



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
November 2017---**

What Does It Mean to be a Community of Abundance?

November 5: Rita Capezzi

“A Cloud of Witnesses” (Multigenerational)

November 12: Connie Barrett

“The Karma of Memory”

November 19: Rev. Joy Collins

“The Spiritual Imperative of Being Happy in a
Broken World”

November 26: Lynne Westmoreland

“Reflections on the Camino”

Coming up in December:

**What does it mean to be a community of
Hope?**

December 3, 2017: Rev. Dick Gilbert

“title TBA”

❖ Abundance ❖



Live simply that others may simply live.

--Mohandas
Gandhi

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.

--Albert Einstein

Seems like for as long as I can remember, I have longed for simplicity, that abundance was always “too much.” When I was a child, fantasizing about running away from home, I recall that I purposed to take with me only what would fit into a square, metal, lunchbox. I remember distinctly thinking through exactly what would fit into that box: what I would absolutely have to have with me at all times and what I could do without. As the fantasy developed over the years of my childhood and adolescence, new needs would replace old ones; what was “essential” would change. At one point, a bikini bathing suit and a curling iron became essential.

Clearly, though, my notion of abundance was rooted in scarcity, at least in terms of material possessions. Perhaps this came from a childhood lived in poverty – we had almost all that we needed almost all the time. And we rarely had what we wanted – books, new clothes, vacations, reliable heat. It was a happy day for my mother when children had moved out and rooms had been re-arranged and she could have a dining room instead of eating in the kitchen.

When I was young, I did not want more things for myself. I wanted more freedom. I wanted access to books and education. I wanted autonomy. Later, with eyes open wider, I wanted all of that for other people, too. Yet as my own material existence improved – when my college education enabled me to get a job paying better than food service, when I married and my spouse’s upper-middle class income sustained both needs and wants, I made a crucial mistake: I began to believe that everyone else’s circumstances were like my own. I began to think that everyone could afford to simplify materially in order to focus more closely on ideals.

Now I know better. Now I know that it is possible to make things “too simple,” to root abundance in the lack of material goods, over-valuing what I have enough of and thus devaluing what others need. For some of our siblings, it is a painful insult to define abundance only in terms of the ideal, to ignore the need for a little bit of abundance in material things: enough food, enough clothing choices, sufficient health care, safe and secure housing, worthy and well-compensated work. It is *not* that from within a lack of these things one cannot also

Interim Minister's Message cont'd



need and long for a sense of purpose, a chance to play, freedom from worry. Rather, it is important not to elide our own circumstances with those of others. Simplicity, abundance defined as mental and spiritual space only, can actually be as harmful to individuals and to our relationships.

May we monitor our own thinking, recognizing our own circumstances and how they may differ from each other's. And may we remember that, in all our similarities and differences, we flow from the same source, the earth our home. May we pray in the words of Alicia Forde:

I lift my eyes up to the hills.

From where will my help come?

My help comes from Love abundant.

My help comes from the hills.

My help, my help, it comes from ancient Mother
Whose heart beats in mine.

It comes from the trees that sway and the breeze
that sways them.

My help comes from all that was and is and will
ever be.

Very much looking forward to seeing you at church in the coming weeks!



Pastoral Care

Interim Intern Minister Rita Capezzi is available for regular pastoral care. You can reach her by email capezzir@gmail.com and phone at 716-903-7935 (be sure to leave a message if she doesn't pick up). She holds hours at the church on the following days and also by appointment:

1st and 3rd Tuesdays: 3:00-5:00 pm

3rd and 4th Wednesdays: 3:30-5:30pm

Rita will make an announcement whenever her schedule changes for travel or other reasons.



Soul Matters

What Does It Mean to be a Community of Abundance?

We are a Soul Matters congregation, and we use the monthly theme in small group ministry, in worship, and now also in Religious Education. Also half 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 November packet on the table near the sanctuary entrance. Email Rita Capezzi to receive a copy electronically if you are not already in a Soul Matters group (capezzir@gmail.com).

