



CIRCLE OF FELLOWSHIP

The First Universalist Society of Central Square

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

3243 Fulton Street (Route 49, near Route 11)
Post Office Box 429, Central Square, New York 13036-0429
Our church building is handicapped accessible.
Phone: 315-668-6821 E-mail: uucentralsquare@gmail.com
Church Web site: <http://www.centralsquareuu.com>

Photo courtesy of Village of Central Square

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/UU-Central-Square/199139743511564>

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the First Universalist Society of Central Square is to be a welcoming, diverse congregation, which values spiritual growth and service to the local and world community.

Andrea Abbott, Student Minister	315-635-7122	The Rev. Libbie Stoddard, Minister Emerita	315-343-4352
Leigh Parry-Benedict, Music Coordinator	315-657-5904	Ronna Schindler, RE Chairperson	315-623-7685
Winfield Ihlow, President	315-342-5939	Janie Garlow, Vice President	315-436-2238

JULY 2014

STUDENT MINISTER SNIPPET

June may not have a monopoly on perfect days; July's days are pretty good, too. On my walk today, everyone I met wished me a good morning, I think including the Great Blue Heron, who paused from his intense concentration on the river to look at me. It was a beautiful morning, sun, blue sky, welcome shade, dazzling flowers, sparkling water, the whole kit and caboodle. Who would wish to be anywhere but here, right now? Then an ambulance wailed past me. I saw people on their way to work and I thought that all this beauty may not be available to everyone. Some are working and even looking out the window is not an option. For others, illness, depression, disappointment, or anger and fear, many cares and burdens, may shadow the beauty of the world. And some have never been taught to look at the beauty around them. Sunshine and shadow dapple all lives. Let us hope for an awakening to the glory that is in this world, now, and compassion to reach out to those whose lives are shadowed. Let us enjoy with full hearts the wonderful gifts July brings.

Andrea Abbott

(Editor's note: Andrea has chosen as the title of her sermon for the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, July 13, "Clutter.")

A SERMON BY THE REVEREND WEISSBARD

The Rev. David Weissbard has chosen as the title of his sermon for the service at 10:30 on Sunday, July 6, "Victims & Survivors: Welfare."

He writes, "In a sense, this is a Part II of my June sermon. One of the criticisms of providing support for the poor is that it creates dependency - i.e., a class of victims. Is this the real issue? We'll try to consider the realities of this complex issue."

Please have articles for the next newsletter to Bob Haskell by no later than NOON on MONDAY, JULY 28. Bob would be grateful if everyone would not wait until the last minute to submit articles. He prefers to receive articles via e-mail. His e-mail address is rhaskell@twcny.rr.com. His postal address is 29 Grove Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027-2332. His telephone number is 315-635-5294.

BLOOD DRIVE: 8 A.M. TO 1 P.M. ON SATURDAY, JULY 12

The Red Cross says blood is especially needed during this time of year. However, with people's busy summer schedules, donations traditionally are lower in the summer. Please consider taking about an hour of your time to give blood.

We will have one of our regularly scheduled Saturday blood drives on Saturday, July 12, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. You will be able to give either whole blood or double red cells during this drive.

You can make an appointment by using the sign-up sheet that is in the dining room, visiting www.redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS. Walk-ins are also very welcome.

We need volunteers to help prior to the drive to make calls to solicit donors. Please see Ellen LaPine to obtain a list of people to call to solicit donors. We also need volunteers to help during the drive. There is a sign-up sheet in the dining room if you would like to help during the drive.

Thank you.

Social Justice Committee

GREEN MINUTE: MONARCHWATCH.ORG

An article in "Mother Earth News" led me to the MonarchWatch.org Web site. If you are at least curious about monarch butterflies this is an excellent resource.

Chip Taylor, director of Monarch Watch, says, "Monarch butterfly populations are declining due to loss of habitat. To assure a future for monarchs, conservation and restoration of milkweeds needs to become a national priority."

Within the Web site you will find information on monarch biology, milkweed, butterfly gardening and migration and tagging.

If you are interested in anything monarch it is in this Web site, or its resources link will help you find what you need.

