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FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1, 2015
THRU
JUNE 30, 2016

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Sunday, March 6, 10:30 am

Half the Sky

Rev. Margret A. O'Neall

Music: Trio Capriccio: Paula Shaw and Friends

Women hold up half the sky, so they say, and yet around the world women lack equity in every regard, from equal pay to respect for the dignity and integrity of their bodies. International Women's Day celebrates women's achievements throughout history and across nations, and draws our attention to the vital work that remains before us.

Sunday, March 13, 10:30 am

Collaboration

Rev. Margret A. O'Neall and Rev. Craig Schwalenberg

Cooperation and mutual support among our congregations is built into the design of the Unitarian Universalist Association. What was the Cambridge Platform anyhow; how is collaboration a part of our history, and how do we benefit by working together in the context of our faith commitments?

Sunday, March 20, 10:30 am

Creating our Future Together

Rev. Margret A. O'Neall

Music: Robin Seletsky, clarinet and JoAnn Chmielowski, piano: klezmer music

This congregation is charting a new course, one that builds on history and reaches out to grasp a vision of the future that we create together. What does it mean to act boldly on our principles, to nurture mind and spirit, to seek comfort, inspiration and challenge in this community that we create together?

Sunday, March 27, 10:30 am

Seeking the Source - Easter

Rev. Margret A. O'Neall

Music: Jamecyn Morey, violin and David Beebe, cello

Our search for truth and meaning opens the doors of faith and science, exploring the depths of miracle and mystery in the world. This regenerative time of Easter draws us into the search for our connection to the ultimate Unknown, the alpha and omega, of which we are an integral and interconnected part.



CIRCLES



*Rev. Dr. Margret A. O'Neill,
Interim Minister*

MARGRET'S MUSINGS

Generativity and Change

The seasonal cycles provide opportunities for reflection, especially in these times of transition between seasons, transitions in our lives. Periodically I pause to ask, "What is seeking my attention as I facilitate this transitional time in congregational life?" And I often come back to my perennial question, "Why church?" What is it about this enterprise of congregational life that speaks to me, and that calls me to invest myself here rather than anywhere else I might choose? One response is that I find that the cycles of organizing our human life in community reflect the deep cycles of nature, and that the emergence of power and possibility, like new life, continue to fascinate me and command my creative energies.

In the annual cycles, this season of spring speaks to the power of new beginnings, fresh starts, and the generative power of nature. Early spring begins in February with Imbolc and Groundhog Day, continues mid-month with Valentine's Day and Lupercalia, and then the power really starts to rise in March with the Spring Solstice. Even with the ground frozen and the trees bare, days begin to lengthen not long after the Winter Solstice, new life begins to stir, and change is in the air.

So it also goes in congregational life: the powers of regeneration and change begin to stir deep underground, invisibly, long before we see the green shoots of new growth.



You began to talk about a new model of governance well over a year ago, and now the Board is making steady progress toward creating a new model of healthy and responsive congregational life. Discussions began last September about a newly articulated vision of who-and-how this congregation aspires to be in the future, and that vision emerged into the light in mid-February. You set goals in September 2014 for the work you would do before you began to search for your next called minister, and now the time has come to put the search process into motion. The progress is sometimes invisible, sometimes very evident, but I witness this congregation moving steadily toward a future of promise and power.

Another long-awaited emergence is the restructuring of the historic UUA system of nineteen independent Districts into five aligned Regions, providing a single unified UUA system to support congregations through integrated field staff teams. The new system, after years of planning and experimental trials, is designed to strengthen our active connections to create an association of "radically interdependent congregations" to build a stronger Unitarian Universalist presence in our communities and our nation. The vote to dissolve the St.

Lawrence District into the Central East Region will be held on Saturday, April 2 in Syracuse, and if you would like to be a delegate and participate in this historic decision, just let John Reschovsky or me know so we can put your name in the hat! I will also be providing the Gould Discourse, talking about our role as "Transformers" on that Friday evening, and there will be workshops on Saturday afternoon, so there are many reasons to attend even if you are not a delegate.

