

We welcome everyone. Our Unitarian Universalist community seeks truth and deeper meaning, pursues justice through inspired action, and cultivates compassion and love for all connected by the web of life. *Mission statement, adopted May 18, 2014*

Programs for Children and Youth

Programs for Children and Youth **today, 10/19.**

Childcare (Nursery/Toddler) opens at 9:45 upstairs in Room 22. Children and youth up to 8th grade start out in service and then go to their age-based groups following the new member welcome. Youth Group (high school) remains in Community Hall for the full service today. After the service they have 15 minutes to get a snack and take a break before returning to Community Hall for their conversation with Rev. Ann.

If you are new or visiting, and your child isn't registered, please accompany them to their room and sign them in. If you aren't sure where to go, check in at the "RE" Office Window in the lobby before service, or Elizabeth will be available in the hallway to help when the kids head out.

Groups run until 11:15, at which time parents and guardians pick up their children and youth up to and including 8th grade. High school youth are released on their own.

If you are interested in helping out, or you would like to ask about our programs, please email the Director of Programs for Children & Youth at dre@albanyuu.org.

Worship Theme for November: Belonging

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Rev. Ann Kadlecek, Interim Minister

Elizabeth Baldes, Director of Programs for Children and Youth

Olga Martinez, Director of Music Ministry

Sophia Garder, Administrator

Ben Warner, Tech Support

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Contact us: 518.463.7135 • office@albanyuu.org



Image by Tim Mossholder

On Belonging

Rev. Ann Kadlecek

**Debbie Brown,
Worship Associate**

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, November 9, 2025

10:00 AM

On Belonging

November 9, 2025

Gathering Music Olga Martinez, Director of Music Ministry
& Chris Milkins

Announcements Debbie Brown, Worship Associate

Coffee Hour Connection Albany UU Choir

Ringing of the Chime

Welcome Debbie Brown

Congregational Greeting

Opening Song *Rooted and Grounded in Love*
by Amanda Udis-Kessler

Call to Community & Chalice Lighting Rev. Ann Kadlecek

This is a community of kindness and welcome.
You do not have to earn the love
contained within these walls.
You do not have to be braver, smarter, stronger, better
than you are in this moment
to belong here, with us.

A Place Between Us Both Albany UU Choir
by Michael John Trotta

Story Elizabeth Baldes, Dir. of Prog. for Children & Youth
The Big Umbrella by Amy June Bates with Juniper Bates

Welcoming Youth Members Rev. Ann Kadlecek

Singing the Children Out *As You Leave This Friendly Place*

Joys and Sorrows

Randy Rosette & Frank Traynor

Sung Response #123 *Spirit of Life*

Worship Associate Reflection Debbie Brown

Reading Rev. Ann Kadlecek
A Blessing Called Sanctuary by Jan Richardson

Sermon Rev. Ann Kadlecek

Musical Reflection Albany UU Choir
When Our Voices Rise music by Stuart Chapman Hill,
words by S.C.H. inspired by EMMS student journals

Offering Debbie Brown

Offertory Olga Martinez

Closing Song *Everybody In* by Peter Meyer

Benediction & Chalice Extinguishing

*We extinguish this flame
but not the light of truth,
The warmth of community,
or the fire of commitment.
These we carry in our hearts
until we are together again.*

Flowers are given by Jan McCracken.
~ *Remembering Martha Schroeder on her birthday, Jan
McCracken's mom, and a friend of so many.* ~

Musicians and other service leaders are grateful for your appreciation.
However, we ask that you refrain from audible applause during the service.
Thank you!



Share the Plate with the Sheridan Preparatory Academy in November

This month, Albany UU will share half of the collection plate with Sheridan Preparatory Academy, which predominantly serves children of color from low-income families.

Our goal, through our 13-year relationship, has been to give these children some of the experiences that more affluent children take for granted. We have volunteered our time: working in the classroom, building a playground, and helping with school projects. We have provided funds individually and from our operational budget and endowment trust for playground equipment, new lots, and field trips. Through this work, UUs build our own community.

We are sharing the plate today to help meet the school's many needs: paying for children's author Eric Litwin's presentation; sensory materials for over stimulated children; and, with the loss of SNAP, additional food and supplies for its food pantry. Sheridan Prep would also like to better meet the unique food needs of immigrant families. Your contribution made by cash, text, online or by check made out to Albany UU will be split between Albany UU and Sheridan Prep, unless you tell us otherwise. If you want your entire check to go towards your annual pledge, write "pledge" on the memo line. If you want your entire check to go to Sheridan Prep, write "all to SPA" on the memo line.

WELCOME YOUTH MEMBERS

All of the youth becoming members today met the criteria set by Albany UU bylaws governing youth membership, including completing the Coming of Age program. You may recall seeing them speak at the services presented by Youth Group in May 2024 and 2025, or seeing their credos on the bulletin board in Channing Hall.

Over the years these teens have helped out at Family Chapel, acted in pageants, lit chalices and Christmas Eve candles, performed as musicians, been readers at services, and helped out with donation drives and fundraisers, just to name a few of their many activities.

