



# Our Outlook

## First Universalist Church of Rochester

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## Sunday Services | December 2021

### December 5 | *Loving the Dark*

There is so much to cherish about darkness in this season and the whole year round. The invitation to rest. The invitation to imagine. The exciting and terrifying expanse of the void. What does the presence of darkness bring to your life?

— Rev. Lane Campbell

### December 12 | *TBD*

TBD

— TBD

### December 19 | *Let The Sun Shine In*

As we prepare ourselves for the Winter Solstice and the returning of the sun, let us sit with our own stories from the past year. There will be a ritual to welcome the sun and much time for reflection.

— Rev. Lane Campbell

### December 24 | *Christmas Eve Service at 7pm*

Join us in-person or via Zoom for our annual Christmas Eve service!

— Rev. Lane Campbell

### December 26 | *TBA*

TBA

— TBA

❖ **Services begin at 10:30am** ❖

*Worship will be meeting online and in-person at First Universalist Church.  
Please join us – Internet link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/131764422>;  
Phone number: 1-646-558-8656 with Meeting ID: 131 764 422. ❖*



## Uncertainty of the Dark

*Message from Rev. Lane Campbell*

Two Octobers ago, when the world was different, I traveled with a friend to a haunted house for the Halloween season. We like being scared and decided it might be something fun to try out! So much of what we saw was a bit hokey and silly. Some stuff was scary. But I particularly remember one room because it was completely dark and I was terrified. Nothing could be seen in front of me or behind me. It was just complete darkness.

Looking back on it now, I can see ways the dark can be scary. In that room, there was the unknown. Other rooms, someone had jumped out at me. Would someone be coming out of the darkness? The uncertainty of the dark and my surroundings there was deeply uncomfortable. It is not easy to be separated from one's senses. And it is especially hard when so many of us use our sense of sight to orient ourselves.

And now, here's the spoiler: I got so uncomfortable that I turned on the light on my cell phone. My friends called me a wimp, but when I turned on the light, it was just an empty room. When I turned on the light, I could see what was around me, see how nothing threatening was there, see that there was nothing to be afraid of.

We are here in this church turning the lights on for one another all of the time with the ways we show another kindness or offer comfort or even offer the security of a space to sleep at night. We are here showing one another what the world looks like with more love in it, with more joy in it. We are inviting each other to move out of fear and move further and further towards love. I will say that sometimes, turning on the lights is not easy—sometimes we find something there we did not expect. What matters most is that we are experiencing the world as it is, held by community and the divine.

In Love and Courage,  
Rev. Lane ❖



## Are You Afraid of the Dark?

*Message from Rev. Michelle Yates*

I'm not sure if my four-year-old is "actually" afraid of the dark.

Knowing him as I do, I don't think he is truly afraid of anything, even when he should be. I don't know if he says he is afraid of the dark because that is what some characters on shows play out. More than anything I think he enjoys the game of it.

Imagine this: I say I am afraid; I shout out to my people. I hide under the covers, play act shivering like Scooby Doo and giggle. My favorite people come to me and comfort me. I get to snuggle into them aggressively while I giggle. They provide fun night lights and tokens of love that will stay with me even when they aren't there. They assure me that they are right nearby. This time it is a game. But like all play, I think it is also a time for learning and growth.

Without "actually" being scared, he is able to learn what to do if and when he is scared or in a dark place. I hope he knows he can call for help, and people who care about him will come. I hope he knows he can hold them close and receive assurances that they care for him even when they aren't with him. And I hope from this he also learns how to comfort others who are afraid and in the dark.

I hope you all know this too.

I hope you know the ritual for when you are frightened in the dark; how to call out for help and support when you need it. I hope you know how to be the comfort person in this ritual of "casting a light in the darkness."

It is an essential part of life and the winter season, to remember that we all go through times in the dark, and we all have the opportunity to cast light and comfort into that darkness for others. And huddled together, we know that somehow, we will make it through.

All my Love to you and yours this Holiday season!

Yours in the Journey,  
Rev. Michelle ❖

# After Church Ice Skating & Holiday Socializing:

## Sunday, Dec. 19

Submitted by Rev. Michelle Yates

Join us over at MLK park for a casual gathering at the ice skating rink on Sunday, December 19 from 12-1:30pm. Hot chocolate will be provided on the Court St. side of the rink. Bench seating is very limited. You may bring bring a folding chair.

Skating is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children, and \$3 for skate rental. Skates and sizes are limited.

It will be the last day of ROC Holiday Village.