One section of the Web site talks about Monarch Waystations. Within the article it advises, "To offset the loss of milkweeds and nectar sources we need to create, conserve, and protect milkweed/monarch habitats. We need you to help us and help monarchs by creating "Monarch Waystations" (monarch habitats) in home gardens, at schools, businesses, parks, zoos, nature centers, along roadsides, and on other unused plots of land. Without a major effort to restore milkweeds to as many locations as possible, the monarch population is certain to decline to extremely low levels."

This year, as you garden or do the upkeep on your lawn, you may want to leave the milkweed alone and maybe plant a few flowers to give the winged jewels called monarch butterflies a place to rest and restore their energy levels. Check out the Web site; it will give you a better perspective on the needs of monarchs and what you can do to help.

Ellen LaPine
Outreach Committee

DRUM CIRCLE NEWS

If you missed the last drum circle, please take the opportunity to play a doumbek, a djembe, maracas, zills or spoons at our next in-house drum circle.

Not a drummer? Feel free to come to learn or to relax to the rhythm.

In June we played some different rhythms and had some fun with "The Cup Song." You can see it on YouTube.

We will be drumming after coffee hour on Sunday, July 20.

Ann Peterson

WORKSHOP HAS TWO MORE SESSIONS

The "Step-12 Group" workshop based on Karen Armstrong's book "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life" will meet at noon on Sunday, July 13, for a discussion of the 11th Step and finish with the 12th Step at noon on Sunday, July 27.

UU congregations covenant to affirm and promote acceptance of one another
and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM PAUSES

Summer is here. Formal religious education classes have concluded until September. Our classroom will still be open for those who wish to continue to go back. Fun crafts and activities will be available.

Ronna Schindler, Religious Education Committee chairperson and older children's teacher

UU CIRCLE

A "thank you" to everyone who set tables, cleared tables, washed dishes and cleaned up for the potluck luncheon on Sunday, June 22.

Thanks to everyone who shared a dish to pass and who sang and shared their talents.

Everything that you do makes it all possible.

Ann Peterson
UU Circle

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP

The Spiritual Development Group will meet at the home of Tim Hart, 23 Collins Terrace, Central Square, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 2.

For more information, interested persons may contact Tim Hart via e-mail at timhart@a-znet.com or via telephone at 315-439-2541, or Chet Perkins via e-mail at cperkins9@twcny.rr.com or via telephone at 315-668-6719.

COFFEE AND CHAT

Women and men of the church will gather for Coffee and Chat at Panera Bread on Route 31 in Clay at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 16.

All are welcome to join in casual conversation and to enjoy coffee or tea and other goodies.

For more information about the group, interested persons are invited to contact Mary or Chet Perkins via e-mail at mperkins9@twcny.rr.com or cperkins9@twcny.rr.com or via telephone at 315-668-6719. Everyone is invited to attend.

TRACY TO SPEAK

Tracy Kinne will lead the worship service at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 27.

Tracy, a member of our church and a lifelong Parish resident, was a newspaper journalist for 21 years before taking a buyout and leaving The Post-Standard in Syracuse in 2007. She also is former editor at several smaller newspapers, including the Phoenix Register and the Valley News.

Because she has wanted people to understand the growing poverty and economic inequality on a personal level, she has written two books.

One is a memoir, "On Sale: Employers Get Good Workers Dirt Cheap," about her four years as a low-wage retail worker. Tracy was named a 2013 Central New York Workers Memorial Day Champion of Worker Safety and Health for the memoir. The book also took honorable mention in three international festivals: Paris, New York and New England.

Her second book, "Little Town on the Shale: A Girl Fights Hydrofracking," describes the challenges faced by a teen who is an emerging activist but lives in rural poverty much like that in parts of Oswego County.

VIDEO DISCUSSION GROUP

The Video Discussion Group will meet at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 11. The group plans to have supper at the Akropolis Restaurant on Route 11 just north of Central Square at 5:30 p.m. on the same day. Please let Janie Garlow know via e-mail at mjgarlow@aol.com or via telephone at 315-436-2238 by Thursday, July 10, if you plan to attend the supper.

A WORD OR TWO ABOUT THE RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS PROGRAM

The program to financially assist those in need, whether church members/friends or people in the wider community, has been operating in the red for several months. The demand has far outstripped the available money.

It is only because several individuals have generously come forward with additional money that the church has been able to act in this regard.

