

Sundays at FUUSA

Please join us on any Sunday for:

Mindfulness Meditation, Religious Education for children and youth, the Service, Coffee Hour, or any combination thereof. Other programs include Forum (social justice topics), Children's Chapel, Green Sanctuary Discussion (environmental topics,) War Healing Circle; social events, and adult education.

All are welcome!

WINDOWS update

Newsletter of the First Unitarian
Universalist Society of Albany

Mid-December, 2010

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Sunday Schedule

9:00 AM

Mindfulness Meditation

9:45 AM

Nursery/Toddler rooms open

10:00 AM

Service

Children's Chapel

(1st Sunday/mo.)

Religious Education

11:00 AM

Coffee Hour

11:45 AM

Forum *(2nd & 4th Sundays/mo.)*

Green Sanctuary Discussion

(3rd Sunday/mo.)

6:00 PM

War Healing Circle

(2nd & 4th Sunday/mo.)

Services

Dec. 19 "Would You Like to Hold the Baby?" *Multigenerational*

This annual Christmas pageant celebrates the spiritual truths and metaphorical beauty found in the Nativity story. As Mary invites a stable girl to hold the baby, so are we invited to embrace the deepest meaning that Christmas holds for each of us. Music: Choir and guests

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve services 6:30 pm and 8:15 pm.

(Sanctuary)

First service family friendly.

Dec. 26 "Discovering Kwanzaa" *Multigenerational*

Jacqui Williams, Mickie Conn and Rev. Trumbore will collaborate to present a multi-generational, interactive, experiential, unorthodox, Sunday service that explains, demonstrates and appreciates this recently created and often misunderstood holiday. Many of the values Kwanzaa celebrates are core Unitarian Universalist values too, as seen through the lens of the African American experience. This service will be a joyful way to increase your cultural competence, if Kwanzaa is not or has not been part of your family life. Music: FUUSA drumming group



Calendar

Events happening every Sunday at FUUSA

| | | | |
|----------|--|-------------------|-------------|
| 9:00 AM | Mindfulness Meditation | Sanctuary | Exceptions: |
| 10:00 AM | Service | Emerson | |
| 10:00 AM | Children's Chapel (1st Sunday/mo.) | Sanctuary | |
| 10:00 AM | Religious Education | Classrooms | |
| 11:00 AM | Coffee Hour | Channing, Emerson | |
| 11:45 AM | Forum (2nd & 4th Sundays/mo) | Emerson | |
| 11:45 AM | Green Sanctuary Discussion (3rd Sun./mo) | B-8 | |
| 6:00 PM | War Healing Circle (2nd & 4th Sundays/mo.) | Emerson | |

Events happening every week in the month of December

| | | | | |
|------------|----------|-------------------|---------|--|
| Tuesdays | 10:00 AM | Philosophy Group | B-8 | Exceptions: Dec. 29 No choir rehearsal |
| | 1:00 PM | Bridge | B-8 | |
| Wednesdays | 10:00 AM | Projects & Quilts | B-8 | |
| | 7:00 PM | Choir Rehearsal | Emerson | |

All other events happening in the month of December

15-Dec Wednesday

6:00 PM Personnel Committee Study

16-Dec Thursday

7:00 PM Board of Trustees B-8

18-Dec Saturday

7:00 PM Dances of Universal Peace Channing

19-Dec Sunday

11:45 AM Green Sanctuary Committee B-8
 12:00 PM Caroling, locations tba FUUSA starting point
 2:00 PM Peace Talk/SRC Sponsorship Emerson
 3:00 PM Pastoral Care Associates B-8
 7:00 PM Earth Spirits Solstice Celebration Channing, Kit.

20-Dec Monday

12:00 PM Channing Circle Channing (to 1:30)

21-Dec Tuesday

10:00 AM Sanctuary decorating Sanctuary
 7:00 PM Wellspring Emerson Alcove

24-Dec Friday

6:30 PM First Service—family friendly Sanctuary
 7:30 PM Reception—setup 7:00 Channing
 8:15 PM Second Service Sanctuary

26-Dec Sunday

6:00 PM War Healing Circle B-8

27-Dec Monday

1:00 PM Shelter Meal Prep Kitchen
 7:30 PM Monday Men B-8

FUUSA office closings

The church office will be closed on Monday, Dec. 27 For the Christmas holiday and on Friday, Dec. 31 for the New Year holiday.

