

Circle of Fellowship

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

May, 2021

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

3243 Fulton Street

(Route 49, near Route 11)

Post Office Box 429

Central Square, New York 13036-
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Our Church is Handicapped Accessible

Church Phone: 315-307-3400

E-Mail for Reverend Andrea Abbott:
andrea279@verizon.net

Church website: centralsquareuu.org

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/pages/
UU-Central Square/199139743511564](https://www.facebook.com/pages/UU-Central-Square/199139743511564)



[https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/resources/commemorations/
history-of-mothers-day/](https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/resources/commemorations/history-of-mothers-day/)

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UU Congregations covenant to affirm and promote justice , equity and compassion in human relations

Ministerial Musings

May 2021

As I was musing about to write about May, the Cat in the Hat went by my window. He was closely followed by what may have been the bottom half of a dinosaur, a devil, and three other small people in a wagon. One of them may have been a leopard. We dashed to the back door to wave at this impromptu parade. They waved back enthusiastically. The Cat in the Hat was the eldest, at possibly four, with the younger ones ranging from maybe three to two or so. The woman pulling the wagon and shepherding the others called out something to us, but I couldn't catch it.

I love these brief mysteries. It's what makes living in a village so interesting. I admit to more than my share of curiosity about people and living in close proximity gives us a chance to have a bit of a look at other lives. As spring progresses, it's as if doors are opened onto other lives. This is when people we haven't seen since November start to surface and greet each other. Even if the interactions are superficial, it reminds me that we live in an interconnected world and our own lives have to make some room for others.

May is our invitation to growth, not only for the grass (first mowing yesterday) and the flowers, but also for all living things. Including all of us. Let us grow in harmony with each other.

-Andrea Abbott

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Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday May 14th 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

There remains a critical need for blood donations and you will have an opportunity to help at our Red Cross blood drive. The drive will take place from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday, May 14th. Presenting donors will receive a \$5 Amazon.com gift card by email from Suburban Propane.

Due to social distancing protocols, this drive will be held at the Baptist Church across the street at 701 Main Street. It is highly encouraged that you schedule an appointment because in an effort to control the number of people in the building at one time, walk-ins may not be allowed. You can schedule an appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

If you can help by volunteering at the blood drive please contact me at dartfrog7777@aol.com.

Thank you.
Ellen LaPine
Social Justice Committee

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Social Justice Committee

The first church adopt-a-highway pickup was May 14th. Many thanks to Ellen, Paul, Ronna, Janet, Tracy and Winfield.

The next two high pickups are scheduled for is scheduled for Monday, July 12 at 10am and Friday , October 15 at 10am.

The Book Clube June choice is: The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate. This story, based on historical evidence, has three young women searching for family in the post Civil War south. A teacher in present-day Louisiana discovers their story and uses it as a connection her students can make to their own history. A few words about the "Little Paris Bookshop". This is a love letter to books and those who believe that stories can shape a person. The "Literary Apothecary" is a bookshop in a barge on the Seine. The bookseller can sense books that will soothe troubled souls, but what about his own soul? Discussion on Wed. May 26 @ 4:30.

Nancy Hallock

Social Justice Chair

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
OF CENTRAL SQUARE, NEW YORK

The annual congregational meeting of the First Universalist Society of Central Square, New York, is scheduled to be held immediately after the worship service on Sunday morning, June 6, 2021 via Zoom.

The church bylaws specify that there shall be an annual congregational meeting on the first Sunday in June of each year.

The agenda for the meeting includes:

- Receipt of annual reports from incumbent officers and committee chairs.
- Consideration and adoption of the budget for the next church year.
- Election of officers for the next church year.

The bylaws provide that active members of the church 18 years or older shall have the power to vote. Any member of the church under 18 years shall have the right of voice, but not the power of voting or eligibility to hold office in the church. All are welcome to attend.

Nominating Committee Seeks Candidates

The Nominating Committee is seeking people who would like to be on the Executive Board. If you are interested in connecting with others and to help manage the work of the church, please contact Janie at 1 (315) 436-2238 or Mjgarlow@aol.com.

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Are you a Chalice Lighter?

The CER Chalice Lighter Grant Program uses the spark of small, regular contributions from individual UU's to ignite the growth of our UU faith, both in numbers and in justice, compassion, and spirituality. These contributions are pooled to make \$20,000 grants available to support the growth of UU congregations of all sizes, groups of congregations with innovative ideas for outreach, and even for the development of new congregations.

What do your donations support? Recent projects have included a building renovation project at the UU Congregation of Binghamton, NY, a two-story addition at the UU Church of Delaware County in Media, PA, a membership coordinator at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Westchester, Mt. Kisco, NY and helping with programming support at the Sophia Lyons Fahs Summer camp.

Interested in becoming a Chalice Lighter? [Sign up at the CER website.](#)

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Church Events Calendar

Our Zoom link for the church is:

<https://zoom.us/j/94662078732?pwd=V3d6eWlvSWMyUUlaNlhUNIRQK2Z4UT09>

Notice to Our Members and Friends Regarding Continuation of Virtual Services. We will continue to meet virtually for the foreseeable future.

Join us this Sunday, via Zoom starting with announcements at 10:25.

Sunday Services

May 2nd: The Reverend Andrea Abbott- “Complaint Dept.”

May 9th: The Reverend Andrea Abbott-“The Toughest Job in the World”

May 16th: The Reverend Bud Adams

May 23rd: The Reverend Andrea Abbott

May 30th: The Reverend Libbie Stoddard

PURE WATER FOR THE WORLD

We ask that you will continue to collect your change at home. Change collected will continue to go toward our participation in “Pure Water for the World”.

Connect and Consider

Connect and Consider will meet at 7:00 on 5/12. The topic will be “The Other Side of the Story” with a guest speaker. All are welcome.

Board Minutes Link

If you are a First Universalist Society member you may read the Church Board Minutes at the link below

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19qrK7kymxUGJedQlrGpMCeEH-S25H9x1?usp=sharing>