Please remember this when you are asked to contribute to the program on Sunday, July 6.

UU congregations covenant to affirm and promote a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

UU congregations covenant to affirm and promote the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

BOARD SPLINTERS

As the fiscal year ends for the First Universalist Society of Central Square, gratitude is extended to those who are exiting the Executive Board or changing offices. Bob Haskell has worked tirelessly through a three-year term as president in times of personal stress and adversity. Bob will continue doing the newsletters, weekly and monthly. Winfield Ihlow was elected president at the annual congregational meeting, with Janie Garlow as vice president. Susan Jennings was elected trustee for a three-year term and Ellen LaPine as recording secretary for one year. Ann Peterson will continue as corresponding secretary, Marcia Burrell-Ihlow as treasurer, Betty Figie as registrar, and Arne Hook and Nancy Hallock as trustees. Barbara Kamerance also retired as recording secretary after serving diligently for two years.

There are many noted accomplishments which have occurred during this year.

The Diane Goettel Gervaise Fund has been established in her memory and will be administered by Chet Perkins and Andrea Abbott.

The Board commends the efforts of Nancy Hallock and members of the Social Justice Committee for the award-winning speakers' series, Voices for Worker Equality. The committee received the Community Allies Award given at the Workers' Equality Breakfast in April. The committee will continue organization and funding for the Pure Water for the World water filters which are provided for residents of Haiti.

The annual congregational meeting brought to a close (for the present time) the review and discussions of the various Affirmations of Faith which were sampled during the 2013-2014 year. It was voted that the affirmation that had been commonly used and which is posted in the front of the church and in the order of service program will be the one spoken.

Our church continues to provide a strong, diverse pulpit and music programming that matches the variety of our pulpit. Our building now has the beautiful and restored stained-glass windows, and it is an edifice and congregation of which we can be proud.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Social Justice Committee met on Sunday morning, June 29, and will not meet again until the second Sunday of August, August 10.

We have decided to continue our efforts to learn and educate on the issue of worker inequality. This will include a Labor in the Pulpit event. Two other probabilities are a speaker on refugee settlement troubles and a member of Oswego Opportunities to detail the homeless and transportation problems of the rural population. We will report details as these events are finalized. We are also considering a film series.

Another donation of \$150 was made to Pure Water for the World's work in Haiti.

There is a sign-up sheet in the East Room for volunteers to help with our summer Adopt-a-Highway program at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 13.

We are deciding on a logo for a possible T-shirt and/or apron sale to raise money for the Social Justice Committee.

That's all for now. Please join us at our next meeting on August 10.

Nancy Hallock, chairperson

NOTE OF THANKS

Thanks to these people for volunteering to host the social times: Judy and George Tennant, June 29; Priscilla Sparks and Susan Woods, July 6; Nancy Haskell, July 13; Tracy Kinne, July 20; and Janie Garlow, July 27.

Thanks to these people for volunteering to serve as greeters: Priscilla Sparks and Susan Woods, June 29.

BOOK CLUB

We are meeting on Monday, June 30, for pizza and discussion of "Gone Girl."

We will attempt to make our next selection, as some folks may want to include it in their summer reading.

We are always open to suggestions to compile the 2014-15 list.

Nancy Hallock

UU congregations covenant to affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all.

UU congregations covenant to affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

WINFIELD IHLOW LEADS CONGREGATION

Members of the congregation elected Winfield Ihlow as president for 2014-2015 at the annual meeting conducted in the sanctuary on Sunday, June 1.

The congregation also elected Janie Garlow as vice president and Ellen LaPine as recording secretary for one year and Susan Jennings as trustee for three years. Those present re-elected Ann Peterson as corresponding secretary, Marcia Burrell-Ihlow as treasurer and Betty Figie as registrar, each for a one-year term. Nancy Hallock has one year left to serve as trustee while Arnold Hook has two years.

Bob Haskell retired as president after serving in that position for three years and as vice president for three years. Barbara Kamerance retired as recording secretary after serving in that position for two years. Winfield Ihlow had served as vice president for two years before becoming president. Janie Garlow had served as a trustee for three years before being elected vice president.

The congregation elected Steve Garlow to serve a three-year term as a Nominating Committee member. Marcia Moore has a year left to serve as a committee member while George Tennant has two years. Ellen LaPine retired after serving on the committee for three years.