Looking Ahead

Jan. 7 Chili Cook Off

Jan. 14-15 Meditation Retreat

Jan. 30 Get Connected! Activity Fair

News

Christmas Eve Reception

Your help is needed to continue the Christmas Eve Reception—a FUUSA family tradition—which will be held between the two Christmas Eve services. The ever popular assortment of cookies and goodies will be served as well as punch, but only if you can help. We need at least two people for set up. (If you are you going to the second service, please arrive to help at 7 PM.) The tables will be prepared but we need help putting out the food and punch. At least two people are needed to help serve punch and refill food trays, and another two people are needed to clean up the tables and food stuffs. If you are staying after the first service for the reception, could you stay an extra fifteen minutes to help with the cleanup? We need YOU and your help to continue this activity. Of course, we also

Flyers in this issue

At the end of this newsletter you will find full page items on:

- ◆ Holiday Events
- ◆ Chili Cook Off
- ◆ Oriel guidelines

need an assortment of cookies, veggies, cheese, fruit, and any other cold nibble food that might be appropriate. See the sign-up sheet in Channing Hall. --Sandy Stone

Bazaar success!

The Holiday Bazaar committee is proud to announce our final total for this year's event. We made a total of \$6,380 (2.3% more than last year.) Thanks again to all who helped in any way to make this a successful event in our community.

Budget requests due January 16, 2011

Yes, it's time once again to figure out how much money your program, committee or group will need in the next fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012.

The budget form for submission can be found on the FUUSA web site at <http://www.albanyuu.org/budgetform.pdf>, or in the File Cabinet. If necessary, the office can supply you with a printed form.

The Finance Committee and the Board use the completed form to help determine what your group's priorities are for next year and how much money will be needed to support your endeavors. It will be assumed that no funds will be needed if a form is not submitted. Regular mail and email submissions will be welcomed.

If you have questions please contact Steve Moskowitz, Finance Committee chair.

UU Weekend announcement

The UU Weekend Committee has cancelled its planned fundraising dinner (previously announced for January 29) due to scheduling conflicts. Thank you to all who marked this date on their calendars and planned to attend. We are working on a terrific UU Weekend for Oct. 14 – 16, 2011-- so that is a date you should hold! - UU Weekend Committee



The Union Thanksgiving was celebrated at FUUSA this year with a medley of speakers from the four congregations.



And the corn muffin communion on Sunday morning!

Greater Gifts to the Endowment Trust

◆ From Steve Rider, in remembrance of his mother, **Mim Rider**, on the first anniversary of her death

Solstice Celebration

Dec. 19, 7:00 pm

Earth Spirits will celebrate the Solstice on Sunday, Dec. 19 in Channing Hall. Bring food to share, a gift of non-perishable food for the Food Pantry, and a willingness to celebrate with chant, dance, poetry, and ritual the earth's change from darkness to light.

Please arrive between 7:00 and 7:30. Once this strongly participatory ritual has begun there will be no further admission.

FUUSA Car Pooling - coming to your neighborhood!

The Green Sanctuary committee has yet another idea to save on gas, save the planet, and increase our community involvement at the same time. Wouldn't it be nice to be picked up this winter instead of sitting in your cold car. Or, wouldn't it feel good to give someone a ride so they don't have to sit in their cold car. Answer? Car Pool!

The FUUSA Car Pool sign up sheet is on the Sign Up Site bulletin board in Channing. We've got a super-duper Google map started that needs your location before it's whole. The rest of the details are on the sign-up sheet.

See you on the map !--Sandy Steubing, Green Sanctuary committee

Need to talk? FUUSA Pastoral Care Associates are here to listen!

Our Pastoral Care Associates have been trained in compassionate listening skills and are available to all members and friends of our congregation. To contact a Pastoral Care Associate, email listeners@albanyuu.org, contact Reverend Sam Trumbore, the FUUSA office at 518-463-7135, or one of them personally. They are: Jon Newell, Phil Rich, Sharon Babala, Jan Satin, Jean Bolgatz, Randy Rosette, Mark Yolles and Robin Miller.



