

# UU News

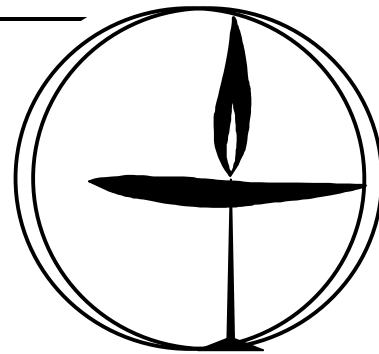
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ONEONTA  
16 Ford Ave., Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-3491

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 27, 2015



Minister: Rev. Craig Schwalenberg—432-3491 or 287-7906  
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## 2015 UUSO BOOK & PLANT SALE!

The annual UUSO Book and Plant Sale is June 5 and 6. Friday night from 5-9 is the Members and Friends Sale, and the sale is open to the public on Saturday from 10-2. The Bag Sale (all you can fit in a plastic grocery bag for \$1) begins at noon. Please bring donations of books, music, and movies to the church any time after (not before) the service on May 31. Please no textbooks, encyclopedias, moldy books, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, or cassettes taped off the radio or television. Please be aware the Zen meditation group meets from 6:30-8 on Monday. If the doors are locked, feel free to leave donations on the porch; they will be taken in nightly.

Plants can be dropped off Friday, June 5, or Saturday morning before 10 am. Please label your plants.

If you have questions about the Plant Sale or need pots or labels, please contact Julia Gregory at 563-2924. If you have questions about the Book Sale or if you need books picked up, contact Deb Bruce at 433-0356.

—Deb Bruce

## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE...

Be sure to check out the Summer Worship Schedule insert in today's newsletter—lots of great services coming up!

—Robin Ahearn

## JUNE CHANGE FOR CHANGE

The June Change for Change will go to the Violence Intervention Program of Opportunities for Otsego, providing free, comprehensive support services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and violent crimes. The program promotes safe environments, self-determination, self-worth and envisions a future where people are free from abuse and oppression.

## MINISTER'S MUSINGS

### Summer Schedule

Traditionally, things slow down a little bit at the Unitarian Universalist Society of Oneonta during the summer months. While there are still worship services every Sunday, they are a bit more relaxed. I'll be around for most of the summer, but my office hours will be slightly reduced. On a normal week, I plan to have office hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 am-2 pm. That will change on some weeks, but I will always update my schedule and publish it weekly on UUSOCHAT or the new UUSO announcements list when it is available. As always, these are only posted office hours. I'm available for meetings and visits at other times by appointment—and you are encouraged to call first before dropping in.

### Summer Worship Calendar

The Summer Worship Calendar is included with this newsletter. We have a GREAT schedule of guests and topics lined up for our spiritual exploration.

- Our COAST (Coming of Age Spiritual Trek) students will kick off the summer on June 7, when they will share with us the faith statements they have spent the last year working on. Having met with all of them this year and having watched them grow in wisdom (and height) over the past few years, I'm looking forward to hearing what they have to say.
- Several members and friends of the congregation will be sharing their reflections from the pulpit this summer. Laura Reyda will be sharing her experiences as a volunteer; Alexandra Tolin Schultz will be exploring how UUSO helps raise caring children; Alexander Riba will be delving into our definition of and reaction to “being weird;” and Adrienne Martini returns to the pulpit to entertain and educate us on faith and hope (and I expect something about running). Several other members of our community have agreed to help with the Father's Day service and will be sharing their thoughts on what it means to “be a father.”
- We have a returning guest and a new visitor to our pulpit this summer. Sam Goodyear will be closing out our summer with a reflection on procrastination. (Good thing we put that off 'til the last Sunday...) And on August 16, the new Rabbi of Temple Beth El, Rabbi Molly Karp, will be sharing her wisdom from the Jewish faith.
- There will be three intentionally family-friendly services this Summer. Our Father's Day service, on June 21, will include voices of all generations and should prove meaningful and moving to folks of all ages. The ever-popular Question Service will be on July 26—and children will get first crack at trying to stump the minister with their best questions. And finally, on August 23, I will be combining preaching and juggling as I explore the concepts of Taoism. (Members of the Search Committee have been waiting for this sermon since the day the congregation called me. I will do my best not to disappoint.)
- There WILL be a chancel drama this summer, as well. Friend of the congregation Ernie Schenk is assisting me with the direction of a chancel drama as part of the service on

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July 19. Karl Seeley and Virgil Briggs will be our chancel drama actors that day. I'm REALLY looking forward to seeing what they do with the material.

