

# The Messenger



October 2022 Volume 30 Issue 9

Keene Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Washington Street, Keene, NH 03431

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Sunday Services are presented in a dual-platform both in-person and via live-stream on our YouTube channel.

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## WORSHIP CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2022

[Our Souls Matters Theme of the month is "The Path of Courage." A few question that you might ask yourself in exploring the theme: Who in your own life showed you most about courage? Have you ever found hidden resources of courage in you that you didn't know that you had? What is your definition of courage? Use these or come up with other questions to discuss with your family, friends or work partners.]

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>** "Courage is a Heart Thing " (Rev. Michael F. Hall)  
Our first service of the month is on courage as a "heart thing" a prime moral driver of action, an indicator of virtue and pathway to righteous action. What this might say about reason is an interesting question. **This service will feature a Time for All Ages and the speaking of our Joys & Concerns**

**October 9<sup>th</sup>** "Comfortable Courage (Is That a Thing?)" (Rev. Michael)  
Can courage and comfort peacefully coexist? Or are the two so incompatible that placed side to side they naturally create and oxymoron. Can we have enough courage to resist creating injustice and setting up systems of oppression. Can we be comfortable enough to say "enough is enough," that the ultimate peace is everyone having enough. **This service will also feature a Time for All Ages, the KUUC Choir and a message about the UUA Annual Program Fund.**

**October 16<sup>th</sup>** "Make Me An Instrument Of Your Peace" (Matt Aversa)  
In our world today, we all seek peace. We are all concerned about the health of our planet and that concern extends to the creatures that share our lives. Our pets bring us joy and comfort and St. Francis knew this. He shared a deep respect for all of Creation and sought peace among people. Join Matt Aversa today, share your hope for peace in our troubled world and to celebrate the blessing of our beloved pets by bringing a picture or stuffed animal to the service. **Besides the animal blessing this service will also include a brief message about the UUA Annual Program Fund and why it is so important.**

October 23<sup>rd</sup>      “Arthur Sweetser, The League of Nations and the UN ”      (Jim Smart)

As a young scholar, our own Jim Smart had the opportunity to work on the papers of Arthur Sweetser, a publicist for President Woodrow Wilson as he sought to make his cherished vision of a League of Nations a reality. **This Service will feature the KUUC Choir.**

October 30<sup>th</sup>      “The Ordinary Courage of the Ancestors”      (Rev. Michael)

It is customary in many traditions for the people to remember and celebrate their ancestors at this time of year. So today, through words, stories, music and of course the tolling of our church bell we will remember our spiritual, intellectual, ethnic and familial ancestors and the members and friends of KUUC who parted the curtain between the life that is known and the mystery of whatever is next. **This Service includes a special Time for All Ages and the bell-tolling ritual.**

### KUUC Mission Statement

The people of KUUC are committed to actively creating  
compassionate community and working for a fair and peaceful  
world.

## THE SEVEN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST PRINCIPLES

Our Seven UU Principles are not dogma or doctrine, but rather a covenant made between our Unitarian Universalist congregations around the world. Many of our members use “The Principles” as a guide for how they choose to live their faith at home and in their communities.

**1st Principle:** The inherent worth and dignity of every person

**2nd Principle:** Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

**3rd Principle:** Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations

**4th Principle:** A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

**5th Principle:** The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large

**6th Principle:** The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all

**7th Principle:** Respect for the interdependent web of existence of which we are a part. [P. 2](#)

*As religious pluralists we draw upon multiple sources of inspiration in worship and daily life including:*

**Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces that create and uphold life;**

**Words and deeds of prophetic people, which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;**

**Wisdom from the world's religions, which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;**

**Jewish and Christian teachings, which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;**

**Humanist teachings, which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;**

**Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions, which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.**

## SHARING MINISTRY: October 2022



"The world breaks everyone and afterward many are strong at the broken places."

---Ernest Hemingway, A Farewell to Arms

Lately I have been thinking a great deal about courage, not because of anything related to my life at present, but because it is our Soul Matters theme of the month and I realize that I don't really know much about it. I have met people who I imagined must be courageous for the things they did, or survived. I have met plenty of folks who have shared with me about brave things they did of which I had no reason to doubt their truthfulness. On more than one occasion I found myself judging people as fabricators but maybe I just lacked the grace to believe they were anything more than braggarts---some I judged even less charitably than that.

