

Summer Sundays

at Albany UU

June-September 2018

9:00 a.m. MEDITATION

Mindfulness Meditation, in the Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. SERVICE

In Community Hall, refreshments afterward

June

June 17 "On Patriotism," Rev. Chris Antal

What have those who came before us had to say about patriotism? How might we distinguish patriotism from nationalism and reclaim a genuine love for country?

Rev. Antal was ordained by Albany UU in 2011. Since then, he served a tour as an Army chaplain in Afghanistan, and earned a doctorate from Hartford Seminary.

Music: Richard Porterfield, Chris Bystroff (viola)

June 24 "A Moral Voice at the Table- Preachers and Politicians- Albany 2018," Rev. Dick Gilbert

How compelling was the voice of the religious community during the 2018 legislative session in Albany? Should we be fired? And how did the legislators do, morally speaking?

*Rev. Dick Gilbert, retired UU minister, has published books on faith development, social justice and meditations, including *In the Holy Quiet* and *Thanks Be for These*.*

Music: Richard Porterfield, Elaine "Faerie" Silver (guitar and voice)

July

July 1 "You can do it!—The Potential of Blessings," Leah Purcell

More than encouragement, positive spin, or sincere wish, the words of blessing literally bring forth and make real an

Summer Session for children and youth, 10:00 a.m., June 17– Sept. 2

Childcare for infants through 7-year-olds in the nursery and in room 24/25;

Children ages 8 and up and youth attend the service with their families.

No registration required.



otherwise unrealizable force. In this way, blessing is not supplication but symbiosis. How can we as Unitarian Universalists evoke the power of offering blessings in ways that honor our religious tradition?

Leah has served as Director of Religious Education at Albany UU since 2007. She received her RE credentialing through the UUA in 2011 at the Credentialed level.

Music: Richard Porterfield

July 8 "Kindness is Everything," Rev. Beth Dana

On lawn signs, church banners, and social media memes we've seen the statement "Kindness is Everything." What does it mean? As we explore this topic, and the practice of kindness, we will ask ourselves, "Is it better to be right, or kind?"

Rev. Beth Dana grew up at Albany UU, and now serves as Minister of Congregational Life at First Unitarian Church of Dallas, Texas.

Music: Richard Porterfield

July 15 "Do we prepare our children for the world or the world for our children? The answer is yes." Heather Mendel

Judaism demands we make the world better by our being in it. Jewish mysticism (Kabbalah) provides a map for those willing to take up the challenge. Are you ready?

Heather Mendel is a South African-born mystic, artist, author and speaker. She offers workshops and seminars on contemporary Kabbalah and consciousness. She is the author of five books and artist-creator of 4 oracle decks.

Music: Richard Porterfield

Services continued on reverse

The summer services are coordinated by Randy Rosette.

If you can volunteer to help on a Sunday when you will be here, we'd love to hear from you. There are openings for Greeters and Ushers. You can sign up by calling the office (518-463-7135) or at our resource page:

www.Members.AlbanyUU.org

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July 22 “Installing the Good,” Rev. Tom Chulak

Many of us, including myself, have messages that tell us we are not good enough. These messages have come from many places and sources. It is time to say 'basta' and install the good. This service will explore the theological, societal and psychological roots of the not good enough plague and how Unitarian Universalism responds.

Rev. Tom Chulak is a member of this congregation, a retired UU Minister, and owner, with his wife Nicole Furnee, of the Chatham Bookstore.

Music: Richard Porterfield

July 29 “Courage for the Resistance...and the Relationships,” Rev. Amanda Poppei

Many of us are engaged in social justice work, or political action, seeking to change the recent direction of our country. How do we maintain hope and build up our bravery for that work? And, at the same time, how do we stay true to our Unitarian Universalist principles, which honor the worth of every person?

Rev. Amanda Poppei is a Unitarian Universalist minister as well as a certified Ethical Culture Leader, and has a strong background in interfaith work.

Music: Richard Porterfield

August

Aug. 5 “A Ritual to Read to Each Other,”

Philomena Moriarty

How can we live with honesty and integrity? How can we live in compassion and love? There often feels like there is a tension between these values? It is by living with this tension that Love becomes the fierce force it needs to be. It is how we can live in community as whole people.

In this service we will explore the poem A Ritual to Read to Each Other by William Stafford and what it has to teach us about authenticity, love and the ability to live together in community.

Philomena Moriarty is a psychotherapist in private practice and poet who has written the book My Moon Self - A Spiritual Memoir through Poetry. She is not a new visitor to this pulpit and wants to share the deep meaning and insight poetry gives her.

Aug. 12 “Reclaiming My Time,” Rev. Kimberley Debus

Over the past year, we have seen women and more than a few men say “enough” to misogyny, sexual violence, and a culture that devalues half the population. What does it mean to not only have, but promote a new vision of a world that no longer needs #metoo?

Rev. Kimberley Debus works as a community minister; she inspires congregations to more artful and art-filled worship, congregational life, and public witness.

Music: Randy Rosette

Aug. 19 “What kind of person is a prophet?” Joe Paparone

The prophetic tradition, transformation, justice, and Sanctuary.

Joe Paparone earned a Master of Arts in Global Leadership from Fuller Theological Seminary. Joe volunteers with New Sanctuary for Immigrants, ICE-Free Capital District, and Capital Area Against Mass Incarceration.

Music: Al DeSalvo

Aug. 26 “I know something you don’t know,”

Rev. Lynn Ashley

This singsong taunt that may haunt us from the playgrounds of our childhoods may serve to remind us of the power associated with knowing secrets. It may serve as well to remind us there could be a price associated with knowing those secrets. The lessons associated with price and power, connected with some of the most powerful secrets of our families and associations (some of them carried throughout the generations); and the sense of being ‘in’ or ‘out’ (depending), are likely to influence the course of our lives.

Rev. Lynn Ashley is a longtime friend of Albany UU where she was ordained. Recently retired, she lives in Voorheesville with her husband and their cat.

Music: Ann Brandon

September

Sept. 2 “A Dark Night of the Soul—In Which You Take an Exquisite Risk,” Diane Cameron

A new year begins at Labor Day, and we look around our lives and ask, “What comes next?” and “What should go?”, and we welcome the inevitable invitation to take a risk.

Diane is passionate about advocacy for people living in poverty and for family caregivers. She is a director at Unity House in Troy and is also a spiritual coach and retreat leader.

Music: Randy Rosette