

CIRCLE OF FELLOWSHIP

Monthly Message for All Ages –April 2024

We affirm that love is our greatest purpose.
Accepting one another is the truest form of faithful
living. The search for truth is our constant star...

Jay E Abernathy Jr

OUR MISSION

To be a welcoming diverse congregation that
values spiritual growth and service to the local
and world community.

The First Universalist Society of Central Square, New
York.

3243 Fulton Street

Post Office Box 429

Central Square, NY 13036-0429

Building Phone: 315-307-3400

Website: CentralSquareUU.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/UU-Central_Square

Trustees

	Marcia Burrell
Janie Garlow	Nancy Hallock
Winfield Ihlow	Ellen LaPine
Ann Peterson	Ronna Schindler
Arny Stieber	Lucy Stieber
Paul Wenham	Susan Woods

We are more than a “church”. We are a community
that believes in the **Seven Principles** which are
grounded in the humanistic teachings of the world’s
religions.

1. The inherent worth and dignity of every
person.
2. Justice, equity and compassion in human
relations.
3. Acceptance of one another and
encouragement to spiritual growth in our
congregation.
4. A free and responsible search for meaning
and truth.
5. The right of conscience and the use of the
democratic process within our
congregation and in society at large.
6. The goal of world community with peace,
liberty, and justice for all.
7. Respect for the interdependent web of all
existence of which we are a part.

Rev David Weissbard

& family ☺



APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR

* **7th, Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Trustees Meeting.**

In the Dining Room and on [Zoom](#)

ALL ARE WELCOME

* **8th, Monday, Noon to 5 PM – View the Eclipse!**
90 Wilson Road Central Square. Free community
viewing of the eclipse with the Girl Scouts. The troop is
working with the Central Square Library to bring this to
our community. Free glasses for the first 250 people.
There will be a food truck, free entertainment, games,
face painting and more. Hope to see everyone there!!!

* **24th, Wednesday, 2PM on Zoom. Book Club**
“The Violin Conspiracy” by Brendan Slocum

* **28th, Sunday – HAPPY UNBIRTHDAY DAY**
celebration after Service. We’ll celebrate all
birthdays!

APRIL SUNDAY SERVICE CONVERSATIONS

7th – Rev. Rev. Tanya Adams

14th – Rev. Kurt Hohmann

“Ripples in the Well”.

Just as the sun nourishes the soil and the rain
quenches the thirst of the earth, so too do our
actions ripple outwards, shaping the world in ways
both seen and unseen.

21st – Rev. Bud Adams

28th – Guest Speaker.

Pastoral Care

Rev. Bud Adams is the minister to call if someone
needs pastoral care. If you or someone else you
know needs to speak with a minister please contact
Bud at (315) 395-1926 or (315) 637-0468. His
email is bud.adams.1@juno.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE – Nancy Hallock

We continue to collect hats, mitts and scarves for distribution by the Lioness.

We will continue to collect cans and coins on Sundays.



Our March guest speaker was Chris Kubnberger from Camp Bionary and Beyond.



SPECIAL – PALESTINE

Compiled by Arny Stieber

Our Seven Principals guide us in our relations. The first Principal is: The inherent worth and dignity of every person. Our fourth Principal is: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning. If you have an interest in Palestine and Israel, you may want to review this current information and the information presented in the past Newsletters.

[Israel: Above the Law?](#) 3/28/24.

[What are implications of UN Security Council Gaza ceasefire vote?](#) 3/26/24

If you're interested in doing something, here are some suggestions.

1. Familiarize yourself with Palestine. What is typically presented by U.S. corporate media is Israel's version of history and current events. Go beyond that.

2. Become familiar with the [BDS Movement](#)

3. Contact your federal politicians (President, Senators, Representative) every day, if you can, by email and/or phone. Their contact information is on their web sites. Once you fill out their email form, it's saved, so repeated contacts are easy. The people of Palestine are being brutalized every day and our politicians need to be reminded that our tax dollars (\$4 billion/year and billions more in weapons) are the major funding source for the death and destruction.

