



the
chalice

Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua Newsletter

3024 Cooley Road | Canandaigua, NY 14424 | 585-396-1370 | <http://canandaiguauu.org>

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua
April 2017---**

What Does It Mean to Be a Community of Transformation?

April 2

“Transformation—To What End?” Rev. Peggy Meeker

April 9

“Transformation from Controlling Domination to Loving Support,” Marty Dodge

April 16

“The Lotus Jesus,” Rita Capezzi

April 23

Social and Environmental Justice Committee Earth Day Service

April 30

Rev. Joe Miller

Coming up in May:

“What Does It Mean to Be a Community of Transformation?”

May 7, 2017

Rita Capezzi, Interim Intern Minister

❖ Transformation ❖

It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.
-- Charles Darwin



Rita Capezzi, Intern Minister

I have always admired the physical skill and strength of gymnasts, especially when it comes to their work on the balance beam. Compact and muscular bodies pose, prance, and play on 16 feet of surface only four inches wide. Not much room for error, and the good ones make it look so easy, so effortless. The nerve and the strength are unmatched when it comes to poise and form; they're doing all this magic five feet in the air, for goodness' sake!

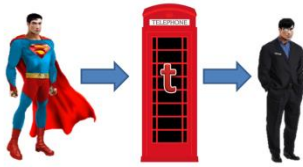
My own efforts at balance look anything but graceful. More often than not, they look less like a gymnast on the beam and more like stepping on a glossy magazine and slipping awkwardly across the carpet, trying to find my feet but finding instead I am stepping on another magazine sliding across the hardwood flooring. Lucky if I don't take a header into the bookcase or the doorframe or the wall. Occasionally I find myself landing squarely on my posterior, gingerly checking for damage.

It would be nice, I think, if change looked like working a balance beam. Handstand becomes a tuck and tumble, back up on two feet, one in front of the other into a back flip that becomes another handstand. The routine is smooth, because it's drilled and practiced. The audience sees only the polished conclusion of the effort of months and years. The transitions between each posture, from the beam to the floor in the final dismount, are graceful and natural, beautiful and triumphant.

That's not how I have found change, though. More typically it looks and feels like sliding across the floor on an ill-placed magazine. It's awkward, and the dangers of the dismount are not veiled in poise and practice. More like a fall. More like a fail. We all remember the bad hair styles between middle school and high school, as we tried to change from being little kids to cool adults. The transformation from youngsters to grown-ups involved a lot of growing pains both internal and external, in our bones and in our social interactions. Gracefulness is a word best left out of a discussion of change.

Change is tough, and often we like to avoid it. Yet transformation is necessary, especially in congregational life. It is easy to name the values and the character of this congregation – warmth, hospitality, commitment to action toward social and environmental justice. All of this gives us a

Intern Minister's Message cont'd



sense of belonging and well-being, a sense of community. None of us wants that to change. And yet our internal organization and our habitual practices – the way we make manifest our warmth, hospitality, and commitments – as much as these comfort us, they might not actually include and welcome the newcomers who seek the community values we espouse.

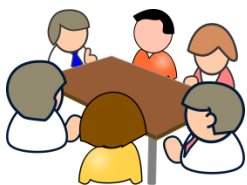
How can we transform our ways without changing the values and character of this loving congregation? Well, the answers are not completely clear. I wish I could say that there exists a carefully orchestrated plan, an impeccable routine that will keep us all poised on the balance beam as we transition from one posture to another. But instead we are going to slide around a bit awkwardly, flailing our arms a bit to try to keep from crashing. And we may crash, but we will have to pick ourselves up.

In the coming months, I am going to introduce some new elements to worship and some new ways to organize worship. I'll be working through a method called "failing forward." Nothing is set in stone. We're going to try out some changes, evaluate them quickly for what seems good and not so good, and move on to other experiments. We will be sliding around a bit, and not worrying if we crash occasionally. I promise to prepare you when bringing new things, explaining what I'm trying and why I'm trying it. I welcome your thoughts and your feedback. All I ask is that you enter this experiment with me, in a spirit of curiosity and acceptance, trusting that there are many good ways to be warm, hospitable, and acting for justice.

See you at church!



From the Board



Hi all, in light of the recent events around our area with the border patrol, there is a lot of interest in making a statement here at UUCB by signing the UUA Declaration of Conscience. This is the type of thing that requires a congregational vote, so with the encouragement of the Social and Environmental Justice team and my fellow board members, we will schedule a vote in April if possible. Notification must be sent at least 10 days in advance of the meeting and we need to work around Easter and the school vacation to schedule it. "Stay tuned", and watch for the announcement.

Please read the page below so you understand what it is <http://www.uua.org/action/show-love/declaration-conscience>

If you want to be involved with a church that is taking action, the three main ways you can help are: **Show Up**, **Ante Up** and **Speak Up**. So the above is a **Speak Up** activity - read up on the declaration and help us make UU voices heard.

