WINDOWS WEEKLY March 30, 2023



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ALBANY

A Welcoming Congregation

Greetings Friends,

Good evening everyone and welcome to Windows Weekly, Albany UU's central source for news and updates.

We are going to be making some changes to the Weekly Newsletter soon! Look out for a short survey in next week's weekly!

If this email was forwarded to you, and you would like to receive it directly, please <u>sign up here.</u>

-Blessings and Be Well

Visit our Website

April's Monthly Theme:

The path of Resistance: to Change to Injustice

MULTIPLATFORM SUNDAY SERVICE INFORMATION



Check out Sam's Outlook here!!!

Join us this Sunday for a special Earth Day Service hosted by the Green Sanctuary!

April 16 "Healing Our Earth"

Join our Green Sanctuary Team for a special Earth Day service.

Music: Debbie Reep MacLeod, Albany UU Choir Olga Martinez

April 23 HMUU Joint Service

After a three year hiatus, the Hudson Mohawk UU Cluster will gather again for a joint service at Doane Stuart School just to the right on **EXIT 7 on I-90**, for a multi-generational service.

Our theme speaker will be Leah Penniman, cofounder of Soul Fire Farm. The combined choirs of the Glens Falls, Saratoga Springs, Schenectady, Albany and Kingston will also perform. The service will be followed by a social hour with tabling. Everyone is encouraged to bring finger food snacks to share. Stay afterward and get to know each other. Penniman will be available to sign her books afterwards that will be available for purchase. *Music:* HMUU Joint Choir

April 30 Jacob King, Ministerial Intern Stay tuned for more information about this service. If you're interested in finding more information about our Music Ministry, check out our website!

Use this link to join Sunday service remotely https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyU U-SundayService To dial in by phone: 1-929-436-2866 Meeting ID: 299 018 7785 Password: 0000

Sunday Offering and other service information For more information

about Sunday service, Zoom, Sunday Offering, and other important Sunday morning details, check out our Sunday at a Glance page here.

Sharing Joys and Concerns during Service Learn about the three ways that you can share your joys and concerns.

Need to Talk? Albany UU Pastoral Care Associates are here to listen!

Learn about our Pastoral Care program.

Archives

Past service video recordings can be found here, our YouTube channel and our Facebook page; past sermons can be read here.

> Check out the Albany UU Blog

> > Online Giving

SAVE THE DATE

Black Earth dom

Soul Fire Farm's Guide to Planetary Survival with Leah Penniman Hudson-Mohawk

Unitarian Universalist Joint Worship Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023 10:30 AM

at the Doane Stuart School 199 Washington Ave, Renesslaer

Religious Education Updates

This Sunday 4/16

Kids up to Grade 7 go to service in Community Hall with their families until after the Wisdom Story.

- Kindergarten/Grade 1 do not have OWL and are invited to an Open Play session in Room 24/25
- Grade 2-5 + Grade 6-7 groups meet in one combined session upstairs in Room 26
- Grade 8/9 OWL meets at 10 in B3/B4
- Youth Group is at the Con in Rochester, no meeting at Albany UU today

Next Sunday 4/23

Everyone is invited to <u>Doane Stuart School</u> at 10:30AM for a special multigenerational service with our neighbor congregations. Activity bags and nursery care will be available. Service will be followed by a social hour, please bring a finger food to share. *There will be no service or groups at Albany UU's church building that morning.*

Image by <u>Jill Wellington</u> from <u>Pixabay</u>



MEET THE CANDIDATES!



The Nominating Committee has an event planned for you to learn about the candidates for Albany UU leadership positions, which begin on July 1, so you can make informed judgments.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, April 27 from 7:00-8:00 pm to join the Candidates and Nominating Committee in a Zoom forum. (Zoom link will be available shortly!)

In late April, ballots for Albany UU elected positions will be mailed to all members. The Nominating Committee wants to be sure that you know the candidates for whom you will be voting. Ballots must be returned prior to the Annual Meeting in May.

Questions? Please reach out to any of the Nominating Committee members - Elizabeth Berberian, Liz Richards Hart, Kathy Hodges, Reese Satin, Kelly Smith, Todd Thomas

We look forward to seeing you on April 27th. Details to follow!

