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.

Radical Love:
Encountering Darkness
On the Journey
October Worship Services
(Sundays at 10 AM)

Oct 1 -- Losing Your Way: Rev. Barnaby considers whether there is any way to seriously journey toward radical love without losing one’s way early in the process. Can we learn to feel good, or at least ok, with feeling lost?

Oct 8 —(to be determined) New UU Classes begin following worship. See inside for more.

Oct 15 -- Bruised and Battered -- Our hymn about steadfast love recalls times when "disappointment pierced me through." Rev. Barnaby reflects on how the journey toward radical love requires us to share and cope with suffering.

Oct 22-- New Technology -- Are we changing our world and ourselves too fast to truly love it and each other? Rev. Barnaby reflects on a topic chosen by our Youth Group.

Oct 29—Guest speaker (to be determined)

“Congregational Conversation” Resumes!

Our October 15 congregational conversation will be on language and how it might marginalize or hurt some people. Do we want to change words in our hymns and readings to avoid having people feel left out or offended? Are there other ways to preserve original language but still be sensitive? This topic grows out of the strong reaction to Rev. Barnaby's sermon on Sept. 17 (read it here: http://www.cvuus.org/services/first-steps-first-moves). Congregational Conversation occurs on the third Sunday of most months following worship service. Suggest a topic you’d like to explore to Alan Moore.
Words from Rev. Barnaby:

I've been looking ahead ever more avidly to our first ever Radical Love Party, which we'll celebrate on Nov. 19 right after the worship service. Among other things, it will be a great way to follow-up our installation of new members during the service. As I hope you've heard, the party is replacing our annual auction. Instead of selling services and goods to each other, everything is going to be given away. (For details, including how we hope to offset the lost contribution of the auction to the budget, please see my Labor Day weekend sermon at http://www.cvuus.org/services/how-dare-we-do-this/).

I like experiments in general. One of my favorite parts of this one is the invitation to think much more creatively about what we are offering each other. I'm especially intrigued about what we might offer that wouldn't be available if money was changing hands. Just this morning, for instance, it occurred to me that I'd love the chance to cruise around with Chris Mason and see first-hand a day in the life of a Middlebury police officer.

I'm guessing that this isn't the kind of thing Chris would ever be allowed to auction off. But it just might fly with Chief Hanley if it could be given away as a form of outreach to the community. I'm positive I'm not the only person at CVUUS who would put one or more of my Party tickets in the jar for that drawing!

Chris might have no interest in this idea, of course, but just imagining it was fun. I'm a sucker for experiences that teach me more than I could otherwise have known about what I just saw or am about to see. Thus, while I might enjoy attending a class at Middlebury College, or for that matter the high school or an elementary school with a few of you, I would love having the teacher explain what went into preparing for the class and some of the fine points of what happened that we might have missed. (Memo to Karl Lindholm – can we have a post-game interview with the manager of the Lake Monsters next time?).

What would you find hard to resist or be truly delighted to share? Maybe it's companionship in getting arrested in civil disobedience. Maybe it's related to a particular hike or solving a mystery. Maybe you'd love participating in a group writing a hymn or rap tune. At the very least, radical love brainstorming seems to me like a heartwarming activity for a month when cold days begin to show up. Join in, and invite your friends!

Blessed be, Rev. Barnaby

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DISASTER RESPONSE AND RESOURCES

Hurricane Harvey made landfall with devastating impacts to an area of the United States that millions call home. Much of Texas and the Gulf Coast region is still coping with the flooding and damage Harvey wrought. To be of service to the communities to which we are connected, UUA and the UUSC have created a joint recovery fund. Our UU friends and neighbors in Florida and the Caribbean—including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands—have experienced extraordinary devastation following Hurricanes Irma and Maria. We invite you to contribute to the UUA Disaster Relief Fund so the UUA can provide financial assistance to UU congregations impacted by these and other natural disasters. In addition to facilitating their own disaster recovery, congregations receiving disaster relief funds will have discretion to provide financial assistance to their members, as well as to support local partner organizations serving the community at large. Puerto Rico’s situation is especially severe. The Unitarian Universalist College of Social Justice (UUCSJ) is organizing volunteers to help with disaster relief efforts. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out their online form and someone will be in touch with you. For more, visit https://www.uua.org/giving/areas-support/funds/hurricane-harvey-relief-fund-and-resources/.
The Charter House Emergency Winter Shelter Opens October 15
Some of Our Neighbors Could Use Your Help

While most of us do not notice them, over 100 of our fellow citizens have been living in tents, cars, under bridges, and under decks this past summer. As the colder weather approaches, just getting by each day becomes increasingly difficult. Thanks to the work of dozens of volunteers who have been remodeling and expanding the living quarters at Charter House the past three months, our community will be providing safe haven, food and other basic needs for 5 families and up to 20 individuals from October 15 through April 16. This program is possible because every winter several hundred individuals from Addison County contribute over 12,000 hours of volunteer time, donate hundreds of pounds of clothing and food, prepare 23,000 free meals, and pay for most of the cost of operating and maintaining our building. A big thanks also goes to the Congregational Church for enabling us to double the space available for our programs.

