

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

September Theme: Belonging

In Gathering: Connecting with the Elements September 7, 2025

** Congregation is invited to rise*

***Gathering Song** *The Earth, Water, Fire, Air* # 387

Opening Poem *Tutuwas* by Joseph Bruchac

Tutuwas is the name of a song also called "Little Pines," sung by children and danced by their mothers, moving toward the four directions. The song and the dance are a way for the Wabanaki people to recognize and honor the enduring spirit of the land.

Welcome, and Pathways to Connection

Rev. Christina Sillari

Fire with John Barstow

Chalice Lighting

words by Al

The Many Elements of Fire

John Barstow

***Hymn** *Mother Earth, Beloved Garden* (verse 3) # 1067

Wind with Jennifer Cohen

Wind Poems

Jennifer Cohen

Contemplation

***Hymn** *Mother Earth, Beloved Garden* (verse 2) # 1067

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Earth with Julia Santerre

Offering Sharing our plate with *Addison Allies*

Affirmed by the United Way of Addison County for work with
migrant workers and immigrants.



Rocky Gratitude

Julia Santerre

***Hymn** *Mother Earth, Beloved Garden (verse 1)* # 1067

Water with Noah Hiatt

Anthem *Let the River Run*, by Carly Simon, arr. CH Johnson
with Jamie Levis on conga

The Gift of Water

Noah Hiatt

***Hymn** *Mother Earth, Beloved Garden (verse 4)* # 1067

Spirit with Christina Sillari

Milestones and Passages

We are Spirit

Christina Sillari

***Hymn** *Mother Earth, Beloved Garden (verse 5)* # 1067

Extinguishing the Chalice

words by Julia Santerre

Postlude

Golden Thread by Te Martin

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Stay in Touch: Complete a *Yellow Card* to share a milestone & put in the offering plate; fill out a *Pink Card* to reach the Caring Network; or a **Blue Sheet** if you're new, so we can be in touch. Cards are found on a table in the foyer.

Stay for Social Hour in the Ann Ross Fellowship Hall! Find the sign up sheet to help with future ones. Put out what we have in our kitchen. Thanks helpers!

Fall Worship Season Begins at CVUUS, with our co-ministers Rev. Christina Sillari (onsite select days) & Rev. Tricia Hart (remotely in Sept & Oct) returning for their final year with us, as we conduct a search for a settled minister. Our choir rehearses Thursdays at 5:30 pm and welcomes newcomers! *Our Sept worship focuses on belonging*. Let us know if you'd like to join our worship team to help lead services or the media tech team or Flower Buds to beautify our spaces.

CVUUS loves kids! Spread the word about our Fall Religious Exploration Program Families can enroll their children now in our options, including OWL (Our Whole Lives Sexuality Education) for Gr 4-5 on Sundays at 9:30 am after an orientation NEXT Sun Sept 14 at noon. OWL for Gr 7-9 will also be available at a time yet being determined with an orientation on Sun Sept 28 at noon. See our 2025-26 RE Program flyer in the lobby & at cvuus.org. Contact Julia at re@cvuus.org with interest or questions. RE will host a **lunch for interested volunteers** to help in RE TODAY at noon in Fenn and an **ice cream social** following worship on Sept 21.

Your Minister Search Team invites you to complete their survey by Sept 14 & "save the date" for events involving all congregants in our search process: Sun, Sept 21 to attend our Search Team led service, Sat, Nov 8 for an in-person workshop, followed by a service on Sun, Nov 9. Keep an eye on our timeline in Fellowship Hall.

Pride Day Events TODAY (immediately after service in Burlington) & Sat, Oct 11, 1-4 in Middlebury with a pre-party for families at CVUUS at 11:30 AM. Don't forget to wear your *Side with Love* t-shirt. See Mike or Liam for more.

Interfaith Potluck Picnic, Sat Sept 13, 11:30 AM, Branbury State Park. Midd Friends Meeting (Quakers) invite fellow faith groups to join them for this annual celebration assembling waterside on the right with tables and games.

CVUUS Fall Book Group on *Love in a F*cked Up World* by Dean Spade welcomes you & convenes 3 times in Fellowship Hall & Zoom: Mon Sept 22 at 6, Wed Oct 15 at 7 and Fri Nov 14 at 5:30 for potluck then discussion.

CVUUS Contra Dance, Sat Oct 4, 7 pm in our sanctuary called in a non-gendered fashion by Richard Hopkins with live music. Invite friends!

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Charles Ave Community Cupboard A free food and goods pantry, open 24/7 to all to donate what they want or take what they need, including your garden surplus. More at cvuus.org. Stay posted on **fall HOPE Gleanings**.

All-Ages Game Night! Come 3rd Fridays of month. Potluck dinner at 6 pm. Bring guests & games. See Mike or Liam Greenwood for more.

Let's Eat Together Come at noon on 4th Tuesday of month to Eastview's dining room (near Porter off South St) to visit with the many congregants living there. Bring your own lunch. Beverages provided.

CVUUS Parents Night Out, gathers monthly on a Saturday & next on Sept 20 & Oct 18 at 5 pm where adults eat a potluck meal in Fellowship Hall while children are watched & fed by Caring Network volunteers.

Let's Cook Together Charter House Meal Prep on 2nd Monday of month 10 am and Wed following that 9:30 am & Community Supper Cookies for 4th Friday of month by 2 pm. See cvuus.org/news & Blast for sign-up link.

Gather, Middlebury's drop-in living room welcomes guests Tues/Thur/Sat 10-2 at 76 Court St. See Colleen Brown about hosting and Dinah Smith about offering casseroles for lunches.

Addison County Interfaith Affordable Housing Alliance invites you follow housing efforts at cvuus.org & check in Mon Oct 6 at 7 pm in Blue Room.

Queerly Beloved is open to ANYONE in the LGBTQIA+ community looking for support. The group meets on Thursdays at 6 pm in the lower Fellowship Hall, and divides into a social group and a group for support conversations.

Let's Hike Together! See Susie Davis Patterson about joining UU Outdoorsy Gals for weekly outings and Liam Battjes Greenwood about Woods & Wings hikes that assembled after worship on 4th Sun of month.

HOPE & Atria Lobby Cart Bring a non-perishable food to our lobby cart for HOPE & personal care items for Atria (formerly WomenSafe) anytime.

Display Your Art at CVUUS! Visit Fellowship Hall for latest hanging & cvuus.org for our policy & application. Seeking indigenous/migrant artists.

Want to receive a weekly update from CVUUS? Email office@cvuus.org.
Visit cvuus.org to explore our happenings and most current calendar.
Follow us on Instagram [ChamplainValleyUUSociety](https://www.instagram.com/ChamplainValleyUUSociety).