

Circle of Fellowship

Monthly Newsletter of the First
Universalist Society of Central
Square, NY

July, 2019

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

The First Universalist Society of
Central Square, New York

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Our Church is Handicapped Accessible

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Church website: centralsquareuu.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/

REMEMBERING THE ROAD FROM SELMA

4 people who sacrificed their lives for civil rights



Jimmie Lee Jackson

Born: Dec. 16, 1938

Died: Feb. 26, 1965

Photo courtesy of Southern Poverty Law Center



James Reeb

Born: Jan. 1, 1927

Died: March 11, 1965

Photo courtesy of Unitarian Universalist Association



Viola Gregg Liuzzo

Born: April 11, 1925

Died: March 25, 1965

Photo courtesy of Unitarian Universalist Association



Jonathan Myrick Daniels

Born: March 20, 1939

Died: Aug. 20, 1965

Religion News Service file photo

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UU Congregations covenant to affirm and promote justice , equity and com-

From Marcia Burrell

Dear Friends,

I've been reflecting on the killing of the Unitarian minister During the civil rights movement in in 1965. I heard the speech by Lyndon Baynes Johnson and I've been listening to the series on White Lies. This series helps me understand the institutional racism we all experience. The system is not created for all but the beautiful thing about our religion is that we're willing to listen to each other. Listening is the first part of making sense of what the other is thinking and feeling. Our church contributes to a more vibrant Oswego county and I am happy to be the treasurer of this church. People give what they can and come to the space to breathe and make sense of how they fit in the world. I'm proud to be a part of the legacy of James Reeb. Listen to the White Lies series and maybe we can talk, <https://www.npr.org/2019/05/14/723134995/white-lies-podcast-exposes-what-happened-the-night-james-reeb-died>

Ministerial Musings

Summer has finally arrived, not only on the calendar but also in person, in days of sun and warmth and soft breezes and butterflies and birdsong and flowers and, and, and. Because summer is a season of ands, a season where nature is profligate, throwing all caution to the winds, unfolding and unfolding again treasures for all the senses. After all the cold and the rain that plagued this past spring, it's particularly welcome, like those people whose warmth and cheerfulness brighten our lives when we ourselves may feel like a cloudy day. We need each other for cheer, for balance, especially when it's hard to find. That is the purpose of meetings and assemblies, to call us out of the narrow, well-worn trails of our lives and remind us that generosity of spirit, like the generosity of summer, is an essential part of the world. Let us flower, let us show forth our kindness like the sun.

The Reverend Andrea Abbott

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Green Minute
Invasive Species Awareness Week
July 7-13, 2019

New York State is attempting to raise our awareness of invasive species by holding several events during the week of July 7-13. This is the sixth annual Invasive Species Awareness Week and according to the website, “The mission of the New York Invasive Species Awareness Week (ISAW) is to promote knowledge and understanding of invasive species and the harm they can cause by engaging citizens in a wide range of activities across the state, and empowering them to take action to help stop the spread.” If you go to <https://stoptheinvasionny.com/events/> you’ll see a listing of events around the state.

Some of the scheduled activities are water chestnut pulls, several different lectures, guided walks and webinars. As you click on the activity that interests you, you’ll get a drop down with a description of what is going on and how you can attend.

This year’s ISAW theme is “Early Detection: Explore, Observe, Report.” which is meant to shine a spotlight on the importance of detecting infestations of invasive species early. Early detection increases the success of response efforts. They list spotted lanternfly, oak wilt and hydrilla as a few of the emerging invasive that could or are beginning to have significant impacts in New York.

Ellen LaPine
Social Justice Committee

Sermon Calendar

July 7th-Rev. David Weissbard-”After The Fourth of July”

July 14th- Rev. Andrea Abbott -”Refuge”: Recently I observed some racoon neighbors seeking to escape a deluge and have been reflecting on family love, homes or the lack of these.

July 21st- Rev. Bud Adams

July 28th-Rev. Andrea Abbott-”Enjoying Ourselves”: A very summer sermon.

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Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday July 19th 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

When the letters A, B and O vanish from everyday life, the gaps are striking. And when A, B, O and AB blood types are missing from hospital shelves, lives could be changed forever. What if the letters A, B & O went missing? Y_u w_uld n_tice. Well, A's, B's & O's also make up the main blood types and they do go missing from hospital shelves

A sad truth is only 3 out of 100 Americans donate blood each year, but every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. If more people roll up a sleeve to give, blood shortages can be prevented.

We will have another of our regularly scheduled Red Cross blood drives on Friday, July 19th from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. No matter your blood type, please consider donating or volunteering. You can schedule an appointment to donate blood by visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS but no appointment is necessary. Even if you cannot be a donor, please tell others about the drive.

We need volunteers to help with the blood drive. I have placed a sign-up sheet in the dining room for volunteers to help. If you can help for even a short time on that day it will be very much appreciated.

Thank you.

Ellen LaPine

Religious Education

Summer means no formal classes. But there is always something fun to do or make. Join us.
Ronna Schindler– RE Director

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Sign-up is happening now for a
Lunch-Discussion Course on

“The ability to simplify means to eliminate the unnecessary so that the necessary may speak.”

-Hans Hoffman

VOLUNTARY SIMPLICITY

“A Different Way: Living Simply in a Complex World”

Saturdays, August 31 through October 5

The church is pleased to offer this discussion course on voluntary simplicity from the North West Earth Institute. Participants

will meet from 12:30 to 2 p.m. for six consecutive Saturdays beginning August 31 to “explore the many personal and global

issues we face that a simple lifestyle can help to address.” (www.nwei.org)

There is no cost to attend and participation includes lunch and a course book for each participant. (Book cost reimbursed

following course completion.) The course is open to both congregation and community members but limited to 12 participants.

Register early to ensure you have a seat to learn and share ideas for better living in these chaotic times!

Contact: Mary Fran, or email events@centralsquareuu.org, or 315-307-3400 (leave message).

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Annual Church Picnic, Sunday, August 4

Please plan to attend the Annual Church Picnic to be held at the Stieber's camp. Thank you, Lucy and Arny, for agreeing to host this event again this year. The date is Sunday, August 4, following the church service. This is a dish-to-pass event. Wine or beer is O.K. Directions to the camp will be provided. Plan to spend a relaxing afternoon of good company, good food and lots of good conversation in a beautiful setting.

JULY OFFICE HOURS

The Rev. Andrea Abbott will hold office hours today from 5 to 7 p.m. To set up an appointment, please contact Andrea at 1 (315) 857-1086 or andrea279@verizon.net

The sanctuary will be open for anyone who wishes to use it for a time of reflection, prayer or meditation.

REFRESHMENTS

7/7 Carey & Bonnie

7/14 Steiber's

7/21 G&J Tennant

7/28

8/4 Church picnic

8/11 Ecumenical gathering at Taft Bay Park

7/13 CHURCH YARD SALE

Many hands are needed for the church yard sale. There will be a sign up sheet in the dining room. Thank you for your support.

8/11 ECUMENICAL CHURCH SERVICE

The ecumenical committee is planning a summer service at Taft Bay Park in Bernhards Bay on Sunday, August 11 at 11:30.