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.

June Worship Services
Sundays at 10 am in our Sanctuary (masked) and on Zoom
https://zoom.us/my/cvuusservice/

June 5—A Choir Is a Beautiful Thing—Led by music director Ronnie Romano and members of the CVUUS Choir. Come ready to sing with us! Followed by our annual meeting. Enjoy Rhubarb Festival leftover items for sale and sampling just before we settle in for the meeting. We’ll share our offering plate with ACCT (more inside).

June 12—Flower Communion—Led by our Flower-Co-op (Dinah Smith, Alice Berninghausen, Bobbie Carnwath, Chris Murphy and honoring Marnie Wood as she recovers).

June 19—Juneteenth—Led by Esther Charleson with Justice Elijah, Caitlin Gildrien (NAACP of Rutland members), and Dr. Francois S. Clemmons. Followed by a Spirit in Nature hike in Ripton with Mike Greenwood.

June 26—UUA General Assembly Worship Service—Margy Young will help us attend remotely by watching one on our screen. More on GA (June 22-26) inside and at uua.org.

Rhubarb Festival
Sat. June 4, 10-2
Come for pies, music, plants, sweets & savories, dessert café, potholders & aprons (new!), books (kids get free ones). More inside & at cvuus.org.
Welcome to CVUUS!
Visit us at cvuus.org, FB CVUUSVT, or email office@cvuus.org to follow us.

Arrange access to our spaces
Refer people to how to arrange for our spaces here. They are well-ventilated and feature wifi access and gender inclusive bathrooms. We adjust the permitted attendance level and masking requirements depending on COVID conditions so ask the Office when you schedule. Watch our online calendar for when we are scheduled and when we are available for your small groups or events.

What Are Your Pronouns?
Celebrate gender identity by designating your pronouns on your name tag. Can’t find yours? Notify the Office, an usher, greeter or Ginny Ashenfelter. Check the Welcome Table basket in our lobby for collected and blank ones. Contact Poppy Rees about CVUUS Our Whole Lives (OWL) which helps youth explore their sexual identity.

Honoring Indigenous People
CVUUS worship opens with a ringing of the bell and saying: "We recognize that CVUUS gathers on the land of the Western Abenaki people. We respect their spiritual relationship to the land. We hope to learn from them how we can live together in peace and justice." See cvuus.org/news/honoring-indigenous-people.

Summer Worship: Spirituality & the Arts (July-Aug) Calling All Artists!
We are continuing to work on the schedule, with a few dates still open. If you or someone you know practice an art form – any art form – and would like to share a reflection on this work, please contact any worship team member. For any worship concerns, contact Abi Sessions (349-8147).

Worship Survey: Thanks to all who provided feedback on the use of our new media screen for worship. We had 28 surveys returned and about 10 people attended the congregational conversation on May 15. Most of the congregation appears to regard the screen as enhancing the worship experience. Support for a second screen at the other side of the sanctuary seems quite evenly divided. If you’d like to see a detailed report, contact office@cvuus.org.

Looking Ahead to Fall, Winter and Spring: Your worship team arranges for a guest worship leader once a month during fall, winter, and spring. Some of the favorite worship leaders are folks from the congregation, sharing their spiritual journey, an area of concern, a subject of expertise, or a way of seeing the world.

Is there a member or friend of the congregation you would like to nominate as a future worship leader? Worship team members can help shape the service with ideas for hymns and readings. We try to make it a not-scary experience. We welcome your nominations! Contact Abi Sessions (349-8147). Also let her know if you’d like to join the worship team.
If it takes a village to raise a child then it takes a community to hold a Rhubarb Festival. Thanks for making this fundraiser a community success.

PIES: Strawberry-Rhubarb ~$20 and Rhubarb ~$15 pies will be sold. We’ll have frozen and baked options as well as vegan pies available. We accept cash, check or credit card. Proceeds shared with HOPE. See Lise Anderson, Brett Millier or Mary Hadley. Sign-up to help https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b49afaa29a64-2022

BOOKS: Help sort & sell our many gently used books. Many are best sellers! Children can choose their own books, for free!!! See Elizabeth Golden.

PLANTS: Drop off in shade against the sanctuary wall facing Fenn House on June 2 or 3. See Dinah Smith

RHUBARB CAFE: Serve rhubarb crisp with Wilcox vanilla ice cream ($5/serving) along with assorted beverages. Help make crisp June 3 at 5 pm. See Mike Greenwood

APRONS/POTHOLDERS (NEW!): See Kathryn Schloff.