Newcomer orientation

Learn about Unitarian Universalism and FUUSA

We invite you to meet with others who are new to the congregation at our next “**Getting to Know UU**” session, scheduled for Saturday, January 22 from 8:45 a.m. to noon.

We'll start with coffee and snacks and getting to know each other: new folks, Membership Committee, and Rev. Sam Trumbore. You'll learn about Unitarian Universalism and about our congregation, and you'll get a chance to ask all the questions you've been collecting. We'll talk about how to get involved in the FUUSA community and about becoming a member. All in all, it's a fun morning of conversation and fellowship, and a pleasant first step on the path to membership!

There is a sign up sheet in Channing Hall (at the Sign Up Site), or you can call Amy Lent interim Membership Coordinator (and Church Administrator) at the church office, 463-7135.

The next “**New Member Recognition Sunday**” is February 6. If you are interested in becoming a member please call either Kathy Hodges or Amy Lent at the church office.

Survey on Sunday morning services

Rev. Trumbore's "Worship Cabinet" will be randomly surveying visitors, friends and members of the congregation during the month of December to get their feelings, opinions and ideas about Sunday morning services. If you would like to participate in this survey non-randomly, please contact one of these people doing the survey: Irene Saulsbery, Emily Gallagher, Jan McCracken, Don Odell, John Cooley, Fred Boreali, Sigrin Newell, Ben English, Chris or Lauren Liberati-Conant.

Lifespan Learning

Adult Education

Sign up for classes at the Sign Up Site in Channing Hall. Both courses are held at FUUSA. See December Windows for details.

Interfaith Dialog: Etiquette and Rules of the Road When Faiths Collide

Tuesdays, Jan. 11- Feb. 1, 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Facilitated by Robb Smith, Executive Director, In-

terfaith Impact of NYS

Crash Course

Mondays, Feb. 7- Mar. 28 , 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Sandy Steubing will present the “Crash Course” by Chris Martenson.

Our Community

Let's talk about the seder!

We have a date for the seder on the FUUSA calendar (Saturday, April 16), but we need an organizer and a committee to make the dinner happen. If you would be interested in taking on the organization of this spring event, please call church administrator Amy Lent, 463-7135. Don't wait too long to express your interest—inquiring minds need to know!

James Wessman memorial

The two Wessman-Froese children invite the FUUSA community to a celebration of their late father's life.

*Coffeehouse Celebration of James Wessman's Life
Friday, December 17 at 7 PM
Emerson Community Hall*

We invite you to join us in a celebration of his life - coffeehouse style. Bring stories, poems, readings, and music you would like to share with us. Or, if you're inspired, bring a dessert to share.

We know he touched the lives of many people we do not even know. We want to be surrounded by those who cared about him, as well as those who never knew him but care about us. If you are unable to attend, we invite you to send us a message or a favorite memory you have of our dad. We'll share it for you during coffeehouse.

Channing Circle is collecting collections

Wondering what to do with your collections? Bring them to Channing Circle's meeting on December 20. Meet other FUUSA retirees and see what they've collected. (To date, collections range from bottles to button hooks.) Lunch starts at 12 noon, at FUUSA. Bring your sandwich, and beverage and dessert will be served. Then the Collections program starts.

About Us

The Helderberg Madrigal Singers (including **Dawn and Dick Dana and Dave Metz**) will perform at the “Tuesdays at Noon” concert series at St. Paul's, 58 Third St, Troy, on Tuesday, December 21, starting at noon. The concert is free and you can bring your lunch.

Walker Book Club

Dates and books currently scheduled:

- ♦ Jan. 9 - The Housekeeper and the Professor by Yoko Ogawa.
- ♦ Feb. 13 - Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer.

Contact Linda Hunt at lhunt@nycap.rr.com with any questions or for a list of books suggested by participants for future months.

Welcome New members!

