

WINDOWS WEEKLY May 4, 2023



FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF ALBANY

A Welcoming Congregation

Greetings Friends,

Happy May to everyone! Please enjoy this week's newsletter!

You may be seeing a "clipped" version of this. To view this entire newsletter, be sure to scroll down to the "See entire message" link and click that.

-Blessings and Be Well

MULTIPLATFORM SUNDAY MORNING

**Begin your Sunday morning with an
8:30 Multiplatform
Meditation session until 9:20**

For those wishing to join remotely,
Meditation is now on Zoom 4 here:

<https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyUU-Meditation-4>

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

**Multiplatform service begins at 10:00
each Sunday**

Use this link to join the service remotely:

<https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyUU-SundayService>

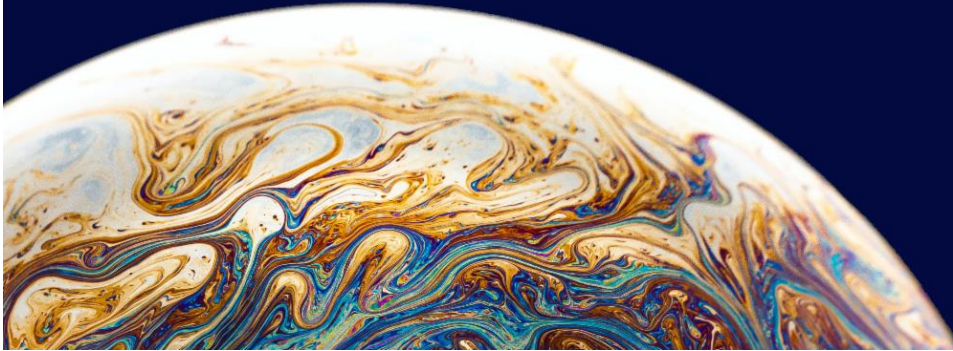
To dial in by phone: 1-929-436-2866:
Meeting ID: 299 018 7785
Password: 0000

**For more information about our
services, [check out our website](#).**

Masks are optional



May's Monthly Theme: Creativity



May 7 – “The Creative Process”

One of the gifts of technology is expanding our capacity for creative expression. Yet being creative can feel challenging and scary. This service will explore ways to find access to the inner muse.



MULTIPLATFORM SUNDAY SERVICE INFORMATION

[Sam's Outlook!](#)

To view Reverend Sam's May 2023 Outlook please click [HERE!](#)

May 14 – “Shaping and Being Shaped”

Parenting, in whatever configuration it happens, involves offering guidance and support to another who is growing and developing. Sometimes that process can feel like a burden and heavy responsibility. Working with another who may not appreciate the gifts of

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

wisdom being offered isn't easy. Yet there are two directions. The parent is also getting feedback that can assist them in their growth and development. This service will explore the creative interchange between parent and sibling that can benefit both.

May 21 - Annual Youth Group/Volunteer Appreciation Service

This annual event celebrates the unique perspectives and talents of our Youth Group and the culmination of months of work by our Coming Of Age participants. We will also uplift our gratitude to the many amazing volunteers who make our Programs for Children and Youth happen week after week. The Religious Education Council will be hosting a special "Sundae Sunday" Coffee Hour following the service featuring a variety of frozen treats.

Music: Albany UU Youth Group, Olga Martinez

May 28 – Memorial Day Jacob King

More details to come!
Please reach out to jking@albanyuu.org for any questions.

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](#).

Online Giving

A Message From the President:

A Message From the President:

As many of you are already aware, this Sunday, May 7th at 11:45 am there will be an emergency congregation meeting. The Board of Trustees has requested this meeting because, per our bylaws, the Board of Trustees must receive authorization from the congregation in order to engage an interim minister. We have received a number of questions about this meeting, so I am hoping to provide clarification here. The purpose of this meeting is for the congregation to decide that they do or do not want to have an interim minister so this is a yes or no vote.

The process with the UUA provides the search committee with several candidates that they can interview and do references on. Then the search committee prioritizes the candidates and sends that information to the UUA. The Interim Minister candidates also provide a prioritized list of congregations they are interested in. The UUA then matches the Interim Ministers with a congregation and we finalize the offer and contract at that point culminating on May 17th.

We wish that we had a better understanding of the timing of the process earlier on so we wouldn't be asking for a vote so close to the date the

UUA will notify us of the potential match. Thank you for your understanding as we work through this process. We hope you will make it a priority to attend so we can move forward with the process of engaging an Interim Minister to serve the congregation for the next two years. All are welcome to attend the meeting, however only those who have been members for at least 30 days are able to vote.