There are many ways you can help:
- volunteer to staff Charter House during the day for 2 – 3 hour shifts or overnight (you can sleep)
- help with food preparation for the dinner meal or breakfast
- donate prepared meals, bread/rolls, and fruit/cookies/deserts
- donate adult size winter clothing especially socks, boots, gloves, sweat suits, underwear, warm coats
- make a contribution (Charter House Coalition, 27 North Pleasant Street, Middlebury, VT 05753)

There are two ways you can learn more about us and volunteering:
Open House - On Sat. Oct. 14 from 9:30 to 11:30 am Join us for refreshments and a tour of the expanded/remodeled facilities. Board members and staff will be available to answer questions.

Attend a Volunteer Orientation and Training Session at Charter House -
Wed, Oct 4 at 9 am Sat, Oct 7 at 9:00 am Wed, Oct 11 at 7 pm Sat, Oct 21 at 9 am
The first 30 minutes of these sessions will be devoted to discussing opportunities to support the food and housing programs of Charter House Coalition. For those interested in volunteering to staff Charter House, training will follow the information session and will take about 60 minutes. New volunteers are always paired up with experienced volunteers for their initial sessions. Contact Samantha Kachmar (mskachmar@gmavt.net) or Doug Sinclair (jdsinclair@ripton-coop.net; 989-9746) if you have questions or would like to discuss any aspects of Charter House. You can also connect with us at www.charterhousecoalition.org, facebook.com/charterhousecoalition, or @CHCMiddlebury

OCTOBER for Children and Youth ~

OCT 1: SPIRIT PLAY, HARRY & UU start in Worship
    NEIGHBORING FAITHS **PARENT & CHILD** ORIENTATION 10-11:30 (not 11:15) at Fenn House
    YOUTH GROUP – at CROP WALK 12:45
    **CROP WALK 12:45 – CVUUS is walking and raising money to fight hunger! Please walk!**

OCT 8: SPIRIT PLAY, HARRY & UU start in Worship
    NEIGHBORING FAITHS start at Fenn House
    OWL 10-12:30 next door at Mary Johnson Children’s Center basement

OCT 15: KIDS FOR KIDS 10-11:15 start at Fenn House - All-ages kids social justice group that works to help other kids. This month: making Halloween decorations and treats for the Charter House kids.

OCT 22: SPIRIT PLAY, HARRY & UU start in Worship
    NEIGHBORING FAITHS start at Fenn House
    YOUTH GROUP *come to Worship Service 10-11 sermon topic chosen by last year’s Youth Group (no meeting this afternoon)
    OWL 10-12:30 next door at Mary Johnson Children’s Center basement

OCT 29: RE FUNDAY for SPIRIT PLAY, HARRY & UU kids start in Worship – activity TBD
    NEIGHBORING FAITHS start at Fenn House
    YOUTH GROUP 4-6 pm

For more info, contact Director of Religious Exploration Poppy Rees re@cvuus.org
This year at CVUUS, we are “On the Journey to Radical Love.” And we have monthly themes from this -

**SEPT**  Starting Out on the Journey  
**OCT**  Encountering Darkness on the Journey  
**NOV**  Gratitude Keeps Us Going  
**DEC**  Changing Course  
**JAN**  Worship’s Role in Radical Love  
**FEB**  Fellowship’s Role in Radical Love  
**MAR**  Doubts & Radical Love  
**APR**  Creating & Re-creating as Acts of Radical Love  
**MAY**  Coming to Grips with the Gaps & Imbalances  
**JUNE**  Coming Together to Look Back & Ahead

These themes will drive our worship, Religious Exploration programs, congregational events, social justice work, music and more. **But what is Radical Love? And how do we encourage ourselves and our children to live it more fully?**

Maybe we could use the **11 principles that One Tree Center in Portland, Maine promotes:**

**Revolution** - every human, animal, plant, and mineral is connected to each other  
**Altruism** - be unselfish, devote one’s life to welfare of others, stand up for injustices in our society  
**Dialogue** - every individual’s voice and experience is valuable because it represents some measure of truth  
**Intention** - stop, reflect, and think about what our daily intentions are  
**Commitment** - the more we are committed to our own individual paths and traditions, the more we are able to learn about another’s paths and traditions  
**Accountability** – talk about how we feel and what we need when a conflict arises, learn the power of forgiveness towards others who may have hurt us  
**Learning** - all beings have something to teach and learn from one another  
**Liberty** – ask open-ended questions, offer choices  
**Openness** – listen to other perspectives, be willing to grow  
**Visioning** – value the parts of ourselves that create and recreate the world around us, use and celebrate our gifts  
**Empowerment** – be authentic and whole, spontaneous, connected and compassionate

~ Poppy, your Director of Religious Exploration
How Would You Like to Stand for Radical Love?

