

# ALL SOULS NEWS -October 2025

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church  
1330 Gotham St.  
Watertown, NY 13601



315-788-2742 [www.allsoulsuu.org](http://www.allsoulsuu.org)  
[allsoulsuuchurch@gmail.com](mailto:allsoulsuuchurch@gmail.com)



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**SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 A.M.**

"All Souls—the church that puts its faith in you"

## *Phone Tree*

The default method of notifying the congregation of cancellations is to put the information on the website and send an email to our email list. However if you prefer to be notified by phone, either reply to this email or call 315-921-1162

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82315944436>

**We use the standard zoom link for worship services**

## **October Services**

**October 5 – Sarah O’Connell: “Let It Be a Dance”** A music-filled service as congregation members share some of their favorite hymns.

**October 12 – Rev. Cindy Terlazzo: “Joy as an Act of Resistance – and Revolutionary Love”** Activist Valarie Kaur says: “In the face of horrors visited upon our world daily, in the struggle to protect our loved ones, choosing to let in joy is a revolutionary act. It returns us to everything that is good and beautiful and worth fighting for.” Let us join together on this day and make space for joy to arrive.

**October 19 – Harriet McMillan and Sarah O’Connell: “Three Amazing ASUUs”** Harriet and Sarah have been working on a project highlighting the contributions that Sylvia Heap, Jam Somerville and Winnie Dushkind made to our North Country community.

**October 26 – Sylvia Heap and Frances Mercer “UN Sunday”** (See the Weekly Post for more information.)

From Rev. Cindy Terlazzo



## So Glad To Be On This Journey With You

What a joy it was for me to share this year's In-gathering with all of you. I feel that we are off to a good start and as I expressed from the pulpit – I am looking forward to what we can create together over the coming weeks and months.

Running parallel to my joy are all the concerns I have about the state of the world and in particular about the state of affairs in this country. As many have expressed – we are in unprecedented times. What this means to me is that we need to make sure that we are strengthening our ties to one another within this church community while also connecting with others in the larger community who are working to preserve our democracy.

Caring for one another while doing our utmost to center love is the call of our times as I see it. As activist Valarie Kaur notes: “We reclaim love as a force for justice, healing, and transformation.” The seemingly small, everyday acts of kindness, care, and thoughtful action build a foundation that we can draw upon when we find ourselves in situations in which we need to speak up – in which we need to take bold action.

My current practices are to find ways to be brave – stretching myself beyond what I think I can do and seeking out beauty / expressing gratitude for all that is my life each and everyday. I would love to hear how you are choosing to meet this moment in your life – how you pause; inhale and care for yourself and how you exhale and engage the world.

I offer you this closing reading from Hope Johnson:

Listen.  
Light the way.  
Lend a hand.  
Make decisions.  
Commit.  
Take risks.  
Fail *forward*.  
Build community.  
Nurture meaningful relationships.  
Be real.  
Give thanks.  
Invest in someone, or something, that you believe in.  
Live.  
Love.  
Dream.  
Dream *big*.  
Be transformed.  
Change the world.  
*Lead*.  
And keep your dreams alive – {even now – especially now}.

