frederick, our auction co-chairs,

at pwfederick@gmail.com OR Glen.Frederick@HarveyBP.com

Help Me Find the next *Peace First* Prize Winner!

Pam Reidy, *Director of Faith Formation*



Last summer I went to my first GA Assembly. There were so many good offerings, but my favorite workshop featured panelists discussing how we can help young people live out the 6th principle: the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all. I was very moved by the group representing a Boston non-profit called Peace First.

Peace First exists to create the next generation of peacemakers. They view children as natural problem solvers and creative thinkers, and invest in their ability to see themselves as leaders. The *PeaceFirst Prize* is an annual contest that rewards young people from the ages of 8-22 for their efforts in peacemaking. The prize is a hefty \$25,000. *Peace First* accepts self-nominations, applications, and regular nominations. After encountering the quality of young people in our congregation it is clear that we have many potential nominees.

Please help me find the next Peace First Prize winner! I am asking each member of the congregation to give serious thought about the young people in our church. After reviewing the criteria below send me a note, email or leave me a voice message with the name of your nominee and why you believe he or she should receive our congregation's nomination. Please review the criteria and nominate them no later than February 10, 2015.

Peace First looks for young peacemakers who demonstrate compassion, courage, and collaborative change. So in thinking about our young people please reflect on these questions:

Compassion

- Do they understand and care about other people?
- Do they notice when something is unfair and want to do something about it?
- Do they help others when they see they are suffering?
- Do they reach out to people who may disagree with them?

Courage

- Do they take risks to help others?
- Do they take a stand to make change in our community?
- Do they take risks for something they believe in?
- Do they stick with it even when things get tough?

Collaborative change

- Do they work with others to creative positive change in school or our community?
- Do they inspire others to get involved?
- Do they work with others to make a positive impact?
- Do they have a bold vision for what we can accomplish together?

Who is your nominee?? Please submit to Pam Reidy at dff@uuharvard.org or leave a note in Religious Education mailbox. We want to learn about as many HUUC youth peacemakers as we can.

Here we respect our diversity and seek to understand our differences ...

PARTNER CHURCH

Long long-ago in MVXXX Michael Servetus. wrote, at age 20, in Latin, an essay, called De Trinitinitatis Erroribus. At age 30 he was burnt at stake because of his anti-Trinitarian beliefs and his rejection of infant baptism . He also did not believe in predestination or original sin.

Some years back Reverend Last month Wendy detailed for us the history of Frances David who said " we need not think alike to love alike" and John Sigismund, the first and only Unitarian King, who, in 1561 in the edict of Torda declared religious toleration for "Faith is a gift of God" . John died in 1572 and in 1572 the new king, Steven Bathory , a Catholic, issued a new law decrying any "innovation". David continued to preach that Jesus was not God, but a prophet, and was imprisoned in Deva for innovation in 1578 where he died that year . 300 years of reprisal followed, due mostly to the Roman Catholic church..

After World War I the Transylvanian plateau was ceded from Hungary to Romania and thus the Transylvanian churches are ethnically Hungarian.

The "sister" church Association first began in the 1920s, but it fell into disarray when the depression came along, followed by World War II, followed by the Ceaucescu oppression. In 1989 Zizi Gellert, UUA President Bill Schultz , Natalie Gulbrandson, moderator , members of our house of representatives and Canadian Parliament went to investigate the condition of the UU churches in Romania but they were denied visas until after the assassination of Ceaucescu in Christmas day 1989. Since then the partner church organization with has grown We have now partners and both India and the Philippines as well as Romania.

We have been partnered with our partner church in Andrasfalva Romania since 1993 when they were meeting in a schoolhouse. We have seen the building of the church, which is shared jointly with the reformed church, since 1995. It was dedicated in 99. It is a small church, only four square walls and pews. No bell. Or running water.. and the minister lives in the next village, Avramesti. The former minister Denes Jakab retired and died in 2005 and the new minister is Istvan Berei. He has an 11 year-old child and, with our help, has made a lot of repairs to the old rundown parsonage.

It is a two way street . We are fortunate that we can give money to them at this time, but they have a resiliency and an energy we cannot but admire. (The jackets on our hymn books are from the Andrasfalva. church) They are a welcoming people and they will open their hearts and homes when ever we can visit . Istvan is eager for us to visit . (I quote from his this letter) : " Finnally we are finished the biggest part of the reparation on the parish house in Szentábrahám, and in 07.02.2008. we moved here.

We have a big loan from the Mother Church in Kolozsvár, and we have to give back in this year.

When you will come in Szentábrahám, you will see the changes what we done, because inside we have a wonderful house where we can live in a good condition. Outside we are planing to make a lot of work, we are waiting the spring to can start the work, because now we have still cold weather.

I hope everithing is well with you.

