

THE BEACON

Newsletter of Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton



August Sunday Services

ALL SERVICES BEGIN AT 10:30AM

August 4 “Letting Love Guide Us: Our Connection with all Beings” Rev. Mary Margaret Earl

We are deeply connected to some animals and compassion and kinship guides those relationships. But modern systems have broken our connection with other animals. Here, we consider how we can reawaken our connection and widen our circle of compassion.

Rev. Earl is a UU minister and has worked in community ministry in Rhode Island and Boston for the past 20 years. She is currently as Senior Minister and Executive Director of the UU Urban Ministry in Boston. She will bring a message about compassion for all beings, including the animals.

August 11 Rev. Susan Ritchie and Morgan Patten

Rev. Susan Ritchie and their Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM) Morgan Patten (who will enter seminary this fall) of North Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Lewis Center Ohio have offered to have us as their guests for their Sunday worship. More details to follow.

August 18 “Moon Song” Rev. Douglas Taylor

Poets tell us the moon is mysterious, beautiful, compelling, strange, romantic, and hidden. Why do we love the moon so? What is the draw we feel toward it?

August 25 “The Answer is Love” Rev. Douglas Taylor

How do Unitarian Universalists - with all our different theologies - come together as one faith? A fresh articulation of our values says Love is the answer. So, how does that work?

September 1 “Drumchurch!” Jenne Micale

Connect with the sacred through the creation of spontaneous sound. Drums and instruments of all kinds welcome -- including the built-in ones of feet

STAFF:

Minister: Reverend Douglas Taylor

Board President:

Kate Thorpe

Director of Family

Ministry: Dylan Cooke

Music Director: Vicky

Gordon

Office Administrator and

Membership Coordinator:

Karen Manzer

HOURS:

Office Hours: 9:00am to 1:00pm M-F closed on Wed

Worship Services: Sundays at 10:30am

Children and Youth Programs: Sundays at 10:30am

Nursery Care during services

HOW TO CONTACT US:

183 Riverside Drive

Binghamton, NY 13905

Phone: 607.729.1641

Email:

office@uubinghamton.org

www.uubinghamton.org

Beacon Newsletter

Deadline: Noon on the last Friday of each month.



Summer 2024 at UUCB

*Things are a little different around here in the Summertime,
but it's still wonderful!*

Sunday Services: Our minister, Reverend Douglas Taylor is off the month of July and part of August. Our Summer services are led by an exciting mix of visitors and lay leaders. You can pick up a copy of the 2024 Summer service schedule at the info desk, at the annual meeting and picnic or on our Facebook page or website.

Online Sunday Services with Zoom: This Summer, you can enjoy the worship service from anywhere since we will have our services streamed online with Zoom. Take note of the new Zoom link - it is on the website at uubinghamton.org

Children and Youth Programs do not meet over the Summer, but most of the services are enjoyable for all ages.

Second Saturday Suppers and Last Sunday Lunches: These will take a Summer break and resume in September.

Cranberry Coffeehouse will take the Summer off and resume September 21 with a concert by favorite Ann Hills.

First Sunday Workshops will not be held during the Summer, but will start up on October 6.

Weekly Emails: You will still receive emails each week during the Summer that tell you what is happening at UUCB.

Summer Social Hour: we still have social time with coffee and treats after the the service during the Summer, so feel free to bring s snack to share and join us in the social hall or outside in the courtyard.





Adult Choir is Seeking New Members

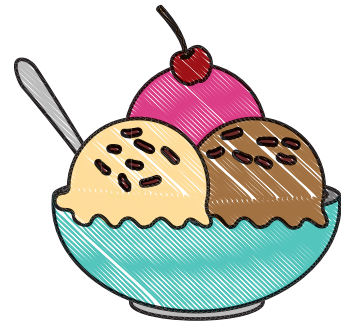
There is nothing more uplifting than being part of a vocal community, and the choir's contribution is a vital part of our Sunday worship together.

We are a welcoming group of enthusiastic and welcoming people who join in our love of music and desire to express ourselves through song. We embrace a variety of musical styles (e.g. spirituals, show music, classical, folk), and encompass a range of musical backgrounds. You need not have a "trained" voice to participate. The ability to sight-read is also not required.

Rehearsals are weekly from 6:30 – 8 on Thursday evenings in the sanctuary. Please consider joining us for our first rehearsal on August 29.

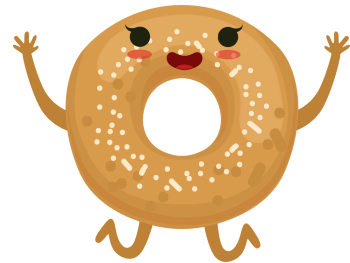
The choir typically sings twice a month. However, there is great flexibility. If you are only able to join us for one song or a few months, that is fine. You needn't feel that you have to make a long-term commitment (although that would please me!).

