

UU News

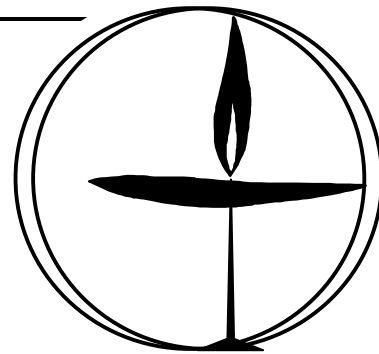
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ONEONTA
16 Ford Ave., Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-3491

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

May 13, 2015



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

Board President: April Gates—988-6517

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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

THE BOOK & PLANT SALE IS COMING!

Go through your bookcases and dig up your gardens—the Book & Plant Sale is coming! Books, movies, music, and plants will be available Saturday, June 6, with a special members-and-friends sale Friday night, June 5. More information to follow, but mark your calendars now! —Deb Bruce

AUCTION

We had a very successful auction and a fun evening last week, bringing in close to \$7000 (so far!). Many thanks to all who made it possible, including the Auction Committee, auctioneer Doug Hallberg, our lovely new assistants (AKA 'Vanna Whites') Liz Jacob-Carter and Carolyn Wolf-Gould, and our volunteers, along with those who donated to the auction and those who came and supported it!

You can still join some of the events, such as the second annual Artsy Fartsy Cocktail party; Dinner and a Movie, featuring 'Chef'; the Wildflower Walk—check the announcement board to see what else is available! —Jane Bachman

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Name Buttons are Back!

With great appreciation to Paul Robinson for all his work over the years, and to Alice Siegfried and Clarissa Stewart for picking up the button making mantle, we once again can make name buttons for folks. If you are a regular attendee at the worship service and need a name button, please let me know. You can tell me on Sunday morning, but make sure I write it down or make a note. (I'm notoriously bad at remembering things said to me after I've been in the pulpit. My colleagues call this, "preaching brain" or "Swiss cheese brain.") I will then let our new button team know. Alice and Clarissa will make the button and it will be waiting for you at the visitor space, under the clock in the sanctuary, in one or two Sundays. If you already have a button, please be sure to wear it. It helps everyone during social hour and is especially welcoming to our visitors and guests.

Building Your Own Theology?

I am considering offering the popular "Building Your Own Theology" course this summer. The BYOT class helps us explore our beliefs and our personal theology with reading, writing, introspection, and group sharing. By the end of the class, each participant is expected to have developed a personal belief statement or a credo. The class also works with me to craft a collaborative worship service for the congregation on the topic. The class would be held on Thursdays from 10 am-noon starting July 9 and going through September 10. This is a 10-week series and participants would be expected to commit to coming to at least eight of the 10 classes. There would be a \$14 registration for the class to cover the cost of the book. Ideally, the class works best with eight-12 people. I will be asking some of those that have taken the class to join me in co-facilitating the class. If you are interested in taking this class at these times, please send me an email. I will need to know if there are enough people interested in taking the class by June 1 so that I can reserve the space and order the class materials.

Walk-n-Talks

It is that time of year again. The sun is out, the temperature is up, and the great outdoors is inviting. Help me with my healthy living goals and have a meaningful conversation at the same time. Maybe you have an idea for a sermon or perhaps you have a question you are struggling with, or you might just want to talk about the latest crazy thing your mother/father/son/daughter/sibling/neighbor did. You pick the route; you pick the topic. Some of the best conversations I've had have taken place on the sidewalks of this neighborhood and the trails in Wilber Park.

—Cooperatively, Rev. Craig

Sawdust from the Board

Following our Annual Meeting this past Sunday, and in preparation for newly elected Board members to take office, here is our mission statement, which is read at regular meetings as a reminder of our charge from the congregation:

Mission of the UUSO Board of Trustees

The Board consists of nine elected members. Our mission is to facilitate the spiritual and financial growth and sustainability of the Society by:

Administering the affairs and business of the Society;

Implementing the decisions and policies of the membership;

Creating and supporting the committee structure;

Participating in the life of the Society and

Representing the congregation to the larger community.

