

Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
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May 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, May 1	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, May 1	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson
Sunday, May 8	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, May 8	Speaker: Tom Graves
Sunday, May 15	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, May 15	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson
Thursday, May 19	Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at Ken Preston’s
Sunday, May 22	Book Discussion – 9:30 AM - “The Basque History of the World”
Sunday, May 22	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – “It’s Not Easy Being Green”, different, struggling to belong, victims, etc.
Sunday, May 29	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, May 29	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson



Minister's Missive – May 2016

It is not enough to be busy; so are the ants. The question is: What are they busy about? – Henry David Thoreau

... it is the disease of not listening, the malady of not marking, that I am troubled withal.

– Sir John Falstaff to the Lord Chief Justice, in William Shakespeare's *Henry the Fourth, Part II*

Regardless of where we are on life's path, most of us are most content when we're *busy*. We like to have something to *do*. Some of us may have too much to do, of course, and some not enough. It would be nice to have something right in the middle – just the *right amount* to do. But such a circumstance is rare, or at least it seems so. Either we're bombarded by too much busyness, or we're bemoaning the fact that there's not enough. Somewhere in the middle is where we want to be. But how? How do we make that happen?

I'm going to suggest that one of the ways we can at least help make that happen is something we do every Sunday (at least ten months of the year), join together in worship. I suggest this because I look at worship as a time to set everything else aside and open ourselves to the very depths of our being. It's a time for *listening* – or *marking*, as Falstaff puts it in Shakespeare's Elizabethan English. And I don't mean listening just to what just anybody has to say, but listening to that "still, small voice" that speaks from within, when we've had enough of the world's noisy clamor.

The word, "worship" is itself derived from the same root that gives us the words worth, worthy, and worthwhile. To "worship" is to ascribe value to something, and I'm of the opinion that such an ascription is immensely appropriate for what we do as a community of faith and hope, which is to gather in one another's company to deal with life's most intense, meaningful issues. "Who are we?" for example. "What are we doing on this earth?" "Is there meaning in life?" "And how shall we live the lives we live?" These are the questions that define us as human beings, and they're the questions that form the very basis of humankind's being drawn to religious expressions.

When in our worship we immerse ourselves in the great mysteries of life, we do so in recognition that all of humanity is bound together in community; we see that our individual pursuits notwithstanding, we share a common lot in seeking all the meaning and integrity that our inner worlds demand, but that can't be found in solitary pursuit alone. When we worship we bring our imperfections and disappointments with us, as well as our qualities, achievements, and aspirations. In other words we bring ourselves, just as we are, in pursuit and celebration of who we can be. This is important, and I'm grateful to be in your company on the journey. Best wishes, *Bill*



Becoming a Welcoming Congregation

You may ask... Isn't KUUF already a "Welcoming Congregation"?

We may assume we are but since 1987 the UUA has a formal process of educating everyone to think about what this designation means.

There is no one way to run a program. It is meant to be created by a team to suit the needs of our congregation. We get to design a unique program to answer the question of how to intentionally welcome individuals and families of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

- A first step might be to pass a resolution at the Annual Meeting to begin this process.
- A second action would be to make sure that our bylaws address both sexual preferences and gender identity in terms of non-discrimination.

Please visit the UUA website - uua.org/lgbt/welcoming/program to learn more about becoming a welcoming congregation.

Namaste! Your Welcoming Congregation Committee

Marion Allen Henry Howell Lou Botta
Kathy Vashro Bill Hickey



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

May Birthdays

24 -Donn Klingler

2016 Pledge Drive Update

The goal for the 2016 pledge drive is \$ 36,800.

As of April 22, 2016 we have received 21 pledges for \$22,590. We have lost several of our members in the last year as they have moved away so we need to be as generous as possible. Many thanks to those who have pledged and extra thanks to those that have increased their pledges.

Please send in your pledges if you haven't done so already so we can be ready for the Annual Meeting.

Thanks, Ken Preston- Treasurer

Breakdown of received pledges:

- ♣ 10 Same amount as last year
- ♣ 8 Increased amount totaling \$2880
- ♣ 2 Decreased amount
- ♣ 1 New Pledge



Save the Date

The yearly concert to benefit KUUF will be on June 17 at 7:30 in the Stone Chapel.

