

New York State Convention of Universalists
Bicentennial Annual Meeting: *200 Years of Love at the Center*
October 24-26, 2025

- **Registration information can be found on our website, nyscu.org**
- **Advance registration is encouraged; however, registration will be available on site.**
- **Please note that this will be a hybrid meeting- we invite you to participate in person or online! Information about accessibility, Covid restrictions, and safety can be found in the Call-to-meeting letter, and on nyscu.org**

HOST CONGREGATION:

Unitarian Universalist Church of Canton, NY
3 ½ East Main Street, Canton, NY 13617

HOUSING:

Holiday Inn Express
6000 US Highway 11, Canton, NY 13617
Special Rate is \$169 for NYSCU; honored both Friday and Saturday nights
Booking link: [NYSCU Block](#) or call (315) 386-1161 to reserve by **October 3**
To inquire about home hospitality, please contact office@uucantonny.org

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

(All events will take place of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Canton, unless otherwise indicated)

Friday, October 24

5:00 PM Church opens for informal welcome and gathering. Take a tour of the church, and/or the St. Lawrence Center for History and Culture (located next to the church)

6:00 PM Lecture/Q&A: J. Jockel, Universalist History and founding of St. Lawrence Seminary

6:45-9:00 PM: Informal dinner and “UU Spirit Night!” Meet and greet other UU’s, and wear your congregation’s shirt or other UU garb. Dinner hosted by the UU Canton congregation, and catered by Big Spoon Catering.

Saturday, October 25

8:15 AM Registration, coffee, delegate credentials

9:00 AM Opening Worship: Rev. James Galasinski, UU Canton; Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, UUA President; Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith, UUA Board of Trustees

9:15 AM Keynote Address: **200 Years of Love at the Center**

Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, UUA President; Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith, UUA Board of Trustees.

As we gather to celebrate Universalist history with NYSCU and the UU Church of Canton, we consider how love has always been a Universalist theological imperative. How is that love evident in our UU Congregations today?

10:00- 10:30 AM Keynote Dialogue

10:30-10:45 AM Break

10:45 AM NYSCU 199th Business meeting

11:45 AM Bicentennial Celebration and Lunch

1:00 PM Workshop Session #1

**Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt, UUA President; Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith, UUA Board of Trustees:
Leading with Love at the Center**

Since love has always been at the theological center of Universalism, let's explore ways to allow that love to carry us forward. Rev. Sofia's book, *Love at the Center* will be cited as a resource, and books will be available at the gathering.

1:45-2:00 Break

2:00 Workshop Session #2

A. **"Good Trouble" Roundtable:** How are our congregations showing up to promote justice, equity, and compassion in these times? Any specific acts of resistance? Rev. Sally Hamlin, NYSCU Vice President, facilitator

B. **Stewardship Roundtable:** What practices has your congregation found to be effective in today's stewardship campaigns? What challenges do we face as we seek to fund our church's missions? Ann Rhody, NYSCU President; Former Finance Chair, First Universalist Church of Rochester, facilitator

3:00 Closing Worship- Rev. James Galasinski, UU Canton

3:15 PM Rest, Recovery, Soul Feeding Options

- Hike to local Quarry, Source of UU Canton building stone, with Prof. Will Rivers
- Tour of St. Lawrence University with Rev. James Galasinski
- Tour of UU Canton Church and St. Lawrence Center for History and Culture
- Explore the town (On your own)
- Rest at Hotel

5:30 PM- 7:00 PM Dinner on your own (see information packet for options)

7:00 PM-9:00 PM Dessert reception and coffee house

Come enjoy fellowship, sweets, and music as we continue the celebration together

Sunday, October 26

10:30 AM Worship service and farewell, UU Canton

Please note that the Canton/Potsdam area has a variety of recreational activities available: hiking, biking, kayaking, and exploring! You may want to stay for some time and enjoy more of the history, culture, and natural beauty of the North Country.