SWEETS & SAVORIES: Help provide & sell jams, baked goods, raw stalks, pie slices, and more. See Mary Conlon and Sue Grigg.

Ode to Rhubarb by Stevo
When winter wanes and springtime knocks,
Out come tender, fleshy stalks
That taste most tart, but when they’re stewed
Create a most celestial food.
In crisps and crumbles, tarts and pies,
They tempt the palate with surprise
But best of all in the extreme
Is savoury-sweet rhubarb ice cream.
Those with verdant garden patches
May consign their tangy batches,
Whence our Merry Dairy may
Transform the stalks to crème glacée.
In cone or cup or crimson garb
There’s none can match the fair rhubarb.
RETHOUGHTS


Summers have always been different with things more informal. We’ll monitor what families prefer as we move through it and who is able to be with children. For now, we’ll continue with starting and staying in Fenn House (nursery through Gr 6). We may consider an option for children to stay in the sanctuary with families and set up a corner for them to draw and read and such at a low table with chairs.

If you have ideas or suggestions about RE for summer or fall or know someone who would like a paid position to provide childcare, please let me know!

~ Love, Poppy - your Director of Religious Exploration

Thanks to Jess Rouse, Elizabeth Golden, and Bobbi and Gerry Loney for providing fun RE activities.

Promote Democracy with 3 Flipping Things

Tues June 21, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall

A local community group, 3 Flipping Things, provides (three) concrete ways to promote democracy each month. You can get involved at home, on your own, but if you want to get out of your home, we will begin meeting monthly at CVUUS on Tuesday, June 21 - 7– 9 pm and thereafter on the third Monday of the month at 7 pm. Join us to write postcards to encourage folks to vote in upcoming elections. Bring stamps, pens, pencils, and markers. We will bring postcards, a script, and a mailing list. There’s plenty to do before June 21 (and after). Here’s the link for the mailing list https://3flippingthings.org/connect/ and Facebook group https://www.facebook.com/groups/2146472762259620/. Gail Borden (gailborden@gmail.com) is CVUUS's rep to the group. Please contact her with any questions.
June “Share the Plate” Donee: Addison County Community Trust (ACCT)

ACCT is Addison County’s lead nonprofit affordable housing developer and manager, providing over 750 permanently affordable homes for low- and moderate-income residents. We currently own and operate 334 apartments, nine manufactured housing communities with sites for 340 owner-occupied mobile homes, and over 70 shared-equity single-family homes. We also provide resident support and enrichment through SASH (Support and Services at Home) as well as the Family Support Program, to ensure that every resident has access not only to a safe decent affordable home, but also to the supports they need to be successful renters and owners.

For more, visit addisontrust.org or speak to one of several CVUUS congregants who serve on its board including John Barstow (President), Abi Sessions (Secretary) and Elizabeth Golden (Resident Rep).

Thank you for your continued support of Donations Ministry. Thanks to all who gave to Ukrainian relief efforts last month. Track how much we contributed to them and others at cvuus.org/justice/sharing-donation-plate/

Donate items to Neat Repeats, Buy Again Alley, JuneBug, WomenSafe, HOPE and Addison Allies! Let them know you are donating on behalf of CVUUS. Look for the cart in our lobby.

Volunteer and Know You Make a Difference with Your CVUUS Teams

Meals on Wheels provides more than just a meal. The friendly visit, safety check and nutritious meal are a lifeline. Age Well, which organizes Meals on Wheels, needs drivers. Delivery is typically 9:30 to 11:30 am, week days. Volunteer for a day or to be an occasional substitute driver. CVUUS has a longstanding team on Mondays coordinated by Mary Conlon. Contact her.

 Charter House Dinner Prep Team  We make dinner for Charter House residents (25-35) every SECOND Monday of month. These are prepped ahead in the homes of volunteers and gathered at CVUUS between 10 am and 1 pm for delivery to Charter House. In addition, we provide baked goods (250 cookies) for Community Dinner on the FOURTH Friday of month. Contact Alan Moore to get on his list or sign up here.
THANKS: “We are so grateful for the generous gift of $1,314.55. Know the gift was used by the Middlebury Health Center as requested.” On Middlebury Center closure: “We didn’t come to this decision lightly...Strategic investments in our remaining health centers allow us to better respond to the ever-evolving landscape of political attacks, security threats, staffing shortages and, most importantly, will help us better care for our patients and staff into the future...During the first two years of COVID-19, PPNNE was cautious in not making large changes...We made progress, but that progress varied greatly with the COVID surges...A bright spot has been our work in telehealth, which has grown by leaps and bounds during the pandemic and created new accessibility to care across our region...Each new COVID variant and surge disrupted, in particular, our ability to keep our smaller, part-time health centers open, which interrupted patient care and access, and affected our financial well-being. With this reality—as well as the post-Roe landscape we face—we realized that it was time to carefully reallocate resources for the long-term sustainability of our patient care, and work to uphold our mission, now and well into the future. We hope you’ll continue to support us. For more, contact Jennifer Long, PPNNE at 800-287-8188 x 9735. For action, see Ashleigh Hickey, a Middlebury Center employee and PPNNE union member.