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now.
You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it. from Rabbi Tarfon

Migrant Support: Do you wish to understand and assist our migrant farmworkers? The next ESL training with Rebecca Holmes will be Sat, Oct 14 10-12 and Sun, Oct 22, 12:30-2:30 at Fenn House (adjacent to the UU Church ). Please join us. The Addison County Migrants Ally Group meets the third Wed of each month. Their next check-in Wed, Oct 18, 4:30 pm in Fenn to coordinate ally trainings, migrant help and prepare for the Mexican Consulate Visit at CVUUS on Sat. Dec. 2 (9-3). Help make tamales on Sun. Oct 29. 3 –7 PM at Methodist Church. Some will be sampled and others frozen for the consulate visit. Catch up more at cvuus.org/news or ask Carol Kulczyk.

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 am back at Middlebury’s Triangle Park. Bring signs as you see fit. Attend these upcoming opportunities.

Climate Justice Conversation, Sun Oct 15 , 4 pm, Congregational Church of Middlebury. A panel of local leaders facilitated by Andy Nagy-Benson and Emily Josselson

Vermon Interfaith Power & Light (VTIPL) Fall Conference, Sat. Oct 21 (10-4) at First Congregational Church, 3624 Main St., Manchester, VT: Building Local Resilience—Inspiring Climate Action! Register at www.vtipl.org. Attend workshops. Hear keynote speaker Deb Markowitz. VTIPL helps faith communities to be better stewards of Creation by using energy wisely, reducing carbon.

CROP Hunger Walk, Sunday, Oct 1: Assemble at 12:45 pm on Middlebury Town Green for an hour’s walk to help with world and local efforts to reduce hunger. Last year we distributed over $6,000 to local food shelves and programs, and were 8th out of ninety walks in New England at raising funds! You can sign-up or donate at church or online at www.crophungerwalk.org/middleburyvt (Scroll down to “find your team”, and type in CVUUS.) This is a wonderful way to give as a community, and a great opportunity to do community service as a family, too. See Bobbi Loney. Kids for Kids will participate.

Gleaning: a CVUUS Green Sanctuary Environmental Justice Project You’re invited to these upcoming opportunities!

Butternut Squash Gleaning, Sat Oct 7, 10 AM—3 PM, Gildrien Farm, Leicester Apple Gleaning, Sat Oct 14, 10 AM—3 PM , Yates Farm, Monkton

Help harvest 1/4 acre of butternut squash for Salvation Farms on Sat., Oct 7, starting at 10. Come to Gildrien Farm at 490 Delorm Rd., Leicester. Please bring work gloves and loppers or pruning shears if you have them. Contact Caitlin with questions at 247-4699 or c.gildrien@gmail.com.

Gleaning is a CVUUS Green Sanctuary Environmental Justice Project. There are a few ways you can get notices and participate. One way is through the Weekly Blast. Another is by getting notices directly by registering at http://salvationfarms.org/get-involved.html. Select the type of work you’d like to do, which includes planting, gleaning, processing, delivering, admin, etc. You can take home some gleaned items if there’s enough. Gleans are usually 1 1/2- 2 hrs. Please feel free to stay for whatever amount of time you can. Look for more details about gleaning in the Sanctuary lobby.

Visit cvuus.org/justice for the many ways that CVUUS participates in advancing justice through action and monthly donations and cvuus.org/news for latest developments.
Social Action Updates

October “Share the Plate” Donee

Doctors Without Borders

Amid the Parisian upheavals of May 1968, a group of young doctors decided to go and help victims of wars and major disasters. This new brand of humanitarianism would reinvent the concept of emergency aid. They were to become Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), known internationally in English as Doctors Without Borders.

MSF’s first mission was to the Nicaraguan capital, Managua, where an earthquake in 1972 had destroyed most of the city and killed between 10,000 and 30,000 people. In 1974, MSF set up a relief mission to help the people of Honduras after Hurricane Fifi caused major flooding and killed thousands of people. Then, in 1975, MSF established its first large-scale medical program during a refugee crisis, providing medical care for the waves of Cambodians seeking sanctuary from Pol Pot’s oppressive rule.

