2022/2023 Issue No.5

January 1-31, 2023

Message from Associate Director of Congregational Life

No matter where people celebrate New Year or by what calendar, New Year is a glorious, spiritual opportunity to move from one realm of consciousness and gratitude onto another. The recognition of the new year is the divine acknowledgment that our corporeal and incorporeal survival must begin anew; it is the universal hope that we are given another day, another chance for regeneration and reclamation.

In-Person Sunday Services 10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Services will also be live-streamed on our YouTube channel.

Masks and social distancing encouraged.

Religious Exploration classes for children (see page 2 for details)

It is a prayer for redemption and resolution and the rendered expression of praise and grace within us that is intimately tied to the earth, the heavens, ourselves, and one another. The meaning of a new year is longstanding and profound.

The Babylonians of ancient Mesopotamia would honor the rebirth of the natural world. This early New Year's celebration dates back to around 2000 B.C.

The Ancient Egyptians tied the new year to the seasonal flooding of the Nile River because the natural irrigation from the waters helped ensure that farmlands remained fertile for the coming year.

Over 3000 years ago, the Chang Dynasty began their celebration of the new year with the opening of the spring planting season.

People recognized and venerated the marking of a new year in each culture and civilization. They organized vigils and engaged in the traditions of spiritual and physical sacrifices; Gods were honored, and soul-centering myths were born.

There have always been unbreakable strands of shared human knowingness that tie us together, like spiritual and celestial DNA.

This harmonious movement in the span of human development, this search for hope, recovery, and even God, is core to our understanding of our undeniable oneness.

Accepting this profound truth, internalizing it, and leaving it unadulterated by ego or doubt, is the key to wisdom and the doorway to peace on earth.

May every day be your New Year.

Rev. Peaches Gillette

Expanding Community

For many this pandemic has brought increased feelings of isolation and being cut off from others that continue to linger. We always welcome new members to our community and faith and hope to provide a safe space of connection and learning for all during this time of physical distancing. Please continue to invite any and all people that you know that you believe could find meaning by exploring what the FUSIT community and Unitarian Universalist faith can offer.

Religious Exploration News

For information about Religious Exploration, please contact Emily Richards at dre@uuithaca.org.

Greetings from the DRE

Together we begin the new year. The hustle and bustle of the holidays has passed and we return our attention to the steady rhythms of our lives. This is the time of year that we have a chance to reset, to refocus on what is important, to revisit schedules and commitments. A time to find our center.

I often find that the beginning of the year carries with it feelings of both sadness for the passing of the holiday season, and relief that the multitude of extra tasks and expectations can be set aside once more. During these months of chill winds and winter snow we brave the cold as we scurry to work, to school, to appointments, and other engagements. And in between those everyday tasks and responsibilities we find moments of quiet. Moments of peace. Times where we can turn our focus inward and find our equilibrium once again.

This month I invite you to join us as we explore the many ways we can individually and collectively work towards Finding Our Center. Whether that means finding your own inner peace and listening to the still small voice inside of you, or whether it means finding the center of community and connection, we are here with you. May we find our way together.

Emily Richards, Director of Religious Exploration

RE Plans for January

December and the end of the year were filled with holiday activities and celebrations and it was so good to have our building filled with people. Filled with light and laughter, food and merry-making. Thank you for making our holidays bright.

Religious Exploration programming will continue on Sunday mornings, using our Soul Matters themes as a foundation to explore our faith and spirituality. We are also excited to welcome our stuffy friends back into our building as a way to start off our new year.

I am also hoping to be able to offer Neighboring Faiths or Crossing Paths or a similar program for our middle schoolers this spring. If you are interested in helping to co-facilitate this please let me know.

We are still looking for an amazing individual to be our Childcare Coordinator so that we can re-open our nursery for those children who have not yet reached school age as soon as possible.