JOIN US FOR BOOK TALKS!

**Arribada**
Thur. June 17, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall
Join CVUUS friend and author Gloria Estela González Zenteno as she reads from her first novel *Arribada*. *Arribada* is a story about environmental exploitation, race, class, gender, with a LGBTQ theme. Just published, *Arribada* has already garnered many positive accolades and reviews. VT Bookshop will be selling copies of *Arribada* and Viva El Sabor will be providing complimentary appetizers and selling dinners! Plans are also in the works for a book talk group with the author. For more, contact Mike Greenwood

**The Flag, the Cross and the Station Wagon: A Graying American Looks Back at His Suburban Boyhood and Wonders What the Hell Happened**
Mon. June 20, 7 pm, Sanctuary
Join CVUUS Green Sanctuary and VT Book Shop in welcoming Bill McKibben as he talks about his most recent book recollecting his life and spiritual journey. In this revelatory cri de coeur, McKibben digs deep into our history (and his own well-meaning but not all-seeing past) and into the latest scholarship on race and inequality in America, on the rise of the religious right, and on our environmental crisis to explain how we got to this point. He finds that he is not without hope. And he wonders if any of that trinity of his youth-- The Flag, the Cross, and the Station Wagon--could, or should, be reclaimed in the fight for a fairer future.
Explore Small Ministry Groups: A Different Way to Do Church

Small Ministry Groups deepen and broaden personal spiritual growth. A group usually consists of 8-10 members who meet monthly. 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 affinity groups.

Writers Group meets the second Monday of the month at 7 pm on cvuus zoom. Contact Bobbi Loney at bobbiloney@gmail.com to be added to list.

UU Cingles gathers for those aged 60+ to provide company and conversation. Meets every other Saturday at 1 pm offsite again. Watch the Blast. For more, call or email Monty Montgomery, Revell Allen or Marjorie Carson.

Music & Choir Come Wednesdays 5:30 pm to the Sanctuary or by Zoom until June 8. We’ll take off for the summer and reconvene Aug 31 or Sept 7. Save Sat. Oct 1 for an all day retreat in Fellowship Hall. Contact Music Director Ronnie Romano at music@cvuus.org or 201-388-4038 to be added to his list. Look for email from choir@cvuus.org. Ask him about joining Music Ministry to plan wider events.

Flower Co-op/Landscaping Help bedeck our sanctuary and grounds. See Dinah Smith to learn when they meet (often on Fridays) to plan

Green Sanctuary Ministry welcomes new members to join in its mission to engage in an ambitious Environmental and Climate Justice movement that seeks to live fully our seventh principle and achieve our vision of a viable and just world for all. Contact Elizabeth Golden (802-598-2388) if you are interested. Track our efforts at cvuus.org here.

CVUUS Sangha & Meditation If you’re interested in developing a meditation practice, you’re warmly invited to join us Sunday evenings at 7 pm when Dinah Smith gives guided meditations. It’s aimed at those who are new to meditation or already have a meditation practice. Zoom link here

Meditative Walk (Ripton) Sunday June 19, ~Noon (weather permitting). Join us as we walk the UU Path and Interfaith one and enjoy the meditative spirit that SPiN has to offer. The walk will be an initial conversation about the signage on the UU Path - does the signage best reflect who we are? Which sayings might we want to keep and which sayings might we want to replace? Carpool from CVUUS. This is a family friendly event. Bring a brown bag lunch or snack. We will provide cold seltzers and cola. For more, contact Mike Greenwood or Alan Moore. NOTE: Our normally scheduled 3rd Sunday, Congregation Conversation is generally held at CVUUS but this month will occur at SPiN. Additional opportunities to give input into the signage on the UU Path will occur in Fall of 2022 for those unable to attend.
You’re invited!
CVUUS Annual Meeting
Onsite & on Zoom
Sunday, June 5
after worship (~ 11 am)

What to Expect
How does our congregation govern itself? In lots of ways, but the centerpiece is the Annual Meeting, where we gather to elect representatives to the Board and other bodies, approve a budget for the coming year, and consider other items of importance. The Board puts together an agenda with supporting documents and distributes it ahead of time separately electronically (contact office@cvuus.org if you would like these mailed to you). Print copies are available ahead in the lobby.