When it comes to courage, I do think that there are many things that could be said about it, and they would seem spot on; I also think that someone else might say the exact opposite and I would have to agree that they hit the nail right on the head. The Hemingway quote above seems true. The world does break everyone, some much

worse than others with all its loss, trauma, its violence and lost loves. Maybe those things make us stronger in the broken places, maybe we just break somewhere else the next time.

In an interview with Dorothy Parker, Hemingway said that “courage is grace under pressure.” To me there seems a golden vein of truth running through those words, because it doesn’t say you survive a hardship, a beatdown or some lifechanging shock; it simply says you bear up to it with grace, and, if the opportunity presents itself, you move on, move ahead, maybe even into a better place.

Yours in Faithful Service,

*Rev. Michael*

### REV. MICHAEL’S SCHEDULE & OFFICE HOURS OCTOBER 2022:

OFF DAY: Saturday

WRITING DAY: Fridays

STUDY & PLANNING DAY: Mondays (I am not always at the office during study and planning time, so call for an appointment if you need to meet on a Monday).

TIME OFF/AWAY: Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>; October 21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>.

OFFICE HOURS: This will be difficult to pin down as my radiation schedule will likely change and become more consistent. Though I am in the office at some point most days and we can always make an appointment.

VISITATION: Call me at (508)821-6092 to schedule a meeting, visit or office appointment.

### KUUC's UUA Annual Program Fund Drive

Our annual campaign to raise money for KUUC's fair share of the UUA's Annual Program Fund Drive begins soon.

The Annual Program is the UUA's primary source of funding. To keep things equitable, every congregation is assessed 6.75% of its previous year's church budget, which, in KUUC's case, is \$12,734. We all desire a strong UUA, one that effectively advocates for liberal, inclusive, non-dogmatic religious thought and one that can support its member congregations.

It's easy to take for granted how much the UUA does for KUUC, but our minister and staff utilize UUA resources regularly. The UUA provides worship materials, music resources, and religious exploration curricula, also information for congregation leaders. The UUA's *UU World* magazine is available to KUUC members, and the UUA's website (check it out!) are available to everyone. Beyond KUUC's walls, the UUA strengthens our collective voice for justice and love, and it advocates for us on the national and international stage, including at the United Nations.

Stay tuned for more details during October worship services and in subsequent messages.

## MUSIC MESSENGER

October 2022

It has been heartwarming to reconnect with the choir after 2 ½ years of not making music together.

We welcome 7 new members who help bring depth to the music ministry.

If there is anyone else who would like to join the choir, please let me know. We meet on Thursday nights from 6:30-8:00 in the parish hall and sing on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

Peace,  
Donna

## RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION (RE) NEWS



Greetings from our new REC:

Hello!

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I'm so excited to be filling the role of Religious Exploration Coordinator (REC). I grew up in a family of UUs, I'm a 3rd generation which is rarer on the west coast where I



was raised than it is here. I always say I was raised by UUs, as most of my childhood wasn't spent in church weekly; but the 7 principles were our core. My grandparents and extended family have always been incredibly active in the church. My husband Lewis, as many of you know, is active duty in the USN (retiring next year yay!) and we have 3 kids, Atticus (11) Remington (9 on Halloween) and Oliver (3) When we landed in Keene, we knew that we wanted to get involved with the church right away, having 3 kids that needed a good steady community. We participated in the outdoor RE gatherings over the winter and into spring and summer. They were so important to us and beneficial to our children.

I really feel we've found a home, after so many years of moving from town to town, state to state, and twice across the country with littles in tow. I cannot wait to see how the RE program grows and how as a community and congregation we can come together to provide a safe and exciting place for all of our children to explore their world and learn our principles.

Mallory Hicks



OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, EVENTS,  
OPPORTUNITIES, ETC.

