



# ITHACA

# UUU Connections

2017/18 Issue No. 2

October 2017

## Sunday Celebrations 10:30 am

### — October 1 “Welcoming Change”

-Kim Milling

“Don’t be afraid of some change.....enter, rejoice and come in” is the inspiration for this sermon. A major challenge of our lives is to approach change, be it welcome change or unwelcome change, without fear. It is vastly important how we confront these realities at a personal level, in the political realm, or even as we approach the end of our lives.  
*Special music by Stephanie Ortolano and friends*

### — October 8 “The Courage to Speak Up”

-Rev. Margaret Weis

It takes courage to speak truth to power and we risk standing alone in doing so. We will reflect on the ways we are called to speak our truth, even (and especially) when our voice shakes.  
*Special music by Elisa Sciscoli, vocals*

### — October 15 “The Courage to Embrace Possibility”

-Rev. Margaret Weis

We often think we know what is right and what is wrong, but sometimes our assumptions don't tell the whole story. How do we embrace the possibility that there may be another way?  
*Special music by Adult Choir*

### — October 22 “The Courage of Vulnerability”

-Rev. Margaret Weis

Sometimes, admitting that we are unsure or wrong is hard. Sometimes trying something new takes a deep courage. How do we balance vulnerability and certainty while living into courage?  
*Special music by Xak Bjerken, piano*

### — October 29 “Grieving Courageously”

(Intergenerational Service)

-Rev. Margaret Weis

This is a time of year when the veil between the living and the dead is very thin. Join us in our service as we remember those who have passed on, our ancestors, and the cloud of witnesses that surround us. Please bring a picture or item that reminds you of a person or animal that has died, as we will use them to build an altar of remembrance together during the service.  
*Special music by Matt White, woodwinds*

## Ministerial Musings

*As we enter into a new monthly theme of courage, I hope we will carry with us last month's ideas of welcome. It takes courage to welcome new ideas, new ways of being, and new people. It takes courage to ask questions and wrestle with the answers. It takes courage to open ourselves to new possibility.*

*Here at First Unitarian, we open ourselves to one another in various ways. We greet one another on Sundays and at meetings throughout the week, and we share our deepest joys and sorrows with one another. This is one of the tasks of intentional religious community – to hold one another in both good times and challenging times.*

*In our Sunday services, there is a time for the sharing of joys and sorrows. You may have noticed we are doing this differently than in the past and it may take some getting used to. The green cards in the orders of service offer an invitation to share what joys and sorrows are on your heart that morning, and a way for us to make sure those are followed up on by the Care Team or by me, as your minister. These cards offer a glimpse into the good and not-so-good things that are alive in our congregation and I hope you'll share what's on your heart when you enter through the doors.*

*Joys and Sorrows is a time in our service for celebration of new births, great accomplishments, deaths, anniversaries, illnesses and other personal events. I hope you'll share these things with courageous hearts. Joys and Sorrows can also be submitted in advance of the service, during the week, by emailing [joysandsorrows@unitihaca.org](mailto:joysandsorrows@unitihaca.org). Please indicate in your email whether you would like follow up from the Care Team and/or minister.*

*As we reflect on the idea of courage in our personal lives and congregation, I look forward also to deepening in our understanding of how this congregation is called to be courageous in the community and the world.*

Take good care,  
Rev. Weis

## Our Vision

As the Unitarian Universalist presence in Ithaca, we envision ourselves as a vibrant, dynamic community. We cherish fellow seekers, nurture open dialogue and spiritual growth, and inspire action on matters of conscience, serving as a beacon of reason and hope in our interconnected world.

## Religious Education News

### Rev. Weis Community Office Hours

Tuesdays 2-4 pm at CTB (College  
Town Bagels) on N. Aurora Street

*Please check the FUSIT Facebook  
page or call the office.*

*Additional times to meet with Rev. Weis are  
available by making an appointment. Please  
email ([minister@unitithaca.org](mailto:minister@unitithaca.org)) or call (607)  
218-4281 to make an appointment. Fridays  
are her day off and, as such, she does not check  
email on Fridays.*

Office: 607-273-7521 ext. 22  
Cell: 607-218-4281

### Soul Matters Material for October on "Courage"

*Our October worship theme at First Unitarian  
Society of Ithaca is Courage. This month's  
packet includes a few short readings, spiritual  
exercises, and discussion questions for you  
to consider. Here is the link:*