Our next regular meeting is May 20, 6:30 pm in Chapin Memorial. As always, members are welcome to observe. If you have an item that the Board needs to address, please let me know, or stop by the Sounding Board on Sunday, May 17, and speak with Trustees Amy Forster Rothbart and Virgil Briggs. The Sounding Board is available during the Social Hour on the Sunday before regular Board meetings as one way for you to communicate with the Trustees your concerns, ideas, hopes, and vision for UUSO. Committees communicate through their Board member liaisons, and members and friends are always welcome to call, email, or speak with any Board member.

—April Gates, President, for the Board of Trustees

MAY DINING FOR WOMEN

The Oneonta Chapter of Dining for Women will have its next potluck dinner on Sunday, May 17, at 6:00 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. The featured program in May is RIPPLE Africa, in Malawi. This organization's Changu Changu motto project promotes the use of low-tech, fuel-efficient cook stoves that replace traditional indoor, open wood fires. The simple cook stoves, made of brick and mortar take just an hour to assemble and they use 60% less wood. They plan to have 3,000 stoves built during the next two years. The World Health Organization reports that world-wide, millions of people die each year from indoor pollution caused by indoor fires. Women, who gather fuel and do the cooking, and the children who they care for are the most vulnerable. All are welcome to come to the monthly meetings. Bring a dish to pass if you would like. For more information, call Linda at 433-2985. —Linda Wilcox

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

It is a most lovely Mother's Day today! I hope you were able to be outside in some fashion and enjoy the return of migratory birds, the daffodils and the lilacs that are just about to bloom!

I have received questions throughout the year about arranging childcare at UUSO. I would like to let you know our current procedure. As Director of Religious Education, I am responsible for arranging for sitters during the Sunday morning services. I interview, hire, and train the sitters. I create a list of sitters that I have approved to work as childcare providers for all events at our church. Beyond Sunday mornings, I do not arrange childcare other than to maintain the approved sitters list.

If you are a parent, please know that you are always welcome at events at our church! All groups that meet at our church do their best to make arrangements for childcare for children under 10 years old. Sometimes it means that you must contact the organizer of the event and let them know you need childcare. Please let them know in advance so they have time to arrange it! Other events are advertised as "childcare provided." For these you can just bring your children to whichever building the childcare is in for that event. We have childcare rooms set up downstairs at Chapin Memorial as well as upstairs at the Olympia Brown House, 16 Ford Avenue. These are set up as nurseries, but there are activities for older children that the sitters know how to set up. Please bring a cell phone (if you have one), so you are reachable during the event.

We are a welcoming, affirming, and accepting community. We welcome and include parents in events other than Sunday morning services! Organizers of these events arrange childcare in the following ways. If you are arranging an event, here is how you should do it:

- Decide and let participants know if you will have childcare already at the event or if they need to contact you in order to have childcare.
- Contact Robin Ahearn at uuso@uuso.org or 432-3491 to get a list of childcare policies, a sign-in sheet for parents at the event, a list of approved childcare providers with their contact information, and a Request for Funds form for reimbursement.
- Call and arrange for at least two sitters. If you expect more than ten children, you must hire an additional sitter. Make sure the sitters know who the contact person is for the event and the expected hours they will be needed.
- Make sure the contact person is available by cell phone during the event. The sitters may need to call to ask for help walking someone to the bathroom, for a

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very sad child, etc. Our sitters are wonderfully professional and can handle most things, but they do need to know someone is there to help if needed!

- Pay the sitter yourself at the end of the event. Fill out a yellow Request for Funds form that can be found above the desk in the kitchen hallway at Chapin Memorial, or in the church office at Olympia Brown. This is how you will be reimbursed for the money you pay the sitters. The yellow form can be left in the plastic "Office" wall pocket by the mailboxes at Chapin Memorial or in the "Finance" wall pocket in the downstairs hall at Olympia Brown. You can also mail it to Robin at UUSO. You will receive a check in the mail. (If you are unable to pay the sitters the day or night of the event, please complete and submit a request for funds for each of the sitters.)

