

**Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
**PO Box 1578**  
**New London, NH 03257**  
**603 526-8213**  
[www.kuufnh.org](http://www.kuufnh.org)

**March 2015**

Minister: Rev. William E. Nelson  
 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton  
 Presidents: Amy Dressler & Henry Howell  
 Director of Religious Education: Donna Peirce  
 RE Teacher: Libby Curran  
 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 1    | Adult Education Class – 9:30 AM   |
| Sunday, March 1    | Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson   |
| Sunday, March 8    | Adult Education Class – 9:30 AM   |
| Sunday, March 8    | Speaker: Kerry Laufer – “Reflections on Life and Work in Saudi Arabia (1999-2007)”  |
| Thursday, March 12 | Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at the Bergquist’s  |
| Sunday, March 15   | Book Discussion – 9:30 AM – “Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End” by Atul Gawande  |
| Sunday, March 15   | Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson   |
| Sunday, March 22   | Adult Education Class – 9:30 AM   |
| Sunday, March 22   | Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton - “The Black and the White Keys on the Piano...About Race Relations, Prejudice, Stereotyping, and People Who Are Different” |
| Sunday, March 29   | Adult Education Class – 9:30 AM   |
| Sunday, March 29   | Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson   |



The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Newsletter



**Minister's Missive – March 2015**

**Worship and the Integrity of Life**

*Wherever we go, there seems to be only one business at Hand – that of finding workable compromises between the Sublimity of our ideas and the absurdity of the fact of us.*

*– Annie Dillard, Teaching a Stone to Talk*

The human mind is a complex and marvelous instrument, enabling us to soar beyond the mundane aspects of living into a realm occupied by high ideals, images of perfection, and sublime idylls of beauty and grace. And yet each of us must daily confront ourselves and those around us within an arena of existence that incorporates that which cannot always conform to our images of what should be. We live in a world where we're very much aware that not everything is going to conform to our expectations, a world where our individual ideals are challenged by the clumsiness of human beings' failing to get along in a world of violence that's far from the beauty and grace we create in our inner sanctuaries. Under such circumstances it's easy to become disheartened by the world around us, a world that seems out of accord with the inner worlds we create for ourselves.

When we come together as a congregation of faith and hope, though, I hope we do so in recognition of the wonderful discovery that each of us is bound together in community, that our individual pursuits and worries notwithstanding, we share a common lot – that of seeking the meaning and integrity that our inner worlds crave, a seeking that cannot be found in solitary pursuit. The common spark of life dwelling within each of us binds us together when we gather to worship, bringing our imperfections and disappointments with us, knowing that those with whom we meet may well have experienced the same doubts and shortcomings that each of us has known, but that we're all in this adventure together. This is what we're about.

I look forward to seeing you in church, WEN

P.S. Stay warm: And remember April's only a month away.

# ROOTS

By Henry Howzell



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

## PART II of TWO ARTICLES ON A CHURCH & TOWN DIVIDE

In writing 'The History of the Town of Andover', published in 1910, John Eastman, declared, "The struggle over the new meeting house was probably the most unfortunate event in the history of the town, for its effects have been far reaching, not only in the religious but in the social and political life of the community... During the contest over the location of the new meeting house the citizen began to lose confidence in the character and authority of the church and in the unselfishness of his neighbors... Fear of Satan, and a frantic attempt to destroy his influence by new religious organizations took the place of a trustful love of God and...to a reasonable service to humanity."<sup>1</sup> Mr. Eastman hoped that, as of his publishing in 1910, "...an honest study and application of...the Golden Rule will...eradicate the taint of the meetinghouse war of more than a century ago." How could the town pull itself together and not only get a meeting house built but end such acrimonious community debate that now pitted East Andover against West (central) Andover?

During the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries in New England the meeting house was where democracy took place and where God was the ultimate guide. Local taxes were used to pay for the meeting house construction and a town-wide tithe was assessed annually to pay for the local pastor and the land he was to live on. Separating religion from politics has never really been accomplished anywhere, but in the Town of Andover it seemed to be the only way to resolve their deep divisions. Separation began very fitfully when "about 1795 great opposition to the payment of the 'minister tax' arose and so great was the influence of the independent citizens that payment was not rigorously enforced." Debate waned off and on during the next century over these religious taxes, but amazingly the Congregationalists got a church built in East Andover in 1796 (at great social/religious cost of dissent from the "western" Andover public). Eventually the Universalists in 1821 were able to rally enough support to construct a meeting house in the west --with skilled hands, some rum (and an inevitable community tax).

