

9/29/09 OTH

## Letters to the editor No tolerance for other gods

On Sept. 22, the Olean Times Herald's front-page article, "There's a New Religion in Town," immediately sparked my interest — or sorrow, more correctly stated.

While organizer Anna Bush may believe she is helping humanity by joining together those with no religion, and members of many religions, including Christians, to create one universal church, she is deceived. True Christians have no desire to join an "open-minded, free-thinking spiritual congregation."

Unlike the Unitarian Universalist church belief, there is a "you must" in Christianity. Jesus in John 3:7 says, "You must be born again." This means that one must repent of his sinful ways and believe in salvation (eternal life in Heaven) through the blood of Jesus Christ. There is no tolerance for other gods. The fundamental truths of Christianity do not include the belief that "there are many different paths to God, not just one," as Ms. Bush was quoted as saying.

Ms. Bush is to be commended for seeking a loving, spiritual community. I suspect this is what many are seeking amidst the corruption and selfishness often encountered in society today. That shelter from corruption and selfishness can be found in the refuge of Jesus. "Come unto me all who are weary and burdened, and I shall give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). I urge Christians to pray that all who are seeking, find a loving, spiritual community in the arms of Jesus. The Bible warns that in the end times false religions and even an attempt at a "Universal Religion" will arise. Christians, pray for the lost.

This event is a stark reminder that the time remaining for redemption grows short.

Debbie Austin  
Olean

## God knows what is best for us

In regard to the Unitarian Universalists article in the Sept. 22 edition, their social justice movements for rights of the homosexual, bisexual, etc. are wrong. These acts are an abomination to God. There is only one path to God, not many, they suggest. The path is to read the Bible and obey what it says.

God is a loving god, but he is also a god of wrath, and he is a jealous god. We do not pursue a path in a way that makes sense to us — we must obey God and do things his way.

America needs to return to and grow in the knowledge of God. He is our creator. He knows what is best for us.

Kurt and Lois Pfaff  
Allegany

10/14/09

## Tolerance of religious ideas

If, as some believe, God commanded us to love one another, and he imbued us with a free will and questioning minds, why must some people disparage other's choice of religion?

Unitarian Universalists live by the principle of respect for the worth and dignity of all human beings while believing in the freedom of religious expression and its ethical application.

We also believe in tolerance of all religious ideas, regardless of our own philosophies.

Richard Kraus  
Olean