Stewardship Campaign Progress

The Stewardship Campaign is well underway! Thanks to all of you who have already turned in your forms. If you have not pledged yet, you can do it on line at: <u>http://albanyuu.org/pledging/</u>

Paper forms can be dropped in the Stewardship box on Sunday or returned to the Albany UU office any time. Please take advantage of the *Growing Our Future Together Challenge* and help us reach our goal. If you have any questions, please contact Molly Daniels or Chuck Manning. Thanks for your support of our beloved community.



The auction is an important annual event at Albany UU. Not only does it raise needed funds for our budget, it is an important way of building community. The success of the auction depends on you. It takes the whole congregation to create a community.

Beginning April 16, you can preview the items that have already been donated. We have collected a variety of events and services at a range of prices. While buying will not begin **until April 23**, you can identify those items you might like. We will accept donations until April 21, so keep looking until you find the right item for you. Again, this year the auction is online and all items are fixed price.

To preview auction items, you can go to the auction site:

<u>https://www.32auctions.com/AlbanyUUAuction2023</u>. You do not need an account to preview the items, but you will need an account to buy items. For instructions, go to the Albany UU site listed below.

If you are still planning to donate, you can donate online a <u>albanyuu.org/auction2023/</u>.

Ideas and help are available at that site. If accessing this site is difficult, help with donating and creating an account on the auction site will be available in Channing after the services on April 16. Also, paper donation forms are available in the church office. Please submit your donation no later than April 21. The auction will begin on Sunday, April 23 and continue through Sunday, May 7.

If you have questions, please contact Martha Musser at 518-313-9674 or <u>mussermartha@gmail.com</u>.

UPCOMING WAYS to CONNECT

Start your Sunday Morning with Multiplatform Meditation 8:30 - 9:15 AM

We will sit together virtually for twenty minutes then have some conversation about the talk, meditation methods or experiences followed by a live loving kindness meditation.

Use this link to join remotely: https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyUU-Meditation-4

By phone: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 518 463 1429 Passcode: 1842415

Ministry and Operations

Team meets on **Monday**, **April 17 at 11:30 AM** in both Channing Hall and online. Albany UU members are welcome to join.

Use this link to join: https://tinyurl.com/Ministry-and-Operations By phone: 1-929-436-2866 Meeting ID: 860 5594 7976

Philosophy Group

Passcode: 0000

At 10:15 AM every Tuesday, the Albany UU Philosophy Group will meet via zoom to discuss the topic of the day which this Tuesday 4/18 will be: "Homo sum: humani nil a me alienum puto" which translates "I am human: I consider nothing human alien to me." All are welcome.

Use this link to join: https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyUU-Philosophy_

By phone: 1-929-436-2866 Meeting ID: 987 7102 4708 Password: 0000

Bridge Group

For information about the 1:00 PM, Tuesday Bridge Group, check with the church office.

Ps and Qs

At 10:00 AM on Wednesdays, Projects and Quilts (Ps and Qs) will meet in Room B-8.

Choir Rehearsal

At 7:00 PM on Wednesdays, in Community Hall. Masks are required. <u>Contact Olga Martinez</u>, Directory of Music Ministry for more information.

Workshop on Grief and Loss, sponsored by the Pastoral Care Team, May 6, 2-4PM,

Room B-8. There are many experiences that can trigger grief and loss in our lives. Coping with grief and loss is hard and it can be helpful to be with others in that experience. We will have time for self reflection, time for sharing and time to learn strategies that may help. To Sign up, contact Anny Lapinski at aclapinski@gmail.com or 518-852-6674

Walker Book Group Sunday

Join the Walker Book Group for a Zoom discussion on Sunday, April 16 at 6:30 pm. We will discuss *Homeland Elegies* by Ayad Akhtar. Join at 6:15 for additional time to socialize. Directions for joining the meeting via Zoom will be placed in Windows Weekly. Learn more here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Earth Day Celebration!

To celebrate Earth Day the Green Sanctuary Team will present personal stories of connection to the earth told by Chuck Manning, Chris Bystroff, and Barb Spink. There will music to inspire you to think about your own connections and a call to action for each of us to do more. The book *Braiding Sweet Grass* by Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer was one of the sources for the service. She looks at the interconnected web of all existence from both a scientific and a spiritual view.