If you have any questions or just want to know more about the choir, please call or text me at 607-222-5836 or e-mail me at vgordon2763@gmail.com.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

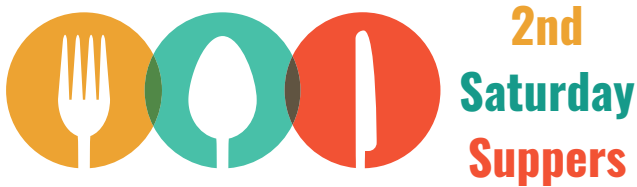
The soul Sisters small group is hosting their annual ice cream social after the service on August 18th in the social hall. \$5.00 per person and children under 5 are \$3.00.



Back to Church Bagel Bash!

Sunday, Sept. 8 after the
worship service

Join us for coffee, bagels, fruit
and fellowship as we get
excited for the new year at
UUCB!



Cranberry Coffeehouse

Our favorite dinner spot is opening again this Fall. UUCB will once again host a delicious and nutritious home cooked meal for a very affordable price on the second Saturday of each month. Thank you to Nancy Knipscher and Lisa Sienkiewicz for cooking these meal as a fundraiser for UUCB.

You may want to cut out the schedule below out so you can add it to your calendar or post it on your fridge.

September 14 – breakfast for dinner - Scrambled eggs, pancakes with bacon or veg alternative, yogurt parfaits

October 12 – baked ziti, salad, coconut cake

November 9 – stuffed peppers, Texas toast, carrot cake

Format/prices will remain the same- \$6 main dish, \$3 side dish, \$3 dessert. Folks are encouraged to eat in or bring own containers for take out. Cash is preferred.

We will be taking December off as we will both be involved with the Art and Gift Sale kitchen again. Second Saturday Suppers will resume in January.

This will continue to be a general fund fundraiser.

Cranberry Coffeehouse hosts a live music performance on the 3rd Saturday of each month in the UUCB sanctuary.

Suggested donated for these events is \$10 per person but no one will be turned away for an inability to pay.

Coffee, tea and treats are available for purchase and the proceeds form those sales benefits UUCB.

Please Note: Concerts have moved to 7:00 pm (they used to be at 7:30 pm).

Saturday, September 21: Anne Hills

Saturday, October 19: Andrew Van Norstrand

Saturday, November 16: Steve Strauss

Saturday, December 21: Bells & Motley (Sondra & John Bromka)

More information (including artist descriptions) is available at the website (cranberrycoffeehouse.org).



Blessing Bag Donations

Summer time is here, and the living is easy - but not for everyone...

We have an ongoing project to assemble ziploc bags for those in need which will contain basic hygiene items as well as a clean pair of socks, a snack and a drink. You can keep one in your car to give to someone you see who made need it. There is a donation basket near the info desk where you can put donations of granola bars, socks, travel size hygiene items. A printed list of suggested items is available at the info desk in the fireside lobby. We will assemble bags at last Sunday lunch on September 29.

*******UU Weekend at SILVER BAY*******
Like spring, fall focuses on the beauty around us. Join us on Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend, October 11-13 (with a discounted option to stay until October 14) on beautiful Lake George at UU Weekend at Silver Bay, surrounded by fellow UUs, gorgeous scenery, and fun activities.

The registration form and a sample schedule of events from the 2023 weekend are available on the Albany UU web site at uualbany.org

Children under 6 are free, with substantial discounts for older children and youth. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis when the completed registration form and deposit are received.

Blood Drive Success

Our first UUCB community blood drive on Friday, July 12 brought 26 donors. Our goal was 20, so we were very happy to surpass the goal. Look for more blood drives at UUCB in the future.



Last Sunday Lunches Return

Our popular "Last Sunday Lunch: themed potluck will resume on Sunday, September 29. The theme for the lunch is "Salad Bar". Join us in the social hall after the worship service and bring something to add to our salad bar lunch.



Our congregation is joining UUs across the land to revive our commitment to climate justice.

September 28, 2024 - Interactive workshops for all ages

September 29, 2024 - Worship followed by an advocacy hour

This is an all-church and all-ages event. All of us will learn new frameworks at the intersection of climate and justice and have the chance to weave together the threads that have always linked our deepest commitments. The UU Climate Revival will equip UU congregations to enter into a new era of climate action—one that intentionally and faithfully breaks down silos and cultivates relationships that lead to flourishing collaborations that transform our congregations through climate justice. See more details at the UU Climate Justice Revival website and FAQs.