Soul Matters cont'd

Soul Matters Groups Meeting Monthly

1st Tuesdays,

7:00-8:30 pm at 3024 Cooley Road,
facilitated by Rita Capezzi

1st Wednesdays

4:00-5:30 pm at 3024 Cooley Road,
facilitated by Rita Capezzi

3rd Wednesdays

7:00-8:30 pm in Canandaigua,
facilitated by Bob Gordon and Lynn Overgaard
7:00-8:30 pm in Canandaigua,
facilitated by Kerry Graff

3rd Thursdays,

10:30 am-12:30 pm in Canandaigua,
facilitated by Nancy Reed at Ferris Hills
(optional potluck on 1st Thursdays at same location)

3rd Saturdays,

4:00-6:00 (with potluck) in Livonia,
facilitated by Mary Drake

Please contact Rita by phone (716-903-7935) or email
(capezzir@gmail.com) if you would like to join a Soul Matters
small group.



How Do We Afford the Services We Want?

UUCC is heading into an important time of transition. Next June, after two years as our interim intern minister, Rita Capezzi will be launching her career in parts unknown. We will continue with a contract minister. The question we need to think about is whether we want that person to serve us half or a third time. Reverend Evin's workshop, during which they listed the tasks a minister does and asked us to consider which of those we can take care of and which we want a minister to handle, was enlightening. I think most of us would like a minister to lead at least two Sunday worship services each month. Keep in mind that a sermon takes about 20 hours to prepare! That means that a third time minister would use 40 out of their 60 hours per month involved with sermon preparation, leaving only 20 hours for their share of the many other tasks a church needs done to thrive (administration, leadership, pastoral care, adult and child faith development, social justice, outreach to the community, interfaith involvement) and a large commitment from congregants to help with those tasks. Obviously a half time minister (90 hours/month) would be able to shoulder a bigger load.

Stewardship



Stewardship cont'd

Another advantage of searching for a half time minister is that the pool of applicants would be bigger. There are more people out there looking for a half time post compared to those seeking a third time job.

Presently, our budget would allow for paying a third time minister, including health care. Hiring a half time minister requires an increase in pledges....an increase of approximately 30%. Keep in mind that we are used to getting half time ministry from Rita, and that the partnership with 1st U also provided us with more than 1/3 time service. Without an increase in pledges we will be taking a step backwards as far as ministerial services.

Think about what the Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua means to you. Think about the importance of a liberal religious presence in the Finger Lakes. Think about the needs that a vibrant, supportive UU church can address both within our congregation and in the surrounding communities. Then decide if you are willing to increase your pledge in order to hire a half time minister.

... from Pat Mehls
President, Board of Trustees



Green Sanctuary & Rennovation



2nd Sunday Potluck November 12, 2017

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

(Bring canned goods for Gleaners too!)

Now that we have occupied UUCC's new space for a few weeks we have heard great comments and questions about all the choices that had to be made and the outcome we are all enjoying.

The Kitchen & Flooring Committee focused on a number of priorities: keeping with our Green Sanctuary commitment, cost effectiveness, longevity and low maintenance. Here is a review of our choices and reasoning.

Flooring:

Coretec Plus flooring was chosen for the foyer, kitchen, social area, hallway and bathroom. It was highly recommended by Canandaigua Carpets Inc. It is Greenguard Plus certified, quieter and more comfortable to walk on than wood due to the cork underlayment, extremely durable. low maintenance and water proof. These features were above any

**Green
Sanctuary &
Renovation
Cont'd**

other choice. Cleaning it with just water is a nice added feature. Both the product and company hold green values at their high standard. The company is US Floors and here is their website: <http://www.usfloorsllc.com/about-usf/eco-mission/>

Kitchen:

The kitchen cabinets for our new "warming kitchen" were purchase new after determining the cost and labor to buy used cabinets for our specific design wouldn't be worth the small amount of money saved. The new cabinetry kept us on track to finish and install them on time in order to satisfy the requirements for free, new countertops. Rest assured, used cabinetry on Craigslist sells fast and would unlikely go to a landfill. We purchased the cabinets with a 25% off sale and purchased the appliances during their Memorial Day sales for added savings.