Brian Carr

Brian is a long time programmer, currently unemployed but hoping to retrain as a social worker next Fall. His spiritual background is a Hindu yoga meditation tradition. Since relocating from the Portland, OR area to the Albany area last year he has regularly attended the Mindfulness Meditation group and stayed for the services. Both of Brian's sons are grown and settled in the Albany area. Brian regularly helps out with Habitat for Humanity and enjoys hiking.



Richard and Chris Howard

Dick was born in Queens, NY, and grew up in Voorheesville NY. He attended FUUSA in the 60's and was active in LRY (Liberal Religious Youth.) After completing medical school here in Albany, he served in the Navy as a physician aboard the Samuel Gompers, and the USS Nimitz. He is currently Interim Chief of Surgery at the Stratton Veteran's Administration Hospital, where he is a general surgeon. He enjoys visiting his three sons from his previous marriage. He also



enjoys cartoons, books, classical music and cycling. He recently had a score of 514 in Scrabble.



Dick married Chris Wilber in 2008. Chris was born in Chatham, NY and grew up in Voorheesville. She is a speech and language pathologist who is in the process of establishing a private practice on Madison Avenue in Albany. She hopes to do volunteer work at Trinity Institute within the next year. Chris has

two sons and a daughter from a previous marriage. She enjoys books, music and cycling with Dick. She recently had a score of 518 in Scrabble!

Dick and Chris have two grandsons in Baltimore, three-year-old Owen and one-year-old Wes. They call Dick "Baboo" and Chris "Mima."

Richard Morell

Richard Morell is quite pleased to join FUUSA. He has been studying within a pagan tradition for the past 3 years, and continues to deepen his relationships with the earth and the multiverse. He holds an MFA from NYU in Dramatic Writing, and intends to self-produce a play he's been writing for the past 25 years relating to his family background in Littleton, Colorado in the shadow of the Columbine massacre. He recently self-published his "Doom Sonnets for After the Empire" which Sam read from the pulpit a few weeks ago, and is an active member of the Capital District Transition Network's Initiating Group. Richard is also studying the magic and medicine of plants with accomplished herbalists Sean Donahue and Darcey Blue French, based in New Hampshire.



Barb and Ray Warner

Barb and Ray Warner have four children: a cooking teacher, a public defender, a Probate Court judge and a doctor, and seven grandchildren. The family lived in Montclair, N.J. Barb was an elementary school teacher for 25 years. Ray was an editor in



national news for the New York Times (and wants no part of public relations in retirement.)

Upon retiring in 1985 they moved to Williamstown, MA, and became actively involved at Williams College and in the town as volunteers. They moved to Albany three years ago when the college bought their home as part of a since-postponed plan to build a new football field.

Together, they are movie junkies and attend many athletic contests and musical events, including all of the Met Opera simulcasts. They were volunteer ushers for 15 years at Tanglewood and they had season tickets with the Jets for 44 years until this season. Barb likes gardening, bridge, crossword puzzles and reading fiction. Ray plays pool in an old man's league, reads mostly non-fiction and likes Mahler and Artie Shaw. Jets Day games are still a holiday at their home. They also root for the Mets and Phillies and watch more of their games than they think they should.

They raised three children in a rural area of upstate New York before moving to Guilderland nine years ago. She works at the State Health Department as a research librarian. Lucy has two daughters who live downstate while her son and 5-year-old grandson live with her.

Lucy Wrightington

Lucy grew up in the Bahamas and came to the U.S. to attend college where she met her late husband. They raised three children in a rural area of upstate New York before moving to Guilderland nine years ago. She works at the State Health Department as a research librarian. Lucy has two daughters who live downstate while her son and 5-year-old grandson live with her.



After having a huge organic garden in the country for years, Lucy loves to garden, though now on a much smaller scale. Sailing is another hobby. Her husband had built a cottage on Penobscot Bay in Maine where Lucy's family still enjoys sailing every summer. One of Lucy's lifelong passions is ballet, and a more recent hobby that has come from that is dance lessons. She is a member of the Albany Tango Society.

Lucy began attending FUUSA services occasionally a few years ago and has participated in Small Group Ministry. Lucy states that she is very happy to make the decision to become a full-fledged member.