<http://tinyurl.com/FUSIT-Courage>

### Postcards in the Parlor Returns!

*In the Parlor on Sunday mornings we will have  
pre-stamped postcards available for you to send  
to your political representatives. Each week  
there will be recommended hot topics that you  
may choose to focus your attention. We will  
provide stamps and postcards, but donations  
will be welcome. More volunteers welcome to  
staff the table. Contact Jennifer Birnbaum or  
Laura Free if you're interested in helping.*

### Weekly Food Collection

*Every week we collect dry or canned food for  
delivery to a local food pantry. Please bring  
non-perishable items to the basket which  
is located in the Garden Entrance.*

### Fragrance Free Consideration

*Some members of our congregation experience  
serious allergic reactions to strong fragrances  
and scents. Please refrain from using them  
when attending events at the  
First Unitarian Society of Ithaca.*

*For information about Religious Education, please contact DRE Ann Stephenson at  
[drefusit@gmail.com](mailto:drefusit@gmail.com) or 273-7521 ext. 23. To request childcare for any church event, contact  
Child Care Coordinator Meggan Conklin at [childcare@unitithaca.org](mailto:childcare@unitithaca.org).*

**Happy Fall to everyone!** *While the sun is setting ever sooner each golden autumn evening, a  
very special light is growing here at First Unitarian Society of Ithaca! The Lifespan Religious  
Exploration program is in full swing, under the leadership and guidance of our new minister,  
Reverend Margaret Weis! She has brought with her wonderful new energy, and a renewed focus  
on family ministry to our community, so spread the good word! A special RE Parent Open  
House with Reverend Weis is planned for Saturday, October 21st from 10-12:00, for families  
with children in the RE program. Childcare will be provided. We hope that you will join us!*

**Religious Exploration** is a life-long journey, and we here at FUSIT RE are proud to be a  
part of guiding the way for travelers of all ages. Here are some exciting things happening in October!

### Children & Youth Program:

Sunday, **October 1** - Children's Chapel  
Sunday, **October 8** - RE Classes  
Sunday, **October 22** - RE Classes  
Sunday, **October 29** - Intergenerational Service

### Adult RE:

'Survival Spanish' (class) - Sunday, **October 1st** at 9 am Arch Room  
'The Work of Byron Katie' (talk) - Wednesday, **October 4th** 7-9 Arch Room  
'End of Life' (series) - Wednesdays **October 11, 18 and 25** 7-9 pm Parlor  
Introduction to UU - Sunday, **October 22** from 12-1 pm Library

### Community Events:

Sunday, **October 15** Community Melting Pot Soup Sunday! Annex 12:15 pm  
Sunday, **October 29** Dia de los Muertos! 12-1:00 Annex

### Intergenerational Service Learning:

Friday, **October 27th Informational Meeting - Service Learning trip** to San  
Lucas Mission in **Guatemala! February 18-26, 2018.** This, our first **FUSIT RE  
Service Learning Program** trip is open to adults and accompanied youth 14+.  
High School Youth Service Learning Program participants in 11th and 12th grade  
are welcome to apply to travel with the group, chaperoned by RE Program Staff.  
Service at San Lucas Mission is focused on creating relationships through  
communal work on projects empowering local communities, and supporting  
economic and environmental sustainability. Contact the FUSIT DRE's office to  
learn more about this great intergenerational initiative, including fund-raising  
opportunities for youth participants. Find out more on our website:  
[www.unitarian.ithaca.ny.us](http://www.unitarian.ithaca.ny.us)

FUSIT staff are traveling to Bethlehem, PA to the **International Institute for  
Restorative Practices**, for this year's **23rd World Conference, "Learning in the  
21st Century: A Restorative Vision"**. Seats will be available for those who  
would like to carpool. **October 23, 24 and 25**

*"Today's world is more connected and interdependent than at any other time in human history.  
Global communications, migration and technology are bringing an ever-greater diversity of people  
into direct contact... How we learn and teach must adapt to this changing landscape to positively  
shape the civil society of the future." ~IIRP Website*

For more information about registration for this event and travel to the conference,  
or to learn more about Peace Circle work as a tool for resolving differences in  
community, contact the DRE's office at [drefusit@gmail.com](mailto:drefusit@gmail.com). Additional training  
opportunities are coming up mid-November. Become a peacemaker!