Since 1980, MSF has opened offices in 28 countries and employs more than 30,000 people across the world. Since its founding, MSF has treated over a hundred million patients—with 8.25 million outpatient consultations being carried out in 2014 alone. MSF has also maintained its institutional and financial independence, and the organization has continued to be critical of both itself and the broader aid system when appropriate, all in the name of trying to help direct more effective and timely aid to those who need it most. Morris Earle will be traveling to Lebanon this month to join them in their work. Learn more at doctorswithoutborders.org.

Please speak with anyone on Donation Ministry to suggest an organization you would like CVUUS to support: Jason Duquette-Hoffman (chair), Parker (Monty) Montgomery, Ashleigh Hickey, Barbara Karle, Kimberly Waterman, Rev. Barnaby. Previous donees are listed at cvuus.org/justice.

September’s collection raised $1,014.34 for Salvation Farms

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 invites you to their special event I RISE on Oct 1, 2 pm at Town Hall Theater following Crop Walk. I RISE is a multi-layered presentation of literary and performance art inspired by, and in service to people impacted by domestic and sexual violence. Proceeds will directly benefit WomenSafe and its efforts to address and reduce incidences of domestic and sexual violence in our community. Many CVUUS-ers are involved in service to WomenSafe and can tell you more including director Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, intern Martha Alexander and board members Joanna Colwell, Amy Mason and Becky Strum (directing the event).
Small Group Ministry Begins in October

Small Group Ministry is a great blend of soul work, mental stimulation and friendship. It’s a place to listen and be heard, to deepen connections, to get to know others in an intimate setting of 8 or so members or friends of CVUUS. A couple of groups meet one weekday evening a month, and another group meets on a Saturday morning.

How Small Group Ministry Works Ministry happens in the meetings, which focus on spiritual or religious topics through a process of deep listening. Topics that may be shared during meetings include: sacred places, perfection, mothers, community, living simply, music, and healing. Groups choose their own order, direction and pace. Group members commit to regular meeting times and to practice deep listening. Deep listening is a way of focusing intently on what another person is saying without interruption or simultaneously formulating a response. Deep listening also gives an individual an opportunity to speak without interruption or comment. Each group has a facilitator who links the group to the SGM steering committee and the minister. The steering committee and minister give guidance, recruit new members, establish new groups, and develop session plans.

Small Ministry 2.0: Another way is to form groups focused on a particular interest or topic. Such groups might focus on topics or interests such as Natural History, Food Justice, Poetry, Art as a Spiritual Practice, What is God?, Restorative Justice, Meditative Practice….or any number of other interests or topics.

A Different Way of Doing Church The Small Group Ministry program deepens and broadens personal spiritual growth. The focus and goals of each meeting include:

- **Listening:** Deep listening is gift for both the speaker and the listener.
- **Worship:** Small Group Ministry augments and strengthens our shared experience.
- **Community:** Small groups meet the need for connection and intimacy
- **Learning:** People come to the church seeking spiritual growth, seeking to know themselves better, to grow into their understanding of the world and to ponder the age old questions of faith.
- **Service:** A life of faith is a life of service. As human beings, we seek to be of use, and a healthy congregation needs to provide avenues through which we may serve.

**INTERESTED?** Contact Doug Richards at drichard@keuka.edu or 802-989-9387.

NONVIOLENT COMMUNICATION (NVC) Continued

The NVC process, also known as Compassionate Communication, was developed by Marshall Rosenberg and used during the 1960’s to smooth racial integration. Think of it as peacemaking through how we use language. NVC promotes awareness of one’s feelings and needs and how taking responsibility to express them can help us stay connected to ourselves and others. This compassionate connection can result in feeling grounded in diverse situations, building more effective work relationships, or deepening intimate relationships.

October’s NVC sharing introduces how words we say can disconnect us from others, and shows the components of NVC. Believing it is our nature to enjoy giving and receiving in a compassionate manner, Marshall explored what disconnects us from fellow human beings. The words we use to communicate can lead to hurt and pain (feel “violent” or opposing to our good intentions). Using the NVC process replaces our patterns of using language to defend, withdraw, or attack in response to judgment and criticism.

An example I noticed in myself this summer arose in conversing with a new friend. I actually said ‘You’re being a hypocrite’ when he gave conflicting information on a topic that riled my emotions. Once I learned how oppositional my words had felt to him, I apologized and removed my judgmental label. I rephrased my response to objectively state my observation and share my feeling, requesting his clarification. ‘I noticed the two things you said were conflicting and I’m confused by what you meant.’ We recovered from that disconnection!

Anne Christie, Right Relations Team
Warm October Greetings from Your Membership Ministry Team!

Our team, including our fine Greeters, serves our congregation by welcoming one and all, by helping us make connections with one another and with opportunities for service, and by supporting pathways to spiritual development within our community.

