

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-May 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

June. *Windows*: Apr. 19

Next *Update*: Mid-summer

Newsletter of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany

Susan B. Anthony House

In October, 2008, we broke ground for a new FUUSA-sponsored Habitat for Humanity house at 16 Emmett Street in Albany. Over the course of the next 15 months, many people from FUUSA participated in the building of this house. Thanks to all of you who volunteered your time and talent to help build this house.

On Wednesday afternoon, April 28, Donna Meixner, Dorry Campano, Jan Satin, Sandy Stone and Barb Manning landscaped the front of the house as a gift to the new owner. She was delighted with the result. Thanks to all of the gardeners

who not only did the work, but also provided all of the perennials that were used!

On Thursday, April 29, the FUUSA "Susan B. Anthony House" was dedicated and the new owner took over. D'Andrea Brooks is a single, working mom with several kids. Rev. Sam was there and spoke for several minutes, wishing the new owner happiness in her new home.

Finally, thanks to Bruce Rodgers and Patti Jo Newell for organizing the FUUSA work shifts and providing lunches.

See photos on page 9

Board Notes

The Safe Congregation Policy consumed much of the Board's attention at its April meeting. The length and content of the full title of the policy gives only a clue to the enormous amount of work devoted to this issue by various committee and task force members, staff, interested persons, and the congregation at-large over the past few years. (The policy is entitled *Toward a Safe Congregation: Policies for Prevention of Sexual Misconduct, Physical Abuse and Harassment and Guidelines for Responding*.) Some background for newcomers...in May, 2008, the Safe Congregation Policy was adopted by the Board with the conditions that an evaluation of the policy would be conducted within a year and additional education and discussion opportunities would be provided for the congregation. Early in that process, concerns were raised regarding several items in the policy including the provision for background checks for persons teaching or working with our youth. Therefore in April,

2009, the Board created a Safe Congregation Policy Task Force, which included persons with diverse views to address the concerns raised by the congregation. (Members of the Task Force were Jean Poppei, chair, Patti Jo Newell, Reese Satin, Lauren Tobias and Winston Hagborg.)

Patti Jo Newell, joined by Jean Poppei and Reese Satin, presented the Task Force Report to the Board and valuable discussion ensued. It was agreed that the report of the Task Force will be included in the Annual Report and that the full policy annotated in detail by the committee will be sent to the Board and made available to anyone in the congregation interested in the longer document. (Contact the office, if interested.) The Board thanked the Task Force for what has been a long, comprehensive process and its very difficult, but ultimately very productive, work.

The Board also examined the issue of a proposed quarter-time minister. Four congregational conversations were **Board Notes, continued on pg. 2**

Annual Meeting **Sunday, May 16, 2010**

- 10:00-11:00 **Service**
11:00-11:45 **Coffee Hour PLUS**
11:30-11:45 Parents take children to assigned rooms for **childcare** and sign them in with caregivers
11:45 **Annual Meeting** starts in Emerson Community Hall

Families needing child care should reserve space by calling the office at 463-7135 so that we will be prepared with sufficient caregivers and snacks.

Copies of the proposed budget and any resolutions to be presented at the meeting may be picked up in Channing Hall starting May 2, and a Budget Conversation will be held on Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 pm. Members of the Board of Trustees and the Finance Committee will present the 2010-2011 budget and answer any questions.

Offices to be elected

President Chuck Manning
Vice-President Peggy Sherman
Secretary Donna Meixner
Treasurer Dave Metz
Ass't. Treasurer Mike Babala
Religious Education Chair*
Molly Daniels
Social Responsibilities Chair*
Lois Griffin

Contested Elections**

Board of Trustees

(3 year terms-2 to be elected);
Dick Dana
Donna Doran
Linda Hunt
Paula Moskowitz

Endowment Trust

(3-year terms, 2 to be elected)
Al DeSalvo
Bob Franklin
Reese Satin
Nancy Willie-Schiff

Nominating Committee

(3-year terms, 2 to be elected)
Mary Applegate
Dawn Dana
Kathy Harris
Jan McCracken

Uncontested

Religious Education Council (3-year terms, 4 to be elected)

Paula Brewer
Peter Costello
Tracie Tilgner
Cathi Wiltsey

Social Responsibilities Council (3-year terms, 2 to be elected)

Karen Kaufman
Sybil Allyson Stock

*Ex-officio member of Board of Trustees

**The bylaws call for the Board of Trustees, Endowment Trust, and Nominating Committee to be contested.

Board Notes, cont. from pg. 1

conducted in March - April on implementing the strategic plan and long-term projections for growth. During these congregational conversations many questions and concerns about the need for a quarter-time minister were raised, and the Board recognizes the need for more consideration and discussion before projecting specific increases in staffing. Therefore the Board voted to change line 5005 of the proposed 2010-11 budget from "part time assistant minister" to "implementation of Strategic Plan." (Sam details his perspective on the developing need for a part-time minister in his April Minister's Report to the Board, which can be obtained through the office.)

