

ALL SOULS NEWS -October 2021

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

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Watertown, NY 13601



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Find us on

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SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 A.M.

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

Check the Weekly Post for updated information about the services.

October 3 Beware Labels — All Beings Are Plurals

During this service we will be challenged to think about identity and diversity in a different way by author and founder of the Moral Courage Project at the University of Southern California, Irshad Manji, *Don't Label Me: An Incredible Conversation for Divided Times*. Our conversation will be stimulated by viewing an interview of Ishad Manji by Margaret Hoover on PBS Firing Line 5/21/21 (<https://youtu.be/O9cLFxOZfRQ>).

October 10 Should Columbus Day Become Indigenous Peoples' Day? Is Honoring Columbus Disrespecting Indigenous Peoples?

According to History at history.com: "Columbus Day is a U.S. holiday that commemorates the landing of Christopher Columbus in the Americas in 1492. It was unofficially celebrated in a number of cities and states as early as the 18th century, but did not become a federal holiday until 1937. For many, the holiday is a way of both honoring Columbus' achievements and celebrating Italian-American heritage. But throughout its history, Columbus Day and the man who inspired it have generated controversy. Many alternatives to the holiday have been proposed since the 1970s including Indigenous Peoples' Day, now celebrated in several U.S. states." With reference to UU principles (the inherent worth and dignity of every person and justice, equity and compassion in human relations), we will explore the controversy and alternatives.

October 17 Rev. David Weissbard

As always we look forward to Rev. Weissbard's stimulating perspectives on current issues — awakening our thoughts and stirring our actions as UUs.

October 24 Celebrating United Nations Day — All In for Climate Justice: Food Equity and Sustainability — Celebrating the Unitarian Universalist—United Nations Connection

Sylvia Heap as our liaison to the Unitarian Universalist Office at the United Nations (UU@UN) will lead us in this celebration, as she has done for many years.

October 31 A Multigenerational Celebration of Halloween’s Fun, Scary and Spiritual Elements

This is a service for all ages. Please feel free to come in costume or not. Children will “trick or treat” for UNICEF (the United Nations program for assisting children and their families), so adults please bring treat money.

Wondering Center

Frances Mercer

A Word or Two from the Wondering Center



One planning meeting about activities/programs/gatherings for children and youth was held this summer and many ideas were discussed. However, further planning is needed. We may have to experiment from week to week to arrive at something that works well for the children and youths and is flexible enough to respond to changing pandemic conditions and issues.

During September almost all of the Sunday services were Zoom services. And no Sunday activities for children and youth were held. However, in October it is hoped we can have activities in the Wondering Center and/or outside during Sunday mornings. The Sunday service on October 31 (Halloween) will be a multigenerational service for all ages.

Check the Weekly Posts for updates. Input will be requested directly from children, youths and families as part of continued planning. If weather conditions permit, the Wondering Center activities for children will be held outside on the back patio and grounds. Just as before the pandemic, children and youth will participate in the first part of in-person services. Kim Davis will be returning as the paid RE assistant. Frances Mercer and Harriet McMillan will be coordinating the Wondering Center activities and programs. At least one and preferably two adult volunteers will be needed each Sunday. More information will be available in Weekly Posts and information packets.

President’s Message

Heather Winn

Just a short note to let you know what the board has been up to. We started updating the policy book. We are meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 1 1:00 am via zoom. We would love for members to join us. If you need the link please just ask a board member.



Most recently we took a look at the building opening plan and decided that it wasn't quite up to snuff. We have completely reworked our policy and I think that we can finally resume in person services! I can't wait to be able to see everyone in person!

From the Historian's Files

This month's column was taken from an article in the Savannah Morning News newspaper. Perhaps it will provide some inspiration to the Worship Committee for a future service (who wants to be in the band?).



"On June 25, 1967, the Beatles sent a simple message, 'All You Need is Love,' to the entire world when they debuted their latest single on the British program "Our World" in what was the first global televised broadcast ever. **Global Beatles Day** was created in 2009 to celebrate that important historical moment, as well as the Beatles enduring legacy.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah had their own Global Beatles Day celebration a few years ago with a special concert performance of some Beatles favorites. The sold-out concert was the first of what was to be an annual event, but a follow up concert in 2020 was impossible to put together during the pandemic".