The congregation approved a budget providing for \$30,940 in the Operating Account for 2014-2015. The comparable figure in the 2013-2014 budget was \$27,615.

The congregation voted to say an Affirmation of Faith at each worship service, that it be the same Affirmation of Faith at each service, and that the Affirmation of Faith designated as No. 1 in a selection of eight affirmations be that affirmation:

“Love is the doctrine of this church,
The quest of truth is its sacrament,
And service is its prayer,
To dwell together in peace,
To seek knowledge in freedom,
To serve humanity in fellowship,
To the end that all souls shall grow
into harmony with the divine,
Thus do we covenant with each other
and with God.
Amen.”

The vote followed a year of experimenting with various Affirmations of Faith. The experiment followed a request by the congregation at its annual meeting on June 3, 2012, that the Spiritual Committee review the Affirmation of Faith. The committee suggested eight possible affirmations during the 2013-2014 church year .

Those present approved the minutes of Recording Secretary Barbara Kamerance for the 2013 annual congregational meeting.

DON'T FORGET TO WRITE ON THAT MEMO LINE!

When you are writing a check for the church, please write on the memo line the purpose for which the check is being written. For example: Pledge, Fair Share, Random Acts of Kindness, Window Fund.

Such action makes it easier to record the check in its proper place.
Thank you.

CHANTING AND MEDITATION

Anyone who is interested in chanting and meditation is invited to contact Tim Hart via e-mail at timhart@a-znet.com or via telephone at 315-439-2541.

The living tradition which Unitarian Universalists share draws from many sources, including direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life.

The living tradition which Unitarian Universalists share draws from many sources, including words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love.

PRESIDENTIAL REFLECTIONS

Hello all,

The first month has been quiet for me, due mainly to the support of the Executive Board and the guidance/mentoring of President Emeritus Bob Haskell.

We, the congregation, had our annual meeting on Sunday, June 1, right after the morning service. There were the reports from the various officers and committee chairpersons. We then received a proposed budget totaling \$30,940 for the upcoming 2014-2015 year. The budget was voted on and passed. There was a slate of new officers proposed to the congregation, including myself, and we all received an approval vote from the congregation. The other officers include Janie Garlow as vice president and Ellen LaPine as recording secretary for one year and Susan Jennings as trustee for three years. Those present re-elected Ann Peterson as corresponding secretary, Marcia Burrell-Ihlow as treasurer and Betty Figie as registrar, each for a one-year term. Nancy Hallock has one year left to serve as trustee while Arnold Hook has two years. The congregation also elected Steve Garlow to serve a three-year term as a Nominating Committee member. Marcia Moore has a year left to serve as a committee member while George Tennant has two years.

Another issue we voted on was whether to change the Affirmation of Faith that we recite each Sunday in our morning service. After thoughtful and insightful discussion, it was decided by an overwhelming majority to continue to use the Affirmation that is posted on the front wall of the sanctuary.

Other events of the month have proceeded as usual. Our extremely strong pulpit keeps us stimulated and inspired. The Social Justice Committee, the "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life" discussion group, and the Friday night video discussion group are also active.

One of our principal challenges is attracting families to attend our services who can bring children to our RE program. Attaining generational diversity will strengthen our congregation and help to ensure the future continuance. This is a concern that all of us should pay attention to. Families are our future.

One of our upcoming contributions to the wider community is our hosting a Red Cross blood drive on Saturday, July 12, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Please consider taking about an hour of your time to give blood or to help out in the running of the drive by making calls to solicit donors. Please see Ellen LaPine to obtain a list of people to call to solicit donors. We also need volunteers to help during the drive. You can find a sign-up sheet in the dining room if you would like to help during the drive.

Beginning in July, there is no formal religious education program through the summer. However, children are still very welcome to go back to the classroom for summer fun if they would like.

I hope to serve you all well in the position of president of the congregation. I know that you all will be supportive and helpful in my performing of my duties.

Thank you for your trust.

Winfield Ihlow

"LEANING AGAINST THE WIND"

Our church has copies of the Rev. Max Coote's book, "Leaning Against the Wind," for sale. All you have to do is give Marcia Burrell-Ihlow a check or cash totaling \$13.

