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.

Coming Together to Look Back and Ahead

June Worship Services
(Sundays at 10 AM)

June 3 – A Conversation with Flowers – Humans use flowers to communicate and, in poem and story, we have spoken to flowers since our ancestors lived in caves. Rev. Barnaby introduces this year's Flower Communion with some musing about what flowers have to tell us about love. This is a multigenerational service followed by our Annual Meeting. Please bring a flower for our communal bouquet!

June 10 – Are We There Yet? – The question we’ve all asked as children and all heard from children as adults is a good one to ask today. It's our last Sunday of a church year devoted to exploring what it means to be on a journey toward radical love. Rev. Barnaby will lead the service. Join him for CommUUion following worship in the Sanctuary Lower Level.

Summer Religious Exploration begins! More inside.

June 17—We’re All in this Together—The Choir will repeat 7 of the anthems they sang from Sept to May. It is an uplifting and entirely musical service. Come listen to the choir, and think about, “where is my place in the choir??” Maybe as singer, maybe as listener, maybe as strong supporter… Followed by our Congregational Conversation on Green Sanctuary. See more inside.

June 24 —What My Son Taught Me about Humility, Healing, and Writing—Crafting words that tell a debilitating and instructive story that will leave the reader with understanding, compassion, a sense of joy and inspired to take action compelled me to write about raising my son. At last. Led by guest speaker Tor Riley as he begins our summer long exploration of spirituality and the arts.

Annual Meeting, Sunday, June 3, 11:30 am

This is our sacred time for business and policy decisions rooted in the UU fifth principle affirming “the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations...” All members are encouraged to attend. Non-member friends are not entitled to vote but are welcome to observe and ask questions. Childcare and light snacks provided, including delicious Rhubarb Festival leftovers. Members (and friends on our email list) should have received the agenda (see page 11) and important documents electronically.
Words from Rev. Barnaby:

Now we come to June-uary. January, the first month of the calendar year, is named after Janus, the Roman god of transitions (and doorways). He is depicted with back-to-back faces, one to see into the past and the other looking toward the future. As a lifelong UU, I've always felt I'm right there in June as well.

From a bookkeeping point of view, our new church year starts July 1. But we are into our summer programming then. June is the true transitional month. The current church year wraps up, our budget for next year is adopted at the annual meeting, and many of the plans for the next year are settled. We start the month by capping off our celebration of spring and community with the Flower Communion. Two weeks later, our choir leads a service made up of its favorite songs from the year we are completing, then begins its summer vacation. Some of us head off to wherever the UU General Assembly is meeting. The Worship Team begins filling in Sunday plans for the fall.

I am looking forward to looking back this month on our theme for the current year – the journey toward radical love. And I am looking forward to looking back over my mother’s life with those of you who can come to her memorial service June 16.

This June, I expect, we all will be looking forward to starting construction of our new Ann Ross Fellowship Hall, a kitchen, an elevator, bathrooms and other facilities below the Sanctuary! What else are you looking back on and forward to? Don't forget to take some time just to look around....June-uary indeed.

Blessed be, Rev. Barnaby

Openings for Deeper Connections

"The highest priority is that people of all ages are opened to deeper connections with themselves, others, and the spirit of life."  
(CVUUS Purpose Statement)

CVUUS Council of Ministries is composed of some CVUUS committee chairs and others. Its focus is on communications and connections within the congregation and between the congregation and minister, and it serves as a supportive and creative sounding board. We leave each meeting filled with gratitude. We meet 2nd Sunday of each month 3:30-5:30 pm in Fenn. Contact Margy Young.

Flower Co-op The Flower Co-op shares flowers and seasonal pieces each Sunday as a spiritual practice and to support your worship experience. We love to do this, and we could use your help. There are several possibilities. You could create the entire bouquet. Or you could let someone visit your garden for discrete flower and shrub branch cutting. Contact our co-chairs: Marnie Wood & Dinah Smith.