This year the event returned. The article concluded: "By sharing the Beatles' messages of peace and love through music, the concert organizers hoped to help heal the community as we come out of the pandemic...We lost people, we lost relationships, jobs, and I think maybe you'll see a little bit of that in what we're going to do," said Rebecca Flaherty, the event organizer, soprano and music educator.

. By the way, 2020 (December) was the 40th anniversary of John Lennon's death, and this November is the 20th of George Harrison. In 2022, Sir Paul McCartney turns 80 and Ringo Starr will be 82!

Opinion

Harriet McMillan

Thanks Marty

For a lot of years (in the old church) I was heavily involved in the RE program. At first I was part of a team, and we did some really fun things. I had two children in the program. We did the program from the UUA called the Haunting House, which was a lot of fun. Gradually the other adults fell away, and I was the only person teaching.

Finally after 10 years, I walked away from the church (not proud of it) because I had so missed getting myself "fed" by the services, that I left.

Eventually I returned—this is my religious home. But I felt that I had put in as much energy as I could in to the RE program, so I stayed away from the RE program.

Rev. Marty had said to us that RE is so important to the future of the church, that I decided to recommit to the RE program. On

One of the ways I can help is to coordinate the snacks for the Wondering Center. With that in mind, I will be looking for donations of wrapped snacks from volunteers.

People News

Around the Church

October Opportunity!

Saturday, October 16, is a day full of opportunity. We'll start with All Souls' semiannual at 9 am. Please come and help clean the road from the church out to Route 12, our adopted highway. Contact Sarah O'Connell at doon45@aol.com to sign up to participate. Wear work clothes and sturdy footwear for the cleanup. All equipment and safety gear will be provided. With 4 groups of at least 2 people, it takes a little over an hour.

There are still more opportunities to help prepare the church to reopen. We accomplished a lot on the previous two work days, and with one more, we will be closer to be ready to opening. Church cleanup will also start at 9 AM.

Policy

At the September meeting the following policies were updated:

Repealed the policies titled "Minister Emeritus" and "Eagles"

Board Meeting Scheduling policy to read as follows:

"The board schedules its own meetings and notifies all board members of the time and location places. The President or Vice President may also call special board meetings and must notify all board members at least 24 hours in advance. The congregation shall be informed of all board meetings."

Board Participation by Internet policy to read as follows:

1. Virtual Participation: Board members may attend and vote at board meetings virtually.
2. E-Mail Voting. Decisions of the board are made in board meetings. However, the board may pass a motion during a board meeting to vote on an issue by email. In all cases, motions cannot be made through email. If further discussion is required then a special meeting will be called. The board secretary will keep a record of the correspondence and report the decision at the next meeting. "

Policy for Building Use During a Pandemic policy adopted and included in this newsletter.

Board Policies be published in the font Arial 12 point.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown Policy For Building Use During a Pandemic September 23, 2021

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown is reopening the church building at 1330 Gotham Street for in-person events while the COVID-19 and variants extend the current Pandemic

period. This plan describes the protocol for in-person gatherings for Sunday worship, small groups, religious education, and other events.

Protection of health and safety is paramount. To minimize risks of virus transmission during in-person gatherings event attendees are encouraged to following the General Recommendations and the ADDENDUM TO USE OF BUILDING REQUEST FORM Healthy Hygiene Practices:

General Recommendations:

Please, do not come to the Church building if any of the following apply to you:

- COVID like symptoms: Fever, coughing, loss of taste, sore throat, etc.
- Recent traveling from areas with high infection rates of the COVID-19 or variant.
- Contact with someone known or suspected of being COVID-19 positive, or
- Not feeling well
- All meetings and events must be approved by the Executive Board
- Masks, physical distancing, handwashing, and disinfecting practices are strongly encouraged. Hand sanitizer will be available and used upon entrance to the building.
- Any groups using the building shall make a tracking document including the name and phone number of each attendee. Within three days, the responsible party shall submit a copy of the document to church staff to maintain in the office. Appropriate confidentiality shall be maintained.
- All attendees age two years and older shall wear a face mask, except while seated six feet apart
- A minimum of six feet of separation shall be maintained; common household members may sit together.
- Masks must be worn indoors, and when distancing is impractical outside
- Food shall not be shared. Special provisions may be made during social events such as assigning a masked and gloved individual to serve the attendees.
- All contacted surfaces shall be cleaned and disinfected by the responsible party immediately following the event.
- Indoor attendance is limited to 100 participants and use of outside space is encouraged.
- All church staff are required to be vaccinated.

