

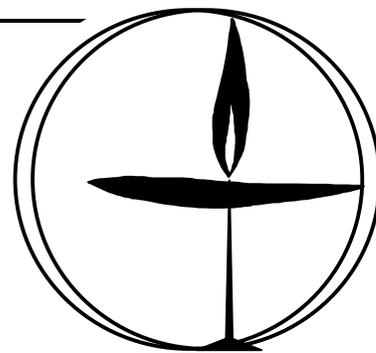
# UU News

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ONEONTA  
16 Ford Ave., Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-3491

www.uuso.org uuso@uuso.org

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 AM

Love is the doctrine of this church, the quest for truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer



February 4, 2015

Minister: Rev. Craig Schwalenberg—432-3491 or 287-7906  
revcraig@uuso.org

Board President: April Gates—988-6517

Music Director: Tim Horne—432-7323

UUSO Church Building—433-7329

Director of Religious Education:

Susan Ryder—643-1927—dre@uuso.org

Editor & Office Administrator: Robin Ahearn—432-3491  
uuso@uuso.org

## A THURBER CARNIVAL FOR MARCH 6, 7 DESSERT THEATER

A cast of 14 local actors present the Tony Award winning play, "A Thurber Carnival," along with delicious desserts and wine for the 12th Annual Dessert Theatre with the Little Victory Players; Ernie Schenk, director/set designer; Tim Horne, musical director; and Diana Friedell, director/producer. It is a series of humorous scenes from American life, including some of Thurber's most celebrated satires: "The Night the Bed Fell," "The Unicorn in the Garden," "Mr. Preble gets rid of his wife," and "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," among others. Tickets \$15 each, \$8 for students. Reservations can be made by calling Kathy Paranya at 441-3206.

If you would like to bring a home-baked dessert to contribute to this fundraiser for UUSO, please call Anne Ray at 432-8575. Tickets will go on sale after church in the sanctuary starting on February 15.

Cast includes Ernie Schenk, Diana Friedell, Virgil Briggs, Isabella Briggs, Duncan Smith, Scott West, Ben Friedell, Karl Seeley, Mike Forster Rothbart, Caley Sharratt, Rosemary Summers, Lisa Zuend-Misner, Kristin Sloth, and Kathy Shimberg, with choreography by Sherry Pagan and costumes by Grace Smith.

"Of belly laughs there is abundance... Small, cozy, and completely captivating revue... a sheer delight... joyous, magnificently lunatic festival" —New York Daily News —Diana Friedell

## Pi DAY

On March 14, 2015, the Membership Committee will be hosting the first annual Pi Day in the sanctuary at 6 pm. Here's how it's going to work: Members make a variety of pies and then we all get to taste them! This year's feature pie type is apple. We will have you, the tasters, decide on the best apple pie. Don't like apple? Bring your favorite pie to share, and your appetite. If you are planning on making a pie, please bring it to the sanctuary by 5:30 pm on 3/14. Contact Laura Reyda from the Membership Committee for more information at 988-0114. —Laura Reyda

## MINISTER'S MUSINGS

### Spiritual Deepening

One of things we are called to do as Unitarian Universalists is the continued search for truth and meaning. We are, I hope, a people that wish to continue asking questions while working towards a deeper spiritual understanding. In the past, I've facilitated some classes (Building Your Own Theology and Articulating Your Faith) to help with this spiritual deepening. I've received a lot of requests to schedule another BYOT class. This has been difficult since the class usually requires a 10-12 week commitment. There are other options. There are probably other ideas I haven't thought of. On Thursday, February 12, at 5:30 pm, I'll be hosting a discussion/brainstorming session about how we might best expand our opportunities for spiritual deepening at UUSO. We'll meet in Chapin Memorial. All are welcome.

### Our Chalice

I am sad to report that a couple of Sundays ago, our UUSO chalice was accidentally knocked off of the chancel where it broke into a dozen pieces. On Sunday, February 1, I placed the chalice pieces on our chancel table and announced the breakage to the congregation. As I said then, as special as the chalice was to us (it was handmade for us by Don Booth), it is still a physical object. The symbol and meaning of the chalice still remains. We are still a beloved community, still called to work for justice, and still a beacon to all those who are looking for a place where they belong.