In fellowship,

Molly Daniels

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN and YOUTH

This Sunday 5/7/23: Children and youth whose groups do not begin at 10AM are invited to the final Family Chapel of the church year in the Sanctuary, along with their grownups. We'll be exploring May's theme of Creativity, thinking about how to practice generosity, and making choices about how to spend this year's offertory collection.

- Nursery/Toddler/PreK Room will be open at 9:45
- K/1 OWL begins at 10AM in Room 24/25 (children only)
- Grade 8/9 OWL begins at 10AM in Room B3/B4
- Youth Group begins at 10AM in Room B8

Next Sunday 5/14/23: Final small group meetings of the church year! Feedback form is [here](#), please share your thoughts about your experience.

Sunday 5/21/23 Annual Youth Group/Volunteer Appreciation Service: This annual event celebrates the unique perspectives and talents of our Youth Group and the culmination of months of work by our Coming Of Age participants. We will also uplift our gratitude to the many amazing volunteers who make our Programs for Children and Youth happen week after week. The Religious Education Council will be hosting a special "Sundae Sunday" Coffee Hour following the service featuring a variety of frozen treats.

Image by [Alexandra_Koch](#) from [Pixabay](#)



2023 Building Community Auction!

Last call! Auction buying will end on Sunday, May 7 at 11:45 pm. There are still some wonderful items—dinners, hikes, pool parties, homemade treats—available and some have reduced prices. If you haven't already, go to <https://www.32auctions.com/AlbanyUU Auction2023> and view the items for sale. I am sure you will find something you can't resist. Not only does the auction raise needed funds for our budget, it is an important way of building community. The success of the auction depends on you. Please participate.

Again, this year the auction is online and all items are fixed price. We have a special family promotion which allows families to purchase an event at little cost or no cost. Instructions for buying and paying as well as information about our family promotion can be found at the above 32auctions address.

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



Ministries & Operations (MOT)

Albany UU's Ministries and Operations Team (MOT) is responsible for the implementation of the vision and mission of the congregation, within the limitations and expectations of the governing policy as set by the Board.

Current team members are:

- Rev. Sam Trumbore, Minister

- Olga Martinez, Music Director
- Darlene Lupe-Gotham, Church Administrator
- Elizabeth Baldes, Director of Religious Education
- Jaye Holly, volunteer
- Michele Desrosiers, volunteer
- Al De Salvo, volunteer
- Sharon Babala, volunteer

The MOT meets the first and usually third Monday of the month. If you have something you'd like the team to consider, please use this [Ministries & Operations Communication Form](#).

Election Matters

Ballots have been mailed for the Albany UU elections. Completed ballots must be received in the church office by Thursday, May 18 in order to be counted.

Please watch the recent Zoom Candidate Forum to learn more about the candidates. The link to that recording is [HERE](#)

You also can learn about the candidates by reading their profiles. Links to candidate profiles are below.

Uncontested Positions/Candidates:

[Laura Churchill](#) - Secretary

[Dawn Dana](#) - Trustee

[Randy Rosette](#) - Trustee

[Maria Phillips](#) - Treasurer

[Zack Metzger](#) - Endowment Trust

Nominating Committee Candidates: *Contested*

[Fred Eames](#)

[Nellson Jacobs-Moore](#)

[Jon Newell](#)

[Liz Richards Hart](#)

[Stephanie Saunders](#)

[Hillary Torres](#)

The Nominating Committee thanks you for your involvement in our democratic process.

JOIN THE ALBANY UU TEAM

SEARCHING FOR OUR NEXT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT!

We are looking for a new Administrative Assistant to replace Sapphire! This position will be posted to Indeed on May 1st. It is a 30-hour a week position (9am-3pm M-F) and pays \$16/hr. If you, or someone you know, is interested keep an eye out for the post on Indeed or reach out to Darlene at dlupegotham@albanyuu.org.

Click [here](#) to view the job description, pay rate, etc!

UPCOMING WAYS to CONNECT



Circle Dinners At Home will be hosted by Albany UU members for 6 to 10 people, typically adults only, from 6 to 9PM on Saturday, May 6. E-mail John Sherman at johnssherman@gmail.com to sign up. John will let you know your host, and your host will coordinate each guest's contribution.

You must be vaccinated and boosted to participate.

Ministry and Operations Team meets on **Monday, May 15 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
Passcode: 0000

SAVE THE DATE!

We will be celebrating Reverend Sam's retirement on **Saturday, July 8th**. More

Philosophy Group

At 10:15 AM every Tuesday, the Albany UU Philosophy Group will meet via zoom to discuss the topic of the day.

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.

CHANGED DATE:

Social Justice Team meets on **Tuesday, May 23 at 6:45** on Zoom. All are welcome to join.