At the meeting, we follow our version of Robert’s Rules of Order. Ideally, the rules maintain a good balance between robust discussion and reaching decisions in a timely fashion. Non-member friends are not entitled to vote, but are welcome to observe and ask questions. Members who joined within the last 60 days can vote. Doug Richards

Meet Tom Morgan, our newest member! Tom shared this at our New Member Service on May 22: “For me, coming to Unitarian Universalism has not occurred because of family heritage or legacy. It was not because of a rejection of another faith tradition, although I do utterly reject the injustices and suffering perpetrated by any organized religion. I have arrived at Unitarian Universalism after decades of discernment, plus a few years of divinity school. I have come to an intimate awareness of a Transcendent Mystery and its corresponding Light that exists in and is reflected by each sentient being. I am a Unitarian Universalist because my journey / my dharma is to join and support others as we explore, reflect, and love what the late Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks called “this radically diverse plurality of creation.”

When we speak of matters of The Spirit, we are limited to speaking in metaphors. I find that poets and mystics are particularly good with metaphors. The medieval mystic, Meister Eckhart observed that the Light of Truth is within each one of us. And it is love that draws person to person. Grace translates that love into human experience. Grace is always found in becoming.

Having attended worship here with you in CVUUS for several weeks now, I can say that I have rarely been among a group so intentionally and gracefully committed to principles that honor the becoming of each individual. I am grateful to be with you.”
**WORSHIP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Worship Associate:** Help create the service, welcome attendees, make announcements, light our chalice, etc. If you’re interested, contact [Abi Sessions](mailto:abijah.sessions@gmail.com).

**Tech Team:** Help run the media screen, camera, sound, record, post recording to YouTube. See Margy Young.

**Usher:** Greet, pass out bulletins, oversee donation collection when we’re back onsite. See Mike Greenwood.

**Safety Volunteer:** Watch doors & walkways; oversee COVID protocols and emergency drills and procedures. See Alan Moore.

**Flower Co-op:** Bedeck our sanctuary with seasonal arrangements. See Marnie Wood or Dinah Smith.

**Hospitality:** Make or serve beverages and treats for social hour. Help clean up. See Alan Moore.

**Roses to...**

...[Doug Richards](mailto:dougrichards@gmail.com) for his tremendous Annual Meeting coordination efforts and all members of the Board for their contributions.

...[Mike Greenwood](mailto:mike.greenwood@cvuus.org) for his Friday “Rhubarb Times” fun and many efforts to inspire us to help with the festival.

...[Dinah Smith](mailto:dinah.smith@cvuus.org) for coordinating the wonderful Buddhist service and for stepping in for Marnie Wood and reporting her recovery progress along with Lynne Balman.

...[Karl Lindholm](mailto:karl.lindholm@cvuus.org) for coordinating our opening May service with Mark Orten and closing Memorial Day one.

...[Kate Gridley](mailto:kate.gridley@cvuus.org), [John Barstow](mailto:john.barstow@cvuus.org) and [Carol Harden](mailto:carol.harden@cvuus.org) for their oversight of Meet the Singers on a scorching hot day.

...[Abi Sessions](mailto:abijah.sessions@gmail.com) for collecting our feedback on the new media screen and all who provided this.

...[Bob House](mailto:bob.house@cvuus.org) & [Miles Peterle](mailto:miles.peterle@cvuus.org) for opening upper windows.

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**Staying Connected**

**Sunday Morning Zoom Social-Hour (~11 am):** Join exchanges after worship where we check in with each other. Login [https://zoom.us/my/cvuusservice/](https://zoom.us/my/cvuusservice/).

**Weekend Greeting (Fridays):** May ones will prepare and inspire us for the Rhubarb Festival during Rev. Barnaby’s sabbatical. Not getting these? Email office@cvuus.org.

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

**Yellow Card Milestones & Passages:** Submit them before Sunday at [https://cvuus.breezechms.com/form/YellowCard](https://cvuus.breezechms.com/form/YellowCard).

**Council of Ministries:** Lise Anderson and Brett Millier convene reps from our ministry groups on 1st Monday of month at 5 PM to brainstorm and update each other in the Blue Room and on Zoom. Look for the link in our Blast and opportunities galore for you to promote, celebrate and stay connected with CVUUS.