I will be forming a task force to discuss/explore our options for our chalice. Perhaps we can repair this one. Maybe we can commission a new chalice from a local artist. Or, we might purchase one that matches our sanctuary's aesthetic. I don't know. In the mean time, we will still light a chalice before the worship service. I'm hoping that members of the congregation will share their chalices for our Sunday services. If you are interested in lending your chalice for a particular Sunday, please contact me or Robin.

—Cooperatively, Rev. Craig

### *Among Ourselves...*

There will be a memorial service for **Bill Kratzenstein** on Saturday, February 14, at 2:00 pm at the UUSO. Following will be a reception.

If you can help by bringing food for the reception: fruit, crackers and cheese, veggies, finger sandwiches, dessert, or the like, please let me know what you will be bringing.

Thanking you all very much. It is great to be a part of this caring community.

—Patricia Engel LaFata

### *Sawdust from the Board*

This has been a busy month for your Board of Trustees. At our meeting in January we:

- viewed a draft budget for 2015-16, which we will review at this month's meeting;\*
- discussed and approved increasing childcare providers' pay scale to minimum wage;
- approved Sandy Smith as our new Stewardship Chair;

## UUSO Newsletter—February 4, 2015

- approved a website privacy statement;
- scheduled a Board Retreat for February 1 on finance issues and procedures (thank you to Margaret Maguire for presenting);
- approved the installation of an additional railing in front of OBH;
- scheduled a “Committee Expo” (March) to recruit new committee members.

\*Please note that we have moved the regularly scheduled Board meeting date to February 25. If you have concerns that the Board needs to hear about, please drop by and talk with the two Trustees who will be staffing the Sounding Board at the Social Hour the previous Sunday, February 22. As always, UUSO members are welcome to attend Board meetings to observe.

—April Gates, President, for the Board of Trustees

### **FEBRUARY DINING FOR WOMEN**

The Oneonta Chapter of Dining for Women will have its next potluck dinner on Sunday, February 8, at 1:30 pm in the UU Sanctuary. Each month the group learns about and supports organizations that help women and girls in developing countries improve their lives. This month, Dining for Women donations will support SHE: Sustainable Health Enterprises, in Rwanda. Each month, many women and girls are deprived of education and income when they do not attend school or work because of their menstrual period. This program provides affordable menstrual supplies to school girls, educates girls and their families about puberty and hygiene, and supports the local manufacture of affordable pads, which are made from banana plant fibers. Dining for Women will also provide ongoing support to Matrichaya. This program, in rural India, provides primary education for children, literacy and vocational training for women, and offers basic healthcare services. All are welcome to join us at our monthly meetings. Bring a dish to pass if you would like. For more information, call Linda at 433-2985. —Linda Wilcox

### **AVOIDING THE LOCAL PLAGUE...**

In an effort to avoid the flu, colds, bugs, etc., that are currently circulating and putting lots of members and friends out of commission, we are instituting a temporary unofficial ban on hugging and handshaking during services. Acceptable alternatives include fist bumping, elbow bumping, a friendly wave—whatever works best for you that will help prevent the spread of germs.

—Robin Ahearn

### **JUNG AND YOGA PROGRAM WILL BEGIN FEBRUARY 13**

Margaret Maguire and Kathryn Smith will offer a program for three consecutive Fridays at 10:30 am in Chapin Memorial. We will open with readings from the Collected Works of C.G. Jung. Then we will do some gentle hatha yoga, followed by a period of chanting of the Siddha tradition and a sitting meditation. There will not be extensive discussion. This is intended to be an introspective, spiritual experience. We will also meet on February 20 and 27 using the same format.

