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Unitarian Universalist
Society of Geneva



Pioneer Newsletter

June - July 2018



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From the Pulpit

the Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates

I'm writing this on Monday, still trying to get used to the idea that forty years of ministry have almost ended. 5 days to go. There are still appointments to keep, some files left to sort, administrivia to close out. Much of that I'll hand over to Christine and Lisa tomorrow. Minister@uusg.org will no longer reach me. I'll be off the Administrators list for UUSG's Facebook page and Realm. Off any remaining forwarders, off all the Realm lists. Out of the church phone system. I've handed over the keys to the safe deposit box and the Heritage files. I'll go to the bank tomorrow and close my Professional Expense Account. I'm still around, still seeing people at various places

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through the end of the week. Saturday, I'll leave my Key to Absolutely Everything on Christine's desk. I'm sure that, as I drive out of Geneva and home to Wheaton, I will think of at least one or two things that I should have remembered to do.

The Ministry of Absence feels harsh, but it's essential to help all of us stop thinking of me as UUSG's minister. Frankly, that's going to be easier for a lot of you than it will be for me. I'm realizing that I'm going to have to go on a "UUSG fast" for a while – stay away from the website, the Facebook page, even the newsletter. "Senior Minister of the UU Society of Geneva" has been at the center of my identity for a very long time. "Minister Emerita" is a completely different role. It's a major transition. I've got to admit that I'm ambivalent about it. But on the whole, it's the right time.

On July 1, I will be going through my Facebook Friends list and removing everyone for whom I have been "the minister." I know myself well enough to know I could not resist sending Likes and Loves and hopefully helpful comments to you, and I cannot do that. Come fall, I'll have a new Facebook page for my Reiki practice, and my energies will be focused on offering and teaching Reiki as part of our practice's focus on folks with significant life-changing conditions. I am now 49% of C. Scot Giles, LLC (if you know Scot, you will not be surprised to see that it is not a 50-50 partnership! Just as UUSG is forever *my* church, so is the practice forever *his!*). I'm moving into a new identity. So far, it feels like it fits pretty well.

You'll do well with Revs. Patrick and Jennifer – I've known them both for

a long time, and I'm glad they'll be working with you in your transition. Keep on being the fantastically caring, creative, committed, occasionally crazy people you are – you'll be an ongoing blessing to one another and to those who are fortunate enough to follow me in Geneva's ministry.

Serving with you has been a blessing and a joy. Continue to thrive – and to be peace!

*How did it get so late so soon?
It's night before it's afternoon.
December is here before it's June.
My goodness how the time has
flew.*

*How did it get so late so soon?
-Dr. Seuss*

With love,

Lindsay



A Letter From UUSG's Incoming Board President David de Coriolis

Dear fellow members of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva: I am pleased and honored to have been chosen by you to lead the board of directors for the 2018-2019 church year.

My family and I have been attending since 1998 and Rhonda and I signed the book in 2001. From the first time I heard a sermon from Lindsay I have

been devoted to this church and involved in our communal life. My involvements have included finance committee, chair of finance and treasurer, board member and board President. Rhonda and I have slung pizza, baked innumerable cookies for our beloved cookie walk and are members of the wonderful WOW team. I deeply appreciate that our community is made possible by the everyday involvement in and cooperate between all of you.

Within these walls we have found inspiration, solace, warmth, commitment, faith, joy and caring. You have been a vital part of my life for twenty years. We just celebrated the retirement of our beloved minister of forty years, Rev. Lindsay Bates. It is my fervent wish that we now apply all of our wisdom, graciousness, and respectful interactions to our future together. I am confident that if we all direct our energies and caring to each, as we have so fervently to our social justice missions, we will not only thrive but soar for the next forty years.

So I ask all of you to renew our bonds of mutual respect and affection. We are stronger because we care, we are grateful because we have one another and we will succeed at our mission to bring justice, compassion and peace to the world if we recommit to that which binds us together.

In these turbulent times the world desperately needs us. I am grateful for the trust the congregation has placed in the board and we will honor that trust in every way we can.