From 1958 to 1992 Max Coote delivered more than 1,400 sermons as minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Canton. In 1991 a group of UU church members selected 59 of those sermons that they agreed were some of Max's best.

First published in 1992, "Leaning Against the Wind" was re-printed twice, but for the last several years the book has been out of print. The recent fourth

printing means that "Leaning Against the Wind" is once again available.

Max preached at our church for years after his retirement at Canton.

RETURN THOSE BOTTLES

You may continue to help the environment and make money for the Outreach Committee by leaving your returnable bottles at the church.

A barrel into which to place your bottles stands near the entrance to the church kitchen.

Nancy Hallock, committee chairperson, is returning deposit bottles and cans for the committee treasury.

The living tradition which Unitarian Universalists share draws from many sources, including wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life.

The living tradition which Unitarian Universalists share draws from many sources, including Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves.

FAIR SHARE APPEAL

The Fair Share is the amount of the contribution our congregation is asked to give each fiscal year to the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations (UUA) and its St. Lawrence District (SLD).

These contributions finance programs, services and resources that directly benefit and strengthen our congregation and the Unitarian Universalist movement as a whole.

Fair Share is based upon the number of members a congregation certified for the UUA General Assembly the previous February. This year's combined Fair Share contribution is expected to be about \$75 per member.

Our congregation has a line item in our budget, which covers \$2,500 of our contribution. Each year we try to pay our Fair Share in full. We make the first part of our contribution during December.

We are asking members if they are able to do so to write a check for \$75 payable to the church and to designate "Fair Share" in the memo. This would help us reach our goal. For more information, you may contact Marcia Burrell-Ihlow, treasurer.

UUA DIVESTS FROM FOSSIL FUELS

(Posted by Donald E. Skinner for UU World on Saturday, June 28, 2014 5:16 pm)

On Saturday afternoon General Assembly delegates meeting in Providence, R.I., overwhelmingly approved divesting the Unitarian Universalist Association of most of its investments in companies that produce or process fossil fuels, including oil, natural gas, and coal. The vote was held after the required 30 minutes of debate, during which speakers were divided nearly evenly among supporters and opponents. Opponents generally thought that divestment wouldn't have much effect. "It only creates the illusion we are doing something," said one speaker. The supporters were led off by Tim DeChristopher, a member of the First Unitarian Church in Salt Lake City, Utah. He served 21 months in prison from 2011 through 2013 for disrupting a Bureau of Land Management oil and gas auction in which he successfully bid for tracts he had no intention of paying for. He is currently a student at Harvard Divinity School. He told the assembly on Saturday, "Many of us in this room and in the larger religious community have been engaging in this issue in a lot of ways, including through our congregations, civil disobedience, and challenging corporations and governments. All of those efforts have been worthwhile and all of those efforts will continue. But a lot of us engaged in those efforts have been running up against the political power of these corporations. This resolution is about challenging that political power. Through this resolution we will be joining a much larger movement." The divestment resolution was carefully crafted over the past year and had the support of environmental activists, including the UU Ministry for Earth, as well as the UUA administration. The resolution permits the UUA to keep some fossil fuel stocks in cases where the UUA is engaged in shareholder actions seeking environmental justice. UUA Treasurer Tim Brennan is a strong advocate of shareholder actions and the UUA has had significant successes in modifying behavior of corporations in several areas including worker rights. At a mini-assembly on Friday on the resolution the Rev. Peggy Clarke, of the First Unitarian Society of Westchester, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, did propose one amendment, but it was defeated. Clarke asked that the UUA not be allowed to keep any fossil fuel investments. She said she didn't believe that shareholder activism would work with this issue. "We're not talking about asking a company to make a minor modification. We're talking about the core of the industry. No activism will work in this case." Scientists say that if life on earth is to continue to be sustainable fossil fuel companies would have to leave much of their oil, gas, and coal reserves in the ground. No changes could be made in the resolution when it was considered by the entire body. No delegate count was taken, but the resolution won by an overwhelming margin. Terry Wiggins, of the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, led the crafting of the agreement over the past year, along with the UU Ministry for Earth, the UUA Socially Responsible Investing Committee, and UUA Treasurer Tim Brennan. Wiggins has said she hopes congregational leaders will go home from GA and lead their own congregations in divesting.