**Our New UU classes**, for any who may be considering membership in CVUUS (but open to all), take place **each Fall and Spring**, and will begin this month.

The three topics are:

1. Sharing our Spiritual Journeys
2. Highlights of UU History
3. CVUUS History, Organization, and Long-range Goals

Our **first session** will be after the service on **Sunday, October 8th**. The next two will take place the same time on the 22nd and/or the 29th, with alternate times on Monday PM, the 16th or the 30th, and possibly November 5th after worship. Snacks and childcare will be provided!

If you have any interest in the possibility of becoming a member, or any questions about this process, please contact Rev. Barnaby, Marjorie Carsen, or the office. We also want to know what your scheduling needs are, so that you can fully participate in this learning and connecting opportunity. For those who choose membership this Fall, there will be a brief, informal welcoming ceremony before Thanksgiving, and our thankfulness for your taking this step can be well assured.

Grateful Fall Blessings, Marjorie Carsen, for Membership Ministry

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**FIRE DRILL during worship this month** (hint, hint)

In case of the need to evacuate, please remain calm and exit the facilities quickly. In order to facilitate the fire department’s access, we gather across Charles St in Martha Soderberg’s yard. If snow or other inclement weather make it impossible for us to gather there, we gather in Martha’s home, 107 Water St. We ask that everyone gather there, rather than leaving for home, until all are present and accounted for, and until you’re notified that it’s safe to return to the Sanctuary and Fenn House.

Parents especially are asked **NOT to depart with their children without notifying the RE leaders**. To make evacuation as quick and safe as possible, no one is to return to his or her seat to collect objects left behind or to try to find relatives or friends inside the church.

Parents with children in the Nursery are asked to exit the sanctuary building through the Nursery if it is safe to do so, in order to assist the nursery staff in safely evacuating all children.

RE leaders of groups meeting in the Fenn House: Gather children hand-in-hand and exit the building through the nearest safe exit. Please take the daily attendance sheet, so we can assure all children are accounted for and all family members find one another. When parents and children have been reunited, the RE leader(s) may leave the children in their parents’ care, noting the child’s departure with their parent on their attendance sheet.

Those with Mobility Issues: An usher or other appropriate person(s) will assist those with mobility issues to be escorted to the furthest corner of the patio area in front of the Sanctuary (by the large CVUUS sign). From that spot, they can be easily identified by emergency personnel and assisted in further exiting. Those who may slow down the evacuation should wait until others are out. **The Minister and Worship Associate will be last to leave the Sanctuary** and make a final sweep of all rooms, ensuring no one is left in the sanctuary or other areas of the building, and closing all doors.
FROM THE BOARD  Why Co-Presidency for the Board?  Laurie Borden

A little frightening – that title – President of the CVUUS Board and congregation.  But a little fear might be a good thing—I consider it a challenge of my commitment to our liberal religious tradition.  A tradition, I feel with every fiber in me, that needs to thrive.  I come from seven generations of UU’s, so I am dedicated to keeping the legacy alive and shining.  I believe we are essential to the creation of “beloved community” in our world – especially with all the turmoil, loneliness, anger and hurt around us.  So first I just need to share my thoughts on the Board – what do we do, why do we do it and how do we do it:  

We honor our past – our history, both locally and denominationally, has a richness to remember and a journey to celebrate.

We oversee the present – our rightful actions, both individually and universally, are imperative to define us and vital to sustain us.

We envision the future – who we become, both personally and globally, inspires us to learn continuously and dream eternally.

Why does the board do this?  We honor our past to build upon the deeds and ideas of all those who came before us.  This deepens our faith in right relationship, with ourselves and others.  We oversee the present to actively and compassionately communicate with the congregation that we serve and with the world around us.  We envision the future so we can help steer – operationally, financially, spiritually – our beloved community.

How does the board do this?  Some examples - We honor our past by…reviewing policies to make sure they match our direction and our Ends Statement …sharing readings from UU pioneers.  We oversee the present by…reading reports from Rev. Barnaby to hear what is or isn’t working…creating opportunities to link with the congregation so that we can speak in one voice expressed as a reflection of all voices.  We envision the future by…educating ourselves – we read and discuss Growing a Beloved Community by Tom Owen-Towle; we attend denominational gatherings; we pay attention to social justice around us…considering and responding thoughtfully, based on our collective minds, hearts and voices, to what needs to happen next.