Many years ago, at a board meeting Lindsay asked us to think about an elevator speech for our Unitarian Church. Mine gets me from the ground level to the second floor So what is Unitarian Universalism to me? Practical goodness. Let's practice that together in the coming year and beyond.

Thank you, and see you in church over the summer.

David



Board Blog: The Going and Coming of the Tides by Brian Doyle

When I was in Junior High, the paramount question we all used to ask each other was, "what's your favorite radio station?" (Do you like The Loop

or B96 or WFMT?) Before our ideas about race, gender, or creed had taken firm root, this question was our entryway to identity.

I don't remember my own answer. It doesn't really matter. I'm sure I had little notion of what it meant—except that some would-be friend or girl I liked had the same answer.

Still, our responses to music, poetry, and art are as good as any measure of one's place in life. Often, they're vehicles we use to grapple with life's "big" questions. In my experience, the most profound works are those that are difficult to appreciate at first. I remember the first time I heard the Bulgarian Women's Choir and how jarring their harmonies were to my Western ears. Yet, within those songs, there was something else that held my attention, that called me back to listen again and again until I heard and appreciated the beauty. It was something simultaneously old and new—strange yet familiar.

I grew up in a clan of folkies. Family sing-alongs to the likes of John Prine and Tom Paxton were a cornerstone of my childhood. It's an affection that I've carried forward through high school, college, and into adulthood. When I meet someone who shares this affection, I immediately feel a sort of kinship.

So, at any rate, there I am three weeks ago browsing through a box of used CDs that Rev. Lindsay placed for sale on a table in the Common Room. Within the collection was an album by Gordon Bok, a folk singer from Maine whose songs I know by way of my father. It caught my eye so I grabbed it, thinking I'd have some nice songs to listen to in the car during my morning commute.

Well, that's not exactly what I got. The album in question, titled [Another Land Made of Water](#), contains one, long 45-minute track that's a mixture of spoken prose, choral music, and instrumentals. Technically, it's what's known as a "cantefable," a genre entirely new to me.

"Whoa! What the heck is this?!" I thought to myself.

I had to go back several times before I really began to hear the lyric. It's sort of a fairy tale. It describes an island and a makeshift house, the coming and going of the tides, the blessings of the winds, and the dreams of the sea-elves. Punctuated throughout this fable are profound philosophical monologues about the nature of change and impermanence.

Something simultaneously old and new—strange yet familiar. If the Buddha had been a Celtic fisherman living in Maine, this would be his story—and his blessing:

*...Go now the wind with thee
Go as you may go
Ne'er the storms sadden thee
Though the days pass over thee
Kind be the wind to thee.
—Gordon Bok, "Windcalling"*



Thank You To All Who Helped Rev. Lindsay Celebrate Her Upcoming Retirement!

The celebration in honor of Rev. Lindsay's retirement was truly wonderful! Everyone enjoyed it - including Lindsay! A very special thank-you to everyone who helped with planning and shopping and keeping the party, and the refreshments, moving along with such energy and enthusiasm! Extra special thanks to Christine Imielski for all her assistance throughout the process, and to Jeff Stibal for making all the technical aspects work beautifully. Great thanks to Patrick McGleam for creating the perfect photo of Lindsay and to Sherri Casterline for finding and arranging just the right frame, and to Jim Frazier and Gail Tattersfield for assisting with the photo-taking. We are especially appreciative of the shoppers (an unsung job) - Bev and Peter Coe, Gail and George Tattersfield, Renee and David Tomell, Jill and Don Brown, and Kathy Cornell, and to all who participated in the program itself.

Thanks to all the presenters: Kathy Cornell for emceeing, Deb Brod for creating and reading the perfect story for the occasion - "The Minister and the Fox" - and to Tom Lichtenheld for the beautiful art work he created to go with the story, Betty Bristol, Tom Haslett, Al Drover, Carol Dooley Corwell, David de Coriolis for speaking, and to Martha Tabis for presenting the beautiful scrapbook that she created, filled with memories shared by many of Lindsay's friends and admirers, Don Brod for speaking and presenting the unveiling of the beautiful portrait of Lindsay, and Jean Pierce for speaking and presenting Lindsay with the congregation's retirement gift.

