Our Principles

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

* The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
* Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
* Acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth in our congregations;
* A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
* The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
* The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
* Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Service & Belonging

May Worship Services

(Sundays at 10 AM)

May 7 -- Coming of Age -- Members of our Coming of Age class (7th and 8th graders) will lead most of the service and share their Credo (What I Believe) statements. We will also recognize new members in this wonderful hour celebrating personal and communal growth.

May 14 -- Where Do We Belong? -- Michele Lowy, a daughter of war refugees, shares a personal reflection on the differences between being an immigrant, a refugee, and a native.

May 21 -- Bridging and RE Appreciation Sunday — Join us to celebrate those transitioning from high school and our Youth Group into young adulthood and the next stage of life. We will also thank our wonderful Religious Exploration teachers, leaders, and others who gave their time, energy, and love to our children and Youth.

May 28 -- Memory and Belonging — Rev. Barnaby leads a Memorial Day celebration exploring the never-ending struggle between us and our memories. Do they belong to us or vice versa?

SAVE THE DATE!

- Green Burial, May 11, 7 pm
- Rhubarb Festival, Sat. June 3, 10 am -2 pm
- Annual Meeting, Sun, June 4, 11:30 am

See proposed membership by-law changes inside.

More details on pages 7 & 11.

How would you like to assist or be assisted?

Contact a leader or the Office. Follow us at cvuus.org.
Words from Rev. Barnaby:

It's Sunday morning, Apr. 23, in Cambridge, Mass., early on the last day of our Coming of Age trip. In a few hours, we will be worshiping among the members and friends of the historic First Parish -- a Unitarian congregation with roots deep in the early Puritan history of Massachusetts.

Our group is still dozing on the First Parish chapel floor, where we have been “camping.” I'm alone in the sunlit sanctuary, first opened in 1833. Alone, that is, with the ghosts of the thousands of people who have made this their spiritual home for long or short periods of long or short lives. It is awesome to know I'm sitting right where men and women who lived through the American Revolution worshiped, as did generations of Harvard students including Unitarian “saints” like Ralph Waldo Emerson and Theodore Parker. Last night, our Coming of Agers and four members of the First Parish group had dinner together and then allowed me to lead them in a brief, impromptu worship in which each had a chance to speak from the altar.

We've arrived at a transitional and perhaps transformational moment for First Parish. Next week, the candidate to be the congregation's new minister will arrive. He is Adam Lawrence Dyer, an African American writer, dancer, actor (he appeared on Broadway in two musicals), fitness trainer, former cruise director, and social action activist. He identifies as part of the LGBTQ community. Like me at CVUUS, First Parish will be his first full-time job as a UU minister. We have so much in common!

Seriously, though, I can't help but reflect that Adam's candidacy would be an unwelcome astonishment to most people who historically worshiped at First Parish, especially those early congregants who included slave-holders. I'm thankful that First Parish, in the words of one of our hymns, “reveres the past but trusts the dawning future more.” What a blessing in troubled times to serve you and a movement like Unitarian Universalism with people like Adam joining the ranks of our ministry.

Blessed be, Rev. Barnaby

Openings for Deeper Connection

“*The highest priority is that people of all ages are opened to deeper connection with themselves, others, and the spirit of life.*” CVUUS Purpose Statement

The following CVUUS groups have openings.

**Religious Exploration (RE) Council** (two openings)
- support RE Director Poppy Rees’ planning and implementing programs & recruiting teachers & assistants
- help with fall RE leaders/assistants orientation brunch, the Christmas Pageant, and May RE Appreciation
- rotate greeting and directing families at start of worship services
- contact Kas Singh (kathyasingh@gmail.com), chair, or other RE Council members Brett Millier, Tracey Harrington, Natali West, Heidi Sulis
- meeting time (usually) one Sunday a month from 11:45-1:30

**Leadership Development Team** (two openings)
- help various CVUUS groups find and recruit people...if you enjoy meeting people and talking with them, this is for you!
- contact Colleen Brown (cbrownesq56@gmail.com), Mike Greenwood, or Bobbi Loney
Spring Greetings from Your Membership Ministry

We had an important and busy month in April, since the first New UU class on April 2nd. In addition to getting acquainted with each other and with how and why people can become members, the group heard about UU history and the story of CVUUS, from Rev. Barnaby, and members who described the activities of the Board, RE, and other aspects of our congregation.