As I said, it's going to be a great summer for Sunday worship services. I hope to see you there. And if you do miss a Sunday, remember that parts of the services are now available to listen to on our website. (Look under Ministry for Sermon Podcasts.) —Cooperatively, Rev. Craig

### *Circle of Life...*

*Condolences to the family and friends of long-time  
UUSO Friend Nancy Burnett who passed away on May 14.*



### NOTES OF THANKS...

May 14, 2015

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Congregation, Pastor Jef Gamblee, and the Board of Trustees, our heartfelt thanks for your generous donation of \$759. Be assured, as a small church with an enormous task ahead, we will use it well.

Our precious, sacred building is gone, but the "church" is the people and our open, affirming and inquiring congregation remains strong in faith and resolve.

We deeply appreciate your support as we work together to create a place for us all to gather again. We could not do this without the giving spirit of our friends, members, and the beloved community of which the UUSO is a part.

With gratitude,

Susi Young, President, Board of Trustees, The First Universalist Church of Southold

To the Unitarian Universalist Society,

Thank you for the donation of clothing (*May 9 Social Action Committee clothing distribution leftovers*). We appreciate your support.

Thank you,

The Family Service Association

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The RE season is quickly coming to an end. There are still many events left in this church calendar year that are important to children, youth, and adults of all ages. Here is what is in store for our next month:

This coming Friday, May 29, the COAST (Coming of Age Spiritual Trek) group, plus three adult advisers, will head off on their pilgrimage to Boston. They must be at the Olympia Brown House at 7:45 am with all gear and paperwork ready to go. There is much excitement about the trip! They will return around 6 pm on Sunday, May 31. I will write about their adventures in the next newsletter.

May 31 is the annual Flower Communion Service. This is a popular tradition where we all bring a flower to place in a communal vase in the sanctuary and then everyone leaves with a different flower. There will be no RE classes that day as all children and youth will be at the service. Nursery care will be available as always.

June 7 will be a Sunday service celebration of the COAST participants' completion of their coming-of-age program and of graduating high school seniors who will be leaving the Religious Education program. This is also an intergenerational service. Children are especially encouraged to attend as it helps them see what they will someday experience as older participants in their UUSO Religious Education program. They also have known many of these youth for years and want to share in their achievements.

June 14 is the last class for the Explorers (grades K-3) and Seekers (grades 4-6). They will have some time to remember and celebrate their year together. The Explorers class hopes to welcome some frisky baby goat visitors. The Seekers class is called "Visiting Magical Creatures" and participants are encouraged to bring their (friendly) pets to class.

The Annual Youth Canoe Trip will also take place on June 14 for those in seventh grade and above. We expect to leave at 8 am to drive to Harpursville, NY. Our canoe route will be from Nineveh to Doraville. This is always a wonderful adventure!

The Religious Education Year comes to a close with our Annual Ice Cream Party on Sunday, June 21. We will meet at the Olympia Brown House to create unique individual ice cream Sundays courtesy of Stewarts Shops in Oneonta. We will celebrate with games and other activities.

RE classes are then finished and will begin again in the fall. Nursery care will be available for the summer and there will continue to be Chalice Bags in the foyer with activities for those who attend summer services.

I sent out many fewer paper mailings this year in an effort to be "green" and to encourage use of our beautiful webpage: [uuso.org](http://uuso.org). Information about upcoming classes has been readily available on this page, along with a wealth of other information that pertains to everyone. I encourage you all to become familiar with this resource over the summer (if you haven't already)! We would

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love to include photos of Religious Education activities but there are still some families who need to give us permission forms. If you haven't signed a permission form, you can find them in the foyer at Chapin Memorial. Fill one out and place it in the clear wall pocket by the mailboxes in the foyer that is for mail destined for the Olympia Brown House. I know you will love the photos we have accrued from this year!

Happy Spring to All!

