

# Windows Update



**Edited for the Web:**  
Personal information  
and contacts re-  
moved, as well as  
children's last names.  
Web viewers needing  
more information are  
invited to contact the  
church office at [ad-  
ministrator@fuusalba  
ny.org](mailto:administrator@fuusalbany.org).

Mid-March 2010

*Minister*

Rev. Sam Trumbore

*President*

Linda Way

*Intern Minister*

Chris Antal

*Church Administrator, interim*

*Membership Coordinator*

Amy Lent

*Director of Religious Education*

Leah Purcell

*Religious Education*

*Director Emerita*

Ann D'Attilio

*Music Director*

Matt Edwards

*Administrative Assistant/Sexton*

David Stone

*Rental Agent*

Lynne Lekakis

*Custodian*

Olga Oja

**Publication deadlines**

Apr. *Windows*: Mar. 15

Apr. *Update*: Apr. 5

## Newsletter of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany

### Fellowship celebration expands!

You should have received your invitation for the Annual Fellowship Dinner this week. (If you didn't get it, call the office to request one!) The Annual Fellowship Dinner Committee has been planning a number of changes this year to encourage attendance by all FUUSA members and friends. One change is for everyone: we've added a place on the RSVP for you to request someone you'd like to sit with. As always, the committee will make seat assignments, but now you can request one or more folks you'd like to have at your table. (Spouses/partners can decide between themselves if they want to sit at the same table—we're very accommodating!)

Also new this year, as an encourage-

ment for parents of young children to attend, we will be providing free childcare at the Century House (site of the Dinner) for children 5 and under. Parents can bring their young children to the Century House, enjoy the fellowship and the dinner, while knowing that their children are near by.

If there is enough interest, and if it will enable parents to attend the Annual Fellowship Dinner, we will also be providing free childcare at FUUSA for children between the ages of 6 and 14. This childcare will be a supervised event with food and activities. Parents would drop their children at FUUSA and then pick them up after the Dinner.

As planning for both childcare programs  
***Fellowship, continued on pg. 3***

### Board Notes

Highlights of the February Board of Trustees meeting included keeping our eye on the Strategic Plan through reports from the Canvass Committee and the Staffing Task Force, and hearing a presentation from the Safe Congregation Task Force on the progress of their work.

The Canvass Committee reported on the timing challenges of having the Annual Dinner scheduled late in April this year; therefore, the Canvass "kick off" will be Sunday, March 21. Representatives from the Board will join canvass chair Peter Brown to deliver the message connecting our growing sense of community and our vision for the future with our current and long term needs. It is indeed an exciting time for FUUSA!

The recently created Staffing Task Force presented a conceptual diagram of the present structure of FUUSA. While the

congregation is central to our organizational structure and has final authority in most governance matters, the minister, the Board, the Councils and various committees have considerable responsibility and autonomy. Our current structure is the starting point for future discussions on organization, governance, and the needs of a growing congregation. Stay tuned.

A good deal of the February meeting was devoted to hearing from the Safe Congregation Task Force, which was appointed by the Board last May. The Task Force was charged with reviewing the issues of concern which have impeded full implementation of the policy as now written, continuing to educate the congregation and facilitate conversations about the policy, and make recommendations on issues still pending. Jean Poppei, chair, was joined by Patti Jo Newell, who  
***Board Notes, continued on pg. 2***

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## Board Notes , cont. from pg. 1

also serves on the Task Force, in making the presentation and answering questions from the Board. It was emphasized by those who were present at the Safe Congregation World Café in January, conducted by the Task Force, that dialog around many of the issues has moved considerably toward consensus; and that although there are still differences of opinion, there has been a demonstrated willingness within the congregation to appreciate and understand a variety of viewpoints.

The Task Force will be submitting a written report and recommendations to the Board in the near future. The Board recognizes that this work has been complex and at times difficult. Linda thanked the Task Force for their efforts on behalf of both the Board and the congregation.

