

The Messenger

April 2023 Volume 31 Issue 4

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

WORSHIP CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2023

April 2, 2023

Rev Dr. Patience Stoddard

Reflections on Leadership

April 9, 2023

Dawning Light

Rev. Sarah Person

What is struggling to break ground in your life this spring morning? Did you want to pull the covers back over your head? Or are you ready to enjoy the freedom to imagine what your life could be? We dedicate this time of year to the unexpected grace of possibilities.

Rev. Sarah Person is a recently retired Minister Emerita from the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough.

April 16, 2023

Earth Day Service

Debra Zagaeski, Carole Mills and Deb McLay

April 23, 2023

What America Needs

Rev. Linda Barnes

What America needs, proports Zeeshan Alee in an MSNBC Opinion piece, is a new kind of atheism. On this Sunday, we'll explore not only our relationship with atheism, but how the big umbrella of Unitarian Universalism can model community, grow love, and contemplate big questions of human existence, atheist or not.

Rev. Linda is the minister at Starr King UU Fellowship in Plymouth, NH. She has been fortunate, in her life and experience, to call herself a biologist, a teacher, a minister, a mother and forest wanderer.

April 30, 2023

On Change: Resistance is Futile

Rev. Aaron Payson

Joseph B. Wirthlin writes, "Those who stand at the threshold of life always waiting for the right time to change are like the person who stands at the bank of a river waiting for the water to pass so they can cross on dry land." This Sunday we will explore the concept of "change" as a spiritual challenge and discipline. Join us as we strive to understand more deeply the role change plays in the quest to live more deeply.

Rev. Aaron Payson is the Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester, where he has served since 1999.

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

THE SIX SOURCES OF OUR LIVING TRADITION

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.

REV. MICHAEL'S SCHEDULE & OFFICE HOURS April 2023:

TIME OFF: Sabbatical February 1st-May 31st.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— April Messenger

As I write this, many of us are digging out from the last winter storm and hopefully regaining heat and electricity. At this moment in time, spring feels like a long way away. Thankfully, it really isn't, and April will be here before we know it with sunshine, warmer air, and Easter. This is a wonderful time of renewal, when things start to turn green and flowers emerge. I hope you will take this time to renew your support to KUUC through our Stewardship Campaign. The support pledged by our members and friends is critical in helping to create a budget for next year and will help set the path to the work we can accomplish. Whether it is the caretaking of our beautiful building, offering services and programming year-round, or participating in the Community Breakfast program, there is still so much to do, particularly as we approach our centennial in 2024! I hope you will join me in giving what you can to support our church, for we are a generous people!

With many thanks --

Susie Ericson-West
Board of Trustees President

MUSIC April 2023:

This month the choir will be singing in church on 4/9/23 and 4/23/23. Thanks to our soloists in March, Susie Ericson-West,

Caroline Stave-Viemeister and David Teubner. Special thanks to Jane Stave-Viemeister for her beautiful piano music.

Please mark your calendars!!!! The music committee is having a potluck dinner followed music on Saturday, May 27th. For those who are interested in participating in the musical show, please see me. More details will be included in the May messenger.

The choir rehearses every Thursday from 6:30-8:00. New members are always welcome to join us. Please see me or anyone in the choir for details!

Peace,
Donna

GREETINGS FROM RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION April 2023:

Spring is the time for earth's renewal. I don't know about you, but I feel it in my own soul and bones as well. I'm a LOVER of winter, but there is an internal shift for me when I see the first crocus pop through, my first outdoor run in temps above 40 degrees when I can take my sweatshirt off half way through and feel the sun warm on my skin. I just love it.

As many of us will be preparing for the upcoming spring holidays and celebratory events, as we start organizing egg dying, planning gardens, maybe even gathering with loved ones for the first time or as one of the few times, let us remember to find moments together and individually to acknowledge the rebirth of our earth and our own internal renewals. May we find moments to pause and reflect on our personal and spiritual rituals and needs.

As for RE this month I'd really like to get the kids out in the world, or at least our front yard. During RE time and other days of the week (TBA) I'd like to invite children and families (and anyone else) to meet in our children's garden, located out front and stage right to the main doors of Washington street. We will get our hands in the dirt as we continue to get 'back to basics' becoming acquainted or reacquainted with our principles.

We had an amazing time learning with Clay in March and I cannot wait to get another one scheduled. I hope you all can join us.

RE HAPPENINGS

April 2nd – Start in Sanctuary; move to RE

April 9th – Easter Sunday in Sanctuary. Come enjoy the service and stay for a fun coffee hour activity for the entire congregation!

April 15th – 'Forest Bathing' hiking, communing with nature. Call it what you want, but we gather at Distant Hill Nature Trail in Alstead, NH at 10:30. Betsy Stacey will take us on an adventure walk in nature!

April 16th – Earth Day service in Sanctuary

April 23rd – In Sanctuary no RE today

April 30th – BLOCKS beginning in Block Room at 10:00 am

**Also collecting donations of flower seeds for future spring activities.

There will be a box in PH for the collection! Thank you!

