



Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

December 2020 - Volume 23, Issue 5

2 Duane Court, Middlebury, VT 05753

(802) 388-8080

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.



Join Us for Holiday Events & Services!

<https://www.cvuus.org/worship/watch-online/> OR

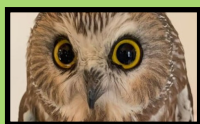
<https://zoom.us/my/cvuusservice/>

*How many lessons of faith
and beauty we
should lose,
if there were no winter
in our year!*

**Contemplative Sanctuary Visit,
Dec 6—31**, sign up to visit one
household at a time and add to our
three trees of love, light a candle,
view displays honoring seasonal traditions, listen to or perform music.



Advent: Stories of Waiting in the Dark, Sun. Dec 6, 10 am, online. Led by Rev. Barnaby. We'll collect for Charter House.



The Owl in the Christmas Tree, Sun. Dec 13, 10 am, online. Rev. Barnaby reflects on how we create a new story out of a mystery. We'll collect for our holiday staff bonus.

Zoom Christmas Pageant, Sat. Dec 19, 4 pm, join Dir. of Religious Exploration Poppy Rees for our first Zoom version of our all-ages event where you can attend in costume. More inside! **Rebroadcast Sun. Dec 20, 10 am.**

Christmas Eve Sundown Service, Thurs. Dec 24, 5:30 pm, online. Rev. Barnaby's homily will briefly look at main themes from pre-Covid Christmases and ask what comes next; lots of music. *View this service and our Pageant any time after their first broadcasts. Both will collect for HOPE.*

Christmas Morning Zoom Coffee Hour, Fri. Dec 25, 9 am, gentle visiting

Full Long Moon Storytelling Service, Sun. Dec 27, 7 pm, online led by Liam Greenwood. First 30 minutes will be child friendly. Come in pajamas to hear stories and songs.



**NURTURE Your Spirit.
Help HEAL Our World.**  Unitarian
Universalists



Words from Rev. Barnaby:

*December lies faithfully at the end of
Every one-month-leads-to-another year
(Because we put it there a long time ago
For reasons that aren't important.*

*As I think of you this evening, Reasons that
have nothing to do with how much I love you.)*

Looking forward to December

One of you whose name begins with Nancy Means Wrigh

Sent me a wonderful poem by Maggie Smith,

And this one thing led me to another

*Wonderful poem by Maggie Smith, a change of course,
Toward something I needed more (Because I love you.)*

How Dark the Beginning

All we ever talk of is light—
let there be light, there was light then,

good light—but what I consider
dawn is darker than all that.

So many hours between the day
receding and what we recognize

as morning, the sun cresting
like a wave that won't break

over us—as if light were protective,
as if no hearts were flayed,

no bodies broken on a day
like today. In any film,

the sunrise tells us everything
will be all right. Danger wouldn't

dare show up now, dragging
its shadow across the screen.

We talk so much of light, please
let me speak on behalf

of the good dark. Let us
talk more of how dark

the beginning of a day is."

May the darkness bend toward flower,

Lift from us pandemic's noose,

Sweep away those mad with power,

Wash us clean of Earth abuse,

Winter come, but hour by hour.



Welcome!

Warm greetings from your Membership Ministry for this holiday season. Rev. Barnaby recently led our New UU classes on Zoom, with added support from members who have special insights into the history of our faith and this congregation. Then new members **Deanne Morse, Dee Carroll** and **Penelope Markle** were welcomed officially on Nov 22nd, during our Sunday morning service. We hope to give the 3 of them an in person welcome when that will be allowable. We thank those in the congregation who reached out, and conveyed that CVUUS would be a warm and welcoming spiritual home. So let us all continue to reach out to one another for support and encouragement, for others as well as for ourselves. There are a variety of opportunities to do so, as described in weekly Wednesday emails, and your new ideas are always welcome.

Marjorie Carsen, for Membership Ministry

CVUUS Fall Fundraiser

CVUUS' annual Fall Fundraiser has taken many creative forms over the past years.

Chili To-Go Fest Postponed to Winter 2021:

We were planning a Chili To-Go sale for fall building off our successful rhubarb pie sale and nostalgia for Middlebury's Chili Fest, but decided to wait until Feb or March in response to recent Covid updates. We want to cook and have some fun selling food to help CVUUS, but this is not the time.

