

Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
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www.kuufnh.org

June 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, June 5	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, June 5	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson – Annual Meeting following service
Thursday, June 9	Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at Henry Howell’s
Sunday, June 12	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, June 12	Speaker: Betsy Woodman
Friday, June 17	Concert for flute, cello, harpsichord, and piano – 7:30 PM
Sunday, June 19	Adult Lecture Series – 9:30 AM
Sunday, June 19	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – “Samtusta”
Sunday, June 26	Book Group Discussion – 9:30 AM – “Islam”
Sunday, June 26	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson



Minister's Missive – June 2016

Dear members and friends of the Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship,

In this Minister's Missive of June, 2016, I'm writing to let you know that, after weeks and weeks of thought and planning, I'm retiring from my position as Consulting Minister at KUUF on June 30th, the end of this fiscal year. After eight years among you, with all we've shared in those eight years, it's difficult for me to imagine not being part of your lives, but at the same time, I'm convinced that this is the right time for this particular ministry to become history.

After the forty years of my ordained ministry, Stephanie and I are in full agreement that this is the time to take this step. Our lives are not going to change terribly much: We'll stay in our home, keep our friends, travel a bit, do things we've talked about doing over our forty-six years of marriage, and just see what adventures lie ahead as they come along.

Meanwhile, we have the month of June ahead of us, and I have two more sermons coming up: June 5th and June 26th. I'll look forward to seeing you on those two Sundays. *Bill*





Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>June Birthdays</u>	<u>June Anniversaries</u>
6 th – Roger Wells	1 st - Betsy & Earl Abbe
16 th – Susan Crickman	
<u>July Birthdays</u>	<u>July Anniversaries</u>
20 th – Marion Allen	21 st – Kathy & Jim Vashro
21 st – Jim Vashro	
<u>August Birthdays</u>	<u>August Anniversaries</u>
14 th – Marcus Johnson	24 th – Bob & Sally Bergquist
15 th – Yvonne Howard	
16 th – Libby Howell	
16 th – Ken Preston	

Host/Hostess Assignments

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>	<u>Host/Hostess</u>
June 5	Annual Meeting	Annual Meeting
June 12	Libby Howell	Henry Howell
June 19	Sandy Wells	Roger Wells
June 26	Lois Magenau	Marcus Johnson



Meditation

The Women's Meditation Group will meet on Tuesday's June 7 and 21st 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.



Book Discussion

June 26, 2016 - 9:30 AM

ISLAM: A Short History by Karen Armstrong, 2000

No religion in the modern world is as feared and misunderstood as Islam. It haunts the popular Western imagination as an extreme faith that promotes authoritarian government, female oppression, civil war, and terrorism. Karen Armstrong's short history offers a vital corrective to this narrow view. This distillation of years of thinking and writing about Islam demonstrates that the world's fastest growing faith is a much richer and more complex faith than its modern fundamentalist strain might suggest.

It begins with the flight of Muhammad and his family from Medina in the seventh century and the subsequent founding of the first mosques. It recounts the origin of the split of the Shia and Sunni Muslims and the emergence of Sunni mysticism. It gives us the origins and impact of revolutionary Islam and concludes with an assessment of Islam today and its challenges.

Join us for a journey with Armstrong into the history of Islam.

Books for consideration.

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

Boys of Boise by John Gerassi, 1965

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

Don Gould Memorial School Supply Drive

Each year in the month of June, the Social Concerns Committee collects donations to provide backpacks loaded with essential school supplies to children in need. This fund drive was originally the idea of Don Gould because the education of all children was so important to him. Don acted as our liaison with the Andover Middle School and guided us through the process of supplying children in need with the tools to access their education. Last Year it was announced that the Social Concerns Committee has decided that the fund drive will carry in his memory. Toward that end, we have renamed this annual drive.

Since we began this several years ago thanks to the generosity of our K.U.U.F. membership, we have been able to provide 15 complete packs to the Andover Middle School each August for the current school year. Church members can purchase backpacks or school supplies to donate, or make a financial contribution to the project and we will do the shopping for you. The Social Concerns Committee will be available to accept your contributions at church services each Sunday in June. Our goal is to once again provide 15 backpacks to the Andover Middle School for the coming school year. Each one needs to be filled with the following:

- ✓ 1 3-Ring Binder
- ✓ Tab Dividers
- ✓ Filler Paper
- ✓ 2 1-Subject Notebooks
- ✓ 1 Dozen Pencils with Erasers
- ✓ 1 Dozen Colored Pencils

Any contribution you can make will be greatly appreciated!

**Concert for flute, cello, harpsichord, and piano with
Martha Woodward, flutist; Donna Denniston, cellist; and
Joyce Painter Rice, accompanist**



**Music by Bach, Handel, Vinci,
Fauré, Rachmaninoff, and Ravel**

**Friday, June 17, 2016 – 7:30 PM
The Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy
Route 11 – Andover, NH**

Refreshments will be served

Tickets \$20.00 & \$8.00 (16 & under) Available at Morgan Hill Book Store, New London. Also available at the door, but seating is limited.