Special thanks to the wonderful musicians and singers organized and led by Tracy Dullea and Cynthia Spiegel: Tom Zimmerman, Andy, David, and Ellie Montgomery, Dean Malambri, the UUSG House Band: Andy Montgomery, Tracey McFadden, Tracy Dullea, Jim Miles, Geoff Pynn, Jessica Littlefield, Kelly Herz, Julie Riffle, Thom Thomas. FUUsion: Trish Beckjord, Pam Birch, Lynn Fisher McCanne, Kelly Herz, Sara Hoerdeman, Susan O'Neill, Dawn Pokorny, Rhonda Robinson, Shawna Tiffin, Meredith Vanderbilt, Pat Vary, and the UUSG Choir led by Cynthia Spiegel, accompanied by Tom Zimmerman and Sandra Anderson-Cordogan: Dave Hanchette, Tom Haslett, Mark Adams, Nate Thomas, Robert Savage, Tom Zimmerman, Tracy Dullea, Lynn Fisher McCanne, Roger Gallentine, Thom Thomas, Trish Beckjord, Kate Rodgers, Linda O'Neill, Colleen Cushing,

Mary Davis, Anne Heavey, Karen Schell, Jessica Littlefield, Kelly Herz, Julie Riffle, Rachel Harbold, Rhonda Robinson, Clair Ryan, Katie Baar, Katie Vestal.

Thanks to all the party helpers: Sandra Anderson-Cordogan, Melissa Auer, Sandy Bottoms, Dan Bottoms, Betty Bristol, Deb Brod, Don Brod, Jill Brown, Don Brown, Leslie Ronson Brown, Jamie Carroll, James Carroll, Sherri Casterline, Bev Coe, Peter Coe, Kathy Cornell, Carol Dooley Corwell, Dave Davis for filming the program, Mary Davis, David de Coriolis, Brian Doyle, Kathleen Doyle, Alan Drover, Tracy Dullea, Jim Frazier, Kate Frazier, Cari Gesiakowski, Keith Gesiakowski, Scot Giles, Winelle Glaser, Sharon Hansen, Dave Hansen, Tom Haslett, Marc Hejna, Becky Hruby, Sean Hruby, Christine Imielski, Marilyn James, Patrick McGleam, Tracey McFadden, Kathy McFadden, Judy Medina, Jan Miller, Vohny Moehling, Jean Pierce, Bill Pokorny, Dawn Pokorny, Bill Scown, Jeannie Scown, Susan Scown, Amanda Slaiher, Ilene Smit, Martha Tabis, Gail Tattersfield, George Tattersfield, David Tomell, Renee Tomell, Pam Verner, Pat Ward, Anne Wilson-Dooley, Katie Yurkewicz, and a big thank you to everyone who brought refreshments!

Thanks to all from Jill Brown, Kathy Cornell, and the Celebrations Committee!



A Thank You from Rev. Lindsay

Dear UUSG community,

“Thank you” is inadequate, but I don’t know what else to say. Our time together on June 17 was such a wonderful gift. I think I would need to copy out the entire Directory to thank you all by name and I don’t want to leave anyone out. So thank you all - and a special thank you to Kathy Cornell and Jill Brown, to Cynthia Spiegel and the Choir, to Tracy Dullea and the Bye Bye Band, to Sherri Casterline and Martha Tabis and Patrick McGleam, to Deb Brod and Tom Lichtenheld, to Jeff Stibal and Dave Davis, to the set-up and clean-up teams, to all food-bringers and child-wrangers and note-writers - to all of you.

I know I wasn’t able to get to everyone for a last hug. Please accept a virtual one for now. I’m missing you already, and I’m looking forward to being with you again in a couple of years, after your new settled ministry begins.