Additionally, we received a \$600.00 gift certificate when we ordered the cabinets as a gift through Lowes which we put toward the purchase of the appliances.

The library cabinetry was bought used on Craig's List. The library bookshelves were purchased new in order to fit on either side of the cabinets within our specific space. These bookshelves were cost effective as opposed to the contractor building and installing them.

Paint:

All the paint in our newly renovated space was bought at Haddock's and the Benjamin Moore paints had no VOC's.

Lighting:

All the lighting replaced is efficient LED.

All of the items we took out were reused or sent to the Restore valuing the commitment to reuse and recycle.

... Lynn Cronise
Kitchen and Flooring Committee Chair
[585-261-4277](tel:585-261-4277) lynncronise@gmail.com



Name tags



I am having blue and white name tags made. The new style is magnetic and does not use a pin. If you would like to have one please contact me by email rickyurick@gmail.com

Rick Yurick
Membership Committee



4th Annual Congressional Education Days

Hundreds of CCL volunteers (including our own Ellie Syverud) will converge on Washington DC for the 4th Annual Congressional Education Days scheduled for Monday November 13th (climate advocate training day) and Tuesday November 14th (lobbying on Capitol Hill).

Last year CCL volunteers met with just under 300 offices for their November Congressional Education Day. They hope to surpass that number this year and are especially interested in meeting with particular offices (e.g. House Committee on Ways and Means, Senate Committee on Finance, Energy & Commerce, Energy & Natural Resources, and Environment & Public Works, and the House and Senate leadership).

Let's send positive energy their way to help them be successful in educating and influencing our legislators.

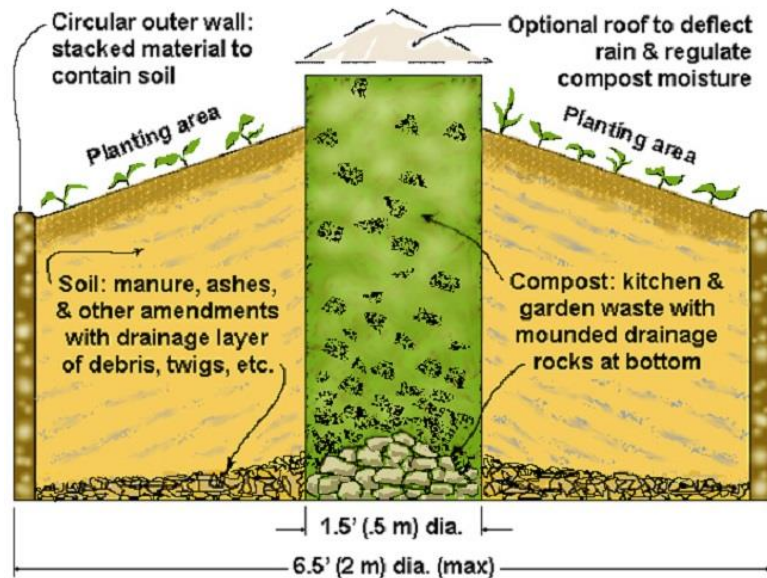
... from Ellie Suverud
Green & Social Justice Committee



Keyhole Garden

UUCU now has the beginnings of a Keyhole/Lasagna Garden just to the west of the parking lot. Last Sunday Lynn Cronise and the RE kids started the layers so they can settle over the winter. They'll be planting and mothering some interesting, eatable things, so keep watch.

... from Lynn Cronise
RE Volunteer



***Jntrepid WCC
Road Crew***

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October 2017 Kevin House, Ken Hutton and Thomas Lyon.
Look at all the stuff they found.



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@yahoogroups.com

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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua The Chalice, November, 2017



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

Pat Mehls 585.396.1032
mehlsfamily@aol.com

Board Vice President

Thomas Lyon
585-444-3772

Lay Worship:

Kathy Keller 315.548.9059
wkemyo@zoom-dsl.com

The Chalice

Judy Cadle 315.719.4099
Address for articles:
4chalice@gmail.com