Hospitality The after service coffee hour needs helping hands! Some of the jobs are: preparing coffee and tea water urns, setting out sweeteners, napkins, cups, silverware, and composting bin, filling dishes with coffee cakes and other offerings people bring in, circulating with the sign-up clipboard to find bakers for future weeks, and cleaning up afterwards. If you’d like to lend your helping hands just show up twenty minutes early to church or stick around afterwards to help clean up. You will get thanked by the smiles of those who appreciate this wonderful service, which is everyone!

Ushers Ushers are essential to making CVUUS an inviting and welcoming place. They distribute hymnals and orders of service, collect the offering, and do an attendance count. They arrive at 9:30. You may volunteer to usher a little or a lot, whatever best suits your schedule. Contact Mike Greenwood.

Religious Exploration (RE) Council supports RE Director Poppy Rees’ planning and implementation of programs and recruitment of teachers and 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. Contact Tracey Harrington.

Please join us!

Michal Feder
Celebration of Life
Sat., June 16, 4 pm, Sanctuary
**The Five Questions:**
Adult Religious Education

Next fall, Rev. Barnaby will be teaching an adult religious education class called *The Five Questions* online to incarcerated UU’s through the UU Church of the Larger Fellowship. The five questions are:  
* What does it mean to be human?  
* How do I know what I know?  
* Who or what is in charge?  
* What is my purpose in life?  
* What is the meaning of death?

Rev. Barnaby will be teaching a face-to-face version of the class this summer to figure out how to adapt it to make it work well for people in prison. The first of the six sessions of the summer class will meet **Thursday, June 14, 7 pm** in the Fenn House Chapel. Want to do this with a friend who doesn't attend CVUUS? Feel free to invite them to come along.

We will set the meeting times for the next five classes, which will be in July and August, at the June 14 meeting. You don't need to attend every class but it's important to get to the first one if you are interested in this course.

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**GLEANING**
A CVUUS Green Sanctuary Environmental Justice Project

Plant and glean at local farms and community gardens and process fresh produce to donate to H.O.P.E. and Charter House. Local gleaning opportunities are organized by the **VT Gleaning Collective**, an initiative of **Salvation Farms**, a network of professionally organized community-based gleaning programs.

You can take home some gleaned items if there’s enough. Lily Bradburn (pictured above) coordinates gleaning for HOPE. Contact her at 388-3608 ext.225 or email: lbradburn@hope-vt.org to help with:
- In-field harvesting of surplus produce
- Collecting unsold produce at Midd Farmers’ Market
- Delivering produce to HOPE’s food shelf
- Processing produce for winter use

Or help Charter House with their community garden at Porter Hospital next to Midd DogPark on Saturday mornings. Gleans are usually 1 1/2- 2 hrs. Please feel free to stay for whatever amount of time works for you.

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**Congregational Conversation on Green Sanctuary**

**Following worship service in the Sanctuary**
**June 17, 11:30 am**

Created in 1989, the Green Sanctuary (GS) program historically provided a path for congregational study, reflection, and action in response to environmental challenges, worshiping and acting - grounded in justice and Unitarian Universalist values. Each congregation performs a self-assessment, writes a plan, and completes projects in these areas:
* Environmental & Climate Justice
* Worship and Celebration,
* Religious Education, and
* Sustainable Living.

Our congregation has completed all of the projects in its plan and is now seeking accreditation. Join us for a Congregational Conversation to explore what we have accomplished so far and what our future direction will be. For more information, contact Elizabeth Golden-Pidgeon. For more and to prepare, visit http://www.cvuus.org/about-us/a-green-sanctuary/.

Join us after worship service each third Sunday of the month Sept through May for a conversation about a topic of interest to congregants. Contact Alan Moore with your ideas for future conversations. See more about their format as well as previous topics at http://www.cvuus.org/blog/congregational-conversations/.

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**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.
JUNE 3:  **MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICE - FLOWER COMMUNION** – for all ages

Kids stay in service entire time. Come for this uniquely UU annual celebration of beauty and diversity (please bring a flower or two to exchange). Followed by our entertaining and informative **ANNUAL MEETING**.

