

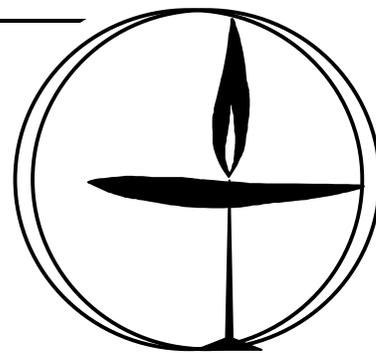
UU News

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



July 30, 2014

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—432-4471—dre@uuso.org

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

CALENDAR PLANNING

Please be sure to submit scheduling requests for the upcoming church year to the office, by email at uuso@uuso.org or by calling 432-3491 during summer office hours, Tuesday and Thursday, 9-2.

COFFEE, ANYONE???

As most of you know, at every summer's end we put together a list of assigned coffee hour hosts and ushers for the upcoming year. With every able member and friend helping out, there is very little burden on any one person. The hope is that everyone able will host one coffee hour and usher one Sunday per year. And, it's that time again: Time to compile the list of coffee hosts and ushers for the '14-'15 church year. If you have scheduling requests or preferences, please submit them to the office by August 13 for use in the preparation of the assignment list, to be included as an insert in the August 27 Newsletter. Thank you!

—Robin Ahearn

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Just a reminder that sign-up for Small Groups which will run from October 2014-June 2015 will take place late in August and early in September. More information will be coming your way as the sign-up period gets closer.

If you would like to be a part of a group in which you will be heard deeply and get to know others deeply as well, Small Group Ministry is for you. Groups meet twice per month for two hours each session. If you have questions, please let me know.

—Patricia Engel LaFata

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Sabbatical

As my sabbatical approaches, I find I am both excited about my plans for the next four months and uneasy about being away from the congregation for that long. I have been serving the Unitarian Universalist Society of Oneonta for five years, now. Before being called as your minister, I served the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee for three years and was in seminary for four years before that. It is a privilege and an honor to serve as the minister of UUSO and I can't think of anywhere I'd rather be. I hope and plan to be your minister for a very long time. In order to do that, though, I'm going to have to attend to some important aspects of self-care. This sabbatical is dedicated to exploring spiritual practices and finding the best way to tend to my own spiritual needs. I'm looking forward to writing poetry again, catching up on years of reading, and deepening my understanding of meditation. I'm thrilled to finally have the chance to attend the National Storytelling Festival—something I've wanted to do for over a decade.

At the same time, it is hard to step away from being your minister—even temporarily. While preparing for Sunday morning services can be a struggle, crafting and delivering an engaging worship service is one of the most rewarding things I do. Being your minister, walking with you individually and as a community, is more than a job—it is a major part of my life. One I am loathe to give up or even temporarily put down. Doing just that for the time of my sabbatical is a heart-felt challenge. I'm not worried about how you will do without me; this congregation is well practiced at creating and being a beloved community. You have great lay leaders and dedicated staff to help keep things humming along while I'm gone. The Sabbatical Committee has addressed every need and concern in the Sabbatical Guidebook (available in the sanctuary foyer or from the UUSO office). We have plans and back-up plans in place. We have professional pulpit guests scheduled regularly and expert pastoral care from Rev. Judy Thistle in case of emergencies. No, I'm not concerned about the congregation without me; I'm concerned about me without the congregation. I will miss you. I know it will be difficult to not check my email, read the newsletter, and call the office to check in. I just keep telling myself that this is for a good reason. I need to have this time away—and so do you.

During the next four months, I will be working hard on becoming a better minister for you all. A minister that is more centered, more balanced, and more energized. We have a lot of plans in our future and there will be lots to do. These plans demand I be the best I can be... ready, flexible, inspiring, perceptive, and eloquent. While I am on sabbatical, I need to do some inward focused work—and that requires I let go of some, if not all, of my outward focused ministry. While I'm on sabbatical, you will all have an opportunity

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to focus on other things as well. I invite you to make the most of the visiting ministers. What messages resonate? What ideas grab your attention? What styles or elements of worship do you want to try out when I return? Look for places to lead. Look for places to follow. Look for places to collaborate and cooperate. Maybe, you will find this time of sabbatical is a good opportunity for your own inner spirit work.