(<https://rocholidayvillage.com>)

Contact Rev. Michelle with questions, RSVPs, or interest in helping at [edu@uuroc.org](mailto:edu@uuroc.org). ❖

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## Finance News & Notes

Submitted by Ann Rhody, Finance Chair

Although this time of year is often referred to as the “Season of Giving,” here at First Universalist, giving knows no season—our members and friends support the church all throughout the year!

This month, here are a few tips about giving:

- **Easy, automated pledge payments:** Most banks offer a free “bill pay” service. You can tell the bank to send a monthly check to the church, and the work is done for you! Save on stamps, checks, and time. Visit your bank’s website for details.

- **Want to memorialize someone in a special way?** You can make a donation in memory of a church member or loved one. Such donations, unless directed elsewhere, are put into the Legacy Fund (formerly known as the “Memorial Fund”). This fund can be used to support any of the church’s programs, as determined by the Board. Recently, the Legacy Fund has helped to make our multi-platform services possible. A great way to remember someone—by helping to carry out the

mission of the church!

- **Staff Bonus Collection:** We will be having a collection for staff bonuses on Dec. 5. Let’s help our dedicated staff have a happy holiday! Feel free to contribute at church on Dec. 5, donate online, or mail a check to the church, indicating that your donation is for staff bonuses.

Thank you for ALL of the ways, financially and otherwise, you support First Universalist Church! ❖



## House News

Submitted by Ed Deller

Hopefully those of you who attended the reopening service in person felt comfortably welcomed into our sacred worship space. House Committee members volunteered many hours through the shutdown to maintain the church building and grounds. This effort was supplemented by a team effort on October 30 to prepare the church for the November 7 reopening and for the coming winter. A team of Connie Valk, Kitty Forbush, Tom Ruganis, Moritz Wagner, Shirley Bond, Karen Dau, custodian Karen Steinberg and Ed Deller set up the church for safe distancing, did various repairs, installed storm windows, moved furniture, brought in the garden hoses, removed graffiti and more. Michael Scott repaired outside lighting and worked with Alex Pita to implement digital screens to support a hybrid worship experience in the sanctuary.

Many thanks to all who helped prepare the church grounds for a safe and warm reopening! ❖

# Drop-In Discussion

Submitted by Beth Ares

Current drop-in discussions are held each Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30pm via the church Zoom account. Contact [DropInDiscussion@uuroc.org](mailto:DropInDiscussion@uuroc.org) for the Zoom link, or look on [uuroc.org](http://uuroc.org)!

Sometimes our discussions are based on books/articles, but you don't have to do any preparation to participate. Just drop in. People of all viewpoints are welcome to make presentations or join.

## December 7 | Eastern Service Workers Association

The Eastern Service Workers Association is all-volunteer-run and non-government funded, independently organizing some of Monroe County's lowest paid workers, especially those with no collective bargaining rights. Available 365 days a year ESWA members run a self-help, mutual-aid benefit program to better meet our day-to-day needs, while organizing together to have the necessary strength to fight for long-term solutions to our poverty. Benjamin Lee - ESWA Operations Manager presents.

## December 14 | Political Cartoonists Part 2

Political cartoonists' takes on recent social and political issues: the coronavirus pandemic, the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, the situation with Afghanistan, "critical race theory," and, of special concern to the cartoonists, freedom of speech. We'll look at a wide variety of opinions on these issues. "Let the controversies be the beginning of conversations, not the end." Elaine Miller presents.

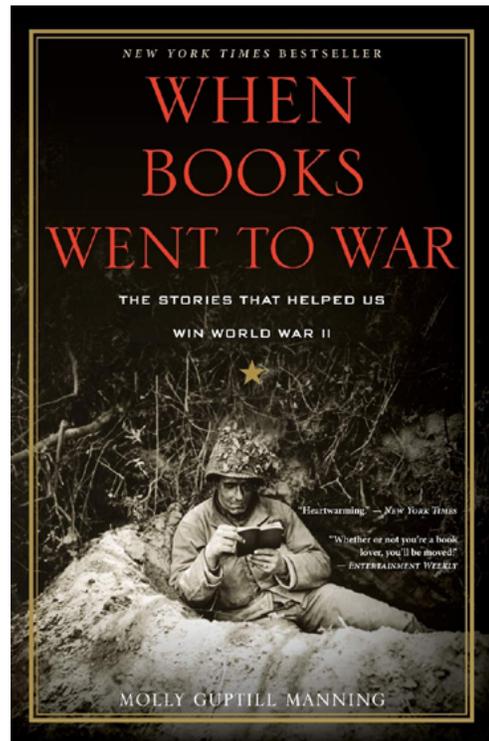
## December 21 | Winter Solstice with Rev. Lane

Come to hear stories, share stories, and share experiences with the observance of the winter solstice. New to winter solstice? No problem; this will be a time for learning as well as asking questions.

