



# Our Outlook

## First Universalist Church of Rochester

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**First Universalist  
Church of Rochester**

150 South Clinton Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14604

585-546-2826

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## Sunday Services | May 2019

### May 5 | *And How Are the Children?*

For better or for worse, our human family is stuck on this planet together. What are our familial obligations to one another? Are we living up to them?

— *Emerson Finkle*

### May 12 | *Disability Theology*

Rev. Padriac Collins-Bohrer, an ordained Episcopalian priest, will join us this Sunday to speak to the intersections of faith, disability, and humanity. How do we honor and respect all abilities, minds, and bodies?

— *Rev. Lane Campbell & Rev. Padriac Collins-Bohrer*

### May 19 | *...It's Complicated*

Each one of us comes out of some family system—ones we were born into and ones we have chosen. Families are complicated and they shape who we are. We will explore how our families influenced us for better, worse, and everywhere in between.

— *Rev. Lane Campbell*

### May 26 | *A Sprint, a Marathaon, and a Relay Race*

Faith formation is at the center of all that we do as “church.” Come engage in faith formation and explore keeping families at the center of all that we do. Rev. Jordinn Nelson Long will be a special guest in our pulpit from the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven, MA, to share her experience and perspective.

— *Rev. Jordinn Nelson Long*

***All services begin at 10:30 am*** ❖

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# From Family to Covenantal Community

*Message from Rev. Lane*

The notion of church as a family has always brought me a little discomfort. Some families are healthy while others are quite dysfunctional. Some families are closed off, not open to newcomers. Other families are ready to welcome new people into the fold as marriages, births, and adoptions take place. We have family of origin and family of choice. And I guess my discomfort is around saying that this is a family without having a clear definition of where we are in the complex messiness that is family. Coming to church is a choice—this is our community of choice. Not coming to a family gathering can communicate all sorts of things to a family, depending—again—on where you are coming from.

One example: I grew up in a family where the expectation in my extended family was that we would all get along. Sure, folks had conflict with one another, but when we got together, folks were expected to put the conflict aside. So, I grew up in what seemed to be a pretty happy family. However, once I crossed a threshold of becoming an adult, all of a sudden I became part of conversations where conflict was happening. It was a real bubble-burster for me as my welcome into adulthood to realize these people had not been getting along for quite some time, but we had all been just pretending. Sound familiar to anyone?

Each one of us brings our family dynamics into this place, but my hope is that we are a covenantal community, rather than a family. In covenant, we make promises to one another about how we are going to be together. We acknowledge that these promises can be broken, and when (not if, but when) they are, we come to the table with one another and talk them through. To be a community where people can come and be vulnerable, where people can come for spiritual nourishment, we are held together by the covenant or the promises we make to one another. ❖



Photo by Element5 Digital on Unsplash

## Reminder from the Faith In Action Council: *Congregational Project Voting on June 2!*

On June 2, we will hold our Congregational Annual meeting, and members will be asked to select a Congregational Project.

The Social Justice Project Team is recommending that we partner with Spiritus Christi Church in their SPARC program: they are already collaborating with other churches and organizations to end systemic racism.

There's lots of information coming your way in the weeks ahead. Be sure to check bulletin boards, talk with the Project Team and FIAC folks, and check out the information table every Sunday during coffee hour!

And, VOTE! ❖

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## Interfaith Climate Action!

The first event of Rochester Area Interfaith Climate Action (RAICA) will be held May 19 from 1:30-5pm, and will include representation from Hindu, Jewish, Buddhist, Roman Catholic, Muslim, Sufi, Protestant and Baha'i faith traditions.

There will be breakout options from recycling to advocating for sustainable legislation and lots in between. Held at Greece Baptist Church, 1230 Long Pond Rd. ❖



## Families, Come As You Are!

*Message from Rev. Michelle Yates,  
Director of Life Span Faith  
Development*

I grew up in a complicated family. I was the first kid in my Catholic school whose parents were divorced. I was the only kid I knew FOR YEARS who had a gay parent and had to practice lying to say that my mom’s partner was her friend who rented a room in the basement. This lie was to protect all of us. I could not have friends over. I visited my dad, step-mom, and half siblings on weekends and school breaks. My step-brother called my dad “dad”, and I called my step-mom “Denise.”

