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.

What does it mean to be a people of...SIMPlicity?

March Worship Services
(Sundays at 10 AM)

March 3 — The Simple Truths of Stewardship — Rev. Barnaby reflects on how simply we can make it through the 3 G’s: Gratitude, Generosity, and Gomitment.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS! Set Clock Ahead One Hour

March 10 — Lost in Time — Rev. Barnaby considers the spiritual side of Time, starting with how weird it would seem throughout most of human history to promise anyone to start and finish anything "on time."

March 17 — Behind Bars — Rev. Barnaby reflects on what he has learned teaching his Church of the Larger Fellowship course to incarcerated UU's about humane and inhumane paths to simplifying our lives.

March 24 — Immigrants: They Are Us, We Are Them — Led by retired VT Federal Judge Bill Sessions.

March 31 — Kids Service MULTIGEN — Join the children of Spirit Play, Spirit of Adventure, SUUpper Plays and Coming of Age as they lead you in worship. Led by Poppy Rees, Dir. of Religious Exploration, and Bobbi Loney.

Love: Take It to a New Level Party

We did it! Let’s celebrate!
Words from Rev. Barnaby:

By the time you receive our March newsletter, we will be just days away from our first event downstairs in the new Ann Ross Fellowship Hall. Food will be served out of our new kitchen and those who want to will move effortlessly between floors on our new elevator. We won't be finished with the work. But it's truly stunning to see how far we've come through the financial generosity, volunteer labor, and long, long hours so many of you have put into shepherding these dreams forward.

When I arrived in 2012, Rev. Emily Melcher, your interim minister, advised me that it would be 10 years before you could even get started on what we came to call the Building More Love Campaign. You were too tapped out, she said, from all the work that went into building the Sanctuary and renovating Fenn House. But you got started in less than five years. And we will be finished before she thought you could start!

Are we tapped out yet? We'll find out but I trust not. As we move through our annual March pledge drive, we will do so knowing there has never been a more important time to support CVUUS's annual budget for the coming year. We've presented ourselves with an amazing opportunity to expand the ways we celebrate fellowship and serve the wider community. We can be proud to have done it at a crucial moment in our nation's history. The world desperately needs inclusive faith communities like CVUUS to be local leaders in the struggle for more just, compassionate, and sustainable ways of living.

As a congregant in several UU congregations, I used to make canvass pledge drive visits to people's homes. Now that I am a minister and step back knowing this is a request you must make of each other, I miss those visits. I was always honored to get to know the joys and sorrows of so many wonderful people as we talked about the congregation. I was lifted up by how committed they were to leaving the world better than they found it, whether or not they felt able to maintain or increase their pledges to the congregation. I always came away reminded why UU's are my people.

May it be so for you as well this month.... Blessed be, Rev. Barnaby

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Love: Take It to a New Level Party
Pledge Sunday March 3, 11:15 am

We’ll celebrate the start of our new canvass campaign with a Pledge Sunday Service on March 3, followed immediately by a fun, family-friendly pizza party in our new Ann Ross Fellowship Hall on the lower level. It’s not too late to make a side dish (especially green salads) or a dessert for the party. Just bring it with you.

**Procession:** Follow the choir downstairs to the party. The elevator is available for those who need it.

**Pledging:** turn in your pledges at the bottom of the stairs to either Dorothy Mammen or Priscilla Bremser. If you forgot your pledge form, we have extras available. If you prefer a home visit, just check the box on the pledge form and hand it in. We will contact you.

**Entertainment Line-up:** Ukulele Band, Connie, Chris and Friends, Casey at the Bat, CVUUS Men’s Glee Club, Contra Dancing with the Fenn House Rug Cutters

**Photo “Booth”:** Have your picture taken for our Directory and check it to be sure we have your most current contact info.

Julie and Neil Chippendale, Canvass co-chairs
chippendalejulia@gmail.com
nchippendale@verizon.net
Ann Ross Fellowship Hall Construction Update

HUGE thanks to Llyn Rice, our “clerk of the works” and blast blogger, who reported on the steady progress of Russell Construction, their sub-contractors and our many congregational volunteers, who stepped in last month for finishing touches. If you are interested in contributing to help raise funds toward fulfilling our dreams, please fill out a gift form, which is available at cvuus.org and in Sanctuary Lobby. As always, gifts of all shapes and sizes are welcomed. Thanks to those who made a building construction loan. For more information: Steve Maier (sbmaier55@gmail.com or 802-238-6699) or please see our website at cvuus.org/connection/ground-floor/

Lower Level Grow-Out Update: Please send us an email with your questions and "don't forget" notes related to the move-in and early use of the lower level. If you have ideas for "growing out" (using) the lower level in the future send them, too. We’ll share them with the Council of Ministries. We seek donations of pump pots and hot pots.