Everyone with kids ages birth through 12th grade should register their kids at the link below. This helps me with planning, and also helps to keep kids safe when they are participating in programming at church.

2022-2023 RE Registration

Upcoming Sunday Morning Religious Exploration Schedule

January 8th: RE Sunday - Finding Our Center Arch Room immediately following a Time for Wonder

January 15th: Multigenerational Sunday

January 22nd: RE Sunday - Finding Our Center Arch Room immediately following a Time for Wonder

January 29th: RE Sunday - StUUffy Sleepover Celebration Arch Room immediately following a Time for Wonder

RE Volunteers Needed!

Please sign up by putting your name anywhere you see an empty yellow square.

RE Volunteer Sign-Up

January Religious Exploration Events

StUUffy Sleepover

Saturday, January 28th through Sunday, January 29th

Even This Is Enough

Rev. Vanessa Southern

The world won't stop spinning on her axis if you don't rise to all occasions today...

Rest, if you must, then, like the swimmer lying on her back who floats...

Perhaps then you will feel in your bones, in your weary heart,

the aching, healing sense that

this is enough—

tills is chough

even this.

That we are enough.

You are enough.

It's that time of year again, time for our Annual FUSIT Stuffy Sleepover! Whether you call them a stuffy, plushie, stuffed animal or just by their given names, we are thrilled to be able to invite them to FUSIT for a night of fun and imagination. Stuffies may be dropped off in the bin on the porch at any time on Friday, January 27th or before noon on Saturday. Please make sure all stuffies are clearly marked with their name as well as the name of the special child to whom they belong. Additional information, such as favorite foods or activities, are also encouraged.

This year we will celebrate with our stuffies during our Sunday morning RE programming on the **29th**, so expect to find your friends waiting for you in the pews.

(continued on page 3)

(RE News, continued from page 2)

Music for (Very) Little People January 5th-26th Thursdays from 12:30 pm-1:15, Arch Room

Free and open to the public each Thursday in January. Emily Richards will offer weekly baby music classes for children o-2 years of age with parents. We will meet upstairs in the Arch Room. Sing, play, dance, explore instruments, and connect through music.

Our Whole Lives (OWL)

The First Unitarian Society of Ithaca (FUSIT) and the First Congregational Church of Ithaca (FCCI) are excited to offer the Our Whole Lives comprehensive sexuality education program during the school year 2022-2023. Our 8th and 9th graders continue through the end of January and our 10th-12th graders will do OWL this spring (registration to come!).

We will also offer sessions of OWL for Parents and Caregivers throughout this program on the following dates: **Jan. 8th and Jan 22nd.**

January OWL Schedule, Grades 8-9, at the First Unitarian Society of Ithaca

January 8, 1-3:30 pm + OWL Caregivers

January 15, 1-3:30 pm

January 22, 1-3:30 pm + OWL Caregivers

RE-Turn to RE

The Religious Exploration Team at FUSIT is thrilled to be able to offer regular in-person RE once again and we need your help. We need volunteers!. We need every member of this community to show our families and young people that they are a priority. Please contact Emily Richards at dre@uuithaca.org if you are interested in supporting our Religious Exploration programming.

The Religious Exploration Seeks Team Members and Volunteers

The RE Team needs new enthusiastic members to help guide our programming. If you have been looking for a way to make a huge impact on this community please consider the RE Team.

Volunteers to be mentors to our children and young people, as well as leading adult programming for parents is needed. Commitment can be as little as a single one hour program up to weekly

January Worship Services

The theme for January is Finding Our Center and the Celebrations Team is looking forward to speakers whose voices can help us to explore this theme as individuals and as a community:

Sunday, Jauary 8 "Returning to Trust"

Emily Richards, Director of Congregational Life and Religious Exploration

The first stage, or step, in any relationship is trust. As we begin a new year together, I invite us to reflect on where we are now, where the past few years have taken us, and how we can rebuild trust and find our collective center through forming lasting connections and creating community.

