



UUU NEWS

A BIWEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
SOCIETY OF ONEONTA

March 15, 2017

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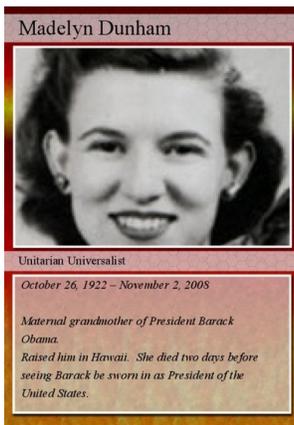
MINISTER'S MUSINGS

UU Women Heros

As part of my Geek Service, "Rosie, Get Your Cape," I created a dozen or so UU Women Hero "trading cards" for the time for all ages. On the front of each card was a picture of a Unitarian, Universalist, or Unitarian Universalist woman of significance, along with some basic facts about them. I handed them out to all of the youth present and gave them a bit of homework. I asked them to research the person they received and fill out the back of the card.

This Sunday, I received three of the cards back--with lots of information on their backs and some corrections to my original work. (Oops!) Here is the extra card I handed out to Pam Strother.

Madelyn Dunham



"Oct. 26, 1922– Nov. 2, 2008

Maternal grandmother of President Barack Obama

Raised him in Hawaii. She died two days before seeing Barack be sworn in as President of the United States. "

After doing her research, Pam corrected my mistake. Mrs. Dunham died two days before the election, not the inauguration as I originally wrote on the card. She also added the following information:

Madelyn Dunham was a hard-working woman of mid-Western background who was described as "quiet, but firm." She distinguished herself by being a white woman vice president of a Hawaiian bank at a time when both women and white people were targets of discrimination in Hawaii. It strikes me as ironic that she experienced both sides of the black/white racial divide. Her only child, a daughter, married a black man from Kenya at a time when interracial marriages were still illegal in many parts of the United States.

She was a constant presence in the life of her grandson, who lived with her for part of his childhood. He was later elected President of the United States of America. She died two days before the election. I cannot help but wonder how much she influenced the life of her grandson and, in a larger sense, the life of our nation, both by her own actions and the values she instilled in her grandson that he later brought to his own life and presidency.

I think her life was important because it reminds us that we never know what ripples our stones will cause in the pond of the universe.

Madelyn Dunham was a member of the East Shore Unitarian Church in Bellevue, WA, and a member of the First Unitarian Church of Honolulu. An article about Madelyn and President Obama was published in the UU World and can be found at <http://www.uuworld.org/articles/obamas-religious-roots>

If you enjoyed reading this card, let me know. I can post the other ones I've received on our bulletin board or in future newsletters.

*Cooperatively,
Rev. Craig*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

It is a chilly morning with reports of a Nor'easter headed our way. I wish you all safe travels but mostly that you are able to hunker down at home as it looks to be a big one. Perhaps we'll even experience another thundersnow storm.

In the midst of such wintry news I am beginning to receive information from all my butterfly information online friends that it is time to start getting milkweed seeds ready to plant. Really?

It appears to be the time when we are to carefully wrap some milkweed seeds in a damp paper towel in a plastic bag and leave it in the fridge. When the seeds sprout, we can plant them in a pot. Given some care and placed in a sunny window they should be big enough to go into our gardens by spring.

I have often written in this newsletter about supporting monarch butterflies as a way to learn about and do something about the destruction of their (our) environments and to practice our UU Seventh Principle: Respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence of which we are a Part. This can be a wonderful learning adventure for children as well as for all of us. For me it is an adventure that is full of Spirit.

When you begin to learn about Monarch butterflies you will quickly find out that they have one of the most amazing migrations of any creature on earth. You will see footage of their incredible gatherings in Mexico where the sky can become orange with their flights. You will also find out how their numbers are quickly falling due to deforestation, loss of milkweed habitat, and herbicide use on our farms, lawns, and roadsides. You will think of many ways to help make a difference – one bug at a time.

Milkweed is the only plant that Monarchs use to lay their eggs. I am getting information alerts from wildlife protection organizations that will supply free milkweed seeds. I would like to offer this to you myself. I have a registered Monarch Waystation in my yard. (See monarch-watch.com for information to create your own.) Last fall I saved seeds from milkweed plants that are local to our area as well as some that grow well here and the caterpillars seem to like. I kept them cold and they are now ready to put in the fridge, sprout and plant. Look for seed packets and instructions on the table in the entryway of the sanctuary. I hope you will enjoy this as well as know you are a part of making our world just a little bit better.

Some of our RE children and families downloaded the app “Journey North” on their phones or looked it up on their computers. They registered their own sightings of Monarchs and watched the migration map change every day as sightings were reported throughout Mexico, the US and Canada. There are also spots on the webpage to report and keep track of many other creatures and plants that make spring appearances such as tulips, hummingbirds, earthworms, orioles, red winged blackbirds . . . Monarch sightings are already appearing as they slowly awaken and begin their travels in Mexico.