UU CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE FELLOWSHIP GROUP

“The Power of Our Thoughts”

Tuesday, October 4, 2022 5:00 PM

In-Person and ZOOM Meeting Options

Our fellowship group meets the first Tuesday of every month from 5:00 – 6:30. We are now meeting in-person in the Alliance Room, with the option to participate via ZOOM. For October, we will be focusing on the power of our thoughts to impact how we experience life and to change our lives and the world for the better.

This group is for anyone who would like to explore timeless themes in the Bible and share their experiences, feelings and insights in a supportive small group environment, and support one another's spiritual growth and understanding. This group is guided by our principle that affirms "a free and responsible search for truth and meaning" and is free of the doctrine or dogma that has often characterized traditional institutional Christianity.

For information and Zoom meeting details,  
contact Carol at 603-863-4920/ 603-398-5389 or [cstamatakis@outlook.com](mailto:cstamatakis@outlook.com).

### OFFICE STAFF OPENING

We need you to help us network and find a new Office Staff person Please spread the word. The Office manager is a part job (10 hours/week) with a competitive hourly rate; it's perfect for someone with database and calendaring experience as a second job or way to ease into retirement. If you know of a candidate, have them contact Rev. Michael (508)821-6092 or [rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com](mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com).

### SLICE OF FELLOWSHIP – October 7

**Slice of fellowship** is a monthly potluck dinner open to all members and friends of KUUC and is held on the first Friday of the month during the church year in the parish hall. Wine and cheese are at 5:30 pm followed by dinner at 6:00. This month's theme is **Harvest Favorites/Together Again** hosted by Gerry and Jim Frederiksen. You are asked to bring a veggie, main dish or dessert. **Please bring your own dishes, flatware and napkins. (Wine glasses and coffee mugs are supplied.)** Call Betty Forrest 603-357-1534 or email [mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net) with any questions.

Senior Lunch Bunch is a monthly potluck luncheon open to all senior members and friends of KUUC, an opportunity to meet and socialize with peers. We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at Noon, October through May in the parish hall. **Please bring your own dishes, flatware and napkins. (Coffee Mugs and glasses provided.)** Call Betty Forrest at 357-1534, or email [mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net) with questions.

### MAKING BERRY BOWLS---A KUUC TRADITION

The Keene Unitarian Church has a long tradition of making Berry Bowls for sale at the Green Sale. It is a fun activity to take part in as we gather together to celebrate the season and enjoy the seasonal transition.

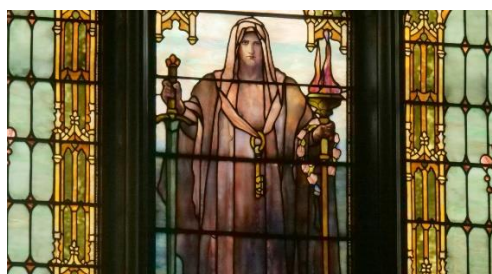
A sequence of steps is involved in making the Berry Bowls and these happen over a few weeks. You and your family are invited to take part in one or two or all of the steps and enjoy the fun and be helpful in creating the holiday Berry Bowls.

Step #1 Sunday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> from 1-3. Gather berries and moss at Larry and Suzanne Butcher's home at 44 Felt Rd., Keene.

Step #2 Saturday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> from 10-Noon. Gather at the church to make the berry bowls as a group. Bowls will be lightly covered and stored for three weeks in a cool environment and misted weekly.

Step #3 Sunday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> after church. Gather to seal the bowls, add bows and price the bowls. They are put in the church kitchen windows to 'perk up' until the green sale.

Step #4 Friday and Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Set up a table at the Green Sale and help sell the Berry Bowls.