Margaret is a Trustee of the Jung Foundation in NYC and Kathryn is a Kripalu Certified Yoga Instructor. Classes are free and open to all members and friends. There will be a voluntary donation for the yoga instruction. —Margaret Maguire

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education classes are starting up again after the January Intersession. We will begin with me leading a Children's Worship Service next Sunday, February 8, in the double classroom at Chapin Memorial for children from kindergarten through sixth grade. We will celebrate Valentine's Day. COAST (Coming of Age Spiritual Trek) and Mid-Teens (those who are from seventh through ninth grade) will have a field trip on February 8 to Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady. The Schenectady church will be having a "Sundae Sunday" Intergenerational Service, complete with ice cream sundaes for all! Our youth will also be able to meet with that church's youth and their director of religious education.

The Explorers Class (those from kindergarten through third grade) is beginning to read chapters from Charlotte's Web, by E.B. White, as part of their lessons on exploring the interdependent web of life. It is fun to see how a new generation of children still loves this wonderful story. Their upcoming classes include: Litters and Runts, Pets, Things that Hatch from Eggs, Uniqueness, Friendship & Cooperation, and Experiences with Crickets.

Hogwarts Oneonta Class (children from fourth through sixth grade) are exploring Unitarian Universalist values and principles through the lens of the Wizarding World of Harry Potter. The next two months will include lessons on the following topics: Curses, Pets, Amulets and Charms, Good vs. Evil, and the Secret Language of Flowers. Their winter schedule will conclude with a Wizarding Challenge Class where they will attempt to complete assignments from the Hogwarts-Oneonta book of Particularly Difficult Tasks.

You can see what a class will be doing each Sunday by checking the church web page [uusoo.org](http://uusoo.org) under "Children/Youth" and then "Next Sunday's Classes." I try to have the page updated with current class information by Wednesday morning for the following Sunday.

If you haven't already done so, please fill out a yellow card stating your preference for your child(ren)'s photos to be included (or not) on the webpage. We will never use a child's last name. Once these are all returned to me, I can begin to post some of the great photos from our classes this year. I know you will enjoy them! Extra forms are on the entryway table in the foyer at Chapin Memorial; they can be left in the nearby wall pocket for things headed to the church office or left in the Mills/Ryder church mailbox.

We all look forward to adventures ahead! —Susan Ryder, UUSO Director of Religious Education

## ANNUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN

On Sunday, February 8, the annual African American Read-In will be held from 2-4 pm, at Roots Brewing Company, on Main Street, Oneonta. Everyone is invited to bring and read a selection by an African American writer, or just to come listen and enjoy. This event has been presented by the Oneonta Area Branch of the NAACP, since 1993.

The first African American Read-In was sponsored nationally in 1990 by the Black Caucus of the National Council of Teachers of English. Over a million readers from 50 states, the District of Columbia, the West Indies, and African countries have participated since. The goal is to make the celebration of African American literacy a traditional part of Black History Month activities.

For more information, contact Michelle Osterhoudt at [osterhoudt32@yahoo.com](mailto:osterhoudt32@yahoo.com).

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST NIAGARA EXPERIENCE 2015 (UUNEX2015)

March 27-28, 2015, are the dates set for the District Assembly in Niagara Falls, NY. The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Niagara is offering a special Niagara Experience for participants. At the close of the District Assembly programming at 5 pm Saturday, March 28, those registered for the UUNEX2015 may convene at the First UU Niagara Church for a cocktail hour with an open bar followed by a pork tenderloin banquet with a grilled portabella mushroom vegetarian alternative. After the banquet, tours of the lights over the Falls will be led by Church members for those who are interested.

On Sunday morning our guests will be fed scrumptious brunch before our 11 am Sunday Church service.

If there is interest, church members will be available to take people to attractions within the county: The Aquarium, Old Fort Niagara, and evidence of Underground Railroad activities in the area.

Cost is \$75 per person for the entire UUNEX2015. This price includes meals, tour guides and lots of storytelling. Guests will be expected to stay over an additional night at their hotels at their own expense. The Church is located a short distance from the Convention Center where the DA will be held and close to the major hotels. It is approximately one mile from the Falls themselves.

There is limited space available for UUNEX2015. Please register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. We are excited about hosting you for this special event.

Send your reservations with full payment to:

First UU of Niagara  
c/o Peter Diachun  
840 Page Avenue  
Lewiston, NY 14092  
(716) 754-2830  
peter.diachun@gmail.com

Please make your check payable to the First UU Church of Niagara and include an email address for acknowledgment and late-breaking information.