It is going to be an exciting and challenging time—for me and for the congregation. I plan on using this time to come back to you in a better state than I left. I can't wait to see what you decide to do with our sabbatical.
—Cooperatively, Rev. Craig

CHANGE IN AUGUST 31st SERVICE

Please note that the Sunday service on August 31 has been changed to:

Travels with Aurora Rev. Lynn Ashley

Rev. Lynn writes, ‘In recent years I have made several road trips throughout the United States and Western Canada. Although I had human companions at various times along the way, my most constant companion was Aurora, my global-positioning system, my GPS. Alone with her, I found myself thinking occasionally about religious concepts that can be challenging to some of us Unitarian Universalists, ideas about being in relationship with ourselves, with others and with that which is greater. In this service, I will reflect upon these and other travels with Aurora.’

COHOUSING INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY

There will be a meeting of the cohousing intentional community group at Chapin Memorial Sanctuary on Tuesday, August 5, at 7 pm. Members who visited Ecovillage in Ithaca, a well established cohousing community, will report their impressions and information gathered on their tours. Options for establishing a cohousing community locally will be discussed. Newcomers are welcome. For information contact Annemarie Hosnedl.
—Annemarie Hosnedl

RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CHANGE FOR CHANGE

The April amount to the Otsego County Conservation Association was \$181.00; Caring Connections received \$219.00 from May collections; and the June donation of \$173.50 went to the Lantern Park Community Center.
—Cindy Squires

A NOTE OF THANKS...

July 1, 2014

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$219 to Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego, and Schoharie Counties Caring Connections Program. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely, Lynn Glueckert, Executive Director

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED

Each year the Family Service Association gives new school supplies to students from lower income families or families experiencing a crisis who live in Otsego County. This year's Back to School Project will take place August 25-August 29 and will take place at the Elm Park Methodist Church in Oneonta. Donations of new school supplies or money are needed. (*Needed school supplies are listed below.*)

Sincerely, Geneen Nelson, Assistant Director/Clothing Program Manager, & Patricia Leonard, Executive Director

Needed School Supplies:

- folders with pockets and/or prongs (plastic and regular)
- 3-subject spiral notebooks
- 5-subject spiral notebooks
- marble composition notebooks
- 3-ring binders (1", 2", and 3")
- loose-leaf paper (wide ruled)
- loose-leaf paper (college ruled)
- colored pencils
- washable fat-tip markers
- washable thin-tip markers
- glue sticks
- scissors
- index cards
- scientific calculators/graphing calculators
- schoolbags/backpacks
- tissue boxes

TROPICAL BIOLOGY COURSE

Project Buena Vista is looking for participants in a mini tropical biology class. We are hosting an informational meeting about this travel or volunteer opportunity at Olympia Brown House at 7 pm on August 7. The course is to be held at Buena Vista which is located in the Manu Biosphere reserve in the Amazon basin in southeastern Peru. Travel dates for the trip are scheduled for October 9-21, 2014. For more information on the project, visit www.projectbuenavista.org or call Laura Reyda, 353-2499. —Laura Reyda

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CALENDAR

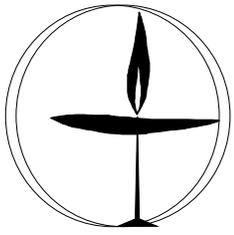
		AUGUST
Aug 1	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Aug 3	Sun	10:30am/Sabbatical Send-Off Service and Celebration: "Tending the Spirit"/Rev Craig
Aug 4	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		6:30pm/Zen Meditation/CM
Aug 5	Tue	7:00pm/Intentional Community Interest Group/CM
Aug 6	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		7:00pm/Membership Cmte/OBH
Aug 8	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Aug 10	Sun	10:30am/Service: "Sabbath vs. Sabbatical"/Rev. Judith Thistle
Aug 11	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		6:30pm/Zen Meditation/CM
Aug 13	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		1:30pm - 3:30pm/Small Group Ministry/Off-site
		6/Potluck Picnic/Wilber Park
		6pm/Scrabble & Potluck/CM
Aug 14	Thu	5:30pm - 8:30pm NAACP/OBH Living Rm
Aug 15	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Aug 17	Sun	10:30am/Service: "The Climate Is Changing; Why Don't We?"/Paul Scheele
		12:00pm/Finance Cmte/OBH
Aug 18	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		6:30pm/Zen Meditation/CM
Aug 20	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		6:30pm/Board of Trustees/CM
Aug 21	Thu	6:00pm - 8:00pm Building Use/CCS Auditions/CM
Aug 22	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Aug 24	Sun	10:30am/Service: "The Deep Way"/Rev. Darcey Laine
Aug 25	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		9:00am/Newsletter Deadline
		6:30/RE Retreat/OBH Dining Rm