## President's Report - Robert South

1. Panera Fundraisers are back, **tentatively starting Thursday November 6th**.
2. We will be having a Thanksgiving Dinner at the church on **November 27th**. It will be the usual system, the church buys a turkey and the rest is potluck. Movies will be provided before and after. Bring your extended family, just let us all know how many are coming. Look for the clipboard.
3. Long term project: We're thinking a Building Fundraiser about **March 28th**. Items for sale will be listed by donors in advance, with asking price. All proceeds will go to the church building fund. Catalog will be available on a page of the church website. Items will be sold and picked up at church only on March 28th between 9 and 1. Does anybody want to be in charge of putting the list on Facebook marketplace?
4. Poet Michael Czarnecki will be doing a presentation on his poetry journey to Japan on **November 29th** and leading the service on **November 30th**. Details and sign up for the presentation to follow.
5. Introduction to UUism workshop: Rev. Cindy will be presenting an "Introduction to UUism workshop on **November 9th** from 1 to 2 pm. Newcomers and interested community members might be most interested, but maybe we all would be. And this will be an opportunity to sign up for and express interest level in a more extended multi week program.
6. On **December 14th** the congregational conversation will be about FUNdraising.
7. Aaron Helmuth, whose crew did the siding on the back of the building, is working on a bid to do the front in the next next year or so. Asked who he would recommend for stonework removal, he said he can do it. Siding alone would be at least 50 percent more, though, because of the larger area of the front of the building.
8. Reverend Terlazzo in general has dived in and is exerting a positive influence already. She does prioritize and triage with her time and efforts, but I think that's a good thing. Maybe strategic and informed influence is exactly what we need.
9. They say UUism is "covenantal, not creedal," meaning we don't agree on a statement of faith but on a right way of relating with each other. Maybe you've been exposed to our "abundant heart covenant." It is very inspirational, but it isn't really anything like our Board Covenant, which I've talked about in past newsletters. What we really need is a true "covenant of right relations." Here's an example of one: [https://www.uua.org/files/pdf/c/covenant\\_right\\_relations.pdf](https://www.uua.org/files/pdf/c/covenant_right_relations.pdf)  
On **November 9**, stay after the service for a congregational conversation about developing a covenant of right relations for the congregation as a whole. If we can agree on something, maybe it can be adopted by resolution at the next congregational meeting.

## Religious Exploration

Our Congregational Conversation on **October 12th** will be for Religious Exploration Brainstorming. Members of the Congregation who are not parents are strongly encouraged to join us to learn and share how we can all welcome our young ones to our community.

## Historian's Report Sarah O'Connell

This ad recently appeared in the Canton UU newsletter and I asked if I could include it here. It appeared in the Massena Observer newspaper on August 16, 1960.

## Around the Church



### Adopt-A-Highway Spring Cleanup

The All Souls semi-annual cleanup will be **Saturday, October 11** (If blizzarding or torrential rainstorm, October 18). Please come and help pick up litter along our adopted highway from the church out to Route 12. If you want to participate, please email Sarah

O'Connell at [doon45@aol.com](mailto:doon45@aol.com) or sign up on the clipboard during social hour. Wear work clothes and sturdy footwear; we'll provide gloves, safety vests and hard hats. Bring a picker-upper tool if you want. It only takes an hour or two and makes for a great photo-op!

Meanwhile, Harriet McMillan will be directing an interior clean-up.

are you a  
**UNITARIAN**  
without knowing it?

Do you believe man is not condemned by the doctrine of "original sin," but is inherently capable of improvement?

Do you believe the striving to live nobly and constructively more important than the accepting of religious creeds?

Do you believe in the brotherhood of man, irrespective of color, culture, or country?

Do you believe the primary responsibility for human progress rests upon man?

Then you are  
professing the  
Unitarian belief.

Send 10c for booklet  
"Introducing Unitarianism"  
to: Fellowship Office,  
American Unitarian Association  
25 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass.

Name .....

Address .....

## NYSCU Annual Meeting

The 199th meeting of the New York State Convention of Universalists will be held **October 24–25**, 2025, in Canton, NY. Any member of ASUUC Watertown can attend, but only four get to be delegates. Most of the activities are on Saturday, and a couple of us would like to car pool up for just that day. If you want to go with us, contact the office. If you want to be a delegate, tell any board member.

## The Underground Railroad in Jefferson County



A program on the Underground Railroad in Jefferson County will be presented here at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, October 12. The speaker is Tom LaClair of Clayton. In 2014, Tom began a three-year term on the Jefferson County Historical Society Board, where he helped lead the creation of the History and Genealogy Fair, an annual event that continues today. Beginning in 2019, Tom served six years as the Clayton Town and Village Historian, stepping down at the end of 2024 to pursue his family history. He is currently the President of the Jefferson County New York Genealogical Society, an

organization with over 200 members based across 35 states and Canada.

The presentation came about when he was challenged in 2024 by a member of the Lyme Heritage Center to do a lecture on the Underground Railroad of Jefferson County--a topic not well documented. Accepting the challenge, Tom did research and presented his information at the Lyme Heritage Center on July 20th of this year. This is his second time sharing the presentation.

## Every Month at All Souls

### **CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)**

We meet in the Social Hall on the first and third Friday of the month, gathering at 6:30 pm to chat, and getting around to the evening's agenda at 7 pm. If you're interested in following a positive spiritual, nature-centered path, feel free to join us!

