

Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

PO Box 1578

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www.kuufnh.org

June 2014

Minister: Rev. William E. Nelson

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton

Presidents: Amy Dressler & Henry Howell

Director of Religious Education: Donna Peirce

RE Teacher: Erin Peirce

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 1 | Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM |
| Sunday, June 1 | Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson |
| Sunday, June 1 | Annual Meeting |
| Sunday, June 8 | Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM |
| Sunday, June 8 | Speaker: Betsy Woodman |
| Thursday, June 12 | Board Meeting at the Maloof's – 7:00 PM |
| Sunday, June 15 | Book Discussion – “The Boys in the Boat” by Daniel James Brown – 9:30 AM |
| Sunday, June 15 | Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton – “My Spiritual Bucket List” |
| Sunday, June 22 | Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM |
| Sunday, June 22 | Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson |
| Sunday, June 29 | Adult Lecture Series – 9:45 AM |
| Sunday, June 29 | Rev. Bill Nelson |



Minister's Missive – June 2014

“Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced.”

– Leo Tolstoy.

It's occurred to me that, insofar as for Stephanie and me summer tends to be filled with visits to art museums and galleries, this might be the time to engage in a little conversation about art and its meaning to human beings who are engaged in what I like to think of as the art of exploring what it means to be on a path of religious adventure. Thus the quotation above, from Leo Tolstoy's book, *What Is Art?*

I think it's safe to say that art is something that not everyone fully understands. (It's probably safer to say that art is something that's understood in different ways by different people.) Most everyone can appreciate a well-executed craft. We admire the product, and the skill of the craftsman. Many of us may collect crafts of various kinds. They make us happy.

But now and then some among us come across something – a painting, a sculpture, a beautiful poem, maybe a violin concerto – that seems to transcend the craft of the maker. Talent and skill, of course, are key to the making of the work, but the work itself communicates to us something of the artist him-or herself. There's something going on here that speaks to us. We may not have the language to describe it, but something has happened. Something's been communicated.

I like to think of religion's being a kind of art, something that allows us to communicate with the depths of our being. As we gather on Sunday mornings to sing or just listen to the music, meditate, and hear what the preacher/speaker has to say, and just visit with one another, we have an opportunity to engage in something we don't do in our ordinary, day-to-day lives. It's more than the “craft” of going to church, it's more in the line of a transmission of experience (or at least I hope so).

During the year we celebrate each of the seasons in their turn, but summer always seems a very special time, when we're enfolded into the comfort of long, warm days. I'm hopeful that as summer arrives, we'll be on the lookout for those moments when, out of nowhere, it will seem, something will catch our eye, our eye or ear, to remind us that the art of living is the art of giving and receiving, and of being mindful of the beauty around and within us. *Bill*



STUFF THE CRUISER!

Come help “stuff” the New London Police Department's cruiser with non-perishable food to benefit the KLS Community Food Pantry!

We will be at Hannaford's Supermarket on Newport Road, New London on Saturday, July 5, 2013 from 10 to 4.

Drop off a donation or purchase at Hannaford's. The goal is to see how many times we can "stuff" the cruiser while supporting our local food pantry.

Backpack Attack!

It's that time of year again and throughout the month of June, the Social Concerns Committee will be collecting donations to provide backpacks loaded with essential school supplies to children in need. Thanks to the generosity of our KUUF membership, we were able to provide 15 complete packs to the Andover Middle School for the current school year, and we would like to repeat this for the coming 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 and each one needs to be filled with the following:

- ✓ 1 3-Ring Binder
- ✓ Tab Dividers
- ✓ Filler Paper
- ✓ 4 1-Subject Notebooks
- ✓ 1 Dozen Pencils with Erasers
- ✓ 1 Dozen Colored Pencils

Any contribution you can make will be greatly appreciated!



Meditation

June's meditation will be at Betsy Abbe's on Wednesdays, the 11th and 25th.

Host/Hostess “Duty” Assignments

| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>Host/Hostess</u> | <u>Host/Hostess</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| June 1 | KUUF Board | KUUF Board |
| June 8 | Liz Maloof | Tom Maloof |
| June 15 | Lizzie Klingler | Donn Klingler |
| June 22 | Betsy Abbe | Earl Abbe |
| June 29 | Lizzie Klingler | Donn Klingler |



**Book Discussion - June 15, 2014 -
9:30 AM**

The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown, 2013.

Out of the Depths of the Depression comes an irresistible story about beating the odds and finding hope in the most desperate of times – the improbable, intimate account of nine working-class boys from the University of Washington’s 1936 eight-oar crew who showed the world what true grit really meant.

This is a wonderful story of the ultimate in trust and teamwork. Please join us for the discussion. Most libraries in NH purchased this book so it should be easy to get an Interlibrary Loan copy from your local library.