**CHILDCARE** provided. Light refreshments.

**SUMMER RE STARTS** - Kids start in service, then leave for special all-age activity

**JUNE 10:**  **KIDS FOR KIDS with Bobbi Loney** – TBD

**JUNE 17:**  TBD – DRE Sub is TBD

**JUNE 24:**  **PERFORMING POEMS (with giggles) with Ted Scheu** – DRE Sub is Natali West

The RE Council runs the Summer RE program, even when Poppy is not on vacation. **Brett Millier** is the person to contact ([millierb@gmail.com](mailto:millierb@gmail.com)). // There will be a **DRE Sub every Sunday in the summer**, even if you see Poppy at church. You can check the bulletin board for this and upcoming activities.

**Religious Exploration Help Roses to…**

**THE RE LEADERS:** Jay Harrington, Hannah Sessions, and Natali West for *Spirit Play*; Kerri Duquette-Hoffman, Gerry Loney, Elaine Orozco Hammond, and Abi Sessions for *Harry & UU*; Allie Izzard, Will Porter, Jess Rouse, and Mary Hadly for *Neighboring Faiths*; Joanna Colwell and Shannon LaRose for *OWL 7-8*; and Gail Cason and Heidi Sulis for Youth Group.

Bobbi Loney for the big-hearted and well-organized *Kids for Kids* social action group work – and for being a sounding-board, brain-stormer, helper and assistant to many of Poppy’s RE ideas

**Johanna Nichols** for being the *Spirit Play* Doorkeeper for the entire year

**Jackie Derse**, Nursery Caretaker, and **Journey LaRose**, Nursery Assistant, for the incredible love and dedication they bring. **Livia Bernhardt** and **Wren Colwell** for subbing for Journey.

Parents and grandparents who assisted: **Caitlin Gildrien**, **Piper Harrell**, **Nita Hanson**, **Ian Ross**, **Mark Spritzer**, **Amy Mason**, **Christine Baker**, **Chris Hammond**, **Jess Danyow**, **Catherine Goldsmith**, **Mary Louise Bright**, **Martha Alexander**, **Kas Singh**, **Molly Andres**

People who assisted and didn’t have kids in the program: **Margy Levine Young**, **Ted Scheu**

**Sydney Singh** for being extremely helpful with kids and jumping in at many times

RE Council members: **Kas Singh** (head), **Tracey Harrington**, **Brett Millier**, **Heidi Sulis**, **Martha Alexander**, **Jess Rouse**, and **Natali West** – for being RE Greeters, DRE subbing, assisting with groups, and doing so many helpful and loving things

**Brett Millier**, **Natali West** and **Jess Rouse** for organizing the upcoming Summer RE program - and all the upcoming summer leaders and assistants and anyone else we may have forgotten who helped in some way!
JOIN US IN RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION NEXT YEAR!

Infant-3 years  **NURSERY**

NEED: Substitutes: adults for Jackie (volunteer), youth for Journey (paid)

Our Nursery is staffed by a paid experienced childcare supervisor and a high school assistant. Unstructured play in a safe and nurturing environment next to the Sanctuary.

PreK-K  **SPIRIT PLAY**  NEED: 1 more Leader.

“Storytellers” *(maybe)* and 2 more Assistant “Doorkeepers”

Circle with story told with basket of miniature figures/props, followed by wondering questions and art/other responses, freedom to use room materials as kids wish. Based on Montessori philosophy.

Grades 1-4  **SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE**

NEED: 1 more Leader and 2 more Assistants

UU curriculum where the learning takes place through physical movement, challenges, and adventure. Teaches children about the values of Unitarian Universalism using activities like dissecting a computer, building cantilevered architecture, and circus arts. Sports, medicine, food, science, building and exploring are the themes for learning about our history, famous UUs who have made notable contributions to our lives, and ways to incorporate our principles into our daily lives.

