

FAITH & WORSHIP

Learn about the parrots and people of Latin America

Rev. Dr. LoraKim Joyner will present a program on Parrots and People in Latin America: Their Perils and Promise, at 7 p.m. on Tues. Sept. 12, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Athens and Sheshequin. The event is free and open to the public.

Parrots are the most endangered group of birds in the wild, mostly because of the illegal wildlife trade. Despite this, conservationists in Latin America are doing amazing work preserving and cherishing their biotic communities. Joyner, wildlife veterinarian and Unitarian Universalist minister, works alongside these courageous people in her role as co-director of One Earth Conservation (www.oneearthconservation.org). She will tell stories and provide information about the status of parrots and people in Latin America from her 30+ years of front-line conservation leadership in the countries of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Belize, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Guyana and Paraguay. Her desire is that you will leave inspired, with more hope and compassion for your own lives and work in the world. Her new book "Conservation in Time of War: A transformational journey through beauty and tragedy, nurturing life against all odds" has just been released.

The church is located at 112 North Street, Athens. Parking is in the rear of the building. If you would like more information, please call (570) 888-0252, email uucas@uucas.org, or visit www.uucas.org. Everyone is welcomed.



Treating macaws on the porch.

Comedy entertainer to perform at United with Christ-Wysox

Special Guest Rodney Fortin (aka "Rodzilla") will be performing at United With Christ-Wysox at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Rodzilla is one of Canada's premier children and family entertainers. He is a Christian comedy entertainer and specializes in illusion, escape artistry and ventriloquism. Rodzilla has been performing for churches, schools, corporations, professional associations, summer camps, libraries and birthday parties in many nations around the world. The show is family-friendly and will inspire your imagination and engage your senses by using the best in magical entertainment.

All are welcome to attend. United with Christ-Wysox meets in the Vesper Church building located at 1957 River Road, Wysox, PA 18854.



LIVING IN SPIRIT

Spend some time in solitude, in your 'inner home'

BY REV. DARCEY LAINE

Sometimes I'm away from home for a while — whether on vacation or just so busy at work that I just sort of zip through the house and go back out — and when I finally get time to be at home it doesn't feel right. Often the bench by my front door is piled with stuff brought home from my adventures and I suspect there are things in the back of my fridge that might provide the basis for a good science experiment. Instead of feeling comfy and safe, being home becomes unpleasant and stressful.

Have you ever had a moment of panic when you realize you are going to be alone? It occurs to me that this dread of being alone is not so different from my dread of looking in the back of the fridge. When I am busy with meetings and work or family, (or just sucked into my Facebook feed) experiences and feelings pile up inside me and I "get behind" in my inner work. I've come to believe that when I get that moment of aversion about being alone, it's a good indicator that there's something inside me that needs my attention. And just like with my fridge, it's not getting any fresher.

Whether I am dreading being alone or dreading going home to a home full of unfinished projects, the solution is the same; only time spent there will make it feel like home again. I might put on my favorite music, fix myself a nice cup of tea and give myself a good chunk of time to reclaim my home. Sometimes this is all we need, just time to reacquaint ourselves as we would with an old friend. And if it doesn't feel right, I can ask myself why? What needs my attention?

If something in my home or in my spirit doesn't feel right, I must be brave and go in there. Ah, here's the handful of shells my family gathered as we walked the beach on our vacation. How lovely they are — time to find a permanent place where I can see them. Here's the bag we keep by the door all summer in case we want to go to the pool — I guess it's time to put that away for next year and get ready for the change of seasons. Here are the bills I need to pay. I'll set them here by the checkbook so I don't forget they still need my attention. Oh my, that's where the smell was coming

from — that stew I made that turned out badly. Time to admit no one is going to eat it; time to let go of that regret — into the trash-can with you! Long before the house is clean, it starts to feel like it's mine again.

Whether we are reclaiming our outer home or our inner one, sometimes we fear coming across something that is too much for us. In both cases, remember that help is available. When we realized our air conditioner had been leaking into the wall for over a month, I was afraid to find out how much damage the water had done, so I asked my friend who is handy to come look at it with me. The same is true if I realize I am afraid to feel a great loss or grief, or rage — I would call a friend or a professional who is handy with such things, and ask them to look at it with me. If we are the praying sort, we can also bring our worries and messes to the divine — Remember the psalmist tells us:

... you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
... and are acquainted with all my ways. [Psalm 139]

The divine already knows about the moldy stew in the back of our refrigerator (both literally and metaphorically), and knows about the water damage in our walls, and the unshed tears in our hearts. We don't have to wait to have a clean house to invite the spirit to tea.