## Joys and Sorrows

Our condolences go out to Walt and Barb Peck upon the death of Walt's father, Nathan Peck, on August 24 in Phelps, NY.

Our caring thoughts go out to John Rawlins who is at home recovering from a heart attack.

### Thanks to...

...Buildings and Grounds Aesthetics Team led by Susanne Quagliata who, along with Andrew Quagliata, Dawn and Scott Grover, Magdalen Lindeberg, Laura Free and Lucy Woll, primed and painted the basement room of our Parish House.

...Martha Ferger, Tom Roberts, Whitney Wiggins, Mary Kirkpatrick, and Simon Catterall, who turned out for Restoration Day on August 26 to help get through a good chunk of the to-do list.

...HT2 Team B, under Coordinator Russ Charif and Team Facilitator Arthur Woll, for greeting, ushering, snack providing, coffee prepping and cleaning up at the Sunday services on September 3, 10 and 17.

### Hospitality Teams Welcome You

If you are new to the HT concept and would like to get started, send an email or give a call to John Gaines, Overall HT Coordinator, at [\(607\) 898-3943](tel:6078983943) or [jag222@cornell.edu](mailto:jag222@cornell.edu). He will be out of town 9/12-10/19, but will be able to respond to email.

Please contact him with any questions or comments -and thank you for your service to the congregation!

### Care Team Meets October 15

The Care Team will meet on Sunday, **October 15th**, from 12:15-1:15 in Room 122. Contact co-chairs Margaret Nichols at [mnr1@cornell.edu](mailto:mnr1@cornell.edu) or 273-3772 or Pat Court at [pgc1@cornell.edu](mailto:pgc1@cornell.edu) or 257-0942.

### Men's Group

We will be meeting on the fourth Monday in **October**, on the **23rd**. All those who identify as male are invited to join us 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the Arch Room to share stories and eat some pizza. Newcomers welcome. Contact David Salomon, ([dsalomon01@gmail.com](mailto:dsalomon01@gmail.com)) or Jens Wennberg ([jens207@gmail.com](mailto:jens207@gmail.com)) for more information.

## Pastoral Emergencies

*In case of a pastoral emergency (death or hospitalization), the Rev. Margaret Weis can be reached at 607-218-4281 (cell) if you need to speak with her.*

*For non-emergency pastoral care, please contact one of the chairs of the Care Team: Pat Court at [pgc1@cornell.edu](mailto:pgc1@cornell.edu) or 257-0942, or Margaret Nichols at [mnr1@cornell.edu](mailto:mnr1@cornell.edu) or 273-3772.*

*Additionally, if you need a ride to any event at church, please contact either Pat or Margaret at the numbers listed above as early as possible, so that they can contact a member who is willing to help. If you are willing to provide occasional rides for others, contact Pat or Margaret to give them your name and contact information.*

## FUSIT Choir Continues

New members always welcome! Please contact Jennifer Lawrence Birnbaum [fusitchoir@gmail.com](mailto:fusitchoir@gmail.com) for more information.

### UPCOMING REHEARSALS

**October 5** - regular rehearsal in Annex

**October 12** - regular rehearsal in Annex/  
Sanctuary

**October 19** - NO REHEARSAL!

**October 26** - special workshop with composer Brendan Taaffe (see page 7)

**November 2** - regular rehearsal in Annex

### UPCOMING CHOIR SUNDAYS

**October 15**

**November 19**

**December 17**

**December 24** (Sage Chapel evening service)

## Justice Choir Ithaca - Start Local, Stay Vocal

Next Sing: Sunday, **October 8th** at 3 pm at First Presbyterian Church.

### Justice Choir in the Community

"Lift Every Voice" - a benefit concert for Village at Ithaca on Saturday, **October 14th**, from 6-8 pm at St. Paul's Methodist Church. We hope to have a Justice Choir song in the program and we'll invite the audience to sing it!

### How to Be More Involved

Please email [justicechoirithaca@gmail.com](mailto:justicechoirithaca@gmail.com) if you're interested in leading a song at a meeting or rally, being a part of our steering committee, tabling at events (particularly the Lift Every Voice Concert), or other volunteer opportunities.