CVUUS Special Appeal Donation:

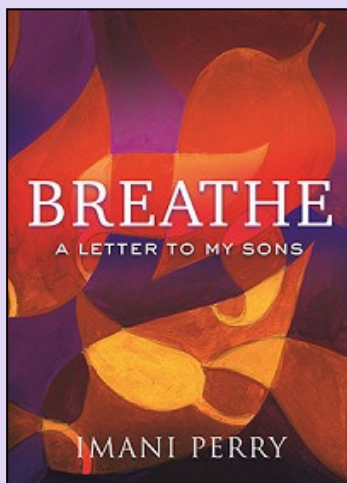
However, it is the time to help CVUUS! If you have the means, say thanks to those who keep the lights on and those who keep our ministries strong by giving 4% of your annual pledge this month. See Rev. Barnaby's appeal on page 4.





CVUUS Dec Newsletter

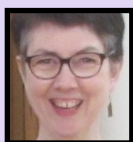
"In *Breathe*, Perry offers a lyrical meditation that connects a painful, proud history of African American struggle with a clarion call for present-day action to protect, defend, and celebrate the promise of the next generation."—Stacey Abrams, Fair Fight Action, Inc.



Join Our Newest Book Group

Jean Terwilliger and Mike Greenwood will lead a group reading of this year's [UUA Common Read](#), *Breathe* by Imani Perry starting in January. Please let Jean at jtwigvt@gmail.com or Mike at mike802vt@comcast.net know if you are interested. Artley has copy for our library and you can order your copy from www.uuabookstore.org or from www.vermontbookshop.com.

Join Our New Intro to Meditation Group



If you're interested in developing a meditation practice, you're warmly invited to join us **Sunday mornings** when **Colleen Brown (left)** will lead from 9:15 to 9:45



am. It's open to folks of all ages and all levels of experience with meditation. Each session includes instruction and three 5-minute guided meditations. It's aimed especially at those who are just beginning a meditation practice. During these trying times, it seems we all benefit from connecting with the place of silence and peace within, and this program is intended to help us locate and occupy that space with greater ease. Zoom link is [here](#). Please feel free to call either Colleen (989-9974) or Tracey (989-2270), with any questions and for the password.



Staying Connected... Virtually

Sunday Morning Zoom Coffee Hour (~11 am):

Join exchanges after worship where we check in with each other. Login <https://zoom.us/j/784848484>

Weekend Greeting (Fridays): Rev. Barnaby shares inspirational thoughts, music and readings in a regular email from revbarnaby@cvuus.org. Not getting these? Email office@cvuus.org.

Weekly Blast (Wednesdays): Provides pathways for connection with links to our upcoming worship service, past services, and events. Not getting these? Email office@cvuus.org.

Facebook CVUUSVT follow us here with news and links to our Sunday worship service.

Yellow Card Milestones & Passages: Submit them at <https://cvuus.breezechms.com/form/YellowCard>

Virtual Visit: Request one with Rev. Barnaby at <https://cvuus.breezechms.com/form/VirtualVisit> or arrange for one on one time with him in our Sanctuary at revbarnaby@cvuus.org

Small Groups: Some meet remotely. Contact Laura at office@cvuus.org if your group wants to schedule **Zoom meetings**. Ask Laura how you can become the host for your cvuus zoom meeting. Explore *small group ministry* and our *affinity groups* on page 7 and [here](#).

Council of Ministries: Reps from our ministry groups convene online, now on 1st Monday of month at 4:30 PM, to brainstorm and update each other. Their missions are described [here](#). Look for opportunities galore for you to promote, celebrate and stay connected with CVUUS.



CVUUS Special Fundraiser Letter to Congregation from Rev. Barnaby

We are entering the homestretch on a calendar year like no other in CVUUS history. 2020 has left me more grateful than ever for the opportunity to be your Lead Minister, and there's still roughly 10 percent of the year left to unfold.

I'm occasionally expected to offer my perspective on how our finances are lining up with our mission and aspirations, as well as to be a careful steward of the financial gifts you so generously share with the congregation. Sometimes, when the plans embodied in our approved budget aren't panning out, it falls to me to make suggestions on how we can change course effectively and in a way that is faithful to what is best in us. Hence this letter.