First Sundays at UUCB

On the first Sunday of each month, our multi-generational worship service offers innovation in the Sunday Service experience. Designed to increase opportunities for connection and explore many different ways to tap into our intellectual, creative and spiritual depths, we gather for a shorter service in the Sanctuary and then spread out for different workshops. The hardest part is often deciding which experience to choose!

First Sundays have been on hold for the Summer, but will resume on Sunday Oct., 6

- Service 10:30-11:15
- Break 11:15-11:30
- All ages workshops 11:30-12:15
- Social Hour 12:15-12:45



Veggie Fest – August 25 – Volunteer and Flea Market Information

Veggie Fest is fast approaching and we still need lots more volunteers to help make this a successful event. Past volunteers have commented on what a wonderful community-building event this is and how much they've enjoyed being part of this team. Please sign up for one or more spots on our Signup Genius at this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4CA4AF2BA6F58-50043545-uucb#/>

Flea market items can be brought to the church beginning Sunday, August 18th and stored in the Chapel. Items not accepted: Adult clothing; books; dirty, damaged items; junk that you just don't have the heart to put in the trash.

Any questions? Andrea Palmeri - apalmeri@stny.rr.com

Thanks in advance for your help in making this another successful fundraiser for the church!

Cans and Bottles for Laundry

Bring your empty cans and bottles to the collection area in the back parking lot at UUCB. They will be turned in for cash and used to support the Church in the Wild's Free laundromat project. Find out more about the good work the Church in the Wild is doing at churchinthewild.org



PRIDE COFFEE

Second Saturday
of Each Month
9:30AM

see old friends
and make some
new ones!



Centenary Chenango Street Methodist Church
438 Chenango St., Binghamton NY 13901

Coffee, Teas and Pastries

All Are Welcome!



Ongoing Events

UUCB Community Drum Circle

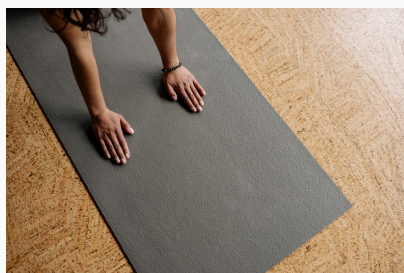
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 6:30PM

Create a sense of community by joining in our all ages drum circle. The drum circle offers equality because there is no head or tail. It includes people of all ages. The main objective is to share rhythm and get in tune with each other and themselves. Bring your own drum or borrow one of ours. Contact Jim Dwyer for more information.

Beginner Yoga

MONDAYS 5PM RESUMES
IN SEPTEMBER DATE TBA

Yoga instructor Irena Trubnikov leads us in a yoga class each Monday. All are welcome. Bring a mat or towel, a water bottle and wear loose comfortable clothing.



Role-Playing Tabletop Games

SATURDAYS 4-7PM

Join us for exciting and fun role-playing games (similar to Dungeons and Dragons) with Dungeon Master Peter Stekete. We meet in the classroom at the end of the hallway.



UU Pagans

UU Pagans is an organization dedicated to networking Pagan-identified Unitarian Universalists (UUs), educating people about Paganism, promoting interfaith dialogue, developing Pagan liturgies and theologies.

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at UUCB at 6:30pm.

Depression Support Group

Mondays at 6pm
Anyone who is affected by depression is welcome to join us.

You can find our complete calendar of events at <https://74087865.view-events.com>

Get Connected

Easy Ways to Get Involved at UUCB

Help the outreach committee do their job! Share info about UUCB and our events on Facebook, in your social circles, and out in the community. Bring a friend to an event or to a UUCB service.

Bring a snack to share for social hour on Sunday.

Social Action: Our Social Action HUUB is looking for your interest and talent! Contact Catherine Magdala at catheriner1312@gmail.com to be on the UUCB social action mailing list.


Sunday Service Associates: We always need new folks to help make the worship service run smoothly. Talk to Kate Thorpe if you would like to help out on a Sunday morning.

Social Hour Team: Talk to Ron Clupper after service on Sundays or call him at 607-727-8516 if you would like to be a part of the team that hosts social hour on Sunday mornings after the service.

Join the Caring Team: Help us identify and reach out to those in our community who need it. Reach out to Karen Manzer at office@uubinghamton.org to find out more.

Sunday Morning Welcome Team: Be on hand on Sunday mornings to welcome visitors, show folks where the coffee is, and more. Reach out to Karen Manzer at office@uubinghamton.org to be a part of this team.

Make your own group or event: Do you have an interest that you would like to share with others? Would you like to start up a monthly crafting group, LGBTQ group, discussion, dance party, movie night? Talk to Karen Manzer about your idea and how it can get added to the UUCB calendar.



Humans are social
beings, and we are
happier, and better,
when connected to
others.

Paul Bloom

BrainyQuote®