Lise lisand55@gmail.com and Miles mnpeterle@att.net.

Lower Level Grow-Out Update: Please send us an email with your questions and "don't forget" notes related to the move-in and early use of the lower level. If you have ideas for "growing out" (using) the lower level in the future send them, too. We’ll share them with the Council of Ministries. We seek donations of pump pots and hot pots.

Lise lisand55@gmail.com and Miles mnpeterle@att.net.
MARCH for Children, Youth and Their Families

MARCH 3: RE GROUPS start in worship  OWL 5-6 (Our Whole Lives) 10-11:15 in Fenn
LOVE: TAKE IT TO A NEW LEVEL PARTY, 11:30 in new Ann Ross Fellowship Hall

** SAT., March 9: PARENT GROUP 5:30-7:30 Dinner and childcare provided.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS! SET CLOCK AHEAD 1 HOUR

MARCH 10: RE GROUPS start in worship
COMING OF AGE 10 am – 12 pm Mary Johnson Children’s Center basement
Youth Group cook at John Graham 4 pm

MARCH 17: RE GROUPS start in worship  OWL 5-6 (Our Whole Lives) 10-11:15
COMING OF AGE 10 am – 12 pm Mary Johnson Children’s Center basement
RE COUNCIL 11:45-1:45, Fenn Chapel

MARCH 24: Kids Service Rehearsal start in worship then go to Fenn

MARCH 31: Kids Service (Multi-gen) Join the children of Spirit Play, Spirit of Adventure, SUUper Plays and Coming of Age as they lead you in worship. Led by Poppy Rees, Dir. of Religious Exploration, and Bobbi Loney.
COMING OF AGE Crepe Breakfast, 8:30 AM, Fenn and

COMING OF AGE resumes this month and focuses on preparations for special spring services and the Boston trip next month. Details and itinerary on the trip to COA families by email soon. Piper Harrell and Joanna Colwell
3/10- COA session at Mary Johnson
3/17 COA session at Mary Johnson
3/31 Crepe Breakfast Benefit @Fenn
4/7 COA session @Mary Johnson
4/14 COA Music Session (added and optional)
4/26-28 COA Boston Trip
5/4 6pm COA Service Rehearsal
5/5 COA worship service

Welcome back to Poppy Rees, Director of Religious Exploration.

Thanks to Kas Singh, Martha Alexander, Jess Rouse and other RE Council members for coverage during her sabbatical over the past two months.

CVUUS HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP has fun whether it be cooking dinner, baking cookies or bowling! They’re continuing to prepare meals for John Graham Shelter and raise funds toward the expenses of their service trip to NYC in June. They’ll spend four days in NY working at different organizations that help homeless and hungry New Yorkers. They also baked desserts for the Charter House. In order to help fund the trip, Youth Group designed CVUUS T-shirts and tote bags. They hope you will want to purchase one or two! They are also hosting a Bake Off fundraiser after worship on April 14. Stay posted. Thanks for your support! Gail Borden and Heidi Sulis
Social Action Updates

March “Share the Plate” Donee
The Andean Alliance for Sustainable Development

Andean farmers are sustainable and resilient. The solution to poverty in the Andes is woven in the fabric of these communities. The Andean Alliance for Sustainable Development is not your typical non-profit organization because it believes that these communities are more capable of eliminating their poverty than any development expert. They harness the collective intelligence of Andeans to support community-led development in the highlands of Peru. Their projects include: Experiential Learning, Transformative Travel, Opening the Earth: The Potato King Project. Speak with the Duquette-Hoffman family about their experiences with this organization in traveling to Peru last year.

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.

February’s collection raised appreciated funds for UUA affiliates: BLUU The Promise and the Practice of Our Faith ($419), No More Deaths ($395), UURise and Church of Larger Fellowship. Thank you!