While my current family is also a bit complicated, we now know that there are so many varieties and configurations of families. We know we are not alone. I feel glad and lucky that my kids never have to lie, feel ashamed or unsafe sharing about their family. I know that some families still have that experience.

Living in Covenant with each other can make our church a safe space for families that is unique. A UU church was the first place my family of origin felt safe being “out.”

In all their incarnations, families today are overwhelmed. They face a loss of community, competing priorities, and an onslaught of information. No matter what parenting choice you make someone will say it is wrong. Shame is the common thread of the modern family experience.

What I do know is that all families need to be loved, welcomed and accepted. Reminded that they are good enough just as they are, worthy of love, and welcome as imperfect beings.

For a caregiver to rally the troops to arrive at church is a big deal! To help families connect in communities of faith, we must be mindful of church not being just another set of impossible expectations, but “societies of imperfect people” learning, growing and doing the best we can together. Inadequacy is a universal condition, but church is a place to give and receive grace, and be appropriately vulnerable.

So, come as you are: late, with clothes that don’t match, and something sticky on your shirt. We’re just glad you’re here!

Yours in the Journey, Rev. Michelle ❖

## Social Justice THIRD Sunday:

### *Rochester Play Walk Info Session on 5/19 at Noon*

A Play Walk is an interactive walk is where people could play a musical instrument, hear wind chimes, or engage with other fun equipment. Rochester will be installing one this summer starting at the Strong Museum, ending at the Central Library and going right by First Universalist on Court Street!

The organizers of the project have shared information and asked for ideas from our children. Hoping to be in supportive conversation with our church community about the project, Jenn Beideman, of *Common Ground Health*, is excited to offer a brief presentation followed by a Q&A session on Sunday, May 19 at noon in the sanctuary.

Parents are encouraged to attend. Please contact Rev. Michelle at [edu@uuroc.org](mailto:edu@uuroc.org) if you need childcare. ❖

## Spirit in Practice Faith Development Program

*Submitted by Rev. Michelle Yates*

The Spirit in Practice workshops were created to help UUs develop regular spiritual practices that help them connect with the sacred ground of their being, however they understand it. The workshops offer a forum for learning, sharing, and growth that can enrich our faith journeys.

We will not hold the last two evening workshops at church, but the final sessions will be held at the Irondequoit Public Library as scheduled on Tuesdays May 7 & 21 from 2-4pm.

These sessions will cover Justice Practices and course wrap-up.

Please email our facilitator Rev. Michelle at [edu@uuroc.org](mailto:edu@uuroc.org) if you plan to attend or have questions. Walk-ins are also welcome. ❖



## Moving Day – One Mom’s Perspective

*Submitted by Marti Eggers*

Not many people like moving – the sorting, the packing, the unpacking, losing stuff. Imagine if you had to move every week! That’s what our RAIHN\* guests have to do every Sunday – moving from one Host Congregation to the next – until they find a place to call home. Some guests, especially those with very young children, arrive on Sunday with garbage bags filled with favorite blankets and luvvies as well as some toys and diapers, pillows and clothes. Others may arrive with only a backpack and a bag with pillows. No Samsonite here.

Some RAIHN families lost everything when they were evicted. The landlord gave them until Friday to get their belongings. They returned on Thursday to gather their stuff only to learn that the landlord had put everything on the curb on Wednesday, just before trash pickup. Other families have placed some of their belongings in storage, waiting for their own apartment again.

At a coordinator meeting some time ago, three moms who had graduated into their own places came to share their experiences before, during and after being part of RAIHN. I commented that it must be really tough to have to pick up and move every Sunday. Two of the moms agreed while one mom replied, “I really didn’t mind. I just looked at it as being one week closer to having our own place.”

I was struck by the power and positivity of her response and have shared it often with parents who are staying with us during our Host Week and who are getting discouraged. It’s amazing to see how the words from one former RAIHN guest can change the perspective of so many.

*\*RAIHN – Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network – Keeping families together; getting families home for good. ❖*

## Drop-In Discussion Schedule

*Submitted by Beth Ares*

Drop-in discussions are held each Sunday morning in the Chalice Room on the second floor of our church, starting at 9:15 am during the regular church year.

Sometimes our discussions are based on certain books or articles, but you don’t have to read anything or do any advance preparation to participate. **Just drop-in.** People of all viewpoints are welcome to make presentations or join the discussions.