Sunday, January 15 "Let Us Be Gifts of Hope to One Another"

Rev. Peaches Gillette, Associate Director of Congregational Life and Ancillary Pastoral Care

Sunday, January 22 "Sophia Betancourt's Prophetic Call"

Rev. Janet Shortall, Pastoral Care
A call to our movement: to center our UU
identity in "radical inclusion, Faithful witness,
and the embrace of a wide range of voices and
leaders for our faith."

Sunday, January 29 "The Need for Community"

Emily Richards, Director of Congregational Life and Religious Exploration

As human beings we need other human beings. What draws us into communities such as ours is the everpresent longing for connection. What keeps us here are the people, the relationships that we form, the friendships that we make. How can we center those relationships in all of the work that we do, here and out in the world?

Congregational Administrator Hours

In January, the office will be open **Sundays**, **Mondays**, **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am** - **4 pm** and Michelle will be working remotely on Wednesdays from 9 am - 4 pm. This schedule does change occasionally so feel free to make an appointment with office@uuithaca.org if you have church business.

The deadline for submissions to the Wednesday Weekly Announce email and Sunday's Order of Service is **Monday at noon**. Director of Congregational Life and Religious Exploration Emily Richards dre@uuithaca.org

Religious Exploration Assistant Madeline Natale reasst@uuithaca.org

Associate Director of Congregational Life and Ancillary Pastoral Care, Rev. Peaches Gillette assocdcl@uuithaca.org

Pastoral Care, Rev. Janet Shortall janet.mshortall@gmail.com 607-227-5074

Music Director Stephanie Ortolano music@uuithaca.org

Choir Director Jayne Demakos choir@uuithaca.org

President, Board of Trustees Don Barber sunnybrk@gmail.com

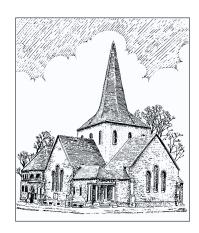
Congregational Administrator Michelle Waffner office@uuithaca.org

Administrative Assistant Loretta Heimbuch adminasst@uuithaca.org

Sexton Rachel Seymour sexton@uuithaca.org

Bookkeeper Lauren Ponzoni office@uuithaca.org

First Unitarian is a UUA-recognized LGBTQ+ Welcoming Congregation The First Unitarian Society of Ithaca 306 North Aurora Street P.O. Box 6 Ithaca, NY 14851-0006



Visit our Website and get your newsletter: www.uuithaca.org



The theme for January is Finding Our Center.

Possible Ponderings is an offering of ways you might consider engaging more deeply with the theme or reflecting on the ways the idea of Finding Our Center shows up in your life.

January 1-7: Who first helped you find your true self?

January 8-14: When was the last time someone asked you about that which lies at the deepest center of who you are?

January 15-21: Is it possible that the discovery of who you are lies in paying attenion to the person who annoys you most?

January 22-28: What would enable you to tell your white friends about their behaviors keep you from or knock you off from your center?

January 29-31: What three things most moved you towards your center this past year?

Women's Circle, Monday, January 28

Women's Circle will meet via Zoom on Monday evening, **January 28**, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. We are now generally meeting on the 4th Monday of the month. All who identify as women are welcome. This is a drop-in group, so no need to sign up; just come. Anyone is welcome to bring a poem or a reading. For information or questions contact Nancy Miller at ananda₇₇₃₃@gmail.com or 607 539 7733.

Zoom link Meeting ID: 819 4014 1421 Passcode: 874536

Men's Group

The Men's Group will gather for discussion and pizza on **January 28**, 2023 at 5:30 in the Arch Room. All who identify as men are welcome to join. Contact JensWennberg: jens207@gmail.com

Social Media Connections

You can find out about events happening in our congregation, see pictures of past events and connect with other UUs. Like and follow us on Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/FUSofI/
Instagram www.instagram.com/ithacauus and Twitter, @IthacaUUs.

