



UUU NEWS

A BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF ONEONTA

August 2, 2017

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MINISTER'S MUSINGS

Before the Summer ends...

With August here, the end of Summer and the start of the new church year are fast approaching. Our annual Ingathering/Water Service will be September 10th! But before we get there, while the Summer sun is still overhead, there are few special events planned at UUSO.

UUSO's Animal Blessing Service

Saturday (8/19) at 10:30 a.m.

I'll be conducting my first Animal Blessing service at UUSO on Saturday, August 19th, at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome! This includes all well-behaved crated/bowled/leashed and/or plush animals. We'll be holding the service in the back of the Chapin Memorial Sanctuary in the Memorial Garden. Please bring a blanket or towel to sit on the grass with (or a camp chair if you prefer.) We'll have some poetry, a song perhaps, and a blessing of all the animals that come. I encourage you to invite friends to this service!

New Year Beginning Blessing

Sunday (8/27) at 11:30 a.m.

After the worship service on the 27th ("Across the Generations"), I will be offering blessings for the start of the new year. Bring your backpack, your lunchbox, your smartphone, your briefcase, or whatever item you wish to have blessed for the start of the new academic/church year. This is an intergenerational event-- all ages are expected and welcome.

Church Mouse Picnic

Sunday (8/27) at 12:150 p.m.

After the service, after the social hour, when all their helpful doings are done, the Church Mice are invited to a picnic with the minister at 12:15 p.m. on August 27th. All current Church Mice and Church Mice To-Be are invited. I'll be ordering lunch from Brook's and we'll have a nice meal as we discuss the Church Mice plans for the new year. If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. by 8/25. If you are planning to bring your adult(s) with you and want to have food for them, too, please let Rev. Craig know.

Indivisible/Prophetic Ministry

Every other Friday (8/11 and 8/25) from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Our workshop/discussion group on how best to put our beliefs and principles into action in the current state of our democracy continues. All are welcome to attend. There is no childcare offered, but children are welcome to attend and participate in the discussion. Our topics for August will be "Sustaining the Spirit" on 8/11 and "Connecting Across the Divide" on 8/25. Those that show up help determine future topics of discussion. We will meet in Chapin Memorial Sanctuary, most likely in the Gathering Room downstairs.

Cooperatively,

Rev. Craig

UUSO UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

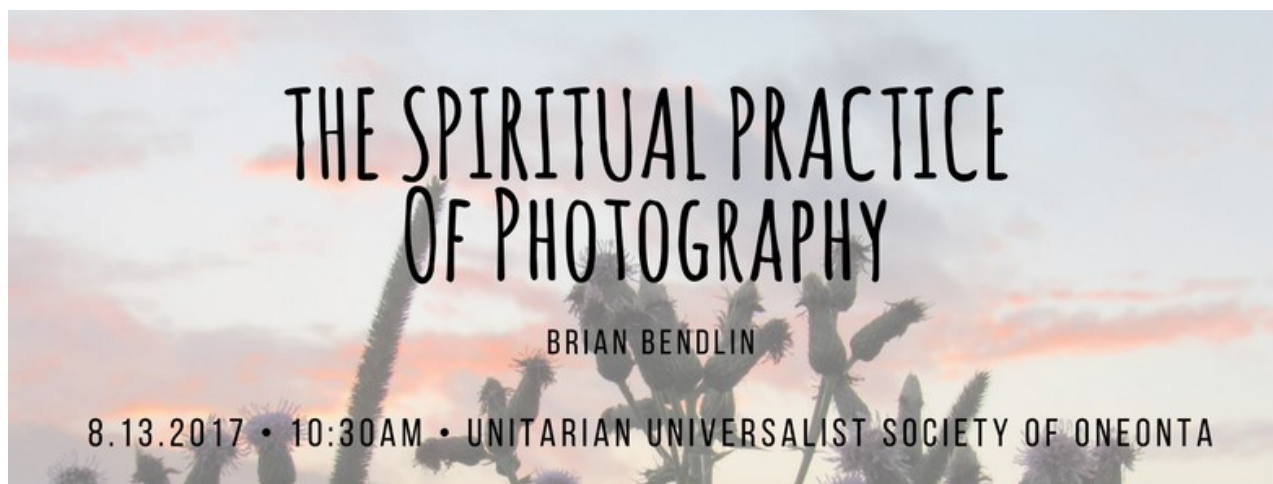
SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30AM



It is said promises are easily made,
and even more easily broken.
The commitments we make are important,
what we do after failing them even more so.

