

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

December 2016 & January 2017

Assisting Ministers: Rev. Dick Dutton & Guests

President: Henry Howell

Director of Religious Education:

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

Saturday, December 3	Holiday Party – 5:30 PM
Sunday, December 4	Martha Woodward & the KUUF Choir – “Noel Everywhere”
Thursday, December 8	Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at Sally Bergquist’s
Sunday, December 11	Book Discussion – 9:30 AM - “The Seven Daughters of Eve: The Science that Reveals Our Genetic Ancestry”
Sunday, December 11	Speaker: Tom Graves’ Holiday Family Service
Sunday, December 18	Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM
Sunday, December 18	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – “Room in the Inn”
Saturday, December 24	Candlelight Service – 4:00 PM
Sunday, January 1	Speaker: Marion Allen – “In Celebration of Oscar Wilde”
Sunday, January 8	Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM
Sunday, January 8	Speaker: Rev. Emily Burr
Sunday, January 15	Book Discussion – 9:30 AM – “Healing the Heart of Democracy”
Sunday, January 15	Speaker: Olivia Carle
Sunday, January 22	Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM
Sunday, January 22	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – “What Would Jesus/M.L. King Do?”
Sunday, January 29	Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM
Sunday, January 29	CREDO Service

Thoughts from the KUUF Congregation

HOW NOT WHY

How often, when something terrible happens do we say to ourselves, *“why me?”* Or when we are bit low, do we ask ourselves, *“why am I here, what does God want of me, or why have I been abandoned?”* These are the wrong questions because there are no answers and so they are not helpful in resolving our angst, our anger, or our pain. Part of the problem is that there is a bit too much hubris in these questions. They assume that only we have been created in God’s image and that we are the pinnacle of creation. If God created everything why wouldn’t everything be of value? And if everything has value, shouldn’t the question be *“how should I live my life?”* Shouldn’t we all be concerned with how we treat all things of creation? Would a better, more humble question be *“how well am I following the plan for all things?”* As a member of the community of things both living and not, how do I participate in the bigger plan?

Roger Wells for KUUF



Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays

5th – Betty Williamson

7th – Earl Abbe

15th – Lois Magenau

January Birthdays

7th – Sandy Wells

8th – Jane Guise

13th – Bob Bergquist

17th – Tom Maloof

January Anniversary

26th – Lizzie & Donn Klingler



Sunday Coffee-Time

Host/Hostess Assignments

Sunday	Host/Hostess	Host/Hostess
December 4	Liz Maloof	Tom Maloof
December 11	Sandy Wells	Roger Wells
December 18	Susan Nellen	Yvonne & Loren Howard
December 24	TBD	TBD
January 1		
January 8	Fran Preston	Ken Preston
January 15	Libby Howell	Henry Howell
January 22		
January 2		

If you would like to host/hostess with a person who is already on the coffee-time list, please contact them to work together for that Sunday. Kathy Vashro – 938-5476 – jvashro@gmail.com



Book Discussions

December 11, 2016 - 9:30 AM

The Seven Daughters of Eve: The Science that Reveals Our Genetic Ancestry
by Bryan Sykes, 2001

Where do I come from? How often have you asked yourself that question?

We may know our parents and grandparents; but beyond that, for most of us, the trail begins to disappear into the mist. But each of us carries a message from our ancestors in every cell of our body. It is our DNA, the genetic material that is handed down for generations. Within the DNA is written, not only our histories as individuals, but the whole history of the human race.

Sykes reveals how the identification of a particular strand of DNA that passes unbroken through the maternal line allows us to trace our genetic makeup all the way back to prehistoric times – to seven primeval women, “The Seven Daughters of Eve”.

Please join us for the discussion even if you have not read the book.