Reminder: Minutes of Board meetings are posted in Channing Hall, and Board members are always interested in your views and available for discussion.

Channing Circle

May 17, 12 noon

Channing Circle will meet on Monday, May 17 at noon. Please bring a sandwich or salad. Coffee, tea and dessert will be available. Eva Gemmill has graciously stepped in since Mary Applegate is not available to be with us on that day. Eva will provide us with more rich history of FUUSAns of the past. Don't forget to bring your calendars to sign up for summer events. All are welcome.

Upcoming memorial

Memorial service for **Walter Goodwin**, Saturday, May 15, 2:00 pm, Sanctuary, followed by a reception in Channing Hall.

You're Invited!

Reception for Chris Antal– Sunday, May 23

Please join us during coffee hour on Sunday, May 23 as we recognize the completion of Chris Antal's internship with us. During his time with us, Chris has 'graduated' from aspirant to candidate and made a difference in our lives here at FUUSA. He will be with us for a few more weeks, but this will give us all a chance to congratulate him, share some time with him, and say thanks! Very informal – come chat and enjoy the special goodies to be served!

Eileen Hoffman, Unsung Hero

The unsung hero award is presented three times a year to members of FUUSA who work on projects behind the scenes, whose volunteer work has occurred over a number of years in a variety of capacities, and who have not been publicly recognized recently. I enjoy recognizing unsung heroes, but they are only examples of the many members who give unselfishly of their time and talents to keep FUUSA a vital and nurturing religious community.

Today, we are presenting the unsung hero award to someone who sets the standard for reliability and competence. This has been especially true over the last three years. She had one of the most critical behind the scenes roles here – making sure that we had coffee and bagels after our Sunday services. Can you imagine the uproar in the congregation, if there were no coffee and bagels on Sunday morning? Without her efforts, there would have been a riot. We thank her today for keeping the peace through food.

She seems to spend a lot of her time in the kitchen here because she also is one of the primary assistants on the receptions that we have. As part of her kitchen duties, she is also one of the kitchen police who are constantly vigilant to keep our kitchen spic and span.

Prior to working as our personal coffee barista, Eileen contributed in a number of different ways at FUUSA over the 28 years that she and Dave have been members. As a new member, she immediately joined the Social Responsibilities Council and eventually became its chair. She served on the Interim Ministerial Committee for three years as we went through a critical transition with three different interim ministers. She has been a constant rumanista as well, working on nearly every rummage sale.

As many of us have, Eileen also

FUUSA PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 29, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

at the Mannings' house , **18 Salisbury Road, Delmar**

Reasonable prices and sturdy homegrown perennial plants. Check www.albanyuu.org after May 21 for list of plants available!

Plant donations: Call Barb Manning for drop off times. If you need help digging and potting, call Donna Meixner

got involved with the Religious Education program when her great kids Jamie and Julie were growing up. Her competence and skill were demonstrated here as well. Eileen works as a school social worker. Using these professional skills, she took the training for the About Your Sexuality course. Then she taught the course. She was also an advisor for the Senior High Group.

Her competence and reliability was demonstrated when she served on the Nominating Committee for many years and was also its chair.

I also served with Eileen for six years on the Board of Unirondack, the UU camp in the Adirondacks. We often drove to the Board meetings in Syracuse, Utica, or at the camp together. Her insights at Board meetings were very helpful and she was always doing her "white glove" tests in the kitchen. To me her reliability was demonstrated at an overnight meeting in Syracuse in April of 2003. Members of the Board had slept on the floor of the UU church. In the morning when I tried to get up, I couldn't move because of a shooting pain in my back. Eileen helped me into the back seat of her car and drove me home. Without her, I could still be in Syracuse.

