



UUU NEWS

A BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF ONEONTA

Week of June 13, 2018

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

UU's Assemble!

The Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly is next week in Kansas City, Missouri. At this time, only a few people from UUSO are attending this gathering of Unitarian Universalists from across the country and around the world. But, even if you aren't making the trip to Kansas City, you can still "attend" the highlights of General Assembly online. Most of the main events are streamed on-line through the UUA website and many sessions are recorded and available to view later. It is also possible to register as an "off-site registrant" or a "virtual delegate". Off-site registrants are able to watch live webcasts of select workshops and even type in questions for the presenters. Virtual delegates can watch live-streaming of the plenary sessions and can ask questions and vote online. If you want to be an off-site registrant for GA, the cost is \$175. (Scholarship money may be available from UUSO, please contact Rev. Craig or Karen Palmer if interested.)

Information about being an off-site registrant is at <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/off-site>

Live-streamed events can be found at <https://www.uua.org/ga/off-site/2018>

Highlights of General Assembly that will be available online:

The Welcoming Celebration and Banner Parade

Wednesday at 7 p.m. (8 p.m.)
Led by the Rev. Patrice Curtis and Dr. Leon Burke. A call to action and a celebration of all who have gathered at GA this year.

Reminder: The UUSO Office will be closed next week, June 19-22. Emails and voicemails will be monitored daily for emergency and pastoral care needs. Routine matters will be addressed when we reopen on Tuesday, June 26th.

Service of the Living Tradition — Sounding the Call

Thursday at 7 p.m. (8 p.m.)
Our annual celebration of the ministers and religious professionals transitioning in our faith. The sermon will be delivered by the Rev. Sofia Betancourt, the Assistant Professor of Theology and Ethics as Starr King School for the Ministry. Rev. Sofia was one of the Interim Co-Presidents of our UUA last year. The music director for the service will be Amanda Thomas, Director of Music the 2nd Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Ware Lecture by Brittany Packnett

Saturday at 7:30 p.m. (8:30 p.m.)
Brittany Packnett is an educator, organizer, writer, and speaker focused on social activism and racial justice. She works with Teach For America and Campaign Zero. She is also a contributor to one of the most popular podcasts in the country, Pod Save The People.

Sunday Morning Worship – No Time for Casual Faith

Sunday at 9 a.m. (10 a.m.)
The worship will be lead by our UUA president, the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray. The music will be coordinated by Anne Watson Born, the Director of Music Ministry at the First Unitarian Universalist Society in Newton. The GA Choir will also perform in the service.

I'm looking at several workshops related to leadership development, stewardship, and young adult ministry. I look forward to sharing with you all what I learn at General Assembly and Ministry Days. Look for dispatches from me at GA on our Facebook page and on my twitter account, @UUJESTER.

Cooperatively,

Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our last classes for children until the fall were held on June 10. Masked creatures of the earth met together in the Explorers room. I saw a very convincing and colorful flying spider and a bedazzled butterfly. All classes will resume in the fall.

Please encourage your child or youth to come to our annual All-RE Ice Cream Sundae party at 10:30 on June 17 at the Olympia Brown house. We will celebrate our RE year together with make-your-own ice cream sundaes.

All artwork and journals will be available to bring home. There will be new COAST stickers for those that still need them. We will also paint kindness rocks. We began our year with this activity and it seems an appropriate way to end. Friendship rocks are stones that give messages of hope, peace, and beauty to anyone who should chance upon one. We decorate them to be weatherproof and then leave them in special spots in our communities or on our travels.

According to the July 28, 2017 “Oneonta Daily Star” article by Cheryl Petersen

The Kindness Rocks Project started with one woman and social media, not too long ago. The woman was walking along a beach where rocks aren't so abundant and found a heart shaped rock that brought her comfort. She wanted to include others in that feeling. She decided to paint a few smooth rocks with happy sayings, and hide them around town. Strangers found the distinctive rocks and told her the gesture was meaningful. The woman started a website and now people from around the world are painting, hiding and finding rocks, taking pictures and posting them online. The website is www.kindnessrocksproject.com.

We will be sure to leave our decorated rocks in spots that are safe and don't interfere with others. They are to be placed somewhere, just a little bit hidden, outside. Our rocks will be part of the “Oneonta NY Rocks” project. Photos of rocks found or made locally can be posted or seen on the “Oneonta NY Rocks” Facebook page. Maybe you'll see that someone found your rock and posted it on the page. Maybe you'll find one where you least expect it and it will brighten your day.

Wishing you kindness and happiness,

Susan Ryder
UUSO Director of Religious Education



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOCIAL ACTION REFUGEE FUNDRAISER ENDS JUNE 17TH

If you didn't attend the Anne Feeny Concert fundraiser for refugee projects supported by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, you can still donate until this Sunday, June 17th. Donations are collected at the Social Action table or can be mailed to the church office at 12 Ford Ave. Make checks payable to UUSO with UUSC Social Action fundraiser in the memo line. Thanks!