Grades 5-6  **sUper plays 2** *(along with OWL 5-6, see below)*

NEED: 1 more Leader and 2 more Assistants

Mini-plays (4 minute average) about Unitarian Universalist holidays and special days. Some funny, some serious, all meaningful. Plays will be done in many different ways: performed in Worship services, performed for other kids in RE, and done for their own group, as an exploration tool.

Grades 5-6  **OWL (Our Whole Lives) 5-6** *(9 Sundays)*

OWL is by special enrollment and requires attending the Parent Orientation.

9 Sessions including Sexuality and Values, Body Image, Changes of Puberty, Gender Identity, Feelings and Attraction, Decisions and Actions, Reproduction and Staying Healthy, Understanding Consent, Healthy Relationships, and Communication.

Grades 7-8  **COMING OF AGE**  NEED: 1 more Leader and 3 Assistants

A Unitarian Universalist rite of passage in Middle School. Includes team-building, social justice, UU identity, ritual, games, fall kick-off day retreat, spring trip to Boston, creating personal belief statements, the *Coming of Age* spring celebration Worship service, and much more.

Grades 9-12  **YOUTH GROUP**

NEED: 1 more Advisor for Jan-May *(maybe Fall)*

Members of the Youth Group drive the activities. They often include discussions, making dinner for residents of the John Graham Shelter in Vergennes, games, recreational activities, and fundraising for service trip. Often take part in a spring Youth Con with other Vermont UU Youth Groups. [YSOP Service Week trip](#) in spring to New York City this year. 2-3 Sundays/month 4-6.

All Ages  **KIDS FOR KIDS**

NEED: 2-3 more Assistants

Kids doing social justice and community service for other kids. Projects include CROP Walk to End Hunger, making & selling holiday ornaments as a *UUSC Guest at Your Table* fundraiser, and others.
Social Action Updates

June “Share the Plate” Donee

NOFA-VT Farm Share Program provides financial subsidies for limited income Vermonters to help purchase CSA shares. This helps support local farms while giving folks with limited incomes access to high quality local produce.

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, Chris Murphy, or Rev. Barnaby. May’s collection raised $724 for Pathways Vermont. Thank you for your generosity!

Visit cvuus.org/justice for the many ways that CVUUS advances justice through action and monthly donations and cvuus.org/news for latest news.

You’re invited! Reconnecting Session to better support the farms and farmworkers in Addison County, Wed., June 27, 3:30-5 pm, Fenn Chapel

Much has changed in the 20 plus years since the Addison County Farmworker Coalition first began bringing together workers, farmers, health, and social service agencies:

* The Farm Health Task Force was created and continues,
* Open Door clinic hired Spanish Speaking professionals to augment the deep volunteer translator base,
* College group Juntos was created,
* Migrant Justice was created and has mounted wonderful and effective campaigns,
* Statewide efforts to enact non-biased policing policies and a driver’s privilege card moved successfully through the legislature,
* The voices and images of worker’s lives continue to be shared through art, photography, film, legislative testimony, and journalism,
* Banks have opened accounts for people with-out Social Security numbers.

And unfortunately, much has not changed:

* An Ag Labor law has never been enacted to give dairy workers legal status
* People still feel threatened and insecure about being out in public
* Health, mental health, and dental services are still limited
* Families still worry about being ripped apart
* Farms are under increasing financial pressure and some are going out of business

And the agencies and institutions in our community have also seen many changes: staff turnover, financial challenges shifting policies. We know that the desire to support the farmworkers and farms in our community is as strong as ever. New groups such as Addison Allies, have arisen to tackle some of the challenges. We would love to hear what is going on with you. We would love to understand how we can all work together most effectively. We would love to make things better together. R.S.V.P. if you can to Cheryl.W.Mitchell@gmail.com. But please come even if you don’t let us know ahead. Yours, Cheryl, Veronica (vciambra@gmail.com), Kathy (kthymstck@hotmail.com), and Lise (liseand55@gmail.com)
FROM THE BOARD  Mike Greenwood & Laurie Borden