Reminders: Minutes of Board Meetings are posted in Channing Hall, and all members of the Board of Trustees invite your questions, comments or concerns at any time.

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## Still thinking?

Might be time to start writing your annual report.

FUUSA's annual report is an amazing compilation of all we do here. It is a fine introduction to our community for newcomers. It is your official report of how your group supports FUUSA's mission. It is our history in the making. Your report immortalizes your committee or activity!

If you would like me to send you copy submitted last year by your committee, contact me at administrator@albanyuu.org. Deadline for reports is April 19. Send your reports to same address.-- Amy Lent

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## March art show

The art show in Channing Hall this month features quilts and sculptures by Mary and Stan Reich.

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## Call for projects seeking Endowment Trust funding

In accordance with the Bylaws, the Endowment Trust reports that at the end of 2009, it had assets totaling \$688,752.20. The bulk of this amount is represented by the \$575,000 non-interest bearing loan made for FUUSA's building construction. Of the remaining \$113,752, \$86,325 was invested in various mutual funds, \$15,000 in an interest-bearing loan to the Community Loan Fund, \$7,900 in an interest-bearing loan to the Honest Weight Food Coop., and \$4,527 in an interest-bearing cash account.

At the beginning of 2009, the total value of the Trust was \$651,440. During 2009, the Trust received \$9,080 in contributions. Thus, the total value of the Trust increased slightly during 2009 from (\$651,440+9,080) = \$660,520 to \$688,752 or about four percent, excluding inflation.

The Endowment Trustees have adopted a new grant capacity calculation which meets bylaw requirements for maintaining the Trust's inflation-corrected principal, while permitting grants to be made, even in years

where there is a loss in total trust value. (For further details see any Endowment Trustee.) This year, the Trustees have decided to make up to about \$700 in grants for projects that meet the following criteria:

1. *degree to which a project or expense promotes FUUSA's mission;*
2. *unavailability of funds from other sources;*
3. *amount available for granting in a particular grant cycle;*
4. *relative merit of an application compared to other competing applications during a grant cycle.*

This year competing applications will be accepted until **April 30<sup>th</sup>** and awards will be made in early May. If funds remain after making these awards, applications will be accepted throughout the remainder of the year. Grant application forms are available on the Board and Announcements bulletin board in Channing Hall. Completed applications should be sent to the Endowment Trust c/o FUUSA, or any of the Endowment Trustees. For additional information contact Reese Satin.

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## Archives is looking for 60's 70's photos

History and Archives needs your help locating photos of FUSA\* events in the 1960s and 70s. Specifically, we are looking for black & white or color photos of Lew Rider's Dixieland band. His band played in Channing Hall on a number of occasions and was called either the "Unikorns" and later the "Noteworthies" or "Lew's NightRiders". If you have any slides or photos please contact Eva Gemmill or Pat Bailey or bring them to the church office. Slides are also welcome. We thank you!

\*( Ed. Note: We added the 2nd U when in the 1990's when we added Universalist to our Society's name.)

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## Start your spring cleaning!

—Spring rummage sale is soon, soon, soon.—Household goods sale on Friday, **May 7** and Saturday, **May 8**.—Sign ups to help begin on Sunday, April 4, at the Sign Up Site in Channing Hall.



### **Fellowship, cont. from pg. 1**

continues, we need to know how many children to expect. Please complete the survey included with the invitation (on the back of the RSVP card) and drop it at the church office before March 26th. Alternatively, you can email Chuck Manning, letting him know the ages of your children who would be taking advantage of the childcare.

### **!!! Annual Fellowship Dinner !!!**

6:00 p.m., Saturday, April 17

Century House  
997 New Loudon Rd. (Rte. 9),  
Latham NY

#### **Choice of Entrée**

Leg of Lamb  
Chicken Marsala  
Lemon Broiled Scrod  
Spinach Tortellini

#### **Cost**

\$29.50, DOWN \$3 from last year!!