## December 28 | Open Topic

What is on your mind and in your heart just now? We have returned to our home at 150 S. Clinton, we are passing through the holiday season and facing yet another Rochester winter. Join us for the sharing of thoughts and inspired conversation.

Do you have a topic for us? Contact our team members with your Drop-In Discussion proposals: [DropInDiscussion@uuroc.org](mailto:DropInDiscussion@uuroc.org). ❖



## Book Group

Submitted by Sarah Singal & Shirl Bond

Please join us in the back of the sanctuary December 12 at noon, as we review "When Books Went to War" by Molly Guptill Manning, about the joy that books brought to the soldiers during World War II. While Germany was burning books by numerous banned authors, American servicemen temporarily escaped the horrors of war in all sorts of books.

We will share our thoughts about the role books played in helping us win the war—how Althea Warren inspired librarians across the United States to gather, ship and arrange distribution to millions of soldiers and how the Armed Services Editions came to be. And if you haven't read the book you are still welcome.

The January book selection is "The Night Watchman," by Louise Erdrich.

Book suggestions are always gratefully received and taken under consideration. If you have read a good book lately, or just have a question, contact us at [Book@uuroc.org](mailto:Book@uuroc.org)! ❖

# When is an Auction not really an Auction?

## When it's the First Universalist Church's "Service Auction 2022 Edition!"

Submitted by Ann Rhody, Finance Chair

The theme for this year's Service Auction is "don't bid, just buy." The Auction-ish fundraiser will feature events (both virtual and in-person) and food items with a fixed price, and you'll be able to sign up if you're interested!

Here's the lowdown: The catalogue of offerings will be available on January 23, and signups will occur after the church service on January 30 and February 6. Proxy signup will be available for anyone who is unable or uncomfortable coming to church in person. And there WILL be fun and entertainment both Sundays!

Stay tuned for more details to come!

We WILL need donors for events and food items. We'll be seeking:

- Small gatherings in your home or the Clara Barton lounge, with size limits established
- Food items for delivery or pickup
- Ideas for offerings might include: trivia or

game nights/afternoons; dinners or lunches; hikes or outdoor activities; arts/craft lessons or experiences; movie and dessert; virtual "gatherings" (online games, trivia, Zoom charades, virtual cocktail hour); custom food offerings (bake a cake for an event, for example); instrumental music presentations, lectures, or book signings; baked goods or homemade food delivery. Safety protocols will be in place for all events.

Please, no household items or vocal music offerings this year.

If you have an idea for a gathering you might host, please contact [finance@uuroc.org](mailto:finance@uuroc.org), and you'll be directed to our Auction Chairs, Katherine Flynn and Paula Marchese. ❖



## Church Library and Bookstore Reopening!

Submitted by Phil Ebersole

First Universalist Church library and bookstore will be open for borrowing, buying and browsing after Sunday services on Dec. 5, 12 and 19!!

We'll have a table of used books for sale for whatever you think they're worth. We'll have shelves of new books for sale at a discount, usually half price.

The library staff probably will not be able to make change, so we ask that you pay for the new books either by check or with the exact sale price in cash.

The library will be open for borrowing. We hope to have some new books of interest on display. We also have a free magazine exchange.

We gratefully accept donations of books and magazines in good condition, if you think they will be of interest to our members and friends.

Patrons of the library and bookstore are asked to observe the Covid protocols, including masking and social distancing. ❖

## Eastman at Washington Square Concerts

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

- **Dec. 2 | Piano Extravaganza II**  
Piano students from the studio of Elinor Freer will share performances to highlight their work!
- **Dec. 9 | Music for Bassoon and Piano**  
Bassoonist Blaire Koerner and Collaborative Pianist Zachary Peterson will delight!
- **Dec. 16 | Dances from many Lands**  
Eastman Collaborative Piano Faculty members Priscilla Yuen and Irina Lupines will finish up our fall season with a joyful performance of dances from around the globe! ❖

# FPGROC (RAIHN):

## Annual Appeal

Submitted by Chris DeGolyer

In 2020, because of the pandemic, FPGROC (Family Promise of Greater Rochester, formerly RAIHN) moved from sheltering temporarily homeless families in churches to housing them in motels. In 2021, FPGROC shifted to sheltering families in apartments while the families searched for more permanent housing. FPGROC now has the capacity to shelter six families in apartments, while five families were the most that churches could host. As the pandemic continues, it's very unlikely that we will host FPGROC guests at First Universalist before Summer 2022.

