

UU News

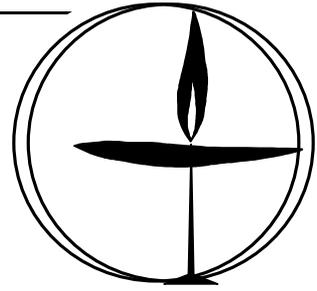
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ONEONTA
16 Ford Ave., Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 432-3491

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

June 8, 2016



Minister: Rev. Craig Schwalenberg—432-3491 or 287-7906

revcraig@uuso.org

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Poetry Sunday, June 26th

We are bringing back Poetry Sunday this year on June 26th. Our theme is “UU Haiku: A Spiritual Practice in Three Lines.”

Using the traditional haiku form of three lines composed of 5, 7, and 5 syllables that relate humankind and nature, members from the congregation are asked to craft one or more haiku based on one of our seven principles. The principles can be found in the front of our hymnal and on-line.

Please be in touch with me ASAP if you would like to present some haiku at this service, or if you have questions. -Pam Strother pstrother@stny.rr.com /607-267-4280

Transgender Town Hall, June 10th at 5:30PM

Join us for an “open mic” event!

Meet & Greet with Refreshments at 5:30 PM Town Hall Meeting 6:00 – 9:00 PM

Created, Organized, and Led by the NYS Trans & GNC Town Halls Project

For more info, please see the Facebook event, <http://tinyurl.com/transgendertownhall>

From the Mission Statement for the NYS Trans & GNC Town Hall Meetings Project:

The purpose of holding statewide Community Town Halls is to bring together transgender and gender non-conforming people, their family, friends, and allies to create connections within the various communities around the state. We hope these meetings will be a springboard to introduce networking opportunities that will create a movement that works for social, economic and racial justice for all transgender and gender variant people in New York.

Minister's Musings

Welcome to the Summer!

It is officially summer at UUSO once we've celebrated our Flower Communion. Religious Education will be on hiatus for the summer. Dress codes around UUSO will be a bit more casual and relaxed. But new this year, the office hours will not be reduced. And we will continue to have a newsletter every two weeks. We've grown to a point where we are busy at UUSO with important ministries taking place all year round. And so, Evelyn will be working normal hours most weeks (except when she is out of town or has to change her hours around to accommodate other events.) Please read the newsletter for important information about upcoming events and activities at UUSO.

Summer Worship Calendar

The Summer Worship Calendar is also included with this issue of the newsletter. This summer, we will have a sermon series, two pulpit guests, and two lay-led services. Inspired by the last sermon written by Hap Hartley, I'll be preaching a three part sermon series focusing on different parts of the Declaration of Independence. The three parts will be delivered on July 3rd, July 31st, and August 21st. You don't have to come to each of them for the services to make sense, but they will build off of each other. Jim Atwell and Sam Goodyear will be bringing their reflections to the pulpit on July 17 and August 14, respectively. Our own Florian Reyda will make his debut in the pulpit on July 24th reflecting on finding meaning and spirituality in Nature. And to finish off the summer, and inspire us to the next steps of our shared anti-racist ministry, the Anti-Racism Task Force will reflect on how we go beyond just hanging the Black Lives Matter banner. August 7th marks a bit of a milestone for me, so I'll be reflecting on it and sharing my thoughts with you from the pulpit. I hope you will join me in a mini-celebration of sorts that Sunday.

Summer Fun?

There are lots of ways we can socialize over the summer: picnics, baseball games, concerts, hikes, art shows, canoe trips, movie nights.. So many ways for us to get together and have fun. Meet new people, form deeper connections. Laugh and play and just be with one another. Of course, some of these things will happen naturally. BUT.... if they are UUSO activities, they do need to be organized and communicated. If you would like to help the congregation have fun this summer and have an idea for what we could do together, let me know. The Fun Team needs you! To paraphrase the old adage: All work and no play, makes UUSO a dull place to be. And we are far from dull... there is fun to be had. Let's make it happen!