Free FUUSA-provided child care at the Century House for children 5 and under (For children and teens aged 6-14 event, see reserve side of RSVP card)

Dinner will be followed by a skit, and then dancing to music electronically provided by our own Bob Franklin!

Send in those RSVPS!

### **Neighborhood potluck**

Ann Lapinski will host the Guilderland Plus potluck on March 13, Saturday, at 6:30. Please contact her for directions and what you plan to bring.

### **We walk – because they walk**

Three-fourths of the world's people must walk daily simply to survive – to collect firewood, find clean water, take goods to market, or as refugees in flight. The CROP Hunger Walk allows us to join in solidarity with the world's people, as we walk to raise funds to feed the hungry, close to home and around the globe. The 2010 CROP Hunger Walk is coming up on Sunday, May 2, starting at 1:30 PM. Support the FUUSA Walk Team (Team UU!) by signing on as a walker or by making a pledge in support of other walkers. See Dawn Dana at coffee hours starting on March 28, to walk or pledge. Come join us, as we walk in support of our shared vision of a better world.

### **Guest at Your Table results**

Members and friends of FUUSA gave a total of \$979 to the 2000-2010 Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC) Guest at Your Table. Four individuals, six dual donations, and two youth contributed at the UUSC membership levels, and five donated at the \$100 level which results in a matching donation from the Veatch Foundation. (The Veatch Foundation is a trust fund maintained by the Shelter Rock UU congregation and has supported numerous Unitarian Universalist programs including the UUSC.)

Thank you to all who contributed. And for the rest of us, let's join in the 2010 holiday season to make the next campaign even better. Don Odell, UUSC congregational representative.

### **Newcomer orientation**

#### **Learning about Unitarian Universalism and FUUSA**

We invite you to meet with others who are new to the congregation at our next "**Getting to Know UU**" session, scheduled for Saturday, **March 20** from 8:45 a.m. to noon.

We'll start with coffee and snacks and getting to know each other: new folks, Membership Committee, and Rev. Sam Trumbore. You'll learn about Unitarian Universalism and about our congregation, and you'll get a chance to ask all the questions you've been collecting. We'll talk about how to get involved in the FUUSA community and about becoming a member. All in all, it's a fun morning of conversation and fellowship, and a pleasant first step on the path to membership!

There is a sign up sheet in Channing Hall (at the Sign Up Site), or you can call Amy Lent interim Membership Coordinator (and Church Administrator) at the church office, 463-7135.

### **Channing Circle**

Come **celebrate** on Monday, March 15, the unique Bethlehem Senior Chorus of 40 to 50 singers who will be performing for FUUSAns at 1 pm under the direction of Claudia Summers. Several FUUSAns are members of the chorus and have solo parts. Bring your sandwich or salad at for lunch at noon. Ann Eberle and Peg Slocum will bring the desserts.

### **A Gathering of Humanists**

We will meet at FUUSA at 11:45 AM, Sunday, March 21. Details are in the March Windows. Questions, please contact Don Odell.



### **Pot o' Gold Auction**

**6:30 pm, Saturday, March. 20—Walk-ins welcome: \$5.00 at the door!**

Bid on luscious meals, as usual, and many other desirable and less costly items. Don't want to bid? Come anyway, and join the fun. Door prizes and a 50/50 raffle add to the festivities.

# Social Responsibilities Council

## SRC Table

Beside the items for sale, there is information on Health Care, Prison and Justice Information, upcoming Peace events and Green Sanctuary material. Don't forget that Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) will be starting soon and one needs to sign up to get wonderful fresh vegetables. Sign up sheets for the exchange of items you no longer need and items you are looking for will be at the table along with a sign up sheet to sign out the meter that checks how much energy your freezer, TV, refrigerator etc is using. Please check the SRC bulletin board on the wall for other information.