With Music provided by Kathy Shimberg on piano,
and Peter Blue on nikkelharpe.
Worship Associate: Caroline Bagby

Coffee Hour Hosts: **Need Volunteers**
Ushers: Kay Stuligross
Chancel Table: Grace Smith
Sound System: Scott Segar



What does the practice of photography mean and
how does it offer new ways of seeing and quiet re-
flecting on nature and the world around us?

With Music provided by Kathy Shimberg
Worship Associate: Rich Stelling

Coffee Hour Hosts: **Need Volunteers**
Ushers: **Need Volunteers**
Chancel Table: Brian Bendlin
Sound System: Paul Carter

UUSO MONTHLY MEETINGS - AUGUST

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|----------------------|-----|
| August 9 | 6:00 PM | Scrabble and Potluck | CM |
| August 10 | 10:30 AM | Web Committee | OBH |
| August 13 | 12:00 PM | Finance Committee | OBH |
| August 16 | 6:30 PM | Board of Trustees | CM |

After each church year, many of our monthly scheduled meetings expire and need to be renewed. Please contact the UUSO Office (via email) to ensure your group's meeting space is reserved.

For the most up-to-date information on events and building reservations,
please see our calendar on our website at:

www.uuso.org/church-calendar

Or click on the Calendar tab on our website: UUSO.org

CM: Chapin Memorial Sanctuary/12 Ford Ave. — OBH: Olympia Brown House/16 Ford Ave.

UUSO NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Change for Change—August

Oneonta World of Learning (OWL)

The Oneonta World of Learning is a community resource providing a place for interactive learning through play for children and their grownups. It is located in Fortin Park and is the only children's museum for 60 miles.

Second quarter donations from Change for Change were \$150.00 in April to Susquehanna Animal Shelter; \$33.50 fifth Sunday to Caring connections; \$146.50 to Caring Connections in May; and \$89.00 to OFO Violence Intervention Program in June.

Circle of Life

Our condolences to Walter Vom Saal and Suzanne Miller on the death of Walter's mother earlier this week. While she was ill for some time and the death was not unexpected, it is always a time of deeper grieving when a loved one dies. Walter and Suzanne are traveling out of state to be with family and attend the memorial service.

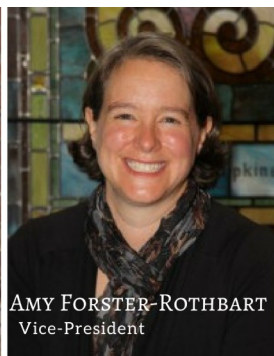
UUSO NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

You may have noticed a lighter volume of newsletters this summer. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. We didn't receive enough article submissions. Those we did received were included in an email blast sent out on our UUSO Chat groups, some were put into the announcements for the next Sunday's Order of Service, and yet others were posted to our UUSO Community Facebook group. Please contact Evelyn, our office administrator, if you'd like help connecting with our community online.

2017-2018 New Board Line up!