Worship Services:

- Follow the General Recommendations above
- Worship leaders singers and musicians will maintain a minimum of 12 feet from congregants and may be unmasked
- The congregation is encouraged to hum rather than sing.
- Attendees shall avoid handshaking or hugging
- An offering box will be available at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Religious Education (RE)

- RE will take place outside as weather permits and indoor RE will require children to be masked and maintain a distance of 3 feet apart unless they are from the same household
- Refreshments shall be limited to packaged items such as bottled water and prepacked snacks
- All RE Volunteers will be vaccinated and masked

Existing agreements

All current pre-existing agreements with community groups are subject to the Building Use agreement and General Recommendations of this policy.

Temporary Building Closure

The Church Board maintains responsibility for monitoring guidances issued by:

The New York State Public Health Department,
The Jefferson County, NY Health Department,
The United States Center for disease Control (CDC), and
The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA).

The Church Board shall use information from the Health Departments, CDC and the UUA to determine when temporarily closure of the church building is necessary. A formal statement shall be prepared and issued by the Church Board regarding changes to church accessibility.

Exceptions to accessing the closed building are the following:

- Small groups or individuals that have agreements to use the Church building
- People preparing for hybrid worship services.
- Contractors and volunteers needed for upkeep and maintenance.

References:

[Considerations for Communities of Faith | CDC](#)

[ReligiousandFuneralServicesMasterGuidance.pdf \(ny.gov\)](#)

www.uua.org/safe/pandemic/gathering-guidance

[NYS-COVID19-Tracker](#)

[UU Church of Canton Covid Safety Plan](#), First Unitarian Universalist Church of Canton.

[All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church](#), ADDENDUM TO USE OF BUILDING REQUEST FORM

Healthy Hygiene Practices

New Custodian!

Our new custodian, John Crupi, is working hard to restore the church to restore the pre-flood status. Thanks to Till and Rebecca for finding him.

Getting Ready for Christmas (Eve)

Christmas is nearing, as in our Christmas Eve service! I'm looking for unusual baby delivery stories to tell during the service, before the reading of the Christmas story. If you have a story you would like to share, speak to Harriet McMillan.



Current System for Hybrid Services

by Robert South

COVID has introduced us all to Zoom, and we are used to participating in Zoom services, but many really want to come back into the sanctuary. The Board has

recently adopted a policy that allows that, provided we take various precautions. However, the UUA is promoting the concept of something called

"hybrid services." In a hybrid service, some people participate in the sanctuary while others participate online.

That's why it's called hybrid, it's a hybrid of online and in person. It's also possible to livestream the service that's going on in the sanctuary, but have the signal only go one way--a broadcast like network TV, so people at home can watch but not participate. That's probably much easier. Televangelists have been doing it for decades, and they even try to make it interactive, to an extent, by giving a handy number so you can call in with your credit card information. But the idea of hybrid is that you lose nothing by staying at home. You can participate fully. One benefit is that if you are feeling ill, you won't be tempted to come in and spread the virus because the experience at home is identical.

The way we're doing hybrid right now, the experience at home is probably superior. Let me explain how I've set things up for hybrid services. Behind our altar there is a space where Joanne stores decorations, and that space also contains the core of our sound system. That core is something called a mixer board. It's a panel with sockets where you can plug in cables that send data in or out, kind of a hub.

First, I'll talk about devices that input to the mixer. The microphone on the pulpit is connected to the mixer with a wire, as is the TV on the altar. Also connected to it are wireless devices, each a small black box with an antenna and a wire to plug into the mixer. We have one such device for receiving signal from the wireless microphone, which inputs to the mixer. We have a second device like that which picks

up signal from the lapel microphone, but we never use it because it interferes with other stuff. That box used to be mounted as far away from the other stuff as possible because whoever set it up knew very well how it overpowered other stuff. It was literally outside in the organ pit area. It's what made the static sound when you turned on the lights.

