

# ALL SOULS NEWS -June 2021

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church

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Watertown, NY 13601



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## SUNDAY SERVICES AT 10:30 A.M.

"All Souls—the church that puts its faith in you"

**June 6 – Rev. Marty Pelham: What does a minister do, anyway?** Not all congregations choose to employ ministers. As All Souls considers the future, it is a good time to explore what a minister is expected to do. I will address the competencies which the Ministerial Fellowship Committee considers necessary and consider how and why they matter. I plan to be available after the service to answer questions and engage in discussion. We will also safely gather at All Souls after the service for a time of sharing words of farewell (and possibly cake).

**June 13 – Catherine Burns: We have our Flower Communion and Annual Meeting.** We would like to have people bring flowers to the service - with a virtual twist.

When we are in-person, and it still seems crazy that we have to specify that, we would bring flowers to church so we could exchange beauty. The scent of a flower lingers on the hand that gives. So how will this work virtually? The limit is your imagination!! There is your garden, wildflower off the beaten path, your neighbor's garden - with permission; or your child's artistic hand, favorite photo of your garden, real, silk or whatever - it will be wonderful!

The service is short and sweet - with a lot of joy! We will "pass our flower" to the next person as we do our circle of flowers. The first person will show their flower on their own screen - for a minute maybe, it might take people a moment to find the person in the gallery - , then "pass" it to another who will lift their flower into their screen. It will be a type of "tag". If someone forgets a flower, then our imagination gets tagged. The joy can be the flower, of course feel free to add another. Concerns will be blessed with flowers too.

The annual meeting will be held June 13, immediately following the service.

**June 20 – Robert South: Are Males Fit to Be Parents?** We will examine the evidence. Several male humans will recount their experiences, and we will hear tales of other male parenting behavior from a variety of situations and different species.

**June 27 - Joanne Harter: Blessing of the Animals.** We had originally thought this would be in person around the peace pole if the weather cooperated, but it looks like the guidance isn't as clear as we'd hoped it would be, so another zoom service. (which actually allows more animals to 'participate' and avoids issues like inability to hear outside, too much sun, using a walker on the grass, etc)

**July 4—No service**

## *Reverend Marty Perpend*

### **Reverend Marty Pelham**



It was difficult to decide what single idea I most wanted to share in my final monthly column. I found the answer in what I consider the best sermon I have written (so far). I wrote the first draft near the end of my UU preaching class during seminary and have shared a version of it in every congregation I have served as well as in my meeting with the Ministerial Fellowship Committee. It's about a river and represents my personal spiritual journey as well as my understanding of ministry.

Here is an excerpt from one iteration of that sermon:

“At every moment, we have two choices. Remain static and nothing changes. Well, in fact, things do change. They decay. They degrade. Burdens grow heavier as muscles tire. Even granite rocks are worn away. Or we can act. We can encounter the lives of others with the understanding that we can learn and grow from them. But only to the extent that we allow others to enter our hearts and lives. Some of these interactions will be unpleasant. Some will be exhilarating. They will transform us and thereby all of existence. They all happen in the same river. We don't get to pick and choose. We can rest on the banks or we can engage the current.”

When I reference encountering the lives of others, I am not talking about only the current official members of a congregation. I'm talking about everyone within the reach of our lives. I truly believe that, if we want to thrive, at least 51% of our energy and attention should be focused on the future and on those who are not yet connected to our faith community.

We have done well navigating 15 months which were unlike anything most of us ever imagined. We are strong, caring, and connected.

I urge you, as you move into the future ministry of All Souls, to risk meeting the needs of those who are not yet here as fully as you do the needs of those who already are.

## From the President's Desk

### Robert South

The Annual Report contains the substance of the report I originally wrote for this month, so I'm writing a new one.

The board has begun reaffirming a board covenant first adopted in 2003, then later amended slightly in 2012. But it had fallen by the wayside. We are using this as a try out toward the congregation creating a covenant in the future.

Several groups are now authorized to use the building, or rather the grounds. Northern Blend Chorus and CUUPs have requested to meet outdoors. Hospice and former member Marie Rainbolt have outdoors activities planned. And the Red Cross is conducting periodic blood drives in the building. Spay Neuter Now did some pet sterilization clinics but has not requested any more. Janine Johnson, who used to rent the sanctuary for classy piano recitals for all her piano students, lost her house in a fire and is coming in once a week to use our piano by herself (she's teaching on Zoom and just staying in practice).

