

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, 5/3.**

Childcare (Nursery/Toddler) opens at 9:45 upstairs in Room 22. All other children and youth start out in service, and go to their age-based groups after the story, except for our middle grade group (5th-8th) who will be staying in service.

If you are new or visiting, and your child isn't registered, please go with 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. High school youth are released on their own.

Worship Theme for May: Possibility

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

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

Contact us: 518.463.7135 • office@albanyuu.org



Other Power

Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt

Sharon Babala,

Worship Associate

Albany Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, May 3, 2026

10:00 AM

Other Power

May 3, 2026

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

Announcements Sharon Babala, Worship Associate

Coffee Hour Connection Auction Committee

Ringing of the Chime

Welcome Sharon Babala

Congregational Greeting

Opening Song *169 Nembutsu I* by Osamu Shimizu

Story *Hats for Jizo* Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt
a Japanese folktale by Miyoko Matsutani

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

Call to Community Sharon Babala

Mindfulness Meditation Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt

Chalice Lighting Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt

We kindle light, and with it, possibility:
That we are more than the sum of our parts,
that the world is more than a problem to solve,
That illumination is more than simple flame.
We light the chalice and open to possibility.

by Irene Glasse

JUSEI GE

Joys and Sorrows

Randy Rosette & Jim Chicoine

Sung Response #123 *Spirit of Life*

Reading *Eternal Now* Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt
from *The Heart of the Buddha-Dharma*
by Rev. Dr. Kenryu T. Tsuji

Sermon Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt

Moment of Silence

Music *Ganjin's Journey* by Linda Castro

Offering Sharon Babala
Offertory *178 Metta Sutta Nipata* by Hiro Imamura

Closing Song *Ondokusan II Hymn of Benevolence*
by Shinran Shōnin

Benediction Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt

Metta Meditation Rev. Dr. Aaron Shōken Proffitt

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 Barb & Chuck Manning.
~ In memory of Barb's dad, James E. Crossett. ~

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, MAY 3rd:

From the Building Connections Auction Team:

We have **extended the time for donating until Wednesday, May 6**. If you have an event to host, a skill to share, or a fun outing to offer, please donate. Your donation can be as simple as a gift certificate or as complex as a dinner for eight. Simple or complex, your donation is important! Preview donations online from May 7–May 9 and decide what you want to buy. Buying begins May 10 and ends May 24. You can preview items at our 32auctions.com site. To get a link to that site or to donate, scan the QR code below.



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 and for Sunday service announcements for Sunday, May 10th is **NOON TOMORROW**. If you have any questions, please reach out to Sophia at sgarder@albanyuu.org.

From The Arts & Aesthetics Team:

Art Installation Dedication Ceremony

All are invited to help dedicate the temporary art installation by Rowan Pigott, **today after the service at 11:20**, in front of the columns of our Sanctuary. Since this art installation was conceived as part of the curriculum for our Coming-of-Age program, we very much hope that children and their parents will attend. It's an opportunity for our children to see for themselves what might come of their efforts in class. We are holding the ceremony right after the children are dismissed from their classrooms. The ceremony will be brief, over in time for those who need to leave to attend 11:30 meetings.

From The Social Justice Team:

Join us for a MoonBee!

Did you know that many girls in under-resourced communities around the world miss school when they are having their periods because they lack menstrual supplies? When girls fall too far behind in school, they often drop out. Since 2011, the Schenectady based MoonCatcher Project (MCP) has been making reusable, sustainable period management kits. Last year MCP distributed over 21,000 kits to girls around the world. Each kit helps to keep one menstruating girl in school, and education can change her life. Join us for a MoonBee on Wednesday May 27th from 10 am to 12 noon. This community sewing event brings volunteers together to create MoonCatcher Kits. The MCP provides the materials, equipment and expertise. We will gather to cut, sew, iron and assemble the kits. There are jobs for everyone, including those without sewing skills. Please contact Donna Meixner or Deborah Vogel for more information. To register, use the QR Code below or contact Donna or Deborah. We encourage you to invite a friend.



From The Stewardship Team:

Shaping Our Shared Future: Stewardship Update

We did it! Thanks to the incredible generosity of this community, we have reached our stewardship goal. What a testament to the care and commitment that defines this congregation! If you pledged last year but haven't yet renewed your commitment for this year, we warmly invite you to do so. Your continued support is what makes everything we do together possible, and your pledge will make a real difference in carrying out our mission and meeting our congregation's needs in the year ahead. Haven't pledged before? It's not too late—all are welcome to join in. You can scan the QR code below or visit the link. If you haven't already, please pledge today. Thank you for being part of this community!



Share the Plate with Mediation Matters in May



This month, Albany UU will share half of the collection plate with **Mediation Matters**, which serves the greater Capital Region by offering **skills and processes that help people handle conflict in a constructive**

way. Mediation Matters provides a wide range of community members with the opportunity to be heard, to better understand one another and to work collaboratively toward solutions.

Core programs include:

- **Community Mediation:** Helping individuals and families resolve specific disputes (not originating in a court setting) in a constructive, confidential setting;
- **Restorative Justice:** Working with youth, schools, and community partners to address harm, build accountability, and strengthen relationships; and
- **Training & Education:** Capacity-building support to new communities, organizations, and individuals to help them prepare for and navigate difficult conversations in the future.

In 2025-26, Mediation Matters served 2,231 individuals through 809 cases across six counties, including Albany.

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

Learn more about Mediation Matters at
mediationmatters.org