### Minister

Rev. Margaret Weis  
273-7521, ext. 22  
[minister@uuithaca.org](mailto:minister@uuithaca.org)

### Religious Education

Ann Stephenson, Director,  
273-7521, ext. 23  
[drefusit@gmail.com](mailto:drefusit@gmail.com)  
Katey Kingra, RE Assistant  
[reassist@uuithaca.org](mailto:reassist@uuithaca.org)

### Child Care Coordinator

Meggan Conklin  
[childcare@uuithaca.org](mailto:childcare@uuithaca.org)

### Sexton

Sandy Soule, 272-4475

### Bookkeeper

Lauren Pongoni  
[bookkeeper@uuithaca.org](mailto:bookkeeper@uuithaca.org)

### Music Director

Stephanie Ortolano  
607-708-8088  
[fusitmusic@gmail.com](mailto:fusitmusic@gmail.com)

### Adult Choir Director

Jennifer Lawrence Birnbaum,  
[fusitchoir@gmail.com](mailto:fusitchoir@gmail.com)

### Care Team

-Pat Court  
[pgc1@cornell.edu](mailto:pgc1@cornell.edu) or 257-0942  
-Margaret Nichols  
[mnr1@cornell.edu](mailto:mnr1@cornell.edu) or 273-3772

### Membership Coordinator

Beth Pallace, 273-7521, ext 24  
[memcoord@uuithaca.org](mailto:memcoord@uuithaca.org)

### President, Board of Trustees

Laura Free  
[lauraeefree@me.com](mailto:lauraeefree@me.com) or 339-8332

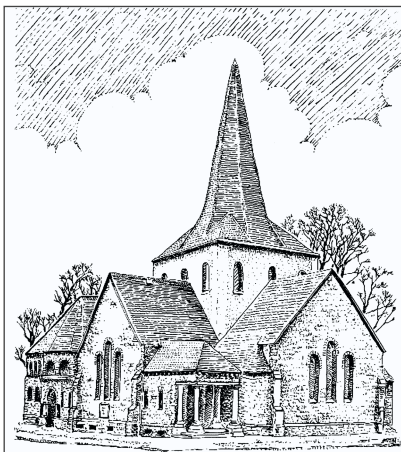
### Congregational Administrator

Mark Pedersen, 273-7521 ext 21  
[cadmin@uuithaca.org](mailto:cadmin@uuithaca.org)

### Administrative Assistant

Loretta Heimbuch, 273-7521  
ext 28, [adminasst@uuithaca.org](mailto:adminasst@uuithaca.org)

The First Unitarian Society of Ithaca  
306 North Aurora Street  
P.O. Box 6  
Ithaca, NY 14851-0006



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Visit our Website and get  
your newsletter:  
[www.uuithaca.org](http://www.uuithaca.org)

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### ***Help Needed to Provide Lunches for the Friendship Center***

We still need three more volunteers to provide 15 bag lunches each to the Friendship Center on Tuesday, **October 3**, and four volunteers are needed for **November 7**. Lunches must contain a sandwich, a piece of soft fruit (no apples) and a cookie or other small dessert and be prepared within 24 hours of delivery to the Friendship Center at 531 State Street, Ithaca, between 9:30 and 11:30 am. Your expenses can be reimbursed by the Social Justice Council: keep track of what you spend and contact Martha Ferger at [marthaferger068@gmail.com](mailto:marthaferger068@gmail.com).

The Friendship Center is a safe supportive drop-in center run by Ithaca Rescue Mission that serves three free meals a week. Our congregation provides 60 bag lunches on the first Tuesday of every month. For more information, please contact Jackie Jablonski at [jackiejab@me.com](mailto:jackiejab@me.com).

### ***Sunday Service CDs***

Sunday Service CDs are available about 10 minutes after the Sunday Celebration from Sandy Soule, the church Sexton, and any extras are left in the boxes on top of the staff mailboxes in the Parish House. If you have finished listening to any CD that you have borrowed, please return it to the box on top of the mailboxes outside the church office.

### ***Did you know...***

...that First Unitarian Society of Ithaca has a Facebook page, where you can find out about the exciting events happening in our congregation, see pictures of past events and connect with other area UUs. Like our page at <https://www.facebook.com/FUSofI/>.

### ***Oct 22 "Babies First" Bake Sale***

The Babies First Fall Bake Sale will be held on **October 22nd** during the social hour in the Parlor after the service. Please support Babies First by purchasing a delicious treat or two.