Here are a few examples of how FPGROC helped almost 400 families through its prevention and diversion, shelter, and stabilization programs in 2021:

- **Keeping families in their homes:**

With a baby and a high school junior, Jean was diverted from shelter and found a new home in the same suburban school district she was removed from. Now her daughter can graduate from the only school she's ever known!

- **Providing shelter when necessary.**

Keisha and Ronald's time in the Shelter Program this year provided a roof over their head, weekly groceries, and gift cards—and it also proved a supportive place to adjust to a new health diagnosis for their one-year-old baby.

- **Supporting families back to stable housing.**

The apartment Marissa and her family moved into following her Shelter stay during COVID turned out to be substandard, a common occurrence for families living at or below the poverty line. FPGROC case managers helped her secure an emergency voucher and with it a safer home – all in Spanish!

This November, FPGROC received an average of three phone calls a day from families seeking help with shelter. FPGROC has the resources to help

only a fraction of these. Using apartments instead of churches takes fewer volunteers but more money to provide shelter.

You may have received already a letter from FPGROC about its annual appeal. If the FPGROC program is new to you, and you would like to learn more about it and First Universalist's role, contact Christine DeGolyer or Ed Deller. More information is also available at [www.fpgroc.org](http://www.fpgroc.org). A link for donating is on the website, or feel free to write a check made payable to Family Promise of Greater Rochester and send it to FPGROC, 142 Webster Avenue, Rochester, NY 14609.

As Kim Hunt-Uzelac, FPGROC director, asks, "Please join us in ensuring every family has a roof over their head and a place to call home." ❖



## EcoJustice

Submitted by Lois Baum

Here's a suggestion from Climate Solutions Accelerator of the Genesee/Finger Lakes. Call Governor Hochul: let her know we need her to put funds for climate solutions into the New York State budget; dial 518-474-8390, then press 3, then press 1 and talk. Keep this number handy. She wants to hear what's important to you.

Save the date: January 11, Jon Randall will join the Drop-In Discussion. He has trained in Al Gore's Climate Reality Project. The mission of this organization is "to catalyze a global solution to the climate crisis by making urgent action a necessity across every sector of society." Exact topic to be announced. For more information on the project, visit Our Mission | Climate Reality ([climateresalityproject.org](http://climateresalityproject.org))

The Ecojustice Group meets the first Sunday of each month in the back of the Sanctuary. The next four meetings are Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, and March 6. That takes us to spring! All are welcome. ❖

# Book Note:

## *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Wisdom of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer (2013)*

Submitted by Phil Ebersole

Sweetgrass is an aromatic grass found in Canada and the northern USA. Indigenous people of the Great Lakes believe it was a gift from Skywoman, a divine being who brought plant life to earth. They pluck the grass reverently, gather it into three bundles and weave it into braids. Then they make the braids into baskets, which, according to tradition, should always be given away, never sold for money.

Robin Wall Kimmerer is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and distinguished teaching professor at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse. In this book, she weaves together three strands—indigenous ways of knowledge, scientific knowledge, and stories of her life and lives of her ancestors.

She does not separate humanity and the natural world; she sees them as parts of the same thing. She does not separate scientific knowledge and indigenous knowledge; she sees them as two ways of understanding the same reality.

Indigenous knowledge has its own validity; scientific knowledge has its own beauty and awesomeness. Both are needed. Neither one is a substitute for the other.

She weaves her book out of many strands—myth, history, botanical lore, cultural survival, environmental and ecological issues, and her own experiences. It is a rich tapestry, and I'll only pick out a couple of the strands.

One strand is the Indian idea of the Honorable

Harvest. The idea is that it is permissible for humans use plants and animals to serve their own needs, but it has to be done with restraint and gratitude.

The rules are: Never take the first thing you find, because it may be the only one. Never take more than half of what you find. Never take more than you need. Show respect and express gratitude for what you are given. And give back as well as take.