(See more at: <http://blogs.uuworld.org/ga/2014/06/28/uua-divests-from-fossil-fuels/#sthash.fCxWTczg.dpuf>)

The living tradition which Unitarian Universalists share draws from many sources, including humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against the idolatries of the mind and spirit.

The living tradition which Unitarian Universalists share draws from many sources, including spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.



A DRAMATIC VIEW OF SPACE

At the front of our sanctuary we have placed one of the most dramatic astronomical images ever produced by the Hubble Space Telescope, the Orion Nebula. The Orion Nebula (also known as Messier 42, M42, or NGC 1976) is a diffuse nebula situated south of Orion's Belt in the constellation of Orion. It is one of the brightest nebulae, and is visible to the naked eye in the night sky. M42 is located at a distance of $1,344 \pm 20$ light years and is the closest region of massive star formation to Earth. The M42 nebula is estimated to be 24 light years across. It has a mass of about 2,000 times the mass of the Sun. Older texts frequently refer to the Orion Nebula as the Great Nebula in Orion or the Great Orion Nebula. The Orion Nebula is one of the most scrutinized and photographed objects in the night sky, and is among the most intensely studied celestial features. The nebula has revealed much about the process of how stars and planetary systems are formed.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

JULY 2014 CALENDAR

1 – 5 to 7 p.m., Andrea Abbott will hold office hours at the church.

2 – 7 p.m., The Spiritual Development Group meet at the home of Tim Hart, 23 Collins Terrace, Central Square.

6 – 9:30 a.m., Choir practice. 10:25 a.m., Announcements. 10:30 a.m., the Rev. David Weissbard has chosen as the title of his sermon "Victims & Survivors: Welfare" for the worship service. Random Acts of Kindness. 10:50 a.m., There is no formal religious education program through the summer but children are still welcome to go back to the classroom for summer fun if they would like. 11:45 a.m., Social time. This is the once-a-month Sunday on which the Social Justice Committee asks everyone to bring magazines to the church dining room to exchange them for others. The committee will continue the recycling process by passing on any magazines that are left to the Public Safety Building Jail in Syracuse every two or three months.

8 – 5 to 7 p.m., Andrea Abbott will hold office hours at the church.

10 – 6:30 pm., Choir conducts its monthly practice in the sanctuary.

11 – 5:30 p.m., Supper at the Akropolis restaurant. 7 p.m., Video Discussion Group meets.

12 – 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Red Cross Blood Drive at our church.

13 – 8:30 a.m., Adopt-a-Highway program. 9:30 a.m., Choir practice. 10:25 a.m., Announcements. 10:30 a.m., Andrea Abbott has chosen "Clutter" as her sermon title for the worship service. 11:45 a.m., Social time. Noon, The "Step-12 Group" workshop based on Karen Armstrong's book "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life" will meet. This is the once-a-month Sunday on which the Social Justice Committee asks everyone to donate food items for our Downstairs Scotty, which later will be taken to the Downstairs Scotty thrift shop and food pantry at Divine Mercy Parish Center, 592 South Main Street, Central Square.

15– 5 to 7 p.m., Andrea Abbott will hold office hours at the church.

16 – 9:30 a.m., Coffee and Chat at Panera Bread, Route 31, Clay.

20 – 9:30 a.m., Choir practice. 10:25 a.m., Announcements. 10:30 a.m., the Rev. Tanya Atwood-Adams leads the worship service. 10:50 a.m., There is no formal religious education program through the summer but children are still welcome to go back to the classroom for summer fun if they would like. 11:45 a.m., Social time. 12:15 p.m., Drum Circle.

22– 5 to 7 p.m., Andrea Abbott will hold office hours at the church.

27 – 9:30 a.m., Choir practice. 10:25 a.m., Announcements. 10:30 a.m., Tracy Kinne leads the worship service. 10:50 a.m., There is no formal religious education program through the summer but children are still welcome to go back to the classroom for summer fun if they would like. 11:45 a.m., Social time. Noon, The "Step-12 Group" workshop based on Karen Armstrong's book "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life" will meet.

29– 5 to 7 p.m., Andrea Abbott will hold office hours at the church.

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