**More said of our KUUF meetinghouse heritage in the next "ROOTS".**

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<sup>1</sup> Excerpts taken from "History of the Town of Andover 1751-1906" by John Eastman, Rumford Printing Co., Concord, NH, 1910



## Book Discussion

March 15, 2015 - 9:30 AM

**Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End** by Atul Gawande, 2014

Dr. Gawande is a surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and teaches at Harvard Medical School. He is also the author of three previously best-selling books on medicine.

This book is about living with autonomy, dignity, and joy to the last of our days. It is an essential and insightful book for our times. Riveting, honest, and humane, *Being Mortal*, shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death but a good life.

This is a new book, probably not available in paperback, which your library can borrow on Interlibrary loan.

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

Questions: Marion Allen 526-6776

### Host/Hostess "Duty" Assignments

| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>Host/Hostess</u> | <u>Host/Hostess</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| March 1       | Sally Bergquist     | Bob Bergquist       |
| March 8       |                     |                     |
| March 15      | Lois Magenau        | Marcus Johnson      |
| March 22      | Lizzie Klingler     | Donn Klingler       |
| March 29      | Susan Crickman      |                     |
| April 5       |                     |                     |
| April 12      | Sara Smith          | Edythe Anderson     |
| April 19      |                     |                     |
| April 26      |                     |                     |

**If you can take a Sunday morning as host/hostess, please contact Kerry Laufer at 763-3140 or [kllauf@hotmail.com](mailto:kllauf@hotmail.com). Thanks!**



## Meditation

The Women's Meditation Group will meet on Wednesday, March 11 and 25, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at Fran Preston's. If you have any questions, please contact Sally Bergquist at 763-4098.



### A HOME FOR BELLA

Bella is a small, sweet 7 year-old Calico cat that loves to be patted. She's an indoor cat (but still has her claws) that gets along well with dogs, cats & children. Unfortunately, my daughter Kelly's allergies have gotten worse and her doctor has recommended that she find another home for Bella. So, if anyone is interested in adopting her, or knows of anyone who might be interested, please contact me or Kelly at 763-2516. Best Regards, Donna Peirce

### WINTER 2015 FOOD PANTRY CAMPAIGN

The KLS Community Food Pantry continues to be very, very busy. Not only do we continue to see new families every month, we also have been serving larger families. In 2014 we have seen nearly a 20% increase in use of the food pantry. The support of the area churches and community residents has been phenomenal and has made it possible for the food pantry to be an extremely valuable asset to struggling families in the Kearsarge Lake Sunapee region. Despite many trips to the Food Bank in Manchester (our main supplier), as well as some very successful food drives and donations, we are still often running out of several **staple items** with the steady and increasing flow of families using the pantry. To help ensure that the pantry remains well stocked, the KLS Community Food Pantry is continuing its campaign to "Restock the Food Pantry" by asking each church group to concentrate on donating certain items each **month** to the food pantry. Below is a listing of what KUUF has been asked to donate.

March – Cereal

April – Hearty soups and stews

**Note:** Paper products (paper towels and toilet paper) coffee (regular, decaf, and instant), and peanut butter and jelly are always welcome.

## Publicity Chair Wanted

If you think you would like to take on the fun, interesting job of Publicity Chair for KUUF, please let the Board know. Sally Bergquist would like to retire from this position after many years of service. The role can be as much or as little as you would like to make it. It involves keeping KUUF's presence in the community alive. For more details, please talk to Sally.

## KUUF Web Site

Please check out the KUUF web site at [www.kuufnh.org](http://www.kuufnh.org) for up-to-date information, recent sermons, calendar, etc.



## Social Activities

Many thanks, Betty Howard, for opening your home to the KUUF movie fans. The movie was funny as promised and your hospitality very special.

Delicious appetizers, desserts and the opportunity to visit with other KUUF moviegoers was, as always, most enjoyable. Thanks to everyone who provided the appetizers and desserts!

By popular demand we are planning another movie night, possibly showing "Amazing Grace" or "The Englishman Who Went Up A Hill and Came Down a Mountain", or "Waking Ned Devine". If there's a special movie you would like us all to see together, let us know! We'll do our best to fulfill your requests!