"If you want to build a ship, don’t drum up people to collect wood and don’t assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea."  Antoine De Saint-Exupery

Between the errands and the stop signs, we suspect you have been asking yourself, what has my Board of Trustees or my Governing Board been doing this year?  The short answer is, a lot.  But instead of sharing everything we have accomplished this year, we have decided to highlight 4 actions that reflect who and what we are – 7 individuals covenanted together to sustain and strengthen our beloved community by being good stewards of our congregation, our heritage, our Unitarian Universalist Principles, and 7 individuals covenanted together committed to demonstrating our respect and gratitude for all who enter our doors.

We reviewed how we govern…We operate under a system of Policy Governance.  Policy Governance defines and guides how we operate and govern.  Integral to the model is a reporting system from our “CEO” Barnaby to the Board.  Monthly, Barnaby reports to the Board on topics ranging from Treatment of Congregants to Asset Protection.  Last reviewed in 2013, we have initiated a review of every monthly report by asking ourselves, What do we want to find in this report?  Is it already there?  How do we measure or identify which benchmarks indicate that acceptable conditions of the policy are being met?  What do we need to tweak and what do we need to change?  The review of our system of Policy Governance will continue at our annual summer retreat and probably well into next year as well.

We were the impetus behind 2 “new” committees or teams…Personnel Team: The Board created a Personnel Team to recognize, nurture and validate all the tasks, responsibilities, energies of our accompanists, sextons, care-givers, administrators and ministry directors.  This team will pay attention to equity and compassion in staff relations, as well as give intention to the environment and benefits we are providing for our staff.  We have four members of our congregation committed to this team but would like to welcome one more person.  If you are interested in learning more, please contact Laurie about this opportunity.

Safe Congregation Team: We strive to be safe while being a welcoming place to all.  However, it is impossible to make a congregation 100% safe.  But there are steps we can take to make our congregation safer while still maintaining our supportive and loving space.  We already have “safe” policies for children and youth that are working but need to broaden our outlook on what is safe?  The Team has already acted on several of Chief Hanley’s recommendations.  But other issues still need to be addressed.  For example, how would we deal with an overtly aggressive person who walks into our midst?  What if there is abuse within our own midst?  How would we respond?  The Safe Congregation Team hosted a Congregational Conversation in May.  Will, Poppy, Tracey, Alan, Barnaby and Mike look forward to hearing from you.

And we reached out to others…One pleasurable task the Board took on during Rev. Barnaby’s sabbatical, was to visit with staff members.  We weren’t able to meet with everyone, but we did get a chance to learn how things are going in the Administrative Hive, Religious Exploration and Music Ministry.  We were truly amazed at the dedication, wisdom, creativity and activity that is buzzing, skipping and humming around CVUUS!  It became very clear that our staff is a treasure that we want to support, challenge and reward.  They are the backbone of our society, the epicenter of our connections, the heart of our missions.  We hosted a luncheon for “new” members who attended the New Members Classes.  Each time we host this luncheon we take pleasure in the experience of getting to know someone interested in us and sharing a bit about who we are and what we do.  Each board member leaves the luncheon renewed by the enthusiasm and sheer joy that is reflected at the meal itself.  Individual board members also reached out to serve in multiple ways, including -- teaching in RE, supporting fellow congregants, participating in rallies, driving for Meals on Wheels, working on fundraisers, organizing the Rhubarb Fest, ushering, attending district or regional conferences and more.

Finally, we love hearing from you.  Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us about your ideas, concerns and or thoughts.