Joys and Sorrows

Our condolences go out to Jan Morgan and the family and friends of long-time member Jim Skaley, who died peacefully at home on December 24. A memorial will be planned in the spring.

Our condolences go out to the family and friends of Mary McGinnis who passed away on December 7 at Kendal in Ithaca. Cards can be sent to her son and/or daughter: Steve Stycos, 37 Ferncrest Ave., Cranston, RI 02905; Kristina Stycos, P.O. Box 392, Bristol, VT 05443.

Our condolences go out to Jane Koestler and Jim Karpinski upon the death of Jane's brother, David, who passed away peacefully at Hospicare on December 1st.

Joys and Sorrows are now shared during Sunday Service. Please send notices to the team at joysandsorrows@uuithaca.org. When considering what is shared in Joys and Sorrows, please note, these services are live streamed and available to the public on our YouTube Channel.

Joys and Sorrows reflect what has happened during the past month. For the most up-to-date information, please check the Weekly Announce.

Soul Matters Material for January - Finding Our Center

The Soul Matters theme for January is Finding Our Center. This month's packet includes a few short readings, spiritual exercises, and discussion questions for you to consider.

The material can be found at: https://tinyurl.com/SoulMattersJan2023

Did you know you can text
in your donations to the offering plate
on Sundays?
Simply text 607-260-6616 with the
amount + offering
(eg: \$5 offering) to donate by phone.
It's super easy!

Our Mission

Our mission is to create connection, find inspiration and engage the world. **Connect. Inspire. Engage.**

FUSIT proudly supports the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County

The Advocacy Center of Tompkins County offers free, confidential support for people who have experienced sexual, domestic, or relationship abuse. Services include phone and in-person support, information, safety planning, peer groups, and help navigating Title IX and school judicial systems, court systems, law enforcement, medical and forensic exams, social services, and safe housing options. Advocates can be reached 24 hours a day 7 days a week through our hotline at 607-277-5000. In addition, the Advocacy Center is proud of our prevention education programs and ongoing commitment to a future where all people are free from violence.

 $\label{prop:prop:continuous} Visit our website at \underline{www.actompkins.org}, or follow us on instagram and facebook @AdvocacyTC to learn more.$

Ways to Support the Advocacy Center

We are proud to support this important agency this winter and beyond. Opportunities for engagement will include our Side With Love collection, shared plate, Sunday morning tabling, a Matters of Our Lives, and collaboration with our RE programming. In addition there are plans for continued involvement including making fleece blankets to donate to the program, a series of workshops for adults in the spring, and participating in the Take Back the Night rally in April.

Amazon Wishlist

Support the Advocacy Center by providing specific items from their wishlist.

Advocacy Center Amazon Wishlist

Side With Love Collection: Advocacy Center Comfort in Crisis

Your donations will provide meaningful comfort to children, teens, and adults who have experienced abuse.

When someone first reaches out to the Advocacy Center they are often nervous, scared, and unsure of what to expect. Whoever they are, and whether they were abused by a dating partner, family member, friend, or someone they met recently, the trauma of interpersonal abuse likely shattered their sense of safety, self confidence, and trust in other people.

They may be unsure if what happened was abuse and want a compassionate, confidential, knowledgeable listener. Advocacy Center staff may be helping them prepare to testify in a trial; move to a new, safe place; ask for an extension for classwork; or join a support group for the first time.

Being able to offer a snack, drink, soft stuffed animal, fidget toy, or coloring activity, can calm their stress and anxiety, making their experience a bit more comfortable. What may seem like a small gesture makes a significant impact and lets them know that they are welcomed and not alone.

Items that are always appreciated in our Child Advocacy Center, offices, and safe shelter, include:

Packaged to-go snacks (healthy, shelf stable), hot chocolate (packets), tea (individually wrapped), small juice boxes, small soft stuffed animals, fleece throws (smaller, 50 inches by 36 inches), fidget toys, sticker and activity books, child coloring books (we have adult coloring pages), small notebooks or blank journals.