Congregations find their power in a blend of old traditions and creative innovations, in the building of strong internal connections and service to the wider community. Congregations also find their power in collaboration and interdependence, working together to build a strong presence in the world for our liberal faith that stands on the side of love. It is our human nature to reinvent ourselves, creating ever-new beginnings, seeking always for more power and possibility in what we do. It is a pleasure to engage in this creative time with you, and as always, I look forward to seeing you in church!

Margret

Mission:

*Connecting in spiritual community, we
celebrate life with joy
grow in compassion
create justice*



Julie Rigano,
Director of Lifespan Religious
Education

Justice Through Language

Scrolling through Facebook one day, I saw an image that portrayed a hypothetical and highly plausible conversation.

Person A: “Oh no, someone left their cell phone.”

Person B: “Dang, I wonder if they’ll miss it?”

Person A: “Of course they will. *It’s their phone.*”

Person B: “Not what I meant. I was wondering if they’ll miss it in time to come back before the shop closes.”

Person A: “I hope so, for their sake.”

Under this conversation, there was text that read, “You already know how to use singular *they*. When a non-binary person asks you to use “they” as their pronoun, you can handle it.” This image, created by Tucker Fitzgerald, fed a fire of a social justice issue that has always been near and dear to my heart—language justice.

I remember the first time the concept of language justice was made apparent to me. It was during a Time for All Ages at my congregation when I was still young enough to go up and sit around the person telling the story, getting close for my special time in the service. On this particular day, my father was telling one of his favorite stories about the Midnight Run, a

volunteer program at our church. The Midnight Run is an organization that provides food, clothing, toiletries, and most importantly brief companionship with those who are homeless in Manhattan. My father was clear in the beginning of his time with the children that he would not call the people he met on the street “homeless people,” but “people who were homeless” because they were people first, not homeless first. He noted that it was longer, but it respected their inherent worth and dignity as a human first and that was more important to him.

This yearning for language justice was sparked and I tried to become very mindful of my language. This was supported by my Unitarian Universalist upbringing. When I went to youth conferences, I would attend the LGBTQ+ meetings closed to straight allies for those youth who wanted a private space to discuss their exploration. In the meeting, we would start by introducing ourselves, articulating our identities, if we could, and stating our preferred pronouns. Even if we didn’t feel safe or ready to use these pronouns in our daily life, or even in the larger group, we created a space for that part of our identities to be heard and respected. By the end of my time going to youth cons, it was common culture to put our preferred pronouns on our name tags, a practice I am proud to see youth continue.

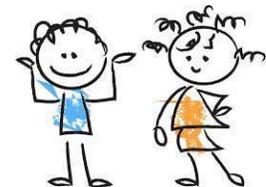
Language justice permeates all social justice causes. Using the right language is a type of respect that all beings deserve, especially when they are explicit about the language they prefer. Recently, I was meeting someone for the first time with a cisgendered female friend. “Cisgender,” or “cis” for short, is a descriptor for those whose experiences of their own gender agree with the sex they were assigned at birth. My friend did some Facebook snooping and found out the person we were meeting preferred using “they/their/them” as their pronoun. This worried my friend.

“I don’t want to offend her,” my friend worried, “but I also don’t know what this means.” We discussed it for a long time. “So she uses ‘they’?” my friend wanted to clarify. “No,” I responded. “They use they.” Eventually, I calmed her by reminding her that when in conversation with someone, you hardly use third person pronouns. I knew she wanted to understand, but it was a difficult concept for her as a cisgendered woman. She needed to understand the impulse to need to use a pronoun other than the one that society would place on a person based on their sex.

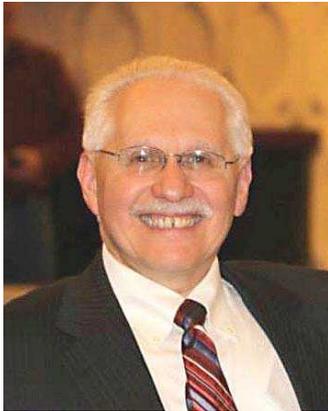
The language justice around sex and gender is one of my biggest passions. Too often the words for sex and gender are used interchangeably. Someone will say their gender identify as a female, when technically “female” is a term reserved for sex. The biological terms “male,” “female,” “intersex,” etc. refer to the sex a person is born into. The societal terms of “man,” “woman,” “feminine,” “masculine,” etc. are words we created to assume gender identities based on the sex of a person. The fact that we use all these words interchangeably to describe sex and gender only muddies the already murky water of language.