Charter House Community Lunch Team
Your involvement can be what works best for you. Maybe be on a call list for preparing a dish occasionally, or making sandwiches on site for the take-out lunches, or serving, or helping with cleanup. We do this every third Tuesday from 10 am – 1 pm and next on March 19. You can come for part of this time for a specific job if that works for you. The best part of this is you can join our guests for a healthy lunch and enjoy the connections you can make. Contact Alan Moore alanwmoore1947@gmail.com, Barbara Merz or Revell Allen.

Meals on Wheels provides so much more than a nutritious meal. Time commitment is based on your availability--it can vary from one day a week to two days a month (weekdays only). Delivery is typically from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Talk with Thurs UU Team leaders Mary Conlon & Mike Greenwood. Please contact Erica Marks emarks@agewellvt.org or 662-5249 or visit age-wellvt.org/giving-back.

Donate items to Neat Repeats, Buy Again Alley, HOPE and WomenSafe!
Drop off used clothing to Neat Repeats and give them account #108 or Buy Again and give them #504. Look for HOPE shopping cart to donate food. Prefer smaller sizes to jumbo ones. See Mary Ann Deverell with questions. Also look for the WomenSafe heart-wrapped box in our sanctuary lobby near the welcome table. Always in need of self-care items! See Dottie Nelson with questions. Thanks!

RAD Love Fellowship Raffle
We look forward to you following through on your giveaway offers! It’s fine to do this with giveaways left over from last year or even auctioned events from previous years. Can’t remember? Ask the Office or Mary Hadley. If you won something and aren't going to be able to take advantage of it, re-gift it to someone else in the congregation -- preferably someone who didn't win anything -- then let Mary know so we can update our records of who got what.

If you had a dinner, outing or something else to offer but didn't get around to doing it, contact Rev. Barnaby. He will work with you to find a way for you to join the party and brighten the day for congregants who didn't end up getting anything.
Join the Board for a Congregational Conversation

Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy

Sunday March 17, 11:15 AM, Sanctuary

Delegates at the 2018 General Assembly in Kansas City, MO, selected "Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy" to be the 2018-2022 Congregational Study/Action Issue (CSAI) of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) of Congregations. The Congregational Study/Action Issue is an invitation for congregations to take a topic of concern and engage, reflect, learn, respond, comment, and take action—each in their own way.

The Issue: Racism is fundamental to U.S. social systems. White supremacy within our culture operates economically, institutionally, politically, and culturally, to shape or limit people’s chances “to be seen” as inherently worthy or to be treated with dignity. White supremacy operates intersectionally when it is interwoven with other forms of oppression. It intersects with issues of class and income, gender, age, ethnicity, immigration status, sexual orientation, religion, ability, and more.

From the UUA: Topics for Congregational Study

- How are people socialized into various overlapping supremacy systems, creating a white dominated hetero patriarchy that serves the interests of US corporatism?
- How do different racial and economic strategies get applied to different racial groups, often disguised in coded language that pretends to be colorblind while having racialized impacts?
- How can we, as UUs, build transformative relationships of trust and accountability across race lines?

Through reflection and action, we will engage in courageous conversations that will help us to understand the complexity of racism and expose our other “isms.”

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 (2nd century)

Saturday, Mar 2, Standing for the Earth Vigil, 10:30-11 am, Middlebury Cross St Bridge.
Hosted by Addison County Interfaith Climate Action every first Saturday of the month.

Wednesday, Mar 13, Blindspotting, 4 & 7 pm, Marquis Theater. Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) invites you to a timely and wildly entertaining story about friendship and the intersection of race and class set against the backdrop of Oakland. Collin must make it through his final three days of probation for a chance at a new beginning. He and his troublemaking childhood best friend, Miles, work as movers, and when Collin witnesses a police shooting, the two men’s friendship is tested as they grapple with identity and changed realities in their rapidly-gentrifying neighborhood. $10 free will donation.
Greetings from Membership & Hospitality Ministry Teams

The warmth of our beloved community is all the more to be valued, with the icy winds and storms we have been enduring. So, perhaps hard to believe, Spring will arrive in just a few weeks, along with plans for preparing and welcoming new members to CVUUS. Rev. Barnaby is glad to discuss possible membership with any and all, and there are other sources of information about our faith and this congregation. Our Sunday greeters can certainly answer questions, and direct you to our collection of pamphlets on a variety of topics-- please help yourself to any that interest you. (And request a name tag, if you don't yet have one!)

Coming soon, our transition to the use of the ground floor fellowship hall will be exciting, but perhaps disruptive for awhile, as we make adjustments. Anyone can provide feedback on what is working while this is going on. We also received thoughtful feedback and ideas about welcoming and hospitality in a congregational Conversation on January 27th, as outlined by Elizabeth Golden, below. Having our new visitors and members share their ideas and impressions is much appreciated.

