

OUR MISSION

**To be a welcoming diverse congregation
that values spiritual growth and service to
the local and world community.**

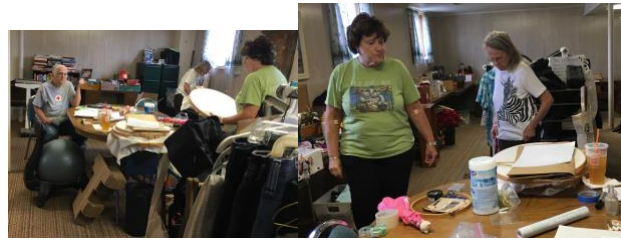
The First Universalist Society
Of Central Square New York
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Board Officers & Trustees
Ellen LaPine – President
Janie Garlow – Vice-President
Winfield Ihlow – Recording Secretary
Marcia Burrell – Treasurer
Ann Peterson – Corresponding Secretary
Susan Woods – Registrar/Trustee
Nancy Hallock – Trustee
Janet Jenkins - Trustee

UUA promotes and affirms seven Principles grounded in the humanistic teachings of the world's religions-

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every person.
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.
3. Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.
4. A free and responsible search for meaning and truth.
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

RUMMAGE SALE PLUS



Saturday, October 2, 2021

Please join us on Saturday, October 2nd where you can browse a rummage sale, then take Narcan training, learn how to prevent tick- and mosquito-borne diseases, and get questions about Covid vaccines answered by a health professional. Then you can schedule a mammogram or blood donation, finding out about a wealth of services offered by the human service agency Oswego County Opportunities and the CNY Community Arts Center, then grab some of your favorite Watkins Products.

Thank you to all who have been helping with the preparation.
Volunteers are also very much needed to help the day of the event. Please contact Nancy Hallock, Janie Garlow or Ellen LaPine if you can help.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Rummage Sale – Saturday, October 2, 2021
At church

Board Meeting – 9AM Sunday, October 3, 2021
(in-person & zoom))

Sermon Planning Meeting – 10:30 Monday
October 11, 2021 (in-person & zoom))

Highway Pickup – 10AM Friday, October 15, 2021
Rain date 9AM on Sunday, October 17, 2021

Book Club – Wednesday, October 27, 2021
at 7pm (on Zoom)

SUNDAY MINISTERIAL CONVERSATIONS

Sunday, October 3rd
Reverend David Weissbard

Sunday, October 10th
Reverend Libbie Stoddard

Sunday, October 17th – Reverend Bud Adams
Sunday, October 24th – Tracy Kinne

"Everyday Evil"
(Includes comments on sexual abuse)
Sunday, October 31st – Reverend Andrea Abbott
"The Job Description"



SERMON CONSIDERATION

On Sunday, September 26, 2021 Kurt Hohmann, Spiritual Advisor of the Pagan Group at SU shared with us his thoughts on Gratitude. He indicated that practicing Gratitude provides a sense of what is good, a sense of balance and creates a quality of thankfulness and kindness.

September 22, 2021 was the fall equinox and the pagan holiday of Lughnasadh related to the harvest season.

BOARD NOTES

We are very happy to note that our building is open for in-person service. Masks are required unless seated. Our zoom option will continue to be available as well. Members, friends and groups who want to use the building are free to do so but with the following limitations:

* Following CDC and NYS protocols, vaccinated people do not need to wear a mask but unvaccinated people and those under the age of 12 must still wear a mask, use hand sanitizer and maintain social distancing. *Please feel free to continue to wear a mask if it makes you more comfortable. Your comfort is our primary concern.*
*Groups using the church may meet by following the same guidelines plus their group's specific protocols.

*All surfaces must be wiped clean using the provided disinfectant wipes before leaving the building.

MINISTERAL MUSING – Rev. Andrea Abbott

This will be my last time to muse. At the end of this month, I will be officially retired. I found myself wanting to cram all my thoughts about the time I have spent at First Universalist into a few paragraphs, then realized that this was impossible. This church has offered me so much, a place to feel at home, a church community, no, a church family, in which to explore different facets

of religion and spirituality, a place to try my wings in a very new way. There are many reasons why this is such a wonderful place. Most of them begin and end with the congregation, with people who have come together to make this a truly spiritual place. But over and above that, there are parts of the experience at this church that defy rationalization. There is the sense that there is something here that is more than the people, more than the beauty of the sanctuary, more than the activities and services, something that cast its spell over me from the first moment I walked into the church.

As with any farewells, when I go to the church now, the building is full of ghosts. Here are the people who first welcomed me into this community. There are the times and the events and services we shared together. They linger like autumn mists.

I know the church is in good hands. I know many hours of thought and deliberation have gone into its future. I know it will continue to evolve. I will miss everything about this place and everyone in it. We will all go forward into whatever the future brings to each of us strengthened and enriched by our time together.

RUMMAGE SALE

Our Annual Rummage Sale will be on **Saturday, October 2nd.**

Oswego County Opportunity has enthusiastically agreed to set up a table or 2 with community information and include the Health Dept, to give Covid vaccines, Flu shots and HIV testing. Details are lacking, but it all sounds good.