Robert South (me) and Frances Mercer are staffing the office, doing the non-bookkeeping tasks. The plan is tentatively to continue that, and we could use a third volunteer. The idea is that we would each specialize in one day of the week (the office is open for two hours on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). We could cover for each other and would operate as a team. You have to be a member and computer literate.

Chris Coughlin left us as sexton at the end of April. The building and grounds committee is considering how to search, and we may have a couple of leads. But we have been considering changing the name of the position to "Custodian"

since formally the definition of "Sexton" doesn't really fit what we want (or rather what we can afford to pay for). Many of the "sexton" duties are currently done by volunteers, namely the Building and Grounds committee, the Board and even the Memorial Garden committee.

Marty is of course leaving us, and congregational conversations regarding next moves have been inconclusive. So, this may have to be decided at the annual meeting. Also, the board has met with the president of Central Square Universalist. They are searching for a minister but can only afford \$8,000 a year, so they are thinking that we can make the extra work an incentive in our own search. It might be enticing to offer the opportunity to do a little additional work for an adjacent congregation.

Frances is making plans for how to handle the return of children to the wondering center, and will report on that, but I will report that she is hoping to hire back her former assistant Kim Davis in a more responsible role.

There have been a few activities. We planted some trees, we did another walk to the beeches, we've done the road cleanup and cleanup from the construction. The construction is complete, but the building is still in disarray.

Rebecca Carr and Catherine Burns will be our virtual GA delegates this year as decided by the board. The annual meeting is too late for this and the board is fully authorized to do so by the bylaws. If the congregation wants to instruct the board to use some other method in the future, the annual meeting would be the time to bring it up.



Help wanted: a third volunteer to work in the office one day a week.

## Spring Beech Walk May 1



### *Collector*

#### **Warren Allen**



Thanks for coming to All Souls, as we have tried to learn to spiritually zoom together in these times of change. Thanks for the pots of food, when we can safely be physically near. Our common expenses appreciate your donations.

For the fiscal year ending this June, thirty pledgers offered \$36,040.28. As of May 20, twenty-two of us have fulfilled our pledges already, including eleven who have brought in more than their own personal pledge. Eight of us are still working on our personal pledge, and they are all mostly paid. Thanks!!

To help pay the bills during the past twelve months, we drew \$24,000 out of our savings, contributed by some who came here before. To pay for the restoration following our flood, our insurer paid over \$102,300 which went for contractor wages, lumber, and other construction items. We saved the scrap metal, which added a tiny \$43. During the time since last July many of us gave so that we could send to the UUA for their office at the UN \$225. (Plus some of us are family supporters.). To help celebrate Marty becoming a Reverend we supporters donated \$285 towards the stoles which can remind him of us. There was also gathered

\$135 of "Minister's Fund" which we hold in case someone has an emergency need. One kind family has made contributions in memory of relatives.

Some supporters bought some stuff from Amazon mentioning our 'Smile' account which gained us \$26 as of February. (I will not mention the real smiles in buying locally.)

Some of us choose to send support through PayPal. They do charge almost all of us a fee which averages about 3%, but that does get us the other 97%. Above figures do not include PayPal payments during May. Other receipts thus far this Financial Year include zero for rent; \$2127 in unpledged donations, and \$900 from a few families for our continuing Generosity Project (which in normal times are the loose coins and currency put into our plate, with half of it saved towards our expenses and the other half split between the other two local charities for which we voted).

For our fiscal year to begin in July, thirty-one pledgers have already (as of May 20) pledged \$34,592.24, plus I haven't yet gotten new pledges from four who pledged a year ago. Two families who for some reason are leaving our paradise will not be pledging for our coming year, but six other families have brought in their first pledge cards, plus one who had pledged during a prior year has now pledged for our coming year. And last week, two who had already made their own pledges for our coming year, told me that they are increasing that pledge by about 25% more. I have left messages with the four who haven't yet re-pledged for the coming year; maybe those cards or notes are stuck in the mails somewhere.

Two pledgers for next fiscal year have brought in \$350 already towards their pledges of the next FY.

We seem to be working closer towards self-sufficiency. Let's attract more friends!

## *From the Historian's Files*

### **Sarah O'Connell**



Our predecessor, the First Universalist Church, was located on Public Square in downtown Watertown. The first church in that location burned in 1850 and was replaced by a brick church. When that building was sold and a new stone church was built on Washington Street in 1907, it became All Souls Universalist.