My love for using the right language comes partially out of my love for language, but mostly out of our first principle: the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We show our respect for others through our actions and our words. What better way to show respect than to adapt our flexible language to fit a person rather than insist a person fit a label?

Julie



CIRCLES



John Reschovsky
Board of Trustees President

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Vision

On Saturday, January 13th, 23 members of our congregation spent four hours in a remarkable session that resulted in a Vision Statement for UUSS. But the process was far more inclusive, starting with our Worship Service last November 8th, when almost everyone participated in interviewing one another about their vision for our congregation. The written notes from these interviews were analyzed by a dedicated group of volunteers, capturing recurring words and catchy phrases.



These were put together in an inspiring set of posters and graphics. Then, our group of twenty three reflected on these results and through a series of group exercises and discussions, ably led by Reverend Margret, put together a Vision Statement in just one intensive session. No extended committee meetings and reviews and more meetings. We just did it.

It was a fun and engaging team effort.

The UUSS Vision created that day reads:

We will boldly live our Unitarian Universalist Principles, within our church and in service to the larger community.

We will nurture mind and spirit through lifelong learning, engagement and growth.

We will create a community that welcomes, embraces and supports all.

We will worship in ways that comfort, inspire and challenge.

These beautifully crafted words speak of how we will wish to define ourselves as we move into our future. These are words that our visitors might reflect upon as they consider whether UUSS should become their new spiritual home. They are surely words that prospective UU ministers will consider as they look at whether UUSS fits with their career aspirations.

We are committed to creating our future with much greater strategic focus, deep reflection and discernment. But it all starts with that Vision (with a capital V) that serves as the benchmark against which all our plans, goals and initiatives will be evaluated.

So our thanks go out to all those who agreed to be interviewed on November 8th, to all the volunteers who helped analyze and present the data, to those twenty-three creative members and, of course to Reverend Margret who helped us all harness our collective wisdom.

Together we have created a window into our future.

Peace,
John

GETTING TO KNOW UU FOUR THURSDAYS: MARCH 10, 17, 24, 31

**Class Facilitators: Kathy Fernandez & Steve Healey
Emerson Room, 7:00 - 9:00pm**

This small group workshop addresses the basics of what it means to be an active Unitarian Universalist, and provides an opportunity to connect with others who share your interests while you explore our historic liberal faith tradition. The four class sessions meet four consecutive Thursdays, beginning March 10, 2016. Topics include UU history and theology, faith development, how we worship in a covenantal faith, and how we express our values through social justice. Register by signing up at the Lifespan Faith Development table after service on Sundays, by calling the church office at 374-4446, or by registering online at the UUSS website: <http://goo.gl/vW5kPA>.



MINISTERIAL SEARCH PROCESS SUNDAY, MARCH 13 AT 12NOON

Everything you want to know in one interesting meeting! Rev. Craig Schwalenberg, the Ministerial Settlement Representative for the UUA, will provide an open informational session on Sunday, March 13th after the worship service, open to all members and friends of the UU Society of Schenectady. You will be investing about an hour of your time, child care will be available, and lunch will be provided with a freewill donation as a fundraiser for the Coming of Age trip to Boston.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, April 10 12:00 noon

Mark your Calendar!!

A special congregational meeting will be held after the worship service on Sunday April 10 to elect members of the Ministerial Search Committee.

UUSS PHILOSOPHY GROUP



Our new book is *The Great Debate* featuring the arguments between Thomas Paine and Edmund Burke in the 18th century. We meet every Wednesday at 10am in the Emerson Room. If you have questions contact Michael Foster at 382-5982 or mfoster9@nycap.rr.com.

EASTER EGG HUNT - SUNDAY, MARCH 27

Easter is on March 27, and we need donations. Please donate candy, stickers, widgets or change to help fill plastic eggs. Collection boxes will be at the church and Water's House entrances. Parents, on Easter, please bring a small paper bag or small basket for each of your children.



COFFEE, CRULLERS & CONVERSATION!

Did you think that CC&C lacked variety or diversity of subject matter? Did you? Well just take a look at the line up for March.