ROOTS

By Henry Howell



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

THE MELTING OF AN ANDOVER SOCIAL & PHILOSOPHICAL ICON

Winds of American social & philosophical thought were shifting in the late 1950's and '60's. "The subtleties of student and individual unrest, rock music and long hair caused him [*Lyle Farrell, Headmaster of Proctor Academy*] much regret by 1970."¹

Universalists, and particularly Unitarians, had dominated social, political and philosophical life of the Andover region for nearly 200 years. The town center's meeting house of the 1800's was primarily a Unitarian establishment, including for a time the only "public" school available which also was administered by Unitarians. From its formation in 1874 until 1958 Proctor Academy was a Unitarian school. When the large old center meeting house burned in 1901, influential Unitarians of the town --and their connections with a rich Unitarian Boston dowager and the then Unitarian affiliated Harvard University-- enabled funding for building of the Unitarian Craft (i.e. "Stone") chapel to replace the old meeting house in 1910.

But after W.W. II Andover's population was shrinking, as was interest in established religions. The Universalists and Unitarians joined together in 1961 partly due to their need to consolidate and strengthen their diminishing membership. By the mid-twentieth century trustees of Andover's Unitarian church wrote, "As our village grew smaller, the parish found that it could no longer raise an annual budget large enough to pay a minister a living wage and maintain the church building and parsonage."² In 1958 Proctor Academy dissolved its formal association with the American Unitarian Association and, at the same time, the

¹ "History of Proctor", 'Chuck's Corner', Chuck Will, Proctor Academy, (2015/)

² Andover Unitarian Trustees' letter (of 1954?), from the archives of Don Bent

Andover Unitarian's turned ownership of the Stone ("Cruft") Chapel over to Proctor Academy. Seven years later in 1965, "A meeting of the surviving members of the Andover Unitarian Church was held...to see what action the members would take on the matter of legal dissolution...

1. VOTED unanimously that the Society turn over all funds...to the New Hampshire Unitarian Association...
2. VOTED unanimously that Proctor Academy take over ownership of the so-called Parsonage...
3. VOTED To request the Unitarian Universalist Association to grant...use of the church building to Proctor Academy so long as...: (1) the church building be maintained in a satisfactory state of repair; (2) a majority of the chapel services...be conducted by ministers in Unitarian Universalist fellowship; (3) the building be used by the village for weddings, funerals, et cetera."³

*NEXT-and final 'ROOTS'- A U.U. FEATHERED PHOENIX
AWAKENS IN THE REARSTARGE VALLEY*

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## **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](mailto:lizzijo48@gmail.com)

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<sup>3</sup> Eunice M. Denberg, Clerk Pro Tem, Andover Unitarian Fellowship meeting, 1965





Many of us participated in the largest and longest running youth associations in our country, the Boys and Girls Scouts of America and do you know:

Prior to 2013 teen Gay, Bisexual, Transgender boys were not allowed to complete their scouting experience by earning their Eagle Scout status because they weren't 'morally straight' (a BSA code) though they had been in scouting for 10+ years earning badges and contributing to their troops.

In 2013, Boy Scouts of America removed a ban on Gay, Bisexual, Transgender boys participating in the association, but BSA continued to ban GLBTQ adults volunteering as scout leaders, even terminating them after years and years of strong leadership.

In 2015, BSA removed the ban on GLBTQ leader volunteers in the organization. Three cheers!!!..... AND don't clap too soon.... It is a possibility that a GLBTQ adult may become a leader, as 70% of the troops are run by religious organizations and the association allows for the troop to determine who is hired as a leader and will properly lead boys into their future. Some religious organizations have held fast to their moral rule of not judging others and always allowed all boys into their troops.

July 2015, the Girl Scouts of Western Washington made headlines when they rejected a \$100,000 gift, given under the condition that it would not be used for transgender girls. A month prior to the rejection, Girls Scouts USA Chief Girl Expert Andrea Bastani Archibald stated, "There is not one type of girl," and, "every girl's sense of self, path to it, and how she is supported is unique."

A movie night - possibly in June – "The Fall of '55" (documentary of a homosexuality scandal in Boise, Idaho) by Seth Randall. Same subject matter as the book "Boys of Boise" by John Gerassi – which may be book discussion material during the 2016-17 KUUF season

**\*\*\* see information under Social Activities section \*\*\***



## Social Activities

Future movie night– summer or early Fall

### **The Fall of '55** by Seth Randall

The Fall of '55 (2006) is a documentary about the Boise homosexuality scandal, a [witch-hunt](#) targeted at homosexuals in 1955 that resulted in a number of arrests and prison terms ranging anywhere from six months to life in prison.

The scandal began October 31, 1955, when a number of prominent Boise men were persecuted for alleged homosexual acts. The film covers the same subject matter as John Gerassi's book *The Boys of Boise* (1966), although Seth Randal, the film's writer, director, and producer, says he completed five years of independent research on the topic. Some accounts of the incident claim that nearly 1,000 boys were seduced by a "ring" of men.

A 1955 *TIME* magazine article said "Boiseans were shocked to learn that their city had sheltered a widespread homosexual underworld that involved some of Boise's most prominent men and had preyed on hundreds of teen-age boys for the past decade".<sup>[2]</sup>

The film is narrated by former Boise television anchor Claudia Weathermon. The film premiered on June 10, 2006, at Newfest in New York City, at the Idaho International Film Festival at Boise's Egyptian Theater on September 30, 2006, and at the Spokane International Film Festival on February 4, 2007.