Some folks have already signed the Membership Book, and we strongly encourage all who wish to join, and to be eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting on June 4th, to sign on this coming Sunday (or contact Rev. Barnaby to arrange to sign early this month). Besides those who have attended the New UU course here, either this year or previously, anyone who had membership in a UU congregation elsewhere is eligible to join, and all will be welcomed warmly.

We will have the official welcome for new members on Sunday, May 7th. The youth of the Coming of Age group help to plan the service on that day, and offered to include our New Member welcome at that time. Brief biographies of our newest members will appear in summer newsletters.

Meanwhile, let’s continue to greet and connect with our visitors, members, friends, and newcomers with warmth and cheer (and our name tags….). Their presence, and yours, is a great gift!

Marjorie Carsen, for the Membership Ministry Team

Rhubarb Festival 2017
Sat, June 3, 10 am to 2 pm

The show will go on! Please tell your friends and neighbors, and make plans to attend the 2017 Rhubarb Festival – enjoying our spiritual home and sharing it with others. While our RF focus is smaller this year (while we concentrate on Building More Love with the Ground Floor Project), we will still have many of the items that make the Rhubarb Festival a memorable and enjoyable event. Festival planners count on the many contributions of our members and friends to create this event – will you join us in helping out?

Pies: These are always the hallmark of the Festival, and will be front and center again this year. Johanna Nichols is recruiting pie makers and bakers. Rhubarb pies will be priced at $15 and strawberry rhubarb will be $18. Festival planners sold 100 pies in 2016.

Lunch: Our Youth Group will run a Café which will feature sandwich or salad, drink, and dessert for $5 per person. In addition to the Youth Group and their families, Neil and Julie Chippendale are focusing on the Café and are looking for help with food prep and other activities during the day.

Watch for opportunities to help in the foyer and weekly blasts. Contact Mary Hadley (hadleyme@juno.com, 382-8572, or cell 377-2270) to help. Enjoy the day and help raise funds for a local social service group and for CVUUS. Rhubarb Festival 2016 raised about $3000 for HOPE.

3rd Sunday Congregational Conversation
(Following worship service in the Sanctuary)

Join us after worship service each third Sunday of the month for a conversation about a topic of interest to congregants. On May 21 we will inquire again about how we seek to decorate our buildings and grounds with artwork and natural beauty. In the last months we have talked about our role in social justice, our ground floor and relationship with money, the meaning of membership, and followed up on our classism workshop. Please join us any third Sunday (Sept through May), and let Council of Ministries’ Colleen Brown or Steve Maier know if there are future topics you would like to explore.
RE THOUGHTS THE #UUWHITESUPREMACY TEACH-IN and US

As we get ready for the #UUWhiteSupremacyTeachIn this Saturday, we need to be vulnerable. To sit with discomfort. We need to be able to be painfully honest with ourselves about our shortcomings and our blind spots - all of us. Even if we have worked hard for racial justice. Even if we are not able to see our congregation and our Unitarian Universalist faith as being part of white supremacist culture. Because there are members of our UU and CVUUS family who do see that. And feel it. And we need to fix this. We need to believe people when they say that something is wrong and it is hurting them.

Brené Brown defines vulnerability as “uncertainty, risk, and emotional exposure” (from her book Daring Greatly). These feelings are uncomfortable. So we avoid them. Because they can really hurt. If you haven’t yet watched or listened to Brené Brown’s TED talk on the power of vulnerability, you should. I just listened to her audiobook The Power of Vulnerability: Teachings on Authenticity, Connection and Courage and it was very powerful. In it, she talks about how important letting yourself be vulnerable is. That we often think of it as weakness in ourselves, yet when we see others do it, it seems brave...