- March 6th: Fighting for \$15 Raise the Wage
- March 13: The Neuro-Anatomy of Happiness
- March 20th: GMOs: Good or Bad?
- March 27th: Birdwatching for Beginners

As usual, CC&C will be in either the Emerson or Fireplace room and will start at 9:30AM. There will be coffee and crullers for the sleepy and the hungry.

Disclaimer: Some scurrilous person is spreading a rumor that one of the Cs in CC&C stands for cocoa. Well, it doesn't! If you bring your own tea, it might be tolerated, but not cocoa. Cocoa is not a morning drink in a civil society and good Unitarians should abstain from it, at least until afternoon.

SUNDAY MORNING YOGA AND MEDITATION!

"Every body" is welcome to relax and stretch at Guided Yoga with Mati every Sunday morning from 8:00-9:15am in the Emerson Room. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays, Mati leads Guided Mindfulness Meditation in the Emerson Room at 9:30am. This 20 minute seated meditation is followed by a period to share experiences and ask questions. For more information contact Mati at mihackett@nycap.rr.com.



THE ANINGER FUND

The Aninger Fund is a trust fund created for the sole purpose of supporting leadership opportunities for the junior and senior youth of our congregation.

In the past, religious education youth have requested money to attend leadership and spiritual programs. Some excellent opportunities are available through the UUA and CERG and include, but are not limited to: Goldmine, General Assembly, District Assembly, Summer Seminary for Youth, Multicultural Leadership School (youth), and youth conferences. In return for the scholarship, the recipients share their experiences with the congregation through written work in Circles, participation in a service or a presentation at Coffee, Crullers and Conversations.

How and when do I apply?

Applying as an Individual

The application deadline for leadership opportunities occurring this spring/summer is March 31st. Applications will be reviewed at the April Religious Education Council meeting and any applications received after the March 31st deadline will not be considered until the October 2016 review (if they are still relevant.)

Junior and Senior youth can download an individual application through the UUSS website, <http://uuschenectady.org> and submit the completed application to Julie Rigano, Director of Lifespan Religious Education.

Applying for a Group

One application can be submitted for a group of youth participating in a service trip. One member of the group should submit a group application on behalf of the group. Group applications will be considered as they are received.

What happens to my application after it is received?

A committee of RE Council members will review each application to determine what amount, if any, will be awarded. Decisions will be based on need, the relevance of the activity, other application requests, available funds, etc. Recipients will be notified as soon as possible of their award. After the activity they will be expected to share what they learned and how their own UU faith has been furthered through this experience. In the past, this has been shared as an article in Circles, a presentation to a Coffee and Crullers meeting (on a Sunday morning before the worship service) or during a worship service. Youth can choose the venue they are most comfortable with. This must be completed no later than 4 months afterwards.

GOOD NEWS ON SUPPORTIVE HOUSING INITIATIVE!

During his annual State of the State address on January 13th, Governor Cuomo pledged to create 20,000 supportive housing units statewide over the next 15 years. This follows NYC mayor Bill de Blasio's commitment to create 15,000 units, bringing the total number to 35,000 units. Supportive housing is one of the most successful and cost effective models of addressing homelessness. If you were one of the thousands of people who advocated for this, congratulations and thank you!

FULL MOON DRUM CIRCLE



**UU Society of Schenectady
7- 8 pm, Wednesday, March 23
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Come gather under the dome to celebrate the Full Moon, joining with drummers all over the planet to drum for peace and harmony, to make music with our bodies and our voices, and to have fun. Bring drums, rattles or home-made substitutes and a finger snack to share. Please be on time. Led by Patti Gile and Melinda Perrin. *Sponsored by the UUSS Earth Circle*

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY APRIL 1 & 2, 2016 IN SYRACUSE

See Brochure here: <http://goo.gl/egJXt9>

Everything about District Assembly in one place here: <http://goo.gl/NrYk1m>

- **Friday, April 1 - Gould Discourse 7:30pm -** "Transformers" Rev. Margret A. O'Neill
- **Saturday, April 2 Business Meeting -** Our congregation gets to send up to five delegates with voting rights – let John Reschovsky or Rev. Margret know if you want to be a delegate.