Martha Woodward will be joined by local cellist Donna Denniston, and Joyce Painter Rice, Music Director of the Kennebunk, Me, UCC church, playing piano and harpsichord.

The concert will feature music of Handel, Bach, Vinci, Foote, Bridge, Ravel, Rachmaninov, and more!

A reception will follow the concert.

Host/Hostess Assignments

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>
May 1	Lou Botta	Bill Hickey
May 9	Marion Allen	Nancy Stone
May 15		
May 22		
May 29		
June 5		
June 12		
June 19		
June 26		



Meditation

The Women's Meditation Group will meet on Tuesday's May 3 and 17th 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

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.

Annual Meeting Day - June 5, 2016 Luncheon/Extended Coffee

Liz Maloof is coordinating food/coffee hour for June 5. She will be building a light luncheon around sandwiches that will be provided. If anyone would like to help by contributing some special goodie, fruit, cheese, deviled eggs you can contact her at Tele: 526-9889 or email: lizzijo48@gmail.com



**The North Country Chordsmen
Performed at KUUF on Sunday, April 10, 2016**



Book Discussion - May 22, 2016 - 9:30 AM

The Basque History of the World by Mark Kurlansky, 1999

The Basques are a mythical people, almost an imagined people writes Kurlansky. Living in seven provinces in a small corner of Spain and France in a land that is marked on no maps except their own, straddling the rugged Pyrenees Mountains, the Basques are a puzzling contradiction – they are Europe’s oldest nation without ever having been a country. Signs of their civilization existed well before the arrival of the Romans in 218 B.C., and though theories abound, no one has ever been able to determine their origins. Their ancient tongue, Euskera, is equally mysterious: it is the oldest living European language, and is related to no other language on earth. The Basques, despite their small numbers, 2.4 million, have had a profound impact on Europe and the world for 2000 years. The unique Basque concept of nationhood has never been more relevant, at a time when Basques are enjoying what may be the most important cultural renaissance in their long existence.

Join us for a journey with Kurlansky who has returned there annually for the past twenty-five years.

Books for consideration.

Islam: A Short History by Karen Armstrong, 2000

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

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates, 2015

Salt: A World History by Mark Kurlansky, 2002

Questions: Marion Allen - marion.lindsey.allen@gmail.com 526-6776



MEMBERSHIP CEREMONY

**We have 3 new members and another
MEMBERSHIP CEREMONY
is happening before the end of the season!!!!**

- ♣ **Are you a KUUF friend and want to become a member?**
- ♣ **Are you a member and didn't have a ceremony and want to have a ceremony?**
- ♣ **Are you a member that had a ceremony and you want to reinstate your commitment to KUUF?**

**Please contact Kathy Vashro 928-5476
or jvashro@gmail.com**



ROOTS

By Henry Howzell



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

THE ALLIANCE GAINS & THE INDUSTRIAL LADIES WANE

Mrs. Emily Carr was the first president of the Andover Unitarian Ladies Industrial Society (L.I.S.). Mrs. Lyman Clark was so several years later, and eventually Mrs. W.S. Carr, and Mrs. Ella Carr became president in the 1920's. However, these four women among others also served prominently in the Andover Women's Alliance. As you may recall, the L.I.S. and Alliance had an uneasy relationship, with the two groups joining and then parting several times and each refusing to give up their respective association names.

When the two groups separated permanently in 1901, they apparently remained (awkwardly?) parallel organizations working with the Andover Unitarian church. For various unstated reasons and despite this overlapping of some of their group presidents, the L.I.S. membership began to wane and the Alliance's continued to increase. Shortly after World War II Helen Phelps, president of the L.I.S. wrote:

"To the Trustees of the Andover Unitarian Church... For some time back, the attendance at our meeting has been barely enough to transact business...Some of our members have worked for many years in the Society and although the spirit is as willing and loyal as ever, the body is not able to carry on...It is a sad truth that most of our members...are unable physically to serve on active committees. It was hoped that the younger generation would take our places or that new families coming into town would help us carry on, but although this has been solicited you well know the result."¹ The last gift to the Unitarian congregation made by the Ladies Industrial Society 1949 was 50 metal chairs costing \$200, and then they were no more.