The Church conducted three-day versions of this UUNEX for several years in the past. We received rave reviews from previous guests on our hospitality, the tours, and our meals.



## DIRECTORY UPDATES:

As is the norm, the moment the newest directory is updated and printed, new updates come in! Here are some of the updates for the 2015 Directory. Please add them to your copy:

**Tiffany Doris**

PO Box 17  
Oneonta, NY 13820  
(631) 338-5390  
photoplay30@optonline.net

**Committee on Ministry Membership:**

Patricia Engel LaFata  
Paul Robinson, and  
*New Member:* Carolyn Wolf-Gould

## A NOTE OF THANKS...

January 10, 2015

Dear Rev. Schwalenberg,

On behalf of the Hunger coalition of Otsego County (HCOC), I would like to thank you and your congregation for your continuing support with the generous donation of \$230. With help from your congregation, we are able to continue supporting the various food programs and food banks in Otsego County.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey E. Hahn, Treasurer

Hunger Coalition of Otsego County

## FOR EMILY DICKENSON FANS

Come explore Emily Dickinson's passions as poet, gardener, and cook July 17-19, 2015, in Amherst, MA. Beginning Friday in late afternoon and concluding Sunday morning, a new program devoted to the life and works of one of America's greatest poets will feature:

- Presentations by Dickinson scholars Marta McDowell, Aife Murray and Jane Wald;
- Hands-on activities to help guests delve more deeply into Dickinson's love of botany and baking.

Offered by the UU Society of Amherst for \$400/pp, the program also includes private tours of The Dickinson Homestead, visits to the poet's gardens and grave; a trolley tour of Dickinson landmarks; poetry discussions and readings; musical performances; and optional visits to the Dickinson collections at Amherst College, The Jones Library and the Amherst History Museum.

The program fee of \$400/pp includes all admissions, tours and activities, refreshments and four meals. Optional lodging is available for \$75/pp per night in the homes of members of the UU Society of Amherst.

For more information, visit <http://www.uusocietyamherst.org/EmilyDickensonEducationalWeekend.aspx>, email [office@uusocietyamherst.org](mailto:office@uusocietyamherst.org), phone (413) 253-2848, or write to the UU Society of Amherst, PO Box 502, Amherst, MA 01004-0502

This event is a fundraiser for the UU Society of Amherst.

—Janis Gray, UU Society of Amherst Dickinson Weekend Coordinator ([jsgray@crocker.com](mailto:jsgray@crocker.com))

**UUSO Newsletter—February 4, 2015**

**CALENDAR**

Feb 8	Sun	<b>10:30am/Service: "What Inspires You?"/Mary Krupp/CM</b>
		12:00pm/Bylaws Cmte/OBH Dining Rm
		12:30pm/Building Use/DT Rehearsal/CM Classrooms
		<b>1:30pm/Dining for Women/CM</b>
Feb 9	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		3:00pm - 4:00pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30pm/RE Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining Rm
		6:30pm - 8:00pm/Zen Mediation/CM
Feb 10	Tue	4:30pm - 8:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30/Stewardship Cmte/OBH Living Rm
Feb 11	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		1:30pm/Small Group Ministry/Off-site
		4:00pm - 4:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		<b>6:00pm/Scrabble &amp; Potluck/CM</b>
Feb 12	Thu	5:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		<b>5:30pm/NAACP/OBH Living Rm</b>
		7:00pm - 9:30pm/Building Use/CCS/CM
Feb 13	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		<b>10:00am - 11:30am/Jung &amp; Yoga/CM</b>
		5:30pm/Mali Task Force/OBH 1st Floor
Feb 14	Sat	<b>2:00pm/Bill Kratzenstein Memorial Service/CM</b>
Feb 15	Sun	<b>10:30am/Service: "With Love" Ministry: Part II/Rev. Craig/CM</b>
		12/Finance Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining Rm
		12pm/Mali Task Force/OBH Living Rm
		12:30pm/Building Use/DT Rehearsal/CM Classrooms
		1-3pm/Small Group Ministry/CM Loft
Feb 16	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		<b>9:00am/Newsletter Deadline</b>
		6- 8:00pm/Small Group Ministry/OBH
		6:30pm - 8:00pm/Zen Mediation/CM
		7:00pm/Endowment Cmte/OBH Upstairs
Feb 17	Tue	10:00am - 11:30am/Yoga/CM
		10:15am/Small Group Ministry/OBH
		6:30/Stewardship Cmte/OBH Living Rm