***Calling All Bakers, Jam, Jelly, Pickle, Chutney and Candy Makers!***

If you would like to donate any of the above for the **October 22 Bake Sale**, please call Jane McArthur at 216-2151 or [janespickmcarthur@gmail.com](mailto:janespickmcarthur@gmail.com). We would love to add YOUR name to our bakers list! You can drop off your goodies in the kitchen before the celebration on the 23rd.



Please include an ingredients list in consideration of folks with food allergies.

**First Unitarian is a UUA-recognized  
(LGBTQ) Welcoming Congregation**

## ***Introducing Unitarian Universalism***

*Are you new to our community and want to get connected?  
Have you been coming here for a while and are now  
considering membership? Would you just like to learn  
more about Unitarian Universalism?*

Please join us for an opportunity to dig deep into your spiritual history and find your place among others who are seeking deeper meaning. All participants will get a chance to share their experience and we will provide more insight into the origins and meaning of Unitarian Universalism. This class is a must for newcomers!

Please join Rev. Weis for Introducing Unitarian Universalism on Sunday, **October 22** from 12-1 pm in the Library. RSVP via email to [memcoord@uuithaca.org](mailto:memcoord@uuithaca.org) or sign up at the Welcome Table. See you there!

### **Upcoming Dates**

***Introduction to UU:***  
***October 22, December 17, February 4***

***Exploring UU:***  
***November 26, January 7, February 18***

## ***Ride For Life Fun***

On September 10th, over 300 bike riders were fed and supported by a cheerful band of UUs at the King Ferry Winery during the STAP Ride for Life fundraiser.

This year's band was headed by Robin Cisne and she was ably assisted by Rev. Margaret Weis, Susan Weis, Jason Grover, Cameron Hsieh, Whitney Wiggins, Liz Einstein, Beth Howard, Linda Loomis, Gretchen Ryan, Ana Villa, Stephanie Morse, Margaret Nichols, Beth Pallace, Janet and David Pierce and Carol Whitlow. Everyone was serenaded by the beautiful music of the UU Ukulele Union members including Marie Kautz, Stephanie Ortolano, Scott Grover and Arthur Woll. We apologize for anyone we may have inadvertently forgotten.

## ***Board of Trustees October Meeting***

The Board of Trustees will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, **October 10th**, at 6 pm in the Parlor. All interested persons are invited to attend.

## ***Join the Membership Team***

Calling all connectors! Membership is looking for new people to join our Team! Do you have great ideas and the urge to help others connect more deeply to FUSIT? Are you a marketing whiz and want to share your expertise to boost participation? Maybe you are a person who likes to meet new people and want to lend a hand with outreach and event planning! JOIN THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM! Please contact Beth Pallace at [memcoord@uuithaca.org](mailto:memcoord@uuithaca.org) for more information.

## **From the Social Justice Council**

The Social Justice Council will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday, **October 9**, at 6:00 pm in the Arch Room. Come to learn what our various action teams are doing, and participate in choosing the recipient of each month's "Sharing Sunday." October will be the Global Roots Play School in Ithaca, a play-based, child-paced program that provides a community for families from diverse backgrounds.

## ***Time to Sign Up for your Directory Photograph Appointment!***

We thought it would be a great idea for everyone, including our new minister, the Rev. Margaret Weis, to have an up-to-date photo directory to better know each other.

We have the following dates set aside for photo sittings:

**October 16 & 17.** To sign up please use the link below:

<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y3plkzp4/>



## ***Gala Service Auction & Hors d'oeuvres Saturday, November 11***

Please join us for our newly revamped Service Auction which will be a grand evening out (with free child care) so that you can socialize, eat delicious hors d'oeuvres, enjoy a beverage of your choice and then bid on fantastic items. There will be live music from 5:30 to 7:00 while you nosh and sip and look over the catalog and then the live auction begins at 7:00.

As a departure from prior years we will be suggesting that any item or service offered should be started around \$20, so now is the time to part with those very special treasures you've been safeguarding or feel free to offer your services, vacation home, delicious dinners for all to enjoy.