A Watkins rep. will be there. Your ideas for extra participants are welcomed

Also, Besides your household treasures, we will sell clothes and books. Bring items in soon.

One table will sell baked goods. We encourage homemade and individually wrapped items.

If you would like to donate some time to help out, that would be appreciated

Call Nancy Hallock or Ann Peterson with questions.

CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIP (from Soul Matters)

Pandemic time is teaching us so many things about relationships. It's undone our assumptions about work, calling into question the worth of "going into the office" and exposing how we pass most of the economic pain down to those on the so-called lowest rungs of the ladder. It's clarifying that there is no real replacement for in-person connection, and certainly reminding us how precious human touch really is. Our friendships were

weeded out and realigned, inviting us to now prioritize those that are essential over those that are instrumental. The promise and precariousness of the common good has been placed center stage, reminding us that when people aren't willing to make small sacrifices for the larger whole, pandemics don't end. We've learned and are learning all this because Covid brought so much to a halt. It put on the brakes and made us pause. We've had time to look around to notice, and maybe that's the most important thing we've learned about cultivating relationships, the central thing we need to remember when we are finally able to move on: **To go slow.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

This month, the SJC members have been in our UUC disguise, busily sorting and pricing items for the 10/2 sale.

*The Highway Pickup on Friday, October 15. Meet at church @10am.

Wear gloves and old shoes. We have vests, hats, and bags. Rain date is Sunday, 10/17 at 8:30am, before the service.

*Our church has resumed donations to the food pantry @ Divine Mercy Church. Please bring non-perishable foods and toiletries with you on Sundays.

*PW4W collections continue. Thank you to whomever brought in a bag of bottles recently.

*Everyone is invited to participate in SJC's future work. Your input toward issues important to you is encouraged.

Thank you. Nancy Hallock

EDUCATION FOR YOUTH & ADULTS



Our Story for All Ages

We will continue to meet outside as the weather permits. Ronna Schindler

GREEN MINUTE

(From National Geographic)

Some reasons & fun facts why we need to protect the rainforest

1. Rainforests cover about 6% of the earth's land surface.
2. In Central America rainforests, rival strawberry poison dart frogs might wrestle for up to 20 minutes!

3. It can take ten minutes for a falling raindrop to travel from a rainforest's thick canopy to the floor.
4. A tree known as the idiot fruit grows in Australia's Daintree rainforest.
5. The rhinoceros hornbill bird from southeast Asian rainforests has a hornlike structure on its head that looks like an extra beak.
6. Rainforests get at least 250cm (98in) of rain a year. Sometimes it's almost double that at 450cm (177in). Average Syracuse annual rainfall is 97.7cm (38.5in)
7. The Amazon rainforest in South America is so big that if it were a country, it would be the ninth biggest in the world. (U.S. is 4th largest)
8. Latin American rainforests are home to black howler monkeys, whose calls can be heard almost 5km (3miles) away.
9. Veiled stinkhorn fungi, found in tropical rainforests, smell like rotting food!
10. The Korowai people of New Guinea live in tree houses as high as 45m(147.6ft) off the ground!
11. A quarter of ingredients in modern medicines come from rainforest plants.
12. 80% of the flowers in the Australian rainforests are not found anywhere else in the world.
13. Living in Central American rainforests, a sloth can carry algae beetles and cockroaches in its fur!
14. Some pine trees in Tasmania's temperate rainforests can live for 2000 years!
15. A lake inside a rainforest on the Caribbean Island of Dominica sizzles at around 88 degrees C (190 degrees F).

We can help protect the rainforest by:

Using less paper

Avoid palm oil

Look for environmentally friendly products

And of course donations ☺

READING SUGGESTIONS FOR RELAXATION

“Where the Forest Meets The Stars”

by Glendy Vanderah

After the loss of her mother and her own battle with breast cancer, Joanna Teale returns to her graduate research on nesting birds in rural Illinois, determined to prove that her recent hardships have not broken her. She throws herself into her work from dusk to dawn, until her solitary routine is disrupted by the appearance of a mysterious child who shows up at her cabin.

READING FROM UUA

“The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone & How We Can Prosper Together”

By Heather McGhee

Author Heather McGhee draws on a wealth of economic data to make the case that discriminatory laws and practices that target African Americans also negatively impact society at large.

Please send all newsletter items or suggestions to
Lucy Stieber at lastieber@aol.com or call
734-678-6533

RUMMAGE SALE &
COMMUNITY
OUTREACH

**1ST Universalist
Society of
Central Square
3243 Fulton Ave.
(Corner of Rts. 49
and 11)**

**Sat. Oct. 2
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Oswego County Opportunities
Upstate University Hospital
CNY Community Arts Center
Watkins Products

Rummage Sale **Baked Goods**
Face Painting **Strolling Flutist**
Narcan Training **COVID Vaccine**
Info **Cancer Services Info**
Schedule a Mammogram or Blood
Donation
Info on LGBTQ+ Services **Tic Kits**
and Mosquito Borne Illness Info
Info about services for Seniors and
Children