### **May 5 | *Scruples***

You are intolerant of people who take forever in the checkout line, perhaps even to the point of pushing them out the aisle... but you’d never let anyone know your secret because you feel ashamed. Only your best friend knows your secret. Now that you’ve read this, do you have an opinion? What scruples do you have? This Drop-In Discussion will be based on the *Scruples* board game. Your secret may come out! David Damico facilitates.

### **May 12 | *What Happened to the American Dream?***

Did you grow up with the promises of “Give us your tired, your poor”, the concept of “the great melting pot”, a daily recitation of “with liberty and justice for all?” From “Deportee” (Guthrie 1948) to Immigration Court (Buffalo 2019): an awakening to the realities of the American Dream. Beth Ares, presenter.

### **May 19 | *The Case for Reparations***

A national reckoning leading to spiritual renewal – a concrete gesture of respect. This discussion will be based on David Brooks’ March 2, 2019, opinion column in the *New York Times*. Theo Munson, presenter

### **May 26 | *Open Topic***

Some great discussions are unplanned. Show up with an open heart, an open mind and see where the discussion leads!

Do you have a topic for us—intellectual, profound, simple or silly? Please contact any of our team members with your Drop-In Discussion proposals: Shelley Adams, David Damico, Kate Fleury, Bob Remley, or Beth Ares, coordinator. ❖



# Finance News

## *Finance Teamwork!*

*Submitted by Ann Rhody for the Finance Committee*

Thanks so much to ALL who have made a financial pledge to the church as part of our 2019 Stewardship Campaign, “Let’s Show Up!” Each and every pledge matters—and that includes YOURS. As of this writing, we have 95 pledges, and we are hoping to reach that “magic number” of 100 pledges. Why magic? Well, if we hit 100 pledges, a generous group of donors will kick in a bonus of \$2700!

More importantly though, 100 pledges broadens our base of support and includes more people in the life and health of our congregation. Every one of us matters when it comes to creating the kind of beloved community we treasure here at First Universalist. If you haven’t pledged yet, it’s not too late—pick up a pledge card at church, or visit the [uuroc.org](http://uuroc.org) and pledge online.

As the Stewardship Campaign comes to a close, the busy time continues for the Finance Committee. We are working to develop the 2019-2020 budget, balancing the hopes and dreams of the church with the available financial resources. As is typical, those hopes and dreams

will outpace the resources, but we will make it work as we prioritize and collaborate with the Board of Trustees, other church leaders, and the congregation, who will vote on a proposed budget at the annual meeting on June 2.

At the time of last year’s May finance article, we were considering changing many of our Discretionary and Special funds to create a more up-to-date and streamlined fund structure. We are close to an official plan for that, and are hoping to present it to church leaders and the wider congregation as well.

Thanks to my—and your—wonderful finance team: Treasurer Dick Shroyer, Collector Bill Jones, 2019 Stewardship Chairs Richard Reed and Jillian Beaman, Payroll and Benefits Coordinator Beth Ares, and committee members Paula Marchese, Karl Abbott, Katherine Flynn, and Dave VanArsdale. It takes all of them, and all of US, to keep our church in good fiscal health!

If you have any finance-related concerns or questions, let’s talk! Please contact Finance Chair Ann Rhody at [finance@uuroc.org](mailto:finance@uuroc.org). ❖



## Eastman at Washington Square Concerts

Concerts are held at our church at lunch time on Thursdays. Each concert begins at 12:15 pm and ends at approximately 12:45 pm. Admission is free. Bring your brown bag lunch and enjoy.

- **May 2 | Fantasies for Piano Duet**

Don’t miss hearing piano fantasies by Schubert and Glinka performed by pianists Michelle Steffers and Belinda Chang.

- **May 9 | Trio “Slavia”**

Join us for the music of Beethoven performed by violinist Oleg Lupines, cellist Svetlana Garitselov, and pianist Irina Lupines.

- **May 16 | Honors Finale**

Come hear terrific seniors from the ECMS’s High School Honors Diploma program!

- **May 23 | Eastman Chamber Singers**

Members of the Eastman Community Chamber Singers will sing us into summertime! ❖

## House Committee News

*Submitted by Tom Ruganis & Ed Deller, House Comm. Co-chairs*

Spring is here and that means it is time for the Spring Clean Up day. Please join us on the morning of May 4 at 9am for our biannual day of cleaning, organizing, testing, and repairing. There will be tasks for all age levels and a light lunch will be provided.

