



**Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua
January 2017--- On a Theme of Prophecy
Sermon Schedule**

January 1

Rita Capezzi, "What Will the New Year Hold?"
Interim Intern Minister

January 8

Rev. Lynn Acquafondata, "Pathways in the Dark"

January 15

Rev. Richard Gilbert, "What Would Martin Do?"

January 22

Rev. Joan Berend, "Really?"
Lay Speaker

January 29

Rev. Evin Carvill-Ziemmer
UUA Regional Consultant

Coming up on February 5, 2017

The monthly worship theme is "Identity"

February 5, Dorothy Hoskins, Lay Speaker

"My UUCC Identity: The Warmth of
Community, the Fire of Commitment"



the chalice

Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua Newsletter

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



Rita Capezzi, Intern Minister

A Message for January on Prophecy

I'll admit I dragged my feet on this theme. I thought maybe Rev. Joel would adapt the theme schedule for the interim period and "Prophecy" would prove to be unsuitable so soon in the process. I hoped that "prophecy" and "prophetic witness" and "prophetic" anything would be left to the more skilled and more knowledgeable than I am. Or that by the time the theme rolled around again, I would finally be ready for it. The truth is, I was afraid of this topic. I still am. I am afraid of the need for a prophetic vision. I am afraid to have to supply it. I am still not ready.

Yet the presidential election and reasonable expectations concerning the shape of our political landscape require, really *demand*, a prophetic response. It is irrelevant really if I or any of us feels "not ready." According to Rev. Rebecca Parker,

Our times ask us to exercise our capacity for prophetic witness, and by prophetic witness I mean our capacity to see what is happening, to say what is happening and to act in accordance with what we know.... Prophetic witness ...is the ability to name those places where we resist knowing what needs to be known.

So, witness – paying attention, naming the truth, moving with truth to action – this is something that we all can do. All – not just ministers, not just ministers in formation. *All of us*. Our faith requires it. If you slow down and become quiet with yourself, you will hear that still small voice calling you to prophetic witness.

Fortunately, we have a long tradition of prophetic witness in our denomination, by everyone and not just ministers. We have a tradition and a practice upon which we can draw when we feel unsure, when we are afraid, when we would rather simply not "heed the call." Rev. James Luther Adams, one of our greatest theologians, put it this way:

Intern Minister's Message cont'd

The prophetic liberal church is the church in which all members share the common responsibility to attempt to foresee the consequences of human behavior (both individual and institutional), with the intention of making history in place of merely being pushed around by it. Only through the prophetism of all believers can we together foresee doom and mend our common ways.

"The prophethood of all believers" includes all of us, any of us who witness injustice and acknowledge when the web of interdependence is being violated. Life is calling us to bear witness and to speak the truth of what we see and the truth of what we seek.

And so many of you have heeded that call and continue to do so. I see it in the Yahoo Group announcements, where you remind our community of the needs of the world, the many places where we can begin to act for what is right and good. Thomas Merton reminds us that "Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy. That is not our business and, in fact, it is nobody's business. What we are asked to do is to love, and this love itself will render both ourselves and our neighbors worthy." We are already worthy to intervene in the suffering of the world. We already know where the suffering is. We need only move toward it, together, naming it as a way to begin healing it.

There are five Sundays in January, and so we will have more opportunities than usual to explore this challenging, frightening, and most important theme of Prophecy. Our exploration will include questions, reflections, calls, and more questions. As we explore, let us also act.

... See you in church and beyond!
Rita Capezzi, Intern Minister

About Soul Matters



Soul Matters is a small group ministry curriculum inviting participants into a deeper and more personal exploration of the monthly worship themes. Because Unitarian Universalism is a faith tradition which emphasizes connection, the aim of the small groups is to enable people to listen to their deepest selves, to open to life's gifts, and to serve needs greater than our own. Soul Matters groups create space in which people can tell their stories and be heard and know themselves better, where people can listen deeply and know better the lives and feelings of their companions. Soul Matters brings participants more clearly and more lovingly into presence, both to themselves and to others. In times of social and cultural

Soul Matters cont'd

crisis, small group ministry reminds us, in the words of Krista Tippet, that:

Prophets help us connect the dots between the world as it is and the world as it might be.

At Unitarian Universalist Church of Canandaigua, we aspire to processes that transform us into the humans we want to be, working in the world on what needs to be done in order for life to be good and just for all.

Several groups are meeting in town and in neighboring communities. Several people have expressed interest in attending a group but have not found one of the established groups convenient. Groups can be organized to accommodate families with children. Seems like we have a need to expand the program. If you are interested in learning more about Soul Matters or in joining a group, please contact Interim Intern Minister Rita Capezzi by email (capezzir@gmail.com) or after Sunday services.

. . . from Rita Capezzi, Intern Minister

Pastoral Care



Interim Intern Minister Rita Capezzi will be back in Chicago taking seminary classes from January 4-21. You can still reach her by phone (716-903-7935) or email (capezzir@gmail.com) for non-emergency situations. Serious pastoral emergencies should be directed to Rev. Tina Simson (585-330-9177).