## Green Sanctuary

The Green Sanctuary Committee is working on a program for the Sunday, April 25 Forum which will follow the Earth Day Service. We are also

exploring ways of reducing the energy cost at FUUSA. A portion of the proceeds from the coffee, chocolate, cocoa and Guatemalan goods at the SRC table will be used toward that effort.

## Green Tips

◆Remember to turn off lights at FUUSA after a meeting or event.

◆If your refrigerator and freezer are 10 degrees colder than necessary, your energy consumption will increase up to 25%. The temperature should be between 38 and 42 degrees, the freezer should be 0 to 5 degrees.

**Reminder:** The SRC is still looking for housing and help with the NYS Prisoner Justice Conference here at FUUSA on Saturday March 27. Please sign up at the SRC table during Social Hour or call Judith Brink.

## Food Pantry News

Our February donations totaled \$717.60! Go FUUSA! Many thanks to one and all. We sure outdid ourselves! Our next collection for the food pantry will be on March 28. Lois Thomson and Jane Allen, co-chairs

## Advocacy Day reminder

Have you signed up for Interfaith Impact of New York State's Advocacy Day, 10:30 AM-4:30 PM, Monday, April 12? Please do so today before you forget. Go to <http://www.interfaithimpactnys.org/> or stop by the Social Responsibilities bulletin board in Channing Hall and get a registration form. Registration is free. Or please contact Don Odell. Make your liberal religious voice count!

## Refresh, Restore, Retreat for women

Registration starts soon for the Saturday, April 24 retreat for FUUSA women.

Workshops scheduled include meditative poetry, yoga, collage, Nia, and creative writing. The group as a whole will participate in activities designed to Retreat, Restore and Refresh.

Registration is limited; sign up early. The cost is \$20 a person, including lunch. If the cost of the retreat, or childcare services you would need in order to attend, would prohibit you from coming, please let us know. A limited number of scholarships are available. (Childcare will not be provided at FUUSA the day of the retreat.)

## FORUM

**Mar. 14, Immigration Reform—Melanie Trimble**, Director, Capital Region NYCLU, will discuss current immigration policy, pending proposals, and the position of the American Civil Liberties Union. This issue has not gone away. Come to learn how we can move it forward.

**Mar. 28, Robb Smith**, Executive Director of **Interfaith Impact** of NYS, will lay out the issues for their advocacy day at the state legislature on April 12th. IINYS is the progressive religious community's voice for justice and human rights that needs to be heard in NYS. Protestant, UU (including FUUSA), and Reform Jewish congregations participate. Come to learn about this year's issues: Marriage Equality, Reproductive Health, Economic Justice, and Ethics Reform.

*11:45 a.m. Emerson Community Hall*  
If child care is wanted, please call the church office at 463-7135 by noon Friday before the Forum.

## FUUSA Yahoo group and Facebook group

For those FUUSAns who would like to keep in touch outside of Sunday services, especially with those FUUSAns who sometimes don't make it to Sunday services, you can take advantage of our Yahoo and Facebook groups. To join either group, send an email with your name and email address to Millie Eidson. Millie will verify your FUUSA member/friend status with Dave Stone and then add you in.

**An Encore Performance of**  
**GB5**

featuring FUUSA's own Al DeSalvo, Greg Jackson and Vicky Plotsky

 *For Your Listening and Dancing Pleasure* 

**Friday, April 9, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**  
**Emerson Community Hall**

**Adults \$15**  
**Children 10 years and younger \$8**  
**Price includes hors d'oeuvres and**  
**assorted beverages**

*Fundraiser to benefit the FUUSA Choir*

# Joys and Caring Corner

## Junior Youth Group Meets Sunday, March 14

The members of the Jr. Youth Group (8th and 9th graders) are starting their meeting with a make your own taco lunch at 12:30. We'll have a 30-40 minute round table discussion with lifelong UU's about their experiences with UU youth groups. We'll also be making plaster life masks and other masks.