Kathy Vashro - 208 440-1855 (Cell) 603-938-5476 (Landline)  
Lois Magenau - 603 387- 0360 (Cell) 603-735-5637 (Landline)  
E-mail to: [jvashro@gmail.com](mailto:jvashro@gmail.com) or [jimvashro49@gmail.com](mailto:jimvashro49@gmail.com) or  
[loisrmagenau@tds.net](mailto:loisrmagenau@tds.net)

## **It's Pledge Drive Time!**

Unitarian Universalism is unique among religious organizations. In place of miracles and myths, we offer open minds, open hearts, freedom of thought and expression and a rational search for our own personal religious truth. Each of us is living that search here, at KUUF, as part of a community of open-minded people.

KUUF carries the banner of liberal religion, in our area. As such we are needed here, not only for ourselves but to make sure there is a Fellowship ready to receive new members in generations to come. They will need kindred spirits just as we do. Even religious organizations such as ours need to be supported; need to attend to the business of staying afloat.

In late March, less than a month from now, we will be kicking off our annual fund drive and mailing packets with your 2015-16 pledge cards.

We can only maintain and grow this wonderful church of ours with your generous support. It is time for each of us to think about how much we can contribute to make this coming year a great one!

## **2015 ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING**

OF THE

**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT OF UU'S**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**UU CHURCH IN CONCORD, NH**

The Rev. Scott Taylor, Director of Congregational Life, will lead us in this annual Spring Conference & Annual Meeting. The theme will be:

### **EXPLORING INTERCONNECTIONS**

- How we see elimination of old barriers and building new working relationships within and among congregations.
- How do you see your passion and your congregation's calling around *your* interconnections.

These gatherings are a lot of fun and a chance to meet other wonderful people, who also happen to be UU'ers.

If you would like to attend, please contact Henry Howell  
(Tel) 938-5706 or (email) [exartik45@gmail.com](mailto:exartik45@gmail.com)

**An Invitation From the Franklin U.U. Church  
206 Central Street, Franklin, NH  
Saturday, March 21, at 6:00 PM**

If you are suffering from cabin fever, please join us in the Fellowship hall on March 21 at 6:00 PM for a revival of our Coffeehouse. It will be a great time for you to meet with members of the Franklin Unitarian Universalist Church. We will have entertainment and refreshments. Come one come all.



**Welcome to Kids4Peace!**

Join a global community of more than 4,000 supporters, who believe that peace is possible and that youth can lead the way. We are united by hope and a commitment to work together, across the barriers that divide our societies.

**About once a month, we'll send you updates** on Kids4Peace's people and programs in Jerusalem and North America. These stories inspire me, and I hope you'll share them with family and friends. For up-to-the minute news, follow our **Blog** ([k4pblog.org](http://k4pblog.org)), **Facebook** ([facebook.com/kids4peace](https://facebook.com/kids4peace)), and **Twitter** ([@kids4peace](https://twitter.com/kids4peace)) feeds.

Kids4Peace relies on generous donations from supporters like you. **Please consider a tax-deductible gift.** With your help, we can give hundreds more youth the chance to create a better future for the world we all share.

**Sincerely,**

**Fr. Josh Thomas**, Executive Director, Kids4Peace International  
[josh@k4p.org](mailto:josh@k4p.org) | (202) 446-1434

Kids4Peace International is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.  
3300 Chimney Rock, Suite 301, Houston, TX 77056



## **Helping Hands Certificate of Appreciation**

KUUF received a Certificate of Appreciation from the KLS Community Food Pantry for our outstanding support. This Certificate is presented quarterly to a select group of donors.

In 2014 the Food Pantry served 4,292 people in 1,270 households which represents a 9% increase over 2013. In some months, they have seen nearly a 20% increase in use of the Pantry which clearly demonstrates the continuing need for the Pantry.

They are grateful for KUUF's continued support and will recognize us in a Kearsarge Shopper ad.



### **When is Your Birthday or Anniversary?**

The KUUF Newsletter would like to include monthly birthday and anniversary dates of our members and friends – just the date, not your age. Please let me or Kathy Vashro know, so we can start including those dates in the April Newsletter.

Sally Bergquist

763-4098

[Salbob2@comcast.net](mailto:Salbob2@comcast.net)

**Martha Woodward Flute Concert  
with Sonoko Nagahara (Piano)  
and Mari Nagahara (Cello)**



**MUSIC BY HANDEL, RAMEAU,  
BEETHOVEN, DVORAK, AND IBERT**

**Saturday, April 25, 2015 – 7:30 PM  
The Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy  
Route 11 – Andover, NH**

**Sponsored by Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship  
*Refreshments will be served***