The House Committee’s recent accomplishments include installation of children’s coat hooks outside the nursery room and the addition of a grab bar in the Sanctuary small bathroom.

One item that will be addressed soon is the short paved ramp from the street to the parking lot. We are starting to investigate options for repair along with other potential parking lot improvements. Progress has also been made on plans for improved outside lighting, an exterior Black Lives Banner, and RE wing painting.

If you are interested in joining our committee, or for one-off projects, contact [house@uuroc.org](mailto:house@uuroc.org)! ❖

# Living Our Values, Making a Difference

Submitted by Emma Barry, Constance Valk, and Newcomb Losh



## We Welcome New Members!

On February 24 we welcomed five new congregation members to our family: (left to right) Alex Pita, Eunice Eckberg, David Markham, Karen LoBracco, Donna Anderson. We are glad to have you with us!



## REACHing out to help:

First Universalists prepared another meal for REACH guests. The shelter closes Monday. This means that more homeless may be stopping by the church for food. From left, Bill Elwell, Connie Valk, Tom Williams, Lyle Jenks.



## Out Alliance Discussion:

(From left to right) Rev. Lane introduced Eridan Madder and Kayden Miller from *Out Alliance* (formerly *Gay Alliance*) who visited our sanctuary on March 24 to openly discuss gender identities and issues.



Our members, friends, and the public asked questions (how UU!) about non-binary pronouns, the reality (or non-reality) of gender, bullying, and what terminology was outdated.



# Living Our Values, cont'd



## Cozy Night Supper:

Our last Cozy Night Supper for this church year brought 17 of our members and friends together to share a meal and participate in an Earth Day program led by our EcoJustice Social Justice Circle. We divided into three teams for a friendly competition to see who knew the most about water usage, regulation, and quality.



(Left to Right) Michael Scott, Robert Remley, Sarah Singal and Marcia Weaver.

## Earth Month EcoJustice Fair:



(Left to Right) Marcia Weaver, Lois Baum and Greg Baum talk with a visitor about bio-degradable trash bags, how to calculate a family's carbon footprint and more at our Earth Month EcoJustice Fair in our Clara Barton lounge on April 14.



Joy Leccese (left) and Paula Marchese explain our congregation's Faith in Action Council's involvement in climate justice issues at our Earth Month EcoJustice Fair on April 14. ❖

## Did You Know?

*Submitted by the Communications Committee*

We livestream our Sunday Services each week? Simply like the UURoc Facebook page, and you will get a notification when we begin livestreaming!



## Call For Gardeners!

*Submitted by Sarah Singal*

First Universalist has received a generous donation of large outdoor planters. We need to have a design party to decide how to incorporate flowers and additional vegetable spaces into our existing vegetable garden in the southwest alcove of the church. Please help! An ongoing commitment is not required.

We will also need waterers, weeders, harvesters. The food is targeted for the community; it is available to our friends in Washington Square Park, passers-by, and as needed it is taken to St Joe's House of Hospitality. Please contact Sarah Singal if you can assist with any of these actions at [Garden@uurc.org](mailto:Garden@uurc.org) This is most definitely a spiritual practice! Thank you. ❖

# Project Team Update

## Everything You Always Wanted to Know about The Project Team's Recommended Project

Submitted by Dolores Da Lomba

**Q:** Just what is the Project Team and what is it doing?

**A:** The Project Team was created as part of the recommendations to the Board from the Social Justice Task Force. Its role is to develop strategies and actions about the (congregation) approved issue that the Faith in Action Council (FIAC) has identified. The issue voted and approved by the congregation was racism.

**Q:** What is the Project Team recommending?

**A:** The Project Team recommends partnering with the Spiritus Christi Anti-Racism Coalition (SPARC) in its efforts to build a Heritage Civil Rights Park in Rochester.

**Q:** Where will the park be located?

**A:** The City of Rochester has set aside a portion of Baden Park (near school 6 in Northeast Rochester on Upper Falls Blvd, just west of Hudson Avenue) for the park. You can see an aerial view of the site on our church bulletin board.

