

**“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.”**

*A poetic rendition of our mission
statement used in the chalice
lighting ceremony.*



Welcoming all free seekers of truth and meaning

First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany

Sunday

- 9:00** **Mindfulness Meditation:** *Sanctuary*
- 10:00** **Service:** *Community Hall*
Religious Education: *RE wing*
Nursery open at 9:45, youth go to
classes, while other ages attend first
part of service with their family.
- 11:00** **Coffee Hour:** *Channing Hall* Bever-
ages and fellowship, activity sign-ups;
information at Welcome Table in lobby.
- 11:45** **Forum:** *Community Hall* Talks on
social action issues (some Sundays)

Services are held Sundays year-round.

Parking: Anytime on the street; and on Sundays only
in the University at Albany’s Hawley lot (at Washington
Ave. and Robin St.)

Wheelchair entrances: Washington Avenue and
West Street

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 – 3:00, Sept.- June;
Mon.-Thurs., 9:00-1:00, July –August.

Office phone: 518-463-7135

Office email: administrator@AlbanyUU.org

Website: www.AlbanyUU.org

Minister’s office hours: Call church office

Minister’s email: minister@albanyuu.org

**Welcome
to
Albany UU**



**First
Unitarian
Universalist
Society
of Albany**

405 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 463-7135
www.albanyuu.org

Rev. Samuel A. Trumbore, Minister

A welcoming congregation



What is Unitarian Universalism?

Unitarian Universalism is a religion that encourages us to seek our own answers to the big questions of life. UUs are united in a search for truth and for religious values meaningful for our lives and time. We are encouraged to develop our own philosophy, aware that as our knowledge and insight deepen our beliefs may evolve.

We seek our truths from many sources—from world religions including Judeo-Christian and Eastern traditions, and from the words and deeds of prophetic women and men. We do not promote a specific creed, but rather, a set of principles for ethical living and an awareness of our interdependent world. Although we may arrive at different concepts of the truth, we hold these things in common: respect for reason, encouragement of spiritual growth, belief in the worth of every individual, and devotion to the goal of humankind undivided by nation, race or creed.

Every congregation is free to design its own services. Each church is self-supporting, deriving most of its income from pledges of its members and friends.

What's in a name?

Unitarian Universalism has roots in the 16th century when the term "Unitarian" was used for dissenters from the dogma of the Trinity. In North America modern Unitarian Universalism sprang from two religious movements of the 18th and 19th centuries: Unitarianism, which affirmed the unity of God and emphasized reason as a test for theological truth, and Universalism, which proclaimed salvation for all human beings.

Our Society began as Unitarian in 1842. In 1961 Unitarians and Universalists formally combined to become the Unitarian Universalist Association, and in May 1994 our congregation changed its name to reflect this joint heritage. For more about our heritage, read the History and Symbols brochure.

Our Minister

Rev. Samuel A. Trumbore has served the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany since 1999. He graduated from the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA, and served in Port Charlotte, FL, and Niagara Falls, NY, before coming to Albany. He is a past president of the St. Lawrence Chapter of the UU Ministers Association and the UU Buddhist Fellowship. He is past President of ARISE, A Regional Initiative Supporting Empowerment in the capital region. He is also active with the Capital Area Council of Churches, Interfaith Impact, and Family Planning Advocates. Rev. Trumbore is married to Philomena Moriarty Trumbore, and they have a grown son named Andrew. Sam's interests are wide-ranging, but most of all, he is dedicated to transformative interpersonal engagement which yields personal, emotional, and spiritual growth.

Programs

The Religious Education program is dedicated to conveying the values of the Unitarian Universalist Principles to our young people. The program encourages children to respect themselves, others, and their environment, to learn about Unitarian Universalism, to ask questions, think for themselves, and develop their own values and beliefs. For details about the RE curriculum, see the Religious Education brochure.

The Adult Education programs at Albany UU provide opportunities to learn about Unitarian Universalism, pursue personal growth, discuss issues facing society as a whole, and build a sense of community among participants. Newcomers find this a wonderful way to get to know this community. A schedule of current offerings is posted in Channing Hall and on our website, and is also available in the office.

The Social Responsibilities Council educates the Society on issues of social and moral significance, and coordinates action on issues as directed by the Society. The council hosts Sunday Forums on current issues and staffs an information table during coffee hour. Current activities include Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless, Prison Action Network, and Family Planning Advocates.