*A link will be available soon where you can  
donate quickly and easily online*

*Questions: Contact Amelia Habicht at  
[meels66@gmail.com](mailto:meels66@gmail.com), or 257-5028,  
or Emily Hopkins at [emilyhopkins@yahoo.com](mailto:emilyhopkins@yahoo.com) or 280-5561*

## 2017 Recycle Sale Final Report



Of all the FUSIT activities that go on throughout the year, the Recycle Sale has always been my favorite. While teaching for 10 years at the max prison in Romulus, I gathered and refurbished antiques and collectibles and sold them out of my 150 year old barn during the summers. There's nothing like shining up something that you know has real value underneath, and then having it bought and appreciated by others. And that's just what so many of us did for this year's Recycle Sale. After months of storing, transporting, unpacking, and shining up, we presented our collection with pride and joy. And this was reflected in our profits which are currently at \$19,000!

First to be congratulated is the Recycle Sale team which included myself, Jo Carcich, Robin Cisne, Paul Drewry, Donna & Tom Roberts, Laura Free, Pat & John Gaines, Dawn Grover, Loretta Heimbuch, Rick Hendricks, Carol Johnson, Mary Kirkpatrick, Ron Liso, Nancy Miller, Carol & Bob Nickerson, Beth Pallace, Keith Perry, Sue Roenke, Jack Roscoe, Jim Skaley, Jens Wennberg, and Carol Whitlow. Also to be thanked are all of our wonderful volunteers; several donation transporters who stepped up and coordinated the efforts: Fred Balfour, Scott Grover, and Andy Turner; Diana Nier, Arthur Woll and Dick Kurtz for giving an extraordinary amount of time with setup, sales and cleanup; and to Wegmans for keeping us fed and hydrated during setup week and sale days.

Lastly, a heartwarming story given to us by Judy Jones: "I bought some good quality pre-sale items and delivered them on Friday to the Rescue Mission on West State Street. I carried the first pile in to Mike who runs the show and asked for help in carrying in the remainder. Help showed up immediately, including one man who was clearly attached to Mike and following his lead. When I pulled the stack of sleeping bags from my car, I heard his gasp. And so did Mike who said to him - okay you can choose one, and he did - a black and blue plaid bag. Later that afternoon, I was driving by the mission and saw the recipient walking up and down the sidewalk, hugging his "new" sleeping bag."

*Yours in Service,  
Marie Benedetti, Chair*

*What would we have done without these wonderful folks? What a team!*

Julie Albertson  
Fred Balfour  
Sharon Balfour  
Rita Rosenberg Barber  
Don Barber  
Joyce Barney  
Marie Benedetti  
Ralph Brill  
Sara Catterall  
Robin Cisne  
Pat Court  
Micheline Contiguglia  
Maureen Cowen  
Connie Currier  
Margaret Dopyera  
Joan Doria  
Steve Doria  
Paul Drewry  
Dilmaran Dunham  
Geoff Dunn  
Lisa Earle  
Elizabeth Einstein  
Rebecca Elgie  
Donna Faivre-Robert  
Joanne Farbman  
Martha Ferger  
Dianne Elaine Ferriss  
Karl Fitzke  
Hans Fleischmann  
Bruce Fredericks  
Elaine Fredericks  
Laura Free family  
John Gaines  
Pat Gaines  
Steve Glenn  
Dawn Grover family  
Amelia Habicht  
Oliver Habicht  
Norma Helsper  
Loretta Heimbuch  
Brian Keith Heltsley  
Rick Hendricks  
Emily Hopkins  
Marshall Hopkins  
Sara Hopkins  
Carol Johnson  
Judy Jones

Marsha Kardon  
Mary Kirkpatrick  
Jeanette Knapp  
Arthur Kuckes  
Dick Kurtz  
Magdalen Lindeberg  
Ron Liso  
June Locke  
Gloria Loehle  
Linda Loomis  
Jane McArthur  
Peggy McKernan  
Susan McMurray  
Marie McRae  
Kim Milling  
Nancy Miller  
Celia Morgan  
Jim Murphy and crew  
Margaret Nichols  
Carol & Bob Nickerson  
Diana Nier  
Keith Perry  
Mark Pedersen  
David Pierce  
Janet Pierce  
Jan Pfeleiderer  
Don Postle  
Susanne Quagliata  
Tom Roberts  
Sue Roenke  
Cyndie Scheibe  
Barbara Shew  
James Skaley  
Madonna Stallmann  
Terri Starr  
Judy Stock  
Andy Turner family  
Sam Weeks  
Margaret Weis  
Jens Wennberg  
Ardeen White  
Carol Whitlow  
Whitney Wiggins family  
Wendy Wolfe  
Arthur Woll  
Sarah Wright  
Angela Zhao