

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

Today, 12/28 Programs for Children and Youth are on holiday and age-based activities (including childcare) are on pause. Young ones are invited to attend service with their grownups. Thank you for your patience as we give our wonderful volunteers and staff this well-deserved break.

On 1/4 please join us for **Family Chapel**, offered in the **Sanctuary at 9:30AM**. Family Chapel is a short, full service designed for our youngest folks that is usually led by the Director of Programs for Children and Youth and the Director of Music Ministry on the first Sunday of the month from October-May. When Family Chapel is over, the children and middle-school aged youth go to their age-based small groups, which begin at 10AM on Family Chapel Sundays. These groups will use the extra time to enjoy a snack together. High school Youth Group will go to the 10AM service in Community Hall in support of the youth presenter in the annual This I Believe service.

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 December: Light

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Rev. Ann Kadlecek, Interim Minister

Elizabeth Baldes, Director of Programs for Children and Youth

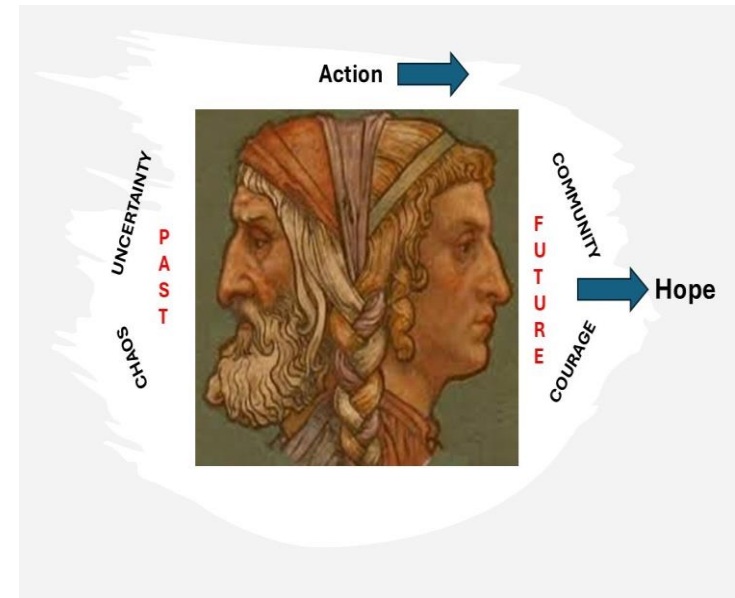
Olga Martinez, Director of Music Ministry

Sophia Garder, Administrator

Nicholee Froese, Congregational Life Coordinator

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Contact us: 518.463.7135 • office@albanyuu.org



Singing Out the Old, Singing In the New

**Randy Rosette
& Chris Jensen**

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, December 28, 2025

10:00 AM

Singing Out the Old, Singing In the New

December 28, 2025

Gathering Music *Bless the Broken Road* Randy Rosette
by Marcus Hummon, Bobby Boyd, and Jeff Hanna

Announcements Chris Jensen

Ringling of the Chime

Welcome Chris Jensen

Congregational Greeting

Call to Community Chris Jensen
Courage to Continue on the Journey (excerpt) by Lyn Cox

Chalice Lighting Randy Rosette & Chris Jensen

All: We light this flame

One: as our fervent plea to brighten
the dark corners of our hearts;

All: We hold this flame

One: For in it is the promise of warmth
for souls grown cold in loss and despair;

All: We kindle this light

One: That we might continue to find comfort
in its warmth and strength in its light.

- S. William Feiss

Part 1: Goodbye *Goodbye, Old House* Chris Jensen
by Margaret Wild & Ann James

Unison Song 1 *Those Were the Days* Congregation
by Boris Fomen & Gene Raskin

Part 2: Troubled Times Chris Jensen & Randy Rosette

Unison Song 2 *Bridge Over Troubled Water* Congregation
by Paul Simon

Part 3: Community Chris Jensen & Randy Rosette

Unison Song 3 *Lean on Me* by Bill Withers Congregation

Joys and Sorrows Sharon Babala

Sung Response *One More Step* by Joyce Poley

Part 4: Action and Hello Chris Jensen & Randy Rosette

Part 4: Hello *Goodbye, Old House* (continued) Randy Rosette

Offering Chris Jensen

Offertory *Give Us Hope* Albany UU Virtual Choir
by Jim Papoulis, arr. Francisco Núñez

Benediction Randy Rosette
Courage to Continue on the Journey (excerpt)

Final Unison Song *Auld Lang Syne* Congregation
words by Robert Burns, et al.

Chalice Extinguishing *A Flame to Light Our Path*

Fire consumes and casts a bright light.

*May our chalice flame consume our regrets for the past,
our fears about the future,
and our worries about today.*

May it light for us a path of joy and peace.

