

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

November Theme: *Nurturing Gratitude*

A Universalist Demand to Abolish ICE & Prisons ~ November 23, 2025

** Congregation is invited to rise.*

***Gathering Song** *Let Me Believe that Love Is Possible* by Rebekka Goldsmith

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Jordan Young

***Chalice Lighting**

Elio Farley

We light this chalice to celebrate the inherent worth and dignity of every person; to reaffirm the historic pledge of liberal religion to seek that justice which transcends mere legality and moves toward the resolution of a true equality; and to share that Love which is ultimately beyond even our cherished reason, that Love which unites us.

Opening Words

***Song**

We Shall Not Be Moved

Traditional

Pathways to Connection

Call to Worship

All-Encompassing Love

Elio Farley

Offering Share with local food & housing crisis providers

***Offering Song** #402 *From You I Receive to You I Give*



Milestones and Passages

Meditation

Reading

From Rev. Theodore Parker's Sermon preached on Jan 31, 1836

From Rev. Dr Michael Tino's Sermon *No One Is Disposable*

Sermon

A Universalist Demand to Abolish ICE & Prisons

Elio Farley

Anthem

We Rise

by Batya Levine

Closing Words

call & response led by Elio Farley

Neighbor, I see you / You are important to me.

No matter what happens, / I will love you,

and there's nothing you can do about it.

-from the First Presbyterian Church of Chicago

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame, remembering always to keep Love at the center.

Postlude

Crowded Table

Karen Cooper,

Susan Warner-Mills & Molly Moerdyk

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society

Pathways to Connection

Stay for Social Hour in the Ann Ross Fellowship Hall!

Stay in Touch: Complete a *Yellow Card* to share a milestone & put in 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 in the lobby.

Join us next Sunday Nov 30 when Rev. Peter Newport reflects on **Dietrich Bonhoeffer, martyr & hero of the German resistance to Nazism, & Advent** — since it's 1st Sunday of that season, & was the topic in much of his later work.

Sharing Our Donation Plate CVUUS is supporting our local food pantries (Middlebury's CVOEO's Feeding Champlain Valley and HOPE food shelves, Bristol's Have a Heart and Vergennes Community Food Shelf, Charles Ave Community Cupboard as well as Charter House Coalition serving daily take-out meals and Green Mountain Justice's coat/sleeping bag project).

Let's Eat Together Come at noon on 4th Tues of month (this week!) to Eastview's dining room near Porter off South St to visit with the many congregants living there. Bring lunch. Beverages provided. See Marnie Wood or Geoff Birdsall.

CVUUS Charles Ave Community Cupboard open Thurs/Fri/Sun 9-5 for anyone to take what they need. Canned & boxed food donations are gratefully received in the shopping cart by the name tag board. See Hannah or Abi or Mike Greenwood.

Come to our 4th Annual Thanksgiving meal & game night Nov 27! Meal is at 2 pm; games start around 4 pm. We provide the turkey, you bring side dishes. Come for the meal or the games or both! Sign-up in Fellowship Hall. See Alan Moore or Mike Greenwood.

Adult Religious Exploration Program Launching at CVUUS led by Martha Fulda and Abi Sessions, who envision Adult RE with a mission to nurture and empower adults of all ages on our spiritual journeys. Our goal is to provide opportunities for adults to develop deeper connections with Unitarian Universalism, UU values, themselves, and others. As Martha and Abi begin planning, they would love to hear your experience with Adult RE in other UU congregations. Contact Martha (mfulda46@gmail.com or 802-989-3280) or Abi (abi.sessions@gmail.com or 802-349-8147) to help them get started. Thank you!

Severe Weather Cancellation Policy: In the event of a major storm on a Saturday night/Sunday morning, check the office voicemail (802-388-8080) and our website www.cvuus.org. *Thanks for remembering to wipe your feet well.*

Want to receive a weekly update from CVUUS? Email office@cvuus.org.

Visit uaa.org to learn about the wider work of UUA and our affiliates.

Visit cvuus.org to explore our happenings and most current calendar.