With gratitude and love,

Lindsay

The Rev. Dr. Lindsay Bates, Minister Emerita
The UU Society of Geneva



Circles of Life

We’re sad to report that our UUSG family has lost a long-time member, Dan Wit, at the age of 95. Dan was a political scientist, an observer, a reporter, a professor, an author, a speaker, a story-teller, a good friend. He and Phyllis moved out to the warmth of California several years ago, for a time returning to the Fox Valley for the summer. We send our love and condolences to their family, and much love especially to Phyllis.



UUSG Music

In an emotional last month preparing for Lindsay's retirement from the pulpit, music played straight to the heart.

The Moving Up service highlighted the talents of young musicians, with charming piano selections by Leo Liang and Alex Cordogan, capped by the lovely voice of Meredith Vandre singing "The Circle Game."

Lindsay's last Sunday brought us a full day of glorious music beginning at the morning service with the UUSG ByeBye band featuring Tracy Dullea, Tracey McFadden, Jim Miles, Andy Montgomery and Geoff Pynn. Cynthia and Tracy collaborated on a soaring rendition of "Don't Cry for Me, Old Geneva" from the "Evita" score by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Kelly Herz soloed with moving autobiographical lyrics by Lindsay herself. Sadness, celebration, joy, regret, hopefulness – it all had a part in our goodbye musical tributes to Lindsay.

The afternoon celebration planned for Lindsay brought a wealth of musical tributes from a shining lineup that included vocalist Cynthia Spiegel accompanied by pianist Tom Zimmerman; Andy Montgomery and daughter Ellie; a family trio by Kelly Herz, Julie Riffle and Thom Thomas; the harmonies of the women of FUUsion; the UUSG Choir, led by Cynthia, and more great tunes from the UUSG House Band featuring Jessica Littlefield.

Looking ahead, we'll be treated to the music of the incomparable Montgomery family and the returning keyboard artistry of Lynn Fisher McCanne, Sandra Anderson-Cordogan and Dean Malambri.

Be a part of the joy of music – there is a place for you in our Music Ministry! Students, amateurs, professionals, adults, and youth. Please contact Music Director Tracy Dullea at music@uusg.org today!



Worship News

With Lindsay's retirement, worship at UUSG will not be exactly like it always was. But this change also gives us a chance to try out new ideas, explore some provocative topics, get to know some new speakers, and re-connect with some old UUSG members and friends as we worship together this summer and start to consider the future of our beloved community. Some of you may be excited about that future, some may be apprehensive, and some may be unfazed either way. The process of moving from a settled senior minister, through our period of interim ministry, to our calling a new settled minister may be, well, unsettling for many of us. But as Reverend Lindsay reminded us all at her final service, we must honor our covenant with UUSG – and if we do, our community will continue to thrive and grow.

The Worship Team has planned a rich program of services for this summer, and will be assisting our interim ministry team with worship planning during their time here. We have scheduled some innovative topics and speakers, retained a number of beloved traditions, and invited some excellent UUSG members to guide us through the summer. You can find more information about the summer program here: uusg.org/upcoming-services. We hope you will participate regularly as we embark on this change together, and take the chance to help make our guest speakers and friends leading services feel welcome and appreciated. New ideas, favorite hymns, regular services, and hang time for 6-14 year olds—what could possibly keep you from participating? See you at church this summer!



Our House

The Facilities Team has contracted with Inside Out Company to paint the belfry and to do some spot painting on the exteriors of the sanctuary and

Pioneer House. The project will start the week of June 25. The contractor decided to use an aerial lift instead of traditional scaffolding, so watch out for the heavy equipment over the next few weeks. Big thanks to Tom Lichtenheld for scoping out the project and coordinating the efforts with the contractor.

Ron Craig represented UUSG at a recent Geneva Historic Preservation Commission meeting. The building permit application and architectural drawings that Ron prepared were approved by the Commission. Now we can move forward with replacing the Pioneer House porch floor boards. Thanks to Ron!

We hope to receive the final quote soon from Klemm Roofing to replace the flat roof above the Common Room. Besides new roofing material, the skylights in the Common Room and nursery will also be replaced. Dave Tomell is leading this effort. Thanks Dave!