From the Board cont'd

Ante Up: A reminder as you do your taxes: did you make your pledge for 2017-2018 back when we started the capital campaign? Or have you not yet pledged for this year? This is a good time to look at where you want to lend your support to our efforts as a congregation and a community of justice-seeking people. If you can increase your pledge, please do so. We'll be enabling a PayPal donations option on our website soon.

Show Up: We need you to be physically present to help us keep heart collectively and have the energy to do good in the world. So come to church! We want you with us to work on and participate in events like our April 21 program on migrants' lives and rights. Flyers will be coming soon for you to help distribute.

We need you to be at UUCC to help us keep the place humming along with all the things we do (and so we can do more). We want you to be involved in the program teams (worship, welcoming, hospitality, religious education, social and environmental justice, building and grounds, Small group/pastoral care, membership, finance, communications). There is a place for everyone to be involved where they can contribute their time, attention and talent.

In regards to our ongoing board work, board liaisons with the various program teams are working on getting reviews of the programs so we can understand how well each is functioning. We want to have a "program ministry fair" where each team can have a chance to show what they do, who's involved and what they need in resources to do their best. There's plenty to do with bylaws review and new activities that will be coming to us from our intern interim minister, Rita Capezzi for our discernment towards our ministerial situation after 2018. Please let your board members know what's on your minds. We did a congregational survey a year ago which pointed us towards some things we are working on now, and we want to stay cognizant of what the congregation needs and wants to do.

...Respectfully, Dorothy Hoskins
President, UUCC Board of trustees

Building Project Update



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Many people have been working hard over the past months to plan improvements to our space. In the next few weeks, the plans they have developed will be on display at church.

The **Kitchen Committee** has developed several options for opening up the kitchen for easier movement. The plans

Bldg Project cont'd

include necessary changes to our appliances to be more appropriate to our needs and to stay within codes for our small

Ante Up: A reminder as you do your taxes: did you make your pledge for 2017-2018 back when we started the capital kitchen space. We will be getting rid of the stove and installing warming drawers include necessary changes for our appliances to be more appropriate to our needs and to stay within codes for our small kitchen and possibly install mobile cupboards/counters to allow for flexibility.

The **Sanctuary Committee** has new designs for an architectural feature to set off the Sanctuary space. Also, the wall above the former office space will be extended to the ceiling to minimize noise distractions. There are plans for all new lighting and new ceiling features to accommodate the lighting which will be softer and allow more flexibility.

The Board hopes to have the plans finalized enough to get contractors hired and work started this summer.

... from Nancy Reed
Board Member



Building & Grounds



As many know, I resigned as Buildings and Grounds Supervisor back in January. The Board has had a difficult time finding someone to take over the position, so, this short article is a request for someone to step forward.

Ken, Lynn and I have gotten several outstanding issues worked out or repaired and things are running smoothly. We remain available to assist the new Supervisor. I have written down all of the responsibilities, contacts, and necessary information needed for the new person. The job doesn't require any special skills...I'm proof of that. We have a congregation full of people with the necessary skills and desire to help. The Supervisor position is mainly one of seeing that the necessary work gets done. The position is one that anyone can do.

Please contact me or a member of the Board if you're interested.

... from Kevin House



2nd Sunday Potluck

April 9, 2017

Every 2nd Sunday, following the service, UUs can enjoy delicious food and great conversation. Bring one of your favorite dishes to share.

***Announcements
Pastoral Care***

Interim Intern Minister Rita Capezzi will be away for study and until April 16. You can reach her by email capezzir@gmail.com and phone (be sure to leave a message: 716-903-7935). For emergency pastoral care while Rita is away, contact Rev. Joel Miller at 716-480-7064 and leave a detailed message.



Soul Matters

We are a Soul Matters congregation, and we use the monthly theme in small group ministry and in sermons. About a third of our congregation is entering a deeper spiritual relationship with the monthly theme using the Soul Matters materials individually and in groups. There are some hard copies of the April packet on the dresser near the Trustees bulletin board. Email Rita Capezzi to receive a copy electronically (capezzir@gmail.com). Give it a try, and let me know what you think. And let me know if you are interested in joining a Soul Matters group.



***Listening Healing
Circle on April 30***

Listening to one another and allowing a safe space for healing is the work of the interim time in a congregation. Church members have already done one circle with Rev. Tina Simson in January and another with Rev. Joel Miller in February. Rita Capezzi will facilitate a Listening Healing Circle following service on April 30 from 11:30-1:30. If you are interested, you must sign up in advance as there is some material to prepare ahead of time. Please contact Intern Rita Capezzi at capezzir@gmail.com or 716-903-7935 and sign up for the session by Thursday, April 27. This has been a rewarding experience for about 15% of our church community, and I invite you to seek the beneficial healing the Listening Circle can offer.



