Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship PO Box 1578 New London, NH 03257 603 526-8213 www.kuufnh.org

#### November 2015

Minister: Rev. William E. Nelson Guest Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton

President: Henry Howell

Director of Religious Education: Donna Peirce

RE Teacher:

Music Director: Martha Woodward

Unitarian Universalists affirm the worth and dignity of all human beings and advocate freedom of belief and an open search for truth.

The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship meets weekly on Sundays at 11:00 AM in the Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy in Andover

#### **KUUF Calendar**

Sunday, November 1	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM	
Sunday, November 1	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson	
Friday, November 6	Movie Night – 7:00 PM – "The Blue	
	Butterfly" at Bettie Howard's	
Sunday, November 8	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM	
Sunday, November 8	Speaker: Rev. Andrew Moeller -	
	"Dreams By the Side of the Road"	
Thursday, November 12	Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at Ken	
	Preston's	
Sunday, November 15	Book Discussion – 9:30 AM – "This	
	Changes Everything" by Naomi Klein	
	(Part II)	
Sunday, November 15	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson	
Sunday, November 22	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM	
Sunday, November 22	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – "You	
	Gotta Do With What You Got", talents,	
	gifts, abilities used/wasted	
Sunday, November 29	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM	
Sunday, November 29	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson	





#### The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Newsletter Minister's Missive – November 2015

The multitude of the sick shall not make us deny the existence of health. In spite of our imbecility and terrors, and "universal decay of religion," etc., etc., the moral sense reappears today with the same morning newness that has been from of old the fountain of beauty and grace. — Ralph Waldo Emerson

I'm sure I not alone in feeling a little apprehensive whenever I pick up newspaper these days. These are difficult times. Tensions are high around the globe. People who pay attention are pretty anxious, and they probably should be. But if there's any consolation, it may come by acknowledging the fact that the world has never really been a place that's even vaguely resembled a Utopian dream. Learning from history is not something to which human beings are terribly inclined.

Nevertheless, people who *care* can still *hope*, can't we? Especially we liberal religious people, whose shared calling includes the desire to work ardently for Peace on Earth, as opposed to Pie in the Sky. The important thing is to keep at it, and not get discouraged. As we begin the month that towards its end will usher in the Holiday Season, I'd like to offer up three watchwords that might be guide us in the weeks ahead.

The first of these is <u>faith</u>. Nobody can tell UUs *what* to *believe*, but I think we can agree that we're bound together by something wonderful and mysterious that transcends our diverse concerns and priorities. It's this shared orientation that makes us who we are, and binds us together for the comfort, encouragement, and *courage* to keep on the path to knowledge – and for some, maybe even wisdom. Our shared faith may not be the easiest to articulate, but it's what keeps our heads above ground, and we're grateful for it.

<u>Courage</u>, as referred to above, is my second word of choice. We all know that while few things in life are certain, each of us needs to go on making decisions and choices that reflect, if not certainty, at least a *certitude* that's a reflection of the confidence our faith brings. Through the fellowship we share, we know we can walk confidently into the future, putting fear aside (or at least dealing with fear with the dignity afforded those who know who they are).

The third watchword I'd like to suggest is <u>patience</u>, something of which many of us have too little. None of us gets very far, whether in spiritual matters or just plain dealing with life, if we're unable to hang on. Good things usually take time. The important thing is to *remember* – to draw on a past that gives us strength for the present. And the present, you know, is really all we ever have. As we're drawn into November, with all its mystery and beauty, may each of us be thankful for what we have. Best wishes, and see you in church! *Bill* 

## ROOTS

By Henry Howell



This little light of ours, We're going to make it shine...

#### THE TWO YEAR TIME LIMIT TAKES ITS TOLL

"Subject to the express and fundamental condition that should the Congregational Unitarian Society fail for a period of two years to use said premises for Unitarian worship and purposes properly incidental thereto substantially in accordance with the usual custom of Unitarians of which the Directors of the American Unitarian Association shall be the judges, then and in that case the premises hereby conveyed shall absolutely vest in the American Unitarian Association, it successors and assigns."

Thus wrote Bostonian dowager Harriet Otis Cruft in 1910 in her deed for the new Unitarian chapel on the town green as her gift to the Congregational-Unitarian Society of Andover, New Hampshire.