How can greeters foster a more inclusive and welcoming experience?
- Have consistent greeters.
- Have youth and young adults be greeters to greet younger people.
- Have greeters invite people to move downstairs for coffee hour to fellowship hall.
- Have greeters downstairs as well as the entry doors, once the fellowship hall is completed.

How can we be more inclusive for guests and non-UU church goers?
- Hold a training on how to speak to potential and new members, and how to be careful about asking questions.
- Collaborate with the Right Relations Committee on how to speak to newcomers.

How can we be more welcoming toward new people during coffee hour?
- Stress the importance of people staying for coffee hour.
- Train introverts to be friendly and comfortable talking to a stranger.
- Have every member take a turn welcoming people.
- Set your own individual goal to approach someone with some regularity.
- Start carefully with introverts.
- Greet people who have written name tags or who are standing alone.
- Make a rule – no one should be left alone (unless they choose to do so) during coffee hour.

What other ways can we foster connections?
- Have music pre-service to set a more spiritual tone for the sanctuary.
- Have tables arranged in the coffee hour area for people to sit and chat casually.
- Post on the bulletin board downstairs – photos of members with a short statement as to why they came to CVUUS and our values.
- Ask new people to help out in simple ways, to include them right away.
- Introduce new people to others who share their interests.
- Welcome people into committees.
- Hold a monthly luncheon to meet and get to know people.
- Hold more social events and pot luck dinners.
- Form a new group (committee) who will take action, greet and chat, take attendance, and support potential new members.

How can we improve retention of people?
- Take attendance to notice when people stop coming, so someone can call them.
- Use our Annual Canvass to get feedback on people's experiences.
- Conduct a mid-year 'canvass' on how people are experiencing CVUUS.
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.”

**Hospitality** seeks people to join its efforts in setting up and cleaning up hospitality hour on Sunday mornings, especially on the Sundays when the Choir doesn’t sing (once a month usually). We’ll train and assist you until you are ready to do it on your own. Set up starts about 45 minutes before service and cleanup usually runs 11:45-12:30. Also, when Fellowship Hall opens many minds, hands, and hearts will be needed to imagine, plan for and do the work of moving hospitality there. Contact Elizabeth Golden in interested (598-2388, elizabethgolden@shoreham.net).

**Rhubarb Festival:** Feel like winter is just getting into high gear? Perhaps it is, but the 10th annual Rhubarb Festival is just around the corner. Slated for Saturday, June 1st, it promises to be exciting as a milestone year using the new Ground Floor. *Many hands make light work!* so we’re looking for folks new and old, old and young (and the rest of us who feel somewhere in between) to help carry out this special event. Traditional focus areas include rhubarb pies (and variations on that theme), books, luncheon, plants, “bling” and scarves, and kids’ stuff. Behind the scenes activities like soliciting and picking up donations, creating the poster design, poster distribution, advertising, pie and sweets baking, and more are other ways to help while connecting with each other. Day of the event activities include setup, cleanup, selling, cashier, and food service “cowboys” (of all genders). I am willing to be the overall “Top Stalk” again this year, but am looking for an apprentice to shadow me this year in hopes of being willing to take a more active leadership role in the future. Volunteers, inquirers, seekers - contact Mary Hadley at hadlyme@juno.com (and if you just have ideas about potential do’s and don’ts - those are also most welcome)

**Landscape Committee** Have a green thumb, just like to play in the dirt, or want to use your creative mind for landscape design? The landscape committee is looking for new people to help carry out our mission to make the outside of CVUUS look good. And when the ground floor opens up there will be the added entrance to CVUUS to make welcoming too. Interested? Contact Sue Rasmussen at llamasue2@gmail.com

**Night Sky Wonders for March 2019**

Spring constellations Gemini and Leo are taking center stage for spring. You’ll find them overhead with the moon between those two on the 16th and 17th of the month. Low in the south you can see the prominent star “Sirius,” holding the record as the brightest star in the sky.

Jupiter, Saturn, and Venus arc across the southeastern sky 45-minutes before sunrise. On the 1st through the 3rd our Moon joins them, with it sitting above and to the right of Saturn on the 1st and above and to the right of Venus on the 2nd.