CROP Hunger Walk – Taking Steps for a Better World

The CROP Hunger Walk raises funds for local food pantries, and for hunger and disaster relief programs around the world. Team UU has been active in the Albany Walk for about 25 years, and in some years we have been its biggest team! The community CROP Walk event is back – it's on May 7, and Team UU will be there!

We're happy that this year we can solicit walkers and pledges at coffee hour. Thank you to all who have already signed up to walk, or pledged their support to our walkers. We need more walkers, and more pledges. Please look for Dawn or Dick Dana at the CROP Walk table in coffee hour on April 16 and April 30, and support this great cause. The needs that the CROP Walk serves are real and continuing. You can click here to make an online pledge to Team UU or to any individual walker. Or, you can give a check (payable to CWS/CROP) or cash to us at the CROP Walk table on Sundays. Thanks so much for your support!

Attention Gardeners!

Would you like a volunteer opportunity that lets you be outside, get exercise and hang out with fun interesting people? If this sounds good to you, then please consider joining the AUU Garden Team. Our Team maintains the four gardens around our building. Our gardens help to make our property more inviting for the AUU community and our neighbors. Work kicks off in May, when we schedule a Spring Clean-up Day to ready the gardens for the growing season. It is always a fun day and a great way to meet the other gardeners and become familiar with our gardens.

The date of the Spring Clean-Up Day will be announced soon. After this initial large group effort, we strive to schedule two volunteers a week to spend an hour or two weeding and tidying up. As a member of the Garden Team, you can come once or several times throughout the summer. You can help as much as your schedule permits. You pick the days and times that work for you. If you have questions or are interested in joining the Garden Team, please contact Donna Meixner at dmeix@aol.com or 518-421-2739 (phone or text).

Eat, Drink and be Merry at Silver Bay

Would you like to take a break from meal planning and preparation while enjoying a relaxing activity-filled weekend in the Adirondacks? Before or after a day in the mountains enjoying such activities as hiking, kayaking, stimulating workshops, yoga dance, archery or just relaxing, what could be better than a good meal! All can be experienced at the UU Weekend at Silver Bay from October 13-15, 2023!

All meals and snacks are included in the total price! No cooking, eating out, or ordering food. You don't even have to buy snacks! Each meal has a vegetarian choice and an accompanying salad or oatmeal bar. Enjoy meals with your family, old and new friends overlooking beautiful Lake George.

Children under 6 are free and there are substantial discounts for older children and youth. Register by June 1, 2023 and receive lower rates!

Access additional information about Silver Bay and UU weekend, including the registration form and a slide show, at <u>http://albanyuu.org/uu-weekend-at-silver-bay/</u> Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis following receipt of the completed registration form and deposit. Remember – lodging, all meals from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch, programs, activities and entertainment are included.

SOCIAL ACTION and INCLUSIVITY

AMERICA'S THIRD RECONSTRUCTION: BUILDING THE 21ST CENTURY

PENIEL E. Joseph

THE

RECONSTRUCT



Dr. Peniel E. Joseph, Speaker Author and Historian of Racial Justice Movements

Dr. Jennifer Burns, Moderator

Presented by: The Justice Center of Rensselaer County

7:00 PM WEDNESDAY

APRIL 19, 2023

Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, 30 2nd St, Troy

The Third Reconstruction: America's Struggle for Racial Justice in the Twenty-First Century

Author Historian Peniel Joseph

Dr. Peniel E. Joseph

April 19, 2023 | 7 PM @ Troy Music Hall

Featured Speaker: Dr. Peniel E. Joseph is a distinguished historian of racial justice movements. His new book, The Third Reconstruction: America's Struggle for Racial Justice in the Twenty-First Century (2022), examines the racial reckoning that unfolded in 2020 in the wake of the killing of George Floyd.

For All:

Ruth and the Green Book, by Calvin Alexander Ramsey with Gwen Strauss. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper. (2010). What were the realities for African Americans traveling from Chicago to Alabama during the Jim Crow years? Hear about a family trip through the experience of young Ruth. Available in hard copy format in the Upper Hudson Library System. Not available in braille or audiobook formats at this time.