As parents, we often try to protect our children from feeling vulnerable because it can hurt and feel scary. But we all need vulnerability - to love, to empathize, and to GROW. Brené Brown talks about how essential vulnerability is to growth and change. It’s risky to put new ideas out there, to try things that we don’t know how to do, and, especially, to say “I don’t know how to do this.”

But that’s exactly what we need to do repeatedly. And it’s what we need to do on Saturday, at the Teach-In. Our ability to be vulnerable, curious, loving, and willing to change and take action is what’s needed.

- Poppy, your Director of Religious Exploration

MAY for Children and Youth ~

**SATURDAY, MAY 7: ** Coming of Age rehearsal for service the next day 9-11 am

MAY 7: COMING OF AGE SERVICE / RE GROUPS sort of -
All kids start in service.
COA kids (gr 7-8) run the service! Grades 5-6 strongly encouraged to stay for entire service - this will be them in 2 years!
Spirit Play kids leave after the Offering, as do Grades 2-4 who have a TBA activity (not Harry & UU - maybe prepping for RE Appreciation on May 21?)
SPIRIT PLAY - age-appropriate story connected to the April 30 #UUWhiteSupremacyTeachIn

RE Council Meeting 11:45-1:30 - interested in joining? Talk to Poppy or Kas Singh

YOUTH GROUP 4-6 pm

MAY 14: SPIRIT PLAY, HARRY & UU Last time these groups will meet this year!

MAY 21: BRIDGING CEREMONY for Tor Bright + RE APPRECIATION SUNDAY
All RE groups will have a part in the service! Kids stay for whole service -

** UU Youth Choir rehearsal 11:30-12:30 in Fenn Chapel for June 4 Flower Communion service. ALL AGES WELCOME!

More info to follow.

YOUTH GROUP 4-6 pm

MAY 28: RE FUNDAY TBD - info to come.
Start in service, then out for all-ages time.

For more information, contact Director of Religious Exploration Poppy Rees re@cvuus.org
Social Action Updates

May “Share the Plate” Donee
Vermont National Guard Charitable Foundation

The Vermont National Guard Charitable Foundation is a nonprofit organization that serves to meet the emergency financial needs of the men and women of the Vermont National Guard and their families. Founded in 2005 by the Adjutant General of Vermont as a private, nonprofit organization, it has provided grants to meet a variety of needs from mortgage payments and car loans to heating fuel, home repairs and utility payments. It recognizes the special sacrifices made by the soldiers, airmen and families of the Vermont National Guard and the hardships of military service by meeting a financial need beyond that normally provided by State and Federal agencies.

Please speak with anyone on Donation Ministry to suggest an organization you would like CVUUS to support: Jason Duquette-Hoffman, Parker (Monty) Montgomery, Bob Johnson, Ashleigh Hickey, or Rev Barnaby. Ask Bobbi Loney about Kids for Kids service projects.

We raised $1,054 for Pride Center of VT in April. Thank you for your generosity!

Clean out your closets and raise funds for CVUUS!

Bring your used clothing to Neat Repeats and give them the CVUUS account number (108) or Buy Again Alley and give them account number (504). It’s easy way to raise funds for the CVUUS budget and Youth Group while also helping people who are in need of reasonably priced, good clothing. Donations are tax-deductible.

Donate items to HOPE and WomenSafe!

Look for HOPE shopping cart to donate food and the WomenSafe heart-wrapped box in our sanctuary lobby near the welcome table. WomenSafe is especially in need of large bars of soap, deodorant, tampax with applicators, Pampers, hairbrushes and combs. They can also use toothbrushes and toothpaste, face cloths and towels, shampoo and conditioner, baby dolls and stuffed animals, gift cards and gift certificates to local laundromats, restaurants, hair salons, etc. Thanks so much!!

Writers’ Group
CVUUS Writers’ Group meets third Monday of the month. We’ve taken the summer and Dec off this year so next one is May 15, 3 PM, in the Fenn House chapel. All are welcome! Bring something to read (with a few copies): fiction, nonfiction, poems. Questions? Contact Nancy Wright (443-8028 or nancymeanswright@gmail.com).