### **Game Night**

Join us on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month from 6-8 to play games. There are many games available for us all to play. We provide pizza, and you can feel free to bring a treat.

### **Craft Night**

Many months (but not all), we also hold a craft night. Watch the newsletter and Weekly Post for details. In October, Craft Night will be held Friday, October 10.

## And Every Week at All Souls

The baskets for your donations to the Urban Mission Food Pantry are always available for your donations. We serve fair trade coffee during our pot luck coffee hours.

### **Generosity Project**

Every year we choose two organizations to share half of our uncommitted plate collections. It works as follows: the collector tracks the uncommitted funds, and the congregation selects the organizations. At the end of the church year, we divide the uncommitted funds in half, retain one half, divide the remainder in half and send those monies to the chosen organizations. This year we chose Planned Parenthood and SIDRN (Syracuse Immigrant and Refugee Defense Network). Each organization receives 1/4 of the uncommitted funds for the year.

## Craft Night – October 10

Craft Night is back! After a Craft Night break, we are looking forward to lots more crafting and lots more fun! The month of September, brings the school year and, thankfully, autumn weather has arrived. We had a very nice time in September making



origami cranes to support the Canton church. It was fun, and we made quite a few cranes to send to Canton. I would love to see all our crafters at our next meet time of *Friday, October 10th, from 6-8pm*. As always, we will meet in the church Social Hall. I



am looking at some fun projects for our October get together. We will also have a costume contest for October. So, join in the fun and **DRESS UP!** There will be prizes for our costume winners, door prize drawings and light snacks. It's also a great opportunity to get to know the people who join in. Remember, you can always bring what every you are working on or want to share.

## People News

From Heather Winn:



Our sweet boy Remi is greatly missed by his family. He was the best dog we could have asked for and his time with us was far too short. We all greatly appreciate the help that we got from our ASUUC family during our fundraising efforts. Remi has definitely left his paw prints on our hearts, where he will live forever. Even in all of our grief over losing him, we take comfort in knowing that he is chasing squirrels across the rainbow bridge and is now seizure and brain tumor free.

Heather also provided this recipe for **Tuscan White Bean Soup**:

Ingredients:

- 3 15 oz cans cannellini beans *drained and rinsed*
- 1 yellow onion *finely chopped*
- 4 cloves garlic *minced*
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 large carrots *peeled and chopped*
- 1 stalk celery *diced*
- 2 cups chopped kale *stems removed, finely chopped (I prefer spinach)*
- 2 ½ – 4 cups vegetable or chicken broth (*I like a little of each*)
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste (I omit this)
- Salt and pepper to taste

- ¼ teaspoon red pepper flakes *if you like a little spice*.
- ¼ teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon dried oregano
- Optional add-ins: ¼ cup white wine for taste, protein (Italian sausage or chicken work well) and other veggies you like. I have put in green beans and potatoes.

## From the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

(Via Eleanor):

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee is one of a growing list of 165 signers of the following open letter. Other signers include well-known philanthropies, such as The McArthur Foundation, The Carnegie Foundation, The Ford Foundation, and George Soros’s Open Society Foundation.

### Statement on Political Violence and the Fundamental Freedom of Speech

**“Acts of political violence — from the recent murder of Charlie Kirk to the murder of Speaker Emeritus Melissa Hortman of Minnesota — have no place in our democracy. Our hearts are with the families and loved ones of those lost to these senseless attacks, and we extend our deepest sympathy in the face of unimaginable pain.”**

“Our country is built on the premise that everyone has the right to express themselves, even when others don’t agree with or like what they say. No one should fear for their safety simply for expressing their views. We must all forcefully condemn these heinous acts as affronts to the fundamental principles and health of our nation — and as charitable giving organizations, including those working in communities impacted by these tragedies, we do.”

“Our organizations are composed of people working to strengthen communities. We support our neighbors when they are in need and remain committed to uniting across divides and partisanship. Philanthropy exists to bring people together, not drive them apart.”

“Organizations should not be attacked for carrying out their missions or expressing their values in support of the communities they serve. We reject attempts to exploit political violence to mischaracterize our good work or restrict our fundamental freedoms, like freedom of speech and the freedom to give. Attempts to silence speech, criminalize opposing viewpoints, and misrepresent and limit charitable giving undermine our democracy and harm all Americans.”

