

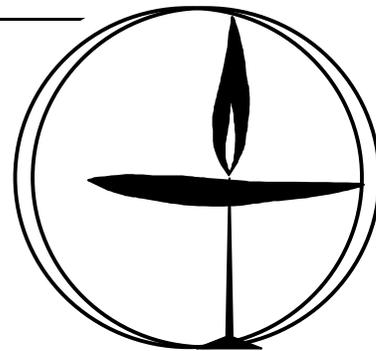
UU News

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 18, 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

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At the UUSO, we work diligently to *create beloved community, freely seek the light, and reach for a better world.* We work together to *create a place that is more loving, more accepting while seeking justice and freedom for all souls.* These words are the mission of UUSO and they capture the spirit of our congregation. Most will agree that our mission serves as a lighthouse in a world struggling with religious extremism, corporate greed, environmental irresponsibility, political corruption, poverty, healthcare crises, human rights inequalities, and much more. Undoubtedly, many who read our mission statement would agree that we are a community with *High Hopes.*

The theme of this year's stewardship campaign drive is "High Hopes." *High Hopes* signals an energy of reaching beyond what one may think possible to achieve. In this case, it suggests

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MARCH MADNESS DESSERT THEATER

The Little Victory Players and UUSO present the Tony Award winning play, "A Thurber Carnival," along with delicious desserts and wine for the 12th Annual Dessert Theater, on Friday and Saturday, March 6 and 7, at 7:30 pm. Ernie Schenk, Tim Horne, Duncan Smith and Diana Friedell are directing. 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.

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Spiritual Deepening/ Adult Programming

I hosted the first roundtable discussion about Spiritual Deepening/Adult Programming at UUSO last week on Thursday evening. We had about a half dozen people in attendance and we had a great conversation on the topic. We discussed what has been done in past, what worked, what didn't. More importantly, we talked about what people were hoping for in the future and how we might best make it happen. Several people let me know they wanted to participate in the conversation, but couldn't make it to the meeting. Fortunately, this was only the first conversation on this topic. We will be having another roundtable discussion for those who haven't participated yet on Monday, February 23, at 4:30 pm in Olympia Brown House. If you have something to share and want to contribute to the future of Spiritual Deepening/Adult Programming at UUSO, please join us. If you can't make the meeting, please feel free to send me an email or give me a call with your thoughts.

Our Pastoral Care Ministry

As I discussed in this past Sunday's sermon, our shared ministry of pastoral care at UUSO has some gaps and cracks in it. The organic bottom-up model of identifying those in need and providing direct assistance that has worked in our community for so long is no longer adequate. There are too many people in need not being identified and we have people who ask for help and receive none. I'm confident that we can do better. It will require us letting go of the old organic system we have been using and become a bit more deliberate and organized. After the service on Sunday, I invited people to join me for a conversation about how we might improve our pastoral care ministry and do a better job of creating and maintaining the Beloved Community at UUSO. We had a much larger crowd in the loft than I anticipated, with about a dozen concerned and committed people sharing their experiences and their ideas. It was a great meeting. But, again, not everyone who has an opinion was able to attend. Some people didn't even know the meeting was taking place since I didn't announced it until the sermon itself. So, we will be holding another meeting for those who haven't attended yet. We will meet on Thursday, February 26, at 5:30 pm in Chapin Memorial.

—Rev. Craig

Among Ourselves...

UUSO Member Bob Pickardt recently had major surgery, which was successful. He is doing well and would love some company, phone calls, cards, etc:

Bassett Hospital, Room 425A
One Atwell Road
Cooperstown, NY 13326
547-3425

UUSO Newsletter—February 18, 2015

ANNUAL MALI EVENT!

The Mali Task Force will be hosting our annual fundraising event for Youchaou's School in Mali on Friday, March 20, at Chapin Memorial. We will be serving an Ethiopian/Eritrean Banquet, showing the film *The Dark Side of Chocolate*, and presenting our wonderful Mali Market. Doors open at 6:00. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Please reserve your seat by contacting Carolyn Wolf-Gould at cswolfgould@gmail.com or 434-3303. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. Family rates are available and we will have free childcare. Funds from the banquet will be used to buy books for the new school library, which was built with funds from our task force. Hope you will join us!

—Carolyn Wolf-Gould, Mali Task Force

AUCTION 2015!