-Cooperatively, Rev. Craig

Religious Education News

“May we hear the melody of Life and find ourselves singing harmony.”
– Joseph Cleveland, UU minister

Welcome to summertime! This is a time when the natural world becomes more accessible for many of us. It has been shown in many studies that going outside may be one of the simplest ways to improve our health. It can bring us together as friends and as families. It can diffuse and heal some of the many stresses we carry. Going outside can also offer us a chance to slow down and give us an opportunity to listen to our inner spiritual voice.

Being outside in the summer can also be a time to focus on physical activity and to learn about all the drama happening right under our noses in the natural world! Children, especially, need this time outside to be physically active as their school experiences seem to be more and more focused on sitting still in their classrooms. They also can use this time to counteract the inactivity that occurs with their cyber experiences. As Unitarian Universalists, this a perfect time for all of us to focus on our Seventh Principle: “Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part” because there is just so much going on out there!

Religious Education Classes for children and youth will take a break until the fall after our All-RE Ice Cream Party at the Olympia Brown House on June 19th. Stewart’s Shops of Oneonta has once again donated all the ice cream and toppings for our party.

Childcare will continue to be available for Sunday Services throughout the summer for children up to age 10.

In the spirit of continuing Religious Education over the summer, for those who want to engage more with the natural world, and for those who are looking for specifically UU summer experiences, I offer the following list of resources. The first are some of the many local opportunities available to us in the Oneonta area. The second list is of our region’s UU family camps and was compiled by the Director of Lifespan Religious Education, Julie Rigano, from the Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady. Julie was happy for me to use her list in this article.

The Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society homepage at <http://doas.us/> has information about our local birds, upcoming birding events, and educational resources for families including building birdfeeders out of Legos.

The DOAS John G. New Audubon Center is located on Franklin Mountain and offers a fabulous Summer Day Camp for children. My own children attended these and they were great! Complete information can be found at <http://doas.us/education/summer-day-camp/>. The center and lands are also open to the general public. You will find spectacular views and can go hiking, bird watching, and nature rambling.

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation Summer Camp explores New York's diverse habitats. Campers learn how human activities affect the environment. They also solve challenges, learn environmental concepts, practice outdoor skills and spend a week immersed in nature. Scholarships are available. Almost all of the available spots for this summer are listed as filled but you can check an updated list at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/2013.html> as there may be some cancelations. If you are interested in future DEC camps, you can create a family account online and will be notified when next year's registration opens. UUSO RE children have reported really enjoying these camps.

NYS DEC Five Rivers Environmental Education Center in Delmar NY lists events at: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/1980.html>. There are scheduled day events for adults, families and children including guided walks, family fun days, and public educational programs about local wildlife. There are family events such as the July 6-8 *Summer Evenings Together: Orienteering & Geocaching*. The Visitor Center hours are 9-4:30 Monday through Saturday. The grounds are open for visitors from sunrise to sunset Monday through Saturday. The Visitor Center has educational exhibits and naturalists on hand to answer questions. The grounds have interpretive trails with pamphlets available at trailhead kiosks.

You can subscribe to the New York Stake DEC (“If it’s happening in New York’s environment, we’ve got it covered”) magazine *Conservationist* at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/24071.html>.

Church of the Larger Fellowship (CLF) at <http://www.uua.org/directory/where/cl> is a “congregation without walls, connecting people all over the world for spiritual growth, worship, learning, and mutual support. CLF’s Quest for Meaning site engages people of all ages and stages in Unitarian Universalism, and its many ministries nurture depth and meaning in places as diverse as family dinner tables, prison cells, and military mess halls.” There are many resources for continuing Unitarian Universalist religious education for your children this summer.

Below is DRE Julie Rigano’s annotated list of UU Family Camps:

Ferry Beach RE Week July 9th-15th -Each summer people come from individual congregations and homes to form this vibrant multigenerational community where all kinds of families work and play alongside religious educators. They come to learn as well as to put into practice what it means to be Unitarian Universalist leaders and be part of a beloved community. This year Ferry Beach's intentional community includes a child dedication for our community at the beginning of the week in addition to our annual bridging ceremony at the week's end. Find out more about Ferry Beach and RE Week here! <http://www.ferrybeach.org/re-week.html>