As mentioned last month, we replaced the grease trap in the kitchen. This was more involved than expected. One of the kitchen cabinets needed to be temporarily removed so that the plumber had enough room to remove the grease trap and replace it with simpler plumbing. Big thanks to Jan Miller and Tom Lichtenheld for assisting the plumber and making sure the Geneva Learners, an outside group using our facility, were not inconvenienced by the commotion in the kitchen.

The Facilities Team is looking for members and volunteers. If you're interested in helping us preserve our historic site, improve our meeting space, or enhance our classrooms, please contact Kevin O'Neill at facilities@uusg.org.



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The Minister and the Fox

by Deb Brod

The sun was setting on the land beyond the river when the minister and the fox stopped to rest after their long journey together.

“You’re leaving us now,” said the fox.

“Yes,” replied the minister.

“I wish you weren’t.”

“I have to. Forty years is a very long time. And now it’s time for something different. For both of us.”

“Different doesn’t always mean better.”

“You’re right. It doesn’t mean worse either.” The minister paused, then added, “That is up to you.”

The purple clouds blushed pink with the sun's last rays. "You're not really leaving, though, are you?" the fox said. "I mean, you won't be here. But you will. That which is in the heart is always within reach."

"You've been listening."

"Perhaps more than you realize," said the fox after a moment. "More than we realize."

The fox thought of the many words the minister had given them. The words to ponder, the words pushing them toward action, the words of solace. So many words, all attempting to guide them toward the Truth and the Goodness.

"What can we say? Other than thank you, which are just more words." The fox paused. "Perhaps it would help if we showed you how grateful we are."

The minister waited.

"If, every day, we remember to 'Go forth and *be* peace.'"

The minister smiled. "That would make me very happy."

The fox and the minister sat on the river bank as the sun dipped below the silhouetted trees.



Friday Flicks: Lost in Detention

Once again, immigrants and the government enforcement policies are front page news. However, immigration enforcement policies and actions have been harsh for a number of years dating back to the Obama and Bush administrations. While the separation of children from their families for illegal immigrants is new, the overall system the United States has implemented has been increasingly punitive for years. This month's film revisits the changes that were made 10 years ago and raises a troubling question. Why do we continue to believe that more draconian actions or a wall will stop people desperate to escape the violence and economic devastation in their countries?

The Obama administration deported or detained more immigrants than any other administration. The 2011 documentary, "Lost in Detention" begins with a closer look at the Secure Communities program, in which Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) records are shared with local law enforcement agencies. While the goal has been to target criminals, thousands of non-criminal immigrants have also been deported. Once illegal immigrants are detained they are sent to detention centers, often far from their homes. An investigation uncovered many cases of sexual and physical assault by guards against detainees. The larger issue is that detainees have little, if any, legal rights or recourse to confront abuse.

Please plan on joining us on Friday, July 27, at 7:00pm in the Common Room as we begin a new year of Friday Flicks.



Pizza Booth Results!

Whew! The Swedish Days pizza booth sold 164 pizzas and over 450 sandwiches this year!

Thank you to everyone who built the booth, plated pizza, served Gatorade, poured a slushie, cashiered, delivered pizzas, refilled water jugs, washed utensils, wiped down the counter after rain and then did it again when it rained some more! 63 people signed up to work one or more shifts.

Despite LOTS of rain, we netted over \$5,000 for UUSG. That's amazing!

The Swedish Days fundraiser is a rewarding experience, with lots of helping hands.

After 4 exhilarating years, Mary Swanson is retiring from managing this UUSG fundraiser. If you are interested in taking over for 2019, please contact Mary (fiveswansons@att.net) for more information. There are experienced and enthusiastic people ready to assist, but we need someone to coordinate the effort.



Pathway To Membership

Are you new around here? Have you been wondering what UUSG is all about? Are you looking for something to do on a Sunday afternoon? Would you like a free lunch?