So the next time you dread being alone, might I suggest that spending some time in solitude (your inner home) might be the best thing you could do for yourself and your spirit. It might mean the inward journey is calling to you. Because once you've thrown out all the things that need to be discarded, all that's left is healthy delicious food — maybe everything you need to make dinner, and your favorite dessert besides.

Rev. Darcey Laine is a Spiritual Director and the Parish Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Athens and Sheshequin. revlaine.blogspot.com

GriefShare begins new cycle Sept. 19; healing is possible

Handling the grief that comes with the death of a loved one is a journey, and it's different for every person. A participant says, "Three months after the death of my husband due to a vehicle accident, I began attending GriefShare. I knew immediately this was where I needed to be."

A new GriefShare is starting on Tuesday evening, Sept. 19, at North Street Community Church, 177 North Street, Canton. Handicap accessible. Sessions begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude around 8 p.m. Any adult who has lost a loved one by death, is invited to attend.

There's something for everybody. There's no formula for working through grief. The program includes a video and confidential discussion time, but participants are not required to share. Each participant is provided with a guidebook to aid in their grief journey.

Topics will include living with grief, effects of grief, family, God's answer for grief and heaven, among others. The DVDs feature nationally-respected grief experts and real-life stories of people. Participants can join at any time. Even if your loss has been a long time ago, you will benefit from GriefShare and are welcome.

GriefShare is a 13-week seminar meeting every Tuesday for 13 weeks (weather permitting).

For more information please call Judy at (570) 673-4298 or visit www.griefshare.org.

Funeral Home Directory

DIGNITY & RESPECT
Alteri-Bowen Funeral Home
 Funeral Director / Supervisor: Brian H. Thurston
 314 Desmond St.
 Sayre, PA • 888-2113

A convenient, easy access guide to area funeral service providers brought to you by The Review and these Local Funeral Homes

Online guest book now available

Pay your respects with our virtual guest book, simple go online to www.thedailyreview.com. For information about listing your business in our Funeral Homes Directory, Call (570) 265-2151

In Memoriam...

Sheldon Funeral Homes
 Main St. ~ Meshoppen, PA
 Owner: Benjamin B. Sheldon
 570-833-5637

Morse & Kleese Funeral Home, Inc.

 40 N Center St • Canton • 673-3193
 Supervisor/Owner: Kenneth H. Robertson

PEPPER FUNERAL HOME
 Paul B. Pepper, Jr.
 Funeral Director
 673-4333

Our Family Serving Your Family

Sutfin FUNERAL CHAPEL
 The Cooley Family ~ 273 S Main St, Nichols, NY
 (607) 699-3060

A Peaceful Place
Bowen-Farr Funeral Home, Inc.
 Funeral Director / Supervisor: Brandon B. Allis
 Gorden E. Farr St.
 Ulster, PA • 358-3456

Blauvelt Funeral Home
 Owner / Funeral Director / Supervisor
 Richard Blauvelt

 625 Broad Street
 Waverly • 565-7301
www.blauveltfuneralhome.com

Cooley-Tioga Point Cremation & Burial Options Inc.
 Theodore Dydynski, Supervisor
 802 N. Main St. Athens, PA
 888-8286

Sympathy & Understanding
Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home, Inc.
 Owner / Funeral Director / Supervisor: James A. Bowen
 217 York Ave.
 Towanda, PA • 265-2272

In Memoriam...

Sheldon Funeral Homes
 Main St. ~ Laceyville, PA
 Owner: Benjamin B. Sheldon
 570-869-1232

100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Vickery Funeral Home, Inc.
 Gerald W., Jr.
 Troy ~ 570-297-3030

Jay E. Lowery Funeral Home, Inc.
 225 S. Main St. • Athens
 570-888-2368
 Supervisor: Richard M. Lowery

Luckner Funeral Home
 Joseph Fritsch, Directors
 Serving Families in NY & Pennsylvania
 Pre Arrangements & Funeral Counseling
 449 Park Avenue, Waverly, NY 14892
 (607) 565-2573