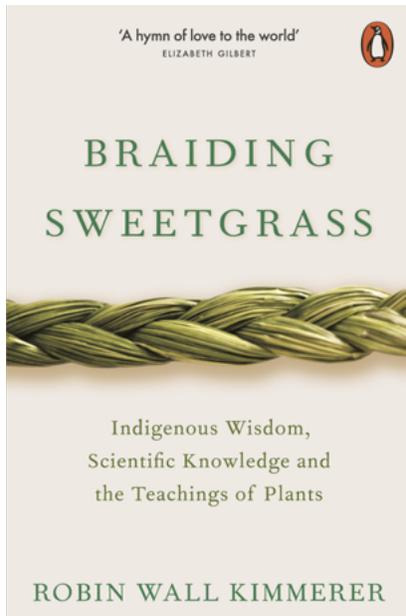
This is a form of reverence for life that embraces acceptance of the fact of death. Some sweetgrass has to be plucked or else the rest will not get enough sunlight and nutrients. Some deer must fall to predators or hunters, or else the herd will starve. My life and yours must end someday, or else there will be no room for new people.

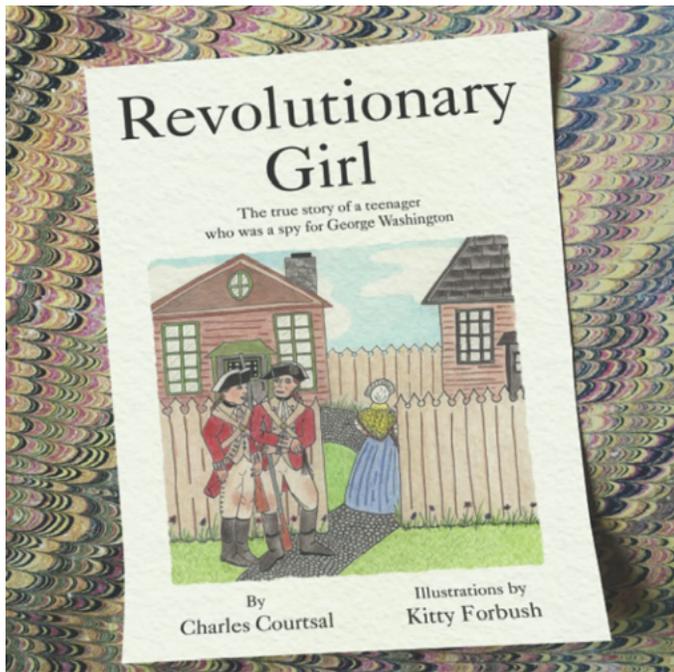
Even if we get what we need from the supermarket rather than the forest, we can show gratitude and avoid greed and waste.

Another strand is the idea that plants are teachers. It is a wonder and a mystery that living things can be brought into existence by the photosynthesis of light, air and water. It produces life as grand as cedar trees and as tenacious as lichen and moss. If it weren't familiar, we'd call it a miracle.

Nor are plants passive entities. They move and adapt to their environments, although at a pace of seasons and decades, not seconds and minutes. They communicate and cooperate, using biochemistry instead of words and gestures. They and we are part of the interdependent web of existence. Indeed, as she wrote, we have much to learn from plants. ❖

*"Braiding Sweetgrass" is available from the First Universalist Church library at a discounted price of \$15, or a copy can be borrowed for four weeks. Contact the library at [library@uuroc.org](mailto:library@uuroc.org) or see a librarian after church during the first three Sundays in December.*





The illustrations by Kitty Forbush spark the imagination in this book for 5th grade readers and up. The book includes a family tree, questions for further exploration, and links to the actual diary. These are meant to encourage the reader to explore the stories of their own families.”

Here is the Amazon link: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1953610978> ❖

## Newly Published Book: “*Revolutionary Girl*”

*Submitted by Charlie Courtsal*

Kitty Forbush and I are celebrating! We just published a book together! We have been working on a book for the past four years, and it was just published by NFB Publishing in Buffalo, NY (and is now available on Amazon), so we thought we would share this with our congregation. We hope the book will be available in the church library soon.

The main character in the book, Elizabeth Wilson, is a relative of mine. Her story was carefully detailed in a diary (written in 1887) that I inherited about a decade ago. When I read the story for the first time, I thought, “This is too good to be gathering dust in my basement.” On a trip to Seneca Falls with Kitty, I mentioned the book idea. I asked her to illustrate the book, and she agreed!

Below is the summary of the book on Amazon, along with a link to the book:

“*Revolutionary Girl* is the true story of a teenager that served as a spy for General George Washington at the start of the American Revolution. Closely based on her family’s diary, this is the first time the story of Elizabeth Wilson has ever been told. She was a dynamic, brave and smart young woman sought out by General Washington.