Star Island Lifespan RE Week July 16th-23rd -Come enjoy the sun with other UU families on this remote island off the coast of New Hampshire! During the 2016 conference, the Star Island Religious Education Conference will be talking about what sustainability looks like in some of the most important places in our lives: our faith, the environment, and our friendships. Find out more about Star Island and the RE Conference here! (Bonus: Julie will be one of the advisors for the 1st-3rd grade group!) <http://starreweek.com/>

Camping in the Grove- Murray Grove Summer Camp July 24th-28th -We live in a busy world, and even our children and youth feel the stress of our sometimes overwhelming schedules and lives! Murray Grove is planning a summer camp experience that will serve as both a great week of fun and fellowship, and also support our kids as they return home, with ideas and tools about how to walk in this world as a growing up person of faith. Learn more about Camping in the Grove here! <http://www.murraygrove.org/#!/camping-in-the-grove/c15no>

Unirondack- UU Sleep Away Camp -At Unirondack, youth live the values that are inherent in Unitarian Universalist principles-acceptance, compassion, and decision-making through the democratic process. Unirondack is a community that is shaped and re-shaped each summer by its staff members, campers, and volunteers. It offers some things in common with other summer camps: a beautiful lakeside setting, a wide range of daily activities, family-style meals, and the chance to spend time away in the woods. But what truly makes this camp unique is the energy, caring and creativity of the people who call Unirondack home. Learn more about the Unirondack camp sessions and programs here! <http://www.unirondack.org/>

Goldmine Youth Leadership School -Goldmine is an intense leadership school for youth focusing on self-reflection and leadership skills. Youth learn concrete leadership skills, learn to lead a worship in a wide variety of youth worship styles, and work to articulate the faith based grounding for their values and leadership. The day includes youth led worship, silent self-reflection time, and small group reflection time in addition to time for hanging out and playing together! The school is taught by pairs of youth and adult co-trainers. Youth co-trainers are former Goldmine students. Find out more about the Goldmine sessions and program here! <http://www.uua.org/central-east/youth/goldmine>

The Rowe Center -Every summer, The Rowe Center provides exciting camps for young people, and have been doing so since 1924. Youth at Rowe are honored and empowered, learning to balance individual freedom with responsibility to the community in a fun,

relaxed, creative environment. For the past three decades they've also been offering summer retreats for adults that enrich the lives of participants, welcoming old friends and newcomers alike for sharing, play, healing, and transformation. Select the camp that's perfect for your child, or the community retreat that's right for you! Learn more about The Rowe Center and its camps here! <http://rowecenter.org/pages.php?name=Camps>

I wish you a full and rejuvenating summer!

*May the rains sweep gentle across your fields,
May the sun warm the land,
May every good seed you have planted bear fruit,
And late summer find you standing in fields of plenty.*
Traditional Irish Blessing

Susan Ryder
UUSO Director of Religious Education
dre@uuso.org

Dining For Women Potluck June 12th

The Oneonta Chapter of Dining for Women will have its next potluck dinner on Sunday, June 12th at 6 pm in the UU sanctuary. The featured organization this month is the Coalition against Trafficking in Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (CATW-LAC.) This month's donations will fund its Red Alert System, in Mexico, which helps search for missing women and find justice for them.

All are welcome. Bring a dish to pass if you would like. For more information, call Linda at 433-2985.

There will be a child dedication during the service on June 19th. If you would like your child to participate in the child dedication, please contact Rev. Craig by 6/13.

Privacy Policy: People who publish articles in the UUSO newsletter and include contact information need to be aware that the newsletter is posted to the web and therefore that their contact info may be available via internet search engines.

Sawdust from the Board

We are nearing our last meeting of the Church Year. At our June 15 meeting we will be saying goodbye to Mary Ruhoff, a Trustee who has served excellently as the Clerk of the Board. I personally owe Mary enormous gratitude for keeping me and the other Trustees mindful of policies, bylaws, and historical information. Mary keeps a “BIG book” of Board happenings---minutes, reports, and much more. She is our encyclopedic reference. Mary also provides what I call a “gentle kick in the butt” when the President needs to correct something. We will miss Mary as she moves onto other adventures at UUSO. However, she is contemplating continuing on our policy subcommittee. If so, we will continue to reap the benefits of her talents.