It was suggested that the book group discuss DNA engineering for September.

The title that is most readily available in NH is...

The Language of Life: DNA and the Revolution in Personalized Medicine by Francis S. Collins, 2011

Please let me know if you would like to discuss this book. Thank you!

Questions: Marion Allen 526-6776 or mlallen@tds.net

Saturday, June 7, 2014 – Recital

**with Martha Woodward, Sonoko Nagahara, and
Miki Nagahara**

7:30 PM, Stone Chapel

For each of the past three years Martha Woodward has presented recitals for our and the community's listening pleasure.

These recitals have been a great success, and this year's will feature Martha Woodward, Sonoko Nagahara, and Mari Nagahara. There will be light refreshments after the program.

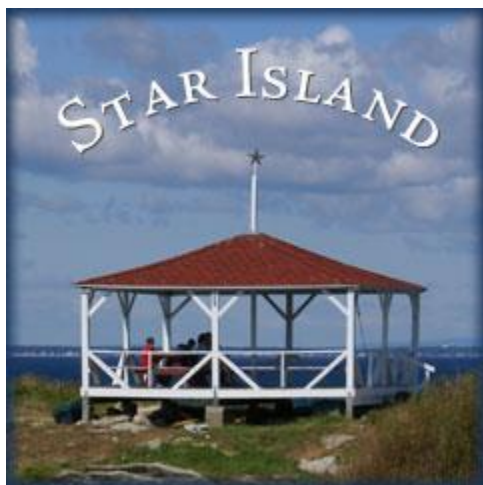
This year's concert will include works by Vinci, Haydn, Rutter, etc.

Mark your calendars and invite your friends for an inspiring and fun evening.

Net proceeds from ticket sales will go to support KUUF. Look for ticket sales to begin in May.

Large Print Hymnals

Thanks to several members of KUUF, three copies of new large print hymnals have arrived and will be available on the welcome table each Sunday. They came to us in two-volume sets, and should be returned to the welcome table after the church service. We hope they will be useful to those who have a need for larger print.



Star Island

Wondering about how to spend your summer vacation? Consider going to a place, not far away, where you can learn, play and relax with folks that you'll enjoy! Brenda Watts, Star Island Volunteer Ambassador will visit KUUF on Sunday, June 1, to answer any questions you may have about visiting the island this summer. The Retreat and Conference Center there is run by the non-profit Star Island Corporation, which is affiliated with Unitarian Universalists. She'll be available during coffee hour with a photo montage and printed information. Two special points:

- 1) During this 400th anniversary of John Smith mapping and naming the Isles of Shoals, there will be 3 designated dates (6/25, 7/23 and 8/27) for those who want to visit for a day and participate in specially arranged historical activities- great for families!
- 2) Brenda has asked that KUUF be designated a congregation eligible for a 30% discount on room and board, for those who attend a conference. She'll have all the details or visit starisland.org and mark the dates!

Summer Is Icomin' In, Lhu-De Sing Cuc-Cu!

Summer Is A Comin' In, Loudly Sing Cuckoo!

And so, as our KUUF heads into our last month before summer break, we can sing praises to a wonderful *past* 2013-14 season, as well as the coming season ahead. There has been so much participation, along with the steady weekly and monthly activities carried out by our members, that we continue to create the 'splendid tapestry' of KUUF so many of us have come to value highly and depend upon.

Several months ago, Tom Maloof, Don Bent and I put together the questionnaire '*Vision 2014+*', in order that everyone connected with our church could have a say in what makes us "tick". Now that you have the results of your opinions from this survey (handed out at the annual meeting) as well as the annual committee reports, we have much solid material to review, evaluate, organize, and prioritize for how we want to see KUUF progress during the next few years.

So much of what we have created already is substantial and the making of a very robust fellowship. We can confirm those pursuits we consider essential and working smoothly, and use them as a foundation upon which to modify aspects of our fellowship we feel need more work.

As mentioned in the “Results” of ‘*Vision 2014+*’ we can make the most of your excellent feedback by discussing together topics that especially caused the most interest and/or concern. This would be the “Next Steps” for us to follow mentioned in the “Results”.

As a polity of humans acting together to affect an outcome, we are doing quite well, since as the saying goes, “We are all human!” and therefore never perfect. There are significant challenges in making any organization function cohesively and KUUF has had its share of them. What we must remember throughout, however, is the very precious gem we represent in the Kearsarge region and that we follow upon a history dating back to the early 1800’s of men and women who strived to make the unique principles of our Unitarian Universalist faith sparkle among the lofty mountains that surround us.

Peace,
Henry Howell Co-President



Community Food Pantry

KUUF has been asked to donate the following items to the Community Food Pantry:

June – Large Juice (especially low sugar and 100% juice)

July – Cereal

August – Hearty Soups and Pasta Sauce