First, here's some important background:

CVUUS is in good shape financially compared to most churches. That reflects consistent generous support from congregants and wise management by your congregational leaders.

We rely on annually pledged donations by members and friends to cover close to 90 percent of each year's operating budget. Unlike many churches, we do not have a major tenant like a nursery school providing lots of income. And we are too young to have accumulated a huge endowment on which we can draw. Close to half of the non-pledge budget gap is filled by two major fund-raising efforts – our Rhubarb Festival in late May and some sort of Fall Fund-Raiser. In practice, because we have chosen to share up to half the Rhubarb Festival proceeds with Project Hope every year, the Fall fund-raising effort is the most important for us financially.

Because what we do is never primarily about the money, the Fall Fund raiser has also been our major fellowship building event of the year, Whether it has been an Auction, or a lottery-based event like the Radical Love Party Giveaway, most of the effort has gone into creating a year's worth of parties, learning opportunities, nature outings, and distribution of goods and services that help us forge deeper connections with each other! It's a wild form of love that takes a lot of effort, but it works pretty well.

We knew the pandemic might make pulling off a fund-raiser this fall harder. The congregants who have taken the lead in making something happen on this front came up with idea after idea, only to bump into the hard reality that safely executing those ideas would be difficult if not impossible at this time. This week, with my full endorsement, they have reluctantly concluded that it's time to bite the bullet and say the best thing we can do in these circumstances is to give our event planners, staff, and volunteers a break. We need to try to collect the \$8,000 to \$12,000 we would normally raise from the Fall Fund-Raiser through one-time donations.

Removing the anxiety of trying to stage a large traditional fund-raising event – or a group of smaller ones – during this stage of the pandemic will free us to focus on other ways to distribute fellowship opportunities as they become safe. I think this invitation to create new ways to build fellowship might turn out to be a beautiful development from these troubling times. If we meet our donation goal, we can reasonably hope to run the Rhubarb Festival as usual, including giving a substantial share of the proceeds back to the wider community through donating them to Project HOPE.

So how would this work? Ideally, each of us makes some sort of Thanksgiving gift to CVUUS. It could be anything from a few dollars to a much larger sum if the pandemic restrictions and strong stock market have left you better off financially than you expected. As your minister, I can assure you that the amount you give matters far less than the communal spirit we nourish by responding in a way that acknowledges we are all in this together.

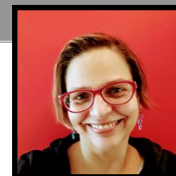
I'm well aware that at this time of year all of us are inundated with many other worthy requests for financial donations. Indeed, CVUUS will continue its weekly fund-raising for our outside donees during worship services and, on Dec. 13, for a part-time staff bonus pool. But, in these extraordinary times, I hope you will find joy and satisfaction, as Michele and I will, in also making an extraordinary Thanksgiving gift to replace our traditional Fall fund-raiser.



RE THOUGHTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

REinvention. Hope. Joy. Fun. Community.



STARTING TUES, DEC 1: BUY GAYT HEART ORNAMENTS MADE BY THE KIDS COVID safe pickup. Drop by CVUUS to buy annual Guest at Your Table ornaments. They will be in purple "ornaments" box outside Fenn House back door. \$2 each – larger donations welcome! All money goes to the UUSC Guest At Your Table human rights program. See more [here](#). If you can't pick up, contact Poppy or Bobbi for delivery.

SAT, DEC 5, 4-5 pm: YOUTH GROUP ON ZOOM More games!

SUN, DEC 6, 4-5 pm: COMING OF AGE ON ZOOM More games!

SAT, DEC 19, 4-5 pm: *ZOOM* 7th Annual INTERACTIVE NO-REHEARSAL

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT! Yes, we're doing it live on Zoom, so you can invite your Minnesota cousins to take part or come see the kids in it! Despite many things being different this Holiday season, you can still count on cuteness, chaos, costumes, and Christmas cheer. Family-friendly service for all ages. Come be part of our joyful story with Mary, Joseph, shepherds, sheep, angels, animals, wise people, and stars – flexible on who shows up - multiple Marys, kangaroos... Anyone can play any part – no limits based on gender, age, size or anything else. Put together your own costumes (virtual/physical backgrounds?) and just show up. We'll spotlight you in Zoom when the time comes. 7th Grade Narrators, readings by kids, and music by kids, Kate Gridley, and Poppy. Take part or just watch and SING ALONG with the traditional carols. Ends with candle lighting and singing "Silent Night." Led by Dir. of Religious Exploration, Poppy Rees.