Mars is now very low in the West, best seen as soon as the sky darkens. On the 22nd it will be directly below the Pleiades. It is now 186 million miles away as Earth leaves it behind. On March 20th and 21st the full Moon will be in the constellation of Virgo.

Daylight savings time starts at 2:00 am on the 10th, and on the twentieth spring begins for the northern hemisphere at 5:58 p.m. No guarantee on temps however. Here’s wishing you (and me) clear skies. If you have astronomy questions, drop me an e-mail at astromanvt@gmavt.net

Thanks to our Flower Co-op for creating beauty in our sanctuary.
Choir Notes

March is the month of Emergence for CVUUS, of Lent in the Christian Calendar, Purim in the Jewish year, and is the month of St. Paddy’s Day as well as Women’s Month. And the CVUUS choir has some excellent music in store for you.

We open the month with Stewardship, and of course, the choir sings *Tis the Gift to be Simple* in a Peter Amidon Arrangement. The Shakers who wrote the original piece lived their religious lives fully, and still kept their lives simple by “turning, turning, til we come back ‘round.”

March 10 we start to recognize and celebrate the upcoming change of seasons (Spring, anyone?) with the familiar tune, *Rising Green*, in an arrangement for choir by Jim Scott. March 17 is no choir, then March 24 we will again try to bring the Tom Baehr (UU Music Minister in W. Brattleboro) song on Blake text from a longer poem, *Auguries of Innocence*, *A Clothing for the Soul Divine*. Under every grief & pine Runs a joy with silken twine.

May your month of March lead you into every joy, very few woes, and lots of silken twine...

We welcome new singers to our choir. We meet Wednesdays (barring bad weather…) at 5:45-7:15. Please let us know if you’d like to join, and we’ll get a folder ready for you. If you can’t make Wednesday rehearsals but can practice on your own, we’d welcome you to the choir even if you can only rehearse with us on Sunday mornings, which we do the 3 Sundays a month the choir sings. Come join us!!  

Best Lucy

Music Ministry Team
Lucy Tenenbaum, Kate Gridley, Poppy Rees, Chuck Miller, Shannon LaRose, Carol Harding, Richard Hopkins, YOU?!

Meets March 20, 3:45 pm, Fenn Chapel

A bouquet of roses to:

*Theresa Gleason* (right) for leading our last Feb worship service (listen to it and other past worship services at cvuus.org/worship).

...all who provided testimonies during our worship services last month including Richard Hopkins, Brett Millier and those from “beyond” (Sam Fogel, Abbott Fenn, Joan Kline, Jim Murphy, Celeste Allen).

...all who contributed their voices as worship readers including Forest Jarvis (visiting!), Caitlin Gildrien and Paul Seward (right), and performers including Connie Leach and Chris Prickitt (right), Carol Harden, Amy Mason and Francois Clemmons and greeters and ushers including Terri Arnold (see p. 13).

*Kate Gridley* for providing pictures, lavish lower level elbow grease, and construction crew appreciation.
Small Group Ministry: Doors Still Open

Each of the four small groups that met last year continue to meet monthly:

- **Saturday morning** 9-11 am in the Fenn House chapel (third Sat each month)
- **Wednesday evening** 7:30-9 pm in the Fenn House chapel (second Wed each month)
- **Thursday evening** 7-9 pm at participants’ homes (first Thurs each month)
- **Thursday afternoon** 2-4 pm at participants’ homes

“Affinity” or interest-focused groups are underway:

**Women’s Group** meets following the Sunday service, over lunch at noon, usually the first Sunday of month in Sanctuary Meeting Room. Note next one will be **March 10**. Topics selected collectively by participants. Contact **Elizabeth Golden** (elizabethgolden@shoreham.net) to join.

**Parents Group** meets **Second Saturday each month, 5:30-7:30pm.** Childcare provided in Fenn while parents meet in Sanctuary. Parents with children through middle school age are invited to get together and develop deeper connections by sharing their thoughts and beliefs around our monthly CVUUS themes within the small group ministry model. Our next gathering will be **Sat., Mar 9**. Childcare, dinner (mac n cheese) and drinks provided by our amazing Date Night Out volunteers. RSVP preferred. Contact **Tracey Harrington**, 4.mt.mice@gmail.com

**Writers’ Group** meets **third Monday of the month, except over summer. Next one Mar 18, 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).