Outside of FUUSA she is on the Board of the Bethlehem Festival Fund. This is a low key, but important local organization in the Town of Bethle-

Newcomer orientation

Learn 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, May 15 from 8:45 a.m.-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. Childcare is available: please let us you need it when you register.

hem. It distributes money to needy families to help defray expenses. As part of her work with this organization she has worked on fund raising by participating in the Zumbathon. I am not sure exactly what that is. You should ask her for a demonstration. Apparently, she has become a Zumba **Unsung, continued on pg. 7**

Social Responsibilities Council

Happenings at FUUSA:

May 15, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Panel on single payer health insurance. Find out what you can do to have a better health plan.

In June we will show our support of Gays, Lesbians, and Transgendered by displaying their banner.

June 6: SRC meeting 11:45. Please join us

SRC is saddened to lose long-term faithful proponent of social justice, Joan Butcher. But our loss is Florida's gain where she has already found a UU home. Thank you, Joan, for all you have done and best wishes for much happiness in your new home.

Give Away the Plate

May 16: The Plate will go to the Albany chapter of the **U.S. Committee on Refugees and Immigrants**. Over 1000 immigrants have come to our area in the past 3 years. We (FUUSA) have helped 5 of them. The USCRI helps many others. Your contribution will help meet the needs that public assistance does not.. 100% of your contribution will be used in this area.

"USCRI Albany has been helping refugees begin new lives in the Capital Region since 2005. Refugees arrive having fled war and persecution, and must quickly adjust to a new way of life in the United States. We help refugees become self-sufficient, contributing members of our community who can again dream of a hopeful future for themselves and their children.

"Learn more about USCRI at www.RefugeesAlbany.org. Our website includes upcoming events, including volunteer orientations and a series of cultural and education events

in June, celebrating World Refugee Day."

June 6: Give Away the Plate will go to the **Albany Family Education Alliance** (AFEA) which is a community-based organization dedicated to one goal – to ensure that all children in Albany, no matter their race, ethnicity, or economic or social circumstances, will excel academically, and be thoroughly prepared to attend college should they wish to do so. Based on the Harlem Children's Zone model, AFEA seeks to provide services from birth to college graduation focusing on children living in our most distressed and challenged neighborhoods.

This spring, the AFEA launched its first two pilot programs – The Baby Institute and the Fifth/Sixth Grade Scholars Institute. The Baby Institute is a parent education program providing parents with the tools and techniques to become the first teachers of their children. The Scholars Institute is an after-school enriched academic program, located within Giffen and Arbor Hill Elementary schools, which provides children with the opportunity to read the finest of children's literature and prepares them for Middle School.

Food Focus Pantry

Our April contributions totaled \$379.00. Our generosity is greatly appreciated, and the funds will be wisely used for those in need. Thank you.

Our last donations of the church year will be taken on Sun. May 23. Again, many thanks. -- Lois Thomson, Jane Allen, co-chairs

FORUM

May 23, The Ever Expanding Universe Heidi Newberg, Physics Professor at RPI and member of FUUSA, will update us on the latest discoveries of this amazing universe in which we live.

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.

Garden Maintenance

If you enjoy seeing the changing variety of flowers and plants in our FUUSA gardens, please sign up to help keep them looking their best this summer! There is a sign up sheet in Channing Hall - sign up to come in one or more weeks over the summer to help weed, dead head, water, etc. Now that we have four gardens to maintain, we are asking for two people to sign up for each week (please include your contact information on the sign up sheet). You only need to come in one day during the week you have signed up for, and you get to choose the day! Bring your garden gloves, tools and kneeling pad. Instructions will be posted in Channing Hall and extra gardening supplies are in the large basement storage closet. Any questions, contact Paula Moskowitz.

Wellness week at Unirondack

See the UU Camps, B&Bs, and Conferences bulletin board in Channing Hall for all sorts of cool UU things to do, including the Mind, Body and Spiritual Wellness week at Unirondack flyer which offers a reduced price if you register in the month of May!

No photo – No freebie

Or, Where's my photo directory?

As described in April Update, we have ordered additional photo directories for those who did not get their photo taken by Olan Mills for inclusion in the directory. The quantity is limited: If you want to purchase a directory, there is a sign up sheet at the Sign Up Site in Channing Hall. Limit: one per family, please. Cost will be \$5 each on delivery.

Remember—if your family had a photo taken, you will be receiving a free directory so you do not need to sign up to buy one.

We expect to receive the photo directories in early June.

"Expanded and Improved Medicare for All -- Round 2!"

May 15, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Emerson Community Hall

A \$10-20 contribution is requested to cover lunch and other costs.