So, all these devices receive signal from various sources. The signal goes into the mixer and then gets sent out. The most obvious outgoing signal is to the speakers. A wire goes from the mixer to a device called an equalizer that sort of adjusts the sound. From the mixer, the same feed then goes to a sort of stereo like device that has a bunch of knobs on the front and pins on the back that wires can be attached to. In theory each of those knobs on the front allows you to adjust the volume of signal going out of this device via one of the pins in the back, but in fact none of the knobs seem to do anything. Also, only one of the pins in the back seems to carry a signal. But anyway, that one "hot" pin is connected to a wire that has been simply twisted together with three other wires for going through the walls to the different sets of speakers around the building. The first set of speakers is the four in the sanctuary, the second set is the two speakers in the social hall, and finally one speaker on its own wire is in the informal lounge. There used to be a panel of toggle switches that allowed these to be turned on and off individually, but now they are all just on all the time. In addition to the speakers, there's a third wireless device that transmits output to the hearing assistance headphones we provide people who need

them.

Now I'll tell you about the TV. The TV can be connected to a computer using a cable called an HDMI cable. That makes what is on the computer also show on the TV. That's how I can show PowerPoint slide shows on the TV, or Zoom sessions. The sound also goes from the computer to the TV, and most of the sound from the TV then goes to the mixer, which sends that sound to the speakers and headsets. So, sound goes from the computer to the TV to the mixer to the speakers. Currently sound signal isn't sent from the mixer to the TV, or to the computer. That's why the microphones in the sanctuary aren't directly audible on Zoom. What you are hearing on Zoom is the webcams microphones.

I have three webcams on the laptop that I am using to run the Zoom and the PowerPoint and then output to the TV. One is the webcam on the laptop itself, and the other two are attached to the laptop via wires plugged into USB ports. I have one aimed at the chalice and one at the speaker in the pulpit. Another aimed at the whole congregation in the sanctuary might be nice. It may be possible to get a longer USB cable so one of the webcams (the one usually aimed at the chalice) can be taken to people speaking from their seats in the sanctuary. But that's a make do at best. Really, several wireless webcams would be my ideal, but even thinking about that will take some shopping to see what's available and how it works.

The webcams have microphones, so what you hear at home is the audio from the webcam on the pulpit. Further, we are currently using the wireless microphone because the regular pulpit microphone isn't

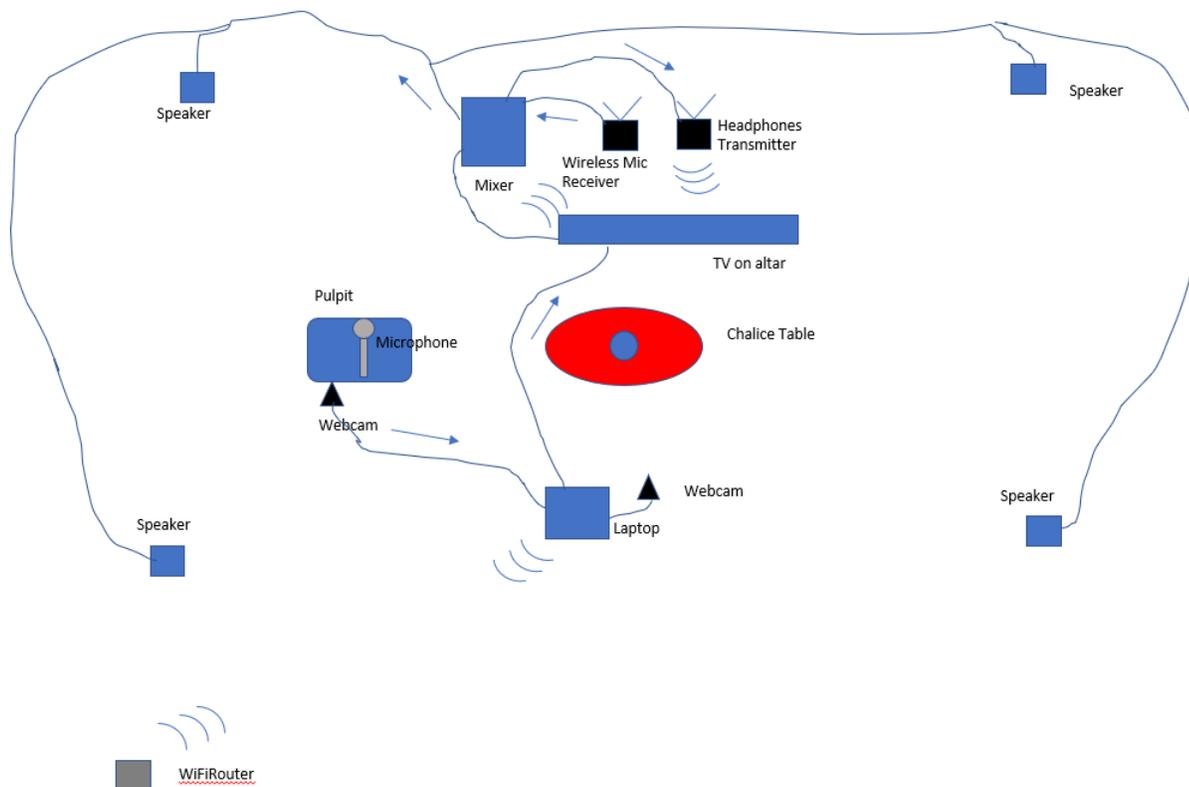
picking up very well. It's never been very good and may need to just have its gain turned up on the mixer. So, if you are in the sanctuary and you want to speak to everybody, including those at home, it's currently important that you come up to the pulpit, even if you have the wireless microphone. In theory, since sound is taking a path through webcams, computer, tv, and mixer to the speakers, the microphones in the sanctuary could be comes superfluous and we could just use webcams as microphones that go to both sanctuary and zoom audiences alike. But currently things aren't working as they were for a while, and for some reason the sound from the webcams attached to the host laptop isn't going through the TV to the speakers in the room, though that sound is going to the zoom audience. I'm trying to figure out what's up with that. A new (also larger) altar TV might help.