Historic vote on regionalization! See details in the Official Call to Business Meeting Packet:

<http://goo.gl/sjROUj>

Online Advance Registration Deadline is March 15:
<https://goo.gl/6OfO4w>

If you have questions about regionalization, there are two webinars to provide information on Sunday, February 21st and Sunday March 20th at 7:30 pm. You can find the details for those on the CER Calendar (<https://www.uua.org/central-east/events>). You can also find a lot of information about regionalization at the CER website (<https://www.uua.org/central-east/regionalization>)

CIRCLES

GREEN SANCTUARY & CLIMATE JUSTICE

Merchants of Doubt - Sunday, March 6th at 12noon



This film exposes the use of the same tactics by climate deniers that were used by the tobacco industry. In fact some of the same people who were involved in advertising cigarettes are now involved in the campaign to deny global warming. Join us to watch this informative film over a light lunch. To help us plan how much lunch and childcare to provide, please contact Nancy at 374-5810 or gs.uuss06@gmail.com, or Crys at 399-3206 or crysh@nycap.rr.com.

CRUUNY service, April 17th

We're really looking forward to the CRUUNY service at Doane Stuart on April 17. The speaker will be Rev. Fred Small, who inspired a national UU environmental program in 1999. In 2002, The Seventh Principle Project incorporated and the Green Sanctuary program began accrediting congregations. In 2005, the organization changed its name to Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth. We hope many of you will join us at this very special 2016 CRUUNY service.

Climate Justice Teams

Our Climate Justice Project teams are very busy, with many issues rising to the surface in this election year. Our Advocacy and Public Policy Committee has its hands full with the Supreme Court having put a hold on the Clean Power Plan, which was the major platform of the US negotiating team at the Paris Summit. We're looking into state level advocacy probably being the more realistic at this time. As this is being written, the breaking news of the death of Justice Scalia and its political ramifications pose a very serious election year issue for both liberals and conservatives.

Our "Individual and Congregational Action" team is working hard on energy efficiency issues and has pretty much renamed itself as the Energy Efficiency Team. Our first priority is addressing energy efficiency in our own UUSS buildings, from energy efficient furnaces to solar panels and everything in-between. You'll definitely be hearing more as we investigate the options.

The Education and Information Team has posted announcements about our film and book discussion. Please note that we're requesting sign-ups to help us in planning these events. (see page 9)

Get Involved! It's an exciting time to be involved in environmental issues. We always welcome new members to our teams and committees. We appreciate your participation in the events and actions we plan for you.

RIPPLES: SOCIAL ACTION COUNCIL



Planned Parenthood – International Women's Day

International Women's Day (March 8, 2016) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action to work towards gender parity. On March 6, in honor of International Women's Day, we will donate our collection funds to support the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Members of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady have a long history of working with Planned Parenthood to help provide high-quality, affordable health care to women, men, and children in Schenectady. Planned Parenthood Global, the international division of Planned Parenthood, works in some of the most neglected and impoverished areas of the world to ensure that women, men and children have access to the health care they need to control their bodies and their futures.

Family planning is one of the main ways that women can improve their situation and achieve gender parity. By choosing when to bear children and how many to bear, women are better able to support themselves and their families and to keep their children healthy and safe. Access to contraception and reproductive health care is also a life saver. Pregnancy is the leading cause of death for adolescent girls worldwide: nearly 70,000 girls and young women die each year from complications of pregnancy and childbirth.

Planned Parenthood Global works with educators, activists, and health providers to help improve this situation by providing sex and reproductive education and contraceptives to women and men, access to treatment for complications of unsafe abortion, access to safe abortion (where legal), and expanding laws and policies promoting women's health. By working with local advocates, Planned Parenthood Global empowers young leaders to work for health and rights in their own societies, working towards a healthier world.

***Change is Our Choice:
Creating Climate Solutions***
Climate Justice Book Discussion Course at UUSS

Two time offerings:
Sundays - noon to 1:30
4/3, 4/10, 4/24, 5/22 and 6/5

Tuesday evenings - 7-8:30 pm
3/29, 4/12, 4/26, 5/10 and 5/24



How do we know climate change is real? What is the human role? How do we deal with climate change skeptics? What should nations and states do? What can you do? Why is climate change the most critical problem facing us in the 21st century? Join us for a book discussion course, "**Change is Our Choice, Creating Climate Solutions**" published by the Northwest Earth Institute. Course topics include areas such as why the climate crisis needs you, what you need to know about the scientific evidence, finding your own carbon footprint, the climate of denial, the global and local movements to address the crisis, how the change is our choice, and your own action plan to connect and act.