Another prominent building in downtown Watertown, built in 1853, was Washington Hall. It was the center of many noteworthy events in downtown Watertown. Abolitionist Frederick Douglass spoke there later in the 1850's and was a guest at the square's renowned Woodruff Hotel. He is noted for insisting on using the front entrance and eating in the hotel's public dining room. Worried about local prejudices, the hotel managers had wanted him to use a rear entrance and stay away from the public areas. In 1870, the building became home to the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). Demolished in 1913, it was soon replaced with the current YMCA building in 1915.

In May of 1896, as noted in the Looking Backward column in the WDT for 125 years ago: "Washington Hall was the scene of a gay gathering last evening, the occasion being the May festival given under the auspices of the ladies of the Universalist church. The hall had been very prettily decorated for the occasion. The May pole, decorated with colored streamers, occupied a position in the centre of the hall. Flower booths, candy booths and an apron booth were there dispensing their wares."

## *Opinion*

**Frances Mercer**

### **Where are we going?**



Where we are going is not clear but is clearly up to us—that is—those of us who make up the congregation of this particular Unitarian Universalist church. All Souls is a member congregation in good standing with the Unitarian Universalist Association (an association of many independent congregations) — we financially support the Association, receive services from UUA, and have rights and responsibilities in the governance of the Association. However, each congregation is autonomous and is not under the control of the UUA. We establish our own mission and vision. We determine how to develop and use our resources to achieve goals and priorities that we set. We are constrained or limited only by our own By-Laws and by our legal incorporation as a not-for-profit religious organization.

I am speaking as a long-term (31 years) member of this church. Doug and I and our 18-month-old daughter, Cara, moved to Watertown in 1989. We began attending All Souls in the fall of 1989 and signed the membership book in 1990. Since 1989, Doug and I have actively and consistently participated in All Souls. In those years, All Souls has experienced many changes and transformations. We have seen All Souls survive and/or thrive through periods (usually of years) with full time minister, part time minister, and no minister. We are convinced that a church is not its minister. All Souls is a UU community—with or without a minister.

Once again and as always change is here—we must think about and articulate what kind of UU community we are and wish to be. I want us, our congregation, to thoughtfully choose and shape that change. The question for me is: How do we wish to live as a UU community? Do we wish to live small, live large, or live very large? Each way has its challenges and risks and possibilities. Each way requires commitment, resources and time. Each way could be the right way for us.

In my thinking about “what shall I say”—I have come up with mostly questions. I believe those questions need thorough, in-depth, direct and well considered answers, with as much participation and input as is possible. Those questions are:

1. Who are or might be Unitarian Universalists? One of the opening statement for our services says: “May we be reminded here of our highest aspirations, and inspired to bring our gifts of love and service to the altar of humanity. May we know once again that we are not isolated beings but connected, in mystery and miracle, to the universe, to this community and to each other.” I hope that is what we offer as UUs.
2. Who and how many families/individuals make up our current UU community? We are the ones who will have to make the choices and do the work.
3. What are we? Who needs us? What are they looking for? Should we change our name? Are we a church, a spiritual community, a religious community, a group of seekers exploring the meaning of life, a group offering comfort, connection, strength and hope in a complex and stressed world?
4. Who should have a voice in shaping our unique journey from this point?
5. What assets, limitations, and challenges do we need to be aware of and acknowledge out loud?
6. How might we best use those assets and deal with those challenges?
7. What time and resources shall we devote to answering these questions and using those answers to plan for action?
8. Should we use July and August to develop a plan for our continuing journey— probably a plan with many phases?
9. What is our current situation and how did we get here? What is our story? Is our story simply a description of our movement through time? Does it contain gaps? Does it present All Souls in ways that we are not paying attention to? Has it been a story that inspires and guides us? Do we need a new story?

The story that Sarah has shared (*The Broken Story Story*) suggests that not knowing at this moment what our story should be or will become is not a tragedy but an opportunity to begin a new and more beautiful story. However, it is not only an inspiring story by also a cautionary tale—clearly how our story will unfold and what and who it inspires depends very much on how many of us help reassembly or create the pieces and how open we are to seeing the beauty in many patterns.

I do not know where we are going or where we should be going. But I am thinking about and trying to come up with perspectives from the heart and mind. I strongly believe that we

should think about, talk about, pay close attention to the unique journey and story that we can create as a UU community.