**Q:** Why did the Project Team choose this project?

**A:** We followed the guidance of the Social Justice Task Force. It outlined the steps we should follow – first, provide educational opportunities regarding structural racism; second, explore various possible partnerships with other organizations and churches; third, choose a project that can include everyone in the congregation. The Project Team felt that the goals of SPARC were a good fit for our church's agreed upon goal outlined in our charge "to work within our community to support and develop anti-racist, multicultural institutions."

**Q:** What would our role be in this project?

**A:** We will have an opportunity to be a part of the dialogue around the development of the park. We can participate in the planning of the physical aspects (landscaping design) as well as the historical emphasis (the selection of which aspects of Rochester's civil rights history will be highlighted) as the planning is still in the early stages of development. We can help with outreach to the broader Rochester community and spread the word about this important effort. We can support the fundraising efforts.

**Q:** How else might we be involved?

**A:** Our Social Justice circles might take on specific goals. For instance, EcoJustice may want to support the landscaping effort. And tasks for everyone will unfold as the project progresses. For example,

research helping to identify Rochesterians who have lived through civil rights events in Rochester; working on exhibits; researching the timelines history and the educational aspects are some of the obvious roles. When the park is completed, some of us may wish to volunteer as guides.

**Q:** Are there other churches besides Spiritus Christi that are involved?

**A:** Their project team is meeting with leadership of other urban churches, particularly those with congregations of color. This will be an opportunity for us to get to know more of our downtown neighbors.

**Q:** How will the park be used?

**A:** It will be used as an educational tool. School and church groups will use it for field trips. The park will be a place for all Rochester to come together for concerts, recreation, picnics, etc, and it will be a magnet for suburban families to visit and learn about the region's history.

**Q:** How can I find out more about the project?

**A:** Information is available on the church bulletin board, the Social Justice Project Team table in the Clara Barton Lounge, Project Team informational handouts, the public library, and online. Visit the SPARC website: [spiritusChristi.org/spiritusministries/sparc](http://spiritusChristi.org/spiritusministries/sparc). You can also attend the SPARC biweekly meetings (2nd and 4th Mondays, 5:30 to 7:00 pm) in the Spiritus Christi wing of the Downtown United Presbyterian Church. The church is located on Fitzhugh St. across from City Hall.

**Q:** Are the monuments pictured on the bulletin board the ones that will be in the park?

**A:** No. Those pictures represent existing Civil Rights monuments in the south, but we expect that the artists involved will recommend ideas to make the Heritage Park uniquely reflective of our Rochester heritage.

**Q:** Why do I need to know about the project?

**A:** The vote to approve participation will take place at the Annual Meeting on June 2.

**Q:** Who supports this project?

**A:** The City of Rochester has granted the project \$300,000 and other monies are expected or sought from state and federal sources. Private donations from community organizations will also be welcome.

**Q:** Why do we need a Civil Rights Heritage Park?

**A:** Rochester has a rich history in the struggle for equal rights. Frederick Douglass is not the only one to have participated in the struggle. A park that memorializes the actors in the struggle will be a source of knowledge and pride to our students as well as to the city and citizens of Rochester. ❖

# Roc/ACTS News

Submitted by Shirley Bond

So much is going on with Roc/ACTS now. We are still working on the Police Accountability Board (PAB) and we are getting a little weary, but faithfully trekking to the City Council meetings to allow our voices to be heard. It seems impossible that it will be three years since we had over 3,000 postcards signed requesting a revamping of the PAB. Progress was being made and we partnered with organizations like “Enough is Enough” along with around 20 other faith organizations to form the PABA, Police Accountability Board Alliance. First Unitarian and First Universalist are in the forefront, I am pleased to note.

To the City Council’s credit three public forums were held and were well attended. The City Council president agreed that the legislation that will be passed will be historic, and therefore they want to get it right.

So far there is agreement on the composition of the PAB, for example, the right to have subpoena power. Legal representation is important and so is making sure that City’s Corporation Counsel does not represent both the board and the Rochester Police Department. Decisions also have to be made concerning the investigation process. For example, officers under investigation should not be able to serve on the Professional Standards Section. A big sticking point right now is whether a police officer may serve on the PAB.

So there is much work still to be done but the community has come together with the desire to make Rochester a model city of fairness and accountability. That’s not going to happen overnight but a positive attitude never hurts.

The next City Council meeting is Tuesday, May 21, at 6:30.