. . . from Rita Capezzi, Intern Minister

Listening Healing Circles at UUCC



Listening to one another and allowing a safe space for healing is the work of the interim time in a church community. Listening Healing Circles were developed by Rev. Tina Simson and can help us to process our experience as our congregation prepares for the partnership vote in February. These sessions allow individuals to express their personal experiences from the past few years, experience being heard, and held in deep respect.

Rev. Tina will hold a circle for Board members from the 2015-16 and 2016-17 years. Then several more sessions will be scheduled for the congregation. Once you sign up, you will receive a packet of pre-work to complete before the session. This pre-work is the beginning of the healing process, and is necessary for you to be fully present to the experience of the circle.

More information will be forthcoming in UUCC Yahoo announcements and Order of Service inserts. Contact Board President Dorothy Hoskins for more information.

UCC Board Message



The fall is falling behind us now with the turn of the seasons. Our building project work carried on with mostly outdoors and downstairs work this last month. Now we are getting more of a focus on what may happen with the sanctuary (lighting, ceiling, walls and flooring), and the entryway, kitchen and hallway flow redesign. Our budget is fine for the work that we propose so far (you can see the budget posted on the bulletin board at church.)

On the interim process side of things, we have an opportunity to have some Healing Circles here as they have had at First Unitarian. As Rev. Tina put it "These sessions allow individuals to express their personal experiences from the past few years, experience being heard, and held in deep respect."

We will try to schedule several sessions in January and February with Rev. Tina at UCC. Soon we will post more details. There will be some activities in the early part of 2017 leading up to a Feb. 12 vote on the partnership with First Unitarian which you can review here <http://canandaiguauu.org/wp-content/uploads/partnership-covenant.pdf>. We will be sending announcements, as soon as we have the details confirmed, about a workshop to discuss among ourselves what we want and how to move forward as a congregation in relation to the other local congregations (tentatively Jan. 29).

We have an agreement with Rev. Joel Miller and Rita Capezzi that Rev. Joel will supervise Rita's internship and support her work at UCC regardless of what we decide to do at the February vote on our current partnership agreement with First Unitarian. So we will have stability through the 2016-2018 years with Rita to underpin our decisions about developing our congregation, planning for growth and deciding on our ministerial staffing.

The listening, dialoging and decision-making will be the most important parts of our congregation's work, building our community and planning our future. I hope that everyone will make an effort to show up for the interim activities and help us make important, thoughtful decisions together.

. . .Regards, Dorothy Hoskins
UCC Board President



Building Project Update December 2016

Originally it was hoped that UCC would be putting an addition on our building. However, due to higher than expected costs for construction, the needed upgrades to comply with codes once the changes were in place, and lot space constrictions, our capital project was modified. We decided to

Building Update cont'd 1



focus attention on the aspects of the building which were identified as priorities during a congregational charrette.

These improvements can be divided into two categories—those that were legally required and those we chose to address.

Legally required improvements:

The Town of Canandaigua Board demanded that we:

- mark the western edge of the parking lot and create an immovable barrier to keep cars from parking on the leach field. *You will notice a rope marker in the area of the leach field. This will have to be replaced with a more substantial barrier. A committee was formed to look into options. The UUCC Board is looking forward to their report.*
- establish a fire lane around the building and mark it with signage
There is no parking allowed adjacent to the building and signs are posted to inform drivers of the no parking areas.
- put a septic alarm in the septic tank as a safety feature to warn of overflow *The new floating septic alarm has been installed.*

Improvements highlighted by the charrette:

- Basement “livability” improvements should be made to more appropriately accommodate RE classes, the minister’s office, and a meeting room
 - *a team of volunteers sorted through materials that had accumulated downstairs, threw many things out, and wiped down items that were to be kept. Walls and floors were also washed.*
 - *room 1 was primed and painted by volunteers to make it a more hospitable office space where the minister could work and meet with people. In addition, volunteers met on a Saturday to move office materials from behind the curtain closet in the sanctuary to the office, as well as clear the northeast corner of the sanctuary to help make a more attractive worship space, especially now that the focus is often to the north of the room. To this end, volunteers created wallhangings from fabric samples donated by members of the congregation.*
 - *a Sante Fe Advance 2 Dehumidifier was ordered through a local dealer, delivered, and installed. A volunteer from the congregation enhanced air flow in the basement by redirecting the existing “Musty Basement Solutions” fans and ducts.*
 - *related to dampness in the basement, drainage gutters were rerouted away from the building. In addition, Knopf Property Management (with earth moving machinery), a church volunteer, and several hired workers created a swale which will further serve to*

