

The Messenger

May 2023 Volume 31 Issue

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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 MAY 2023

May 7, 2023

Rev Dr. Patience Stoddard

A Benevolent Rage

How do we respond to the violence and injustice in this world without getting angry? Perhaps we shouldn't. This service will reflect on the role of anger in the struggle for justice, and how we might harness that emotion without succumbing to the us vs them mentality.

May 14, 2023

Rearranging the Universe

Rev. Lane Fisher

We are taught that it's more blessed to give than to receive, but is this true? What are the implications if we insist on being givers more than receivers? Rev. Lane Fisher will lead us in a reflection on the flow of generosity in our world.

Rev. Lane, who sometimes calls herself a late bloomer, is privileged to be minister to Peterborough UU Church. She received her M.Div. from Starr King School for the Ministry in 2018, following 20-some-year careers as a writer/editor and a professional dog trainer.

May 21, 2023

Tuckerman Wunderle

New People, New Places: The Spiritual Importance of Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone

Spring is long heralded as a time of rebirth, renewal, and resurgence. In this yearly moment of newness, let us join in an exploration of why new influences are important to our spiritual selves. How does stepping out of our comfort zones make us more spiritually diverse? And how can we identify and utilize those moments to the best of our abilities?

Tuckerman Wunderle is a poet, essayist, and lifelong Unitarian Universalist born and raised in Chester, Vermont. He has been preaching at the First Universalist Parish in Chester for a little over a year and is excited to explore some ideas with the Keene congregation.

May 28, 2023

To be announced

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 May 2023:

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— May Messenger

While the Board of Trustees is always busy with church business throughout the year, this spring we have been particularly busy in preparation for the end of this church year and beyond. BOT members are working diligently to put together a budget for the 2023-2024 year that will both meet our needs and allow us to continue our good works into the future. A congregational meeting to discuss the proposed budget will be held after the service on May 7th, and I look forward to seeing many of you there. Committee reports are being collected in preparation for the compilation of the Annual Report for our Annual Meeting, which will be on June 11th. With the support of an LCHIP Grant (many, many thanks to Eloise Clark for shepherding that grant process!), we have received the final architectural review of our building and are now able to take our next steps toward planning capital improvements of our beautiful church. I am constantly reminded of the dedication and attentiveness of my colleagues on the Board of Trustees, and it is an honor to work with them. I also want to acknowledge those of you who have offered the Board your time and talents with ideas, suggestions and in many cases, your sweat equity to help us make our church the strong, beautiful and welcoming place that it is. I am so very proud to be a part of this wonderful congregation!

With many thanks -

Susie Ericson-West
KUUC Board of Trustees President

MUSIC May 2023:

Please mark your calendars! The KUUC Choir and the Music Committee invite you to a potluck dinner followed by a musical "Open Mic" on Saturday, May 27th.

The Open Mic will be from 5:00 -7:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Coffee and beverages will be provided. Suggestions for bringing a dish:

Last name A - G: Desserts

Last name H - M: Side Dish

Last name N - 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 music and community.

For those who are interested in participating in the "Open Mic" please contact me through my email rdearth@hotmail.com or by phone at 603-398-5350 to discuss what you will be performing so that accompaniment can be provided.

This month the choir will be singing in church on 5/14/23 and 5/28/23.

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 May 2023:

Greetings from RE

We wrapped up April with a bang. BLOCKS, lots of hands-on learning, and a hike in the woods where we found salamanders, newts, frogs, and insects! We focused on our 7th Principle and dabbled in the 2nd. We learned how truly connected all of our principles are to one another and to ourselves.

The theme for May is creativity.

I think creativity is hyped up more than it needs to be. It can feel daunting to some - 'I'm just not that creative' when others seem to exude it. There isn't an expectation, no bar to reach that suddenly makes someone a creative person. We are all creative, some in more obvious ways than others. I encourage you to take time throughout your day to recognize and celebrate where you are creative. Maybe you're a problem solver or an organizer, maybe you have a knack for design, maybe you do in fact paint masterpieces, or sing back up to your favorite artists...I like to sing the guitar solos.

As a program we will be weaving creativity into all we do this month through blocks, music, clay, and growing the Children's garden.

****RE REQUESTS AND NEEDS****

1. **ROCKS.** The children would like to line their garden with river rocks. If you come across rocks that are of good size and shape to do the job, please bring them to church! Additionally, I am looking for smooth rocks to use in a project for said garden, ones well suited for painting.
2. As we wind down for the year and enter our Summer break, I can't help but get fired up for our return in the fall (insert laughing emoji or facepalm emoji because I'm a millennial) We are in need of kind adults to lead and support RE lessons, if you are a kind adult, please consider volunteering. You can sign up on the RE bulletin board. If you have questions/comments/concerns, you are always welcome to reach out to me. Your ideas, skills, CREATIVITY, time, energy, and love are needed. You need not give all of yourself, if each of us gives a small amount we will have an abundance.