Spring will come.

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



STEWARDSHIP

We're on the second-to-last part of our revamped Stewardship campaign.

We started with two weekends of appreciative inquiry sessions in which people articulated why UUSO is important to them, the many ways they provide support, and their dreams for what we could accomplish with greater availability of time and money.

This second part is an **anonymous** survey about how people's income and pledges relate. That will help us learn about our pledging habits as a community, and also help us set a reasonable stewardship goal.

With the survey results in hand, we'll send out the pledge forms along with **general** information derived from the survey. In order for us to process the survey data to include it with your pledge packet, **please respond to the survey by next Monday, March 20th.**

If you didn't get an email with the link to the survey, it's at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W6P2BWM>. (Note that the address on the postcard is missing the /r after .com.)

We're asking that people bring their pledge forms in on One-Day Sunday, April 2nd. (If you can't make it that day, or if you leave your form at home, we'll be happy to accept your pledge by mail or online.)

Thank you for your support of our revised process.

Karl Seeley, for the Stewardship Committee

Endowment—Recyclables

The cans and bottles in this photo are NOT redeemable for money. They are recyclable though. Please toss them into the single stream recycle bin rather than into the collection bags for the Endowment Fund. Crushed cans do not scan, so they become worthless for Endowment. Seltzer is not a 5 cent container. Teas do not bring us any money either. Thanks for your consideration. Endowment continues to invest the income it receives from your donated containers, and this fall it was able to provide over \$4,000 in grant money to both UUSO and to community organizations. We CAN do it.

-Grace Smith, for the Endowment Committee



UUSO NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Goods and Services Auction

Sunday March 5 is the official opening of the auction season! Our annual Goods and Services Auction is scheduled for Saturday April 22 in Chapin, so be sure this fun event is on your calendar!

Our most popular auction items are events (beach/mountain getaway; local walks; craft class); food items (gourmet meals; soup/cookies/bread of the month) and services (airport chauffeur; yardwork; technology help). We found the Silent Auction tables to be overcrowded in past years, so we've decided to be more selective in what we put out this year. More details on this later; for now, please start thinking about the wonderful and unique skills, meals and services you have to donate and share at our auction! Feel free to call or email Jane Bachman or Arlana Young with your fabulous auction ideas.

People with clipboards will be circulating during coffee hour beginning March 19 to record donations you'd like to offer, snacks you'd like to bring, and time you'd like to volunteer. Please give generously!

-Arlana Young

Mali Dinner—April 1st

The Mali Education Project will hold its annual delicious buffet fundraiser on Saturday, April 1st, from 6 to 9pm in Chapin Memorial Chapel.

This year's event will feature South African cuisine as well as the inspiring documentary Taking Root about the life of Wangari Maathai who founded the Green Belt Movement in her native Kenya to reforest the environment and empower impoverished women to change their lives. This fundraiser will benefit Youchaou's School in Bamako, Mali where 55 students are sponsored by both UUSO members and others in the wider community. The proceeds will support the new library which needs more books, shelves, tables and chairs.

Reservations are required by contacting Carolyn Wolf-Gould at (607) 434 - 3304 or cswolfgould@gmail.com.

Don't delay as space is limited. The tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$10 for children over 5 years old. Childcare is available by request. Vegetarian and gluten free options are available.

Joe Story's Stories of his Travels

One wall in the Gathering Room in the basement of Chapin is now filled with Joe's artwork, and the other wall has an additional seven pieces. My photo is a sorry representation of his images. They truly are wonderful, so please take time to enjoy them in all their glory. So many of our members are fortunate to have examples of his fine talent. Thank you for sharing them with us. -Grace Smith



UUSO NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WED MARCH 29

LAST WEDNESDAYS FILM SERIES

AGAINST MILITARISM

JOIN US THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FOR A VEGETARIAN DINNER AT 6:00 PM, FOLLOWED BY A FILM SCREENING AT 7:00 PM, NO CHARGE. DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW AFTERWARDS

MARCH 29, CITIZENFOUR

A DOCUMENTARY SCREENING BY AWARD-WINNING
FILMMAKER JOSEPH C. STILLMAN
NARRATED BY MARTIN SHEEN

BY JANUARY 2013, LAURA POITRAS, AN AMERICAN DOCUMENTARY FILM DIRECTOR/PRODUCER, HAD WORKED FOR SEVERAL YEARS ON A FILM ABOUT MONITORING PROGRAMS IN THE US FOLLOWING THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 ATTACKS. THE FILM FOLLOWS HER RECEIPT OF AN ENCRYPTED E-MAIL FROM A STRANGER WHO CALLING HIMSELF, "CITIZENFOUR." SHE WOULD LATER MEET EDWARD SNOWDEN, WHO OFFERS HER INSIDE INFORMATION ABOUT ILLEGAL WIRETAPPING PRACTICES OF THE US NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY (NSA) AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. THE REST, AS THEY SAY, IS HISTORY. AND AN ACCLAIMED FILM. NOT RATED.