Each new youth member has at least partially grown up in this congregation, and a couple have been here since they were babies. It has been and continues to be a joy to have these young people among us. Congratulations to Alex, Ben, Charlotte, Eli, Lucy, Miquela, and Rowan!

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, NOV. 9th:

From the Congregational Life Team:

Celebrate Thanksgiving with your AUU friends! On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27th, our annual potluck dinner will be held in Channing Hall. Bring a dish to share. The roasted turkey will be waiting for you. Help with set up at 12:00 noon, appetizers served at 1:00 PM, potluck dinner begins at 2:00 PM, and clean up after dinner. Please sign up using the QR code below. Let us know how many people there are in your party and what you plan to bring. Singles, families, new members, old friends are all welcome.



From The Safer Congregation Team:

Albany UU is a welcoming community. We strive to be a refuge from the increasingly harsh world around us, for one another and for those who come to learn more about who we are. Working to maintain a safe and secure environment is critical to being welcoming. To increase the safety and security of our church community, we are introducing a new role at Albany UU - the Sunday Morning Safety Coordinator. Please join us after the service in Community Hall on Sunday November 16th to learn more about this new role. You will hear about the work that the team has done, as well as plans for what to expect as the role continues to develop.

From The Stewardship Committee:

Join the Stewardship Team!

We are looking for folks who would like to join the Stewardship Team. The Team celebrates the joy and wonders of Albany UU by encouraging generosity each year to support all our myriad activities. The initial planning meeting for the Team will be on Nov. 17th at 7:00 PM in Room B3/4 or check the newsletter for the Zoom link if you would like to join virtually.

From The Green Sanctuary Team:

The Green Sanctuary Team will be meeting **today at 5:00 PM** on **Zoom Only**. We will be discussing the numerous opportunities available for environmental action. In addition, there will be a discussion about "Tech's AI is getting smarter. Their energy choices are not"! All are welcome! Please check the newsletter for the Zoom link.

From the Religious Services Team:

Are you interested in being part of our Sunday service? Training for the role of Worship Associate will be offered on Nov 22 from 9:30 to 1:00 in Community Hall. Bagels will be provided at the start. If you have questions about the training or the role, please contact either Rev Ann

or Debbie Brown. If you are planning to come, please let Sophia in the church office know.

From Rev. Ann, Programs for Children & Youth, Music Ministry, and Congregational Life Team:

Friday November 21st is the second in a series of recurring events here at Albany UU called Friday Night Lights. We'll start with dinner at 5:30 - everyone is invited to bring a dish and food will also be provided. After dinner there will be all-ages UU programming centered on the theme of the month (Belonging) followed by an activity and conversation in Channing Hall, or the opportunity to sit in the quiet of the sanctuary. This event is led collaboratively by the Congregational Life Team, Rev. Ann, Director of Music Ministry Olga Martinez, and Director of Programs for Children & Youth Elizabeth Baldes. If you'd like to help with food setup or cleanup, use the QR code below. Hope to see you there!



From New York UU Justice:

Worried about the climate, immigration, the state of our democracy? Join UUs from congregations across New York next Saturday, November 15th from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM at Albany UU for education, action and community. Come for part or all of the day, but please register TODAY using the QR code below. Also please join Compassion and Choices and NY UU Justice at the Capitol on Friday at 11:00 AM to urge the Governor to sign the Medical Aid in Dying Act. Meet on the second floor in the reception area known as the War Room.



From the Congregational Life Team:

It's Coming! Soups, Pies and Crafts

We are thrilled to announce the return of our In-Person **Soup/Pie and Craft Sale!!** Your favorite homemade Soups and Pies will be available for sale in Channing Hall on Sunday, Nov. 23rd and Dec. 7th after the service. Also, on Dec 7th, select wonderful handmade crafts and gifts to bring home for all ages for the holidays. Watch for more details as it gets closer.

Everybody In

Music and words by Peter Meyer

Refrain:

Je - sus said Let ev - 'ry - bo - dy in Ev - 'ry - bo - dy in

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Ev - 'ry - bo - dy, Ev - 'ry - bo - dy, Ev - 'ry - bo - dy in - to the cir - cle, cir - cle.

Rooted and Ground in Love

Words and music Amanda Udis-Kessler

In a time of dis - tress we are called to be heal - lers em - bo - dy - ing love's
In a time of dis - trust we are called to be stud - ents learn - ing love's
In a time of deep care we are called to be pro - phets pro - claim - ing all peo -

— ho - ly care. We fol - low the heal - ers who tend - ed the suff -
— ho - ly grace. We fol - low the teach - ers who wel - comed the strang
— ple as one We work with each oth - er and cry out for jus -

- 'ring re - stor - ing the wound - ed with our work and our prayer.
- er en - larg - ing love's realm with each sa - cred em - brace. We are joy - ful and
- tice our lives of - fered up so love's work can be done.

strong as our faith is re - vealed in the rich a - bun - dant of love that we yield.

We are root - ed and ground - ed in love. like a tree by the ri - ver, we're

plant - ed so deep we are root - ed and ground - ed in love. with each gift that we

bring and each pro - mise we keep as we work for a world where we

all have e - nough we are root - ed and ground - ed in love.