		6:30pm/Zen Meditation/CM
Aug 26	Tue	10:00am - 12:00pm Small Group Ministry/OBH
		6:30pm - 9:30pm Stop the Pipeline Mtg/CM
Aug 27	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		1:30pm - 3:30pm Small Group Ministry/Off-site
Aug 28	Thu	6:45pm - 9:30pm Building Use/CCS/CM
Aug 29	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Aug 31	Sun	10:30am/Service: "Love Reaches Out: Reflections on General Assembly 2014"/Rev. Lynn Ashley

SEPTEMBER

Sep 1	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		6:30pm/Zen Meditation/CM
Sep 3	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Sep 4	Thu	5:00/Small Group Ministry/OBH
		6:45pm - 9:30pm Building Use/CCS/CM
Sep 5	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
Sep 7	Sun	10:30am Service: Water Communion/CM 12:00pm/Welcome Potluck/CM
Sep 8	Mon	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		6:30pm - 8:00pm RE Cmte Mtg/OBH Dining Rm
		6:30pm - 9:30pm Small Group Ministry/Off-site
Sep 10	Wed	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		1:30pm - 3:30pm Small Group Ministry/Off-site
Sep 11	Thu	6:45pm - 9:30pm Building Use/CCS/CM
Sep 12	Fri	8:00am - 9:00am/Exercise/CM
		5:30pm/Pizza & Games/CM

CM=Chapin Memorial/OBH=Olympia Brown House
Rev. Craig's Office Hours: Sabbatical begins 8/4.
Office Administrator's Summer Hours:
 Tuesday & Thursday, 9-2



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
12 Ford Ave.
Oneonta, NY 13820

UPCOMING SUNDAYS at the UUSO

August 3, 2014

"Tending the Spirit"

Our spirits are like a garden. Ignored, they become barren or tangled. Tended, they bloom and sustain us and others.

How goes it with your spirit?

How does your spiritual garden grow?

This will be Rev. Craig's sabbatical kick-off service. He will return in early December.

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Music provided by

Music Director Tim Horne

Coffee Hosts: Barbara Sue & Paul Agoglia

Ushers: Duncan & Grace Smith

Worship Associate: Adrienne Martini

(Please submit announcements to Adrienne via email by 8/2.)

August 10, 2014

"Sabbath vs. Sabbatical"

Sabbath suggests quiet rest, retreat, peace—time apart from chaos of everyday routines;

Sabbatical suggests reading, cogitating, getting that last chunk of work done.

Must they be so different, or can there be blending of the two?

Rev. Judith A. Thistle

Music provided by

Music Director Tim Horne

Coffee Hosts: Brian Bendlin & Deborah Blue

Ushers: J Dono & Mary Ellen Hoffman

Worship Associate: Bob Brzozowski

(Please submit announcements to Bob via email by 8/9.)

August 17, 2014

"The Climate Is Changing; Why Don't We?"

Despite gloomy findings of the reports about climate change, people and political systems fail to heed the warnings. Where does this resistance and refusal come from?

Paul Scheele

Music provided by: TBA

Coffee Hosts: Luba Reep &

Debbie Reep Maskin

Ushers: Amy Forster-Rothbart &

Adrienne Martini

Worship Associate: Julian Pecenco

(Please submit announcements to Julian via email by 8/16.)

August 24, 2014

"The Deep Way"

Sofia Fahs wrote: "The religious way is the deep way, the way that sees what physical eyes alone fail to see, the intangibles of the heart of every phenomenon. The religious way is the way that touches universal relationships; that goes high, wide and deep, that expands the feelings of kinship." What does it mean for us to follow such a way?

Rev. Darcey Laine

Music provided by

Dorothy & Michael FryeHunt

Coffee Host: Beth Small

Ushers: Pat & Paul Donnelly

Worship Associate: Kevin Schultz

(Please submit announcements to Kevin via email by 8/23.)