

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, 4/26.**

Childcare (Nursery/Toddler) opens at 9:45 upstairs in Room 22. Our service today is multigenerational, meaning children and youth stay for the full service instead of going to their usual groups. Those will resume next Sunday, on 5/3.

There are activity books and crayons available from the ushers for children to use during our service and keep if they would like.

Next Sunday, 5/3 is our final Family Chapel of the church year at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary. After Family Chapel, we'll head over to Community Hall to hear the story in the 10AM service before going to our groups.

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 April: Courage

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

Michael Washington, Tech Support Staff

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Contact us: 518.463.7135 • office@albanyuu.org



Duality of the Fish

Albany UU Youth Group

Lucy Haber,

Worship Associate

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, April 26, 2026

10:00 AM

Youth Group Service

April 26, 2026

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

Announcements Lucy Haber, Worship Associate

Coffee Hour Connection Green Sanctuary Team

Ringing of the Chime

Welcome Lucy Haber

Congregational Greeting

Call to Community & Chalice Lighting Lucy Haber

I will not play at tug o' war.
I'd rather play at hug o' war,
Where everyone hugs
Instead of tugs,
Where everyone giggles
And rolls on the rug,
Where everyone kisses,
And everyone grins,
And everyone cuddles,
And everyone wins.

by Shel Silverstein

Octopus's Garden by Ringo Starr
Theo Matthews, Charlotte Baldes, Rich Baldes

Story *Fish by Fish* by Giuliano Ferri Theo Matthews

Joys and Sorrows Ruth Samuels & Frank Traynor

Sung Response #123 *Spirit of Life*

Reflection *Consider the Lobster* Miquela Torres

Moment of Silence

Offering Deedee Quail
Offertory Miquela Torres & Chris Whittaker
Carnival of the Animals, Aquarium
by Camille Saint-Saëns

Sermon Part One Charlotte Baldes

Hymn #1007 *There's a River Flowin' in My Soul*

Sermon Part Two Griffin Kullas

Fish Communion

Closing Hymn #1064 *Blue Boat Home*

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 Debbie Brown.
~ *With fond memories of my years as a member of the FUUSA
youth group known then as LRY.* ~

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, APRIL 26th:



From the Building Connections Auction Team:

Auction donation time is here! The annual auction helps support Albany UU, while creating opportunities for fun, friendship, and shared experiences. Donations end on April 29, so don't delay. By donating you can help make the 2026 auction the most successful online auction ever. By April 30, the auction URL will be on our Albany UU website. For now, visit our site using the QR code below for ideas on what to donate, instructions for donating, and a link to the donation form. **Key Dates: Donate:** April 12-29 **Online Preview:** April 30-May 2 **Auction Open:** May 3-17



From the Administrator's Office:

Church Administrator, Sophia Garder, will be taking time off from Wednesday, May 6th through Wednesday, May 13th. Office hours on those six days will be 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. There are also some deadline changes: The deadline for submissions for the Friday, May 8th edition of the Windows Weekly newsletter is **noon on Monday, May 4th**. The deadline for Sunday service announcements for Sunday, May 10th is **noon on Monday, May 4th**. If you have any questions, please reach out to Sophia at sgarder@albanyuu.org.

From The Stewardship Team:

Shaping Our Shared Future: Stewardship Update

Thanks to the generosity of so many in our community, we've surpassed 98 percent of our stewardship goal. That's remarkable, and we're deeply grateful to everyone who has pledged. But if you haven't yet made your pledge, please don't wait. Every commitment that comes in still matters and helps ensure we can carry out the vision we've planned together. You can mail in the pledge form, scan the QR code below, or visit the link. Every contribution makes a difference. Please pledge today.

From Our Community Partner Camp Unirondack:

Ever heard of Unirondack? It's a magical, radically inclusive UU camp and retreat center in the Adirondacks. In addition to amazing sessions for youth, Unirondack offers special programs for adults and families, too! You can go on vacation anywhere. But if what you're really craving is connection, meaningful time outdoors, new challenges, deep discussions, and a chance to reconnect with silliness and play, Unirondack is for you. There are wilderness trips for all skill levels, a creatives' retreat, women's weekend, young adult weekend, family weekend, a week-long sleep-away camp for grown-ups, and more. There is a place for you here, so come see for yourself. Caleb, the camp director, will have an info table at Coffee Hour to answer all your questions. Please drop by to say hello!

New Staff Announcement:

We are thrilled to welcome Michael Washington as our new Tech Support Staff, bringing over 10 years of experience in audio-visual production and technical support. He has worked with companies such as Encore, Inspire, and SmartSource, developing a strong background in delivering high-quality sound and visual experiences for a wide range of events. Michael has also served in church environments, including Community United Methodist Church in DeBary, FL; First United Methodist Church of Orlando; and New Creation Family Church in Saint Petersburg, FL. His experience in ministry settings allows him to support worship services and special events with professionalism and care.

Share the Plate with the FOCUS Food Pantry in April

This month, Albany UU will share half of the collection plate with the FOCUS Interfaith Food Pantry.

Last year, **the FOCUS Food Pantry served more than 3,700 households, including more than 2,900 children** from its



site at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 275 State Street. The Food Pantry is open Monday through Friday mornings as well as the last Saturday of the month.

FOCUS is supported by six “covenant congregations” as well as 9 affiliates. As an affiliate,

Albany UU has supported the FOCUS Food Pantry since at least 1977. We are sharing the plate with FOCUS during three different months every year.

Your contribution made by cash, text, online or by check made out to Albany UU will be split between Albany UU and FOCUS, 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 FOCUS, write “all to FOCUS” on the memo line.



Learn more about the FOCUS Food Pantry at www.focuschurches.net/food-pantry.