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**Need an update on your pledge or giving status?** Contact our bookkeeper Kris Butler at [fm@cvuus.org](mailto:fm@cvuus.org) or 802-989-7346 on Tues (10 am–1 pm) when she works remotely.
COVID POLICY

- permission required to meet
- masking required for CVUUS worship and Children’s RE programs gathering inside
- masking optional in small CVUUS groups (a zoom option should be offered) and for outside larger groups & gatherings
- attendance levels are still limited
- vaccinations and boosters strongly encouraged!

VENTILATION: The Sanctuary has a modern HEPA-13 ventilation system. We have 3 excellent HEPA-13 air purifiers for other spaces.

Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall - turn on the ventilation system when windows are closed. In warm weather, can open windows.

Smaller spaces - In warm weather, open windows; cold weather, use air purifiers and close windows. Ceiling fans in Sanctuary or Fenn House can be used when windows are open. They shouldn’t be used when windows are closed. Standing fans, if used, should be positioned to move inside air to the outside.

SINGING: You may sing during the service, while masked. Soloists and choir may be unmasked who have a negative rapid test that

CVUUS ZOOM: Ask Laura (388-8080 or office@cvuus.org) how you can request a cvuus zoom meeting. To "claim host once you are in: Click on your name in “participants” and scroll down below the list of names and click "claim host" and where it asks for the "host key", put in these 6 numbers: 364568. Click claim.

Meet the Moment: Reimagining Radical Faith Community UUA General Assembly
June 22-26, 2022 Portland OR

In 2021, GA had more than 4,000 registered attendees participate from remote locations around the world. For those who enjoyed the convenience and accessibility of remote participation, GA will continue to offer virtual attendance with robust programming and enhanced delegate discussion tools. For those who have been missing the physical experience, GA 2022 in Portland OR will also feature face-to-face interactions, hanging banners, a browsable exhibit hall, meals with friends old and new, local site attractions, and more! Registration is now open. Visit uua.org/ga.

Ibram X. Kendi delivers Ware Lecture Sat. June 25, 7 PM EST (4 PM Pacific)

Kendi is author of five straight #1 New York Times bestsellers, including How to Be an Antiracist and Stamped From The Beginning: A Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America.

Sunday Worship June 26: Watch a past service at 10 am at CVUUS and later at home—the live stream one for this year airing at 12:30 pm EST led by Rev. Gretchen Haley with an audacious ambition for the liberal church, believing in its capacity to transform lives and our world by way of hyper-local relationships and partnerships that inspire the unleashing of courageous love.
CVUUS Seasons of Life Fund

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 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.

Our Caring Network provides support, such as calls, visits, meals, and rides, to those in need and well as access to KN95 masks or rapid test kits. Please contact Kathryn Schloff (kathrynschloff@gmailcom or 349-5264) to make arrangements or to join her, Michele Lowy, Dale Birdsell, Ted Scheu, Marjorie Carsen, & Ginny Ashenfelter in this meaningful work. We wish Marnie Wood well as she continues her remarkable recovery from a stroke last month. She’s back home where cards can be sent and her sister Deb is coordinating her care and visits.

Nancy Means Wright’s Memorial Service will be at the family cottage on Lake Dunmore on June 11, 2 pm. 330 Leisure Lane in Salisbury (next to Branbury Beach State Park). Family members will be posted on Leisure Lane to point out parking. Carpool if possible. Read about her life here.

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
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
Doug Richards – President
Kerri Duquette-Hoffman – Vice-President
Ann Webster – Treasurer
Kas Singh — Clerk
Members At Large:
Priscilla Bremsen
Mary Hadley
Hannah Sessions

CVUUS Leaders
Caring Network – Kathryn Schlaff 349-5264
Council of Ministries — Lise Anderson 734-255-3434, Brett M
Donation Ministry — Allison Cutler 989-7792
Facilities – Bob House 989-5050
Fellowship—Mike Greenwood 349-5653
Finance—Ann Webster 388-7506
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 —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
Bookkeeper – Kris Butler (fm@cvuus.org, 989-7346)
Music – Ronnie Romano (music@cvuus.org, 201-388-4038)
Religious Exploration – Poppy Rees (re@cvuus.org, 349-8508)
Office Manager – Laura Asermily (office@cvuus.org, 388-8080)
Custodian— Keith Rickerby (989-6036)

June Worship Services
10 am
In our sanctuary and on Zoom

June Appointment
CVUUS Annual Meeting, Sun. June 5
Save the Date! Rhubarb Festival, Sat. June 4

CVUUS Social Hour follows
https://zoom.us/j/202-399-640?pwd=Y29vbnborHl5a2otX1xxc2NvckpWZz09
In our sanctuary and on Zoom

More inside & at cvuus.org