2017 UUA General Assembly
June 21-25, New Orleans

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). GA is a unique opportunity to worship, participate in governance of our national denomination, and learn among and socialize with thousands of UU’s from all over the world. For more information, see: http://www.uua.org/ga or Board Chair Jean Terwilliger.

Who do I talk to about my Annual Pledge? Inquiries regarding your Pledge go to our bookkeeper Heather Seeley who is in the office on Mondays. Call 388-8080 when she’s in or email fm@cvuus.org to contact her anytime. Thank you so much for your pledges.
How Would You Like to Stand for Justice?

Black Lives Matter Ally Group: CVUUS Black Lives Matter Ally Group organized last fall and is led by Piper Harrell and Judith Lashof. They’re focusing their work more tightly on understanding and responding to the African American experience of racism, on white privilege and on institutional racism in coordination with other local justice groups such as Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ). They encourage you to:


2) Watch *13th* documentary (online) about racism in the criminal justice system since the passage of the 13th Amendment to Constitution and *I Am Not Your Negro*.

3) Review the *Class & Race Workshop* materials online.

4) To get directly involved in action, see Piper or Judith or visit BLM online (cvuus.org/justice/black-lives-matter-ally-group or on Facebook). BLM Ally Group will meet **Mon May 1, 5:30 pm**, Sanctuary.

Migrant Support: Do you wish to understand and assist our migrant farmworkers? The Addison County Migrants Ally Group invites you to their next check-in **Wed, May 17, 4:30 pm** in Fenn to coordinate other ally trainings, migrant help, such as with grocery shopping, future speaker events, and screenings of related documentaries.

Refugee Resettlement Support: Middlebury Area Refugee Resettlement Committee is supporting recent refugees from Chittenden County with needs and ventures to see other parts of the state while it tracks the arrival of Syrian families in Rutland. Four more families are expected this spring. Contact Abi Sessions if you wish to be added to their listserv to stay posted on ways to help.

Addison County ICAN (Interfaith Climate Action Network): ICAN meets the third Thurs of each month at 8:30 am, at Weybridge Congregational Church. All welcome. Join the **Standing for the Earth Vigil** the *first Saturday of each month* from 10:30-11:30 am at the Middlebury Town Green (fountain). All welcome. Bring signs as you see fit.

Habitat for Humanity: Bob House seeks volunteers on Wednesdays and Saturdays to help build the next home in Cornwall. Ian and Roxanne Ross and their family moved in last month to the first of a few Cornwall homes being constructed by Habitat.

Visit cvuus.org/justice for a full list of ways that CVUUS participates in advancing justice through action and monthly donations and cvuus.org/news for latest developments.

Service Auction Fun

We’re learning new skills and getting to know one another. Kate Gridley offered water color art lessons and Johanna Nichols taught pie making. Send us pictures of your service auction bid items being used!
From the Board:

Five CVUUSers, three UUA presidential candidates, several amazing musicians, one excellent preacher, and many ministers and UU's from around New England made for a very interesting trip to Woburn, MA last weekend for the annual New England Region UUA meeting.

It was inspiring to hear the Rev. Robin Bartlett speak about successfully doing the difficult work of bringing together her theologically and politically diverse small town Connecticut congregation, and to sing with and listen to Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout of Ann Arbor, MI, and Ysaye Barnwell of Sweet Honey and the Rock. It was sobering to hear some of the controversy surrounding the resignation of three top UUA leaders, but encouraging to hear the candidates speak about this being a time of opportunity for change and growth.

Our own Roger Comstock has just finished serving on the Northern New England District nominating committee after having served previously on the District board. The Northern New England District includes Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, and will continue to exist after the regional consolidation partially because it has a large endowment which it will continue to administer making grants to worthy congregations through Chalice Lighter Grants and other programs. CVUUS is applying for one of these grants to help with the lower level project.

I encourage you all to review the campaign info from UUA presidential candidates Allison, Susan and Jeanne on the UUA website, and join the third Sunday discussion on UUA issues on May 21st.