Shared Plate

On **January 22nd** our shared plate offering will benefit the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County. Please give generously and support the programming and services that they offer to children, adults, and families in need.

Matters of Our Lives - January 22nd

FUSIT member, and Advocacy Center Youth Education Coordinator, Lyn Staack, will be sharing a Matters of Our Lives during the service on **January 22nd**. They will highlight how their work with the Advocacy Center has impacted their own life and the lives of those that their programming supports.

Sunday Morning Tabling

A table will be set up each Sunday in January with more detailed information about the Advocacy Center of Tompkins County. Please stop by and learn more.

Message from Board President Don Barber

Charting a Course

With New Year's Day, we traditionally make resolutions to chart a path for the upcoming year. It seems every Board meeting is preparation for New Year's Day. Charting a course forward by directing resources to advance FUSIT's purpose, mission, and vision.

Rev. Jack Taylor said we walk backwards into the future. That was easier to do before 2019. Before our social, communication structures, and sources of information were upended by COVID. The UUA has told us, since COVID, that ministers of all denominations are leaving the profession, and few seeking to enter. A recent UUA virtual forum had over 120 UUA lay-led congregations in attendance. It seems we are not returning to our past, although we have reconstructed some portions like in-person celebrations and Christmas Eve at Sage Chapel.

The Board responded to this new pandemic altered paradigm, creating a new organization structure with Congregational Life leaders to fill the spiritual leadership role of a minister. And creating Ministry Visioning and Operations Administrative Teams to partner with the Board in overseeing daily operations. We want to know from your perspective how this is going.

And the Board is regularly seeking your input for discerning our path through Open Questions and Congregational Conversations. We value your perspective. What is FUSIT's purpose? What role do you need or want FUSIT to play in your lives?

January Board of Trustees Meeting

The December meeting will be held **January 18** at 6:30 pm. The board meeting is a hybrid format, taking place in the church parlor and through Zoom. All FUSIT members are invited to attend this meeting. Ten minutes are set aside at the beginning of the meeting for congregation feedback. Email office@uuithaca.org or check the Weekly Announce email for the Zoom link.

Help Needed to Provide Lunches for the Homeless Shelter

As a member of Area Congregations Together (ACT), FUSIT finds four volunteers to provide fifteen lunches apiece to the Ithaca homeless shelter on the first Tuesday of each month.

We now have enough volunteers for January and are currently seeking four volunteers for **February 1st**. Can you be one of those volunteers? You would buy supplies, make the lunches within 24 hours of delivery, and deliver them between 9:30 and 11:30 am to SJCS Day Center at 618 W. State Street. Deliveries are made through a window on State Street.

Each lunch should include a sandwich, a piece of soft fruit, and a cookie or other small dessert. Social Justice Council can reimburse your expenses, at your request. To volunteer and/or ask questions, please contact Jackie Jablonski at jackiejab@me.com.

News from Babies First

Babies First was lucky enough to be noticed by the Cornell University Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc, So Fly Xi Phi Chapter. The sorority is involved in a year long focus on premature babies. They were looking for a way to help and found us. We were the beneficiary of their recent "Baby Shower Drive." They placed a baby bassinet at Robert Purcell Union for students to contribute items to benefit babies in Tompkins County via Babies First. We made a video for their Instagram drive and in mid December, Sue met the students and picked up the items at the Union. We are so thankful to the sisters of Zeta Phi Sorority and look forward to a continued relationship.



Pub Theology

Tuesday, January 24, 6:30 pm at Liquid State Brewing

Join us at Liquid State Brewing for an evening of good fellowship and conversation at our favorite local brewery (owned by FUSIT members!). We will gather at 6:30 pm and reflect together on our monthly theme of "Finding Our Center". Non-beer and non-alcoholic drink options available! 21 and over please. Bring your friends! Hope to see you there! Pub Theology takes place on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 620 West Green Street, Ithaca.