The incoming Trustee is Suzanne Beddoe. We look forward to the compassion and heart Suzy will inevitably bring to our Board table.

The 2015-16 Trustees have worked through a number of issues this year and have made some progress developing policies, insuring the long-range plan is implemented, strengthening committees, and creating plans for the future. We are happy that people have felt comfortable speaking with us during our Sounding Board times, writing letters, sitting down to talk after Sunday services, e-mailing, calling us on the phone, and actually visiting Board meetings. We try our best to answer questions and concerns even though we may not always provide the answer hoped for. When a person takes the time, effort, and courage express concerns directly to us, we listen and take those thoughts into consideration during our deliberations. We can't make the kinds of improvements for UUSO that someone may be envisioning unless that person speaks with us directly.

In the Fall the Board will be hosting cottage meetings in collaboration with the Committee on Ministry to evaluate our ministry at UUSO. This will be yet another opportunity for us to learn from members and friends as we all work together to move forward with our Mission and Vision.

Our next Board meeting is Wednesday, June 15, 6:30pm in the Sanctuary. Members and friends of UUSO are invited to observe. Board members are always happy to listen to your concerns or suggestions and two Board members will be present at the “Sounding Board” table after the service on June 12.

Karen Palmer, President - UUSO Board of Trustees
607-267-4793/ kpalmer14@hughes.net

Summer Worship Schedule

Regular Sunday Services start at 10:30 a.m.

A printable version will be available for download on our website and copies will be made available in the sanctuary.

July 3

“Declaration of Independence

Part 1: A New Beginning”

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Independence Day commemorates the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. In this first of a three part series, we'll explore the radical step of separation and independence.

July 10

“UU's Assemble!”

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Every year, the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations gathers at General Assembly. This year the theme was "Heart Land: Where Faiths Connect." Come be inspired and challenged by messages from UU's from across the country!

July 17

“No Stopping Him”

Jim Atwell

We know next to nothing of Jesus' boyhood except the mythic account of his birth. Drawing on his book in progress, *Jesus' Dog*, Jim Atwell will speak about attempting to take Jesus' message and, reading backwards, build him a childhood.

July 24

“Meaning and Spirituality in Nature”

Florian Reyda

Our modern day-to-day living is enhanced with the wonders of technology. Some of these, however, can disconnect us from our environment. Since we cannot always take time to get back to nature, I advocated finding meaning and spirituality in the tiny natural wonders that are around us.

July 31

**“Declaration of Independence
Part 2: Inalienable Rights”**

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Inspired by the last sermon written by our own Hap Hartley, I'll explore the concept of inalienable rights.

August 7

“Ministry and the Taxi”

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Before I was a minister, I worked for a decade as a cab driver in Madison, WI. Some would wonder at the path from here to there. Oddly enough, the two vocations had considerable overlap.

August 14

“The Truth Is”

Sam Goodyear

There's no getting around it.
And it works every time.

August 21

**“Declaration of Independence
Part 3: We Pledge To Each
Other”**

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Most of us know the first lines of the Declaration of Independence.
But, do you know the last line?
It is a declaration of interdependence.

August 28

“Our Ministries”

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

As we prepare for the start of the new church year,
we might consider our shared ministries.
What have we accomplished so far?
What do we want to do in the next year?

September 4

**“Beyond the
Black Lives Matter Banner”**
Members of the Anti-Racism Task
Force

How do we become an anti-racist congregation if our only experiences are lived within a racist society? We must learn how to talk authentically about whiteness and across our differences.
Join us to continue the conversation.

Please take note:

The UUSO office will be closed 6/20-6/27.

Email and voicemail will be checked daily.

Submissions for the June 22nd newsletter will be due by June 15th.



Candle of Joys and Sorrows

Happy Birthday to Grace Schultz, turning 10, and Robbie Rafter, now 18.
Jenny Ford Bagby is also celebrating her birthday this week.

With sadness, we report the news one of our long-time members, Howson “Hap” Harley, died on May 26, 2016. After a number of falls and health issues some time ago, Hap moved from his home, where he lived with his daughter, Vickie, to Chestnut Park. Though mobility was an issue, friends saw that Hap got out often and members of this congregation made it possible for him to come to worship occasionally not as much as he would have liked....