With gratitude - Jean Terwilliger

Proposed CVUUS Membership By-laws – 2017
After a year of meetings and discussions with many in the congregation, the Board offers the following by-law changes for your consideration. Changes are in bold type.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1. Preamble.
The Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society (CVUUS) values both its members and its friends, but recognizes that membership entails a special relationship that carries additional rights, benefits, and responsibilities. CVUUS members are people who wish to be actively involved in the life of the Society. Such involvement typically includes some or all of the following: attendance at Sunday services, attendance and voting at congregational meetings, participation in other events and activities, serving in short term or long term leadership roles, and annual financial support of the Society.

Section 2. Members.
A member is a person 14 years of age or older who is familiar with and supports the purposes of the Society, who attends as able, who devotes his/her/their time, skills and abilities as able, and who makes a financial contribution of record annually, unless waived. Membership is open to all such persons regardless of race, color, gender identification, affectional or sexual orientation, socioeconomic circumstance, or national origin. A person officially becomes eligible for the benefits and responsibilities of covenanting with this congregation when they sign the membership book.

Section 3. Voting Eligibility
Any person who has been a member for at least sixty (60) days shall have one vote. This vote must be exercised in person unless absentee voting arrangements are approved by the Board at the time of the notification of the meeting.

Section 4. Membership List
The membership list will be available to all members and at all business meetings. It will be the source of information regarding voting eligibility, presence of a quorum, and eligibility to serve as an officer.

Section 5. Resignation and Removal
Resignation: Members may resign from membership by submitting a letter of resignation to the President or a Minister. Removal from Membership:
A person may be removed from membership immediately, for cause and/or for actions which constitute a violation of the safe congregation policy, by the unanimous vote of the entire Board. A person may be removed from membership by failing to fulfill the criteria of membership as set forth in Section 2 of this Article by the process outlined in the Membership Policy.

See related documents at cvuus.org.
Building More Love!

The Ground Floor Capital Campaign is nearing the end of the "Tsunami Phase"—and also nearing its goal of 100% participation by CVUUS members and friends, and a pledge total (to be tallied soon) that will indeed allow us to finish our lower level into a glorious community space. May 7 is the deadline for participation and for pledges. The hard-working volunteer campaign visitors would love to hear from you, even if you feel you can't pledge now or can't pledge as much as you would like. The goal of this campaign is to build community and connection as well as space. When your visitor writes or calls, please respond. You can find more information about the campaign at cvuus.org/connection/ground-floore and you can pick up or return a pledge form on Sunday mornings or in the Fenn House during the week. Let's Build More Love!

A bouquet of roses to:

... our major Seder organizers and hosts Marjorie Carsen, Michele Lowy, Sylviane Acker and Judith Lashof.

... Gerry Loney for leading Blue Jeans Sunday with help from our hard-working Facilities Team.

... Hannah Sessions for organizing the pancake breakfast! It was a huge success and raised all of the funds needed to send our COA kids to Boston.

... Gail Borden for organizing the Bill Sessions Talk. (Thanks, Bill!) It, too, was a success and raised some of the funds needed to send our Youth Group to NYC for their service project.

... Steve Maier, Kate Gridley, Brett Millier, Connie Leach, Ellen Flight, Barbara Drapelick, Ted Scheu for their continuing long hours in support of the pledge gathering phase of the campaign and work preparing for next steps. And for everyone who got their pledge forms into the office this month!

... our faithful office helpers Barbara Merz, Sheila House and Julia Tarbell and pitch hitter Lois Alberts.

... Eme Zelis, Francois Clemmons, Chris Prickitt, Connie Leach, Kate Gridley and Carol Harden who contributed special music to our April worship services and Laurie Borden, Frances Stone, Kerri D-H and Steve Maier for offering reflections.

... Marjorie Carsen for organizing the New UU classes and Jean Terwilliger, Rich, and Artley Wolfson for showing up to help Rev. Barnaby and Poppy explain how CVUUS is organized.