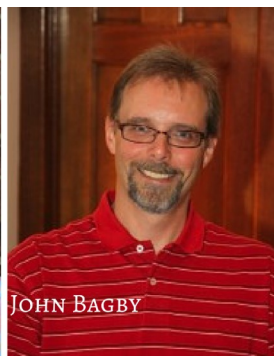
KAREN PALMER
President



AMY FORSTER-ROTHBART
Vice-President



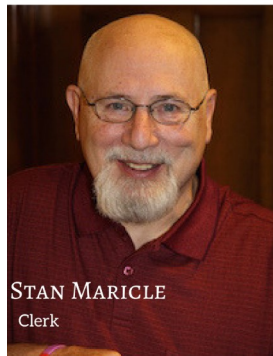
SUZANNE BEDDOE



JOHN BAGBY



ADRIENNE MARTINI



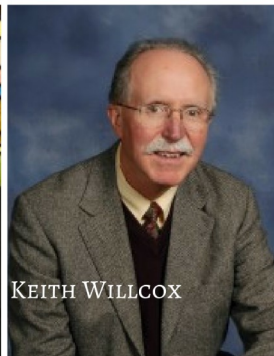
STAN MARICLE
Clerk



MARY RUHOFF
Moderator



JEANE BENNETT O'DEA



KEITH WILLCOX



NATHAN ELSENER

First Sunday—Backpack Buddies Donations

Well, the dog days of summer are upon us and everyone is busy trying to squeeze in some last minute vacation or getting ready for return to school. In all the flurry let's not forget First Sunday which is this week August 6. The kids are going to be needing all the non-perishable, kid friendly, kinda-nourishing food we can give them. One of our monetary donors got a thank you note from the Principal of Valleyview School telling her how much our donations help the children and improve learning.

Our personal care products are greatly appreciated, too and help maintain the dignity of those who receive them. Monetary gifts are always appreciated-both cash and checks. Please make checks out to the NE NY Regional Food Bank with Delaware/Otsego County Backpack Buddies in the memo. As always the collection containers will be on the bulletin board side of the sanctuary in the front.

Thanks again for your continuing support!

-Dawn Kilts for the Social Action Committee

SAWDUST FROM THE BOARD

The Board of Trustees met on 6/28/17. After reviewing minutes and reports, we further explored a governance model based on the book "Governance and Ministry" by Dan Hotchkiss in which the Board oversees the committees that sustain the Society and the Minister oversees the groups that promote the ministry of the Society. We discussed its potential to better serve UUSO toward furthering its Mission.

We reviewed the results of the Assessment of our Ministry and acknowledged some progress with our focus on multigenerational activities. We saw that the congregation also wants to improve our volunteer strength. Rev. Craig emphasized that what we call "volunteering" is really what we do "in service" of our mission which lends deeper meaning and significance. This will be a focus of the Board thanks to congregational input. Following the regular meeting, we held a special meeting to elect officers. Karen Palmer continues to be President, Amy Forster Rothbart is Vice President, and Stan Maricle is the Clerk.

We also met on July 28, 2017 with new Trustees Nathan Elsener and Adrienne Martini and new Board member and Moderator, Mary Ruhoff. During this meeting the Board reviewed its foundational mission and principles included in the Leadership Covenant and BOT job description. We set the board calendar for the year and agreed upon October 15, 2017 for the Fall Congregational Meeting and May 6, 2018 for the Annual Congregational Meeting.

In addition, we assigned BOT liaisons to committees. We have decided to experiment with the new governance model by agreeing that Rev. Craig will oversee several "teams" related directly to ministry. These are: Social Action, Special Events, Worship, Music, Pastoral Care, and Membership which is assuming a new name of "Welcoming" team. The Trustees will continue to have liaisons to all other committees. We will continue to monitor and evaluate this model throughout the coming year. The Board liaisons are as follows:

Stan Maricle: Finance, Website

Mary Ruhoff: Bylaws

Suzy Beddoe: Endowment

Keith Willcox: Personnel

Adrienne Martini: Fundraising, Audio

John Bagby: Properties, Design

Nathan Elsener: Stewardship

Amy Forster Rothbart: Religious Education, Small Group Ministry

Jeanne Bennett-O'Dea: Memorial, Mali

Our next Board meeting is Wednesday, August 16, 2017 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 at the "Sounding Board" after the August 13, 2017 service.

Karen Palmer, President

UUSO Board of Trustees

607-267-4793

kpalmer14@hughes.net

UUSO POLICIES

It is the practice of this Society to publish all policies in the Newsletter. Here are a few from our archives that haven't been publicized. *(some formats may have been changed for better fit.)* You can find all UUSO Policies created by the Board of Trustees on our website, under the Member's Documents section.

Bulletin Board, UUSO Policy September 21, 2016

The bulletin boards located at Chapin Memorial, 12 Ford Avenue (one inside the sanctuary, one in the outside entryway), are intended to be means of communication for the UUSO community. The Office Administrator is responsible for maintaining the bulletin boards and ensuring that all postings follow this policy.