Mark your calendars and tell your friends! Our annual Goods & Services Auction is scheduled for Saturday, May 2.

This is a very fun social evening—one of the UUSO's biggest fundraisers—and a great way for those new to the church to get involved!

Here are some of the ways you can help:

- If you are downsizing, sorting through unused wedding gifts or clearing out the attic, this is a great way to recycle old treasures (or new ones, for that matter!).
- Keep us in mind if you have season tickets you can't use, or have access to complimentary tickets, or can offer a week at your vacation getaway.
- Volunteer to call our wonderful cooks and bakers to request snacks for the night of the auction.
- **Come and help out on the night of the auction!** We'll need **lots** of volunteers during the auction (when free childcare is available)!

If you're interested in helping in any way, please watch for our first meeting, or contact me at 431-9509.

—Jane Bachman

JUNG & YOGA PROGRAM FEBRUARY 20 and 27

Margaret Maguire and Kathryn Smith will offer a program this Friday and next at 10:30 am in Chapin Memorial. We will open with readings from the work of C.G. Jung. We will do some gentle hatha yoga, followed by a period of chanting in the Siddha tradition and a sitting meditation. There will not be extensive discussion. This is intended to be an introspective, spiritual experience.

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

CHICKEN AND BISCUIT DINNER THEATER

Saturday, February 21, at 6 pm, at the First United Methodist Church, 66 Chestnut Street, Oneonta, the youthful musicians of the church will be presenting "Exodus from Egypt County," a musical retelling of the story of Moses set in the Old West. Dinner is at 6 followed by the show. Tickets are \$10/adults; \$5/children; 5 and under free). There will be a second showing at noon on Sunday, February 22, with a soup and bread luncheon at 11:30 am (\$5/adults and youth; 5 and under free). Proceeds will benefit the Klipnocky Klangers youth handbell choir. For additional information, call 432-4102. —1st UMC

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

In the deepest part of winter I always am cheered by all the seed catalogues that start showing up at my house. I now have a pile of them that allow me to imagine how beautiful my garden will be and that it will someday be warm.

Today it is ten below zero. A different kind of catalogue has begun to arrive at church. These offer yet another way to dream about the warm days to come. Imagine that it will someday be summer and how fun it might be for you, your family and/or your children to go to a UU summer camp!

I will tell you about the first of these camp catalogues to arrive. There will be more, as there are many wonderful options for you and your family to experience UU summer camps here in the Northeast.

Camp Unirondack is a favorite among some families in our congregation. Unirondack is a Unitarian Universalist camp and conference center located on a peninsula in the woods on Beaver Lake in the western Adirondack Mountains. It is about a two-and-a-half-hour drive north from Oneonta. The camp offers gatherings and programs for adults and families as well as overnight weeklong camp for children and youth. I think the following from the catalogue gives a good sense of what the camp has to offer children:

Where else can you build a city in the sand, construct a cardboard/duct tape canoe, participate in a hilarious game show, paint your counselor, take on the persona of your favorite Harry Potter character, play shoe golf, learn circus arts, perform in a play, and still have time each day to swim, kayak, sing, and read poetry around a campfire?

Each day has a schedule that includes a mix of group projects and workshops, free time, an evening program and campfire, excursions into the woods or onto the lake, delicious meals and comfortable sleeping arrangements. The literature stresses that Unirondack is a place that values each individual while including everyone in a sense of something greater than themselves. UU principles are learned while living them every day. I know that people from our congregation who have attended programs at Unirondack return again and again.

If you are interested in this camp or if you simply want to dream about summertime by a beautiful lake, you can pick up one of their catalogues from the foyer at Chapin Memorial or from the office at the Olympia Brown House. You can also check out their website at <http://www.unirondack.org>. Camperships are available to help with program costs.

—For the Warmth of Community, Susan Ryder, Director of Religious Education

GENTLE YOGA CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEEK

Tracy Verma will teach the following Gentle Yoga Classes in the UUSO sanctuary, which are free for UUSO members (donations welcome):

Tuesdays 10-11:30 am, February 17-April 21, \$15/class for non-members;

Thursdays 11:30 am-12:30 pm, February 26-April 23, \$10/class for non-members;

Thursdays 5:30 pm-6:30 pm, February 19-April 23, \$10/class for non-members;

Thursday February 19, 5:30-6:30 pm is a free class for the community at large.