Use this link to join:
<https://tinyurl.com/SocialJusticeTeam>

By phone: 1-929-436-2866
Meeting ID: 894 5821 4256
Passcode: 0000

Ps and Qs

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

details to come!



Choir Rehearsal

At 7:00 PM on Wednesdays, in Community Hall. Masks are required. [Contact Olga Martinez](#), Directory of Music Ministry for more information.

Walker Book Group

May 14th & June 11th at 6:30

Use this link to join remotely:

<https://tinyurl.com/WalkerBookGroup>

By phone: 1-929-436-2866

Meeting ID: 871 5139 8632

Passcode: 0000

ANNOUNCEMENTS



👏 JOIN ME IN FUNDRAISING FOR THE 🏳️

QUEER YOUTH ADVOCACY RETREAT



DONATE 💰 [BIT.LY/QYAR2023](https://bit.ly/QYAR2023)

WANT TO LEARN MORE? ➡️ [UNIRONDAK.ORG/QYAR](https://unirondack.org/qyar)

Queer Youth Advocacy Retreat is an annual event at Unirondack attended by quite a few Albany UU teens. The camp is completely free for high school-aged youth and is designed to bring together young queer and TGNC leaders, advocates, activists, organizers, school club members, and fierce allies for a weekend.

After the weekend, youth come away with new skills and tools to equip them to tackle injustice, newly formed bonds with other LGBTQIA+ youth throughout the state and country, and a strengthened sense of confidence and inspiration to take on leadership roles in their schools and communities.

The funding (from outside non-profit GLSEN) that made this a free weekend for the youth was unexpectedly lost very close to the event (5/12-5/14) and organizers are doing everything they can to make up the difference. If you wish to contribute, please [click this link](#) and make a donation.

We invite all to attend DRUUMM's annual public worship service on Thursday, May 11 at 5 p.m. PT. It celebrates UUs who identify as people of color, *and* is open to everyone. Details and registration are available at <https://druumm.wildapricot.org/event-5225905>. Our allies and supporters are an important part of our community! We hope you will join us and share the word across your networks.

As our ministry and membership grows, this special event is also our major fundraiser, supporting our pastoral care, community organizing, and antiracism work. We invite advance sponsorships as well as contributions during the service. All

funds are invested in supporting our core staff and programs for people of color. **We appreciate First UU Society of Albany's generous sponsorship of our 2022 public worship service**, and we hope you are able to donate again this year. Sponsors will be recognized on our website, social media, newsletter, and in the order of service.

For your reference, attached is a formal letter with additional details, as well as an image that can be included in publicity, and is especially handy for social media. Please feel free to call or email if you have questions!

Sincerely,
Tomi Fatunde (817-966-2048)
DRUUMM Acting First Vice President

"How much does freedom cost?"

"Abandoned houses, apartments, a bottle of milk on the table, half-drunk tea in a lovely cup, expensive cars abandoned by the road, an interrupted school year for children, bicycles or scooters that men exchanged for cars to cross the border. This is a picture of the lives of a large number of Russians, whose lives were destroyed after the start of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Why? I will tell you.

You will hear a personal story of a Russian woman who very recently fled Russia with her disabled daughter. I now live in Seattle."

Olga Staver, formerly of St Petersburg, Russia.

The talk will be hosted by Chris Bystroff, Olga's 2nd cousin.

The event is in Community Hall, Sunday May 14th at 11:30 - 12:30

Recharge your Spirit at Silver Bay

Planning your 2023 activities and travels? Be sure to include UU Weekend at Silver Bay from October 13 to 15 in your schedule! UU weekend at Silver Bay is the perfect way to say goodbye to the summer and enjoy the beauty of a fall weekend. Whether from an armchair discussing topics of interest, standing on the top of a mountain, or drifting in a kayak, this weekend will fill your mind and recharge your spirit before the onset of another winter.

If you love nature, you are surrounded by it. If you love learning and thinking, you can satisfy your quest for knowledge at your choice of interesting workshops and lectures. If you love being with other people or meditating alone, you will find opportunities for both. Give yourself a lift at UU weekend!

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 <http://albanyuu.org/uu-weekend-at-silver-bay/>

Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis following receipt of the completed registration form and deposit. And remember – your room, all meals from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch, programs, activities and entertainment are included in the price.



As of April 30th masks are no longer required at service or in groups for children and youth on Sunday mornings. People who prefer to continue to wear a mask are encouraged to do so, and seating for people who wish to sit in a section with other masked attendees is available in the balcony and in Community Hall. Look near the eastern sides of those locations for signs indicating seating reserved for masked attendees.