The UUSG Welcoming Team invites interested newcomers to attend our next Pathway to Membership (P2M) session on Sunday, July 22. Gather in the Common Room right after the regular worship service. We'll kick things off around 11am with a light lunch. [Please RSVP here.](#)

Since this is a full 4-hour session, participants are encouraged to make their own childcare arrangements at home. If circumstances require that your small children accompany you, we will attempt to provide nursery care at church for those aged 6 or younger. A minimum of two weeks' notice is needed to find available caregivers.

Watch for more details in the next Pioneer and listen for pulpit announcements as the date approaches. Questions? Please stop by the Welcome Center in the Common Room.

For further information, please contact Jim or Kate Frazier at welcoming@uusg.org.



Beyond Our Walls

The beyond our walls cause for July is aid to kids and immigrant families on the southern border. Our donations will be split between the RAICES and the ACLU.

RAICES is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency that promotes justice by providing free and low-cost legal services to underserved immigrant children, families, and refugees in Texas. Founded in 1986 as the Refugee Aid Project by community activists in South Texas, RAICES has grown to be the largest immigration legal services provider in Texas. With offices in Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio, RAICES is a frontline organization in the roiling debate about immigration and immigrants in the world. RAICES combines expertise developed from the daily practice of immigration law with a deep commitment to advocacy. RAICES is unique among immigration organizations with a diverse staff of 130 attorneys, legal assistants, and support staff who provide consultations, direct legal services, representation, assistance and advocacy to communities in Texas and to clients after they leave the state. For more information on RAICES see raicestexas.org.

The ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project is dedicated to expanding and enforcing the civil liberties and civil rights of immigrants and to combating public and private discrimination against them. Using targeted impact litigation, advocacy, and public outreach, the ACLU protects the rights and liberties of immigrants. For more than 25 years, the ACLU has been at the forefront of almost every major legal struggle on behalf of immigrants' rights, focusing on challenging laws that deny immigrants access to the courts, impose indefinite and mandatory detention, and discriminate on the basis of nationality. The ACLU funds immediate aid to "Kids on the Border" with a fund that is divided evenly between La Union Del Pueblo Entero, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), and 12 other local groups in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and California working to protect kids separated from their families by ICE. For more information see aclu.org/families-belong-together.



Bible Study for UUs

For UUs who simply want to learn more about the Bible as literature, "Bible Study for UUs" is on the third Monday of each month, 7-8:30pm.

Our next meeting will be on July 16. We'll be continuing our discussion of "The Triumph of Christianity: How a Forbidden Religion Swept the World" by Bart Ehrman.

For more info, please contact Jim Frazier at biblestudy@uusg.org.



Sister Suppers - Deadline Approaching!

Sister Suppers, modeled on the traditional UU Circle Suppers, are social gatherings of women members and friends of UUSG. Four Sister Suppers will be held during late summer and fall. The sign-up deadline is Monday, July 2, so please sign up today at uusg.org/sister-suppers. Need more info? Sherri Casterline, (847) 464-5302.



Letter to the Congregation #2

GLOBAL WARMING – HOW BAD IS IT, REALLY?

By Bill Koehl and Dave Hanchette

On January 25, 2018, the “Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists” advanced its famous [Doomsday Clock](#) to 2 minutes before midnight, citing two threats to our survival: nuclear weapons, and “unchecked climate change.” The Bulletin condemned world leaders who “failed to act with the speed, or on the scale required to protect citizens from potential catastrophe,” so endangering “every person on Earth.”

For now, let’s assume the best -- assuming worst means earth becomes uninhabitable. Let’s assume that people *will, before time runs out*, take the major action steps needed to reverse global warming. Until those steps are taken, though, it makes sense to ask the following question:

Since climate change is basically unchecked right now, what should I expect to see from it during my lifetime?

The answer – plenty.