Feb 18	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		4:00pm - 4:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
Feb 19	Thu	11:30am - 12:30pm/Yoga/CM
		5:30pm - 6:30pm/Yoga/CM
		7:00pm - 9:30pm/Building Use/CCS/CM
Feb 20	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		<b>10:00am - 11:30am/Jung &amp; Yoga/CM</b>
Feb 22	Sun	<b>10:30am/Service: "Promises"/Music Sunday/CM</b>
		12:30pm/Building Use/DT Rehearsal/CM Classrooms
		<b>1:00pm/Free Hypnosis Clinic/CM Loft</b>
Feb 23	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		3:00pm - 4:00pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30pm - 8:00pm/Zen Mediation/CM
Feb 24	Tue	10:00am - 11:30am/Yoga/CM
		4:30-8:30pm/Bldg Use/CM Classroom
		6:30pm Stewardship Cmte/OBH Living Rm
		6:30pm - 9:30pm Stop the Pipeline Mtg/CM
Feb 25	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		1:30pm /Small Group Ministry/Off-site
		4:00pm - 4:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30pm/Board of Trustees/CM
Feb 26	Thu	11:30am - 12:30pm/Yoga/CM
		5:30pm - 6:30pm/Yoga/CM
		7:00pm - 9:30pm/Building Use/CCS/CM
Feb 27	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		<b>10:00am - 11:30am/Jung &amp; Yoga/CM</b>
Feb 28	Sat	8:00am - 5:00pm/Zen Retreat/CM

**MARCH**

Mar 6	Fri	<b>7:30pm/Dessert Theater/CM</b>
Mar 7	Sat	<b>7:30pm/Dessert Theater/CM</b>
Mar 8	Sun	<b>10:30am/Service: "Artemis and Daniel Boone"/Rev. Craig/CM</b>
		<b>1:30pm/Dining for Women/CM</b>

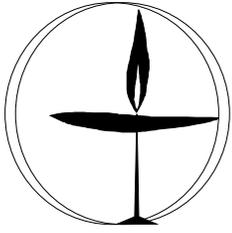
CM=Chapin Memorial/OBH=Olympia Brown House

**Rev. Craig's Office Hours:**

*Tuesday, 10-4; Wednesday, 12-4; Thursday, 10-4*

**Office Administrator's Hours:**

*Mon, Wed & Fri, 9-2; Tues & Thurs, 9-12*



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY  
12 Ford Ave.  
Oneonta, NY 13820

## UPCOMING SUNDAYS at the UUSO

**February 8, 2015**

**"What Inspires You?"**

Children to Classrooms at 10:30

Arts Sunday will be about creativity  
and inspiration.

What inspires the artist in you?

**Mary Krupp**

**Music provided by the UUSO Choir  
and Music Director Tim Horne**

*Coffee Hosts: Carol Malz & John Nader  
Ushers: Lynn Beken & Liz Jacob Carter  
Worship Associate: Bob Brzozowski  
(Please submit announcements to  
Bob via email by 2/7.)*

**February 15, 2015**

**"With Love"**

**Ministry: Part II**

Start Together Sunday

Pastoral ministry is the practice of  
"Loving the Hell Out of the World"  
and everyone in it...  
(which is no small challenge, either...)

**Rev. Craig Schwalenberg**

**Music provided by  
Music Director Tim Horne**

*Coffee Hosts: Paul Conway &  
Dawn Kilts  
Ushers: Ben & Diana Friedell  
Worship Associate: Julian Pecenco  
(Please submit announcements to  
Julian via email by 2/14.)*