CIRCLE OF FELLOWSHIP
October 2026

OUR MISSION

"Courage starts with showing up and letting ourselves be seen."
—Brené Brown

The First Universalist Society of Central Square
3243 Fulton Street
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Instagram
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Trustees

Marcia Burrell	Susan Wood
Janie Garlow	Nancy Hallock
Winfield Ihlow	Ellen LaPine
Ronna Schindler	Jane Wenham
Arny Stieber	Katie Haberer
Lucy Stieber	

We are a "church" as derived from the Greek word ekklesia, which means an assembly of people – a community. We believe in the **Eight Principles** which are 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 congregation.
4. A free and responsible search for meaning and truth.
5. The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large.
6. The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for al
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.
8. We covenant to affirm and promote: Journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.

OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

10/1 Thursday– Widening The Circle discussion group. 6:30-7:30PM On Zoom. (See Below)
10/4 Sunday - Trustee Meeting 9AM (Dining Room)
10/28 Wednesday- Book Club 1PM

NOTE: Services are in-person and on Zoom. Book Club and Widening the Circle are only on ZOOM

SUNDAY SERVICE CONVERSATIONS

10:30 AM in the building & on Zoom
10/4 Rev. Tanya Atwood Adams "Hope & Comfort"
10/11 Rev. Kurt Hohmann "Save it Forward"
10/18 Rev. Tanya Adams
10/25 Rev. Bud Adams

RUMMAGE SALE – Tanya Atwood-Adams.
We will be having a Rummage Sale at our Church on Saturday, October 3rd. from 10am-4pm,
For information or to make donations call Tanya Atwood-Adams (315)395-6605.

Pastoral Care

Rev. Bud Adams is the minister to call if someone needs pastoral care. If you or someone else you know needs to speak with a minister please contact Bud at (315) 395-1926 or (315) 637-0468. His email is bud.adams.1@juno.com

WIDENING THE CIRCLE

Please join us Thursday, October 1st, 6:30-7:30PM PM on ZOOM Each meeting is strictly an hour facilitated by Trustee Ellen LaPine. The discussion topic for October is: "What are some ways that help you with resilience these days?" All are welcome—we look forward to sharing this time with you! *The ZOOM link is the same as for our Sunday services.*

PAGAN GATHERINGS

Úthellingu Kindred invites you to join us in the dining room on the **second Saturday every month** from 5-8 pm, for a casual get-together where you can meet and socialize with Norse Pagans. Snacks & beverages are always welcomed! We're open to honorable folks regardless of race,

ethnic origin, gender or sexual orientation. All who welcome all are welcome.
To learn more visit www.uthellingu.org or contact uthellingu@gmail.com
Rev. Kurt Hohmann

COMMUNITY SERVICE
The girl scouts are sponsoring the **Youth Empowerment Initiative program.** This is a community driven referral system that provides up to 40 families with needed resources. Currently 27 families are involved.
Contact Katie -KaHaberer@yahoo.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE – Nancy Hallock.
It's been a busy summer for all of us.
I'll start with "What social justice issues are you concerned about?"
I think we all agree on our need to "Save Democracy and Liberty and Justice for All".
We are each working in this direction in our own way.
Participating with the North Shore Indivisible group serves to keep me hopeful.
They are a dedicated and yet warm, friendly group that are serious in their goal.
If you would like to propose a specific project or idea to express the Society's views in a public way or not so public, please speak up.
The 7 Principles, and rainbow flag are wonderful examples.
The SPCA is still accepting Rx bottles, which I will deliver next week. They also need blankets, comforters and towels. There will be a drop box in the dining room for these items.
We are collaborating with Girl Scout troop 10871 as our **Apple Fest fund raiser**. I will keep a list of who can volunteer and when.
Our congregation will continue to collect winter accessories for the Lioness.
That's all for now. There's always more to come.
Nancy H.
PS: Brenda Chapman is the Democrat (and Independent) candidate for District 6 Oswego County Legislature. "The Choice for your Voice"

BOOK CLUB (Zoom)
The book club meets the last Wednesday of the month at 1PM on **ZOOM**
Oct 28 – "The Reformatory" by Tananarie Due
Nov 25 – "107 Days" by Kamala Harris

MARKETING COMMITTEE – Susan, Katie, Arny, Brenda.
* The new web site is activated! The new URL – FirstUCS.org. The old site will remain active for at least 6 months. A notice is on the old site directing people to the new. We also have a Facebook and Instagram page.
* Be sure to request and use our very attractive, pride color UUA book marks. They have the Seven Principals on one side and our Sources on the other. Carry a few with you and be ambassadors for 1st U.
* Reminder - wear your 1st U hoodies and T's, not just to Service but everywhere!
* The ***most effective way to grow our Congregation is by personal contact.*** Invite people to our Service. Tell them about our Seven (now eight) Principals. Many people are looking for an accepting community and that's us! With our Zoom connection they can be anywhere. SPREAD THE WORD.
* If you have ideas on how we can let others know about our openness and acceptance to all beliefs, please let a committee member know.

PALESTINE IS KEY
An Opportunity for Us to Live Our Principals.
Compiled by Arny Stieber
Our Principals guide us in our relations. The first Principal is: The inherent worth and dignity of every person. Our fourth Principal is: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

The genocide of the people of Palestine by Israel is at the heart of the violence in the Middle East. The reason for this violence is because there have been **no consequences for illegal and/or immoral actions**.

The first link below is updated daily and has a wealth of information. The second is a new

documentary. The third is a current discussion. The remainder are historical.

* https://ifamericansknew.org/
* Documentary "American Doctor"
* Discussion of Israel's effect.
* Zionism and Propaganda
* What Does This Say About Ourselves?
* Israel and the UN
* Documentary: "How Israel Won the West"

Why does Palestine matter? Our government is violating International law (Genocide Convention and others) and U.S. law (Leahy law and others) because of its support for the destruction and death in Palestine. Over $40 billion of our tax dollars has been spent in the past two and a half years supporting this illegal and immoral activity. This money could have been spent helping WE THE PEOPLE. One area – 20% of U.S. children go to bed hungry every night.

I'm always open for discussion. Please contact me (voice or text) 734-216-1814.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The Newsletter comes out at the beginning of each month. It is assembled by Lucy Stieber based on your input. If you have items, please email to Lucy at LASTIEBER@aol.com