—Susan Ryder, UUSO Director of Religious Education, sryder@stny.rr.com

### CALENDAR MAY

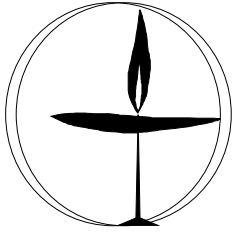
May 28	Thu	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
May 29	Fri	COAST to Boston
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
May 30	Sat	COAST in Boston
		10:00 AM - 1:00 PM/Building Use/CM
		<b>1 PM/Memorial Srvc: Nancy Burnett/CM</b>
		2:30 PM - 4:00 PM/Building Use/CM
May 31	Sun	4:30-6:00 PM/Building Use/Private/OBH
		COAST return from Boston
		<b>10:30 AM/Service: "Beauty and Diversity"/Rev. Craig/CM</b>
		<b>1:00 PM/Free Hypnosis Clinic/CM Loft</b>

### JUNE

Jun 1	Mon	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		3:00 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
		10AM-12 PM/Small Group Ministry/OBH
		4:30 PM - 8:30 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		6/Social Action Cmte/Off-site/67 Church St
Jun 3	Wed	7:00 PM/Web Cmte/OBH Dining Rm
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		4:00 PM - 4:30 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
Jun 4	Thu	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM/Membership Cmte/CM
		11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
Jun 5	Fri	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		12:00 PM - 5:00 PM/Building Use/CM

		<b>5:00 PM - 9:00 PM/UUSO Book Sale-- Members &amp; Friends only/CM</b>
Jun 6	Sat	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM/Building Use/CM
		<b>10 AM - 2 PM/Book &amp; Plant Sale/CM</b>
		2:00 PM - 5:00 PM/Building Use/CM
Jun 7	Sun	5-9:00 PM/COAST Service Practice/CM
		9-10 AM/COAST Service Practice/CM
		<b>10:30 AM/Service: "Rites of Passage"/COAST Youth/CM</b>
		1 PM/Small Group Ministry/CM Loft
Jun 8	Mon	3-5/New to UU Class Reception/Off site
		8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		<b>9:00 AM/Newsletter Deadline</b>
		6:30-8 PM/RE Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining Rm
Jun 9	Tue	6:30 PM - 8:00 PM/Zen Meditation/CM
		10:00 AM - 11:30 AM/Yoga/CM
Jun 10	Wed	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
		1:30 PM/Small Group Ministry/Off-site
		4:00 PM - 4:30 PM/Building Use/CM Loft
		<b>6:00 PM/Scrabble &amp; Potluck/CM</b>
Jun 11	Thu	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		5:30 PM - 6:30 PM/Yoga/CM
		<b>5:30- 8:30 PM/NAACP/OBH Living Rm</b>
Jun 12	Fri	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM/Aerobics/CM
Jun 13	Sat	8 AM-5 PM/Building Use/Zen Retreat/CM
Jun 14	Sun	Youth Canoe Trip/Off-site
		<b>10:30/Service: "Volunteerism: What We Get When We Give"/Laura Reyda/CM</b>
		<b>6 PM/Dining for Women/CM</b>

CM=Chapin Memorial/OBH=Olympia Brown House  
**Rev. Craig's Office Hrs:** Tues, Wed, and Thurs, 10-2  
**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 31, 2015**

### **"Beauty and Diversity"**

*Flower Sunday/Stay Together*

**\*\*\* Remember to bring a flower \*\*\***

As part of our annual Flower Communion, let's explore the diversity of beauty in nature, and the beauty of diversity in the world.

**Rev. Craig Schwalenberg**

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

*Ushers: Barbara Sue Agoglia and Sallie Han*

*Coffee Hosts: Shirley Ferguson and  
Annemarie Hosnedl*

*Worship Associate: Julian Pecenco  
(Please submit announcements to Julian  
via email by 5/29.)*

**June 7, 2015**

### **"Rites of Passage"**

This Sunday, we celebrate the spiritual work of the Coming-of-Age youth and the accomplishments of our graduating seniors.

**COAST Youth**

*(Coming of Age Spiritual Trek)*

**Music provided by  
Music Director Tim Horne**

*Ushers: Suzanne Miller and Walter vom Saal*

*Coffee Hosts: Vickie Andritz & Bob Rightmire  
Worship Associate: Julian Pecenco*

*(Please submit announcements to Julian  
via email by 6/5.)*