SUN, DEC 20, 10 am: RECORDED ZOOM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Couldn't come to the live Zoom Pageant? This Sunday's Worship Service will be a recording of the Pageant, followed by Coffee Hour.

SUN, DEC 20, 4-5 pm: COMING OF AGE ON ZOOM

THURS, DEC 24, 5:30: CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE streamed Pre-recorded music-filled service led by Rev. Barnaby.

Would love to hear from anyone who wants to be part of our REinvention!

~ Love, Poppy - your Director of Religious Exploration

Give to Habitat for Humanity!



Look for holiday card display at CVUUS.

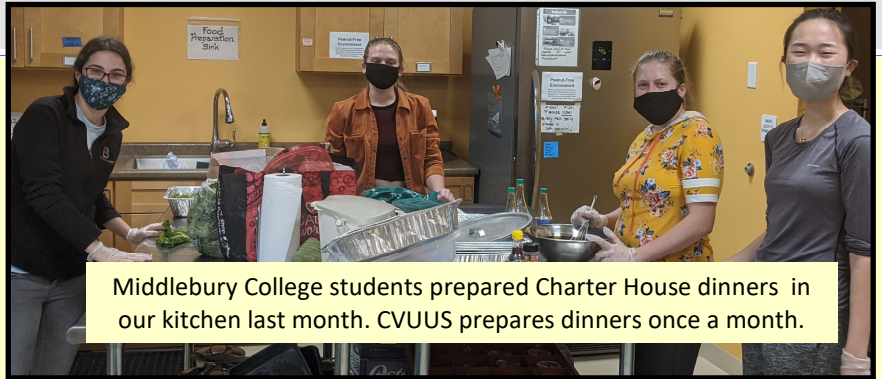


Social Action

December “Share the Plate” Donees Charter House

Charter House is a local organization which has been providing housing and meals to the homeless in the Middlebury area since 2005. Over

the years, its importance has grown, as has the need. Last year Charter House provided almost 40,000 meals to hundreds of individuals and families. It housed 134 men, women and children. This year of the pandemic, Charter House has had to radically change its activities, and is now serving three meals a day to 90 people, living in various locations around Middlebury. Obviously, this has taxed its resources, and although it has received funding from the state and federal governments, it is constantly seeking additional funding in order to employ the staff and purchase the food and other supplies it requires so that it can adequately fulfill the growing need for its services. CVUUS has always been a generous supporter of Charter House, and with your assistance in December, we will continue to do so.



Middlebury College students prepared Charter House dinners in our kitchen last month. CVUUS prepares dinners once a month.

Project HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty’s Effects) will be our donee for Christmas Pageant and Eve services, as before. HOPE is a local non-profit whose mission is to reduce the effects of poverty in Addison County by providing low-income residents with opportunities for becoming more self reliant. Your support of our often unseen neighbors is greatly appreciated.



Future “Share the Plate” Donees At our recent meeting, the Donations Ministry discussed future Share The Plate recipients, and given the clear and present danger presented by environmental crises, we plan to **kick off 2021 by collecting for an organization dedicated to**

fighting Climate Change globally. We are soliciting ideas from you, our dedicated congregation, so if you know of a non-profit that would benefit from our donations, please let us know! You may send any/all suggestions to me via email at: allisoncutler56@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you! Thank you for your continued support, Allison. Please speak with anyone on Donation Ministry to suggest an organization you would like CVUUS to support: Allison Cutler (chair), Barbara Karle, Ashleigh Hickey, Chris Murphy, Avi Freund or Rev. Barnaby. Nov’s collection raised ~\$1000 for **Alyssum Retreat Center**. *Thanks!*