**Are you retired or planning to take that leap soon?** There’s a new group at CVUUS forming to share the joys and challenges of retirement. We will gather at coffee hour after the March 10 Sunday service to select an initial meeting date. Topics our group could explore include:

- **Readiness** (how will I know when I'm ready?)
- **Emotional well-being** (who am I now?)
- **Spiritual well-being** (where do I find meaning in my life without a regular job?)
- **Practical considerations** (how do I find structure in my new life?)
- **Social well-being** (how do I find new connections and maintain old ones tied to my former work?)

Let us know of your interest: Dinah Smith Dinah.Smith@med.uvm.edu or (802) 353-1704; Faith Lowell FLowell@together.net or (802) 388-3056; Doug Richards, DRichard@keuka.edu or (802) 989-9387.

These groups follow Small Group Ministry practices (see cvuus.org). Other possible affinity groups might consist of a limited number of sessions (with an opportunity to extend or refocus). If you have an idea, contact Doug Richards, Dinah Smith, Bobbi Loney, Marjorie Carsen, Karl Lindholm or Rev. Barnaby.

**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.

Join the CVUUS Board and UUs from around the Northern New England District for powerful music, inspiring worship and a program led by UUA staff that will challenge you to think about how our collective talents can be used more effectively within our congregations and in outreach to and collaboration with the wider community. We are truly stronger together. People of all ages are welcome to attend. Adults and youth are welcome to participate in the program. Childcare for children will be provided, Most CVUUS Board members will attend both Fri eve and Sat. If interested in going, contact Laurie Borden at laurieborden2015@gmail.com by Thur March 27. We look forward to sharing the experience with you.

Friday
7:00 - 8:30 PM Reggie Harris Concert - Refreshments and conversation to follow. Reggie Harris – singer, songwriter, storyteller extraordinaire – will return with his acclaimed presentation, Songs of Joy, Hope and Freedom. Using his commitment to humanity based narratives, Reggie moves easily between stories from the Underground Railroad and the current Civil Rights Movements to frame the rich context of our past and present. Reggie’s performance reveals subtle truths on issues that touch our lives regardless of color, background, age, or nationality. It’s about the laughter and the tears ... the challenges and the joy...the global and the personal. He touches us with the sacred and the laugh-out-loud funny moments that define us. Reggie is a teaching artist for the John F. Kennedy Center’s CETA program, a Woodrow Wilson scholar, and the Director of Music Education for the UU Living Legacy Project, an annual pilgrimage to visit sites and veterans of the civil rights movement in the Deep South.

Saturday
8:00 - 9:00 AM Registration and morning refreshments
9:00 - 9:45 AM Worship
Rev. Dr. Jodi Hayashida is Minister of the First Universalist Church of Auburn, Maine, UU, where she has served for nearly 19 years. Jodi graduated from Meadville/Lombard Theological School in 2000 with a Doctor of Ministry degree, having previously earned a BA in history from the University of New Hampshire. Jodi believes in the centrality of communal worship and has been awarded the Paul Carnes Preaching Prize and Charles Billings Preaching Prize. She is a tri-chair of the Maine Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival and serves on the board and public policy committee of the Maine Council of Churches.
Sarah Dan Jones is Director of Music Ministry at Star King Universalist Fellowship in Plymouth, NH. She has been a UU professional musician for 13 years including service at our UUA General Assembly. She articulates her mission as one to “spread the Unitarian Universalist faith through music” which she does “by empowering congregational singing, shared ministry and active participation in the UUA.” She is currently serving on our UUA Board of Trustees. Sarah Dan’s instruments include piano, guitar, flute, voice and djembe. She holds a BA in Music Performance from North Georgia College and State University
10:00 - 11:00 AM
Report of the Results of the Congregational Survey Related to Dissolution of the NNED
After a great deal of soul searching and discussion, the NNED Board has recommended that the NNED complete the process of merging with the New England Region. This involves the dissolution of the current Northern New England District. In January a survey was sent to all congregations in order to determine concerns and questions regarding this process. This will be an opportunity to hear what we have learned from your responses. (Continued on next page)
Have You Discovered CVUUS LIBRARY yet?

Check out the children’s book collection in Fenn House chapel and our adult library collection in the sanctuary meeting room. Feel free to borrow any of these books! Please return books out for more than 3 months so others may read them.

For more information about our library, see CVUUS web site’s library page under the Learning tab: http://www.cvuus.org/learning/library/. Library volunteers are always welcome! Contact Artley Wolfson, awolfson@middlebury.edu, 989-7081 or Barb Karle during her absence this month.

