



Harmony Singing Workshop with Brendan Taaffe

Thursday, October 26th
7:15-8:45
(during regular choir time)

*Join us for an evening of singing with Brendan Taaffe,
a dynamic songleader and well-regarded composer
from Brattleboro, Vermont.*

The director of The Bright Wings Chorus, Brendan also performs with The Waxwing Four and is in demand as a workshop leader around the world. Currently short-listed for a Guggenheim for his work as composer, Brendan has been a dedicated student of different traditions, having traveled to Zimbabwe, Cuba, New Zealand, and France to learn songs. This year he is a Research Fellow at the Appalachian Sound Archives in Berea, Kentucky, where he has been digging deeply into Appalachian traditional song.

Brendan is known for his encouraging teaching, lush tenor voice, and his gift for bringing out everyone's talents. To learn more about Brendan, visit his website at www.brendantaaffe.com.

Together we will explore the richness of different world harmony traditions, including traditional American harmony (early gospel, Appalachian ballads, shape note hymns), Zimbabwean *makwayera* singing, and Brendan's original compositions. All parts will be taught by ear and no experience is necessary—singing is a birthright for all of us, so come and sing.

“What a gift---this music of the world that brings us all together from our different cultures and practices giving us all the same joyful, creative purpose. Isn't it lovely to know we can come from far and afield and know each other somehow? How we are all part of this great human family humbly struggling to know ourselves and live in joy and love in the world. These camps are about so much more than singing...”

FUSIT Ministerial Transitions Team

Greetings! The FUSIT Ministerial Transitions Team is excited to be starting the 2017-2018 church year with our new minister Reverend Margaret Weis. One of the roles of the Transition Team is to facilitate the formation of a warm, respectful, and enduring relationship between FUSIT congregants and Rev. Margaret.

Small group gatherings with the minister Rev. Margaret had the opportunity to connect with many congregants at Unirondack over the Labor Day weekend, and has met with others at various committee meetings. We are planning additional events where she can meet with those among us who may not have had an opportunity for casual interaction and conversation. Plans in the works include a dinner with FUSIT members at Kendal, a gathering focused on young adults, and a meal at the church for young families, with child care provided. We will keep you posted as plans develop but please contact us if you are interested in participating or have additional ideas.

Ministerial Installation – April 15

This isn't house remodeling! Rather, installation of a UU minister represents an opportunity to formally acknowledge and celebrate the possibilities that arise from a new relationship between minister and congregation, and to affirm our connections to mentors, leaders, and ministers in the UU fold and in our community.

Rev. Margaret's installation will be held on Sunday, **April 15**. This event will encompass the regular church service with a celebratory gathering to follow.

We will be communicating with you regularly, but don't hesitate to contact any of us with your thoughts, ideas and questions.

Ministerial Transitions Team:

Don Barber
Kathy Hopkins
Pat Evans
Magdalen Lindeberg
Andrew Quagliata
Arthur Woll

End of Life Series: Exploring the Medical, Legal, and Spiritual Components of Death and Dying



Ever wonder what legal forms are necessary to ease the process of dealing with your death for your loved ones?

Get confused when you hear medical terms like resuscitated or intubated or CPR?

Worried that your wishes may not be carried out if the time comes?

Curious about how you can take part in the planning of your own memorial service or service of remembrance?

Join Rev. Weis and legal and medical professionals as we reflect on the advance planning that is possible for end of life issues such as these. More details will be announced, but the dates for the three sessions are Wednesdays, **October 11, 18, 25** from 7-9 pm in the Parlor at FUSIT. Please sign up by emailing Rev. Weis at minister@uwithaca.org (RSVP is helpful but not mandatory).

*Tell your friends, family, and colleagues. This course is **free** and **open to the public**.*



Possible Ponderings

Our monthly theme is COURAGE. Possible Ponderings is an offering of ways you might consider engaging more deeply with the theme or reflecting on the ways the idea of COURAGE shows up in your life. These will also be printed in the order of service each week.

- **October 1-7:** Reflect on the ways that welcoming or engaging with people you don't know requires courage. Is there someone you can reach out to, whom you do not yet know, that might broaden your view of the world?
- **October 8-14:** Where are you saying "yes" when you need to be courageously saying "no"?
- **October 15-21:** Instead of standing up and speaking out, is courage now asking you to sit down and listen?
- **October 22-29:** Is it time to bravely admit "I was wrong"?
- **October 29 – November 6:** Who in your life needs their courage to be affirmed and celebrated?