“At a moment that is fragile and fraught, we must rise to the higher standard we all collectively desire. Now is a moment for leadership that drives unity rather than sows further division. Our organizations will continue focusing on helping people across all backgrounds, geographies, ideologies, and belief systems, to heal, thrive, and live peacefully together, protected by the freedoms guaranteed in our Constitution.”

## The Syracuse Immigrant and Refugee Defense Network (SIRDN)

The Syracuse Immigrant and Refugee Defense Network (SIRDN) was voted at our annual meeting in June as one of two share-the-plate recipients for this year. With the new administration, SIRDN, and the Workers Center of Central New York of which it is a part, has shifted focus from supporting farmworkers receiving fair treatment to preventing the kidnapping and deportation of individuals and supporting families dependent on them. WCCNY recently publicized that 75% of farmworkers in our area are immigrants - and 2/3 of those immigrants do not have the protection of federal documentation and corresponding benefits, while they are making a significant contribution to our economy, because there is no mechanism to obtain documentation for the number of workers needed.

ICE has been detaining and deporting individuals even when they DO have legal status, particularly when status is temporary pending review of a newly filed asylum

request OR when Trump has canceled "Temporary Protected Status" for countries including Haiti and El Salvador, as if individuals are not at risk if forced to return after many have made the U.S. their homes for decades. At least two spouses of U.S. citizen-soldiers at Fort Drum were illegally detained at the Fort Drum gate, notwithstanding their paperwork is in order and pending. Large raids of workplaces have been ramping up especially over the last few months. This past month, Karen brought to our attention that both parents and an adult daughter who worked at the Avigen chicken hatchery here in Watertown had been detained. Workers leaving Avigen have been targeted for months - with 10 workers in two raids detained this past month, and others leaving New York altogether to work elsewhere. Local networks to support our immigrant communities are growing, while taking care not to reveal members nor strategy to enhance effectiveness. Ask around if you would like to know more or may be able to contribute.

### Stronger Together Meetings



This group meets at All Souls on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month, 10:00-11:30 am. The mission is to Unite, Empower and Uplift all people by creating a safe and welcoming space to Share, Support and Ignite Change because we are STRONGER TOGETHER.

At their meeting on October 24, they'll be featuring a healthcare panel.

### October 18 Rallies

Watertown will have 2 No Kings Rallies on Saturday, October 18. Stronger Together is hosting one on Arsenal Street from 10 to 12 a.m., and then Lake Effect Progress is hosting the No Pumpkins Rally on Public Square from 1 to 3 p.m.

You can stand up in the morning, the afternoon, or make a day of it and go to both!

**All Souls UU Board of Trustees**

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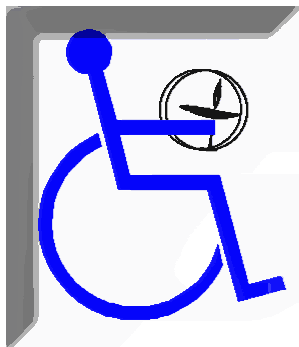
Custodian: John Crupi  
Music: Toni Zygadlo  
Religious Exploration: Kelly Sackheim  
Office Manager: Robert South

Board meetings are held the fourth Friday at 9:30 AM at the church. Meetings are open to all members of the congregation.

Newsletter Editor, Harriet McMillan, [harrietm@allsoulsuu.org](mailto:harrietm@allsoulsuu.org)  
Office Hours: M 9-11, W 11-1, F 1-3  
Phone (315) 788-2742  
E-mail: [allsoulsuuchurch@gmail](mailto:allsoulsuuchurch@gmail.com)  
Website: <http://www.allsoulsuu.org>

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



We affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

### Our Principles

#### **Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:**

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

### Our Mission

- The mission of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church is to create an environment in which personal and spiritual growth is encouraged; and where each of us is free to explore our individual beliefs and search for meaning.
- We strive to be a warm, supportive, nurturing and inclusive religious community where all people are respected and honored because of their uniqueness.
- We promote acceptance, diversity and social justice through our dealings with each other and our actions in the local and global community.

Visitors are welcome! If, as a visitor to our church community, you find yourself in agreement with Our Principles, please consider joining our church community. Just sign our membership book in the presence of two board members.