With love István, Eniko, Tamás and the members of Szentábrahám-Magyarandrásfalva UCs

There are a number of travel opportunities available. The website is: <http://www.uupcc.org/trips.html>

-for the partner church Mary Donald

**Hungarian Brunch Potluck, after the February 8 service.
Bring your favorite Magyar dish, enough to feed 8.**

Paper copy has Feb. building
use calendar here.

Electronic version: please see
attached pdf of weekly building
use calendar.

Meditation resumes Sunday

January 25 from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Come for sitting meditations with readings and walking meditation.

Join us to slow down, get quiet and come home to yourself.

We have resources to assist you with meditation and mindfulness.

Contacts: Todd Lainhart: tlainhart@gmail.com
Pam Frederick: pwfrederick@gmail.com

Alliance News

The Women's Alliance is delighted to announce that Dorothy Solbrig will chair the Bargains in the belfry after the retirement of Janice Goodell in June. Dorothy has been a willing worker in the Bargains for many years and we are so pleased to have her expertise and to know that the Bargains will continue for its 43rd year.

-Carol MacLennan, Alliance President

Bargains in the Belfry is full to the brim with LOTS of great finds. Women's shoes and clothing of all types - classic, casual, fancy - the racks are full. There are lots of men's clothes also - sporty and dress shirts, trousers, even some suits. In addition there are household items, books, videos. Sales going on right now--all items with a green or red sticker are 20% off. Check the Chalice Chat for other sales in February. Bargains is open Tuesday's, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 pm, and also select Sunday's after church, January 25, February 1, February 15.

The Alliance will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, February 3rd in the Fellowship Building. Supper is at 6:30 p.m. and program at 7:30 p.m.

Our speaker will be Rev. Wendy Bell. Her subject is: **"Sabbatical Reflections: How Churches Have Responded to Climate Change Issues."**

Hostesses are Barbara Henderson and Isabel Chiquoine.

All are invited to join us.

Did You Know?

The winter brings additional stresses for Loaves and Fishes clients. Heating bills take their cut out of already tight budgets, and stretching the family income becomes harder to do.

For **Sunday, February 1st**, please check your kitchen pantries, cabinets and closets and see if there is anything you might be able to donate. Every can of soup, box of pasta and jar of peanut butter helps. You may leave your donation in one of the Loaves and Fishes baskets in the foyer of the sanctuary. Questions? Contact Risa Goldman at risajan@aol.com or anyone from the Social Action Committee.

Helping People Care for Themselves on Valentine's Day

As has become an annual tradition, the children in Faith Formation would like to provide everyone who visits Loaves and Fishes during the week of Valentine's Day with a complete set of personal hygiene products. The children will decorate and pack these Valentine's Day bags on **February 8th** so please bring in your donation on or before that date. A list of suggested items to give to both the women and men who utilize Loaves and Fishes services is below. We will have a marked box in the foyer for dropping off your contributions. And thank you in advance for your participation...



Soap	Shaving cream
Shampoo	Hand lotion
Conditioner	Comb
Deodorant	Cough drops
Emery boards	Tooth brush
Chap stick	Tooth paste
Disposable razors	Pocket size tissues

If you want an up to date Church Directory, ask Elinor Stapleton. I can share the pdf on Google Drive, or send the pdf as an attachment to an email, or if needed I can print you a paper copy.

-Elinor Stapleton 978-456-8752

February Birthday Wishes Go To ...



Aidan	Aciukewicz
Wendy	Bell
Jim	Clark
Teddy	Coffin
Ella	Corbett
Sam	Dyer
Erika	Krause
Ann	Mallinson
Gunars	Medjanis
Chris	Ready
Hannah	Stamm

If you missed the opportunity to give us your birthday month please contact the church office: 978-456-8752, admin@uuharvard.org

Our Thanks Go to All of You ...

Loaves and Fishes Thanks You!

With more families receiving services from Loaves and Fishes than ever before, your support is very much appreciated. Your generous donations over the holidays allowed Loaves and Fishes to provide a turkey and all the fixings to 347 local families for their Thanksgiving dinners. You also helped 291 families in need receive a ham or turkey and all the fixings for their special December holiday dinners. On behalf of Loaves and Fishes and their clients -- thank you, thank you, thank you!

Transitions at Devens Thanks You!

A great big thank you goes out to everyone who donated Shaws Supermarket stamps to the Glean Team so we could exchange them for Cuisinart stainless cookware for the families at Transitions at Devens. We were able to collect a total of 310 stickers and exchange those for two big, beautiful stock pots with covers and an eight-inch non-stick frying pan. Thank you again! – Risa, Cary, Ellen and Lisa, Glean Team Co-chairs

A big thanks of joy to all the people who appeared so quickly, to move the hi-fire kiln and very heavy potter's wheel to Britt Argow's place.

-Jean McCrosky

News about Sunday Morning Volunteers

Many thanks to Leslie Neville who will be taking over the coordination of Sunday morning volunteers. I have enjoyed this project for a number of years, and am happy to see Leslie's enthusiasm for coordinating the schedule. Please check in with Leslie if you have any questions about ushering, greeting or coffee hour. -Cary Browse

Hello all,
You will be receiving an email from signup genius by next week (for Sunday Volunteers). I plan to randomly assign the open slots for the rest of the church year. I will put a note in the signup about how to switch if you have a conflict with the day you are assigned.