Respectfully submitted,   Laurie and Mike, co-presidents
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

I was pleased to see Laura Ferguson begin attending services at CVUUS last fall. We happen to have a connection that began when Laura was in elementary school and I was her third grade teacher! Laura recently described herself as not necessarily a religious person in the traditional way many often think. She said she has been drawn to CVUUS by the philosophies that are present in Unitarian Universalism. Laura's wonderful honesty allows her to describe herself as a very shy person. She shared with me that she desires interaction with others, but openly admits that initiating conversation is not her strength. Laura lives in Middlebury and works in Dining Services at EastView, where she finds a positive atmosphere and environment. Laura has three younger brothers. A special interest in the Martial Arts began in December of 2004. In Laura's own words, she feels that "the movements and underlying philosophies have helped me come out of my shell." I encourage our members and friends to greet and interact with Laura to discover additional pieces of awareness about her interests and activities. Welcome to CVUUS, Laura! Submitted by Marnie Wood

After nearly 50 years living in the southwest suburbs of Chicago, Maurie Jacobeit moved to Middlebury eight years ago joining her two children who had moved to to Shoreham and Vergennes. Gordon Gibson made a permanent move this past fall, after divesting most of his business interests in the midwest. Maurie works full-time from home as a Consultant for a Chicago bank and Gordon jump-started his retirement (reinvention) with the 2017 Bread Loaf Writer’s Conference and is working on several writing projects.

Family life is very important and being involved in the lives of their children and grandchildren in Shoreham, New York City, Baltimore and Miami means considerable out-of-town travels and stays. Maurie and Gordon enjoy outdoor recreation including hiking, camping, kayaking and coastal beach life during the warmer summer months.

Maurie’s faith background is Lutheran while Gordon’s roots include Baptist, Presbyterian and UU. Once in Middlebury, CVUUS was the best-fit faith community for their spiritual growth and concerns for community and social justice. Submitted by Maurie and Gordon

Will Porter, who lives on a farm in Shoreham, joined our congregation on May 6th. He shares parenting of his daughters, Bea, 12, and Thea, 8, with their mother, Martha, who lives in Middlebury. Having a spiritual home for their family was the main motive for connecting with CVUUS, and the girls appear to find our RE programs enjoyable and worthwhile.

Will grew up near Washington, DC, and in various overseas locations (he was born in Guantanamo, Cuba), since his family was in US diplomatic service. After graduation from Middlebury college as an English major, he experienced a call to a career in medicine, and now works in the medical care of individuals with substance abuse issues. He finds that UU values are supportive in this work, as well as in his personal spiritual life. He hopes to try out the Sunday evening Meditation group. Before returning to live in Vermont, Will had attended UU churches in other locations, including Cape Cod and Providence, RI, so had a sense that CVUUS would suit his family well.

They are most welcome here! Submitted by Marjorie Carsen
Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

Peter Conlon was born in Barre, Vermont to a family already involved in Unitarian Universalism. Though his father was Catholic, Peter with his brothers and his mother attended the Unitarian Church of Montpelier until he was four, at which point they transitioned their Sunday morning rituals from church to outdoor activities, such as hiking and skiing. Peter grew up in Montpelier, meeting his future bride, Mary Greiner, in the third grade. They would remain in school together throughout primary and secondary school, becoming high school sweethearts in their junior year. While staying emotionally together, they geographically split up in college, with Peter going to Dartmouth and Mary to UVM.

Immediately following college, Peter and Mary decided to go into the Peace Corps together, which required them to get married, which they promptly did. In the Peace Corps, they were stationed in Arroyito, Paraguay, working as agroforestry volunteers. Ending their time five months early to care for Peter’s father, Peter and Mary came back to Vermont, eventually settling down in Cornwall. They found a community in CVUUS immediately and began attending and enrolled their children in the RE program. At this time, Peter was working as a reporter and later, editor, of the Addison Independent in a career spanning 15 years, before making a complete career switch, becoming a dairy farm labor consultant, training and supporting immigrant workers. This led Peter to take online immigration law courses and volunteering his time at immigration law clinics and the Open Door Clinic in commitment to being an ally to our immigrant community. Peter left that job in 2014 and is now a senior move manager, helping the elderly in downsizing and moving. In the first five months of the year, he splits his time between this and being a legislator in the Vermont House. Peter was elected in 2016 and will be running for re-election this year.