To infinity and beyond,

Mallory Hicks (REC) KUUCDRE@gmail.com 540-849-7550

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, EVENTS,
OPPORTUNITIES, ETC.

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

WE DID IT!!! Congratulations to each of you and your crews.

The Breakfast Program ended with a very successful season of providing a hot nourishing meal to the most vulnerable in our Community.

We served approximately 35-45 guests every weekday morning from November 28 - April 14 (100 days)

Despite punishing egg prices and food inflation, we are ending with a positive balance in our account.

INCOME

Checking Account	10/19/22	\$1738.79
Cash on Hand		228.46
Donations		2004.00
Interfaith Church Donations		
\$650 x 4		\$2600.00
		<hr/>
	Total	\$6571.25

EXPENSES:

Food and Supplies	\$3601.12
Gomarlos Potatoes	768. 52
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 4369.64

We have \$ 2200 in our checking account right now, thanks to the donations and support of this very caring community.

Pictures of our hard-working crew were featured in the Monadnock Interfaith Newsletters recently which increased awareness of this program.

We also received support from the St. Vincent de Paul Society. President Bryan Lonie agreed to cover the expenses for one week a month this Spring and for our next season. St. Vincent de Paul covered the week of 2/24 @ \$173.55 and 3/31 @ \$121.51. They also donated a large amount of pancake mix and syrup.

What a wonderful collaboration.

Thanks again to all who provided the contributions and the manpower to make this happen.

Carol Hill, Coordinator

Slice of Fellowship – May 5

Slice of Fellowship is a monthly potluck dinner open to all members and friends of KUUC which 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 we celebrate Cinco De Mayo with a Mexican theme hosted by Carolina and Jane Stave-Viemeister who will make taco meat and shells.** They suggest bringing fixings or other Mexican meals (chips and dips, Margaritas, enchiladas, etc.) Wear your sombrero, poncho, and if anyone has a setup for music, and some themed music, that could be fun as well. Maybe a quiz? With prizes? And who knows what else! Join us for the final Slice for this church year! **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.



Monadnock Interfaith Project

Building An Interfaith Coalition for Community Understanding and Social Justice

WWW.MIPNH.ORG

MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com

Greetings from Monadnock interfaith Project,

We celebrate with everyone whose lives have been enriched during this season of reflection and renewal:

Spring Equinox, Mar 20

Christian Lent, Feb 22- April 6 & Easter April 9

Islamic Ramadan, March 22 - April 20

Jewish Passover, April 5- 13

Buddhist Theravada New Year, April 6

Click this link for the [MIP April eNews](#).

This month's edition originally came out April 3. By the time you read this the events listed may have already passed including information about an Interfaith Passover Seder, Housing updates, a Cohen Center Genocide Awareness lecture, and a Jewish choral concert.

Since our April eNews edition came out, the city of Keene and their consultants released a draft of [housing strategies](#) and put together this [housing assessment report](#). Creating a Housing Fund is listed as the first recommended strategy! This is a big affirmation of MIP's advocacy for a Housing Fund in our region. The report also encourages regional collaboration, engaging employers and education around the housing need, among many others. These are all strategies that MIP has been engaged with over the last year.

If you would like to become a subscriber and receive the MIP eNews directly through your email contact us at monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com.

UUU CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Tuesday, May 2, 2023 5:00 PM

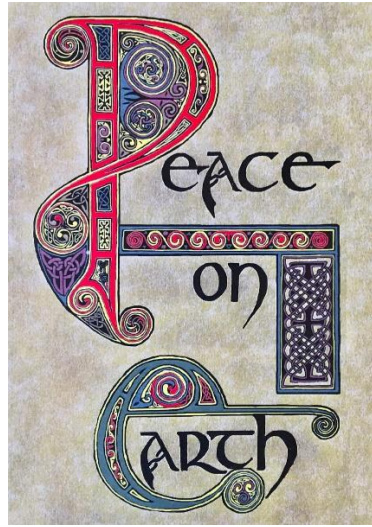
In-Person and ZOOM Meeting Options

Our fellowship group meets the first Tuesday of every month from 5:00 – 6:30pm. We are now meeting in-person in the Alliance Room, with the option to participate via ZOOM. Each month we focus on a different topic or theme.

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.

For information and Zoom meeting details,

contact Carol at 603-863-4920/ 603-398-5389 or cstamatakis@outlook.com.



GENERAL INFORMATION:

JUNE MESSENGER DEADLINE

The **deadline** for the *June Messenger* will be 5 P.M. on **Friday, May 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

Sunday Services: 10:00 A.M.

Religious Exploration: 10:00 A.M.

September-June

Summer Services 10:00 A.M.

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STAFF

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Religious Exploration Coordinator:

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Music Director:

rdearth@hotmail.com

Donna Dearth

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Sue Walthour

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