



UUU NEWS

A BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF ONEONTA

Week of July 25, 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Minister's Article 1

News & Announcements 2-4

Worship Services 5

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Postcard from SUUSI

Last week, Cheryl and I traveled down to Cullowee, NC, to attend the Southeastern Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute (SUUSI). Unfortunately, the wifi and cell service on that campus are less than ideal and the schedule is long and intense, so I didn't have time to check-in with y'all while I was there. (Not sure if I used that correctly, but after spending a week with many of our southern neighbors, I thought I'd give it a try.) A little over 1,100 people attended this year's SUUSI. Cheryl collaborated with a friend of ours to offer HypnoBliss Yoga, which was a big hit. She also offered a "Meet Your Peeps" workshop to help foster connections for new people or those challenged by the large crowds. Cheryl and I had the great pleasure of leading a morning worship together. (We tried it out first here at UUSO a few weeks ago.) We both received positive feedback after that service, with some people telling us it was exactly what they needed to hear. We even got a shout out from the Rev. Meg Barnhouse, who delivered the worship service the next morning. (That was a nice feather in our caps.) Most of my time was taken up by running Pair-A-Dice, the game room at SUUSI. This was the second year for Pair-A-Dice and we had over 300 people register to use it. Watching children, teens, and adults play together throughout the week made my heart sing. Several times, the Pair-a-Dice staff was told, "I finally have a place for me at SUUSI" or "This is the best place to be." It was a lot of hard work and long days, but those smiles and the laughter across generations made it more than worthwhile. In between those duties, I managed to make new friends with colleagues, connect with beloved colleagues I rarely see, and attend some fabulous worship services. It was a full and rewarding week, and I'm already making plans for next year.

Starting My Sabbatical

My sabbatical officially starts on Saturday, August 4th-- though I have a few projects I'm trying to finish before I can truly set my duties down. My last day in the pulpit will be this Sunday, July 29th. I'm honored and excited to have Pat Wictor and Deborah Latz as our musical guests on Sunday morning (and in concert at 7 p.m. the night before). I've been told there is a fruit-full potluck planned for after the service to send me off. I will still be around next week (and maybe a little the week after that if need be), but on August 3rd I'm changing my outgoing messages on phone and email and I'm going to stop answering my phone 24 hours a day. Karen Palmer, the Sabbatical Committee, and Rev. Kimberley will know how to reach me in an emergency. Since I'm not planning on going anywhere at this point, it is likely you will see me around town. Please feel free to say "hi" if you do, but refrain for telling me anything about UUSO. If I ask how things are going at church, you have my permission to frown and wag your finger at me. I'm going to take this time away to focus on writing a book about storytelling, something I've never tried before, and learning how to better use video online to get out our message. I'm also going to try and focus on my health. I'm looking forward to the time away, while at the same time already feeling a bit reluctance to set everything down. I wish you all a great sabbatical and trust you will use this time to explore, try new things, and find greater depth and meaning together. I know you will treat Rev. Kimberley with respect, love, and kindness as she shares her ministry with you over the next four months.

Cooperatively,
Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

More than half of American property owners die without a will, according to the National Caregivers Library, leaving the state to settle the distribution of their assets and often making their families squabble over their possessions.

For many people the subject of the distribution of their assets after their death is uncomfortable or even taboo. Many parents and their adult children consider the topic of estates off-limits. Our hope is that by providing our UUSO members and friends with information about planning their estates, that they will find comfort in knowing their legacy and the legacy of their parents will be as they intended. Of course, we also hope that you will consider including the UUSO in your estate plans as your personal legacy to continue our mission through our Endowment Fund.

What is a legacy gift? A legacy gift is a gift of cash, securities or other property that is realized after you die, for example through a beneficiary designation in your will, a trust or an insurance policy. Legacy gifts of any amount are welcome and will be deeply appreciated. By making a legacy gift you will be recognized as a member of the UUSO's **LEGACY CIRCLE**, or you may opt to remain anonymous.