You are of course welcome to sit anywhere with your mask on; these spaces are simply intended to provide an option for mask-wearing folks who feel more comfortable sitting near others who are also wearing a mask.

Ushers need to be aware of this change, so that you can answer questions and direct people as needed. Please do what you can to ensure that the designated seating is reserved for those wearing masks.

Also - please sign up to usher! Thank you



Nourish & GROW

Capital Region CROP Hunger Walks

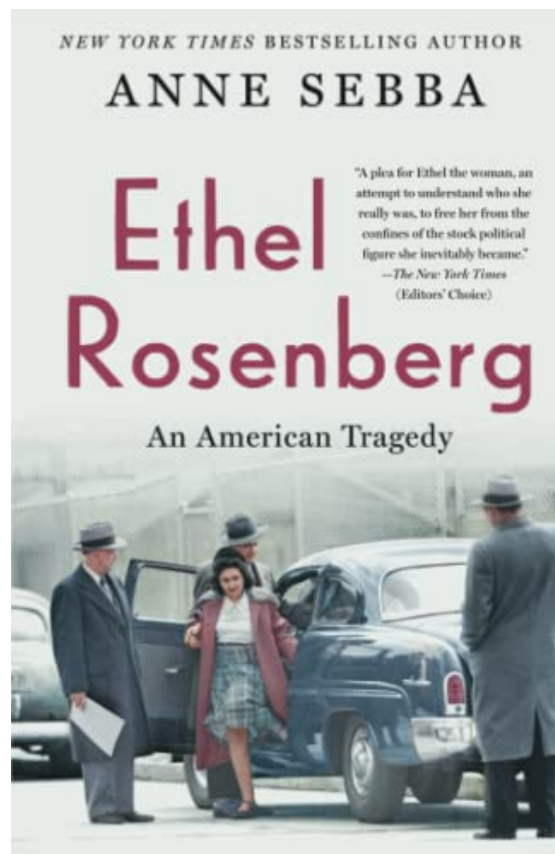
Together Building a World Where There's Enough for All
Will YOU help build a better world? Join with fellow UUs and our Capital District neighbors in the CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, May 7. Walk with Team UU, or pledge to support our walkers. Families are especially encouraged to participate. Visit the CROP Walk table at coffee hour – this Sunday is the last before Walk Day! You can also make an online pledge [here](#) – or contact Dawn Dana at dawn.dana56@gmail.com for more information.

The Inclusivity Team Recommends the following:

For adults:

Ethel Rosenberg: An American Tragedy, by Anne Sebba. (2021). With the recent arrest of Jack Teixeira for espionage, you may be thinking about another person accused of espionage. Ethel Rosenberg was squarely in the intersection of female, Jewish, poor, and communist. Decades after her execution, her brother freely admitted that he lied under oath about Ethel's involvement, in order to save himself and his wife. Take a retrospective look at how the justice system worked (or didn't) for this young, mother of two, artist, singer, devoted homemaker, who was portrayed as being the intelligent puppet master to her husband because she was older and smarter than he was. It's a fascinating and heart-breaking look at history. Available in the Upper Hudson Library System (UHLS) in hardcopy and downloadable e- and audiobook formats. Not available in braille at this time.

Click [here](#) to experience a 3-minute video, hosted by the Toronto Jewish Film Festival:



Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

SAVE THE DATE!

Save the Date! Reverend Sam's Retirement Party will take place on **Saturday, July 8th at Pear Orchard Pavilion at Thacher Park**. Details to come. If interested in helping, please contact Chuck Manning.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

[Find Sunday service recordings here.](#)

Learn about submitting announcements to for Sunday service and how to **reserve a Zoom room** for meetings and events [here](#).

All information about regular occurring events and meetings, including Zoom links [can be found here](#).

Other important resources, our file cabinet, archives, guidelines and information can be found on the [Resource Page of our website](#). [here](#).

If this email was forwarded to you, *and you would like to receive it directly*, please [sign up here](#).

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](#)

Governance & Leadership

Staff

Mission, Vision,
Congregational Covenant

Volunteer!

Publication deadlines

This is an important reminder that the news and article deadline for Windows Weekly is **9:00 AM on**

[UUA Leader Lab](#)
[UU Book Store](#)
[UU World](#)
[Young Adults Revival Network](#)
[Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](#)
[UU Central Region East](#)
[Hudson-Mohawk UU](#)

Monday. 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: www.AlbanyUU.org

Resources: <http://albanyuu.org/albany-uu-resources/>

Zoom use:

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

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 office@albanyuu.org).

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 [Stockbridge-Munsee Community](#). 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 | 518.463.1429
Admin@AlbanyUU.org | AlbanyUU.org

STAY CONNECTED



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