Wish Lists **Addison Allies (for farmworkers):** *Electric space heaters* or boot dryers (put in Fenn shed). **Charter House (for residents):** *Earbuds* or ear phones for listening to devices (put in CVUUS office drop box or shed). **Community Supper (for take-out meals):** *Large brown bags* or *plastic grocery bags* gently recycled (put in Fenn shed)



CVUUS Dec Newsletter

Explore Small Ministry Groups: A Different Way to Do Church

The Small Group Ministry program deepens and broadens personal spiritual growth. A group usually consists of 8-10 members who meet via Zoom. Each meeting is focused on a spiritual or religious topic. To join or form a group, contact Doug Richards (drichard@keuka.edu or 802-989-9387). Or join one of our many affinity groups.



Writers Group meets the 2nd Monday of month from 7:30-9 pm via Zoom. This is for anyone who writes: for pleasure, hoping to publish, published. All are welcome to come and share, including people not part of CVUUS. You may ask for feedback or not. Questions? Email bobbiloney@gmail.com to get on the list for Zoom link.



CVUUS Sangha & Meditation

Many of us that met in Fenn Chapel on Sunday nights are sitting with others at morning meditations with Breadloaf Mountain Zen Center until we can resume again at CVUUS. We welcome you to join us there. No experience needed. Visit cvuus.org for good information on meditation. See page 3 for a new Intro to Meditation.

UU Cingles gathers, now online, for those aged 60+ to provide company and conversation during these difficult times. We aim to meet on every other Saturday at 1 pm (Dec 5 & 19). Watch the blast for invites. For more, call or email Monty Montgomery, Revell Allen or Marjorie Carson.



Native Moons Group led by Liam and Mike Greenwood celebrates the Abenaki and Iroquois lunar cycle and uses *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Hall Kimmerer to guide reflective writing and sharings via monthly Zoom evening meetings. Contact Liam at liambatties@gmail.com to get on his zoom list. Look for him leading our worship service on last Sunday of each month and this special evening one: **Full Long Moon Storytelling Service, Sun. Dec 27, 7 pm, online** First 30 minutes will be child friendly, come in your pajamas for stories & songs.



Have You Discovered CVUUS LIBRARY yet?

Need UU-interest reading material? See our CVUUS Library reading lists at <https://www.cvuus.org/learning/library/reading-lists-2/>. We're happy to locate books for you. Arrange pick up with office@cvuus.org or awolfson@middlebury.edu

Book Donation Requests: Do you have any of these titles you could put in Fenn shed or Blue Room ?

For adults, these paperback books:

When the Light of the World Was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through: A Norton Anthology of Native Nations Poetry by Joy Harjo
This Land Is Their Land: The Wampanoag Indians, Plymouth Colony, and the Troubled History of Thanksgiving by David J. Silverman
My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies by Resmaa Menakem
Nice White Parents

Hardcover copies of these classic children's books:

The Lorax by Dr. Seuss (to replace a lost copy)
Frederick by Leo Lionni
The Happy Owls by Celestino Piatti (out of print, very hard to find a good used copy)
Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney (to replace paperback copy)
Intersection Allies: We Make Room for All by Chelsea Johnson, LaToya Council, Carolyn Choi, Ashley Seil Smith

When We Are Alone by D. Robertson, Julie Flett

Consider shopping via Amazon Smile <<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/03-0312369>> to benefit CVUUS library but, by all means, support our local stores first!



Choir Group Greetings and Salutations dear CVUUS folk! I suspect many of you are feeling these dark days as personal affronts, as I do. Where did my daylight go? I'm not an early riser, so I have really lost several hours of my usual day's light. How are you? I ask the choir at our gatherings, "Where do you find Joy?" without really having much of an

Rules for Singing & Playing Instruments

Sing, play, practice, and record outside whenever possible.

Only those of the same household can be in the space at a time.

Musicians should come ready to record or perform – this is not a space for rehearsals or warm-ups.

Minimize the number of takes of a recording.

The space used should have as much outside air circulation as possible (windows open, fans)

Everyone except singers and wind musicians must be masked. Singers and wind musicians may be unmasked only while actually singing or playing.

After unmasked singers and wind musicians have been in an indoor space, that space must be empty until the next day.