“Dark is the rich fertile earth  
that cradles the seed,  
nourishing growth.  
Dark is the soft night  
that cradles us to rest.  
Only in darkness can stars shine  
across the vastness of space...  
There is mystery woven  
in the dark quiet hours.  
There is magic in the darkness...  
We are born of this magic.”

- *Stephanie Nobel*

# FIAC: Our Faith In Action

Submitted by Joy Leccese

We can be proud that our congregation, though modest in size, is vibrant, healthy, and actively living our principles in many social justice arenas. Recently, the Faith In Action Council (FIAC) has been discussing how we can expand our efforts to be a Welcoming Congregation. When I researched info on the UUA website ([uua.org](http://uua.org)) I found many resources. We invite you all to spend some time on the UUA site, and explore the many ways in which our denomination creates a clear message that whoever you are, whomever you love, 'YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!' Here is a quote from the landing page:

"Unitarian Universalism has made a commitment to opening its doors to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Whether you are seeking a religious community or you are a leader or member wanting to help your congregation deepen its welcome, we have resources for you!"

Some of the topics addressed are a general intro, glossary of terms, newsletters and resources in print.

- **Welcoming Congregations:**

[uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/program](http://uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/program)

- **UPLIFT: LGBTQ Ministries and Welcoming Congregations Blog & Newsletter:**

[uua.org/lgbtq/blog](http://uua.org/lgbtq/blog)

- **UPLIFT Trans/Non-Binary Monthly Gatherings:** [uua.org/lgbtq/transnb](http://uua.org/lgbtq/transnb)

- **Worship & Education:**

- **Pride:** *A collection of resources, including readings, meditations, and stories you can use for LGBTQ-focused worship services.*

- **Identity 101:** *Learn more about sexual orientations and gender identities.*

- **Print resources:** *LGBTQ-related pamphlets, flyers, guides, and other print resources.*

- **Our Whole Lives (OWL):** *A sexuality education program for the entire lifespan, inclusive of sexuality and gender diversity.*

If you are interested in exploring how you can be involved in creating more awareness of the needs of LGBTQIA+ individuals, please contact [FIAC@uuroc.org](mailto:FIAC@uuroc.org). We would love to talk with you! ❖

# Transcendentalism: Then and Now

Submitted by Rev. Lane Campbell

Join us for a 4-part adult religious education class titled: "*Transcendentalism: Then and Now*", led by Rev. John Buehrens. It is hosted virtually at First Unitarian Rochester, and sponsored by the St. Lawrence Chapter of the UU Minister's Association.

Background reading (optional) for the course is Rev. Buehrens recent book, "*CONFLAGRATION: How the Transcendentalists Sparked the American Struggle for Racial, Gender, and Social Justice*" (Boston: Beacon Press, Jan. 2020). It is available from Beacon Press or the UUA bookstore.

The course will be thematic rather than following the narrative of the book. Rev. Buehrens will identify contemporary issues as well as explore the pioneering efforts of our spiritual forebears in spiritual practice, women's rights, anti-racism, and ecotheology. The format will include both lecture and discussion.

During his career, Rev. Buehrens served congregations in Tennessee, Texas, New York, Massachusetts, and California. Prior to his retirement, he was the Senior Minister of the UU Society of San Francisco. He was also UUA president from 1993-2001.

Date: Sundays: January 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2021

Time: 7-8:30pm

Presenter: Rev. John Buehrens

Contact: Rev. AJ van Tine  
([revaj@rochesterunitarian.org](mailto:revaj@rochesterunitarian.org))

Location: Zoom.

The four sessions will cover the following topics:

- **Jan. 9: The Transcendentalists: Shared Values, Conversations, and Spiritual Friendships**
- **Jan. 16: Women's Rights, Education, and Economic Inequality**
- **Jan. 23: Abolitionists and the Civil War: The Peak of Transcendentalist Influence**
- **Jan 30: Nature, Evolution, and Environmentalism: The Transcendentalist Contribution** ❖

# NYSCU Recap

Submitted by Richard Reed

On Friday, October 22, I departed for Oneonta as a proud delegate representing our church. After a nice 5-hour drive, I arrived mid-afternoon at our hotel, the Clarion, in downtown Oneonta. Friday evening those of us staying at the hotel got together in library area on the hotel's first floor as there was not the usual gathering at the host church due to COVID protocols. Saturday, October 23 we started to gather at the church, the Unitarian Universalist Society of Oneonta, at 8am for registration and check in. Of course, COVID restrictions and protocols were in place (masks worn, physical distancing, no handshakes or hugs and no singing, only humming.)