Parking

While we are still not allowed to park in the lot next to the church on Aurora Street, we did confirm that it is ok to park in the Town Hall parking lot on Sundays (on the corner of Buffalo and Aurora) as long as the gate is open.

Now Hiring!

FUSIT will be hiring an Engagement and Outreach Coordinator. Look for details in the mid-week announcements.

Emergency Pastoral Care

In case of pastoral need, call Kathy Hopkins 607-592-3025. She will direct pastoral needs for weddings, memorial services and emergency pastoral care to Rev. Janet Shortall.

Common Read

The Common Read group will meet on Monday, **January 23**, at 7 pm, to discuss the UUA choice for 2018-19, "Justice On Earth: People of Faith Working At The Intersections Of Race, Class, And The Environment"., by Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom, editors. The book offers twelve essays by some key thinkers and activists in Unitarian Universalism today, including Paula Cole Jones.

The book offers tools to equip us for sustained engagement and proposes pathways for follow-up action. And, it's only 156 pages! Our library has two copies. All are welcome! Contact Barbara Shew, barbarady51@gmail.com or joAnn kowalski, jmkowalski10@gmail.com, for Zoom information.

New SGM Forming

A new small group is waiting to form. The group will meet primarily on zoom, and meetings will be on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 7 pm. The group will continue from its beginning through June 2023. SGM is a great way to develop significant connections within FUSIT whether you are new to FUSIT or have been a member or friend for years. Group members meet to talk about topics important to their lives, (including Soul Matters topics), and also perform a service project of their choice each year to benefit FUSIT or the greater Ithaca community. Contact Marsha Kardon at 272-6582 or 607-592-2520 or mrkardon@gmail.com if you'd like to join this group or have questions about the group or SGM in general.

Thanks to Your Generosity

The SJC has stopped choosing the organization for shared plate, so MVT (Ministerial Visioning Team) is temporarily picking it up. On Sunday, November 27th, our shared plate collection of \$420.60 was donated to Southside Community Center in Ithaca.

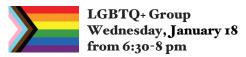
Appreciations

Thank you to Barbara Shew for her many years leading our Library Team. We are so appreciative of the time and care she has put into curating, organizing, cataloguing, and expanding our library. And a huge thank you to Marie Benedetti and joAnn kowalski for stepping up to fill this role.

A big thank you to Jackie Jablonski for leading the Social Justice Team for the past six years. We so appreciate her contribution to the FUSIT community.

So much appreciation for Michelle Waffner, our Congregational Administrator, who has not only been doing her own job exceptionally, but has also been taking on many of the responsibilities of the Engagement and Outreach Coordinator, a position which has been vacant for the past year.

In an effort to nurture a culture of appreciation at First Unitarian Society of Ithaca, we would like to add "Appreciations". Who here at First Unitarian Society of Ithaca have you noticed doing something above and beyond, who has been a quiet unsung hero, or who is doing an exceptional job! It can be a member or staff or friend to our community. Let's sing praises to the many people who help make our community the wonderful place it is. Send your submissions to joysandsorrows@uuithaca.org.



This Small Group is especially for FUSIT's LGBTQ+ community. Meetings typically follow the same general format and structure as other Small Group Ministries at FUSIT. Gatherings take place on the third Wednesday of each month, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. *All who identify on the LGBTQ+ continuum are welcome.*

Come enjoy this opportunity for fellowship and community within our larger FUSIT community, in a safe, confidential and nurturing environment. For more information, please contact Kevin Moss, kevinm607@hotmail.com.

Social Justice Council Looking for Leadership

SJC is now looking for someone to take over the role of leader for this critical part of FUSIT's mission. The Social Justice Council exists to inform the congregation about important social and humanitarian needs and issues and to provide avenues for constructive service and action.