## *Opinion*

**Catherine Burns**

### **“Living Beautifully in Uncertainty and Change”**

It is the title of a book by American Buddhist nun Pema Chodron, and it could have been the title of these past 12-16 months. We have had a time of it. And we are going forward into it again - uncertainty and change; this time a familiar one - the transition of our minister.

Pema Chodron guides the reader very gently through troubling times. She suggests 3 commitments:

1. Not causing harm
2. Taking care of one another
3. Embrace the world just as it is

Through meditation and practice we can come to the same thing Pema has - *Everything changes* - how we handle it brings suffering or joy.

I looked in “The UU Pocket Guide” given to me after I joined All Souls. It mentions an education model based on a learning cycle of 3 questions: What? So what? Now what?

1. What ? - The initial experience
2. So what? Where we find meaning in experience
3. Now what? - Given what I now know, understand and value, what am I called to do?

So to keep the three things theme we arrive at the crux - the questions to consider: *Decide* -

1. We want a minister
2. We don't want a minister
3. We hire a RE certified person - for adult and children ministry.

Of course I have an opinion about the decision, as do we all. The only thing I would like to suggest is taking time - quiet time, meditation time and “What...” time.

As a footnote of sorts I would like to say how grateful I am that we had a guide through our calamities, flood, pandemic, great loss of life and loves. Rev. Marty's calm, humorous and loving ways helped me tremendously. Their tech skills and willingness to try out of box experiments kept our fellowship steady. It is a blessing to have them in my life.

## *Around the Church*

### **Adopt a Highway Cleanup**



Our twice-yearly highway cleanup took place on Saturday, May 8. The dynamic duo of Nelson P. and Robert S. made quick work of the litter that had found its way to the roadsides of our adopted stretch of outer Gotham Street.

-Sarah O'Connell

### **Cleaning Day May 8<sup>th</sup>**

Thanks to everyone who helped on Saturday, May 8, bringing order out of chaos. Below, Doug Venable, assisted by Anita Lee, clean the rug that lives under the chalice table, and the rug from the Wondering Center that is used in the Eaton Social Hall during coffee hour.

Joanne Harter and Veronica Hartman worked in the kitchen, Veronica cleaning the stoves and Joanne preparing the cupboards to be restocked.

In the sanctuary, Paula Trainham, Anita Lee and Harriet McMillan cleaned most of the sanctuary chairs. Jo Reid and Linda Greene vacuumed out the grand piano. Joanne Harter worked behind the altar to arrange the supplies.

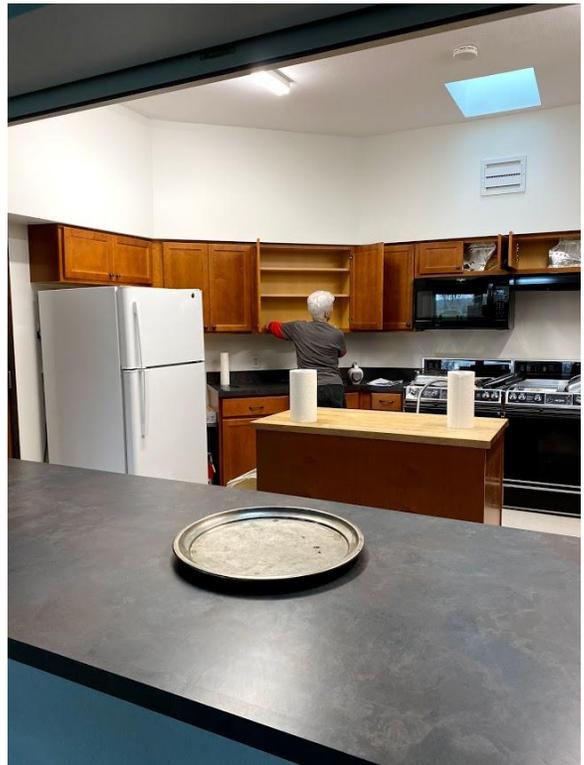
Meanwhile Robert South and Nelson Pratt accomplished the road cleanup. Robert reported that there was quite a bit of trash to collect.

Eleanor Allen worked in the accountant's office, while Frances Mercer worked in the Wondering Center.

Catherine Burns worked to beautify the entrance with flowers.

Harriet McMillan





## Blood Drive Results April 17

We had 14 total pints for the day. 4 turn aways due to iron, 1 church member, and only 2 no shows. Pretty good day over all.