Janet Priest Jones

Janet Priest Jones (aka Jamie) is happily retired from federal service and has resided in Averill Park with her husband, Jerry, for 36 years. Between them they have six adult children but now share the house with two elderly Giant Schnauzers and two cats. Everybody gets along.



Originally from Patchogue, Long Island, Janet admits to missing ready access to the sea but has acclimated well. Her current schedule and interests include outdoor activities and music. The accomplishments she is proudest of are finishing the Appalachian Trail in 2008 and climbing all 115 of the highest peaks in the Northeast US.

Joys and Caring Corner

Edited for the Web: Personal information and contacts removed, as well as children's last names. Web viewers needing more information are invited to contact the church office at administrator@fuusalba.org.

If you need the services of the Caring Network, please call the office during regular hours at 463-7135.

Items of personal joy or caring may be submitted during the service on the yellow cards provided, or directly to Ann Lapinski .or Mary Ann Randall.

Social Justice

Did you see The New York Times" cover story November 18, SHOP, CHINA, SHOP? The caption that followed read "For the sake of the world economy and their own, the Chinese need to start spending more like Americans." Can our earth sustain more consumerism and spending? It is that time of year when many get caught up in spending. Our news told us happily that Black Friday spending was up from last year. Does that mean that more people will be employed? Certainly here, as elsewhere, we are seeing more need for food pantries and homeless shelters because people have lost their jobs. We at FUUSA help out with charitable activities (see the volunteer wall in Channing to volunteer) but this help does not get to the root of the problem: how to have a sustainable economy without destroying the planet.

On November 28, I attended the excellent service on Peace by Sybil Stock. After the service there was a discussion attended by about 40 persons which allowed different voices to be heard concerning the issues. Most interestingly, the discussion concluded on the interrelationship of so many of our social issues, including climate change, and how we as individuals deal with peace in our relationship with others. As pointed out in the service, this personal relationship is fundamental to peace. Rev. Sam followed up on the peace theme December 5, with an emphasis on Karen Armstrong's "Charter for Compassion." She says the principle of compassion "lies at the heart of all religions...." And Rev. Sam challenged us with how we could do

this in our personal lives.

As we come together at FUUSA this time of year may we especially practice tolerance and understanding and keep on trying to change the world for the better. Let us make time to think of others who are the victims of the lack of compassion and understanding, to not just write holiday greetings, but to send our feelings of need for compassion to our legislators and when possible to demonstrate in public, wearing gold t-shirts and "standing on the side of love"

We can make a difference. Keep checking the SRC table and information in "Windows" to find out ways how and keep

Standing on the Side of Love,
Lois Griffin

Forum

January 9, 11:45 AM, Emerson

After November: What comes next in American politics?

Bruce Miroff, Political Science Professor at University at Albany and FUUSA member, will discuss the repercussions of the November election. What will we and the president be facing in the next two years? Professor Miroff, who specializes in American political theory and the presidency, has delivered guest lectures at numerous American universities, and in the summer of 2009 was a State Department lecturer in Brazil. He was given the Excellence in Teaching Award and is a Collins Fellow at U Albany.



Green Sanctuary
The Green Sanctuary Committee will meet on Sunday, December 19 at 11:45 AM in Room B-7 to look at several ideas for the present and future planning. All are welcome.

SRC Table

Check out the new items from Kenya at the table for Holiday Gifts. There are LED Night Lights with sensors that last for many years. Information is available on many issues, including water usage and energy reduction in your home.

The return of McCarthyism?

Stephanie Weiner, one of 14 peace activists whose homes were raided by the FBI and who were given subpoenas to appear before a federal grand jury, will speak on Sunday, December 19 at 2 PM, in Emerson Community Hall, at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany. The US peace movement has come to the support of the 14 and sees these FBI raids and subpoenas as attacks on the entire movement. The program is being sponsored by the Social Responsibilities Council of FUUSA, Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace, Veterans for Peace, the Muslim Solidarity Committee, and others.

