

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, 11/30.**

Childcare (Nursery/Toddler) opens at 9:45 upstairs in Room 22. Children and youth start out in service and then go upstairs to one combined-age group in Room 24/25 following the story in service.

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, someone is available at the "RE" Office Window in the lobby or in the hallway to help you.

The combined age group runs 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

405 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York • AlbanyUU.org

Contact us: 518.463.7135 • office@albanyuu.org



Embracing Joy: Loving the World in Dark Times

Dave Munro

**Carolyn Stetson,
Worship Associate**

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, November 30, 2025

10:00 AM

Embracing Joy: Loving the World in Dark Times

November 30, 2025

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

Announcements Carolyn Stetson, Worship Associate

Coffee Hour Connection Inclusivity Team

Ring of the Chime

Welcome Carolyn Stetson

Congregational Greeting

Opening Hymn *There is a Spirit* by Heidi Singer

Call to Community & Chalice Lighting Dave Munro

Out of the darkness, light.
Out of the light, warmth.
Out of the warmth, joy.
Out of the joy, togetherness.
May this flame hold us for the time
We are here with one another.
By Ben Soule

We Sing for Joy by Coco Love Alcorn Small Ensemble

Story Elizabeth Baldes, Dir. of Prog. for Children & Youth
The Little Book of Joy by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and
Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Singing the Children Out As You Leave This Friendly Place

Joys and Sorrows Jim Chicoine

Sung Response #123 *Spirit of Life*

Reading *We Need Joy* by Rev. Peggy Clarke Carolyn Stetson

Hymn #95 *There is More Love Somewhere*

Sermon Dave Munro

Moment of Silence

Offering Carolyn Stetson

Offertory

Closing Hymn #368 *Now Let Us Sing*

Benediction Dave Munro

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 Cindee Herrick.
~ *In Thanks for the Earth's Bounty.* ~

Thank you to our guest vocalist, Bailey Whiteman.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SUNDAY, NOV. 30th:

From the Community Breakfast Team:

At the December 13 Community Breakfast, we hope to give each guest a new pair of warm socks and warm gloves. We expect 60-70 guests. The Community Breakfast budget supports food for our guests, but not extras like this. Can you donate socks or gloves? There is a clearly marked collection box in the coat room at Albany UU.



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 culturally specific 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.

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There is a Spirit


Words and Music by Heidi Singer

1 $\text{♩} = 84$



There is a spir - it, _____ flow - ing 'round me, flow - ing
I feel its pow - er, _____ ev - er chang - ing, ev - er
Now let it guide me, _____ teach - ing pa - tience, Teach - ing

4




with me, flow - ing in me. Just like a ri - ver _____ mov - ing
lift - ing, ev - er grow - ing. Just like a foun - tain _____ bring - ing
mer - cy, hold - ing wis - dom. Just like a cir - cle _____ Al - ways

7



on - ward, mov - ing bold - ly, mov - ing sure - ly. Ho - ly
jus - tice, bring - ing heal - ing, bring - ing peace. _____ Ho - ly
hold - ing, al - ways danc - ing, al - ways sing - ing. Ho - ly

10




spir - it, the bless - ed spir - it _____ of life and love, of life and love.
spir - it, trans - form - ing spir - it _____ of life and love, of life and love.
spir - it, the gen - tle spir - it _____ of life and love, of life and love.

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