-Debra Burrell

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

Those Were the Days

Boris Fomen, Gene Raskin

(Intro)

**Those were the days my friend
We thought they'd never end
We'd sing and dance forever and a day
We'd live the life we choose, We'd
fight and never lose
For we were young and sure to have
our way
La la la la la la
La la la la la la
La la la la, La la la la la la (1,2,3,4,
1,2,3,4)**

**Then the busy years went rushing by
us
We lost our starry notions on the way
If by chance I'd see you in the tavern
We'd smile at one another and we'd
say (1,2,3,4)
Dy, dy, dy, dy, dy,dy
Dy, dy, dy, dy, dy, dy
Dy, dy, dy, dyyy, dy, dy, dy, dy, dy, dy
Dy, dy, dy, dy, dy, dy,
Dy, dy, dy, dy, dy, dy**

**Dy, dy, dy, dy, dyyy, dy, dy, dy, dy, dy,
dy**

(Interlude)

**Through the door there came familiar
laughter
I saw your face and heard you call my
name
Oh my friend we're older but no wiser
For in our hearts the dreams are still
the same (1,2,3,4)
Those were the days my friend
We thought they'd never end
We'd sing and dance forever and a day
We'd live the life we choose
We'd fight and never lose
(slower) Those were the days, oh yes
those were the days**

Bridge Over Troubled Water

Paul Simon

(Intro)

**When you're weary, feeling small,
When tears are in your eyes
I will dry them all
I'm on your side
When times get rough
And friends just can't be found
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will lay me down
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will lay me down (1,2,3,4)**

(Interlude)

**When you're down and out
When you're on the street
When evening falls so hard
I will comfort you
I'll take your part**

**When darkness comes
And pain is all around
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will lay me down
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will ease your mind**

Lean On Me

1972 Bill Withers

(Intro)

Sometimes in our lives, we all have
pain, We all have sorrow
But if we are wise, We know that
there's always tomorrow

Lean on me, when you're not strong,
And I'll be your friend, I'll help you
carry on
For it won't be long, 'til I'm gonna
need,
Somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride,
If I have things, you need to borrow
For no one can fill, those of your
needs,
That you won't let show

You just call on me brother, when you
need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem that you'll

understand

We all need somebody to lean on.

Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend, I'll help you
carry on
For it won't be long, 'til I'm gonna
need,
Somebody to lean on

You just call on me brother, when you
need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem that you'll
understand
We all need somebody to lean on

If there is a load, you have to bear, that
you can't carry
I'm right up the road, I'll share your
load,
If you just call me (call me)
If you need a friend (call me), Call Me,
Call Me, Call Me...

One More Step

Joyce Poley

**One more step,
We will take one more step,
Till there is peace for us and everyone,
We'll take one more step.**

**One more bridge,
We will cross one more bridge,
Till we have found the peace we're
longing for,
We'll cross one more bridge.**

**Day by day,
We will live day by day,
And when we stumble we'll begin
again,
And take one more step.**

**One more home,
We will build one more home,
Till there's a place for every one of us,
We'll build one more home.**

**One more seed,
We will sow one more seed,
Till there's a seed of hope in everyone,
We'll sow one more seed.**

Auld Lang Syne

Robert Burns, et al.

**It's been a rocky road at times,
We've lost things we held dear.
But still, we face with hopeful heart,
the turning of the year.**

**For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.**

**We don't know what next year may
hold,
we don't know what we'll find.
But we will walk this road with you,
wherever it may wind.**

**For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.**

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28th:

From The Octavia Butler Book Group:

The Octavia Butler Book Group will be starting discussions of *Parable of the Talents*, by Octavia E. Butler, in late January. Until then, we'll be reading stories from *Octavia's Brood: Science fiction stories from social justice movements*, edited by adrienne maree brown and Walidah Imarisha. Each story is stand alone and participants can easily attend a single session without feeling like they are missing out on the discussion of a longer work. The collection is entirely visionary fiction, a subcategory of science fiction. Visionary fiction strives to conceive of a better world (a world without sexism, racism, ableism, and other oppressions) so that if we can imagine it, we can make it so. You don't have to have read any prior work(s) by Butler to engage in the discussions of this book. The group meets weekly, on Sunday nights at 7 pm, via Zoom, to have an in-depth discussion. Facilitation is shared. For more information or to get on the email list, contact Anne Marie Haber or Karen Strong.

From the Administrator Office:

We have a new Breeze Directory! This directory allows anyone who chooses to **OPT-IN** to see the name, email address, and phone number of anyone else who chooses to **OPT-IN**. If you would like to join the Breeze Directory, and are already a user in Breeze, please fill out **OPT-IN form** using the **QR code below**. If you are not a user in Breeze and would like to opt-in to the directory, please contact Sophia Garder, Church Administrator, at sgarder@albanyuu.org.



From the Religious Services Team:

Do you have an idea for a sermon, but aren't sure what to do with it? We can help! The Religious Services Team, Rev. Ann, and a Worship Associate can help you turn your idea into an Albany UU Sunday service. We'd love to hear from you. Please reach out to Debbie Brown (Religious Services Team co-chair) or Rev. Ann at revann@albanyuu.org.

From The Congregational Life Team:

Save the date: March 13, 2026, is the date for our Third Annual Talent Show. Start rehearsing if you are going to perform! The program is open to everyone, youth and adults alike. More information about registering for the show will be out in early January.

From The Social Justice Team:

We did it! In the past ten years, this congregation, along with our UU and other partners, advocated for New York's Medical Aid in Dying Act, known as MAID. Our campaign concluded this week when the Governor announced that she would sign MAID into law in 2026. Our congregation was pivotal in the campaign to pass MAID. If you were involved in the campaign in any way – even if you only posed in the photo we sent to the Governor in September – please celebrate our work well done!

From Tech Support:

We need you! Help make our worship services even more beautiful and accessible! You're invited to participate in a reimagined and re-vamped tech team! We're delighted that Chris Whittaker, a new member with deep experience leading church A/V teams, has stepped up as our Interim Volunteer Tech Coordinator. He is going to be providing many opportunities for robust training on new roles that aim to make it easier and more accessible for our congregation to serve on the Sunday morning tech team. We want to invite you to consider helping in whatever way interests you, and we'll teach you all you need to know! Use the QR code below to learn more OR see Chris in Channing Hall after today's service.