During the late 1950's the Alliance had its own internal divisions, however, because some of its members "felt there was no need, no further purpose to be served by a Unitarian women's society in Andover."² Fortunately a non-sectarian Community Service Club had been formed in Andover, enabling these disgruntled non-Unitarian ladies to join and carry on community service

¹ "Religious History of Andover Center", from the Journals of Helen Phelps, date? pg. 21

² & ³ "Report of the President of the Women's Alliance", Amy Cochran, May 15, 1958

separately from the church. "The forming of the Community Service Club happily left us free to have once more a definitely Unitarian organization", declared Amy Cochran, president of the Alliance in May 15,1958.³ Primarily a discussion group on Unitarianism, they also continued to be the strong administrative arm of the church. --Until the next decade...

NEXT: THE MELTING OF AN ANDOVER SOCIAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL ICON

PLEDGE DRIVE LIMERICK CONTEST HAS TWO WINNERS!

The Finance Committee couldn't decide between a simple yet profound little poem, or a clever limerick. Both were "on point" and worthy. So, after making sure Bob Bergquist would be willing to make two prizes, (he is) both were declared winners! Here they are:



Loren Howard	Don Bent
It's a season to love.	There is an old man name of Bent.
It's a season to live.	To KUUF he went.
Your love is manifest	They needed more dough
In what you give.	To keep on with the show
	So Bent raised the check that he sent!

Congratulations to our winners! Their joy will be manifest as they eat Baba au Rhum cake (and also as they realize they have helped us all focus on how important it is that we pledge as generously as we can!)



Yard Sale - May 28 7:30am - 12:30pm

It's time for another KUUF Yard Sale!! It's scheduled to take place on May 28, 2016, at the home of Bob and Sally Bergquist. This is our primary fundraiser, and everyone's help and participation is needed. Thank you to all who have already signed up to help. However, there are still empty spaces on our signup sheet!! So, please take some time on Sunday to look over the signup sheet and put your name in a box to help before, during and for cleanup. One of our goals is to leave the Bergquist's home as we found it!!

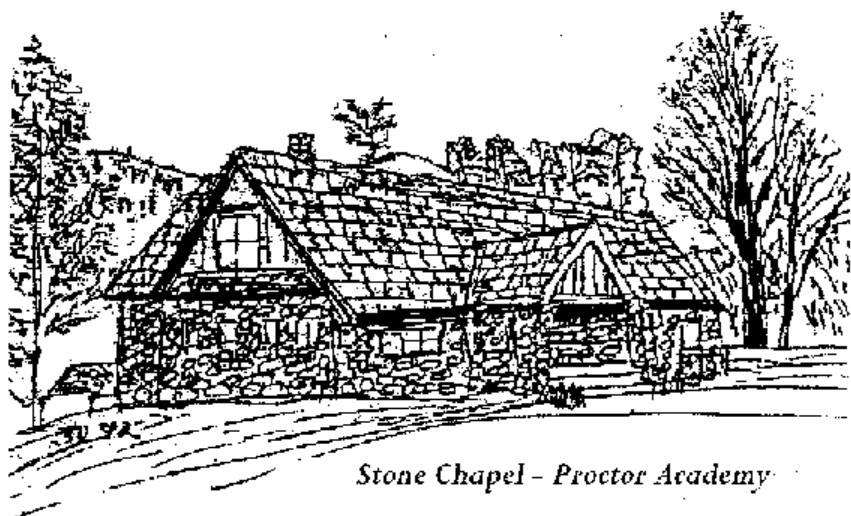
What we need to collect:

- Furniture, especially occasional chairs, tables, desks, bookcases and lamps
(Avoid upholstered furniture; it's hard to sell...)
- Usable tools
- Sports equipment (but not badly worn or outmoded stuff)
- Toys
- Books
- Knick-knacks
- Linens
- Jewelry

What NOT to donate: old TV's, other old electronics, clothes and children's car seats. These don't sell well, pose potential liability problems and are a burden to dispose of after the sale.

Items can be delivered directly to Sally and Bob beginning May 21. Please call first to make sure someone is home, but feel free to leave it on their front porch if you like. If you need to drop off donations prior to May 21, call Tom & Liz Maloof, but no large furniture please. We will also be selling baked goods at the yard sale. Lois Magenau will be coordinating this effort. We would also like to sell plants, but this will be contingent upon someone volunteering to organize it.

With everyone's help this will be a successful fundraiser. Thank you. Regards, Donna Peirce



Stone Chapel - Proctor Academy