***Worship Workshop:
Saturday May 6,
10am to 2pm (lunch
provided)***

Wondering how to tie all the different parts of a service into one "arc of worship"? Pondering how a personal observation or story can become an effective sermon? Doubting you could feel comfortable speaking from the pulpit? This workshop is for you! Open to current and interested Worship Associates and Lay Service Providers, Rita Capezzi will facilitate an interactive workshop with lots of activities, discussion, and practice. If you are interested in joining the team providing meaningful worship for our congregation or in honing your skills, developing some new ones, and sharing your wisdom, you are welcome. Let Rita know of your interest by May 1 so she can

Workshop cont'd

**Auction Dinner
with Rita Capezzi &
spouse Jeff Lowry:
May 7 11:45-1:30**

Videos & YouTube



Children's Religious Education



prepare the necessary materials. capezzir@gmail.com or 716-903-7935.



Rita and Jeff are pleased to serve sixteen lucky winners a three-course Mexican meal with vegan options. And there is still space for 10 more participants! Simply let Rita know you are interested (716-903-7935 or capezzir@gmail.com), and make a \$25 donation to the church. Buen Provecho!



The link below is to YouTube for:

Rita Capezzi's sermon, "What is Worth the Risk?" delivered on March 12, 2017 at UUC.

https://youtu.be/xWnw_PhiSZs

... from Daniel Brigham

Thanks Dan, this is a great service for folks who miss once in awhile.



Did you know that you, yes you, are the biggest role model we have for our children and youth at church? How we as adults interact with one another and the children and youth models for them our principles in action. Taking time to chat or help one of our younger members makes an impression no words will ever make. Giving the RE class a Sunday of your time to share the gift of your presence with them - priceless.

The RE Committee is looking for one volunteer a week willing to step up, as needed and assist with RE class. Have a special interest or a skill you can share? Never helped with RE? No worries your biggest gift to our RE students is your time and attention. Share the wonder and awe of the universe, contact Jazzmin Wipf, our RE teacher or an RE Committee member today to sign up for your Sunday.

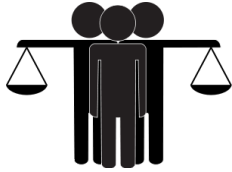
The RE class schedule for spring is bursting with cool activities as we explore our Seven Principles.

We've included social action projects, new arts and crafts, music and a couple of field trips.

Parents don't let your children miss out! Register all children and youth 18 years old and younger. If you haven't completed the RE registration form pick it up at church or contact an RE Committee member for a copy; as soon as you

R. E. cont'd

***Social &
Environmental
Justice***



return it we can keep you updated with future plans and suggestions for "taking the lesson" home.

. . . from Scarlett Miles for the RE Committee
Mary Beth Gamba RE Committee Chair, [607.765.4257](tel:607.765.4257)
Val Doyle, [585.624.7736](tel:585.624.7736)
Scarlett Miles, [315.597.5426](tel:315.597.5426)
Nancy Reed, Board Liaison, [585.704.5144](tel:585.704.5144)
Jazzmin Wipf, RE Teacher, [315.576.5969](tel:315.576.5969)



In an effort to support the great work done by the folks in Canandaigua who run both Jordan Health, a public health center, and Nowhere To Go, a community organization addressing the needs of the homeless, the Social and Environmental Justice Committee is happy to share that we have donated \$70 worth of bus fares for them to distribute to those in need. They use them when they refer individuals to other public services but discover that they do not have their own transportation. They were very appreciative and, funds permitting, we will continue to support their efforts as best we can.

. . . from Meghan Cabral





Be In The Know!

There are many ways to connect with UUCC to learn about our news and events:

UUCC online: Visit our website at www.CanandaiguaUU.org

UUCC newsletter: Send an email to uucc@rochester.rr.com to be added to the mailing list, or read the newsletters online at <http://canandaiguauu.org/newsletter/>

UUCC on Yahoo Groups: Send an email to (CanandaiguaUU@gmail.com) and let us know you are interested in joining the group. You can also join by visiting uucc_announcements_subscribe@yahoo.com

UUCC on Facebook: *Like* our page <http://www.facebook.com/canandaiguauu>

UUCC Twitter
[@CanandaiguaUU](https://twitter.com/CanandaiguaUU)

UUCC Google+
<https://plus.google.com/115313131260455061567?prsrc=5>



Contacts

Minister:

Rita Capezzi 716.903.7935
Interim Intern Minister
capezzir@gmail.com

Director of Music

Bill Mehls 585.396.1032
mehlsfamily@aol.com

Board President

Dorothy Hoskins 585.634.5349
dorothy.hoskins@gmail.com

Board Vice President

Pat Mehls 585.472.9094
mehlsfamily@aol.com

Lay Worship:

Kathy Keller 315.548.9059
wkemyo@zoom-dsl.com

Religious Education

Mary Beth Gamba 315.595.8899

The Chalice

Judy Cadle 315.719.4099
Send articles ony to this address.
4chalice@gmail.co

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