Building Update cont'd 2



- move water away from the east side of the building and help alleviate moisture problems in the basement.*
- Windows should be replaced for energy and aesthetic reasons
 - *although many people wanted enlarged windows, the cost, due to the fact that the outside walls of the building are concrete block, proved prohibitive.*
 - *new, energy efficient windows for the sanctuary have been ordered and are scheduled to be installed in January.*
- More atmospheric lighting would be desirable in the sanctuary
 - *a committee was scheduled to meet with a lighting company in Rochester on Thursday, December 8th. The Board is awaiting their report.*
- The kitchen and hospitality area could be rearranged to better use the space.
 - *the Kitchen Committee was scheduled to meet on Friday, December 9th. The Board is looking forward to their input.*
- Other proposed improvements
 - *people interested in flooring in the sanctuary are looking into options.*
 - *eventually a wall of some kind may be built to separate the sanctuary from the kitchen, bathroom and hospitality area.*

Financial State of the Project:

As stated above, the original intent of the Capital Project was to create an addition to the church building. A Capital Campaign was carried out asking members and friends to contribute funds over a three year period to help support the three phases of construction envisioned in building proposals. Some people chose to fulfill their pledges to all three years of the campaign up front. Others chose to make annual payments. The total raised to date (December 4, 2016) is \$72,586! Thanks to all who have contributed! The costs by category of the work are:

Legally Required Improvements

- Fire Lane signs No expenses submitted as yet.
- Float Alarm for septic tank and installation \$340

Basement

- Paint for office- donated
- Santa Fe Advance 2 Dehumidifier \$1,450

Swale Work (to date)

- Knopf Property Management \$400

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Designated Offring Info 2016-20



Church Drainage Work

Remaining Charges	\$440
Windows and Installation	
• Comfort Windows down payment	\$2,245
• Balance due upon completion	\$4,560
Lighting for Sanctuary (to date)	
• Consultation	\$100

The funds paid out to date total \$4,535, leaving 68,051 in our building project account. Major projects (lighting, flooring, kitchen/hospitality area, sanctuary entryway) are in the planning stages.

Thank you to all those who have contributed time and money! As you can see, there is still a lot to be done as we make UUCS a healthier, more inviting spiritual home. Your ideas are welcome!

... from Pat Mehls



September-	
Doctors Without Borders 09/11/16	210.42
October -	
UUSC	227.00
Haiti Relief	375.00
November -	
WASL (We Are Seneca Lake)	187.00
December -UUSC	
January - Gleaners	
February -UUSC	
March - AVP (Alternatives to Violence in Prisons)	
April -UUSC	
May - Light Hill	
June - UUSC	
July - Literacy Volunteers	
August - UUSC	
September - Victor/Farmington Food Cupboard	



One on-going concern that may, indeed, have been an original motivating force for initiating our program of church renovations was that regarding the problem of "mold." The persistent background smell issuing from basement rooms was not only unpleasant and uninviting, but also a potential health problem, especially for our kids.

Church Drainage Work cont'd



Born of this concern, it has been a priority for the board to seek answers and potential solutions to deal with this problem. After consults last year we were advised that our "mold" was mainly a maintenance problem that could be dealt with first by eliminating the considerable accumulation of "paper" in the basement, cleaning the walls, and then investing in a commercial dehumidifier to reduce the moisture content of the basement air. Last month Bill and Pat Mehls finished up work on the dehumidifier.

Finally, it was possible that ineffective drainage of rainwater around our foundation might have been contributing to dampness on our perimeter basement walls. The old drainage pipe from our roof gutters was "slotted" and ran close to the foundation on the east side potentially dumping rainwater right along the wall. And, the slope of the ground along this side was toward the wall as well, -also a potential problem. Consult with a landscape designer this fall confirmed the problem and suggested solutions: -redo the gutter drains with new solid piping to pull water away from the foundation to the field; -and then regrade the ground surface away from the walls into a collecting trough or "swale" that also drained toward the field.

I am happy to report that with the help of Matt Knopf who dug up the old gutter drains and re-routed them in solid pipe, and a day's hard labor of several good "friends" who hand dug and regraded our new drainage "swale," we can say mission accomplished.

. . . Thanks all, Scoby Beer



Green Tip of the Month



Opt out of bottled water! Only about 20% of plastic water bottles are recycled; and it takes energy to recycle and reuse them! Instead, use your own bottle and take tap water from home, which many bottled water companies use *and sell* to you!

Which bottle to buy? Stainless steel! You'll avoid plastic which contains harmful chemicals (like BPA) that can leach into your drink. Also avoid aluminum. You can tell the difference: aluminum will be coated with plastic and steel will not. So look for smooth metal inside. Stainless steel bottles will also list the materials used to make the bottle. Look for #304 or 18/8 food grade stainless steel. That's the one to buy!

. . . from Kathy Keller



Videos & YouTube



During the church year Dan and his crew video tape UCC sermons and post them on YouTube. Here is a list of sermons most recently posted. Just click on the web address.

October 30, 2016 at UCC

Rev. Tina Simson's sermon, "A Story of Healing and Light"

<https://youtu.be/HQ09Z6DcXXE>

December 4, 2016

Rev. Peggy Meeker sermon, "Presence: What Good Is It?"

<https://youtu.be/jzkkw2cu7vQ>



Sunday Potluck



2nd Sunday Potluck

January 8, 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!)



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
4chalice@gmail.com

**Unitarian Universalist of Canandaigua
The Chalice
January, 2017**