If you have questions about participating in the making of Berry Bowls, call Wendy Byrn at 603 499 0694. If you have bowls from past seasons, please bring them to the church to be reused for this activity. Place them across from the ladies room in the labeled box.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

### Keene Window Dressers Build Oct. 28 - Nov. 2

The Keene Energy and Climate Committee is seeking volunteers to participate in the [Keene Window Dressers Build](#). The goal is to build 200 window inserts that function as custom, interior-mounted storm windows in order to improve the warmth and comfort of indoor spaces, lower heating costs, and reduce fuel usage. More information is at [windowdressers.org](http://windowdressers.org)

The build is happening Friday, October 28th to Wednesday, November 2nd at 310 Marlboro St in Keene. You can sign up for shifts at <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/737022131042506012/true#/invitation>. No special skills or tools are required. **Please try to fill shifts on the first three days (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) first.** We may not need the days later in the build and may make changes to the schedule

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### NOVEMBER MESSENGER DEADLINE

**The deadline for the November Messenger will be 5 P.M. on Sunday, October 23rd.** The due date for *Messenger* submissions will be on the 23rd of the month prior to their issue (the only exceptions will be for the January issue---deadline December 15<sup>th</sup>---and the fact that there is no July *Messenger*). Send all your articles to Rev. Michael at [rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com](mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com).



## COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

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|                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Circle of Caring:        | Betsy Zimmerli & Betty Forrest |
| Investment:              | John Bordenet                  |
| Middle East Study Group: | Jim Smart                      |
| Membership:              | Deb McLay                      |
| Religious Exploration:   | Barbara Bryce                  |
| Senior Lunch Bunch:      | Betty Forrest                  |
| Shawls of Love:          | Darcy Doyle                    |
| Slice of Fellowship:     | Betty Forrest                  |
| Stewardship:             | John Walter                    |
| Ushers:                  | Tom Haynes                     |
| Wayside Pulpit:          | Lindsay Bartlett               |
| Worship:                 | Lindsay Bartlett & Deb McLay   |
| Property:                | Carl Jacobs                    |



# KUUC CONTACT LIST 2021-22

## WORSHIP SERVICES

## STAFF

|   |                   |  |                          |
|---|-------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Sunday Services:</b>   | <b>10:00 A.M.</b> | <b>Minister:</b>   | <b>Rev. Michael Hall</b> |
| <b>Religious Exploration:</b>                                       | <b>10:00 A.M.</b> | <a href="mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com">rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com</a> |                          |
| September-June  |                   |  | (508) 821-6092           |
| <b>Summer Services</b>  | <b>10:00 A.M.</b> | <b>Religious Exploration Coordinator</b>   |                          |
| <b>Address:</b> 69 Washington Street                                |                   | <b>Mallory Hicks</b>   |                          |
| Keene, NH 03431   |                   | <a href="mailto:kuucdre@gmail.com">kuucdre@gmail.com</a>                         |                          |
| <b>Phone:</b> (603) 352-1719  |                   | <b>Music Director:</b>   | <b>Donna Dearth</b>      |
| <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:office@kuuc.org">office@kuuc.org</a> |                   | <a href="mailto:rdearth@hotmail.com">rdearth@hotmail.com</a>                     |                          |
| <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.kuuc.org">www.kuuc.org</a>      |                   | <b>Office Manager:</b>   | <b>Open Position</b>     |
| <b>Facebook:</b> Keene Unitarian Universalist Church@KeeneUU        |                   | <a href="mailto:office@kuuc.org">office@kuuc.org</a>                             | 352-1719                 |

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2021-2022

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| <a href="mailto:swest.keene@gmail.com">swest.keene@gmail.com</a>                 |                | <a href="mailto:clarktreat@myfairpoint.net">clarktreat@myfairpoint.net</a>               |          |
| Carl Jacobs, Past President  | 831-1409       | Tom Haynes   | 357-7645 |
| <a href="mailto:carljac21@gmail.com">carljac21@gmail.com</a>                     |                | <a href="mailto:piperhistoricalservices@gmail.com">piperhistoricalservices@gmail.com</a> |          |
| John Walter, Treasurer   | 358-3101       | Tina Stevens   | 209-6268 |
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| Carol Hill, Clerk  | 903-4974       | Matt Aversa  | 464-9046 |
| <a href="mailto:hcbhill@ne.rr.com">hcbhill@ne.rr.com</a>                         |                | <a href="mailto:matthewmsw99@gmail.com">matthewmsw99@gmail.com</a>                       |          |
| Rev. Michael F. Hall ( <i>ex-officio</i> )                                       | (508) 821-6092 |  |          |
| <a href="mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com">rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com</a> |                |  |          |