Now to the question of co-presidency - So we honor, build, strengthen, oversee, listen, connect, learn, respond and envision.  Overwhelmed?  Confused?  Frightened?  You bet!  But also mindful, ready and passionate about the adventure ahead.  One thing we know for certain - WE NEED EACH OTHER TO MAKE CVUUS HAPPEN.  A concept we have taken to heart and to action.  And although I am not sure I know what “radical love” means, I know it takes at least two to tango.  Mike and I, along with fellow board members, will be memories to preserve our past, while strengthening our faith.  Mike and I, along with our fellow board members, will be two sets of ears to listen to--from different perspectives--our present beloved community.  Mike and I, along with your board members, will be students of learning for the future – about you and our neighbors.  The Board is being mindful of the power of teamwork.  We are approaching our tasks, projects and ideas with a “buddy system” – two of us working together in order to gain new perspectives and support one another.  Just as worship, music, religious exploration, etc. are shared ministries – leadership should also be a shared ministry – spread outward throughout the CVUUS family.

We will hold the Platinum Rule as our bookmark – “Do unto others as they would have you do unto them”.  This won’t be frightening if you join us on this journey.  We ask for your patience in our shortcomings, your trust in our diligence, your honesty in our communications.  We hold you all as we deliberate during our meetings as you are the reason we show up.  We are honored to be walking this path with you.

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September Board Meeting Highlights

—Discussed first chapters of Growing the Beloved Community by Tom Owen-Towle. General agreement that being a member of a UU church means being part of a communal spiritual journey, with congregants supporting one another. Tied in well with our year-long plans to discuss radical love.

—Discussed how the church calendar was determined. This seems to be largely a job for the Council on Ministries, but Rev Barnaby is largely responsible for preventing conflicts in the calendar.

—Planned review of minister’s reports for year in light of Rev Barnaby’s sabbatical. Agreed to have board members pair up to become experts on particular topics. The broad topics will be “financial”, “connections”, and “leadership”.  

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Greetings CVUUS friends and choir supporters (I know you are all both those things! For that we thank you!). We have started off the fall season with great music and a dedicated group of singers who try very hard to bring quality choral music to our services. I hope you all realize how generous the choir singers are with their time: 1.5 hours on Wednesday evenings (5:45-7:15 if you’re going to find a place in your schedule for it…) and an extra hour at 9 on 3 Sundays to prepare for the service at 10. We are privileged to work with wonderful pianists, Kate and Chuck, and equally wonderful guitarist Christopher Prickitt and Connie Leach on Bass Viol, and sometimes other talented musicians from the congregation and community. How wonderfully these folks add their talents to the CVUUS choir and the worship services! I guess this would be a good time to express my gratitude to all of you folks, and say how much I look forward to making more music with more of the musicians in the congregation. Just let me know what instrument or voice you have to offer and we’ll find a way to include you!

So, coming up in October are three anthems to help us move deeper into Radical Love by encountering, experiencing and coming through darkness. Oct. 1 the choir has a Sunday off. Oct. 8 Tim Guiles will be our accompanist, and the choir will sing from the gray hymnal, #340, *Though Gathered Here to Celebrate*. The text is contemplative and gives us a chance to dip into a consciousness of that part of ourselves that may be holding onto fear and pain. The final verse suggests reasons for hope, “Self-pity must not have its way; I’ll live my life from day to day, and now the healing starts.” I do hope you all are finding a way into that healing place, no matter what losses you are experiencing. We are stronger together, and this community offers a lot of support for any pain that may lodge itself in you.

Oct. 15 we are taking our thoughts deeply into difficult waters with the African American Spiritual *Soon I Will Be Done* in a setting by Ysaye Barnwell from Sweet Honey in the Rock. I know our choir members will share a deeply felt song with you that day. This group of singers has had a chance to think and learn more about what Spirituals are and how they came to being. The Spirituals were music that came into being as communication between enslaved peoples. Knowing this gives our choral anthem a more personal setting than perhaps it might have been without having learned and researched that information. Thanks to Francois Clemmons for his tutelage.

Oct. 22 is a Youth led Sunday. We hope the youth in the congregation will approve an idea for that week that might just blow us all out of the water. Poppy and I will work with them to learn the same anthem the adult choir is learning: *Brave* is Audrey Snyder’s arrangement by the wonderfully sensitive yet rhythmically driven Sara Bareilles’ *Brave*. It’ll bring down the walls, as we look deep into our hearts, remember our youth (or be living in it now!) to find that can-do spirit that will get things done. “I just want to see you be Brave!”

And that is just a taste of what’s coming up this fall. Choir is taking new singers any time. Just email me to let me know you’re coming ([lucytunes@me.com](mailto:lucytunes@me.com)) and there will be a folder ready for you, a warm welcome, someone to stand next to you and guide you, and the great feeling of being part of something that is so much larger than the individual pieces.

Blessed be and Amen! Lucy Tenenbaum, Choir Director
CVUUS Sangha & Meditation

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 have a brief conversation about our meditation practices or discuss questions for the final 10 minutes.

