

Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 1578

New London, NH 03257

(603) 526-8213

www.kuufnh.org

December 2017

Assisting Ministers: Rev. Dick Dutton, Rev. David Robins & Guests

President: Kathy Vashro

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 a.m.

in the Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy in Andover.

KUUF Calendar

Sunday, December 3	9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Book Discussion Lou Botta "It Gets Better"
Sunday, December 10	9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Lecture Series Martha Woodward & The Choir "Angels and Avatars"
Thursday, December 14	7:00 p.m.	KUUF Board meeting at the Stanleys' house
Sunday, December 17	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Christmas Service
Sunday, December 24	9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Lecture Series Rev. Dick Dutton "I Have Need of a Whisper"
Sunday, December 31	9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Lecture Series Rev. Emily Burr

President's Message

Kathryn Mordecai Vashro

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST TRADITIONS

What are they and how do we celebrate them?

As a young Unitarian and later Unitarian Universalist, my biggest teachings from the UU church came from my 1960's 8th grade religious education class in the Church Across the Street. With a Jewish father and a Baptist minister's-daughter mother, I certainly was from a mixed religious marriage, at a time when that was not popular or even accepted. My parents, probably my mother, found a Unitarian church in Wayland, MA around 1960, which later became a Unitarian Universalist church. My dad would come to church with us on 'high holy days' (using a religious concept) and myself and my sisters would dress up for these events. We would each get a new bonnet, gloves, and dress for Easter. We would have big dinners with my Christian grandparents for Christmas and Easter, and for Hanukkah and Passover, we would celebrate with my paternal Jewish grandparents and great grandparents. And in my teens and early adulthood, I questioned, as a good UU does, what are 'OUR' traditions – meaning UU traditions.

Well, though we, as UUs, recognize and are inspired by the thoughts and beliefs of religions from around the world, we tend to connect with the Jewish and Christian teachings and thus recognize holidays from those religions. BUT, what about OUR TRADITIONS?

Well, in 2005, OUR OWN tradition was formed – a week-long celebration of our Unitarian Universalist Principles.

CHALICA begins on the first Monday in December and lasts seven days. Each day a chalice is lit and the day is spent reflecting on the meaning of that day's principle and doing a good deed that honors that principle.

This year's Unitarian Universalist tradition is celebrated during the week of **Monday, December 4, through Sunday, December 10**. Join with other UUs and recognize our own tradition and ponder OUR reason for existence as a religion. Do a good deed pertaining to that day's principle. ENJOY, CELEBRATE, and EMBRACE our tradition!



BELOW ARE OUR PRINCIPLES AND DAYS TO CELEBRATE:

Monday, December 4

1. [1st Principle](#): The inherent worth and dignity of every person.

Tuesday, December 5

2. [2nd Principle](#): Justice, equity and compassion in human relations.

Wednesday, December 6

3. [3rd Principle](#): Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations.

Thursday, December 7

4. [4th Principle](#): A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

Friday, December 8

5. [5th Principle](#): The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

Saturday, December 9

6. [6th Principle](#): The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Sunday, December 10

7. [7th Principle](#): Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Do share on December 10 how you celebrated during CHALICA WEEK.

www.uua.org/worship/holidays/chalica

www.uua.org/beliefs/what-we-believe/principles

Thank you to Samantha Belmosto for making me aware of OUR tradition.



Guest at Your Table

This year's theme for the UUSC Guest at Your Table collection is "Small Change is Big Change" and celebrates the over 75 grassroots organizations which partner with the UUSC. The UUSC seeks to "challenge injustice and advance human rights around the globe."

The UUSC has targeted programs which deal with the near universal problems of immigration. We can make a difference to ease the heartache of individuals caught in very difficult circumstances.

This year we are aiding the *migration* of South Pacific islanders in a program head by Ursula Rakova. Please see:

<http://climatewisewomen.org/?p=29> and

<https://sinkingislands.com/tag/tuleile-peisa/>.

Also, Guest *legal assistance* for women refugees seeking asylum through RAICES <https://www.raicetexas.org/> and <https://www.uusc.org/uu-college-of-social-justice/>

The third partner program this year is the Center for Social Integrity in Burma, a leadership development program for Rakhine youth in Myanmar who are a "*stateless*" minority. (The website is still being developed.)

And, the QDEP (*Queer Detainee Empowerment Project*) in New York City which helps people targeted because of sexual identity and detained at Rikers Island with support and assistance at *asylum hearings*.

We are all the children, at varying distance, of immigrants, each with our own heritage and maybe some stories of family difficulties. I hope this charity will inspire you. Boxes and envelopes will be available on the back table on Sundays throughout the holiday season. **Please be sure to identify yourself with the KUUF for the Guest program if you choose to contribute separately and to let me know the amount of your contribution in your name or anonymously for our congregation's tally.**

Thank you,
Martha Woodward
marthawoodward@gmail.com



Meditation

The Women's Meditation Group will meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month, from 3:00 to 5:00 at Fran Preston's house. If you have any questions, please contact Fran at (603) 526-9623 or Lizzy Klingler at (603) 526-6871.



Transition Committee

~ Transition Committee Report Progresses ~

At the annual meeting in June, Liz Maloof made a motion that a committee be formed to study options for ministerial leadership for KUUF in this time of transition and in the future. This motion was approved. The committee members are: Henry Howell, Liz Maloof, Nancy Stone, and Roger Wells.

The committee has studied other UU congregations, designed and distributed a survey for KUUF, analyzed the results, and developed recommendations for the KUUF Board. The committee will be presenting its report at the December 14th board meeting. The results of the committee's work will be available to the congregation in early 2018 once the KUUF Board has had a chance to review the final report.

The committee thanks all those who participated in the survey and who have supported our work this past summer and fall.