Sign up at the Lifespan Faith Development table or Green Sanctuary table after Sunday services, or on the UUSS website here: <http://goo.gl/JhCLhJ>. Contact Crys Hamelink at crysh@nycap.rr.com if you have questions. This course is sponsored by the Green Sanctuary/ Climate Justice Committee.

***Thank you for your interest in Climate Change Solutions!
Remember, we have no "Planet B."***

SAVE the DATE of Sunday, April 17!

Join regional UUs in work toward CLIMATE JUSTICE.

**The 8th Annual Capital Region
Unitarian Universalists of NY
Combined Worship Service**

As we come to understand the gravity of climate disruption, it is easy to be disheartened. Facing this crisis will demand the best of us. It will call us to courage, creativity, kindness and love. How can we sustain hope and help build a just and sustainable society?



All ages and faiths are invited to worship together on April 17. Join us in reflection and song as we are inspired by **Rev. Fred Small, a UU minister, singer-songwriter, and former environmental lawyer.** Rev. Small recently left his position as senior minister at First Parish in Cambridge, MA, to devote his energy full-time to climate justice.

The service will feature a Joint Choir from the Capital Region Unitarian Universalist congregations in Albany, Glens Falls, Saratoga Springs, & Schenectady. The service is designed to be welcoming and engaging for all ages. Nursery and child care will be available for children through second grade, and the service will include an activity area with floor pillows for those who need to move around quietly.

Doane Stuart is handicapped accessible and is located 3 blocks from exit 7 of Interstate 90.

RADICAL HOPE

IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Sunday, April 17, 2016

10:30 am

Golub Interfaith Chapel at

Doane Stuart School

199 Washington Ave.

Rensselaer, NY

CIRCLES

EBWA PROGRAM - MARCH 31ST



**“Living in the Capital Region as a Practicing Muslim Woman”:
Azra Haqqie**

Azra Haqqie, writer, reporter and blogger for the *Albany Times Union*, has lived in the area for over 30 years but was born and grew up in Pakistan. She reports about activities and issues that affect Muslims and their interactions with the people of the region. She writes “*Faces of Faith*” and contributes to the Muslim Women blog. Azra considers herself a bridge between Muslims in the area and the rest of the community. All women are invited to her presentation at 8pm March 31st. Guests are always welcome.

A vegetarian meal is served at 6:15pm, with a gluten-free option available if requested. Make your reservation with Gabrielle Reals by email at ellegr3@gmail.com by Monday, March 28th or by calling 382-5685 by 8pm Tuesday, March 29. You may also bring your own meal if you prefer or if you miss the reservation deadline. Since the meal is catered, we ask that you honor your reservation. Cost of the entire evening is \$15; program only is \$3. Accommodation regarding the fee can be made if requested.

Looking Ahead: On April 28th, **Joanne Coons**, adjunct professor at Hudson Valley Community College will talk about her own experience in *Rehabbing a Historic Farmhouse into a Net-Zero Energy Green Home*.

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE PROGRAM & LUNCH
MARCH 3RD

The Women's Alliance will meet at the Turf Tavern in Scotia on Thursday, March 3rd at 12noon for lunch and to hear about our speaker's journey from Kinshasa, Congo to our community.

Our speaker is a singer, who has performed with the Kinshasa Symphony, the only Symphony Orchestra in the Congo and the only all-black orchestra in the world. Twenty years ago Kinshasa musicians came together to form an orchestra with whatever instruments they had or could make. This orchestra is an inspiration to all of us and illustrates what music can do to enrich the lives of people in very difficult circumstances. The Kinshasa Orchestra has persevered through years of poverty, wars, and coups; and has now gained international acclaim.

All are welcome. The choices for lunch are Chicken Parmesan or Roast Top Sirloin. A vegetarian option is also available on request. Please make your reservation by contacting Mariko Baertsch at 399-4652 or mariko@nycap.rr.com. If you cannot make the luncheon, please notify Mariko the day before to avoid being responsible for the \$13 charge.