There are no classes March 3 and 5.

Contact Tracy for more information/registration at 433-2353 or atma@stny.rr.com. Bring a mat and light blanket and wear loose comfortable clothes.

—Tracy Verma

Our new TALK@uuso.org Email Discussion List

If you haven't yet signed up to be on the TALK@uuso.org discussion list, go to the UUSO.org website and you'll find a link to the signup page on the Home Page in the "Upcoming Events" area. This email discussion list will soon replace the old UUSO_TALK list. We'll discontinue UUSO_TALK as soon as we feel the new TALK@uuso.org list is functioning well and that most people who want to be on it have had a chance to sign up.

Once you submit your name and email address, Robin will receive a message with your information. She will then send your email address to Sweet Home, which is managing our web page. They'll add you to the list, and you will receive a confirmation email with a link that you must click on to be enrolled. You may not see the confirmation email for a week or a bit more as Robin sends the list of people who want to be added only once a week, and it takes Sweet Home a few days to get them added after they get the list of new members' email addresses. Until you get and click on the confirmation link in the email you won't be authorized to send messages to the new list.

Once we get everyone subscribed, we hope that this new discussion list will be better than our old one. For one thing, you can send attachments with the new list. Also, many people who wanted to be added to UUSO_TALK were never able to be added in the past few years when Yahoo added a requirement for all new members to have a Yahoo email address. This requirement was impractical for many people who wanted to join the list. TALK@uuso.org does not have a similar requirement.

If you have any questions or problems with the new list, please contact Kathy Paranya at kparanya@stny.rr.com.

—Kathy Paranya

REFLECTIONS ON BEING IN PALESTINE NOW...

The UUSO Social Action Committee will present a talk by Elliott Adams, "**Reflections on Being in Palestine Now**," followed by Q&A, on Sunday, February 22, at 4:30 pm in Chapin Memorial. All are invited, open to the wider Oneonta community, please spread the word. Free admission, pass-the-hat to defray expenses.

Join Elliott Adams as he speaks about his recent experiences living for two months with Palestinians in the West Bank of the Jordan River, harvesting olives, reporting on house demolitions, observing demonstrations with tear gas, rocks, and rubber bullets, and seeing soldiers taking over civilians' homes. Since we hear so much in the U.S. about that area but understand so little about the conflict, he will try to bring some understanding about the issues.

Elliott Adams is past National President of Veterans for Peace; Chair of Creating a Culture of Peace; and member of Meta Peace Team's Training Committee. He was a paratrooper in the infantry serving in Vietnam, Japan, Korea, and Alaska, and was two-term Mayor of the Village of Sharon Springs, NY. Adams is dedicated to ending all war; this struggle has led him to testify before the U.S. Congress Judiciary Committee and attend Parliament in Canada. It has also led him to being arrested many times and being deported from South Korea for peace activities. In 2009 he travelled to Gaza, and recently returned from a trip to the West Bank.

—Kathy Shimberg



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achieving a stewardship goal that exceeds what has been done in the past. And, in fact, that is what we intend to do—reach a bit further to our campaign goal of \$170,000. Much like the ant and the rubber tree plant, we are a congregation of High Hopes and well suited for meaningful challenges like this one.

The stewardship campaign for 2015 begins on Sunday, March 1. The Stewardship Committee (Deb Bruce, Mary Krupp, Stan Sessions, Sandy Smith, Pam Strother, Judy Tator, and Rev. Craig Schwalenberg) invites you to help us kick off our stewardship campaign with a celebratory potluck event. Using our High Hopes theme, the ant had “high apple pie, in the sky hopes,” just like we do! Therefore, think thematically about “pies,” which will be a menu of foods focused on pie—pizza pie, pot pie, mincemeat pie, etc.—along with salad and dessert (probably pies!). By modeling the tenacity of the ant and the rubber tree plant, together we can create a potluck feast that can feed everyone.

Lunching together will also give you the opportunity to make a pledge at the beginning of the campaign, be graciously thanked, and then be able to sit back and enjoy the rest of the pledge drive.

Pledges are not just for members. We encourage anyone who attends our services, believes in our mission and/or wants to support UUSO with monetary gifts to do so. If you can't wait until March 1 to pledge, there will be pledge forms on the shelf opposite the mailboxes and a lovely, bejeweled box to place your pledge form in at any time.

