

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

March 2016

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

Sunday, March 6	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, March 6	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson
Thursday, March 10	Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at Jane Guise’s
Sunday, March 13	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, March 13	Speaker: Diane Root
Sunday, March 20	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, March 20	Speaker: Bill Nelson
Sunday, March 27	Book Discussion – 9:30 AM – “All the Light We Cannot See”
Sunday, March 27	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – “Hope”



Minister's Missive – March 2016

Spring's Promise

Today I went out. It smelled, it felt, it
Sensed spring. I had for the first time faith
– not intellectual belief, but a sudden
feeling of turning tide. “Yes, there will be
spring.”

– Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Okay, okay – I know! In northern New England March may be a little too early to start speaking of spring. But with the oddness of the weather from December through February, a little anticipation of what's to come certainly can't hurt. And, furthermore, over the past several weeks my morning walk with Hubbard (our greyhound), we've been serenaded by neighborhood birds' staking out their territories – wonderful songs, filled with promise.

The return of spring is a wonderful metaphor for the hope that's imbedded deep within the hearts of human beings. We are creatures who, even in the presence of seemingly insurmountable odds, keep looking for the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel (even if the tunnel is infested with the absurd ranting of political candidates) We still look for signs of hope.

Religious communities throughout history, of course, have been built on hope, and faith traditions have historically followed the cyclical, agrarian/seasonal calendar. The Western religions most of us know best place their major transitional celebrations in parallel alignment with the winter solstice and the vernal equinox – darkness to light, winter to spring; cycles of life to which every one of us can relate.

And relate we shall, as we who gather on Sundays, sit on committees, greet one another “around town” – and otherwise continue our journey of faith and hope as individuals, and as a congregation.

“See you in church!” *Bill*

“Always be on the lookout

For the presence of wonder.” - *E.B. White*

ROOTS

By Henry Howzell



This little light of ours,
We're going to make it shine...
(THOSE) WHO CARE FOR THE STONE CHAPEL

Last month in the 'ROOTS' article series it appeared Proctor Academy was somewhat less than enthusiastic about their requirement to have a Unitarian/[Universalist] congregation provide regular Sunday services at the Stone Chapel. Perhaps two renovations of the building over the past sixty years show a shifting attitude of the academy from a more religious oriented school to its current very non-sectarian character. --

The year was 1954 when the trustees of the then Unitarian fellowship published the following announcement:

"A New England village church is a community center for the people regardless of religious beliefs. The Andover Church has served this town for forty years [*since the chapel was built in 1910*]...We have one of the largest and best Sunday Schools in the state[!], the Woman's Alliance meets regularly, occasional church suppers are held for charity, the hot lunches for the Andover High and Lower Schools make use of the kitchen and dining rooms, clubs and lodges use the facilities,...on Tuesday evening Proctor holds a chapel service... Our church is far from inactive, and has been this busy for nearly half the century.

"As our village [*Andover*] grew smaller, the parish found that it could no longer raise the annual budget...to pay a minister a living wage and maintain the church and parsonage. The American Unitarian Association and Proctor...are...paying the minister, maintaining the parsonage, lighting and heating the church and caring for the grounds. Nevertheless the church is still very much the property of the village society. "...The trustees propose to redecorate the inside of the church. Mrs. Audrey Phelps, President of the Alliance...has plans...to ask the High School...to donate some carpentry, and Proctor...to help by replacing the ceiling in the supper room."¹

Six decades later, the Stone Chapel was again in need of upkeep and repairs. This time, however, Proctor Academy had shed its Unitarian traditions and also was paying all the expenses for the building. As a courtesy, it invited a KUUF member (Donn Klingler) to serve on the renovation committee, but was fairly firm on having the chapel serve Proctor's educational needs more than that of a religious society. Most significantly, it eliminated both kitchen & dining rooms and required all UU banners, displays, Sunday school supplies, etc. be removed to closets, except for several hours on Sunday mornings.

These two Stone Chapel renovations are a portrait of institutional needs and attitudes changing over the decades. What do you think the *next* 60 years might bring in Stone Chapel's 'marriage' between Proctor Academy and the Unitarian Universalists?...

NEXT: THE INDUSTRY OF THE LADIES INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

¹ Report of Unitarian Society of Andover, 1954. From the archives of Don Bent

Host/Hostess Assignments

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>
March 6	Marie Graves	Tom Graves
March 13	Fran Preston	Ken Preston
March 20	Libby Howell	Henry Howell
March 27	Lizzie Klingler	Donn Klingler
April 3		
April 10	Sally Bergquist	Bob Bergquist
April 17		
April 24		

Instructions for Hosts and Hostesses have been changed. They now only have to supply refreshments for Coffee Hour and participate in the Order of Service (Lighting of the Chalice, etc.) If you have any questions, please ask Liz Maloof or Sally Bergquist for clarification.



Meditation

The Women's Meditation Group will meet on Tuesday's March 1 and 15th 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.



2016 FOOD PANTRY CAMPAIGN

Suggested Donations for Area Churches

March – Cereal, peanut butter, & jelly

April – Hearty soups & stews

Note: coffee (regular, decaf, & instant) and monetary donations are always welcome. Monetary donations can be made to: KLS Community Food Pantry, PO Box 536, New London, NH 03257.



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

March Birthdays

1st – Loren Howard

March Anniversary

22nd – Donna & Mark Peirce



Guest at Your Table

Total contributions from members of the KUUF for the UUSC Guest at Your Table program were \$413. One member's gift of \$125 qualified for a matching grant, making our total \$538. Congratulations and thank you.

Martha Woodward



Book Discussion – March 27 – 9:30 AM

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, 2014

Marie-Laurie is twelve when the Nazis occupy Paris. She and her father flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo by the sea with the most valuable jewel from the Museum of Natural History. Marie-Laurie has been blind since she was six.

Werner, a German orphan, was schooled at the brutal academy for Hitler Youth. His talent wins him a place to track the resistance in France which leads him finally to Saint –Malo , where his story and Marie-Laurie’s converge.

Ten years in the writing, this Pulitzer Prize winner, illustrates the ways that people try to be good to one another.

All are welcome to our book discussions even if you did not read the book. Please join us.

Books for consideration for April and beyond.

ISIS Apocalypse: The History, Strategy, And Doomsday Version of the Islamic State by William McCants, 2015

A Cup of Water Under My Bed : A Memoir Daisy Hernandez, 2014

Salt: A World History by Mark Kurlansky, 2002

Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng, 2014

Questions: Marion Allen -

marion.lindsey.allen@gmail.com 526-6776

It's Pledge Drive Time!

In just one month you will be getting your pledge packet from KUUF, for the church year beginning July 1!

As always, we will need YOUR help if we are to not just continue, but strengthen our role as a Unitarian Universalist haven for freethinking people.

We at KUUF need each other, and the world needs us, now more than ever!

Details of our pledge drive will follow. With your help we can make this coming year a great one!

Tom Maloof - Finance Committee Chair



Social Activities

Once again by popular demand, Circle Dinners are in our plans for March. More Information and a sign-up sheet will be available on Sunday, March 6.

If you would like to attend a dinner please sign up on Sunday. If you would like to host one, you can make a note of that on the signup sheet. Don't feel that you have to host! Not everyone is able or wants to do it but don't let that stop you from coming to a dinner. All are welcome! We usually keep the number of guests to 6 or 8 PER HOST, making no more than 8 or 10 at the host's table. So sign up on Sunday or call Lois Magenau 735-5637 or 387-0360 or Kathy Vashro 208-440-1855.

