Albany UU Virtual Summer Sundays

June-September 2021

8:30-9:15 am MEDITATION

Mindfulness Meditation to start your morning

10:00 am SERVICE

Use this link to join meditation and service: https://tinyurl.com/AlbanyUU-SundayService
To dial in by phone call: 1-929-436-2866 and enter Meeting ID: 299 018 7785

Password: 0000

June

June 20 "Thoughts About God," Dan Miyake

Rev. Dan Miyake will share his theological journey with a focus on how Process Theology has influenced his own beliefs about God.

Dan Miyake is currently serving as the minister of the Universalist Unitarian Church of East Liberty in Clarklake, MI, and served as the ministerial intern at Albany UU last year. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Earlham School of Religion (a Quaker seminary) in Richmond, Indiana, and worked as a Chaplain Resident at a level 1 Trauma Hospital in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dan was ordained on November 1, 2020.

Music: Alyssa Yeager

June 27 UUA General Assembly Worship Service

Join us virtually for the largest annual gathering of UUs gathering in worship.

July

July 4 "Making Amends," Rev. Chris Antal

Using a collaborative art installation constructed by Iraq Veterans and Iraqi refugees as an example, we consider how moral repair happens in the aftermath of wrongdoing.

Reverend Chris J. Antal is a Clinical Staff Chaplain at the Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center in Philadelphia. Chris interned at Albany UU (2009-2010) and was ordained in 2011.

Music: Elena Karpoff

July 11 "It's a Process," Rev. Kimberley Debus

They (whoever 'they' are) say that the only constant is change. In this service, we'll explore what that means from a theological and spiritual perspective, and how this way of understanding calls us to our work in the world.

Rev. Kimberley Debus is a community minister based in upstate New York, inspiring an artful and art-filled faith. She consults with congregations and religious professionals throughout the denomination. She has previously served at the Church of the Larger Fellowship as well as congregations on Long Island and Key West.

Music: Elena Karpoff

July 18 "Engaged Spirituality: Confessions of a Militant Mystic," Rev. Richard Gilbert

For some time, Rev. Gilbert has been pondering the words of German theologian Jurgen Moltmann. Moltmann speaks about a theology of relinquishment and an ethic of class betrayal. Add to that the words of UU theologian James Luther Adams that UUs join churches, not to have their values challenged, but confirmed. Food for thought.

Rev. Dick Gilbert, retired UU minister, has published books on faith development, social justice and meditations. He is currently working on a book entitled: No Consorting with Angels: the Spiritual Life of Susan B. Anthony. He lives in Rochester with his wife Joyce.

Music: Lois Bailey

July 25 "Bikini Bodies," Rev. Eileen Casey Campbell

We know that liberation for anyone must mean liberation for everyone. That includes the liberation of our bodies from the constraints of a false morality about the "right" size for a body to be. On Sunday, let us embrace the gifts of delight, pleasure, and wonder in our embodied selves as we rejoice that all bodies are good bodies.

Eileen Casey-Campbell (she, her, hers) is a minister serving the UU Church of Canandaigua, NY. She shares a life with her partner, Brian, their children, and their goofy dog. Eileen is a yoga teacher, who is also called to social justice work, creative worship, and to ministry with youth and young adults. She loves the spiritual practice of learning to create with her own hands—art, bread, gardens, knitted caps, and more.

Music: Elena Karpoff

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August

Aug. 1 "Pushed Back to Strength," Rev. Dr. Tom Chulak

Often when facing adversity we find a strength we did not know we had. In these times, we have been pushed personally and collectively. What has been your response? As Unitarian Universalists how have we responded? And if we have been strengthened, what is the source of our strength? Come and explore the challenges and celebration of life.

Tom is retired Unitarian Universalist minister and member of our congregation. He lives is Ghent with his wife Nicole.

Music: Ann Brandon

Aug. 8 "Addiction and Spirituality: What's Jung Got to Do With It?" Diane Cameron

Two important themes that touch all of our lives: Addiction & Spirituality. Addiction touches each of us—through family, friends or community. Spirituality too matters as we make sense of our lives, especially as we age. But Carl Jung? Yes, he is part of the story, and it turns out that part of that story begins in Albany N.Y.

Diane Cameron is a writer, and teacher. A columnist for the Albany Times Union, Diane is the author of three books, Looking for Signs, Out of the Woods, and Never Leave Your Dead.

Diane is a director at Unity House in Troy, a spiritual coach and retreat leader.

Music: Randy Rosette

Aug. 15 Wellspring Highlights

Wellspring offers a place to explore and choose for yourself what's important for your body, mind and heart. Together we set out on a journey of deep listening and compassionate connection, along with some laughter and fun along the way. Attendees from both the Sources and Faithful Action programs will be presenting!

Music: Elena Karpoff

Aug. 22 "Olympia Brown, Unsung Heroine," Sigrin Newell

Olympia Brown was the first woman to be ordained as a

minister with official approval by a national denomination. In 1863, the Northern Universalist Association in Malone NY approved her plea for equality. As a minister, she had to take the bottom-of-the-barrel jobs that no man wanted. In each case, she made her churches thrive. Reverend Brown was also a suffragist from the very beginning, working with Susan B. Anthony. Brown spent the rest of her life working to get the vote for women. She cast her first vote in 1920 at age 85. Hers is a fascinating story that should be better known.

Dr. Sigrin Newell has been active with the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany NY for more than 30 years. She retired from Walden University, a distance-learning graduate school where she taught students earning their PhDs in education. Sigrin's hobbies are gardening and botany.

Music: Alyssa Yeager

Aug. 29 "Reckoning with Reparations in Albany: Why Here, Why Now?" Jennifer Burns of SURJ

Jennifer Burns, PhD, is a professor of history in the Africana Studies Department at The State University of New York at Albany, with her concentration in local black history. Professor Burns is a commentator on WAMC's Round Table Program, is a board member of the Underground Railroad Education Center and the Hart Cluett Museum, and is active in curriculum development and community education. She received her Masters and Doctoral degrees from the State University of New York at Albany. Dr. Burns has presented at numerous community events and conferences, received numerous awards, and has contributed to Civil War Slave Database in Virginia (2011-2012), and Slavery By Another Name (2012).

Music: Bruce Holden

September

Sept. 5 "The Soul of the Worker," Dan Berggren

Using songs and stories, Dan Berggren asks: What nourishes us? How can our work feed us and others in spiritual ways? Whether it's called pursuing a career, earning a living, doing a job, or answering a call, what is at the heart of work?

Dan, known as an Adirondack folk singer, is also a professor emeritus of SUNY, one of the founding members of the Unitarian Universalist fellowship in Fredonia and a current member of the UU Congregation of Saratoga Springs.

Summer services are coordinated by Randy Rosette.