Speaking of meetings:

- **Criminal Justice** meets at the the Carriage Factory Apts., 6-7:30 pm, the second Monday of each month
- **Education Task Force** meets at First Unitarian, 2-3:30 pm, the second and fourth Sunday of each month
- **Poverty and Jobs** meets at 259 Monroe Ave, 6:30 to 8 pm, the first Tuesday of each month.

We are going to be very active this spring and summer finding out ways to improve the “Get out the Vote” process. One problem we had in the past was that we were

not sure who was eligible. Apparently lots of misinformation was being tossed around. We invited a retired judge to come to our Criminal Justice meeting on Monday, May 13. She will know what is going on—it’s very complicated. I hope not on purpose?

Thanks again for everything everyone does. Even calls to City Council have an impact: 585-428-7421. ❖

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## Book Group

Submitted by Shirley Bond

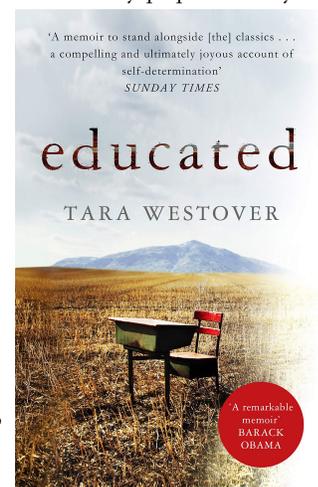
We rescheduled “*Educated*” by Tara Westover from last month because the book became very popular very quickly! We will be reviewing it on May 26. That should give readers plenty of time to find it on a library shelf or place a hold.

“*Educated*” is a memoir told in a style which is heartwarming and also riveting. Tara Westover managed to escape from a harrowing childhood. Her parents were well meaning but misdirected, but I cannot in good conscience give them credit for that. To keep children on an imaginary leash and transfer the parents’ fears to them is never good. The children had no formal schooling and no doctor visits; they only provided free labor.

There is good news! She escaped with the help from a brother who encouraged her to read. She managed to get a high score on the ACT test and gained admittance to Brigham Young University.

It is an interesting book and the author did a great job! Give this book a try and meet us May 26 at 12 noon in the Chalice Room for a lively discussion. You don’t have to have read the book—we mainly want to pique your interest.

By the way, book selections are always gratefully received and taken under consideration. If you have read a good book lately share it with us at [Book@uuroc.org](mailto:Book@uuroc.org)! ❖



# Our IrondoGenesee Aquifer

Submitted by Kate Fleury for the EcoJustice Committee



What is an aquifer? It is an underground layer of rock holding water, like a reservoir, but also like a sponge.

Aquifers can be made of sand, gravel, and sandstone, or can be rock with cracks in it, like shale or limestone. Water filters down to the aquifer from the soil above and from lakes, streams and nearby aquifers. The aquifer is filled with rainfall and snowmelt. It can be emptied by wells or springs, by evaporation, drought, and by pumping. An aquifer is a natural water filter. The movement of water through the sand/gravel removes contaminants.

It is an amazing system supporting life, but it can be sullied from agricultural chemicals and biologic byproducts, from road runoff after winter deicing, from industrial waste, and from sewage or septic systems.

Our primary aquifer, the IrondoGenesee, underlies a large area surrounding the Genesee river. The Genesee river is not an aquifer, because it is not underground, but it is filled and supported by our aquifer and surrounding streams.