And mentioning that reminds me that everyone should turn off their devices if they are Zooming the service while also in the sanctuary, otherwise there will be feedback. But the service guide should be zooming the service on a (muted) device on the pulpit to keep from having to turn around to see the online crowd. Another alternative might be to have a second laptop Zooming to the other big screen TV on the old rolling cart, but placed at the back of the sanctuary so the service leader can look at it without turning around.

This system is something, better than nothing for now. In its clunky way, it gets us a service people can participate in from either home or the sanctuary. It needs much incremental improvement. A complete overhaul would be welcome, but I'm not going to do it, and until then I'm

ready to do it this way except gradually upgrading. It should be up to the service leader how they want to do things, all

zoom, all sanctuary, my makeshift hybrid, or some alternative like a sanctuary service streamed out one way.



PS: Sound from the multiple webcam microphones in the sanctuary doesn't go out to the Zoom audience and sound from the sanctuary microphones doesn't go out to the Zoom audience, though the rest of the zoom sound does go out to the sound system because the TV displaying it feeds to the sound system as well as its internal speakers. I think the issue is that Zoom is set up that way on purpose so you don't get feedback. It may be necessary to use a second laptop: one feeding the TV and one running the webcams in the sanctuary. Plus we need a larger TV since

we have expanded our space to include the social hall (previously separated by an accordion divider) in order to accommodate social distancing) and now people at the back are a long way away. So, to improve the existing approach for the purpose of participative hybrid services, we could start with **an additional webcam, a larger TV, and a second laptop**. Not to anger anyone, but coincidentally, that's what we have obtained a grant for. With a lot more time and money and a professional consultant I'm sure we could do a lot more. Bur whatever we do needs to be something that

serves our goals and something that anyone can learn to operate on an indefinitely ongoing basis.

PPS Update. I tried that I put my old laptop on the podium and connected it to the TV directly, while leaving my new laptop connected to just the cameras. I logged both into zoom. I also turned up the pulpit microphone on the mixer, which worked (as well as it did before, that is). However, there is now feedback if the room speakers and TV are both turned on. It's possible to turn off the room speakers and get all sound through the TV through Zoom, especially if the Zoom from the laptop on the podium is muted. However, there's a small delay, and of course the sound for the whole sanctuary plus social hall space is just some (albeit relatively large) TV speakers. Fiddling with relative speaker volumes can avoid most feedback. If I mute my newer laptop (which is running the cameras) and unmute my old laptop (which is on the podium) and tweak down the volume on the room speakers and mute all the zoom participants other than the service leader, then I can turn on the room speakers and everybody (both home and in the sanctuary) can hear the speaker clearly and without the delay. But then, for people at home to speak, the room speakers must be