Our worship service began at 9 am with an excellent introduction by their interim minister, Rev. Rachel Baker. The keynote presentation followed and this year's speaker was Dr. Gretchen S. Sorin, PhD. Dr. Sorin is the Director and Distinguished Service Professor of the SUNY Oneonta and Cooperstown Graduate Program. Her topic was "Bridges and Boundaries: African Americans and American Jews". Themes of freedom and liberation appear again and again in literature, art and music of both ethnicities and each has borrowed experiences of the other to give voice to their own group's conception of identity. Dr. Sorin was also the keynote speaker at NYSCU 2018 in Syracuse. A keynote dialogue followed her speech.

This year's business meeting began at 11am. The highlight was having our own Ann Rhody elected to a 2-year term as NYSCU president. Rev. Sally Hamlin was elected to the same term as vice president. Lunch followed our business meeting. Due to COVID protocols lunch was pre-packaged instead of our usual buffet-type spread.

The afternoon sessions consisted of 2-hour long workshops. There were 4 workshop choices as follows:

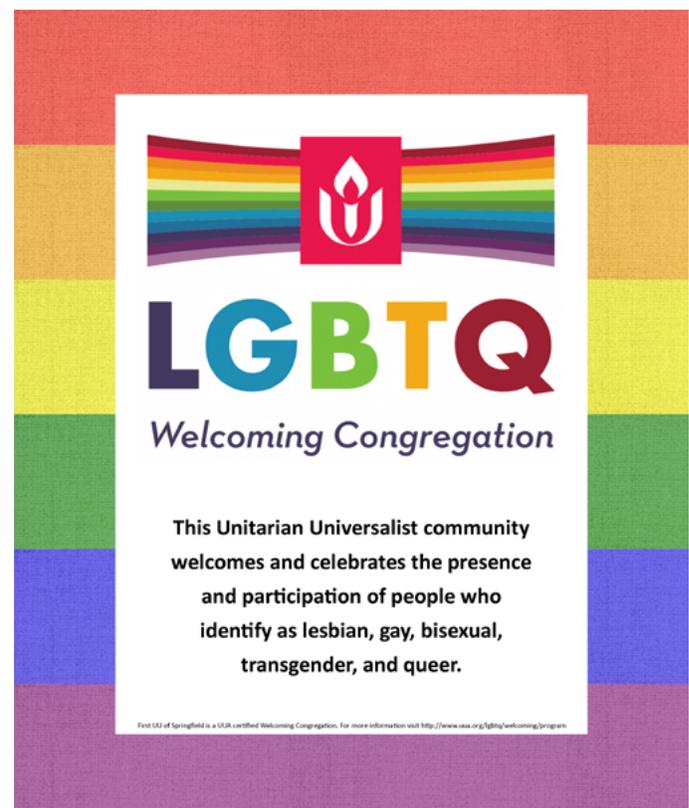
- 1) A continuing dialogue with Dr. Sorin
- 2) Oneonta and liberal religion; histories of the town and city of Oneonta, the Universalist church in Oneonta and Otsego County, the UU Society of Oneonta and the congregation's place in the community for over 170 years.
- 3) Introduction to the Restorative Process presented by the Central East Region staff of the UUA.