Learn more about the state of health care reform from three important and dynamic speakers:

- Steffie Woolhandler, MD, Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) and Harvard University Medical School,
- Terry O'Neill, President of the National Organization for Women (NOW), and
- Rose Roach of the California School Employees Association

Sign up to help with Summer Session of RE

The participation in Summer RE on Sunday mornings has gone up since we started offering programming in '08. Besides the nursery, we'd like to staff two rooms for RE this summer. See the sign up sheet in Channing Hall.

Religious Education announcements

Everyone is invited to celebrate **Sundae Sunday on June 6**. RE volunteers will be recognized in the service; then children and youth will have special programming; and ice cream sundaes (and fruit and sherbet) will be served in Channing Hall during the multigenerational Coffee Hour.

Pot luck dinner for Rite of Passage Participants Friday, June 4 starting at 6:30 p.m. For participating youth and mentors - please bring a main course dish. After our meal, we'll have activities to get to know each other in preparation for matching pairs for the program.

Jr. Youth Group will meet at 12:30 p.m. on **Sunday, May 23** for lunch and then a service project at FUUSA.

Save the Date

Special Guest Speaker:

Rev. Peter Morales, President of the Unitarian Universalist Association

When:

June 12 at 3 p.m.

Where:

Emerson Community Hall

Special Community Pot Luck supper immediately following presentation. Watch for details. Look for volunteer sign up opportunities soon!

Unsung, cont. from pg. 3

expert, participating 4 days a week in exercise dance class.

Getting back to her reliability. Dave told me that one weekend he and Eileen were visiting her mother in Scranton. Eileen was worried about coffee hour. She got up early enough in the morning to drive back to Albany, so that she could be at FUUSA to make sure we all had our coffee and bagels.

Eileen continues to be an example of the type of reliable and competent person that make FUUSA a success.

UU Weekend sign-up

It's time to sign up for Silver Bay!

You may think it's early to sign up for "*a Soft Place for Unitarian Universalists to Fall*"-- our UU Weekend at Silver Bay--a wonderful community-building event. In fact, the weekend held at the Silver Bay Resort on beautiful Lake George isn't until October 15-17, but did you realize that one criterion that determines your room assignment is the date you signed up and paid your deposit?

This year, our 17th, will feature Rev. John Corrado (a former and well-loved FUUSA minister) as our Jeanne Blank Memorial speaker. This is also the best time to reserve your spot to present that program/workshop you've always wanted to lead, be it a yoga or other movement class, a stimulating humanist or political discussion, a music based program, a hike, or any of many possible other fun and/or educational programs. Wonderful activities will also be offered for the kids.

It is at this multi-UU congregation weekend that you may well meet new friends and deepen your connection to our beloved community. You can sign up in Channing Hall on Sundays.

Joys and Caring Corner

Spirituality Book Club

May 23, 12 PM

The Next Spirituality Book Club is scheduled for May 23, 12 PM after service. The book is Loving-Kindness by Sharon Salzberg. In this book the author shows how we might cultivate loving kindness: a path for opening the heart, creating inner well-being and healing ourselves and others. Salzberg is a spiritual teacher and one of the founders of the Insight Meditation Society in Barre, Massachusetts

Parents of Teens Group

May 23, 12 PM

The Parents of Teens Group will meet Sunday, May 23 at 12:30 PM, the same time as the Junior Youth Group. Our topic will be suicide, cutting and other self-destructive behavior. 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.

General Assembly

The Unitarian Universalist General Assembly meets this year in Minneapolis, Minnesota June 23-27. Registration and housing opened on March 1. Check it out at <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/>.

This is an opportunity to join thousands of Unitarian Universalists from across the United States in celebrating through wonderful worship services, illuminating workshops with terrific speakers, and lively business meetings (plenary sessions) in which the business of the denomination is conducted. Actions of social witness, statements of conscience are debated, and become the way that the Unitarian Universalist Association witnesses our faith through social action.

East-of-Hudson Potluck on July 11 at 4:00 pm Home of Scott and Karen Murray in Averill Park Bring a summertime dish or dessert RSVP to Jan McCracken.

Sunday morning volunteers!

It takes four ushers, two greeters, and two coffee hour hosts every Sunday to help make the Sunday service run smoothly. Volunteers are needed for all Sundays. Please check the sign up bulletin board in Channing Hall. This is a great way to meet people on Sunday morning and to become more acquainted with our congregation.