More Powerful Storms - Storms are more powerful now because so much heat is held in our atmosphere by the greenhouse effect. Heat is energy, and energy drives the weather. How much energy is being **added** to our atmosphere in the form of heat right now? The energy being added is **the amount that would be released by:**

- 1) detonating 4 Hiroshima atomic bombs in our atmosphere every second, or
- 2) half a million lightning bolts striking the Earth every second, or
- 3) 3,000 F5 tornados wreaking havoc on Earth every day, or
- 4) having two different places in the world being struck by a hurricane as powerful as Hurricane Sandy (a monster) constantly! skepticalscience.com/

Extreme Weather Events -Besides making storms more powerful, global warming makes them more likely. We now expect hurricanes, thunderstorms, winter storms, and other extreme weather events to become more numerous, more severe, or both. There has been a marked increase in climate-related natural catastrophes since 1980. These include extreme temperatures, droughts, forest fires, floods, and mass movements of human and animal populations, in addition to storms. - Jeffrey Bennett, A Global Warming Primer, © 2016, p.62.

Heat waves have become more common than cold spells; record high temps have become more common than record lows. And heat waves kill more people globally than any other weather -

Effects of Global Warming on Agriculture - Agricultural disruption is never a good thing. It has been a nemesis of humanity for all of civilization.

Changes in weather patterns will cause major disruptions to modern agricultural practices. The earlier arrival of spring will lead to longer, hotter and drier summers and disrupt pollination patterns. There will also be increasing stress from floods, droughts, invasive insects and diseases. This will lead to increased costs from reduced supply of crops, requirements for new investments, and disruptions to food processing and transportation and financial systems. And if that’s not enough, the chances of simultaneous major crop failures in multiple locations will increase.

“For the top four maize-exporting countries, which account for **87% of global maize** exports, the probability that they will have simultaneous production losses greater than 10% in any given year is presently virtually zero, but it increases to 7% under 2°C warming and **86% under 4°C warming.**”

- pnas.org/content/early/2018/06/04/1718031115

Health – “Climate change is set to increase the amount of ground-level ozone and fine particle pollution we breathe, which leads to lung disease, heart conditions, and stroke. Less rain and more heat means this pollution will stay in the air longer,

creating more health problems.” - [Climate Change set to Increase Air Pollution Deaths](#)

Research published in [Nature Climate Change](#) found that if climate change continues unabated, it will cause about 60,000 extra deaths globally each year by 2030, and 260,000 deaths annually by 2100, as a result of the impact of these changes on pollution.”

Higher levels of greenhouse gases encourage plants to produce more pollen. This creates "super pollen" that's larger and more allergenic. Scientists predict that pollen counts will double by 2040. **Stanford University professor Mark Jacobson estimates that 1,000 people will die from air pollution for every 1°C rise in global temperatures.**

Mosquito-borne diseases like the Zika virus and dengue fever are becoming more prevalent. Mosquitos pick up these diseases by biting an infected person and spread the diseases to other people through subsequent bites --*but only after an incubation period*. Research shows, however, that warmer temperatures shorten the incubation period, so the diseases are spreading more rapidly than before. Warmer temperatures also increase the geographic range of insects, so insect-borne illnesses are spreading into new areas. Today's shorter winters reduce the die-off rate of disease-carrying pests. As a result of these factors, areas that were once unaffected by the West Nile virus, malaria, and even bubonic plague are seeing breakouts. Lyme disease is on the increase because tick populations are expanding their ranges. Ticks move north as the climate warms. Warmer temperatures increase not only the range in which Lyme disease-carrying ticks can survive but also the amount of time during which ticks can feed. In warmer years the ticks emerge as much as three weeks earlier, posing an increased risk to public health.

Melting Ice - The polar regions are warming much faster than the rest of the planet. The amount of area covered by Arctic sea ice has dropped an average of 13% per decade for 30 years. Sea ice melting amplifies global warming because the water absorbs more heat than the more reflective ice. The warming of the polar atmosphere causes changes to the jet stream and polar vortex which affect weather patterns in the Northern Hemisphere. - nsidc.org/cryosphere

Sea Level Rise - Global warming causes sea levels to rise in two ways. Water expands as it warms. This **thermal expansion** largely accounts for the 8-inch rise in sea level since 1880 and is expected to cause another 1-foot rise by 2100. "A rise of as much as 8 feet by 2100 cannot be ruled out." - science2017.globalchange.gov/chapter/executive-summary