Saturday 11:00 - 12:30 PM
Nurturing Connections: The Power of We
UUA Executive Vice President Carey McDonald and Director of Congregational Life Jessica York will lead an interactive conversation that focuses on embracing our shared identity as Unitarian Universalists across neighborhood, parish, community and state lines. Come discuss the next steps for congregations in Northern New England and lift up our shared vision to strengthen our Unitarian Universalist faith. For those attending the 2019 General Assembly, this will serve as a preview of the GA theme “The Power of We”.

Carey McDonald is the UUA’s Executive Vice President, helping to lead the organization in fulfilling its mission and overseeing staff operations. He previously served as the UUA's Outreach Director and as the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, and is a former lay member of the UUA Ministerial Fellowship Committee and the Skinner House Books Board.

Jessica York is the Director of Congregational Life. Congregational Life Staff Group is made up of the field staff of the UUA’s 5 regions. Previously, she was the Co-director of Ministries and Faith Development and the Director of the Faith Development office of the Unitarian Universalist Association. A native of Birmingham, Alabama, she previously served the Unitarian Universalist Church of Birmingham as director of religious education for several years before joining UUA staff as the Youth Programs Director in 2007.

12:30 - 1:15 PM Lunch
1:30 - 2:45 PM Breakout Sessions
1. Supporting Rural and Small Congregations – Karen Bellavance-Grace is the support for small congregations in the New England Region. She serves as a consultant to congregations of under 100 or so members.

2. How to Access Resources within the Region – Meck Groot, Justice Ministries Lead for the New England Region. Meck works with congregational leaders to develop faith inspired justice ministries within and beyond their respective church communities.

3. The Vision and Direction of Congregational Life – Woullard Lett, Acting Regional Lead for the New England District. Woullard is a long-time member and lay leader at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Manchester, NH and board member of Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community.

3:00 - 4:00 PM NNED Annual Meeting
4:00 PM Adjourn

Register at link below by April 1 (sliding scale fee $15-$85). Don’t let finances stop you. Ask Rev Barnaby or Laurie Borden for support.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nned-uu-a-spring-assembly-annual-meeting-tickets-54380689105

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nned-uu-a-spring-assembly-annual-meeting-tickets-54380689105

http://www.cvuus.org/learning/library/
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.

Planned Giving: For help including CVUUS in your will or trust, contact John Berninghausen (349-7080 berningh@middlebury.edu).

Pastoral Care

CVUUS is blessed with many wise and well-trained individuals providing support to members and friends in various kinds of distress. Laurie Borden, Sue Grigg and Marjorie Carsen lead this.

Where is my tax statement? Statements for tax purposed were sent out by mail around the 1/24/19. If you did not receive your statement, let Heather know as soon as possible so she can get you a replacement copy. Also let her know if your records differ from our records so she can make any needed corrections before reprinting your statement. Heather’s in the office on Mondays. Call 388-8080 when she’s in or email fm@cvuus.org anytime. Thanks so much for your pledges.

2018-2019 Worship Themes

What does it mean to be a people of …

Sept—Purpose  Oct – Transformation
Nov – Hunger  Dec – Hope  Jan – Possibility
Feb – Perseverance March – Simplicity  April – Emergence
May – Freedom

Recent Visitors: Ken Levine, Janice Sabett, Laura Wilkinson, Terri Arnold (visiting from WA!)

Our Caring Network provides support, such as calls, visits, meals, and rides, to those in need. We thank all the faithful 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 a 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 Nita Hanson (boostasha@aol.com or 345-0489).

Visit [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org) to learn about the wider work of UUA and our affiliates. Visit [www.cvuus.org](http://www.cvuus.org) to explore our happenings and most current calendar.
CVUUS Board of Trustees
Mike Greenwood – Co-President       Members At Large:
Laurie Borden – Co-President        Donna LaRose
Mary Hadley – Treasurer            Kas Singh
Mark Spritzer—Clerk               Doug Richards

CVUUS Leaders
Caring Network – Nita Hanson
Council of Ministries: Margy Young
Donation Ministry — Jason Duquette-Hoffman
Facilities – Bob House
Finance—Mary Hadley
Green Sanctuary—Elizabeth Golden
Ground Floor Project —Steve Maier
Hospitality – Elizabeth Golden
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
Office Manager– Laura Asermily (office@cvuus.org)
Sexton—Keith Rickerby