Mallory Hicks

KUUCDRE@gmail.com

(540)849-7550

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES, ETC.

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Our Breakfast Program continues to provide hot, nourishing food:

scrambled eggs, home fries, ham, sausage, bacon, pancakes, and French toast every weekday morning from November till mid-April.

At 6AM, the crews from Knights of Columbus #5414 and #819, Trinity Lutheran Church, United Church of Christ and KUUC, arrive and prepare the food. It is then delivered to the Resource Center and served to 30-45 hungry, very grateful people.

Tom Julius, on behalf of the Monadnock Interfaith Project, came early each morning and took pictures of the crews working. They are in the February and March Interfaith Newsletter.

A recent meeting with Bryan Lonie, the president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Food Pantry, Mike Davis, and Carol Hill resulted in donations of pancake mix and syrup. Bryan also has agreed to pay for the groceries one week a month for the final months of this season and restarting next November.

As the cost of food rose, so also did the support of this kind, generous Community.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to help this Program continue to help so many.

Carol Hill, Coordinator

POTLUCK FUN RETURNING IN APRIL! At long last your Membership Committee will be launching a combination potluck dinner on Sunday evening, April 16th, from 5 - 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Our annual Thanks for Giving potluck (which in past years has been held in the fall) to thank folks for pledging and donating to KUUC, will be combined with our 5th annual Shining The Light On UU, which is a humorous honoring of our many volunteers, who have been nominated by our KUUC members and friends. Save The Date! Coffee and beverages will be provided. SUGGESTIONS for bringing a dish: Last name A to G - Desserts. Last name H to M - Side Dish. Last name N to Z - Main dish. If you have a specialty or a favorite potluck dish, feel free to make that instead! See you in the Parish Hall for a night of community and fun.

Slice of Fellowship - April 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 "**International Cuisine**" hosted by Suzanne Morin and Gerry Frederiksen. You are asked to bring a veggie, main dish or dessert to share. **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 with any questions.

Lunch Bunch - April 19

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 3rd 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 603-357-1534, or email mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net with questions.

Note: If local schools are canceled due to inclement weather, Lunch Bunch is also canceled.



Monadnock Interfaith Project

Building An Interfaith Coalition for Community Understanding and Social Justice

WWW.MIPNH.ORG

MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

Our lives are rich with different experiences, times of connection with people and nature, moments of surprise and curiosity, periods of heartbreak and challenge, and feelings of peace and joy. We encourage being present in all of those experiences and add to that richness with the Monadnock Interfaith Project!

Click this link for the [March MIP Newsletter](#).

There you will see updates on our housing advocacy, the Community Breakfast program, an interfaith Seder, Monadnock Covenant Church Food Drive, and events at the Cohen Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies.

Consider joining in our different ways of service and community organizing. By coming together we have connecting conversations and tangibly feel how we are part of positive change. So much goodness is happening in our community and there are so many ways to get involved!

UUU CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE FELLOWSHIP GROUP

“Reflections on Easter”

Tuesday, April 4, 2023 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 our April meeting, we will be reflecting on scriptures associated with Easter.

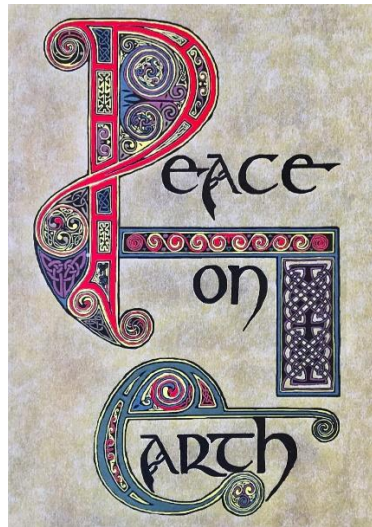
This group is for anyone who would like to explore timeless themes in the Bible and share their experiences, feelings and insights in a supportive small group environment, and support one another’s spiritual growth and understanding. This group is guided by the 4th UU principle that affirms “a free and responsible search for truth and meaning” and is free of the doctrine or dogma that has often characterized traditional institutional Christianity.

P. 7

For information and Zoom meeting details,
contact Carol at 603-863-4920/ 603-398-5389 or cstamatakis@outlook.com.

Thanks!

Carol



GENERAL INFORMATION:

MAY MESSENGER DEADLINE

The deadline for the May *Messenger* will be 5 P.M. on Wednesday, April 19th. The due date for *Messenger* submissions will be on the 19th of the month prior to their issue (the only exceptions will be for the January issue---deadline December 15th---and the fact that there is no July *Messenger*). Send all your articles to Rev. Michael at rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com and Sue Walthour office@kuuc.org.

COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

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 2022-23

WORSHIP SERVICES

STAFF

Sunday Services: 10:00 A.M.

Religious Exploration: 10:00 A.M.

September-June

Summer Services 10:00 A.M.

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