Thank you,
Leslie Neville
ldneville@charter.net

Jan. 25

Welcome: Kate Stamm
Greeters: Li Liang & Georgia Sassen
Ushers: Coonahan's
Coffee Hour: Lori Daniells, Susan Ginouves
Chancel:

Feb. 1

Welcome: Ginger Kendall
Greeters:
Ushers:
Coffee Hour:
Chancel:

Feb. 8

Welcome: Tom Daniells
Greeters:
Ushers:
Pot Luck
Chancel:

Feb. 15

Welcome: George Babich
Greeters:
Ushers:
Coffee Hour:
Chancel:

Feb. 22

Welcome: Rebecca Wright
Greeters:
Ushers:
Coffee Hour:
Chancel:

Upcoming Church Events

- Thu. Jan. 22
7:30pm Board mtg.
- Sun. Jan. 25
9:45am Nursery open
10:00am Worship Service
“To Change the Future, Change the Story”
4-6pm Meditation
7-8:30pm Evensong
- Tue. Jan. 27
10-4 Bargains in the Belfry open
- Sun. Feb. 1
9:45am Nursery open
10:00am Worship Service
**“The More Things Change...
Unmasking the New Jim Crow”**
Bargains in the Belfry open
4-6pm Meditation
7-8:30pm Evensong
- Tue. Feb. 3
10-4 Bargains in the Belfry open
6:30 & 7:30pm Alliance
Potluck & Program
**“Sabbatical Reflections: How Churches
Have Responded to Climate Change
Issues”** Rev. Wendy L. Bell
- Sun. Feb. 8
9:45am Nursery open
10:00am Worship Service
“Resistance and Revolution in Romania”
All Church Hungarian Potluck Brunch
4-6pm Meditation
- Thu. Feb. 12
7:30pm Board mtg
- Fri. Feb. 13
7-8:30pm PUUB Night
- Sun. Feb. 15
9:45am Nursery open
10:00am Worship Service
Bargains in the Belfry open
4-6pm Meditation
- Mon. Feb. 16
Office Closed
- Tue. Feb. 17
Belfry Deadline
10-4 Bargains in the Belfry open

MUSIC NOTES



Musicians:

January 25- Choir
February 1- Susan Hill, soprano
February 8- Choir
February 15- John Chapman, jazz piano
February 22- Choir

Jr. Choir:

I'm sorry that we had 3 sick singers this past Sunday when we sang for the Martin Luther King service. Thank you to the brave singers who presented our song, passing candles and all.

Our next gig is the Hungarian lunch, February 8, when we sing at the Fellowship Building at the beginning of lunch. We will have rehearsals at the usual time (11:20-11:50) next Sunday, January 25th, and February 1 to learn the 2 songs we'll be singing. Some of you sang them last year. We'll take off February 15 and 22, vacation weekends, but be prepared to rehearse weekly in March. Do try to stay healthy!

Chimers:

We made a good beginning at our last rehearsal! We meet at noon again this Sunday, January 25, February 1, February 15, and February 22 to be prepared to participate in the service March 1. Thank you all for continuing with this team sport!

Senior Choir:

Try to keep those viruses at bay! We meet for rehearsal this Thursday, January 22, and sing in the service on January 25. Our next rehearsals are Thursdays, February 5 and 19, preparing for the following Sundays.

New singers welcome!

Eleanor Toth

Belfry Deadlines (all Tuesdays, mark your calendar)
Feb. 17, March 17, April 14, May 19, June 16

There is something for everyone in the Monthly Congregational Bulletin from the [UU Bulletin website](#)

Minister's Office Hours

I am in the office most Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons, sometimes into the early evening hours. You may call (office: 978-456-9021) or e-mail (RevWLBell@aol.com) to schedule an appointment during those times or to find another time that might work.

Admin Office Hours 978-456-8752

Mon. 9:00 a.m.-Noon
Tue. 10:00-3:00
Wed. Noon-3:00
Thu. 10:00-3:00
Fri. 9:00 a.m.-Noon
-Elinor Stapleton admin@uuharvard.org

Director of Faith Formation, Pam Reidy

Tuesday and Thursday - morning and afternoon.

Sunday until 2:00 p.m.

Schedule will vary to accommodate evening meetings.

You may call the office to schedule an appointment 978-456-7788 or email dff@uuharvard.org

Rev. Wendy L. Bell
Pam Reidy
Elinor Stapleton
Ted Johnson
Louise Potter

Minister
Director of Faith Formation
Parish Administrator
Organist and Choir Director
Bookkeeper

Harvard Unitarian Universalist Church
On the Harvard Common
P.O. Box 217
Harvard, MA 01451
978-456-8752

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