SOCIAL ACTION LEADERSHIP CHANGE

After three years of chairing the Social Action Team, I decided that at the end of this term, I would step down to focus on other tasks, including working more closely with the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee to spread the word about its work. It has been a pleasure to work on the Social Action Team with such a group of strong, dedicated, hardworking members who are committed to a variety of social justice issues, and to have Rev. Craig involved as part of the new team structure. Carol Malz volunteered to step up to be the new chair and took over at our recent annual retreat. Her contact information is camalz12@outlook.com. The Social Action Team meets the first Tuesday evening of each month and new members are always welcome.

—Suzanne Miller for the Social Action Team

LISTENING SESSION INPUT

The Board of Trustees thank the 22 congregants, board members, and staff who attended the Listening Session on June 3 following the worship service. The input was rich and valuable. [Please click here](#) to the document that summarizes the notes taken during the session.

Karen Palmer
President, Board of Trustees

2017-2018 Last Wednesdays Film Series (Season 2) on:

PEACE AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

The Unknown Known

UUSO Sanctuary

Doors open at 5:30 pm.

Vegetarian Meal at 6:00 pm.

Screening at 7:00 pm.

Discussion to follow.

Free of Charge.

Childcare available — Contact UUSO Office
by Monday, June 25, 2018

-Sponsored by the Social Action Team of UUSO

“Documentarian Errol Morris fixes his gaze on Donald Rumsfeld — the architect of the War on Terror and the invasion of Iraq, and advisor to four presidents, Nixon, Ford, Reagan and Bush Jr. Morris is a deceptively compliant off-camera inquisitor, eliciting from Rumsfeld his own story of ambition, paranoia, and obsession. This 2013 film is dedicated to Morris's champion, film critic Roger Ebert, who calls this a companion piece to Morris's 2003 *The Fog of War*, a treatment of Robert McNamara's destruction of Vietnam.”

THANK YOU, UUSO!

Clockwise, from right:
Oneonta Community
Health Center,
Heart of the Catskills
Humane Society, &
Susan Stetson.

Dear Members of the Congregation,

On behalf of the Oneonta Community Health Center, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$109.00. We deeply appreciate your gift.

Since our inception in 2008, our services have relied entirely on the charity of our community.

Our volunteers and donors like you, allow us to continue to offer free health care services to both uninsured and underinsured adults in our area.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Hollist
President
Board of Directors

May 16, 2018

Dear folks,

I won't be attending the concert but wanted to contribute to such a worthy cause.

This is the "drop in the bucket" compared to the great needs of not only the Syrians, but of refugees around the world. And, it seems there are more refugees all the time, people fleeing from war, violence, poverty and lack of opportunity.

What are we to do??

Sincerely,
Susan Stetson

remain open for all the dogs & cats that come to us in need.

Our best wishes to one & all for a beautiful Spring/Summer.

Sincerely,
Staff & Animals
at HCHS 

Dear Rev Schwalenberg & congregation.

Thank you all for the generous donation from Change for change.

This year marks our 50th year of open doors for pets lost or in need of loving homes.

Your gift will certainly help us to ensure that our doors

UUSO UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30AM



This Fathers' Day, let's celebrate some of the lesser known founding men of our Unitarian Universalist faith.

**RE Fun Day at OBH!*
With Music provided by Chris Wolf-Gould &
Music Director Tim Horne
Worship Associate: Alex Schultz

Coffee Hour Hosts: Cathi Wiltsey
Ushers: Kim Yousey-Elsener
Chancel Table: Dotty Hudson
Sound System: Patrick Rost



So says the poet William Carlos Williams. What song do you want summer to sing to you this year?

Write a poem, in any form, or bring one by your favorite poet, about the season.

**No RE—Summer Break*
With Music provided by Michael & Dorothy Frye-Hunt
Worship Associate: Keith Willcox

Coffee Hour Hosts: Molly Swain
Ushers: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
Chancel Table: Bob Brzozowski
Sound System: Paul Carter

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SOCIETY
OF ONEONTA**

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[Facebook.com/UUSOneonta](https://www.facebook.com/UUSOneonta)

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UUSO DEADLINES:

UU News Articles: Deadline for June 27th issue
is June 25th, by 9AM.

Order of Service Announcements:
Wednesday a.m. before the Sunday Service

Verbal Announcements:
Contact Worship Associate by Friday before Service



Green Sanctuary Corner

I pledge allegiance to the earth on which I stand,
and to the environment of which I am a part,
one planet in a Process, with soil, water and air like one body,
indivisible, with resources to be cherished and protected by all.

By Vern Barnet