KUUF Sunday School

KUUF has had a Sunday School for children since October, facilitated by Ken Preston, Barbara Heggie, Susan Nellen, Nancy Stone, Yvonne Howard, Donna Pierce, and Liz Maloof.

Curriculum has centered on the meaning of seasonal Holidays, including a craft project to take home. Getting to know Logan and Matthew, our first students, has been a joy for all.

Starting January 2018, Susan Nellen has offered to set up a meaningful curriculum using UUA resources. If you are interested in being part of this program supporting Susan and/or taking charge of a Sunday, please seek out Susan for a conversation on any Sunday or give her a call. Telephone: 735-4242.



2017 Food Pantry Campaign

The Kearsarge Lake Sunapee Community Food Pantry has requested that KUUF contribute **HEARTY SOUPS AND STEWS** for the month of November.

Note: coffee (regular, decaf, & instant), paper towels, toilet paper, peanut butter & jelly, cake and brownie mixes, and monetary donations are always welcome.

Monetary donations can be made to: KLS Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 536, New London, NH 03257.



Book Discussion

December 3, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance, 2016.

“You will not read a more important book about America this year.”
-- *The Economist*

J.D. Vance is a former marine and Yale Law School graduate relating his powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town in the Midwest. It is an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American Dream for a large segment of our country.

Hillbilly Elegy is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis – that of white working-class Americans. The story of how upward mobility really feels.

Soon to be a motion picture directed by Ron Howard. Available at most libraries or through InterLibrary Loan. Please join us for the discussion even if you haven't read the book. Questions: Marion Allen 526-6776.

Other Good Reads ...

Never Caught: The Washingtons' (George and Martha) Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge by Erica Armstrong Dunbar, 2017.

Something Must Be Done about Prince Edward County: A Family, A Virginia Town, and a Civil Rights Battle by Kristen Green, 2015.

Fire in the Blood by Irene Nemirovsky, 2007.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays	December Anniversaries
5 th - Betty Williamson	None that we know of!
7 th - Earl Abbe	
15 th - Lois Magenau	



Membership Committee

MEMBERSHIP

If you are newly attending or have attended KUUF for many years you will be happy to know that starting December 3 there will be announcements made for those that are interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism, Proctor Stone Chapel, and the history of Andover. If you are interested in presenting information or obtaining information, contact Kathy Vashro or Henry Howell at church or on the phone – (603) 938-5476 (Kathy) or (603) 938-5706 (Henry).

Information will be given at the front of the church during coffee time. So, grab some food and a drink and meet Kathy and Henry up front. See you there.

Welcoming Committee



Do you know the acronyms or names for support groups, meetings, and information available for LGBTQ people? Below are a couple that you may want to support or learn more about.

Have you heard of PFLAG? PFLAG (formerly known as an acronym for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is the United States' largest organization uniting families and allies with people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer (LGBTQ). It's now known as PFLAG.

Have you heard of GLSEN? GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network) is the leading national education organization working to create safe schools for ALL students.

If you want information or support on the above organizations, contact:

PFLAGNH
www.pflagnh.org

GLSEN NH chapter
www.glsen.org/chapters/newhampshire
P.O. Box 3511
Concord, NH 03301
T: (603) 369-6686
Email: newhampshire@chapters.glsen.org

Amended Membership Statement (2016)

Membership in the Fellowship is open to all people in sympathy with its purpose and program, regardless of race, color, sex and affectional or sexual orientation.



Social Committee

MOVIE NIGHT

KUUF had a movie night at Bettie Howard's on Nov. 10th. Fourteen of us watched the enlightening and challenging film "What the Bleep?" We enjoyed delicious treats and the film generated good discussions.

If you have any suggestion for movies or social events, please contact Lois Magenau at (603) 735-5637 or Yvonne Howard at (603) 927-4735. Bettie has offered her home during the winter and spring for future social events. We are also considering travel movie and dinner nights. Announcements will be made for these social gatherings.



Sunday Coffee Time

We're happy to report that several people have stepped up to the Host and Hostess Plate for December, ensuring happy bellies for the entire month. Thank you, Denise & Bob Stanley (3rd), Roger & Sandy Wells (10th), Edythe Anderson & Susan Nellen (17th), Liz & Tom Maloof (24th), and Loren & Yvonne Howard (31st)! Phew!

For January, the Howards and the Howells have kindly taken the first two Sundays. Would **you** like to contribute to the perpetuation of the KUUF HBS (Happy Belly Syndrome)? Don't worry about finding a partner; you will be paired with another, if you sign up as a single Host or Hostess. And if you've never done it before, just say so – and the keeper of the list will clue you in to all the (very few) secrets and tricks of KUUF Coffee Time. Thank you!

cre·do

[ˈkrēdō..ˈkrādō]

NOUN: *A set of fundamental beliefs that guides one's actions:*

An article of faith – one's essential convictions – a code of conduct

ORIGIN: Middle English: Latin, 'I believe.'

Sunday, January 7th, 2018

Please join us for this special Sunday service in which members of our church describe their individual CREDO.

This is an opportunity to hear what guides your fellow parishioners in their personal conduct;

Their belief systems that help make the fundamental decisions of their daily lives;

What in their soul helps them get up every morning;

What in difficult, trying times gives them consolation.

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## Holiday Celebration

Sunday, December 24, there will be an extended coffee time with luncheon foods. Please come and join this festive holiday gathering.



## Next KUUF Newsletter Deadline

The submission deadline for the January KUUF newsletter will be Wednesday, December 27, 2017. Please email your news, views, and photos to Barbara Heggie at [barbara.g.heggie@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.g.heggie@gmail.com). **For ease of compiling, please type any written submissions into the body of the email or send as a Word document, rather than a PDF.** Thank you!