Microphones: After use. Label mic, using blue tape & Sharpie, with date used & put in the "used microphones" bin in sound cabinet.

answer myself. I say to them, I find joy in you, in doing these ZOOM gatherings rather than not connecting with you at all. When I say, "Let's sing together, turn off your mics!" it actually hurts. How I wish we were singing together!

BUT until we safely can gather to sing and hug, we have our virtual communities to give us strength and joy. In December the Choir will meet on Wednesday nights 5:30-6:30 at a regular Choir Zoom Room (Laura posts the connection in the weekly Blast). We have recordings to listen to, and to make if you like. There's room for instrumentalists too, if you want to join us. Maybe you saw the November Choir Anthem and our wonderful Quartet of Flute (Janie Wulff), Viola (Carol Harden, also the leader of the Music Ministry Team), Horn, (Mary Bisson from Lincoln

and formerly of the Baltimore Symphony), and our dear Richard Hopkins on Bassoon!. We are so blessed at CVUUS with such talent and ability! And willingness! Please check in with the choir any week, and say hi even if you are not joining but just being in community.

There will be a choir anthem of *Dona Nobis Pacem* for December, being made ready by the choir and instrumentalists for use anytime during our upcoming services, probably Dec. 13. And, *Lo How A Rose Has Been Chosen* for our new compilation for a Christmas Eve Anthem, and we have a wonderful recording from Dec 2019 Christmas Eve of *In the Bleak Mid Winter* with an instrumental trio as well as the choir singing from our UU Hymnal. You'll surely see and hear that sometime during the next few weeks.

If you're feeling stressed and somewhat burnt out, come Caroling along with YouTube recordings on Wednesdays in December except Dec. 23. It has some pleasure for us, seeing each other in our ZOOM boxes and singing together, separately. Blessings Lucy



FROM CVUUS BOARD

As we enter this season of particular gratitude, I am especially thankful for each of you who are connected in any way to CVUUS - as well as being grateful for my opportunity to serve as Treasurer alongside the other “wonder-full” members of the Board. It may not seem obvious (it was not to me) but this position offers a fantastic opportunity to get to know many folks in the congregation –

even in the wild times of COVID and ZOOM/ remote services.

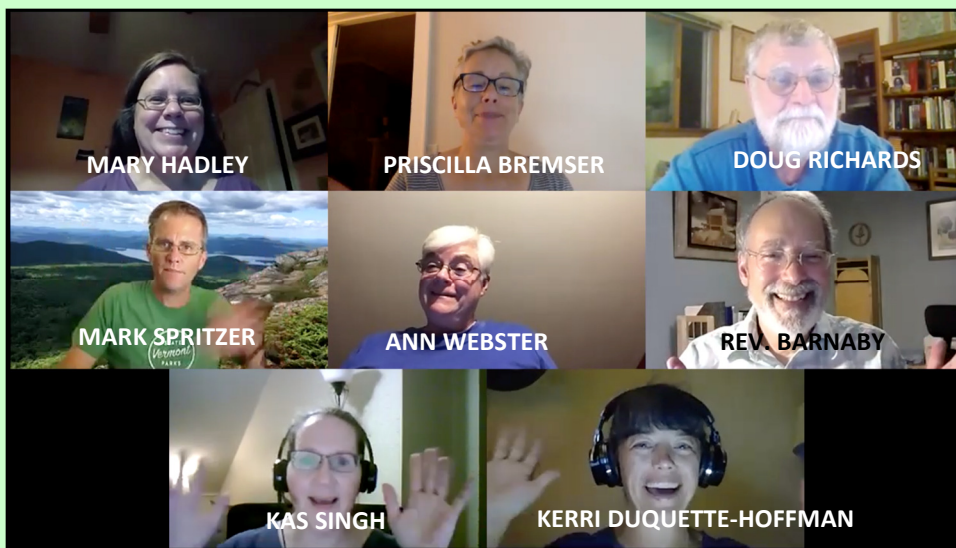
No matter what external circumstances may swirl around us, the work of CVUUS continues. This includes signing checks to pay bills and reimbursements (so I get to learn about what folks are buying and doing to contribute to CVUUS in this way), counting and totaling checks and other contributions (reinforcing all the folks who contribute so much financially), and meeting monthly with the finance team members, Rev. Barnaby, and our awesome bookkeeper Kris to review and plan the stewardship of CVUUS finances. *Special shout-out to our current finance team members — **John Berninghausen, Rich Wolfson, Mary Hadley, Alan Moore, Mary Conlon and Ann Webster** – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!*

As you have probably heard, CVUUS could not find a way to do any sort of traditional fall fundraising event this year.

