

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, 3/22.**

Childcare (Nursery/Toddler) opens at 9:45 upstairs in Room 22. All other children and youth start out in service and then go to their age-based groups following the story.

If you are new or visiting, and your child isn't registered, please accompany them to their room to sign them in. If you aren't sure where to go, there is someone to ask at the "RE" Office Window in the lobby. **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 March: Compassion

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

405 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York • AlbanyUU.org
Contact us: 518.463.7135 • office@albanyuu.org



Compassion and What's a UU To Do

**Debbie & Peter Brown,
Worship Associates**

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, March 22, 2026

10:00 AM

Compassion and What's a UU To Do

March 22, 2026

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

Announcements Debbie Brown, Worship Associate

Coffee Hour Connection Democracy Crisis Response Team

Ringing of the Chime

Welcome Debbie Brown

Congregational Greeting

Opening Song *I'm Gonna Let Life Move Me*
by Scott Kalechstein Grace

Call to Community & Chalice Lighting Debbie & Peter Brown

Welcoming all free seekers of truth and meaning,
we gather to excite the human spirit,
to inspire its growth and development, to respond
morally and ethically to a troubled world, and to
sustain a vital and nurturing religious community.

Psalm for Change by Rev. Tet Gallardo

Story *The Difference Between Heaven and Hell* Debbie Brown
adapted by Elisa Pearmain & Rev. Ann Kadlecek
from a Japanese & Chinese folk tale

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

Joys and Sorrows Sharon Babala & Frank Traynor

Sung Response #123 *Spirit of Life*

Reading *Parable of the Good Samaritan* Debbie Brown

Sermon Peter Brown

Music

Offering Debbie Brown

Closing Song *Gather Your Courage* by The Courage Collective

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 Deborah Vogel
~ *In honor of Women's History Month, celebrating all the women,
past and present, in our lives and around the world.* ~

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 22nd:

From The Nominating Committee:

Albany UU Ministerial Search Committee--Request for Nominations. The process of selecting a settled minister is one of the most significant actions in the life of a congregation. Achieving a synergistic minister-congregation partnership can strengthen our community as well as help move positively into the future. While the Nominating Committee takes the lead on this process, YOU are an integral part. By giving thoughtful nominations, you can bring forward the names of fellow Albany UU members who you think will best serve in the role of Ministerial Search Committee (MSC) member. You can also nominate yourself.

Please remember that all MSC members must be willing to invest significant time and effort in the search process for a full year starting July 2026. We encourage you to read more about this in the Windows Weekly newsletter. **Nominations must be received by April 5th, 2026.** If you have questions about this process, please contact Zoe Hutchins, Nellson Moore, or Vida Wehren at: nomcommsc@albanyuu.org. **How do you nominate?** Paper ballots are available in the church office, or in Channing Hall on Sundays. If you need a ballot mailed to you, please contact the AUU office at 518-463-7135. You can use the link in the newsletter or use the QR code below:



From The Arts & Aesthetics Team:

AUU's Arts & Aesthetics Team invites you to the Opening Celebration of our first Native American art exhibit: "Footprints in the Homelands: Celebrating the Cultures of the First Peoples". **TODAY, Sunday, March 22, 12:00-2:00 PM.** Art: The Art Wall will display art and poetry by Indigenous artists, primarily from NYS (Mohican, Haudenosaunee, and Abenaki). You will even be able to listen to one of the poems set to music by the author! Music: Shawn Stevens, Mohican musician/storyteller and Tribal Elder, will share his music and his traditional culture, history and prophecy. He will be traveling all the way from Wisconsin to be with us! Steven Mole, from Pittsfield, MA, will perform an original song inspired by one of the paintings that will be in the exhibit, The Lost Children of Ukraine: The Next 7 Generations, by Mohican artist Rebecca Burr. Food: There will be Native American

inspired foods to share with all. Please plan on joining us today! This event is free and open to all.

From The Stewardship Team:

Shaping Our Shared Future: Stewardship Season

During this stewardship campaign, we've heard during Sunday service and in individual conversations how Albany UU truly matters in people's lives. This is reflected in the generosity of pledges received so far, which puts us more than two-thirds of the way to our stewardship goal! Participation from all of us is what will carry us across the finish line. **If you haven't yet, please make your pledge today.** As you consider how much to give, take a look at the Fair Share Contribution Guide on the back of the pledge form. The guide is a reference—not a requirement—as you discern the pledge that is right for you. In keeping with our principle of inclusivity, donors with more resources are encouraged to pledge a greater percentage. When each of us does what we can, the responsibility is shared, the community is strengthened, and there is enough to support our highest aspirations together. Thank you! If you haven't received a pledge form, contact Sophia Garder at sgarder@albanyuu.org.

Please drop off your pledge form in the box at the stewardship table in Channing Hall on Sunday mornings or in Sophia's office or mail it back. You can also pledge using this QR code:



Share the Plate with UUSC in March



This month, Albany UU will share half of the collection plate with the **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)**.

For 85 years, UUSC has worked to challenge injustice and advance human rights, starting with aid to European refugees in World War II. UUSC addresses the core causes of injustice by partnering with local communities, amplifying their voices, and advocating for institutional and systemic change. UUSC works with grassroots organizations in over 20 nations, from Papua New Guinea to Poland to the United States.

In Sudan, UUSC funds grassroots mutual aid networks providing food, medical care, and safe evacuation routes. Across the Pacific, UUSC supports Indigenous partners as they face climate-forced displacement. In Mexico, UUSC partners provide lifesaving aid, legal accompaniment, and protection. In the US, UUSC's Community Accompaniment Program with Asylum-Seekers (CAPAS) assists congregations in offering long-term, community-based support to asylum-seekers.



Your contribution made by cash, text, online or check made out to Albany UU will be split between Albany UU and UUSC, unless you tell us otherwise. If you want your entire contribution to go towards your annual pledge, write "pledge" on the memo line of your check. If you want your entire contribution to go to UUSC, write "all to UUSC" on the memo line.

Learn more about UUSC at www.uusc.org.

Reminder: we have a **Breeze Directory!**

This Directory allows Albany UU members and friends to connect with others in the congregation via phone or email while still protecting more personal data, such as home addresses, children's names, etc.

You can opt-in to use the new Breeze Directory. This directory allows anyone who chooses to **OPT-IN** the ability to see the following information for anyone else who chooses to **OPT-IN**: name, email address, phone number.

If you would like to join the Breeze Directory, and are already a user in Breeze, please write your name below, check yes, and sign!

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.

- I would like to opt-in to the Breeze Directory and agree to allow all others in the directory to view my name, email address, and phone number.

Name: _____

Signature: _____