

THE BEACON

June 2026



UUCB is a progressive, multi faith community of independent thinkers and doers. With over 300 active congregants, our congregation embraces and supports all ages.

We strive to make the world a better place and to reconnect to a life that is rich in meaning and purpose. To fulfill our mission, we are creating an inclusive space that nurtures the mind, inspires the spirit and connects us in care.

Sunday Services at 10:30am

June 7 - Family Ministry Sunday

Dylan Cooke

Join us as we celebrate the families and our multigenerational ministry together. Through story, song, and reflection, we will share our gratitude for this past year and our excitement for the year to come. Join us for the appreciation luncheon after the service and learn more about our plans for next year.

June 14 - Passages

Rev. Taylor and Company

Our annual Passages service is a time for us to honor and recognize the births, deaths, and marriages that have occurred in our community. We will also celebrate other milestones such as New Members. Following the service is our Annual Meeting and our festive Annual Picnic.

June 21 - UUA GA Sunday Worship streaming

Rev. Taylor will lead us through a brief Hymn Sing at 10:30 leading into the main 11:00 Worship Service - a gathering of thousands of UUs from across the country and the world! The service tends to run 90 minutes.

June 28

“Busy life, Peaceful mind”

Kelsang Gechog

Join Buddhist nun Kelsang Gechog for this enlightening experience. Gechog is from the Kadampa tradition and has been leading meditation in our space on Tuesday evenings for several years.

Annual Meeting Sunday, June 14 in the sanctuary after the service

Join us in the sanctuary after the service for our annual meeting. Meeting documents including proposed officers for next year will be emailed on Tuesday, June 2.

You can request a printed copy from Karen in the office if you need one ahead of time. There will also be some printed copies available at the meeting.

Childcare is provided for this meeting.

Contact us:

 office@uubinghamton.org

 607-729-1641

 Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton
183 Riverside Drive, Binghamton, NY 13905
uubinghamton.org

Minister: Reverend Douglas Taylor



People of Blessing Service

Wednesday June 3 7pm in the sanctuary

June is LGBTQ+ Pride Month and we have been chosen to host the Community Pride People of Blessing Service this year. Come to this special service of music, stories and celebration of our LGBTQ+ community members. There will be refreshments in the social hall after the service.

Annual Pride Palooza at Otsiningo Park Saturday, June 13th

UUCB will be tabling at this festival and could use donations of bottles of water, individual bags of cookies/chips to hand out to kids, or money for stickers and other handout items. You can donate online at our website using the “donate” button and typing “for Rainbow Alliance” or leave donations in the membership room or the office by June 12th.

Screening of Stonewall Documentary June 21st after the worship service

Join us for a special screening of the award-winning short documentary Stonewall Forever.

Created by the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center, this powerful 20-minute film explores the history, impact, and ongoing legacy of the Stonewall uprising and the LGBTQ+ rights movement.

Through archival footage, personal stories, and reflections from activists, Stonewall Forever honors those who fought for equality and celebrates the resilience of the LGBTQ+ community.

Worship Service with Kelsang Gechog Sunday, June 26

(See description on cover page)

Check out the Stonewall Riots focal point that day.

Annual Pride Family Picnic at UUCB Sunday, June 26 12pm

All are welcome to join us for our Annual Family Pride Picnic at UUCB!

Bring the Kids! Bring your Neighbors! Bring your friends!

Meat, buns, and condiments will be provided. Bring a side dish, dessert or a drink to share if you can.



Teacher Appreciation Sunday

June 7

after the worship service



Join us in the social hall after the service for a special social hour to honor all of our great UUCB teachers!

Bring a treat to share if you can and lend a hand for set-up or clean-up.



UUCB Annual Picnic

June 14

after the Annual Meeting

Join us in the sanctuary after the service for our annual meeting. Meeting documents including proposed officers for next year will be emailed on Tuesday, June 2.

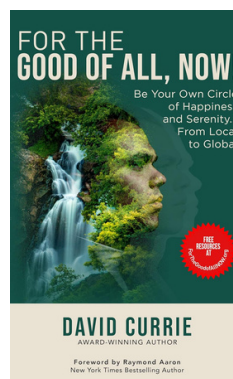
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Homeless Outreach Supplies Needed Spring/Summer List



New Workshop

Co-creating a World For The Good Of All NOW!

**Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30pm, June 4,
11, 18, and 25**

The catastrophe of climate change caused by our species is so awesomely frightening that we struggle with how to choose life. A beloved teacher of mine, Joanna Macy wrote: “The worldview now emerging—if we are bold enough to experience its implications—lets us behold anew and experience afresh the web of life in which we exist.”