turned off, and the laptops must switch which is muted. And in no configuration can the wireless handheld microphone be heard well by people at home. So all told, with a great deal of effort the existing system can be improved on very marginally. Zoom was designed for people in sonically isolated spaces, not for people to share a space. There's a reason why, while zooming, your own mic doesn't go to your own speaker and why the webcam microphone's sound isn't coming out on the TV. That design was intentional, based on awareness of feedback. Our best bet is to continue with the clumsy arrangement of leaving the TV plugged into the same laptop as the webcams and putting a webcam beside the podium microphone so they can both be spoken into for both audiences. The only real improvements are using the (muted) laptop on the podium so the speaker doesn't have to turn around, adding a fourth webcam (which I have at home) so the in sanctuary audience can be displayed (maybe plugging that one into the speaker's laptop), and getting a longer USB cable to serve those who can't come to the podium to make announcements or joys and concerns using a webcam mic so everybody can hear, both home and sanctuary audiences. And no more than one person at a time must zoom from the sanctuary without being muted.

195th Annual Meeting of the New York State Convention of Universalists

The **195th Annual Meeting** of the NYSCU will be held October 22–23, 2021, at the [Unitarian Universalist Society of Oneonta, NY](#).

Keynote speaker will be [Gretchen S. Sorin, Ph.D.](#), “**Bridges and Boundaries: African Americans and American Jews**”

All Unitarian Universalists and friends are warmly invited to attend. Full vaccination and masks are required.

We are planning for a hybrid (In-person and Zoom) meeting. Please check the website [nyscu.org](https://www.nyscu.org) for updates. Annual Meeting and Conference Fellowship and Workshops October 22-23, 2021
Fee: \$30 pre-register; \$35 at the door [<https://www.formdesk.com/uufirms/NYSCU>],

Housing: Clarion Hotel, 55 Market Street, Oneonta, NY Phone: 607 432-7500 Rate is \$115/night if reserved by October 10, 2021. Mention NYSCU for group rate.

Dr. Gretchen Sullivan Sorin (keynote speaker Friday) is Director and Distinguished Service Professor at the Cooperstown Graduate Program. Dr. Sorin has more than thirty years' experience as a museum consultant, working for more than 250 museums. She has served as a guest curator for many exhibitions including the traveling exhibition, Bridges and Boundaries: African Americans and American Jews for the Jewish Museum in New York. Dr. Sorin writes and lectures frequently on African American history and museum practice. Her books include *In the Spirit of Martin: The Living Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, and *Through the Eyes of Others: African Americans and Identity in American Art*. She is cowriter and senior historian of the documentary "Driving While Black: African Americans on the Road in the Era of Jim Crow," which has been shown on PBS.

- New York State Convention of Universalists Friday evening – casual get-together at UUSO
- Saturday at First UUSO, Oneonta: 8:00 Continental breakfast & registration
- 9:00 Opening worship – Rev. Rachel Baker 9:15 10:00 Keynote "Bridges and Boundaries"
- 10:00 10:30 Keynote Dialogue
- 10:45 break
- 11:00 Business Meeting
- 11:45 Lunch (carnivore, vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free choices provided) 12:45 First workshop session 1:45 Break 2:00 Second workshop session
- 3:00 Closing worship
- 3:15 Meeting adjourns Keynote:

Dr. Gretchen Sullivan Sorin "BRIDGES AND BOUNDARIES: African Americans and American Jews" The themes of freedom and liberation appear again and again in the literature, art and music of both African Americans and American Jews, and each has borrowed experiences of the other to give voice to their own group's conception of identity. A visual essay links texts and images of more than 100 works of art and artifacts, first seen in an exhibit at The Jewish Museum, to explore the historical places at which the paths of African Americans and American Jews have crossed in meaningful ways.

- WORKSHOPS -- Session I: Continuing discussion with Dr. Sorin.
- "Oneonta & Liberal Religion: Looking Back at the Community & the Congregation" Bob Brzozowski This presentation will include short histories of the town and city of Oneonta, the Universalist church in Oneonta & Otsego County, the UU Society of Oneonta (UUSO), and the congregation's place in the community over 170 years. You'll hear about the famed orator Rev. Edwin Chapin's visits to the boomtown that was Oneonta in the late 19th century and the connection between a famous Oneontan and the Rev. Starr King, -- Bob is the UUSO historian. He retired as executive director of the Greater Oneonta Historical Society earlier in 2021. He served on Oneonta's Common Council. He has been active for decades

in local history, historic preservation, and elder care. He and his wife, Jane Bachman, have been UUSO members since 1998.