Julie Jeffers sits at the welcome desk. She gave the details about the drive. Julie has been the driving force for the blood drives.

## Tree Planting Day Behind the Church



Adults and children pitch in to get some trees planted on the newly cleared land behind the church.



## Easter Egg Hunt 2021 Style

The annual Easter egg hunt had to be postponed to the Sunday after Easter because of bad weather. The Wondering Center activity was organized by Frances Mercer. This year, instead of searching for eggs containing a surprise, the kids searched for eggs which could be swapped for treats. Frances put a lot of thought and effort into the successful event.



## **All Souls Participates in 2021 Pride Days June 18-20**

Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. Pride in Watertown is in its infancy. There was a flag raising at the Watertown City Hall in 2019 to celebrate Pride for the first time in this area. Then the pandemic hit and everything for 2020 was celebrated online. This year promises to be a huge event.

Our hope is to join in this celebration by having a booth at Pride in the Park on June 19. We need volunteers to accomplish this.

Slots to be filled:

1 person with a truck to assist with set up that will drive the table from the church to Thompson Park. 10:45-12 noon.

1 volunteer to sit at the table and talk to people, hand out flyers and sell rainbow facemasks.

1 more person (or possibly the same person from set up) with a truck to assist with tear down and drive the table back to the church

If we don't get these volunteers then we won't be able to have a table at Pride in the Park but perhaps we can coordinate a group of us showing up at the Flag Raising. That will probably have a good turn out since they had a successful one in 2019 and everyone is going to be happy to get out after the pandemic.

10:45-12 set up - ?/April Huff

12-1 – Warren Allen/April Huff

1-2 – Catherine Burns/Harriet McMillan

2-3 - ?/April Huff

3-4 tear down - ?/April Huff

## **Backlot Update**





Separately from my duties serving as your erstwhile congregation and board president, I guess I should report on the project I've been pursuing on the back half of the church grounds. Perhaps I should explain to everyone what is going on and why. When the church was built the area south of the peace pole and parking lot was largely an open

meadow. There was a little bit of "existing vegetation" present right behind the landscaped areas. That existing vegetation was a shrubby tree called Buckthorn, *Rhamnus Cathartica*. It's widely considered an invasive species, meaning it isn't native, but what is. The point is that in the ecology around here it leads to a simpler, less healthy ecosystem. Buckthorn has no natural predators. No other vegetation outcompetes it. It poisons other vegetation, starves it of light and nutrients, outbreeds it, and literally wraps around

it and kills it. If left to go its way, buckthorn becomes a monoculture, a single species dominating an area, with nothing else there. Once an ecology has been imbalanced like this, there's no "letting nature take its course" because that's letting the imbalance return. What we can do is put a thumb on the scales, help other species thrive while slowing down buckthorn. We can collaborate with nature to produce a healthier, more diverse, and more beautiful ecosystem.

Buckthorn had entirely taken over the "backlot" and there was little else but thorny trees with poison berries. Underneath them was mainly just bare dirt. Buckthorn stays green longer than other trees, and presents a consistent appearance to a casual glance, so it looks like land with healthy plant on it, even in December and March.

I had seen the other side of Gotham road, how a very nearby area was full of diverse types of life, and I dreamed of making our back lot just like that. So I proposed to cut it all down and plant other trees. I made

clear what I was doing, to both board and the relevant committees, and in the absence of clear insistence that I not do it I proceeded to do what I had proposed. I cut down all the buckthorn, starting with the largest “trees” first. They’re the ones that create the seeds. The little stuff can be addressed later, while the replacement species are growing. The worst that can happen is that buckthorn takes over again. In fact, the brush on the ground (the next step to remove) acts to protect seedlings from deer. Deer are another species without sufficient natural enemies, and they help keep a natural forest from growing. Any tree that is planted must be protected by a “deer cage” which is what you see out there now. These are circles of wire fence maybe three feet across and 3 to 5 feet high. They protect the sapling inside until it is too tall for deer to strip to death. Deer will eat almost anything except buckthorn.

I beg your pardon for not giving enough respect to democratic decision making and I beg your patience to let me continue what I’m doing rather than trying to bulldoze all the little trees I have growing and turn all that into a lawn. I have some pictures, but it’s a moving target. If only you could see the future I see rather than just the present.