Even so, the congregation approved a budget which included raising \$12,000 through fundraising and usually the fall fundraiser provides the largest portion of that. Please read the letter Rev Barnaby shared in *Weekend Greeting #11 on Nov 20*. It's reprinted on page 4. Please consider if you would be able to contribute additional support to CVUUS in this season of gratitude.

Finally, as you read from Doug Richards last month in this space, we Board members continue to look for ways to connect with you and welcome you to share any ideas and thoughts you may have for CVUUS. We especially thank all those who participated in the November Congregational Conversation and sincerely appreciate all the input shared with us in those thoughtful and thought-provoking sessions.

Peace to you all! - Mary Hadley, CVUUS Board Member and Treasurer





CVUUS COVID Building Use and Meetings Policy

Anyone using CVUUS grounds or buildings **MUST: Get clearance and schedule ahead of time with Laura** DURING THESE HOURS: M-F 8-12 office@cvuus.org. In an emergency when Laura can't be reached, contact Rev. Barnaby 989-9303. *Take pre-screening health survey before attending (posted on entrance doors and below).* Adhere to "CVUUS COVID CHECKLIST" below and those for singing and playing instruments and recording inside. Sign in on clipboard.

NO GROUP MEETINGS INSIDE OR OUTSIDE

Ask Laura how you can request and host a cvuus zoom meeting.

CVUUS COVID CHECKLIST

BEFORE ENTERING BUILDING: TAKE THIS PRE-SCREENING HEALTH SURVEY. IF YOU ANSWER YES TO ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS, YOU MAY NOT ENTER CVUUS BUILDINGS. In the past 14 days, have you

had close contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19 or traveled out-of-state for a reason that requires quarantining under current VDH orders YES NO

Today or in the past 24 hours have you had any of the following symptoms? Cough,

shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing, Fever (above 100.4°F) or felt feverish, Chills, Headache, Nausea/vomiting,

Diarrhea YES NO

Have you been at a multi-family gathering in the past 2 weeks? YES NO

AS SOON AS YOU ENTER BUILDING: use disinfectant wipes or spray to disinfect the doorknob behind you, the thermometer, and anything else you touch near the entry * use hand sanitizer or wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap & water at sink * sign in on clipboard

WHILE IN BUILDING: wear a face covering that covers your nose and mouth when in the presence of others, stay at least 6 feet away from others not in your household, use only the assigned meeting room and designated bathrooms, when possible, open doors and windows to promote air flow to the greatest extent possible, use fans, air exchanger when in sanctuary, air purifier when in Fenn Chapel

BEFORE YOU LEAVE BUILDING/GROUNDS: Close and lock any open windows; turn off overhead fans and lights as needed., use disinfectant wipes or spray on **ANYTHING YOU TOUCHED** while you were here.

If you get COVID symptoms or a COVID diagnosis within 14 days of being at CVUUS, inside or

Board Update on In-Person Services in the CVUUS Sanctuary Nov 19, 2020

This past May, the Board of Trustees shared with the CVUUS congregation its decision that we would not be holding in person services in our sanctuary before **January 1, 2021**. At the time, we shared as well that we would be forming a group to help coordinate and make recommendations regarding facilities policies related to Covid-19, and that, going forward, we would continue to pay attention to the Governor's executive order updates, recommendations from the UUA, and advice from our local experts, and would err on the side of caution in deciding when and how to reopen our facilities to groups. The health of our congregants and the members of the larger human community is paramount.