Hap joined this congregation in 2010 and often spoke of how much he loved this community. He was a professor, a philosopher, a guest in our pulpit, and a recipient of the Purple Heart from his time in the army, an award he didn't feel he deserved.

Hap will be sorely missed and we extend our deepest sympathies to his friends and family.

There will be a memorial service to celebrate Hap’s life and honor his death here at UUSO on July 30th at 2 p.m. Rev. Craig will be conducting the service.

If you know someone who should be celebrated or remembered in this column, please send the editor a note, at uusou@uusou.org, message our Facebook page, or via mail.

From the Editor: *Article submissions are always welcome. Please keep articles generally under 100 words. No advertising permitted. Deadline for submission is 9am on the Monday before publication. Articles may be edited for space, grammar or content. Submissions that do not follow these guidelines will be published at the discretion of the editor.*

CALENDAR

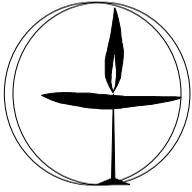
June

| | | |
|--------|-----|---|
| Jun 10 | Fri | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM Transgender Town Hall/CM |
| Jun 11 | Sat | 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM Anti-Racism Task Force/OBH Living room |
| Jun 12 | Sun | 10:30 AM Service: "Going Green"/Rev. Craig/CM 12:00 PM Finance Cmte/OBH Dining Rm 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM DFW/CM |
| Jun 13 | Mon | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Music Lessons/CM Loft 6:30 PM RE Cmte/OBH Dining Rm 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Zen Meditation/CM |
| Jun 14 | Tue | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Yoga/CM Loft 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Policy Sub-Committee/OBH Dining Rm 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Small Group Ministry/OBH Living Rm |
| Jun 15 | Wed | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Board of Trustees/CM |
| Jun 16 | Thu | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Yoga/CM Loft |
| Jun 17 | Fri | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM |
| Jun 19 | Sun | 10:30 AM Service: "Paternalism's Problem"/Rev. Craig/CM |

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|--------|-----|--|
| | | 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Mali Task Force/OBH Living Rm |
| Jun 20 | Mon | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Music Lessons/CM Loft 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Zen Meditation/CM 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Endowment Committee/OBH Living Room |
| Jun 21 | Tue | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Yoga/CM Loft 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Small Group Ministry/CM Loft 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM White Caucus Mtg & Potluck/OBH Living Rm |
| Jun 22 | Wed | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Small Group Ministry/OBH Living Rm |
| Jun 23 | Thu | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Small Group Ministry/OBH Living Rm 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Yoga/CM Loft |
| Jun 24 | Fri | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Aerobics/CM |
| Jun 26 | Sun | 10:30 AM Service: "HaikUU: A Spiritual Practice in Three Lines"/Pam Strother & UUSO Poets 12:00 PM Free Hypnosis Clinic/CM Loft |

CM=Chapin Memorial/OBH=Olympia
Brown House

Rev. Craig's Office Hours: by appointment
Office Administrator's Hours: M-F, 9-3



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
12 Ford Ave.
Oneonta, NY 13820

UPCOMING SUNDAYS at the UUSO

June 12, 2016

“Going Green”

(Children to Classrooms at 10:30)

The Christian and Hebrew scriptures both have God giving humans dominion over the land, sea, and sky— and all the creatures contained therein.

What if we misunderstood the charge?
What if, rather than dominion, we were given stewardship instead?

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

**Music provided by
Benji Blacklock, clarinet;
and Music Director Tim Horne**

Ushers: Karen Palmer & TBA

Coffee Hosts: Jenny & John Bagby

Worship Associate: Cathi Wiltsey

*(Please submit announcements to
Cathi via email by 6/10.)*

June 19, 2016

“Paternalism's Problem”

Father's Day/Child Dedication

**RE. Celebration at OBH*

What does it mean to be paternal? What does paternalism look like? There is a major difference between the two, and that gap is a problem for all of us.

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

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

Ushers: Steve Berman & Jim Mills

Coffee Hosts: Vickie Andritz

& Bob Rightmire

Worship Associate: Kevin Schultz

*(Please submit announcements to
Kevin via email by 6/17.)*