RSVP REQUESTED BUT NOT REQUIRED.
CHILD CARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST,
PREFERABLY BY EMAIL, UUSO@UUSO.ORG,
OR CALLING 607-432-3491.

PLEASE CALL BY 3/27/17, WITH AGES/NUMBER OF CHILDREN.

SPONSORED BY THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE OF THE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ONEONTA (UUSO), 12 FORD AVE.



6:00 PM Dinner

7:00 PM Film

12 Ford Ave. Oneonta

UUSO UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES
 SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30AM

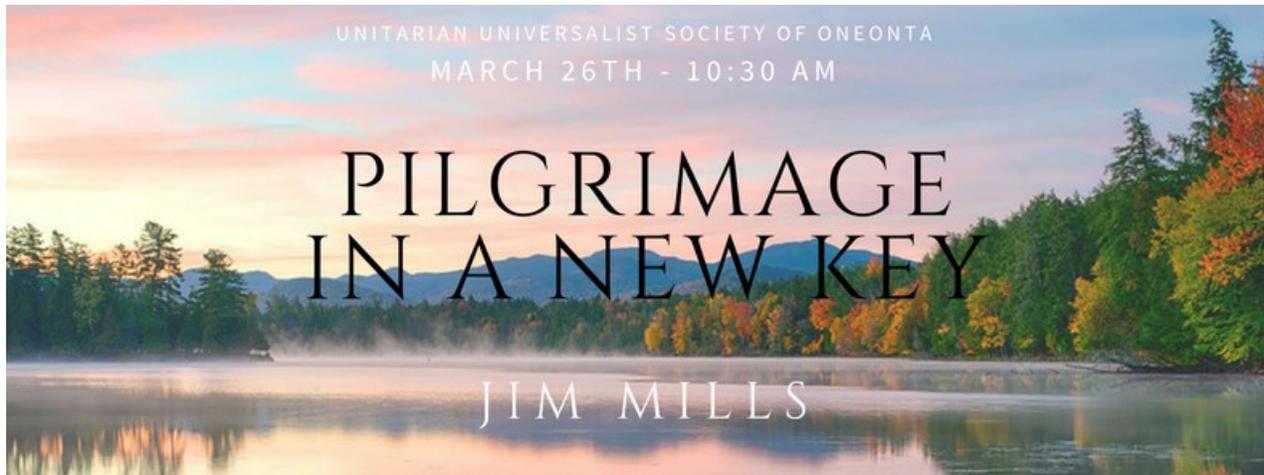


A Catholic tradition, a Taize service creates a time for renewal and reflection, with worshipful music, brief words, and silence.

(Many regular elements of our traditional service will not take place this Sunday or will be done non-verbally.)

**Children to Classrooms at 10:30*
 With Music provided by Music Director Tim Horne & the UUSO Choir
 Worship Associate: Rev. Craig

Coffee Hour Hosts: Mary Ruhoff & Norma Lee Havens
 Ushers: Liz Jacob-Carter & Tobias Carter
 Chancel Table: Mary Ruhoff
 Sound System: Julian Pecenco



What if there the spiritual practice of pilgrimage came to the United States? Imagine local, interfaith trips planned to promote environmental sustainability and social justice and heal individuals, societies, and the earth.

**Children to Classrooms at 10:30*
 With Music provided by Music Director Tim Horne & the UUSO Choir
 Worship Associate: Cathi Wiltsey

Coffee Hour Hosts: Need Volunteers!
 Ushers: Need Volunteers!
 Chancel Table: Mary Ambrose
 Sound System: Paul Carter

**THE UNITARIAN
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SOCIETY
OF ONEONTA**

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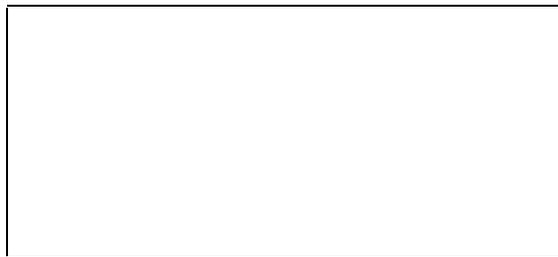


[Facebook.com/UUSOneonta](https://www.facebook.com/UUSOneonta)

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UUSO DEADLINES:

UU News Articles: Deadline for March 29th issue is March 27th.

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

Verbal Announcements:
Contact Worship Associate by Friday before Service

Green Sanctuary Corner



This one is for the kids and their parents who want to promote more fun with fewer things. Check out NewDream.org. This website has numerous resources with infographics, videos, and other resources to help parents and caregivers push back against the excessive advertising that lures children toward a life of constant consumerism and waste of the earth's resources. This might save your family a little money as well!