4. Attend seminars and actions in support of Palestine. U.S. Campaign for Palestinian Rights: <https://uscpr.org>

5. Support individuals and groups that speak up for Palestine.

https://www.democracynow.org/2023/12/27/campus_palestine_exception

MARKETING COMMITTEE – Susan, Paul, Arny, Katie, Amanda.

* Reminder - **wear your 1st U hoodies and T's**, not just to Service but everywhere! The community needs to know we exist. Hoodies and T's are one way to spread the word and get noticed. If there is enough interest (need an order of at least 12 pieces) we may have more printed with a different saying on the back. Perhaps "WE ARE ALL RELATED". Let one of the Committee members know if you are interested.

If you have ideas on how we can let others know about our open approach and acceptance to all beliefs, please let a committee member know.

Our message is greatly needed in this time of division, distrust and fear.

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

March was a busy month! The gutters were installed. In anticipation of the "Just Joe" concert on 3/31, we called the Village to determine the capacity of our Service area. The inspector came out and said we can safely hold 145 people. In addition, he inspected the whole building and gave us a list of items that needed attention. The team got to work. Fire extinguishers were

inspected; smoke/carbon monoxide detectors were installed; all the emergency lights were replaced; three electrical issues were corrected; clutter was removed from around the furnaces and the areas marked with yellow stripes. We went further and installed an illuminated EXIT sign in the office hallway. Great job team!

UU BOOK CLUB

The UU Club typically meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 2PM. Zoom only.

On Wednesday, April 24th, 2024 we will discuss the book "The Violin Conspiracy" by Brendan Solcum

This will be a Zoom only discussion.

It is not necessary to be member of the congregation to participate. Most books are readily available through the library or on-line, or discount books.

Please contact Nancy Hallock (315) 533-7067 if you are interested in participating.

UUA Reading Suggestion

[Searching for Solid Ground](#)

A Memoir

An inspiring narrative of bridge-building, hope, and resilience from beloved folk musician Reggie Harris, Author

SOUL MATTERS

Welcome to the Gift of Interdependence

Talk of interdependence immediately calls up the work of *saving* the planet, rightly so. But what if the first step toward saving the planet is learning to *speak* to it? And hear it? Could our collective failure to confront the climate crisis be rooted in our lost ability to listen? What if the quickly-going-extinct creatures don't want our sympathy, but our ear? What if the fraying of the web isn't just about us failing to act, but also us having forgotten who we are. And what if nature itself is the only one who can help us remember?

It's a month of tricky questions, friends. As we begin, may these words by Rev, Kaaren Anderson send us on our way.

We Are One

Perhaps if I could pull my senses back to the scraping squeak of the window opening

that welcomes in the pasture's chorus of peepers, whose resonate tones glide over my bed sheet and mental haze,

I'd be able to hear my amphibian friends' primordial call: _

We are one, we are one, we are one

Perhaps if I could recall the rapid thrum of the nine hummingbirds beating wings, whipping in and out around the feeder, with a thrummmm, thrummmm, thrummmm on that cold Montana morning in May, I'd remember that my heartbeat synched with metronomic ease.

to their tiny thrumming selves and rhythmic reminder:

We are one, we are one, we are one

Perhaps if I could be real still and lay my body on the syrupy mud along the creek behind the wood and hear the ferns unfurling in unison and the roots of the poplar stretching toward the spring,

I'd remember that the universe sings a song to us, each minute, of every hour, of every day, of every year:

We are one, we are one, we are one

Perhaps if I made it a priority to listen to that siren song, I'd ask the right questions, and make the right statements:

and return to the communion of creatures of which I am a part.

The truth is we make this planet about us, and only us and when we do, the earth calls our separate selves back, singing:

"Ask yourself, you beautiful, thoughtful, gorgeous species,

How much of the planet are you really entitled to?

And with the peepers, and the hummingbirds and the ferns and the roots,

I would respond:

We are one, we are one, we are one.

A beautiful book to read in support of Nature
Is "Braiding Sweetgrass"

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

NEWSLETTER ITEMS

The Newsletter comes out at the beginning of each month. It is assembled by Lucy Stieber based on your input. If you have items, please email to Lucy at LASTIEBER@aol.com