The years ticked by with the church receiving energy and support from the Andover Ladies Industrial Society and eventually Women's Alliance. However, after World War II records of the 'Cruft' (now called 'Stone') Chapel's Sunday school show there was apparently no more Sunday school held after Mrs. Roy Holt's class in 1959, nor did the Women's Alliance have many Unitarians among its members.

Unitarianism was on the wane in the Andover region. The chapel shortly afterward ceased to hold Unitarian (or Universalist) services. From the strong religious roots of old "Yankee" New Englanders throughout the previous 300+ years, religion, politics, and culture had been intimately intertwined. Now the winds of societal thinking were changing along with different religious denominations moving into the Andover-New London area. It was the era of the Vietnam War, 'Hippies' and society "drop-outs". Bob Dylan and songs of protest were the rallying cry of the young "flower" generation.

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1967 a new property deed was drawn up:

"KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS ... that the Board of Trustees of Unitarian Universalist Association...successor to American Unitarian Association...have judged that the Congregational Unitarian Society of Andover, NH has failed, for a period of more than two years to use said premises for Unitarian worship...and that therefore title to said premises has accordingly reverted to the Unitarian Universalist Association"

What would the newly formed Unitarian Universalist Association<sup>2</sup> do as owner/caretaker of this small unused chapel in a small rural New England town?

Next month: An 'arrangement' is made with Proctor Academy

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> From the Quitclaim Deed, "Unitarian Universalist Association to Proctor Academy", Aug. 28, 1967 <sup>2</sup>Unitarians and Universalist joined together in 1961

#### **Host/Hostess "Duty" Assignments**

Sunday	Host/Hostess	Host/Hostess
November 1	Lois Magenau	Marcus Johnson
November 8	KUUF Luncheon*	
November 15	Cathy Todd	
November 22	Marion Allen	Martha Woodward
November 29	Amy Friedenberg	Liz & Tom Maloof
December 6	Fran Preston	Ken Preston
December 13	Libby Howell	Henry Howell
December 20	Loren Howard	Yvonne Howard
December 27	Lizzie Klingler	

\*This Sunday is a luncheon with the Franklin U.U. Fellowship. Sandwiches, desserts, coffee, tea, water will be provided. What side dish will you bring to this luncheon? Please bring enough for 10-15 people. There will be a sign-up sheet at church on Sunday mornings.



The Women's Meditation Group will meet on Wednesdays, November 11 and 25 at Fran Preston's, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. If you have any questions, please contact Sally Bergquist at 763-4098.

#### **KUUF Web Site**

Please check out the KUUF web site at <a href="www.kuufnh.org">www.kuufnh.org</a> for up-to-date information, recent sermons, calendar, etc. Jane Guise's September 13 sermon and Lou Botta's October 11 sermon are currently posted on the web site.



#### When is Your Birthday or Anniversary?

We want to acknowledge your birthday and anniversary, so write down your name and dates for these events on the papers that are left on the front table at KUUF on Sunday mornings. Each month the newsletter will post the current month's celebration dates...

Sally Bergquist - 763-4098 - salbob2@comcast.net Kathy Vashro - 938-5476 - jvashro@gmail.com

#### November Birthday

5<sup>th</sup>, Sara Smith 9<sup>th</sup> – Liz Maloof 16<sup>th</sup> – Don Bent 24<sup>th</sup> – Nancy Stone

## November Anniversary

30<sup>th</sup> – Lou Botta & Bill Hickey



## Don Bent's 90th Birthday Open House

Sunday, November 15 – 2:00 to 4:00 PM Hilltop Place Club House, New London

Please join us - Jane, Susie, Doug, & Cindy



AM

#### Book Discussion - November 15, 2015 - 9:30

This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate by Naomi Klein, 2014.

Forget everything you know about global warming. The really inconvenient truth is that it's not about carbon—it's about capitalism. In her most provocative book yet, Naomi Klein, author of the global bestsellers **The Shock Doctrine** and **No Logo**, tackles the most profound threat humanity has ever faced: the war our economic model is waging against the earth.