-Robert South

### **Generosity Project for 2021-2022**

Every year we choose two organizations to share half of our uncommitted plate collections. It works as follows: the collector tracks the uncommitted funds, and the congregation selects the organizations. At the end of the church year, we divide the uncommitted funds in half, retain one half, divide the remainder in half and send those monies to the chosen organizations. . This year we chose two organizations: Planned Parenthood of Northern New York and The Children’s Home. Each organization will receive ¼ of the uncommitted plate collections.

Our generosity project/shared plate nominees for next year are:

Victims Assistance Center

Watertown SPCA

North Country Public Radio

Hospice of Jefferson County

New York Library Association

Planned Parenthood of Northern New York

Voting will be by the Zoom polling function at the services on May 23rd, May 30th and June 6th .

### **Mark Your Calendars for Music by Toni this Summer**

The Grieco sisters are singing in ADAMS on August 11.

Toni, and her former student, Jordan Davidson, are performing in Norwood on July 11 and in Adams on July 14, then again at the Clayton Opera House on September 4.

## Every Month at All Souls

### CUUPS (Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans)

CUUPS does not meet during the current pandemic, but will resume as soon as the building is ready and the church is reopened.

### And Every Week at All Souls

The basket for your donations to the Urban Mission Food Pantry are always available for your donations. Also, Joanne Harter collects the orange bags in which our newspapers are delivered. She then delivers them to the SPCA to be used to keep the grounds clean.

We serve fair trade coffee during our pot luck coffee hours.

As always, Joanne Harter, our CDO (Chief Decorating Officer) appreciates help with the altar decorations.

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## *Unitarian Universalist Association*

### 2021 DRAFT STATEMENT OF CONSCIENCE

After three years of study and action on the 2018-2021 Congregational Study/Action Issue *Undoing Systemic White Supremacy: A Call to Prophetic Action*, the General Assembly delegates will vote this June whether to adopt the draft Statement of Conscience (SOC), prepared by the Commission on Social Witness with feedback from congregations. Adopted Statements of Conscience focus the efforts of UU congregations and other UU groups on the topic of the SOC, shape the meaning of contemporary Unitarian Universalism, and empower the UUA staff to lobby our positions in pending legislation.

Read the draft Statement of Conscience (SOC) [Undoing Systemic White Supremacy: A Call to Prophetic Action](#)

## From Allison Hess: International Associate for the UUA

Allison sent the following email to Sylvia Heap, our United Nations envoy.

Dear Sylvia,

Congratulations!

It is my joy to congratulate All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church on becoming a 2020-2021 Sixth Principle Congregation! Well done!! On behalf of the UU Office at the United Nations, I offer immense thanks to you and to the congregation for all of your support and committed action over this past year to further our Sixth Principle's goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.



We will be announcing the 2020-2021 Sixth Principle Congregations on our website and social media in June, including via email, so you won't miss it.

In the meantime, we will be making a congratulatory video that can be shared with your congregation in virtual worship service!

Again, Thank you so much!

Best Wishes, Allison

### All Souls UU Church Board of Trustees

President: Robert South      [Roberts.asuuc@gmail.com](mailto:Roberts.asuuc@gmail.com)  
Vice President: Heather Winn      [heatherw.asuuc@gmail.com](mailto:heatherw.asuuc@gmail.com)  
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Trustee: Catherine Burns      [catherineb.asuuc@gmail.com](mailto:catherineb.asuuc@gmail.com)  
Trustee: Joanne Harter

### Staff

Office Administrator:  
Music: Tony Zygodlo  
Childcare  
Religious Education: Frances Mercer  
Sexton:

Board meetings are held the third Thursday at 9:30 AM via Zoom. Meetings are open to all members of the congregation. Contact the office for the link.

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Website: <http://www.allsoulsuu.org>

PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER NO LATER THAN THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH.  
ITEMS ARE APPRECIATED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church  
1330 Gotham St.  
Watertown, NY 13601  
ALL SOULS NEWS June 2021  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



We affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

#### Our Principles

##### **Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:**

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

#### Our Mission

- The mission of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church is to create an environment in which personal and spiritual growth is encouraged; and where each of us is free to explore our individual beliefs and search for meaning.
- We strive to be a warm, supportive, nurturing and inclusive religious community where all people are respected and honored because of their uniqueness.
- We promote acceptance, diversity and social justice through our dealings with each other and our actions in the local and global community.

Visitors are welcome! If, as a visitor to our church community, you find yourself in agreement with Our Principles, please consider joining our church community. Just sign our membership book in the presence of two board members.