ALLIANCE SPECIAL APPEALS - 2016

The Women's Alliance is seeking requests for donations from our Special Appeals Fund. Over the years, we have awarded donations to a variety of organizations, including grants to the UUSS Soup Kitchen Committee, Green Sanctuary, Dining for Dollars, and the Youth Group. We have also awarded donations to community non-profits such as the HH Arts Center, SICM, the YWCA, and Planned Parenthood. If you are aware of a local non-profit group that would benefit from a grant, please let them know that money is available. The organization should send a letter including a brief description of their purpose, a request for a specific amount and an explanation for how the donation will be used. Submit requests to Crystal Hamelin, Special Appeals Committee Chair at UUSS, 1221 Wendell Avenue or by email at dhamelin@nycap.rr.com, by **March 15th**. The members of the Alliance are pleased to help in this way!



A PLACE FOR FOLK

Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady, 1221 Wendell Avenue

Our Spring Season features two crowd-pleasing performers with great voices and songs you'll remember for a long time. Celebrate winter's thaw with the best in folk music.



Phil Henry Acoustic Trio
March 18th at 7:30 pm

"Rutland's Phil Henry is, first and foremost, a storyteller... Vivid, lyrical imagery that captures the imagination."

--Seven Days, VT

This talented singer/songwriter will lift you up and draw you in with lyrics that turn everyday memories into relatable drama that touches the heart and engages the mind. Phil's smooth delivery and engaging voice make him an artist that wears well and will keep you coming back to hear him year after year. Henry builds a connection, gently shaking an audience out of their own heads and into the vivid world he creates. He's that rare breed of egoless musician who truly believes in the communal experience between performer and audience. Performing with Henry are Gary Moon and Jeff Kimble, vocals and instrumentals.

2013 Falcon Ridge Emerging Artist
2011 Kerrville New Folk Finalist
2011 New Jersey Folk Festival Winner



An Evening with Tracy Grammer
April 22nd at 7:30 pm

"Tracy Grammer is a brilliant artist and unique individual. Her voice is distinctive, as is her mastery over the instruments she plays." - Joan Baez

One of folk music's most beloved artists Tracy Grammer is renowned for her springwater-clear alto, perfectly intoned violin, and guitar playing that is by turns percussive and delicate. She is also a masterful storyteller with an ease and charisma on stage -- not to mention a riotous sense of humor. She rose to acclaim as half of the postmodern, mythic American folk duo, **Dave Carter & Tracy Grammer**, releasing three internationally celebrated, folk chart-topping albums featuring Carter's mytho-poetic Americana songcraft. Called "the new voice of modern folk music," the duo was clearly in its ascendancy when Carter suffered a fatal heart attack in 2002. Now Tracy is a songwriter in her own right as part of RealWomenRealSongs to the delight of her longtime fans. She holds the record for the most consecutive appearances at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival ~ a lucky 13.

Each concert is \$20. Advance reservations recommended for all concerts.