As the New Year approaches, the Board would like to provide the congregation with an update to our statement in May. Unfortunately, as much as we hope for the day when we can all meet together in the sanctuary again, we will need to be patient a while longer. Last week, at our regular monthly meeting, we determined that given current projections regarding the increased number of Covid cases as the colder weather arrives, ***we do not anticipate that we will be able to hold services in the sanctuary before April 2021 at the earliest.***

We look forward to being together once more, and will make every effort to keep the congregation informed as circumstances unfold in the coming months. In the meantime, we hope that everyone will continue their efforts to stay connected in whatever ways we can do so safely.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Catherine Carpenter 12/1
Helene Vanderburgh 12/1
Michael Bright 12/3
Morris Earle 12/3
Linda Seward 12/6
Mark Spritzer 12/9
Aldan Fuentes-George 12/12
Larry Vanderburgh 12/12
Bethany Barry 12/14
Page Schley 12/16

Jennifer Molineaux 12/20
Lois Alberts 12/22
Artley Wolfson 12/23
Sue Grigg 12/24
Olive Stewart 12/27
Maura Connelly 12/30
Roxanne Ross 12/30
Chloe Mol 12/31
Ollie Cultrara 12/30
Kiara Santerre, 12/30

Wheel of Life CVUUS commemorates births and deaths. Listen to **Milestones and Passages** each Sunday for these and share your own. See how on page 3. Also see the **Seasons of Life Fund** below.

CVUUS Directory: We send out a directory monthly by email to those listed in the directory. There are two versions: one with photos and one without photos. Contact Laura (office@cvuus.org) if you'd like to be added, need to report a change or want to add or change a photo.

Online Giving Options Submit a donation **by text** (dial 518255-8053) or **by code** to right or at <https://cvuus.breezechms.com/give/online> Enter the amount you want to give. It defaults to "Share the Plate 50/50," but remember you can use the drop down on the right of that field to choose another giving category. It also gives you an option to pay the service charge. Thanks for all you give.



for online giving



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, Jordan Young, Marjorie Carsen



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 a network of willing helpers standing by that we can call or email on your behalf. Let us know if you'd like to join this network by contacting **Kathryn Schloff** (kathrynschloff@gmail.com or 349-5264).

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: M–F, mornings
Visit our web site at www.cvuus.org.
And Facebook page CVUUSVT

MINISTER
Rev. Barnaby Feder
388-8080 (office)
989-9303 (cell)
989-7197 (home)
Email: revbarnaby@cvuus.org

CVUUS Board of Trustees

Priscilla Bremser – President	Members At Large:
Doug Richards – Vice-President	Mark Spritzer
Mary Hadley – Treasurer	Kerri Duquette-Hoffman
Kas Singh – Clerk	Ann Webster

CVUUS Leaders

Caring Network – Kathryn Schloff 349-5264
Council of Ministries – Jean Terwilliger 377-1849, Lise Anderson
Donation Ministry – Allison Cutler 989-7792
Facilities – Bob House 989-5050
Fellowship—Mike Greenwood 349-5653
Finance—Mary Hadley 377-2270
Green Sanctuary – Elizabeth Golden 598-2388
Library & Information Resources – Artley Wolfson 989-7081
Membership Ministry – Marjorie Carsen 453-8457
Music Ministry Team – Carol Harden 989-8783
Pastoral Care – Laurie Borden, Jordan Young, Marjorie Carsen
Religious Exploration Council – Tracey Harrington, Jess Rouse
Safe Congregation—Alan Moore 865-335-2028
Small Group Ministry – Doug Richards 989-9387
Worship Team – Abi Sessions 349-8147

CVUUS Staff

Accompanists – Kate Gridley and Chuck Miller
Bookkeeper – Kris Butler (fm@cvuus.org, 989-7346)
Choir Director – Lucy Tenenbaum (lucytunes@me.com)
Dir. of Religious Exploration – Poppy Rees (re@cvuus.org)
Office Manager – Laura Asermily (office@cvuus.org)
Custodian— Keith Rickerby (989-6036)

Special Fundraising Appeal

Both services recorded to watch later, as wished.
filled service via You Tube Dec 24 at 5:30 pm.
Dec 19 at 4 pm. Traditional Christmas Eve music-
No-Rehearsal Christmas Nativity Pageant on Sat.
Join us via Zoom at cvuus.org for our interactive

Christmas Services Online

Safely. More inside.
Come for spiritual refreshment.

Contemplative Sanctuary Visit

Followed by Zoom Coffee Hour
Worship Service Online 10 AM

Stay Connected...Virtually!

Return Service Requested

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2 Duane Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