And that's it! If you have any questions, please contact Robin. Thank you all for all you do to make our church a true community that includes all of us!

Happy Springtime!

Susan Ryder, UUSO Director of Religious Education, sryder@stny.rr.com, 643-1927

Upcoming Raffle... COASTing Our Way Towards Boston!

The COAST (Coming of Age Spiritual Trek) Group is holding an exciting raffle and there's still time for you to purchase tickets from any COASTER, one for \$5.00 or five for \$20.00.

The drawing will be this Sunday, May 17, and prizes (except the Deluxe Quiche Lunch) will be given to the winners on this date.

We have many prizes, so your chances of winning are excellent!

PRIZES:

- Electric Keyboard, donated by Norma Lee Havens;
- Two WINNERS! Deluxe COASTER Quiche Lunch with special salad and dessert, pick your own date, donated by Lisa Zuend-Misner;
- COASTER Baked Goods Basket, including a variety of yummy baked goods donated by all members of COAST;
- Three WINNERS! Delectable Chocolate Fudge Pie, donated by Jenny Bagby.

As always, COAST is very grateful for the congregation's support and generosity.

Questions or want to get your tickets?

Contact COAST Coordinators Elayne Mosher Campoli or Eric Zuend-Misner, or Director of Religious Education Susan Ryder.

SHIFT New York & 11th Annual Spiritual Arts Fair

The Holiday Inn was absolutely hopping with fairgoers on April 25 and 26—about 500 of them to be exact! They gathered from far and wide, including four states, to attend the free spiritual workshops, get psychic readings, alternative healing sessions, and to peruse the fabulous shopping. There were 61 vendors participating who came from as far away as Philadelphia, Buffalo, and New Hampshire, as well as the very best teachers and vendors from our region, to offer insights and experiences that ranged from “what is my life purpose” to “getting rid of the negativity in my space” to “what does my aura look like after I meditate?”

On behalf of the Planning Committee and myself, I want to express a huge thank you to all of the volunteers from UUSO who helped to facilitate the fair and made things go smoothly for both vendors and fairgoers. A \$2,000 check was given to UUSO Treasurer, Beth Rafter yesterday. (See SHIFTNewYork on Facebook to see the pictures and comments regarding this year’s fair.) Go to the SHIFTNewYork.com website to see the listings of vendors, readers and healers, which will stay up, as a business directory, until the next fair. As pictures are ready (thanks Ed Garbarino and Paul Donnelly!), we will post them on the website and the Facebook page. One new vendor commented, “Thank you so much... it was wonderfully beneficial to be there. Enjoyed ourselves greatly... felt greatly received and very much at home in that circle. Please give our love to everyone.”

Thanks also to Deborah Ziegler, Pat Donnelly (volunteer coordinators and logistics supervisors), Jim Koury (program), as well as four Hartwick students who worked diligently with us on the fair and on their business in the community class assignment: Shannon Carter, David Hajduk, Jennifer Spagnuolo, and Lisa Dygon. —Diana Friedell

NOTE OF THANKS...

January 2015

Dear Rev. Schwalenberg and Congregation:

On behalf of the NAACP Oneonta Branch, thank you so very much for your generous donation of \$156.50!

We are so appreciative of your longtime friendship and commitment to our organization!

Your generosity certainly assists us in continuing our work in civil rights!