All are welcome, regardless of level of experience (or lack of experience) with meditation and regardless of faith tradition. If you have any questions about the CVUUS Sangha or Meditation Group, call Colleen at 989-9974 or Van at 388-2142.

CVUUS Sangha / Meditation Group met with the Bread Loaf Mountain Zen Community (BLMZC) and its leader, former CVUUS member, Joshin Brian Byrnes, who is now a Zen priest. The CVUUS Sangha will have the opportunity to participate in and support BLMZC programs, in addition to continuing its regular Sunday night meditation group.

The CVUUS webpage has information about the sangha and its ongoing activities.

Seeking Hosts

Thank you to the families who joined the UU’re Home bed and breakfast program which began in the fall of 2015. Most of our reservations come from the family of a first year UU Middlebury College student, including October’s Parent Weekend.

There are ways to boost our requests and consequently our revenue. One is to list our program in the office at the college that helps students find housing for family members for college events, which we’ve done. We can all recommend the program to local friends and neighbors who don’t have room to house all of their guests. One benefit to volunteering to be a host in our B & B program is access to the national UU’re Home directory.

The rates are $50 per person per night; $60 per person with breakfast included. Reservations may be made by contacting the coordinator. If you are interested in learning more about this program, contact coordinator Johanna Nichols, 802-349-9436 or send an e-mail: nichols.johanna@gmail.com.

Writers’ Group

CVUUS Writers’ Group meets third Monday of the month. Next one is Oct 16, 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 (nancymeanswright@gmail.com).

In Search of the Real World: Richard Hawley

Reads from his Life’s Work  Sunday, Oct. 8, 7 pm., Sanctuary

Presented by Vermont Book Shop with CVUUS Writers’ Group support. Hawley is a writer of astonishing range and authority, a master of many forms: novel, short story, poetry, critical non-fiction, literary non-fiction, philosophy.

The author of over 20 books, he will be reading from recent work, work-in-progress and favorites over the course of his writing life. Scholar and schoolmaster, Hawley was educated at Middlebury College (B.A., 1967), Cambridge University (M.A.) and Case Western (Ph.D). He taught at University School in Cleveland, Ohio for 37 years, the last 17 of which he served as its Headmaster. He is the founding president of the International Boys School Coalition, which now numbers 250 schools worldwide. He conducts research, writes extensively, and lectures widely on educational practice, most recently on the relational nature of good teaching.

Hawley’s most recent novel The Three Lives of Jonathan Force is a panoramic take on the life of a popular social critic in three stages, taking him from first breath to last. One reviewer wrote that Hawley “explores with sensitivity and eloquence the unexpected moments that linger in memory and give shape to our souls.”
# Night Sky Wonders for October

This October is not a good month for observing planets in our evening sky. Earth is on one side of the Sun, while the five naked-eye planets are all on the other side. Jupiter is completely hidden in the glow of the Sun. Meanwhile, Saturn is close behind and will appear low in the southwest and get progressively lower as the month progresses. That makes early morning the best time to see any planets. Both Venus and Mars appear low in the eastern sky about one hour before sunrise. On October 17<sup>th</sup> a very thin crescent moon will be between them.

Many people have been asking if I observed the eclipse in August. Yes, I did. We traveled to Clarksville Tennessee where Joan and I rented an AirBnB apartment. An open field across the street afforded us a perfect spot to place a table and chairs. I set up my filtered 80-mm telescope, allowing us to see numerous Sunspots before totality and prominences around the Sun at totality. Some people call total eclipses “life-changing events.” Neither Joan nor I thought so, although it was a neat experience. On April 8<sup>th</sup> 2024, the northern half of Vermont will experience totality.

You’ll find the Moon full on October 5<sup>th</sup> and new on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.

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 astro-manvt@gmavt.net

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### CVUUS Calendar At-a-Glance 2017-18

**SEPT** *Starting on the Journey*
- 3 Labor Day Weekend Worship & Picnic
- 10 Water Communion/ Ingathering
- 17 Kids for Kids/Youth Group/ Ministries Fair
- 23 Meditation Retreat
- 24 RE Groups start
- 25 OWL Parent Orientation (6:30-9)

**OCT** *Encountering Darkness*
1 Crop Hunger Walk
8 OWL begins
15 New UU classes begin (see page 3)
  Congregational Conversations resume
(3rd Sundays of most months following worship.)