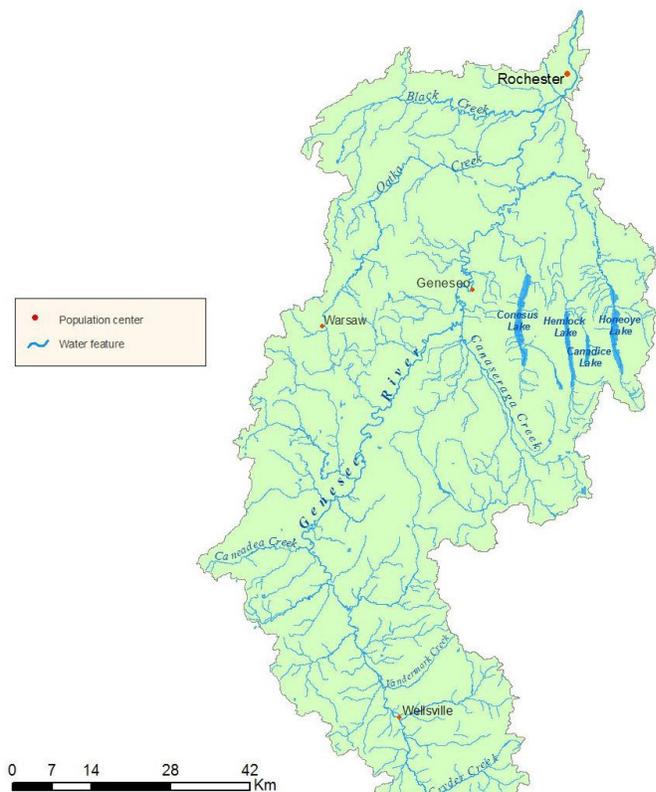
The Genesee river begins in Pennsylvania and flows north for 157 miles. It is used for navigation, recreation, energy production, wildlife habitat, drinking water, irrigation, industry and sanitation.

In 2004 the Army Corps of Engineers and the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council published a comprehensive report detailing how we can maintain a safe supply of water. The report is called "The Genesee River Basin Action Strategy". Although there have been improvements over the past decades in the amount of contaminants reaching the river basin, there are still critical ways we can protect our water supply.

Each of the 10 counties supported by the Genesee River Basin are listed in the report, with detailed actions that towns, cities, industries and farms can take to reduce contamination.

But how can we individually comply to promote the health of our river basin and our aquifer?

- If you have a septic system, it is recommended to have it pumped routinely, perhaps every 3 years. A septic system is not a bottomless pit.
- Avoid pouring chemicals into your drain or onto the soil surrounding your home.
- Store chemicals properly around your home, use them as little as possible, and take unneeded chemicals to hazardous waste disposal sites.
- Maintain an awareness of products used in your area for winter road deicing, of agricultural fertilizers and pesticides used near you, and speak up if you see a problem.
- Above all, appreciate the marvelous aquifer underneath us which provides all of us with life. ✚





# THE POWER OF WE

What do we want Unitarian Universalism to be? It is a time when we are asking big questions in our faith, and GA 2019 will be focused on digging into those questions together. It is a critical chance for congregational leaders and passionate UUs to set new goals and aspirations for our religious community. Help begin to reshape our Association and our congregations in new and powerful ways.

This year's theme is about collective power, "The Power of We," as well as the possibility, the purpose, the struggle and the joy of what it means to be together in faithful community. In the past two years, Unitarian Universalism has recommitted to the work of liberation inside and outside our faith community. The antidote to a time of dangerous dehumanization is a love that connects us to our deeper humanity.

**Come to Spokane to experience what our shared faith can become when we embrace the Power of We.**



## UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Visit [uua.org/ga](http://uua.org/ga) for

- Programming Information
- Registration and Housing
- Financial Aid Information
- Volunteer Opportunities



**Ware Lecturer Richard Blanco**  
Selected by President Obama as the fifth inaugural poet in U.S. history, Richard Blanco is the youngest and the first Latino, immigrant, and gay person to serve in such a role.



**Robin DiAngelo**  
Author of *White Fragility*, Robin DiAngelo speaks dynamically on what it means to be white in a society that proclaims race meaningless, yet is deeply divided by race.



**Rev. Lindi Ramsden**  
Rev. Lindi Ramsden, Director of Partnerships and Emerging Programs at Starr King School for the Ministry, will deliver the sermon at the Service of the Living Tradition.



**Rev. Marta I. Valentin**  
Rev. Marta I. Valentin, minister with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Medford, MA, will deliver the sermon at the Sunday Morning Worship.

# UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON | JUNE 19-23, 2019



# First Universalist Church of Rochester

150 South Clinton Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14604



## First Universalist Church of Rochester, NY

*Nurture the spirit and serve the community.*

First Universalist Church is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association, a liberal religion with historical roots in the Jewish and Christian traditions.

### Worship service begins at 10:30am Sundays

**Minister** | Rev. Lane Campbell

**Director of Life Span Faith Development** |  
Rev. Michelle Yates

**Music Director** | Brock Tjosvold

**Office Administrator** | Emma Barry  
Office hours: Tuesday - Friday, 9am to 3:15pm;  
closed Mondays

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