WORKSHOPS -- Session II:

- “Introduction to the Restorative Process” presentation by CER (Central East Region, UUA) Trauma and Trauma Impact -- how do we do church going forward, in a way to help us live in an increasingly traumatizing world (not just the pandemic, but police brutality, increased visibility of oppression even if it doesn’t directly impact you, climate change, etc.)
- “Promoting ESG Investing” presented by JWBurns; (NYSCU financial advisors) The United Nations Global Compact is the world’s largest corporate sustainability initiative. The Compact asks companies to align their operations and strategies to ten universally accepted principles, which were set up to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect the planet. There is a major focus on the social aspect of environmental, social and governance (ESG), with most CEOs saying, “Our response to the pandemic has caused our focus to shift toward the social component of our ESG program.”

Every Month at All Souls

CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)

meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at the church. Gathering and chatting begins at 6:30, the meeting begins at 7 PM.

And Every Week at All Souls

The basket for your donations to the Urban Mission Food Pantry are always available for your donations. Also, Joanne Harter collects the orange bags in which our newspapers are delivered. She then delivers them to the SPCA to be used to keep the grounds clean.

We serve fair trade coffee during our pot luck coffee hours.

As always, Joanne Harter, our CDO (Chief Decorating Officer) appreciates help with the altar decorations.

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 Hospice and Planned Parenthood. Each organization receives 1/4 of the uncommitted funds for the year.

Unitarian Universalist Association

From Rachel Walden at the UUA

Dear All Souls UU Church Community,

As Unitarian Universalists provide life-saving ministry in these turbulent times—from the surging pandemic and natural disasters to the ongoing inequities impacting Black, Indigenous and People of Color communities—the UUA strives to be a strong partner. To enhance our communication with you, we are bringing back our monthly newsletter with a collection of our most timely and popular resources.

President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray shared her thoughts about this change: "Throughout the pandemic, it has been a meaningful gift to be in regular communication with our congregation leaders. Although I'll no longer send emails as frequently, I'm excited for the UUA to get back to sharing resources to support congregations' vital ministries."

We hope this helps you feel supported and held by your larger faith community. If you have questions or feedback, [please get in touch with me](#).

With you on the journey,

Rachel

Shallow Wells Fund Raiser



First Presbyterian Church is asking us to contribute to their project providing potable drinking water in Malawi. They've been working in Malawi with the Marion Medical Mission (MMM) since 2007, and they once did a presentation at All Souls about their efforts to provide crop irrigation in Malawi. This year they can't send volunteers to Malawi to help build wells, but are hoping to send money, so that the Marion Medical Mission can work in Malawi to build shallow wells, instead. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause,

please send your check in any amount, made out to First Presbyterian Church, with 'Shallow Wells' in the memo line. The address for mailing your check is: First Presbyterian Church, 403 Washington St., Watertown NY 13601. You might also note that you're a member of All Souls UU on your donation - but send your check to First Presbyterian, not All Souls, please!

Women of Grace Widow's Fund Raiser

First Presbyterian Church, on Washington St., is sponsoring a takeout chicken and biscuit dinner Friday, October 15, 4-6 PM. For dinner you will get chicken, biscuits, gravy, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, vegetable, cake, all for \$10. The dinner will benefit the Women of Grace Widow's Fund.



All Souls UU Church Board of Trustees

President: Heather Winn
Vice President: Robert South Roberts.asuuc@gmail.com
Secretary: Pat Sutherland
Treasurer: Eleanor Allen eleanora.asuuc@gmail.com
Trustee: Rebecca Carr rebeccac.asuuc@gmail.com
Trustee: Shannon Starkweather-Burke
Trustee: Catherine Burns catherineb.asuuc@gmail.com
Trustee: Joanne Harter

Staff

Office Administrator: Volunteers
Custodian: John Crupi
Music: Toni Zygadlo
Childcare: Kim Davis
Religious Education: Frances Mercer

Board meetings are held the fourth
Thursday at 9:30 AM via Zoom.
Contact the office for the link.
Meetings are open to all members
of the congregation.

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PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER NO LATER THAN THE 15TH OF THE MONTH.
ITEMS ARE APPRECIATED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
1330 Gotham St.
Watertown, NY 13601
ALL SOULS NEWS October 2021

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.