

CIRCLE OF FELLOWSHIP
January 2026

OUR MISSION

Worship is our shared Unitarian Universalist practice of exploring, connecting to, and creating the ways that our individual lives fit into a larger whole.

The First Universalist Society of Central Square
3243 Fulton Street
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Building Phone: 315-307-3400
Website: CentralSquareUU.org
Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/pages/UU-Central Square](http://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.



WE BELIEVE IN DIVERSITY, INCLUSION & LOVE

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4th Sunday - Trustee Meeting 9AM (Dining Room)
8th Thursday – Widening the Circle discussion group, 6:30 PM. On Zoom. See below.
16th Friday – Blood Drive. See below.
28th Wednesday - Book Club. 2 PM on Zoom.
“The Six” by Loren Grush Feel free to join in
NOTE: Services, Book Club, Widening the Circle are also on

ZOOM

SUNDAY SERVICE CONVERSATIONS

10:30 AM in the building & on Zoom
1/4 Susan Woods – Presentation and discussion of the article, “Getting Serious About UU” by Rev. Scott Alexander.
1/11 Rev. Kurt Hohmann
“Resistance: Holding the Spark”.
1/18 Rev. Bud Adams
1/25 Rev. Andrea Abbott

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, January 8th from 6:30–7:30 PM, facilitated by Ellen LaPine.

Our question for the evening is: “Which of the UU Principles speak to you and why?”

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

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

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Friday 1/16, 1:30-6:30 p.m.

First Baptist Church

701 N Main St., Central Square, NY

It is highly encouraged that you schedule an appointment but walk-ins may be welcome if all appointments do not fill. You can schedule an appointment by visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED Cross

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.

- 1. The Upstate Mammography Bus postponed their visit till 1/5/26 due to bad weather.**
- 2. Winter accessories were delivered to the Hasting Lioness in Nov. We should continue our collection and take advantage of sales at the end of the season.(Ongoing, all year)**
- 3. Ellen continues to promote a successful Red Cross Blood Drive every other month. The next one is January 16th.**
- 4. The coins collected on Sunday morning go to the Girl Scout Empowerment project, as well as our bottles and cans. The Girl Scout has an account at the store on rt 49 in West Monroe.**
- 5. Congratulations to Katie and the Girl Scouts for a successful Magic Christmas community event 12/13. And, thanks to all the volunteers! Again, please feel free to contact me about a social justice issue you want to support as a church.**

MARKETING COMMITTEE – Susan, Paul, Katie, Arny

* We have been working with our web site company to make our new site not only appealing, but easy for search engines to find. This is an essential part of the process. We will also be adding a number of social media platforms.

* Be sure to request and use our very attractive, pride color UUA book marks. They have the Seven Principals on one side and our Sources on the other. Carry a few with you and be ambassadors for 1st U.

* 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.

PALESTINE

An Opportunity for Us to Live Our Seven Principals.

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.

The first link below is updated daily and has a wealth of information.

* <https://ifamericansknew.org/>

* [Zionism and Propaganda](#)

* [What Does This Say About Ourselves?](#)

* [Israel and the UN](#)

* [Documentary: "How Israel Won the West"](#)

Why does Palestine matter? Our government is violating International and U.S. law because of its support for the destruction and death in Palestine. Over \$40 billion of our tax dollars have been spent in the past two years supporting this illegal and immoral activity. This money could have been spent helping WE THE PEOPLE. One area – 20% of U.S. children go to bed hungry every night. I'm always open for discussion. Please contact me (voice or text) 734-216-1814.

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