Looking ahead:

**Meeting** on April 11, 12:30 to 2:30 - making a meal for the overflow homeless shelter

**Overnight** at FUUSA - Fri, April 30 starting at 6:00 pm through 9:00 am on Sat, May 1

## Parents of Teens Group

The Parents of Teens Group will meet at FUUSA on Sunday, March 14 from 12:30 to 2:30 PM, the same time the Junior Youth Group meets. Our topic this month will be peer pressure. All parents of teens are welcome. For more information contact Dick Brewer.

*If you need the services of the Caring Network, please call the office during regular hours at 463-7135.*

## Tax receipts for charitable contributions to FUUSA

It has come to my attention that some tax-deductible contributions entered in our database in March 2009 did not appear on the tax receipts we sent out in late January. If your receipt is missing a payment and you would like another receipt printed, please call Amy Lent at the office (463-7135).

### *Sunday Volunteers Sign up in Channing Hall*

	Lead Usher (1)	Ushers (3)	Coffee Hosts (2)	Greeters (2)	Chalice Lighter (1)
Mar. 14	D. Odell	A. Patti	J. Bolgatz, R. Yoshida, I. Abbas		
Mar. 21	C. Manning		R.A. Fogarty J. McCracken		
Mar. 28	D. Dana	S. Smith			

## Events Happening Every Sunday at FUUSA

9:00 AM	Mindfulness Meditation	Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Service	Emerson
10:00 AM	Children's Chapel (1st Sunday/mo.)	Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Religious Education	Classrooms
11:00 AM	Coffee Hour	Channing, Emerson

Exceptions:

## Events Happening Every Week in the Month of March

Mondays	10:30 AM	Pre-School Playgroup	Wash. Pk. or 23
Tuesdays	10:00 AM	Philosophy Group	B-8
	1:00 PM	Bridge	B-8
Wednesdays	10:00 AM	Projects & Quilts	B-8
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal	Emerson

Exceptions:

Choir rehearsal will be on Tuesday, Mar. 16 instead of Wed. this week

## All Other Events Happening in the Month of March

10-Mar	Wednesday			11:45 AM	Gathering of Humanists	B-8
	7:00 PM	Beauty of Needs Group	B-7	11:45 AM	Green Sanctuary	B-7
	6:00 PM	Coalition to Prevent Violence/SRC	26	12:00 PM	Skit Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	PCC Meeting	B-8	5:00 PM	Cancer Support Group	B-8
13-Mar	Saturday			22-Mar	Monday	
	6:30 PM	Guilderland Plus Potluck	Ann Lapinski's	1:00 PM	Shelter Meal Prep	Kitchen
14-Mar	Sunday			7:00 PM	AdEd: Building the World	26
	11:45 AM	Forum: Melanie Trimble, NYCLU	Emerson	7:30 PM	Monday Men	B-8
	12:00 PM	Junior Youth Group Lunch	Channing	23-Mar	Tuesday	
	12:00 PM	Skit Rehearsal	Sanctuary	7:00 PM	Lenten Dharma Study	B-8
	1:00 PM	Junior Youth Group	B-8	24-Mar	Wednesday	
	1:00 PM	Parents of Teens Support Group	Channing	5:30 PM	Caring Network	B-8
15-Mar	Monday			7:00 PM	Beauty of Needs Group	B-7
	12:00 PM	Channing Circle	Channing, Kitchen	25-Mar	Thursday	
	1:00 PM	Channing Circle	Emerson	7:00 PM	Finance Committee	B-8
	7:00 PM	AdEd: Building the World	26	26-Mar	Friday	
16-Mar	Tuesday			7:00 PM	Strategic Plan/Canvass Discussion	26
	7:00 PM	Soul Matters-Sherman/Way	Stott/Joy Library	27-Mar	Saturday	
	7:00 PM	Lenten Dharma Study	B-8	7:00 PM	Dances of Universal Peace	Channing
	7:00 PM	Beauty of Needs Group	B-7	28-Mar	Sunday	
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal (note special date)	Emerson	11:45 AM	Forum: Robb Smith, Interfaith Impact NYS	Emerson
18-Mar	Thursday					Sanctuary
	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees	B-8	29-Mar	Monday	
	7:00 PM	Soul Matters-Patka	B-7	1:00 PM	Shelter Meal Prep	Kitchen
20-Mar	Saturday			7:00 PM	AdEd: Building the World	26
	8:45 AM	Getting to Know UU Orientation	B-8, Kitchen	30-Mar	Tuesday	
	6:30 PM	Annual Auction	Emerson, Kitchen	7:00 PM	Lenten Dharma Study	B-8
21-Mar	Sunday					

