

Newsletter

April 2025

Sunday Service at
10:30am, in person and
online

Zoom Sunday Service Link:
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/891
22019151](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89122019151)

Meeting ID: 891 2201 9151

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[Carol Moak](#)

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[Peggy Taylor, Gonzalo Bermudez](#)

Caretaker, Administrator

[Alexander Herrmann](#)

Pianist

[Karèn Tchougourian](#)

Unitarian Universalist Church of Pittsfield



April Sunday Services

April 6 Rev. Rich Hayes: “Mystical Engineering”

April 13 Peggy Taylor: “I’m going to roll over, so please move, cricket: The Dharma of Poetry”

April 20 Circle Sunday: “Failure to Meditate”

April 27 Carol Moak: Quilt Series: Shakers

We are looking for the following personnel. Please contact us at office@uupittsfield.org if you are interested:

[Building & Grounds Committee members](#)

[Social Responsibility Committee members](#)

[Sharing & Caring Committee members](#)

[Fundraising Committee members](#)

[Nominating Committee Chair and members](#)

Find us on social media:

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Website](#)

If you'd like to write for the newsletter, please email the Social Media Director at uucpsocialmedia@gmail.com!

Aha

I was right last month...Spring was in the air. It's still pretty cold as I write this, but I can see a little bit of faint green in the trees as leaves begin to bud, and the snow is entirely gone. With any luck, we won't have more. (I'm not sure my dog agrees with that.)

This has not been an easy month for me personally. My husband, Chris, was gone for the first several days, so I started the Caretaker position by myself, which was complicated by terrible weather during that time, and the conclusion of our furnace repairs (so there were some cold days for sure). Early on I blew a fuse in the Caretaker apartment (fortunately, it affected ONLY that space), and without knowing where all the fuses were, I wasn't sure how to fix it, so I was sitting in the dark at night until Chris came back. When he did return, it was without the car he'd been driving, because it broke down (we should get it back soon), so we've only had our smaller and older car to try and move most of our stuff with (and it needs work), aside from the truck we rented for the last few days.

And then...my mother died. I was very close to my mother, and in fact most of the reason I'd moved back to this area in 2022 was to help with her care. I was hoping that living in Pittsfield would make that easier, so it was ironic (among other things) to lose her literally 15 days after moving. But it goes without saying that irony is not my major reaction. Because the month is so busy, I haven't had time really to grieve...so that's coming. At least I'm among friends.

Anyway, so we got everything out of the old house and into the church, although we still need to unpack / move stuff around / etc...and oh, I've of course returned to my full time job. I think I've spent the entire month exhausted...but I also feel quite a sense of accomplishment. Things are getting done!

I do want to mention that someone has apparently been spreading rumors about this church, saying that we are no longer operating as a church. I'm not sure what the point of this was, but it's very much not true. In fact, I would say that as of now, this church is doing quite well, and will only do better as time goes on. We are beginning again to do the work of engaging with the community and working for justice that fell by the wayside due to the COVID pandemic. So, as I also mentioned in a Facebook post, we are definitely open and we intend to remain so for many, many years to come.

Excelsior!

*Peace and Joy,
Alexander Herrmann*

“If April showers should come your way, they bring the flowers that bloom in May.” – Buddy de Sylva

“April, the angel of the months, the young love of the year.” – Vita Sackville-West

Weekly Happenings at the UU

Sundays	10:30am	Sunday Services
	7pm	1st and 3rd Sunday: Men’s Group
Mondays	7-9pm	Berkshire Lyric Rehearsal
Tuesdays	5:30pm	Crafting Group (bring your own materials, any craft)
	6pm	1st Tuesday: Berkshire Coalition for Suicide Prevention; Healing After Suicide Support Group
	7pm	2nd Tuesday: WordxWord: Poets Creating Conversation
Wednesdays	5pm	Vickie Bandoski Yoga
Thursdays	10am	Vickie Bandoski Yoga
	5:30pm	Pittsfield Sangha Meditation Group
Saturdays	10am	Berkshire Lyric Childrens Chorus Rehearsal
	1pm	Teen Youth Group (Crafting / Games / Social Justice)

Artswalk for May

We have an artist for the first Artswalk of the year on May 2: Kathryn Wedderburn is returning with her beautiful art quilts. Kathryn was fascinated by the quilts her grandmother made from any spare fabric. Nothing was wasted. Five years ago, she encountered Elizabeth Lola Sylvan, whose fabric art is breathtaking. After two classes with Elizabeth, Kathryn began to try her hand at fabric art. With great joy, she continues to learn new techniques. The UU Church is very pleased and proud to be hosting her art again!

Youth Group News

The Youth Group is doing a lot this month! On Sunday, April 20th, there’s an Egg Hunt at noon, inside and outside (if it’s warm/sunny). Bring your kids and hunt for eggs (plastic with treats)! Then on Earth Day (Tuesday, 4/22) they’re hosting activities in the Social Hall and Youth Lounge. Hope to see you there!

“A gush of bird-song, a
patter of dew

A cloud, and a
rainbow’s warning

Suddenly sunshine and
perfect blue

An April day in the
morning.” – Harriet
Prescott Spofford

“April is the cruelest
month, breeding lilacs
out of the dead land,
mixing memory and
desire, stirring dull
roots with spring rain.”
– T.S. Eliot



**MEET ME AT THE UU
FOR OUR APRIL
OPEN
HOUSE**

APRIL 15 | 5 P.M.

Join us for Dinner, Dessert, and a
short presentation on “What is
Unitarian Universalism?”

www.uupittsfield.org

Free of Charge
Donations Gratefully Accepted

**175 WENDELL AVE.
PITTSFIELD, MA 01201**

News from Berkshire Interfaith Organizing (BIO)
BIO and other progressive organizations will be showing up for the
“Hands Off!” Rally in Pittsfield. Originally located in the patio at
Dotties, the enthusiasm felt for the rally here in Pittsfield has
outgrown this space and we’re now meeting in Park Square on
Saturday, April 5, at 1pm. The UU’s Youth Group will also be in
attendance! Be there at Park Square!

We thank you for your support! Please use this QR code to donate to our church or mail a check to: Unitarian Universalist Church of Pittsfield, 175 Wendell Ave., Pittsfield MA 01201



MEET ME AT THE UU for our

MAD HATTER TEA PARTY AND CRAFT FAIRE!



Friday, April 25 
175 Wendell Ave., Pittsfield

4pm-6pm Youth 6pm-8pm Adult Tea UUPITTSFIELD.ORG

FREE - DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

Social Hour Needs You!

We are all so appreciative of Ben running the social hour following services. Sign up to help using the sheet in the Social Hall on the table, and passed around in Sunday Service during Joys and Concerns - it makes such a difference!



Image by brgfx