Stephanie Weiner has taught English in Chicago City Colleges for 25 years. In 2007-2008, she was honored as Wright College Adult Educator of the Year. She is active with the Palestine Solidarity Group, is advisor to Wright College Students for a Democratic Society, and had been the advisor to the Peace and Justice club since 2002. She is a founding member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 3506, previously serving on the executive board and bargaining committee. Stephanie has been active in the struggle in her community in opposition to police brutality and wrongful convictions. Her work in the Committee Exigimos Justicia helped win freedom for a number of people. She has been active in the peace and justice movement since childhood, when her parents took her to anti-war marches.



Are you feeding your Guest At Your Table?

Please be generous! If you can be generous to your guest at a level of \$100 or more, your contribution will be matched by the Shelter Rock UU Congregation. Too much for you? There is no amount to small or too large. Don't have a Guest at Your Table box?

Please stop by the RE office and get yours. Let's

join UU congregations nationwide in building connections to our shared values and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's (UUSC's) work to advance human rights in the United States and around the world. -Don Odell, your UUSC local representative.

Food Pantry News

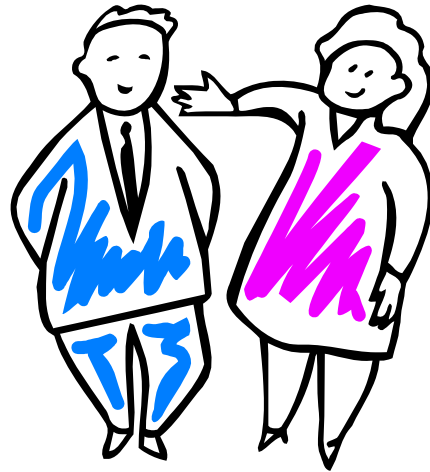
Our overwhelming generosity of \$802.00 at the November 29 service will be overwhelmingly appreci-

ated by our Food Pantry clients. Our members are growing with winter upon us and joblessness what it is. Statistically, we served 353 households, with a total of 662 individuals and a grand total of 11,916 meals! Those stats are for the month of October. The food pantry is open daily; and often people line up at the door for the good stuff we have to offer them.--Many thanks, Lois Thomson and Jane Allen, co-chairs

Hi! My name is...

When you wear your nametag, you are saying something about yourself beyond your name. Just by pinning it on, you say:

- ◆ I am an open person who wants to know others and be known.
- ◆ I am aware that our church is too large for me to know everyone and for everyone to know me.
- ◆ I am a courteous person, who relieves others of the struggle of trying to remember all our names;
- ◆ I am a realistic person who knows there is a constant stream of visitors to our church, and that they will never get to know us without our help.



P.S. Need a new printed nametag? You can request one at the Sign Up Site. When a batch of tags is ready they will be available for pick up at the Welcome Table.

December Sunday Volunteer Opportunities—Sign up in Channing Hall at the Sign Up Site.

| | Lead Usher (1) | Ushers (3) | Coffee Hosts (2) | Greeters (2) | Chalice Lighter (1) |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Dec. 19 | D. Odell | L. Griffin A. D'Attilio | T. Henderson | B. Manning | S. Tilgner |
| Dec. 24 6:00 pm | D. Odell | C. Bohn | | | |
| Dec. 24 8:00 pm | M. Myers | C. Manning | | | |
| Dec. 26 | | | C. Howard and ? | | I. Daniels |

Contact Us

Board of Trustees 2010-2011

email: board@albanyuu.org

Executive Committee

Chuck Manning, President
Peg Sherman, Vice President
Dave Metz, Treasurer
Donna Meixner, Secretary

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Molly Daniels, Chair Religious Education Council
Lois Griffin, Chair Social Responsibilities Council

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Mike Babala, Assistant Treasurer

Staff

Minister

Rev. Sam Trumbore strumbore@uumin.org

Church Administrator, interim Membership

Coordinator

Amy Lent administrator@albanyuu.org

Director of Religious Education

Leah Purcell dre@albanyuu.org

Music Director

Matt Edwards mge01@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant/Sexton

David Stone sexton@albanyuu.org

Rental Agent

Lynne Lekakis kaneandlekakis@gmail.com

Custodian

Olga Oja

Regular meeting days

Check current calendar for time and location
Board of Trustees, 3rd Thursday
Program Coordinating Council, 2nd Thursday

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany

Phone: 518.463.7135

Address: 405 Washington Avenue, between Robin Street and Lake Avenue, Albany, New York 12206

Main entrance is on Washington Avenue. Rear entrance is on West St. Both have ramp access. The building is fully handicapped accessible.