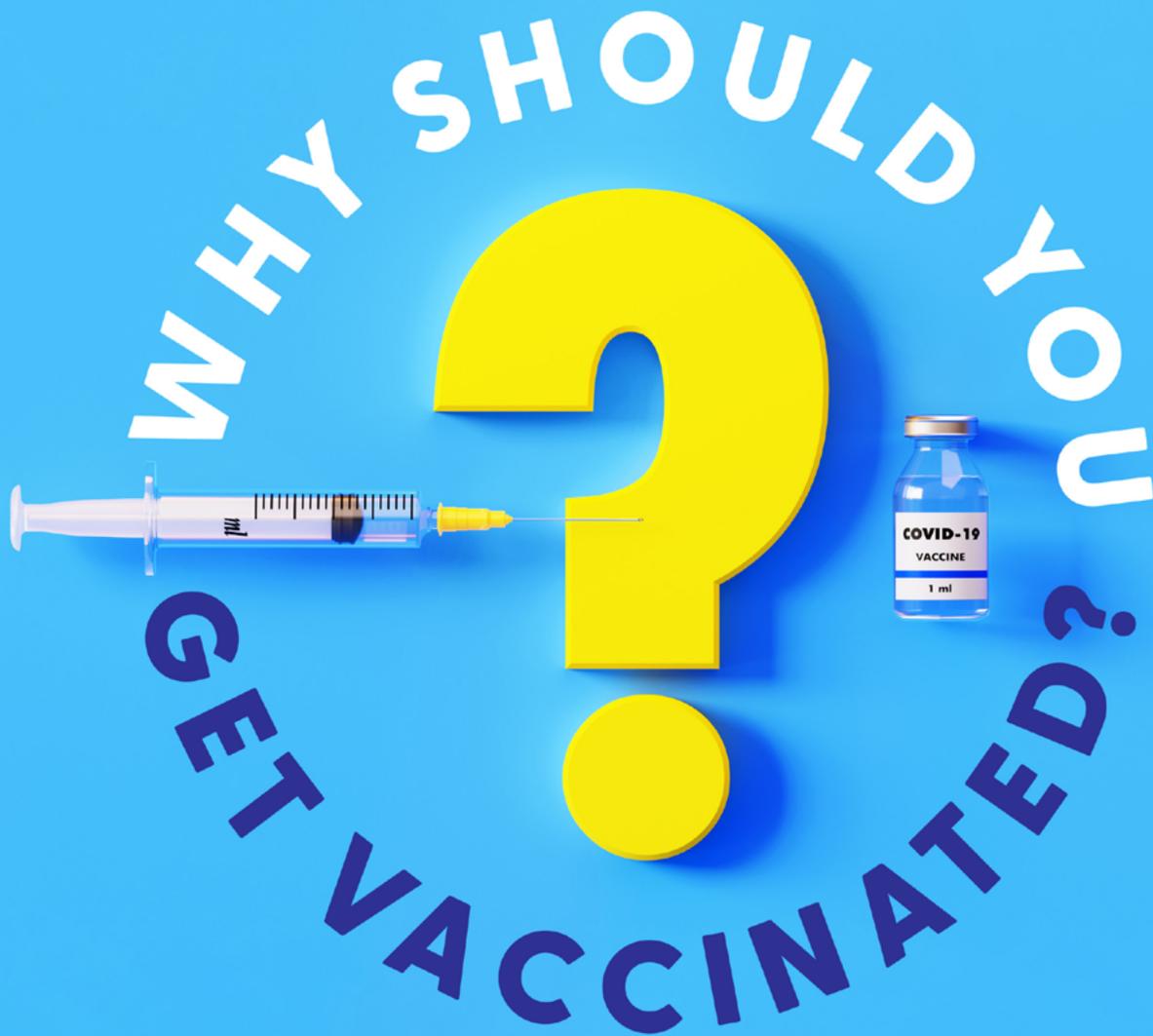
4) Promoting ESG Investing; Considering the use of Environmental, Social and Governance opportunities for investing according to our values.

Closing worship followed both workshops at 3pm and then the Convention was adjourned until next year. A safe trip home to all. It was great to meet in person even with protocols in place; and the convention was hybrid on Zoom also to accommodate people who weren't ready to meet in person yet. The people in Oneonta were very hospitable and welcoming. It was a great convention! ❖



UUA.ORG/IMAGES





- It's safe, simple, and free of charge.
- It could keep you from getting COVID-19. If you still get COVID-19, it could keep you from becoming seriously ill.
- It will help you do your part to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect the health of your family, your friends and your community.
- It's an mRNA vaccine. These types of vaccines have been studied for more than two decades to evaluate their safety and effectiveness.
- It's the first step toward life returning to normal.



# 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 on Sundays

**Minister** | Rev. Lane Campbell

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

**Music Director** | Brock Tjosvold

**Office Manager** | Emma Barry

**Nursery Care Providers** |  
Carol Williams & Sundae Hodge

### Board of Trustees 2021–2022

Theresa McFarland-Porter (*President*), Eric Van Dusen (*Vice President*), Steve Munson (*Clerk*), Jillian Beaman, MJ Curry, Bridget Watts, Richard Reed, Rev. Lane Campbell (*ex-officio*)

Editor, monthly newsletter, *Our Outlook*, & *This Week at First Universalist* (digital): Emma Barry

More info is available on our website: [uuroc.org](http://uuroc.org)

The usual deadline for all submissions to *Our Outlook* is the 15th of each month.