... Margy Young for jumping in at the last minute to go with Rev. Barnaby and four kids on the Coming of Age UU Heritage Boston trip.
CHOIR NOTES

As spring finally takes hold, the CVUUS choir will be singing from the Teal Hymnal on May 7 for the Coming of Age service, a most appropriate song, #1019, “Everything is Possible.” It is such a great text for the theme of the service. It’s a lullaby sung to a child at night, suggesting so many possibilities in life that I bet it’s hard to get them to sleep, their minds will be open to so many of life’s options!! What a great theme for kids growing into UU adults!

May 14 is Mother’s Day, and the choir will sing from our 25 Anthems by Peter Amidon, a love song, “Still There is Love”. It isn’t all joy and rainbows, but when in life is love just one thing and not a variety of emotions?

May 21 brings us a celebratory day with flutists from the congregation, Tracey Harrington and Amy Mason, playing with the choir for “Wisdom Guide Me.” It’s a great folky sound for a UU theme of looking for guidance through the complexities and fears of life.

The choir has May 28 off, so will be back in June for the final month of the choir season. Stay tuned for that update!

It’s never too late to join the choir and make new friends and keep the old. We have had some personnel changes and are missing some of our singers from previous months. New voices can bring new harmony to the choir and new joy to our music. Please think about it, and talk to Lucy after any service, or just come on a Wednesday at 5:45 for a choir folder and the rest of the season’s plans.

Hope to see you there! Lucy Tenenbaum, Choir Director

HOSPITALITY

ANYONE?

Can you help SET up? Make coffee/tea. Arrange tables. Supply half & half, half-gallon cider, iced tea or juice. Takes about a half hour so arrival by 9 or 9:30 am helps. Let Sylviane Acker know.

Can you offer FOOD? Seek the sign-up clipboard.

Can you CLEAN up? Clear counter and tables. Wash used mugs, spoons etc using hot water from tea pot. Restore kitchen and sanctuary. We’re encouraging less use of paper products and appreciate greatly your use of our mugs or your own. You could bring your own mug home to wash or help Sylviane wash our mugs and plates.

FLOWERS ANYONE?

Would you like to join the Flower Co-op Team in beautifying our sanctuary for worship services? Offer your creative expression. We’ve explored many arrangement techniques incorporating seasonal elements from our natural world.

Contact Marnie Wood or Dinah Smith.
CVUUS Sangha Space  
**What is the CVUUS Meditation Group?**

Many of us are struggling with how to respond to what is going on in the world, and seek a path that both leads to justice and reflects compassion. Meditation can be a very valuable tool in that struggle. It teaches us how to just “be” in ourselves, released from the noise and distraction of our minds and the world. From that place it is possible to feel more grounded, to intentionally formulate the “right action” for us to take, and to act with integrity. We hope more will join us as we seek a path that will lead us forward with compassion and wisdom. So, whether you are interested in meditation from a Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, mindfulness or other perspective, you are welcome. No prior meditation experience required.

**We meet every Sunday evening at the CVUUS Fenn House at 7 PM.** We sit silently for 20 minutes, walk in silence for 15 minutes, sit in silence for 15 minutes more, and then engage in conversation about our meditation practices or discuss questions for the final 10 minutes. If you have any questions about the CVUUS Meditation Group, call Colleen at 989-9974 or Van at 388-2142.

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**Night Sky Wonders for May**

Jupiter is past opposition, but still a brilliant evening object. On May 7th you’ll see the Moon snuggle up to Jupiter with the bright star Spica below and to the left of them. On May 14th (in honor of my birthday), our Moon will be next to Saturn, which rises around 11:30 pm EDT as the month begins, and around 9:30 at the end of the month.

Our Moon follows the same path as all the planets and the Sun as it transits the sky. That path is called the “ecliptic,” and it goes through a set of constellations called “The Zodiac.” Although the Moon always presents the same face to Earth, we can see more than half the lunar surface since it wobbles. These wobbles are called “librations,” and they allow us to see 60% of the lunar surface.