Parking: Parking is available on the street. On Sundays (and for some special events) FUUSA has permission to use the University at Albany's downtown campus parking lots: the Hawley Lot on Robin Street at Washington Avenue and the Thurlow Terrace Lot on Western Avenue.

Office hours

September-June: Monday-Friday, 9:00-4:00
July-August: Monday-Thursday 9:00-12:00

Building use

To **reserve a room** for a FUUSA activity, contact Administrative Assistant Dave Stone (463-7135 or dstone@albanyuu.org).

To **rent classroom space** for a personal or non-FUUSA activity, contact Administrative Assistant Dave Stone (463-7135 or dstone@albanyuu.org).

To **rent one of the large halls** or plan for an event that will use both halls and classrooms for a personal or non-FUUSA activity, contact Rental Agent Lynne Lekakis (427-7386 or kaneandlekakis@gmail.com).

Windows is the newsletter of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany. It is published monthly, except July and August, in the offices of the Society at 405 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12206, and distributed to members and friends of the Society. Church office phone is 518-463-7135.

Editors: Amy Lent, Irene Saulsbery
Photos: Chris Strebel

Send all submissions to:
Windows@albanyuu.org or to the church office.

Next publication deadlines

Jan. *Windows*: Dec. 20
Jan. *Update*: Jan. 3

CHILI COOK OFF

Friday, January 7

Set Up at 5:30

Dinner at 6:00

Channing Hall

Pot Luck or Pay



- Sign up by Jan 2nd in Channing Hall if you'd like to bring chili, mac and cheese (for tender taste buds), bread, salad, dessert or beverages
- If you'd rather pay than bring food or beverages, the cost is \$3 per adult; \$2.00 per child under 13; \$10 family max.
- Walk-ins are welcome to come (and pay), but sign up if you can, to help us plan.
- Bring board games to play after dinner

Sponsored by PCC (The Program Coordinating Council)

December 2010

Holiday Events

at FUUSA



The RE Mitten Tree

Emerson Community Hall

During the month of December you can decorate the Mitten Tree in Emerson Hall with new hats, gloves,

and mittens for children and adults. You can also put new, unwrapped toys under the tree. All will be donated to the Marillac shelter, which offers an emergency housing program for homeless families in the Capital Region.

Come, trim the Christmas tree!

Holiday crafts workshop and party

Saturday, Dec. 11, 9:30-11:30 AM

Channing Hall

Food—Fun—Holiday Music—Wreath Making!

Your favorite holiday crafts – gingerbread houses, origami boxes – and new ones: A great opportunity for children to make presents

Sign up in Channing Hall. Walk-ins are also welcome! Freewill donation for craft supplies; Wreaths \$5. Sponsored by the Religious Education Council

“Would You Like to Hold the Baby?”

Sunday, Dec. 19, 10:00 AM

Emerson Community Hall

A multigenerational Christmas service celebrating the spiritual truths and metaphorical beauty found in the Nativity story

Children and youth participation in the pageant:

Sunday, Dec. 5, 11:30 to 12:00 – Selection of major parts of the pageant and costume selection – (Sanctuary)

Sunday, Dec. 12, 11:30 to 12:30 – Rehearsal (Emerson Hall)

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, Dec. 19

Caravan starts at FUUSA at noon

Singing locations TBA! Families are encouraged to attend.

Solstice Celebration

Sunday, Dec. 19, 7:00 pm

Channing Hall

Join us for this earth-centered Unitarian Universalist ritual to recognize the shortest day of the year. Drums and rattles are welcome!

Please bring a non-perishable food item for the food pantry—and, if you are so inspired, a snack to share after the celebration.

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Services

Friday, Dec. 24, 6:30 and 8:15 p.m.

Sanctuary

The 6:30 PM service will be “family friendly”. And be sure to plan some time at the reception between the services!

