CIRCLE OF FELLOWSHIP
December 2025

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
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	Susan Woods
Janie Garlow	Nancy Hallock
Winfield Ihlow	Ellen LaPine
Ronna Schindler	Jane Wenham
Arny Stieber	Lucy Stieber

We are a "church" as derived from the Greek word ekklesia, which means an assembly of people – a community. We believe 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.

Joannie Villegas spoke on 11/2/25 –
"A Day of Remembrance"

December Calendar of Events

2nd. Tuesday-Mammogram Bus 9 AM-3 PM
4th. Thursday-Widening the Circle discussion group on Zoom. "Who Inspires You?" See below.
7th. Sunday-Trustee Meeting 9AM (Dining Room)
31st. Wed. Book Club. 2 PM on Zoom.
"The Melodian" by Glendon Swarthout. Feel free to join in.
Services, Book Club and discussion group are also on ZOOM

SUNDAY SERVICE CONVERSATIONS

10:30 AM in the building & on Zoom
12/7 Speaker-Frank Fitzgerald, "Who's Afraid of Karl Marx". Speaking from Chicago on Zoom
12/14 Rev. Kurt Hohmann, "Choosing Hope". Service will be in the round in the dining room,
12/21 Rev. Andrea Abbott
12/28 Rev. Bud Adams

NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday November 23, 2025 Rev. Andrea Abbott led the Congregation in warmly welcoming four new members. Each one has been active in our congregation and we're deeply appreciative to have them formally become members.
Pictured: Janis Purdy, Carrie Kelley, Bud Adams and Tanya Atwood Adams (not present)

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

WIDENING THE CIRCLE

The next UUCS discussion group, Widening the Circle, will be held on Thursday, December 4th from 6:30–7:30 PM, facilitated by Ellen LaPine. Our question for the evening is: "Who has inspired you?"

All are welcome—we look forward to sharing this time with you!

The Zoom link is the same as for our Sunday services.

PAGAN GATHERINGS

Úthellingu Kindred invites you to join us in the dining room on the **second Saturday every month** from 5-8 pm, for a casual get-together where you can meet and socialize with Norse Pagans. Snacks & beverages are always welcomed! We're open to honorable folks regardless of race, ethnic origin, gender or sexual orientation. All who welcome all are welcome.

To learn more visit www.uthellingu.org or contact uthellingu@gmail.com

Rev. Kurt Hohmann

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The girl scouts are sponsoring the **Youth Empowerment Initiative program.** This is a community driven referral system that provides up to 40 families with needed resources. Currently 27 families are involved. Contact Katie -KaHaberer@yahoo.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE – Nancy Hallock.

* Upstate Mammo Bus at the church Tuesday 12/2, 9-3p. Flyers in dining room to distribute.
* Ongoing collection of hats, scarves, mitts, etc. Partner with Hastings Lioness.

New or slightly used, Homemade or bought. Please bring up justice issues that you want to pursue.

MARKETING COMMITTEE – Susan, Paul, Katie, Arny

* New web site development will be completed in December.
* Joannie is handling our social media updates.
* Use and distribute our very attractive, pride color UUA book marks. They're a great way to promote UU values and have dialogue.
* Reminder - wear your 1st U hoodies and T's, not just to Service but everywhere!
* The ***most effective way to grow our Congregation is by personal contact.*** Invite people to our Service. Tell them about our Seven Principals. Many people are looking for an accepting community and that's us! With our Zoom connection they can be anywhere. SPREAD THE WORD.
* If you have ideas on how we can let others know about our openness and acceptance to all beliefs, please let a committee member know.

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

A number of things were accomplished in November.

Roof - Completed the installation/repairs to the side roof and bell tower. Both chimneys were capped and repaired.

Posts - Eight posts were installed along the back side parking lot separating 1st U from the old Agway building.

Flag - A new Pride flag was installed on the side of the building.

Toilet - The downstairs toilet was repaired.

Sidewalks/Snow Plowing - We need to find and pay an individual to shovel the sidewalks. Your help in finding an individual is appreciated. Stewart's, once again, will plow the handicapped/side lot.

BOOK CLUB

December book "The Melodian" by Glendson Swaartout

January book "The Six" by Loren Grush

Discussions are on **ZOOM** the last Wednesday

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