God Bless,

Joanne Fisher

Assistant Secretary

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CALENDAR MAY

May 14	Thu	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		5 PM/NAACP/OBH Living Rm
		5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
May 15	Fri	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		10:00 AM/Jung & Yoga/CM
May 17	Sun	10:30 AM/Srvc: "Head, Hands, Heart, & Hope"/Suzanne Miller/CM
		12 PM/Finance Cmte/OBH Dining Rm
		12 PM/Mali Task Frce/OBH Living Rm
		1 PM/Small Group Ministry/CM Loft
May 18	Mon	6 PM/Dining for Women/CM
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		10 AM/Office Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining
		3- 4:00 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30 PM - 8:00 PM/Zen Meditation/CM
May 19	Tue	7 PM/Endowment Cmte/OBH Upstairs
		10:00 AM - 11:30 AM/Yoga/CM
		10:15 AM/Small Group Ministry/OBH
May 20	Wed	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM/Ending Well/CM
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		4:00 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
May 21	Thu	6:30 PM/Board of Trustees/CM
		11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
May 22	Fri	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
May 24	Sun	10:00 AM/Jung & Yoga/CM
		10:30 AM/Service: "The Gospel of Mary"/Charles King/CM
May 25	Mon	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		9:00 AM/Newsletter Deadline
		3 PM - 4:00 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30 PM - 8:00 PM/Zen Meditation/CM
May 26	Tue	10:00 AM - 11:30 AM/Yoga/CM
		4:30-8:30 PM/Bldg Use/CM Classroom
		6:30 PM/Stop the Pipeline Mtg/CM
May 27	Wed	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		1:30 PM/Small Group Ministry/Off-site
		4 PM - 4:30 PM/Building Use/CM Loft

May 28	Thu	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
May 29	Fri	COAST to Boston
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
May 30	Sat	COAST in Boston
May 31	Sun	COAST return from Boston
		10:30 AM/Service: "Beauty and Diversity"/Rev. Craig/CM
		1 PM/Free Hypnosis Clinic/CM Loft

JUNE

Jun 1	Mon	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		3 PM - 4:00 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		6:30 PM - 8:00 PM/Zen Meditation/CM
Jun 2	Tue	10:00 AM - 11:30 AM/Yoga/CM
		10:15 AM/Small Group Ministry/OBH
		4:30- 8:30 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		7:00 PM/Web Cmte/OBH Dining Rm
Jun 3	Wed	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		4 PM - 4:30 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		7 - 8:00 PM/Membership Cmte/OBH
Jun 4	Thu	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
Jun 5	Fri	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		12:00 PM - 5:00 PM/Building Use/CM
		5-9/Book & Plant Sale-Members & Friends only/CM
Jun 6	Sat	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM/Building Use/CM
		10 AM-2 PM/Book & Plant Sale/CM
		2:00 PM - 5:00 PM/Building Use/CM
Jun 7	Sun	5-9 PM/COAST Service Practice/CM
		9-10 AM/COAST Service Practice/CM
		10:30 AM/Srvc: COAST Service/CM
Jun 8	Mon	1-3 PM/Small Group Ministry/CM Loft
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		9:00 AM/Newsletter Deadline
		6:30-8/RE Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining Rm

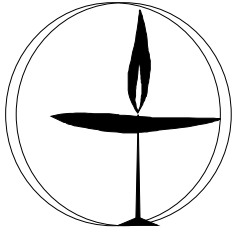
CM=Chapin Memorial/OBH=Olympia Brown House

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

May 17, 2015

**"Head, Hands, Heart,
and Hope"**
Start Together

The Unitarian Universalist Service
Committee is at work at home and
around the world advancing human
rights and social justice,
putting our UU Principles to work.

Suzanne Miller

Music provided by
Music Director Tim Horne

*Ushers: John Nader & **Volunteer Needed!***
*Coffee Hosts: Norma Lee Havens and
Dotty Hudson*
Worship Associate: Kevin Schultz
*(Please submit announcements to Kevin
via email by 5/15.)*

May 24, 2015

"The Gospel of Mary"
Children to Classrooms at 10:30

Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John aren't the
only gospels; just the ones accepted into
the canon. What if we look at the early
Jesus movement from a
woman's perspective?

Charles King

Music provided by
Music Director Tim Horne

Ushers: Prue and Rich Stelling
Coffee Hosts: Jenny and John Bagby
Worship Associate: Bob Brzozowski
*(Please submit announcements to Bob
via email by 5/22.)*