NASA reports that the rate of sea level rise is accelerating as a result of **the melting of both glaciers and of land ice in Greenland and Antarctica**. If the melting continues to accelerate at the present rate, sea levels will rise more than 2 feet by the year 2100. This conservative estimate based on 25 years of NASA data suggests that the problem of rising sea levels is likely to get worse. - climate.nasa.gov/news/2680/new-study-finds-sea-level-rise-accelerating

Ocean Acidification – By releasing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, humans are rapidly altering the chemistry of the ocean and affecting marine life. When carbon dioxide dissolves in the **ocean**, carbonic acid is formed. This leads to higher acidity, mainly near the surface, which has been proven to inhibit shell growth in marine animals like corals, lobsters, crabs, clams, oysters, and other shellfish that build their shells out of calcium carbonate compounds. Increased acidity slows the growth of calcium carbonate structures, and under severe conditions, can dissolve structures faster than they form. The acidified water can also threaten certain tiny plankton and larvae that depend on the carbonate ion, too. This threatens the health of the ocean food web. - nps.gov/articles/ocean-acidification-101.htm

Weather Cost - The U.S. has sustained 230 weather and climate disasters since 1980 where overall damages/costs reached or exceeded \$1 billion. The total cost of these 230 events exceeds \$1.5 trillion. During 2017, the U.S. experienced a historic

year of weather and climate disasters. In total, the U.S. was impacted by 16 separate billion-dollar disaster events, tying 2011 for the record number of billion-dollar disasters for an entire calendar year. More notable than the high frequency of these events was the cumulative cost, which exceeded \$300 billion in 2017 — a new U.S. annual record. - [ncdc.noaa.gov/billions](https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/billions)

Energy Costs - “As a result of higher temperatures, economists estimate that net energy costs to consumers will increase by 10 to 22 percent.” - [toolkit.climate.gov/topics/energy-supply-and-use/energy-consumption](https://www.toolkit.climate.gov/topics/energy-supply-and-use/energy-consumption)

Wages - “Without global GHG mitigation, labor hours in the U.S. are projected to decrease due to increases in extreme temperatures. Over 1.8 billion labor hours are projected to be lost in 2100, costing an estimated \$170 billion in lost wages.” - [epa.gov/cira/climate-action-benefits-labor](https://www.epa.gov/cira/climate-action-benefits-labor)

Transportation - “As our infrastructure comes under threat, we will be forced to spend more to maintain it – or, with increasing likelihood, to replace it. We will see these costs in rising taxes and user fees, higher insurance rates and more wear and tear on our vehicles. We will also see it in higher prices for nearly everything we buy as transportation disruptions along the supply chain are transferred to consumers.” - [money.usnews.com/](https://www.money.usnews.com/)

Potential Surprises - Compound Events and Tipping Points

From the Climate Science Special Report [CSSR 2017] - [science2017.globalchange.gov](https://www.science2017.globalchange.gov)

There is an increasing risk of extreme weather events happening simultaneously or multiple events happening in short succession. These are called “Compound Extremes”. There are also many possible tipping points in the Earth's climate system. Once passed, they will continue changing regardless of what we do. There are changes in atmosphere-ocean circulation in the North Atlantic, South Pacific and Equator and melting of the Arctic Sea Ice, Antarctic or Greenland icesheets. There are two carbon cycle tipping points in the Arctic. The first is carbon buried in the permafrost and the second in methane hydrates in sediments of the continental shelves of the Arctic Ocean.

* * *

OK, ‘nuff said. It’s time to conclude. We were asking: ***Since climate change is basically unchecked right now, what should I expect to see from it during my lifetime?*** Having read this far, you must have some ideas about that, so I’m going to let you answer that question yourself. One critical reminder, though: ***If somehow people don’t act in time or don’t do enough*** to reverse global warming, then ***everyone*** is beyond endangered, and the Earth, in time, will become uninhabitable. So here’s one final question which we’re hoping you’ll find motivational:

It’s 2 minutes ‘till midnight: Are your grandchildren safe?



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