**NOV** *Gratitude Keeps Us Going*
- 2 Date Night resumes
- 19 New Members Ceremony
  Radical Love Giveaway (see page 2)
  All welcome! Following worship

**DEC** *Changing Course*
- 2 Mexican Consulate Visit (9-3)
- 24 Christmas Eve Services (5 & 7:30 pm)

**JAN** *Worship’s Role in Radical Love*
- 7 Rev. Barnaby on sabbatical until April 8
- 14 Building More Love fundraising/events

**FEB** *Fellowship’s Role in Radical Love*
- 11 Multigen created by kids
- 18 Congregational Conversation

**MAR** *Doubts & Radical Love*
- 18 Congregational Conversation
- 30 Passover Seder (5:30)

**APR** *Creating & Re-creating as Acts of Radical Love*
- 1 Easter/Spring Service
- 8 New Member classes announced
- 29 Blue Jeans Sunday

**JUNE** *Coming Together to Look Back & Ahead*
- 2 Rhubarb Festival
- 3 Flower Communion/ Annual Meeting
- 10 Summer RE starts
- 17 Choir Favorites
- 20 UUA General Assembly Kansas City

**JULY/AUG** *Spirituality & the Arts*

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**Need a name tag?** Check the racks where they have been organized alphabetically. If not there, check with a greeter to see if it is elsewhere or needs to be made for you.

**Is your directory info current?** Report changes to office@cvuus.org or 388-8080.
Recent Visitors:
♦ Delaney Collins (Middlebury College)
♦ Suzanne Stone (Paul’s sister)
♦ Scott Smith ♦ Laura Ferguson
♦ Theresa Snow (Salvation Farms )
♦ Jean Murphy (Eugene OR)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS
Anna Hallman 10/1
Bobbie Carnwath 10/2
Lucy Tenenbaum 10/3
Rich Hennessey 10/4
Tara O'Donahue 10/4
Kas Singh 10/4
David Durgin 10/5
Eric Nelson 10/5
Spencer Reed 10/5
Kate Kaster 10/8
Meilena Sanchez 10/8
Simone Duquette-Hoffman 10/11
Elizabeth Bright 10/12
Phoebe Hoyler 10/13
Lise Anderson 10/15
Nancy Wright 10/18
Joanna Colwell 10/18
Chris Mason 10/20
Peter Orzech 10/22
Rose Bright 10/23
Priscilla Jimenez 10/23
Tor Bright 10/25
Connie Avildsen 10/26
Ann Brousseau 10/26
Anne Christie 10/26
Barbara Karle 10/26
Emily Schloff 10/28
Pat Schmitter 10/28
Milo Rees 10/30
Cadence Baker-Rouse 10/31

A bouquet of roses to:
...Paul and Francis Stone for hosting the Labor Day Weekend Picnic and Worship.
...Bobbi Loney for sharing her testimony.
...all for the many ways in which you’re involved in CVUUS life!

Our 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. We received a donation from Sandi Olivo and Cal Mosher in memory of Louise Mosher.

Planned Giving: For help remembering us in your will or trust, contact John Berninghausen at 349-7080 or berningh@middlebury.edu.

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, Laurie Borden and Marjorie Carsen lead our Pastoral Care Team. Their contact info is in the Directory.

Our Caring Network provides support, such as calls, visits, meals, and rides, to those in need. Please contact Linda Shubert (458-8931 or jlshu68@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.

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

2 Duane Court, Middlebury, VT 05753
Located at Duane Court & Charles Avenue

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
(802) 388-8080; office@cvuus.org
Office Hours: T—F, 10-2

MINISTER
Rev. Barnaby Feder
388-8080 (office)
(973) 919-2448 (cell)
989-7197 (home)
Email: revbarnaby@cvuus.org

CVUUS Board of Trustees
Mike Greenwood – Co-President
Laurie Borden – Co-President
Mary Conlon – Treasurer
Mark Spritzer — Clerk
Members At Large:
Donna LaRose
Jean Terwilliger
Mary Hadley

CVUUS Leaders
Caring Network – Linda Shubert & Ginny Moser
Communications — Margy Young
Council of Ministries: Steve Maier, Margy Young
Donation Ministry — Jason Duquette-Hoffman
Facilities – Bob House
Ground Floor Project — Steve Maier, Brett Millier
Hospitality – Sylviane Acker, Julie Chippendale
Library & Information Resources – Artley Wolfson
Membership Ministry — Marjorie Carsen
Pastoral Care — Sue Grigg and Laurie Borden
Radical Love — Piper Harrell, Steve Maier
Religious Exploration Council – Kas Singh
Right Relations — John Barstow, Anne Christie, Joanna Colwell
Small Group Ministry — Doug Richards
Worship – Ann Webster (Interim)

Staff
Accompanists – Kate Gridley and Chuck Miller
Bookkeeper – Heather Seeley (fm@cvuus.org)
Choir Director – Lucy Tenenbaum (lucytunes@me.com)
Dir of Religious Education — Poppy Rees (re@cvuus.org)
Nursery Care Provider: Jackie Derse
Office Manager – Laura Asermily (office@cvuus.org)