www.aplaceforfolk.org 518-377-0002

Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady

March 2016

March 2016							April 2016						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb 28 - Mar 5	Feb 28	29	Mar 1 DLRE's Day Off Minister's Day Off 10:30am Alliance Board (E) 7:00pm Wellspring: Faithful Action (F)	2 10:00am Philosophy Discussion (E) 7:00pm Wellspring: Sources (F) 7:00pm Wellspring: Sources (E)	3 7:00pm LONG STRANGE TRIP: AN EXPLORATION OF UU HISTORY (DR)	4	5 9:00am Seven Stages of Money Maturity (E)
Mar 6 - 12	6 8:00am Guided Yoga Flow (E) 9:15am Choir (DR) 9:30am CC&C (E) 10:30am RE Classes in Wa 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Movie: Merchants 12:00pm Fireside Chat (F) 1:30pm Oakroom Artists Re 1:30pm Whirling Rainbow L	7 10:00am Stewardship (E) 7:30pm FUSSBudgets (E)	8 DLRE's Day Off Minister's Day Off 6:00pm Rental (Navigators) (DR) 7:00pm FF/GLBT (F)	9 10:00am Green Sanctuary (F) 10:00am Philosophy Discussion (E) 6:30pm Worship Team (E) 7:30pm Men's Group (WH)	10 1:00pm Staff 7:00pm Getting To Know UU (E) 7:00pm LONG STRANGE TRIP: AN EXPLORATIO 7:00pm REC (WH 2nd Floor) 7:00pm Spiritual Practice Sampler (F)	11	12
Mar 13 - 19	13 8:00am Guided Yoga Flow (E) 9:15am Choir (DR) 9:30am CC&C (F) 9:30am Guided Meditation 10:30am RE Classes in Wa 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Ministerial Settlem 12:00pm Fireside Chat (F)	14 7:00pm Trusts Committee (E)	15 Circles Items Due DLRE's Day Off Minister's Day Off 10:00am Stewardship (E) 5:30pm Niskayuna Coop (E) 7:00pm Ex Committee (DR) 7:00pm Wellspring: Faithful Action (F)	16 10:00am Philosophy Discussion (E) 7:00pm Membership Committee (DR) 7:00pm Wellspring: Sources (E) 7:00pm Wellspring: Sources (F)	17 Saint Patrick's Day (United) 12:15pm Men's Lunch (Edison Club) 7:00pm Finance Meeting (F) 7:00pm Getting To Know UU (E) 7:00pm Herb Group (DR/K) 7:00pm LONG STRANGE T	18 7:30pm A Place For Folk (GH/K/F)	19 Circle Supper 2:00pm Equinox Workshop (E) 5:00pm Nola Youth Group (K/DR)
Mar 20 - 26	20 Stewardship Sunday 8:00am Guided Yoga Flow (E) 9:15am Choir (DR) 9:30am CC&C (E) 10:30am RE Classes in Wa 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Visiting Steward T 12:00pm Fundraising Lunch 12:00pm Fireside Chat (F)	21 1:30pm Caring Team (F) 5:30pm Adult Program Council (E) 7:00pm Board of Trustees (E)	22 DLRE's Day Off Minister's Day Off	23 10:00am Philosophy Discussion (E) 7:00pm Full Moon Drumming (GH)	24 1:00pm Staff 7:00pm Buildings & Grounds (F) 7:00pm Getting To Know UU (E) 7:00pm LONG STRANGE TRIP: AN EXPLORATION OF UU HISTORY (DR)	25	26
Mar 27 - Apr 2	27 Easter Day (United States) 8:00am Guided Yoga Flow (E) 9:15am Choir (DR) 9:30am CC&C (F) 9:30am Guided Meditation 10:30am RE in Worship (Gr) 10:30am Worship Service 12:00pm Fireside Chat (F)	28 7:00pm Social Action Council (F)	29 DLRE's Day Off Minister's Day Off 7:00pm Change is our Choice (E)	30 10:00am Philosophy Discussion (E)	31 6:00pm EBWA (DR/K) 7:00pm Getting To Know UU (E)	Apr 1	2



1221 Wendell Avenue
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PURPOSE OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF SCHENECTADY

The members of this Society covenant to maintain and foster in Schenectady a non-creedal religious society whose purpose shall be to:

- Encourage a free and responsible search for truth, knowledge, and understanding;
- Nurture the religious growth of all who participate in the life of this Society;
- Serve the community;
- Seek the realization of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Affirming the individual right of conscience, freedom of belief and the democratic process, with reverence for life and respect for the profound mystery of existence, we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

Sunday Services and Religious Education
10:30AM every Sunday Morning

Minister: Reverend Margret A. O'Neill
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
10am-4pm (by appointment)
Phone: 518-374-4446 #2
Email: revmargretuuss@gmail.com

Director of LRE: Julie Rigano
Office Hours: Monday: 1pm-4pm
Tuesday Off
Wednesday, Thursday: 11am-3pm
Phone: 518-504-0684
Email: JulietheDRE@gmail.com

Music Director: Gareth Griffiths
Phone & Fax: 518-395-9381
Email: ggriffiths1739@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Susan Marino
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm
Phone: 518-374-4446 #0
Email: uadmin@nycap.rr.com

Bookkeeper: Carolyn Sabol
Email: uubookkeeper@nycap.rr.com

Custodians: Helen Freeland & Ed Holen
Phone: 518-605-5551