Join us in supporting the good work of our UUSO community as we strive to make our little piece of the world a better place for everyone. We look forward to seeing you at the campaign kickoff and potluck on Sunday, March 1!
—Sandy Smith, Stewardship Chair

MARCH MADNESS DESSERT THEATER

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The Cast of 14 local actors 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.

Home-baked desserts are needed, and if you would like to provide one or you can volunteer those nights for this fundraiser, please call Anne Ray at 432-8575.

Tickets in Advance are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students. Reservations: 441-3206. Tickets are also available at the door for \$18 for adults and \$10 for students.

"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

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**CALENDAR
FEBRUARY**

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

MARCH

Mar 1	Sun	10:30am/Service: "High Hopes"/Stewardship Kick-off/Rev. Craig/CM
		Stewardship Kick-off Potluck/CM
		12:00pm - 1:30pm/COAST Brown Bag Lunch/OBH Dining Rm
		1-3pm/Small Group Ministry/CM Loft
		3:30pm - 8:00pm/Rehearsal/CM
Mar 2	Mon	9:00am/Newsletter Deadline
		3:00pm - 8:00pm/Rehearsal/CM
		6- 8:00pm/Small Group Ministry/OBH

Mar 3	Tue	10:15am - 12:15pm Small Group Ministry/OBH
		3:00pm - 8:00pm/Rehearsal/CM
		6:00pm/Social Action Cmte/Off-site
		6:30/Stewardship Cmte/OBH Living Rm
Mar 4	Wed	7:00pm/Web Cmte/OBH Dining Rm
		NO Vespers this month
		3:00pm - 8:00pm/Rehearsal/CM
Mar 5	Thu	7- 8:00pm/Membership Cmte/OBH
Mar 6	Fri	3:00pm - 8:00pm/Rehearsal/CM
Mar 7	Sat	7:30pm/Dessert Theater/CM
		7a-7:30pm/Bldg Use/Theater Prep/CM
Mar 8	Sun	7:30pm/Dessert Theater/CM
		10:30am/Service: "Privilege & Playing Fair"/Rev. Craig/CM
Mar 9	Mon	1:30pm/Dining for Women/CM
		8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		3:00pm - 4:00pm/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30pm - 8:00pm RE Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining Rm
Mar 10	Tue	6:30pm - 8:00pm/Zen Meditation/CM
		10:00am - 11:30am/Yoga/CM
		4:30pm - 8:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
Mar 11	Wed	6:30/Stewardship Cmte/OBH Living Rm
		8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		1:30pm/Small Group Ministry/Off-site
		4:00pm - 4:30pm/Building Use/CM Loft
Mar 12	Thu	6:00pm/Scrabble & Potluck/CM
		11:30am - 12:30pm/Yoga/CM
		5:30pm - 6:30pm/Yoga/CM
Mar 13	Fri	5:30pm/NAACP/OBH Living Rm
		7 - 9:30pm/Building Use/CCS/CM
Mar 14	Sat	8:00am - 9:00am/Aerobics/CM
		5:30pm/Pizza & Games/CM

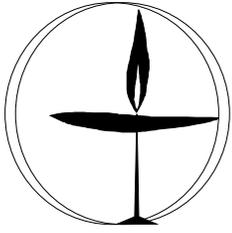
CM=Chapin Memorial/OBH=Olympia Brown House

Rev. Craig's 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 22, 2015

**"Promises"
Music Sunday**

Children to Classrooms at 10:30

At this time of year we look forward to signs of spring, to new life, to hope for peace.

Join the UU Choir and others as we celebrate the approach of a new season.

Tim Horne, Music Director

*Coffee Hosts: Caitlin Kilts & Jim Mills
Ushers: Eileen & Peter Hill
Worship Associate: Adrienne Martini
(Please submit announcements to
Adrienne via email by 2/21.)*

March 1, 2015

**"Getting Engaged"
*Start Together Sunday***

Our sanctuary offers a refuge from the world, but we are called to do more than seek cover. We are called to engage the world. Come on! Let's get engaged!

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

**Music provided by
Music Director Tim Horne**

*Coffee Hosts: Jennie Buffington &
Kjersti VanSlyke-Briggs
Ushers: Donna Behrendt &
Doug Hallberg
Worship Associate: Kevin Schultz
(Please submit announcements to
Kevin via email by 2/28.)*