Click here for an 8-minute video of the story read aloud by Sankofa Read Aloud:

Ruth and the Green Book - YouTube (youtube-nocookie.com

Black Lives Matter Vigil in Troy

When: Saturdays, 10:30-11:00 am Where: Troy - corner of River Street at the intersection of Fulton and Third Streets, 12180

Learn more here.

Stand Against Racism Vigil in Delmar

Join Albany UUs each Saturday to Stand Against Racism, at the Delmar Four Corners, corner of Delaware and Kenwood Avenues. We're there from 9:30 to 10 AM. Welcoming all - whether you live in Delmar, Albany, or anywhere nearby!

Raise Your Voice for End of Life Choice

- Contact legislative leaders. Urge them to permit a vote on the Medical Aid in Dying Act (A995/S2445) in the Health Committees and beyond. For A.995, contact Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie at 518-455-3791 or speaker@nyassembly.gov. For S.2445, contact Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins at 518-255-2715 or scousins@nysenate.gov.
- Messaging Training on Tuesday, April 18, 3-4 pm, on Zoom. Learn from the experts about what language has worked, and what has not, in efforts to expand end-of-life options across the U.S. Register here.
- Rally on Monday, April 24. Mark your calendar to rally at the Capitol to urge lawmakers to pass the Medical Aid in Dying Act before the 2023 session ends in June. Main events will occur between 10.45 and 2.00 but be there from 9-4 if you can. Register here to get details as they become available.

Monday, April 17: 7 PM: UNTANGLING THE WEB OF WAR IN UKRAINE, First Unitarian-Universalist Society of Albany, 405 Washington Ave., Albany, NY"

Social Justice Team and Albany UU Peace Team a long with Women Against War are hosting Medea Benjamin in the Capital Region.

Warning, the war in Ukraine is a confrontation between the world's 2 major nuclear powers. Is there a risk of an ArchDuke being assassinated or an explosion of the USS Maine in Havana harbor? Or the equivalent? Learn more on Monday in Channing Hall.

Medea Benjamin is the co-founder of the women-led peace group CODEPINK. She is also co-founder of the human rights group Global Exchange, the Peace in Ukraine Coalition.

Medea has been an advocate of social justice for 50 years and is author of 10 books. Her most recent book, co-authored with Nicolas J.S. Davies, is "War in Ukraine: Making Sense of a Senseless Conflict."



CONNECTIONS

Quick Links

Publication Schedule Albany UU Website Regular Events and Meeting Schedule Event Schedule Building Schedule Sermon Archive

Denominational Affairs Links

Unitarian Universalist Association UUA Worship Web App UUA Leader Lab UUA Book Store UU World Young Adults Revival Network. Unitarian Universalist Service Committee UUA Central Region East Hudson-Mohawk UU

Governance & Leadership

<u>Staff</u>

<u>Mission, Vision,</u> <u>Congregational Covenant</u>

Volunteer!

Publication deadlines

This is an important reminder that the news and article deadline for Windows Weekly is **9:00 AM on Wednesday.** Thank you for your cooperation.

Sign up for an Albany UU class or event

- Send an email to: registration@albanyuu.org

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Parking:

Parking is available on the street. On Sundays (and for some special events) Albany UU has permission to use the University at Albany's Hawley Parking Lot on Robin Street at Washington Avenue.

Office hours:

By appointment

Our Website:

General: <u>www.AlbanyUU.org</u> Resources: <u>http://albanyuu.org/albany-uu-</u> resources/

Zoom use:

To reserve Zoom for an Albany UU meeting, contact the church office (518.463.7135 or <u>office@albanyuu.org</u>).

Building use

To **reserve a room** for an Albany UU activity **or to rent a hall or classroom space**, for a personal or non-Albany UU activity, contact our Administrative Assistant (518.463.7135 or <u>office@albanyuu.org</u>).

It is with gratitude and humility that

we acknowledge that we are learning, speaking and gathering on the ancestral homelands of the Mohican people who are the indigenous peoples of this land. Despite tremendous hardship in being forced from here, today their community resides in Wisconsin and is known as the <u>Stockbridge-Munsee Community</u>. We pay honor and respect to their ancestors past and present as we commit to building a more inclusive and equitable space for all.



Photo credit: Rev. Sam Trumbore

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany | 518.463.7135 | 518.463.142 Admin@AlbanyUU.org | AlbanyUU.org

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