"This is the best book about climate change in a very long time – in large part because it is about much more. "
–Bill McKibben

This is our major Fall Book – 466 pages of essential reading – which we will divide into three discussions:

October 25 -- pages 1 - 187

November 15 -- pages 191 - 290

December 20 -- pages 291 - 466

This book is available in paperback or from your public library. Please join us for these discussions about this important topic.

Questions: Marion Allen - 526-6776 or

marion.lindsey.allen@gmail.com



#### 2015 FOOD PANTRY CAMPAIGN

**Note:** Paper products (paper towels and toilet paper) coffee (regular, decaf, and instant), and peanut butter and jelly are always welcome. Also do not forget pet products.



#### Thank You Crop Walk Donators & Walkers

On October 4 KUUF participated in the Church World Service's annual Crop Walk to End Hunger. We had a team of 9 walkers and contributed \$535.00 to provide some much needed assistance to our own community, while also helping disadvantaged people all around the world

After years of dwindling numbers, it was exciting to see so many people from different local churches turn out to participate in this Crop Walk. The result was a fantastic (record breaking) total collection of a little over \$10,600.00!!

Thank you again to everyone who walked, and everyone who made donations to sponsor our KUUF Team. You each play an important role in helping to eradicate hunger and poverty, and promote peace and justice among the world's most vulnerable people. Best Regards, Donna Peirce



#### POTLUCK DINNER

On Friday, October 2, Marie and I joined five others and our host for a KUUF Circle Dinner in New London. It was a lovely evening in every respect; the delicious food was lovingly prepared, the setting cozy and comfortable, and the conversation was a delight. But it was more than just those things, as pleasurable as they were. Writing about this evening brings to mind words from our Sunday Affirmation of Fellowship - "that we are not isolated beings but connected, in mystery and in miracle, to the universe, to this community, and to each other." Yes, we are connected, and in a most wonderful way at our KUUF circle dinners. I am so grateful to our dear KUUF friends that for this evening Marie and I were not "isolated beings". And when the time came for parting, we said our farewells with warm handshakes and hugs all around, which is just what Circle Dinners are all about.

Tom Graves



#### NOVEMBER 6 7:00 PM arrival Bring dessert and beverage to share

BETTIE HOWARD'S HOME – NEW LONDON (SLOPE AND SHORE)

46 Sugarhouse Rd

New London

526-7975

# BLUE BUTTERFLY 1 hour 37 minutes

The BLUE BUTTERFLY tells the extraordinary story of a 10 year old boy, diagnosed as terminally ill, whose dream is to catch the most beautiful butterfly on Earth, the mythic and elusive Blue Morpho. His mother persuades a renowned entomologist (William Hurt) to take them on a trip to the Costa Rican rain forest to search for the butterfly, leading to an adventure that will transform their lives.

Call Kathy Vashro 938 5476 or email jvashro @gmail.com

#### Directions:

Coming from Hannaford's toward New London center, take a left on to Pleasant Street; go to bottom of the long steep hill to PLEASANT LAKE INN sign; take left before going up little hill and before the inn; take second left onto Sugarhouse Rd; first house on the right.

#### Circle Dinner Thank You

As you all know, we had our very popular Circle Dinners on Friday, October 2. Based on comments made at our church service on the 4th, the dinners were a great success. Kathy's organizational skills and generosity with her time are two good reasons why. On behalf of all of you, Kathy and I would like to thank our wonderful hosts June Sherwood and Kent Goering, Sandy and Roger Wells and Kathy Vashro and Bettie Howard!

Lois and Kathy of your Social Committee.



"Guest at Your Table" is an annual fundraising and education program that supports UUSC's human rights work. Over the decades, Guest at Your Table has raised millions of dollars for human rights projects that have made a real difference in people's lives.

"This year Guest at Your Table highlights the empowerment of refugees and displaced people. One of UUSC's major focuses is serving the people who are most overlooked or discriminated against in the midst of humanitarian crises.

"As UUSC celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, we'll look back to our origin: Martha and Rev. Waitstill Sharp, helping European refugees escape persecution during World War II. We are excited to share several inspiring stories this year!

In recognition of our 75th anniversary, the top 75 congregations (either with top fundraising totals or having more than 75% member participation) will be included in our 75th anniversary time capsule. The capsule will be marked for opening in 2040 for our 100th anniversary.