It is not enough to grasp the magnitude of this moment in history—the Great Turning— it “...is the act of courage and love we make when we dare to see our world as it is.” (Joanna Macy) Through a long history of seeing with new eyes, Unitarian Universalists have moved along with many others, from struggling to reform broken systems, to transform them into a world they dared to see. Every path starts with a first step. We invite you to take this first step on a four week introductory Four Turns Path—from Me2We2Us2All—as we come together for each other and for the good of all now.

Co-creating a World For The Good Of All NOW!
—Together

Please arrive a little before 5:30 to get settled in your seat. Thank you.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Please invite friends. No fee is required.

Each season brings its own challenges for our unhoused neighbors. This is the Spring/Summer list of supplies that are needed for our unhoused neighbors. Please donate only items you would give to your own loved ones: high-quality, clean, unexpired, and functional. Please only donate what is on this list. Supplies can be dropped off in the coatroom.

This outreach is organized by local community organizers, and some are members of UUCB.

These supplies are given directly to the unhoused in front of the bus station every Tuesday night at 9 pm.

- spring/summer clothes for men & women
- t-shirts, shorts, tank tops, cotton pants, light jackets/hoodies
- clean and good quality spring/summer shoes: sneakers, flip-flops, rain boots, walking shoes
- NEW packages of women's/men's underwear
- NEW cotton/bamboo socks for adults
- rain ponchos sanitary pads, razors, travel size of these things: shampoo, conditioner, body wash baby/hygiene wipes
- NEW individual packaged pain relievers Orajel, anti-fungal foot creams/powders, wound care accessories (ointments, band-aids, etc.) blankets bug-spray (include for ticks) batteries (AA & AAA) flashlights canopies/bungee cords/ tents packages of water pre-packaged/individual-sized snacks: beef jerky, chips, baked goods, granola bars, apple-sauces, crackers, etc.
- Questions? contact:
collectivesurvival@proton.me

Welcome Our New Member!

David Currie (he/him)



David was born in Uganda and emigrated and naturalized as a US citizen at the age of 8. He lived in Geneva and London afterwards, but has been in the US since 1974. David's religious journey involved Catholicism, Episcopal, Methodist and self-practice. Now that he has found Unitarian Universalism, he is home.

Now retired, David worked in mid level management in nonprofits and for profit organizations. More than a profession, he considers himself a communitarian. David enjoys gardening and community-building in his free time. Welcome, David!



Blessing Box

Our Blessing Box out in front of the church by the sidewalk is very busy. It is emptied every day.

Please bring non-perishable items that make snacks or meals for hungry people that pass by. Donations can be put on the labeled shelf in the kitchen at UUCB. No Glass jars/containers please.

First Sunday Workshops 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!

Service 10:30-11:15

Break 11:15-11:30

All ages workshops 11:30-12:15

Fellowship 12:15-12:45

There are No First Sunday workshops in June, July, August or September.

Workshops will resume on Sunday October 4.

We are always looking for ideas for first Sunday workshops - especially workshops that are good for all ages. If you would like to lead a workshop or have an idea about something you would like to see, let Debby Herman know at deborah.a.herman@gmail.com



Ongoing UUCB Events Summer Schedules

Free Yoga in the social hall with Dacia: Thursdays 5pm-6:15pm - Runs through June, and then takes a break until September.

UU Pagans: Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 6-8pm in the chapel Contact: Adee Wilson just8ow@gmail.com - meets through the Summer

LGBTQ Social group: Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month in the social hall from 6-8pm. Contact uucb-rainbow@googlegroups.com - meets through the Summer

Role-Playing Tabletop Games with Peter Steketee: Saturdays from 4pm-7pm in the RE Classroom. More info: stek@aol.com - meets through the Summer

cranberry Coffeehouse takes a break for the Summer and resumes on September 19.

Chalice Circles: There are no Chalice Circles over the Summer. New Sign-ups start in the Fall.

7-9th Grade OWL FACILITATORS NEEDED!

Our Whole Lives (OWL) is a comprehensive sexuality education program that the UUA and UCC offer for all ages. We can't do this without facilitators! We need two facilitators so that our middle-schoolers can have their OWL program from September 2026 to May 2027. If your kids have benefited from OWL, or you will have kids in the future who will, please step up! You will receive training by the UUA and support from UUCB's OWL Committee. If you are interested in applying or have questions, please contact the OWL Committee at owlcommittee@uubinghamton.org. NOTE: All volunteers who work with youth are required to consent to a background check and meeting with the OWL committee. This is a volunteer position for UUCB members."

What is a Child Dedication?

Most faith traditions have a way of welcoming young ones into the community and blessing them. In our Child Dedication services we recognize that children are a blessing, born whole and good. We, (parents, extended family, and congregation,) are asked to 'dedicate' ourselves to creating a nurturing community in which our children will grow.

Here at UUCB, we host Child Dedication ceremonies during our Sunday worship services. Spring is an excellent time for these ceremonies. If your family would like to have a Child Dedication ceremony this spring, please contact Dylan or Douglas to learn more and to schedule.