Sunday Volunteers Sign up in Channing Hall

	Lead Usher (1)	Ushers (3)	Coffee Hosts (2)	Greeters (2)	Chalice Lighter (1)
May 16	D. Dana	A. Patti B. S. Wright	R. Fogarty M. Bell		
May 23	D. Odell		L&K Barron		
May 30					

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 May

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:

All Other Events Happening in the Month of May

10-May	Monday	7:30 PM	Monday Men	B-8
11-May	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Budget discussion	Emerson alcove
		7:00 PM	Green Sanctuary/350	B-8
12-May	Wednesday	10:30 AM	Playgroup	24/25
		7:00 PM	Beauty of Needs Group	B-7
13-May	Thursday	5:00 PM	Religious Services Committee	B-8
		6:00 PM	Coalition to Prevent Violence/SRC	26
		7:00 PM	Board of Trustees	B-8
14-May	Friday	9:00 AM	Oriel Coffeehouse setup	Emerson
		1:00 PM	Oriel Coffeehouse cooking	Kitchen, Channing
		6:00 PM	Oriel Coffeehouse	Emerson (time approx.)
15-May	Saturday	8:45 AM	Getting to Know UU	B-8
		2:00 PM	Walter Goodwin Memorial	Sanctuary, Channing
		7:00 PM	Dances of Universal Peace	Channing
16-May	Sunday	11:45 AM	Annual Meeting	Emerson
		11:45 AM	Annual Meeting Childcare	24/25
17-May	Monday	12:00 PM	Channing Circle	Channing, Kitchen
18-May	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Soul Matters-Sherman/Way	Stott/Joy Library
		7:00 PM	Beauty of Needs Group	B-7
19-May	Wednesday	10:30 AM	Playgroup	24/25
		3:00 PM	Soul Matters-Johnson	B-8
23-May	Sunday	11:00 AM	Reception - Chris Antal	Channing, Kitchen
		11:30 AM	Forum: Heidi Newberg	Emerson
		12:00 PM	Spirituality Book Club	B-7
		1:00 PM	Soul Collage Auction Workshop	B-8
		6:00 PM	War Healing Circle	Emerson
24-May	Monday	7:30 PM	Monday Men	B-8
26-May	Wednesday	10:30 AM	Playgroup	24/25
		7:00 PM	Beauty of Needs Group	B-7
27-May	Thursday	6:30 PM	Finance Committee	B-8
29-May	Saturday	9:00 AM	Plant Sale	18 Salisbury Rd Delmar



D'Andrea Brooks, new owner of the "Susan B. Anthony House", Rev. Sam, and several other dignitaries at the dedication.



The gardeners and their handiwork: Donna Meixner, Jan Satin, Sandy Stone and Dorry Campano

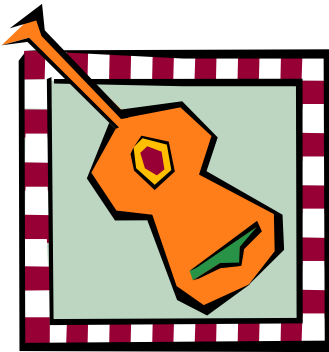
First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany

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

Non-Profit
Organization
**U.S. Postage
PAID**
Albany, NY
Permit No. 301

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Oriel Coffeehouse
An evening of poetry and music
6:30 pm, Friday, May 14
Emerson Community Hall



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.

May 16 “**Deeds NOT Creeds,**” Rev. Sam Trumbore

As this is the day of our Annual Meeting, let us return to the core values of our congregation. The statement that “you can believe anything you want and be a Unitarian Universalist” is false. Wide as our range of beliefs are, our core values narrow the beliefs that are acceptable within our walls. One of our highest values is our commitment to action.

May 23 “**Singing Out Our Values,**” Rev. Sam Trumbore

In a month, our FUUSA choir will be packing for their trip to Eastern Europe. This service will feature some of the songs they will be singing in their concerts that highlight the values of our congregation and Unitarian Universalism. Whether their hearers are Unitarians or not, English speakers or not, the universal language of music will touch their hearts. Come this Sunday and feel the love. Music: Choir

May 30 “**Interfaith in Action: The Four Chaplains,**” Chris Antal

This Memorial Day we will share a ritual to honor those in our collective memory who died in military service and recall the uplifting story of “the immortal four chaplains” who gave their lives in World War II living out the charge of the Army Chaplain Corps: Courageous in Spirit, Compassionate in Service. Music: Choir