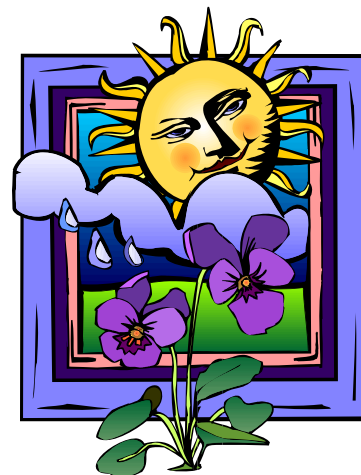
## Walker Book Club

The next meeting of the Walker book club is Sunday, March 14, 2010. The meeting commences with a potluck supper at 5:30 PM at Lisa Walker's, Delmar. Bring your favorite dish to share, and a small contribution to cover beverages. If you need directions, call Lisa. Newcomers are always welcome. We meet monthly from September through June.

Dates and books currently scheduled

Selection for March 14, A conspiracy of Paper David Liss. Suggested by George Allen.

Selection for April 11, World Made by Hand by James Howard Kunstler. Suggested by Don Odell and Carol Butt.



**First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany**

405 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12206  
518-463-7135  
www.albanyuu.org

Non-Profit  
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pot o' Gold 6:30 pm, Saturday, March 20, 2010  
**Auction**  
**Auction**  
**Auction**  
**Auction**  
**Auction**

***Sunday Services***

*Mindfulness Meditation, 9:00 a.m., Sanctuary*

**SERVICE is at 10:00 a.m., Emerson Community Hall** *except as noted*

Religious education classes are held from 10:00-11:20 a.m.. The nursery opens at 9:45 a.m.

**Mar. 14 "From You I Receive: To You I Give,"** Chris Antal and Leah Purcell

A multigenerational service, not centered on a holiday, but a celebration of our community and how we receive from and give to each other, especially between generations. Filled with music, stories, and opportunities for sharing--and with a message for all ages to ponder. Music: Choir

**Mar. 21 "Without a Vision ... The People Perish,"** The Rev. Sam Trumbore

The Dream Catchers worked hard to listen deeply all last year. They distilled our collective dreams and wishes in four pages of text. The practically unanimous vote in December by the congregation confirmed they felt heard. We have *the beginnings* of a vision for our congregation in our brand new Strategic Plan. The question now is, will we make this vision real? Will we put our energy, ingenuity and resources behind it to bring our dreams to life? A lot is riding on our commitment to this vision ... since without one, the people perish! Music: Choir



**Mar. 28 "Jesus is for Losers,"** The Rev. Sam Trumbore

Some may miss the double entendre here so let me be clear. Too often contemporary Unitarian Universalists may take this statement one way that casts aspersions on Christians. For the purposes of this service, the title will point to Jesus' ministry to the poor and the dispossessed. I doubt Jesus would have been very comfortable in a beautiful cathedral or associating with rich and powerful Christians. Jesus' message sounds quite different in the ears and on the tongues of society's losers.