SJC selects each month's Sharing Sundays recipient and gets reports or proposals from SJC Action Teams. For more information, contact the Ministry Visioning Team at mvt@uuithaca.org.

From Madeline Natale, Assistant to the DRE

As 2022 comes to a close, I want to thank the families at FUSIT for welcoming me into the community as your RE Assistant. It has been so fulfilling becoming a part of the FUSIT community. These past two months, we explored big topics of change, bravery and wonder together.

We welcomed an 8th principle, vowing to build a safe and welcoming community, free of racism and oppression. We followed a quest and became Keepers of the Covenant. We made our very own Wands of Wonder to encourage us to stay curious and keep learning.

We also made sure to spend plenty of time celebrating the holidays with cookie decorating and our no-rehearsal holiday pageant! FUSIT is proving to be a welcoming and inspiring community. I can't wait to see what adventures I get to lead you through this new year.



Music News

We will be welcoming Jayne Demakos as our new choir director. Regular rehearsals will resume on Thursdays at 7 pm in the Annex on **January 5.** Contact Jayne at choir@uuithaca or Music Director Stephanie Ortolano at music@uuithaca.org if you have any questions!

Beacon on Aurora - Julian Taylor

Our new monthly concert series will be held on Sunday, **January 15** at 7 pm. Doors open at 6:30. There is a suggested donation of \$20. Invite your friends! And be sure to check out the schedule through May on our website: https://unitarian.ithaca.ny.us/index.php/ beacon-on-aurora/

Threshold Conversations Wordcloud

Thank you so much to everyone who helped to create this image (and several more!) that expresses what we do and learn here at FUSIT. Community. Kindness. Music. Justice. RE (Religious Exploration). Compassion. Spirituality. Welcome. And so much more, all centered around Love.



Adult Religious Exploration

January 1: No Adult RE, FUSIT closed for New Year's Day

January 15: "Modern Day Vietnam - A Traveler's Perspective"
Presentation by John Gaines

Pat and John Gaines recently returned from five weeks in Southeast Asia, with time in South Korea, Vietnam, and Cambodia. In addition to seeing the sights, the group tour engaged with people at a personal level in all parts of Vietnam, including a former North Vietnam Army regular, a Viet Cong guerrilla fighter, and a Vietnamese Army soldier. John will draw on these meetings to lead a discussion on modern Vietnam, the aftermath of the "American War" 50 years later, and the impact of 47 years of communist rule on people's lives. There will be a limited number of slides and time for group participation as there are other FUSIT members who have also traveled in Vietnam.



nnouncing 2023 GRAND OPENING!! FUSIT Library

Location: Second Floor, Admin Building (Parish House), top of the stairs, straight ahead

Hours: Whenever the building is open

Collection: Over 800 books shelved alphabetically by category and author, plus a small selection of DVD's.

Circulation (Self-Serve): Locate your book. Fill out circulation form. Return within a month.

Online Catalog: https://www.librarycat.org/lib/FusitLibrary

Categories/Tags:

- (1) UU Faith and History
- (2) Biographies
- (3) Death and Grieving
- (4) Environmental Issues
- (5) Governance
- (6) Health and Wellness
- (7) Meditation

- (8) Poetry
- (9) Religious Philosophy
- (10) Science and Nature
- (11) Spirituality
- (12) Women's Studies
- (13) World Religions
- (14) Social Justice

Questions or concerns? Contact our two Bibliotechs:

Marie Benedetti, <u>marieben@twcny.rr.com</u> joAnn kowalski, <u>jmkowalski10@gmail.com</u>



Nametags

Our tradition is to wear nametags for Sunday services. If you need a nametag (or need a new nametag), please fill out a nametag request form at the Welcome Table on Sunday. Indicate your preferred pronouns (she/her, he/him, they/them). We'll get it ready for you to pick up at the Welcome Table the following week.