In recent years, Peter has found himself coming to church more often and it has slowly become a regular part of his Sunday routine. This has prompted him to desire to take a more active role in the church as an active member. We welcome him as a new member but a familiar face!

Submitted by Silas Conlon

Welcome to our new sexton
Keith Rickerby!

Keith began work this month under the direction of Counseling Service of Addison County’s Community Associate coach Steve Reigle, a former Weybridge Elementary school custodian. Keith lives nearby in the Buttolph neighborhood and looks forward helping us. We thank our faithful sextons Monte Many and Maryann Caul who are completing a very busy season in their full time jobs at MUHS. They share that we can call on them in a pinch, especially in winter months when we may need extra help cleaning our pellet boiler and shoveling heavy snow.
CHOIR NOTES

Greetings CVUUS congregants and friends, June is upon us! The choir sings 3 final Sundays of the choir year, and we are really excited to be bringing special music to the June services!

**June 3** is Annual Meeting and Flower Communion. We are singing *Harken to the Reed*, text, Rumi, music Yakzan Valdez, Arr: Lila Flood and Sangeet. We will be hosting a guest musician, Russian Cellist Marina Smakhtina, who will play during the Flower Communion and prelude. She will also lead the “Body Percussion” for Audrey Snyder’s *Changes*.

**June 10** is our last new anthem of the year, and I chose one I heard at the UUMN conference last summer. Our own Vermont UU Composer from W. Brattleboro congregation, Tom Baehr, composed a challenging and wonderful setting from William Blake’s *Auguries of Innocence*, *A Clothing for the Soul Divine*. I was able to learn the piece and work with Tom as we both worked with the conference composer and conductor Brian Tate (*Connected, Take Down These Walls*). I hope you’ll be as transported by this music as I am.

**June 17** is the final Choir Sunday. Titled, *We’re All In This Together* the choir will repeat 7 of the anthems we sang from Sept to May. It is an uplifting and entirely musical service. Come listen to the choir, and think about, “where is my place in the choir?” Maybe as singer, maybe as listener, maybe as strong supporter…

The choir finishes out the school year with a pot luck gathering. We will meet after church on June 17 at John Barstow and Kate Gridley’s home. They are just minutes from church at 14 Gorham Lane, Middlebury.

The choir is so much more than just a group that sings 3 Sundays a month at CVUUS. We are a family who love and care for each other, and we welcome new singers at anytime during the year. Please contact Lucy ahead of a Wednesday rehearsal so we have some music ready for you. Blessings. Lucy

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**FILLED WITH THE SOUND OF MUSIC!**

Thanks to all who agreed to help with these upcoming events in our sanctuary.

Gatekeepers are in italics.


...**MCMC Middlebury Chamber Music Festival Sting Quartet Concerts**, Sat. June 30, and Sun, July 1, 7 pm, Sanctuary. *Carol Harden, need another person*

...**Green Mountain Club Long Trail Hike Talk: Mike De Bonis**, Wed.. June 20, 7 pm, Sanctuary. *Need someone.*

...**Point Counterpoint Chamber Faculty Performance**, Fri. Aug. 31, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary. *Need 2 people.*

...**AND ROAD CONSTRUCTION!**

**Charles Ave Reconstruction Project** begins this month and continues to end of August. It runs from our drop off to the high school entrance and includes new water main, a small section of sanitary sewer, new storm sewer, new sidewalk, curbing on the high school side, and a recycled and re-paved street. There will be **new lighting** at the north end of the sidewalk curve. It’s recommended to **use Cross St** to access CVUUS and the high school parking lot. Lots will be open but road will be messy. There will also be **construction of an access road from Battell Block to Water St.** Your patience is appreciated.
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, call Colleen at 989-9974 or Van at 388-2142. The CVUUS webpage has good information also.

Night Sky Wonders for June

Finally, we have a month chocked full of planets. All five naked-eye planets will adorn our night sky this month. Mercury will be hiding in the glare of the Sun as the month begins, but will slowly climb into the early evening sky by the end of the month and continue to do so until July 12th. Venus will attain its highest sunset altitude of the year on June 6th. Look West-Northwest around an hour after sunset.