"Guest at Your Table is designed to help participants learn about human rights issues and UUSC's unique approach to solving them. All Guest at Your Table gifts earn UUSC membership, so you'll continue to be part of our shared vision of a world free from oppression and injustice."

As we begin the program in November, you will hear about the programs Guest at Your Table will sponsor this year and how you can take part. I hope you will consider a contribution and do so in the name of the Congregation. You will become a member of the UUA, and KUUF will be credited as a sponsor of the UUSC. To learn more, check out: <a href="http://www.uusc.org/welcome-to-guest-at-your-table">http://www.uusc.org/welcome-to-guest-at-your-table</a>

Martha Woodward



Thanksgiving already? Well, hang onto your hats because Christmas is around the corner and it's almost time for our Celebration of the Season. Meredith & Doug Smith at Livingstone Lodge in Enfield will again open their home to welcome everyone to celebrate together...Save the date of Saturday, December 12. (Time and directions will follow)

<u>Kathy Vashro</u> has offered to help Meredith in the planning, Kathy will make her list and check it twice and let us know details. For now, Happy Thanksgiving to All,



#### November 8 Service

We are delighted to welcome both the Rev. Andrew Moeller of the Laconia, NH, UU church AND members of the Franklin Church for a very special joint congregational service Sunday, November 8. Rev. Moeller is newly ordained by the Unitarian Universalist Association. He has spent time in Haiti helping out earthquake victims and will be giving a PowerPoint presentation for us after the service -- and luncheon! -- in the chapel.

Please join us at the Stone Chapel in Andover, for this special service and in welcoming both Rev. Andrew Moeller and our "sister" church group from Franklin.



## It's that Elfin' Time of Year Again!

This year KUUF will once again be participating in the Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice "2015 Kearsarge Community Christmas Project." The VNA is collecting Christmas Wish Lists from local families who are experiencing significant financial difficulties this holiday season. The children of each family are encouraged to list items of clothing they need as well as toys or gift items they would enjoy.

KUUF will be working to fill the Christmas Wish Lists of some of these local children in need. The Social Concerns Committee will be collecting donations toward this project during Coffee Hour each Sunday from November 6 through December 8. Your contributions will mean a great deal to these families right here in our neighborhood, which may not have a very Merry Christmas without your help.

Thank you! Amy Dressler



### Parking at Proctor

Proctor has asked KUUF to park in the maintenance parking lot in the back of the church or to the left of the Maxwell Savage Hall. We can continue to use the small parking area over to the left of the Chapel, just off the circle – about 5 or 6 spaces. However, we should make them available for those who may have a problem walking from the other parking lots. There are maps of Proctor available. They will be on the table as you enter the Chapel on Sundays.

Activist and World Affairs Correspondent Dr. Joseph Gerson Presents 'Nuclear MADness for Power and Profit'

Wednesday, November 4 – Wheeler Hall, Ware Student Center, 7:00 PM

Dr. Joseph Gerson of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) discusses his views on nuclear weapon abolition and alternatives to militarization. Drawing on experiences in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as his participation in several international conferences and summits on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons, Dr. Gerson will explain environmental, economic and social justice issues surrounding U.S. nuclear spending; the political and geopolitical history of nuclear attacks; the diplomatic isolation of the U.S. and the other nuclear powers; and the effectiveness of nuclear disarmament movements and initiatives.

Dr. Gerson has served on the AFSC since 1976 and is currently disarmament coordinator, director of programs and director of the Peace and Economic Security Program for New England. A long-time peace and justice advocate, Dr. Gerson established Peace and Planet and the Working Group for Peace and Demilitarization in Asia and the Pacific. His books include Empire and the Bomb: How the U.S. Uses Nuclear Weapons to Dominate the World; With Hiroshima Eyes: Atomic War, Nuclear Extortion and Moral Imagination; The Sun Never Sets...Confronting the Network of U.S. Foreign Military Bases and The Deadly Connection: Nuclear War and U.S. Intervention. Free and open to the public.

(Joe was Jane Guise's supervisor for the 13 years she worked at the American Friends Service committee. He is a powerful speaker.)