Sanctuary Bulletin Board

The sanctuary bulletin board is for posting:

- Worship service announcements
- Denominational information
- UUSO events and information
- Articles about/by UUSO Members and Friends
- Correspondence intended for the UUSO community
- Notices of community events
- Offers of services or goods from Members or Friends

All items posted on the sanctuary bulletin board must be signed and dated by the poster. Only the Office Administrator (or other UUSO staff) may remove items that are not signed, are no longer relevant, or have been posted for an excessively long time. The sanctuary bulletin board will be kept closed during worship services and ceremonies. No one may post items on the exterior of the bulletin board (visible when the bulletin board is closed), except that a group renting or using CM may post things on the exterior surface only during their event. Chairs are not to be stacked in front of the bulletin board.

Outside Bulletin Board

The outside bulletin board is for posting:

- Sunday schedule of events at UUSO
- Weekly schedule of events at UUSO
- Religious Education Sunday programming & information
- Upcoming Events at / for / by UUSO

The outside bulletin board will be kept locked. The Office Administrator, Minister, and Director (s) of Religious Education will have keys to the bulletin board. As a public bulletin board, the outside bulletin board will be kept uncluttered and up-to-date. Nothing is to be posted on the glass (inside or out) of the bulletin board. Items may be submitted for posting to the outside bulletin board by giving them to the Office Administrator or by putting them in the UUSO office mailbox (located in the foyer of 12 Ford Avenue).

Replaces "UUSO Bulletin Board Policy" of May 16, 2012

UUSO POLICIES

Animals, UUSO Policy

November 18, 2015

No animals will be allowed in any UUSO buildings except for:

1. Service/Companion/Assistance Animals required due to a disability.
2. Certified Therapy Animals with prior approval of a UUSO staff member.
3. Animals being used as part of a worship or R.E. program.

Reasoning: Under ADA guidelines, service animals (also known as Companion animals and Assistance animals) are not required to be trained or certified. The only requirements are that the animal be required due to a disability, be under control of the owner, and be house trained. Animal owners can only be asked if the animal is required for a disability, but may not ask what the disability is. Other federal guidelines make allowances for companion animals and assistance animals-- again, with the condition that that the animal is required by the person to function normally in that space. Not all service animals are certified nor have they all received special training, so this isn't a condition we can require.

Therapy animals are NOT protected by ADA or other federal laws. These animals are specially trained and certified to be able to visit schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and trauma sites. Owners of therapy animals are required by the certifying agency to follow strict procedures and guidelines-- including asking for permission before bringing an animal on-site.

Replaces "Animals" 1.18.12 and 10.20.04

Privacy Policy

January 18, 2017

Directory

1. The UUSO Directory is for distribution to members and friends of the UUSO. Copies of the Directory are to be given to new members. Friends of the congregation may receive a copy of the directory at the discretion of the UUSO Office Administrator. With the exception of single copies at each telephone at 12 and 16 Ford Avenue, the Directory is not to be made available for general public use.
2. Information in the Directory, including postal and e-mail addresses, is not to be used for Non-UUSO purposes. Information from the Directory may be provided to members and friends of the Society. Requests by others for Directory information about UUSO members and friends are to be handled with discretion.
3. The on-line directory is to be in a password protected area.

Non-Directory Information

1. Non-directory information about UUSO members and friends should not be given out without a verbal release from the member or friend.
2. Non-directory information on children, including health information or other information kept by the Director(s) of Religious Education, is confidential. Inquiries about such matters are to be referred to the Director(s) of Religious Education and shared with others only on a need-to-know basis.

Replaces "Privacy Policy" of October 16, 2002

**THE UNITARIAN
UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY
OF ONEONTA**

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UUSO DEADLINES:

UU News Articles: Deadline for August 30th issue
is August 28th.

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

Verbal Announcements:
Contact Worship Associate by Friday before Service

Green Sanctuary Corner



During these long summer days with kids having more free time for family fun, you may want to gather around the card table with these eco themed games (all available from Amazon Smile—you can choose to earn funds for the UUA with your purchases!)

1. There are several “National Parks Editions” of popular table games including Monopoly, Jenga, Trivial Pursuit, Yahtzee.
2. UNO, the Wilderness edition
3. Trivia and Card Games by BioViva
4. Earthopoly and Oceanopoly by Late for the Sky

UUSO Board of Trustees

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
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| Amy Forster-Rothbart | |
| | Vice-President |
| Stan Maricle | Clerk |
| John Bagby | |
| Keith Willcox | |
| Jeane Bennett-O'Dea | |
| Suzy Beddoe | |
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| Adrienne Martini | |
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