Our planet is now catching up to Mars and we are less than two months away from its closest approach to Earth since 2003. Mars will rise around midnight as the month begins, and around 10:30 p.m. as the month ends. The Red Planet will become continually brighter as the month progresses.

The giant gas planet Jupiter will be found directly south as evening darkness starts. The Moon will be near it on June 23rd. Meanwhile ringed Saturn will be climbing in the South-East as darkness envelops our sky. The Moon will cuddle up to it on June 27th. And oh yes, don’t forget the arrival of Summer at 6:07 a.m. on the 21st.

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 astromanvtd@gmail.com

Thanks to Al Boudreau for his monthly reports!
A bouquet of roses to:

......Mike Greenwood and Laurie Borden and the Board for their Annual Meeting preparations and Rich Wolfson for managing our always popular slide show year in review.

...Jean Terwilliger and Mary Conlon for their dedicated service on our Board and Kas Singh and Doug Richards for willingness to step into Board service.

...Mary Hadley for collating our Annual Report on top of coordinating this year’s Rhubarb Festival again and becoming our treasurer and Sheila House, a cohort CVUUS multi-tasker.

...Artley Wolfson for selecting and cataloging many wonderful new books for our library and for organizing the donated books for the Rhubarb Festival along with Elizabeth Golden-Pidgeon.

...Gerry Loney for leading Blue Jeans Sunday with help from our hard-working Facilities Team and Bob House for finishing the painting of our railings and coordinating so many projects.

...Kate Gridley for her testimony on the importance of multigenerational worship and activity, for taking photos, and for hosting guest worship leader Matt Meyer along with John Barstow and Lucy Tenenbaum for bringing him and many other lovely musicians to us.

...Alan Moore and Carol Harden for going the extra mile as gatekeepers for May’s many activities.

...Poppy Rees for an amazing RE Sunday service and great curriculum lineup for next year and her commitment to a strong Safe Congregation Team and policy.

...Laura Ferguson for stepping up to help another Laura...in the Office.

...Karen Hanson for becoming our rep on the Hunger Council.

...Nan Crowell for her Fenn entrance plantings. ...Ellen Flight and Heidi Sulis for providing photos.
CVUUS Writers’ Group
CVUUS Writers’ Group meets third Monday of the month. It doesn’t meet over the summer. Next one is Sept. 17, 3 PM, in the Fenn House chapel. All welcome. Bring something to read (with a few copies): fiction, nonfiction, poems. Questions? Contact Nancy Wright (nancymeanswright@gmail.com).

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. Thank you for a donation from Mary Lou Bright’s daughter Kristin Bright and Daniel Rosenblatt in honor of the welcoming service for their daughter Pepper Clementine.

Planned Giving: For help remembering us in your will or trust, contact John Berninghausen at 349-7080 berningham@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 team. Their contact info is in the Directory.

Our Caring Network provides support, such as calls, visits, meals, and rides, to those in need. 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 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’d like to join this network. Contact Ginny Moser (tvmoser117@gmail.com or 802-989-7586.)

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.
CVUUS Board of Trustees
Mike Greenwood – Co-President
Laurie Borden – Co-President
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Library & Information Resources – Artley Wolfson
Membership Ministry—Marjorie Carsen
Pastoral Care — Sue Grigg and Laurie Borden
Right Relations—John Barstow, Anne Christie, Joanna Colwell
Small Group Ministry — Doug Richards
Worship – Ann Webster

Staff
Accompanists – Kate Gridley and Chuck Miller
Bookkeeper – Heather Seeley (fm@cvuus.org)
Choir Director – Lucy Tenenbaum (lucytunes@me.com)
Dir of Religious Exploration – Poppy Rees (re@cvuus.org)
Nursery Care Provider: Jackie Derse
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Sexton—Keith Rickerby