A SPECIAL LIMITED TIME OPPORTUNITY--Wake Now Our Vision Legacy Gift Challenge

Meet the legacy challenge! Now is the perfect time to include the UUSO and other UU organizations in your estate plans. Make a new planned gift intention and the UUSO could receive a gift in 2019. The **Wake Now Our Vision (WNOV)** Campaign is a joint effort of six UU partner institutions. A \$5 million grant from the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock provides a **10 percent cash match** of up to \$10,000 for new planned gift intentions to partners and congregations. ***Half of the grant has already been allocated so it is important to act quickly.***

Here's how the challenge works:

- New Legacy gift intentions made between January 1, 2017 and June 30, 2020 will qualify for this legacy match program so long as matching funds remain.
- Name the UUSO (alone or with other UU organizations) in your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.
- If you've already named the UUSO as a beneficiary in your will or trust but have not yet informed us, **YOUR GIFT INTENTION MAY STILL COUNT!**
- Complete and sign the WNOV pledge form.
- Send the signed form with a copy of the relevant pages of your will, trust, or beneficiary designation form. Give a copy of the form to the Endowment Committee.
- If your legacy gift is a percentage of your estate, work with your financial advisor or accountant to come to a reasonable, good faith estimate on the value of your gift. You can use the current value of the gift and factor in expected asset growth, your expenses in re-

tirement, and actuarial predictions. If your gift cannot be reasonably valued at this time, you can still participate in the Legacy Challenge. A flat \$1,000 matching gift will be made for eligible non-valued gift intentions.

More information will be available at a table during coffee hour beginning on July 29. A presentation by a professional financial advisor is being planned as an after service Food for Thought program in the early fall.

There are other options in making your estate plans such as charitable trust, annuities and donor advised funds. Both the UUA and the UUSC have a wealth of information on their websites and professional staff to help advise you.

Any information provided by the UUSO is not intended as professional legal or financial advice. Consult your attorney or financial advisor when making your estate plans.

-From UUSO's Community Fund (Formerly, the Endowment Fund)

It's almost new directory time! If you'd like a photo of your family or yourself in this year's directory, and you don't already have one uploaded in to your Realm profile, please contact the Office Administrator. You can send yours in to uuso@uuso.org, or we can arrange to have a snapshot taken.

Every three years we have an formal photo directory made with professional portraits. The next year for that will be 2019!



From Church Custodian, Dave Ray:

The UUSO is in need of a substitute custodian to look after the church and set up for services when I am on vacation. I haven't made vacation plans for this year yet, but often go away in August, so hoping to find someone soon. If you are interested or know anyone who may be, please send me an email and I will contact you.

Thank you! rayd3000@gmail.com



Sabbatical Send-Off Potluck!
Sunday at 11:30am (after Service)

Join us in sending off Rev. Craig with a bang! Bring a dish to pass.

Please be sure to label your items for those with allergies or special diets.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CANDLELIGHT DINNERS/PICNICS

August 4 and 5

Sunday, July 29, is the last day to sign up to be a host or guest. Hosts tell us how many guests they can invite, supply place settings, beverages. Guests provide part of the meal. A great way to know each other..

Sign up after church Sunday, or give us a call or email. Sunday afternoon we will let the hosts know whom to contact .

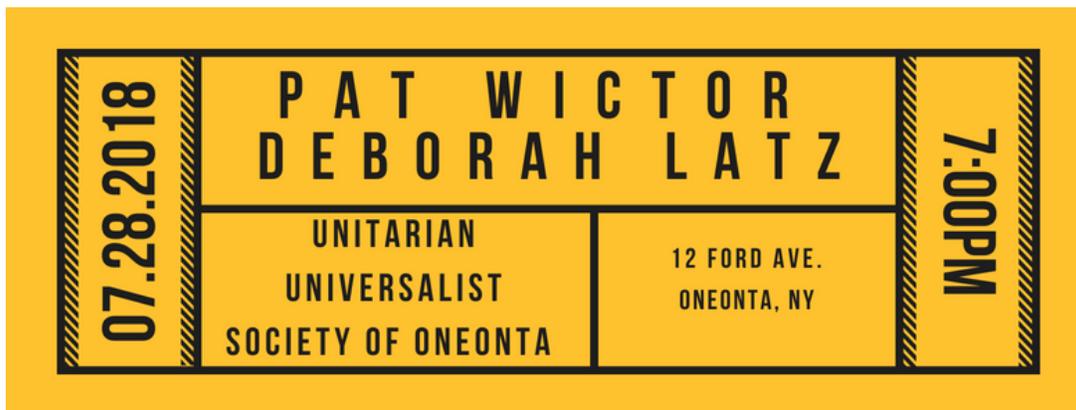
Justine Roefs, 267-0020, justine.roefs@gmail.com