Venus now appears in our morning sky. On May 22nd the Moon will be next to it. You’ll see this event about 30 minutes before sunrise. Venus is now at its greatest morning brightness for the year.

Here’s wishing you (and me) clear skies. If you have astronomy questions, or would like to visit the observatory, drop me an e-mail at astromanvt@gmavt.net

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**Green Burial**

**Thurs. May 11, 7 pm, Sanctuary**

Caring Network welcomes you to a Green Burial presentation and discussion. The short video, *Dying Green*, will be shown, followed by a brief talk by Michelle Acciavatti, a home funeral, green burial and advance care planning guide, and death midwife from Montpelier.

Vermont is one of only two states that set a legal minimum depth for burial. A few other states require a minimum depth of soil over the body and a three and a half foot burial depth is consistent with these guidelines. Green burial is a return to the way we have cared for our dead for thousands of years. A green burial does not embalm the body, uses a simple biodegradable shroud or coffin, no concrete or steel vault, and a grave only three and a half feet deep.

Vermont is among the minority of states that does not have a certified green burial facility, and Bill H.3 could help change that. There are currently 150 green burial sites in 28 states and the District of Columbia. Bill H.3 will help add Vermont to the list of states offering green burial as a viable option. For more information: visit [https://vermontgreenburial.wordpress.com/](https://vermontgreenburial.wordpress.com/).
CVUUS May Newsletter

Our 2017 Annual Meeting will be Sun, June 4 following the annual Flower Communion worship service. This is our sacred time to make business and policy decisions needed to keep CVUUS vital. All members are asked and encouraged to attend. All non-member friends are invited and welcome to observe and ask questions but not to vote. Childcare and light snacks provided. Members (and friends on our email list) will receive the agenda and important documents.

CVUUS Seasons of Life Fund

Our Seasons of Life Fund is a way to share your joy or concern with the CVUUS community. Members and friends can commemorate personal milestones and passages through financial gifts to CVUUS that provide extra money for us to fulfill our mission statement. The names of the donors and the occasions of the gifts are noted in our monthly newsletter. There is no minimum amount and the size of your donation will not be made public. Please consider the Seasons of Life Fund the next time you—or someone you know—want to honor a birthday, marriage, retirement, anniversary, death, or achievement of any sort. All welcome to Bob Kellogg’s Memorial Service, Sat. July 15, 10 am in our sanctuary.

Pastoral Care

CVUUS is blessed with many wise and well-trained individuals beyond Rev. Barnaby capable of providing temporary counseling support to members and friends in various kinds of distress. Sue Grigg and Laurie Borden lead our Pastoral Care Team.

Our Caring Network provides support, such as calls, visits, meals, and rides, to those in need. Please contact Linda Shubert (458-3365 or jlishu68@gmail.com) or Ginny Moser (989-7586 or tvmoser117@gmail.com) for assistance.

We thank all the faithful folk who have participated in our efforts to support our members - providing lots of meals and myriad rides to doctor's offices, doing errands and paying visits. We encourage members of the congregation to call on us. We have an extensive network of willing helpers standing by that we can call or email on your behalf. You can also let us know if you would like to join this network. We hope you’ll attend our program on Green Burial, May 11, 7 pm in the Sanctuary. More on page 10.

Visit www.uua.org to learn about the wider work of UUA and our affiliates. Visit www.cvuus.org to explore our happenings and most current calendar.
Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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Jean Terwilliger — President
Mike Greenwood — Vice President
Mary Conlon — Treasurer
Laurie Borden — Clerk
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Council of Ministries: Colleen Brown, Steve Maier
Donation Ministry — Jason Duquette-Hoffman
Facilities — Bob House
Ground Floor Project — Steve Maier
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Membership Ministry — Marjorie Carsen
Pastoral Care — Sue Grigg and Laurie Borden
Religious Exploration Council — Brett Millier
Right Relations — John Barstow, Anne Christie, Joanna Colwell
Small Group Ministry — Doug Richards
Worship Team — Ann Webster (interim)

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Dir of Religious Exploration — Poppy Rees (re@cvuus.org)
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