January 15, 2017

Healing the Heart of Democracy: The Courage to Create a Politics Worthy of the Human Spirit, parker J. Palmer, 2011

The book we need for recovering the heart –the very core – of ourselves and our democracy. – Krista Tippett, host of *On Being*, Am Public Media

For those of us who want to see democracy survive and thrive the heart is where everything begins. At this critical moment in American Life, Palmer looks with realism and hope at how to deal with our political tensions for the sake of the common good.

Building on his decades of social activism he points the way to a politics rooted in the community still found among “We the People...”. Democracy is a nonstop experiment in the strength and weaknesses of our political institutions.

Other good reads ...

Oil and Honey: The Education of an Unlikely Activist, Bill McKibben, 2013
The founder of 350.org tells of his fight for a more sustainable planet and raising one year’s honey crop in the Champlain Valley of Vermont.

The Year 1000: What Life was Like (in England) at the turn of the first Millennium, Robert Lacey & Danny Danziger, 1999



WELCOMING COMMITTEE

THANK YOU TO ALL!

We, as a congregation, have completed the suggested UUA guidelines to apply for official status as a Welcoming Church. We voted on changing our by-laws and mission statement. We got involved by reading articles and creating a LBGTQ album, we attended workshops and PRIDE parades and all of you on a weekly basis heard past, current, future news concerning the LBGTQ communities. We heard speakers from PFLAG, a father explaining his son's coming out, listened to other speaker's thoughts on accepting and affirming. Prior to Bill Nelson's retirement, he married Lou Botta and Bill Hickey, and we watched Defying the Nazi's: The Sharp's War, giving us ideas of 'what would we do about going against oppression'? More to follow.

We plan on becoming an official Welcoming Congregation in 2017.

THANK YOU TO ALL



2016 FOOD PANTRY CAMPAIGN

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.



Meditation

The Women's Meditation Group will meet on Tuesdays, December 6 and January 3 and 17 at Fran Preston's from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. If you have any questions, please contact Sally Bergquist at 763-4098 or Fran Preston at 526-9623.



Martha Woodward will be collecting the Guest at Your Table contributions, both boxes and envelopes, in December, hopefully before Christmas! If you are writing a check, please write it for the Guest at Your Table program and note that you are a member of the KUUF. Martha will keep a tally of our gifts and send the total to the UUSC Guest program.



Social Activities

Activity to be announced for January.



On December 4, the KUUF Choir will perform "Noel Everywhere", including seasonal songs from different countries. There will be a flute trio with Martha Woodward, Barbara Heggie, and Ellen Guise (Jane's daughter).

Please note there will be a candlelight service on Saturday, December 24, at 4:00 PM, and no service on Christmas day, the 25th.

KUUF HOLIDAY PARTY



Saturday, December 3
(Snow date – December 10)

Social hour 5:30 to 6:30

Pot Luck Dinner @ 6:30

Home of Sally and Bob Bergquist
101 Summit View Road, New London

Sign up at church or contact Kathy Vashro @
jvashro@gmail.com or 938-5476

Appetizer, Main Dish, Salad, Dessert
to serve 8 to 10 people

Non-alcoholic punch provided

Anything stronger-BYOB

Ride sharing available with advanced sign-up.

Kids and grown-ups all welcome!

"Gird Thyself" a poem by Jessica York, Director of the
Faith Development office of the Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship

This is not a prayer that you may find hope

For hope is a luxury that some cannot find and others cannot afford

This is not a prayer that you find more love in the world

Though I hope you continue to feel love and send love to those near and
far

I pray instead that you may find tools

A hammer lying half-hidden in the grass

A roll of duct tape, curled up and forgotten on a high shelf in the back of
the closet

A wrench poking out of the back pocket of a stranger

Take these tools and gird thyself

A hammer for justice

Duct tape to hold together your broken heart

A wrench to “grip and provide advantage in applying torque to turn
objects” – or turn the world

Take these tools and others you may find in places expected and
unexpected

Take these tools and gird thyself

For weeping may last through the night

But the work begins in the morning.