Alice Siegfried, 432-8673, alice.pott@icloud.com

BACKPACK BUDDIES & PERSONAL CARE DONATIONS FOR FIRST SUNDAY, AUG. 5:

The Dog Days of August are soon upon us, even if it is hard to imagine it getting hotter. Many of you will be traveling: please remember to collect any sample personal care items you come upon to donate to our Personal Care Products collection. Of course we will continue collecting non-perishable, kid-friendly, vaguely nutritious food for Backpack Buddies to help the children who need it during the summer. The Personal Care Products go to the homeless and less fortunate in the community. As always, monetary donations, cash and check, are welcome. Please make your checks out to NENY Regional Food Bank with Delaware/Otsego County Backpack Buddies in the memo line. This effort is greatly appreciated, and we are making an impact in our local community. Thank you for your ongoing support!

-Dawn Kilts for UUSO Social Action Team



Pat Wictor, former member of *Brother Sun*, and jazz musician Deborah Latz form a new folk-jazz duo and perform this Saturday night at UUSO. Tickets available at the door for \$15.

More information at their websites:

www.patwictor.com

www.deborahlatz.com

UUSO UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30AM

*Stop, Rest, Grow,
Transform!*

REV. CRAIG SCHWALENBERG

JULY 29, 2018 · 10:30 AM

UUSO 12 FORD AVE., ONEONTA

Musical Guests: Pat Wictor & Deborah Latz

Much of Nature's beings know the secret:
It is an important part of the cycle of life
to stop, rest, grow, and change.

**No RE — Summer Break*
With hymnal music provided by Kathy Shimberg
Worship Associate: Cathi Wiltsey

Coffee Hour Hosts: Arlana Young & Brian Bendlin
Ushers: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
Chancel Table: Grace Smith
Sound System: Paul Carter



We don't have to be Zen masters or devout monks to have a personal spiritual practice.

Anyone can achieve a sense of wholeness and satisfaction, deepen their faith, and make meaning in these uncertain times.

**No RE—Summer Break*
With Music provided by Peter Blue & Kathy Shimberg
Worship Associate: Cathi Wiltsey

Coffee Hour Hosts: Patricia Engel LaFata & Jesse Schwabe
Ushers: **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**
Chancel Table: Julia Gregory
Sound System: Julian Pecenco

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SOCIETY
OF ONEONTA**

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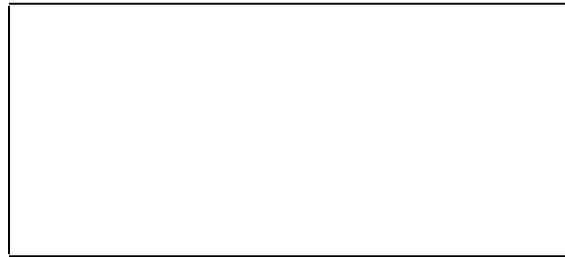
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UUSO DEADLINES:

UU News Articles: Deadline for August 8th issue
is Aug 6th, by 9AM.

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

Verbal Announcements:
Contact Worship Associate by Friday before Service

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

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Green Sanctuary Corner

A CONSCIOUS SLATHER

We all know the dangers of ultraviolet (UV) rays and should always be reaching for some kind of protection. The problem is that when the waterproof sunblock you overpaid for eventually becomes an oil slick around you, surrounding reef and marine life can become adversely affected. Choose your 'forcefield' responsibly by grabbing an eco-friendly formula like Thinkbaby and Thinksport LIVESTRONG sunscreen which contains zinc, coconut, raspberry and cranberry seed oil without paraban, PABA, nano particles or any other biologically harmful chemicals.