

# The Messenger

August 2023 Volume 32 Issue 1

<http://www.kuuc.org> [office@kuuc.org](mailto:office@kuuc.org) (603) 352-1719



## Contents

1 Summer  
Worship  
Calendar 2023

2 KUUC Mission  
& UU Beliefs

3 Summer  
Worship 2023

4 Rev. Michael's  
Moment

5 President's  
Message

6-9 OTHER NEWS,  
EVENTS & UPDATES

6 Property  
Committee &  
KUUC Retreat

7 MIP & Interfaith  
Breakfast

8 KUUC  
Outdoors & Jesus  
and Buddha

9 Rummage Sale

10 General  
information

11 Committee  
Contacts

12 KUUC  
Contact  
information

## August 2023 WORSHIP CALENDAR

**August 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Rev. Michael F. Hall**

### **"We Are in This Together"**

Sometimes working for the greater good seems daunting, especially when you are only one person, or one member of a small church. Today we reflect on the necessity of interfaith social justice organizing and what committed clergy and lay-leaders can do to make a difference, both near and far.

**August 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Rev. Michael F. Hall**

### **"Reunited"**

Having recently attend his 40<sup>th</sup> High School reunion, where he also led a service of celebration and remembrance, Rev. Michael will share a reflection on the experience of being in community with people that you knew a long time ago – before life took you in different directions.

**August 20, 2023 -- No Service**

**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Rev. Michael F. Hall**

### **"Common Work & Common Cause"**

On the last summer service of 2023 let us reflect on where we are called to grow as a spiritual community and what we are willing to do when we get there.

*[The final Sunday without a service will be September 3<sup>rd</sup>.]*

## 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.**

## SUMMER WORSHIP 2023

**In August we gather for the last three summer services before Ingathering & “Water Communion” (September 10<sup>th</sup>).**

**When Are They?** On August 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27. (There will be no service on August 20<sup>th</sup>).

**What Should I Know if Haven’t yet Attended a Summer Service?**

The Summer Services are more relaxed and shorter (30-45 minutes not counting the Ingathering Music). They include a longer period of meditation and a time for sharing based on the service theme. You are free to watch the service live on Facebook if you need to.

**What do I have to do?**

Just come and bring some water to drink. There is no coffee hour, and we will be using recorded music.

Give it a chance, it might just grow on you.

**When and where?**

The Sanctuary. Ingathering Music will start at 9:45 AM for those who arrive early. The service itself will begin at 10 AM on the dot, and be done no later than 10:40, so you will have plenty of time to do other things with your Sunday.

**Do I HAVE to go?**

Of course not, worship, in whatever form it takes, should be a joy (except when it is a challenge). It isn’t meant to be a pain, but to alleviate it. I really get that some of you just need a little break---so take it. I have faith that you will come back.

**Why the Reflections?**

Because they are meant to be what I call “thought launchers” based on I thought important to share about whether inspired by my recent sabbatical or year ahead. I hope that these stories will interest you enough to reflect on them and share what they sparked in you.

**So, No Live Stream?**

Yes, they will be streamed, but it will be **on ZOOM** not on our YouTube station. Also, the summer services will only be streamed live, **no recording will be done** or allowed.

Now you see it, now you don’t.

*Rev. Michael*

## REV. MICHAEL'S MOMENT:

“Good people will do good things, lots of them, because they are good people. They will do bad things because they are human.”

— Harold S. Kushner, [Living a Life That Matters](#)

Good People---

I do hope that all of you are enjoying the summer! This summer has had some strange and even dangerous weather, and it is probably part of a larger climatic change unfolding. But what can we do about that?

I think that the answer may be twofold:

The first part is to get out there into the beautiful lakes, mountains and oceans and enjoy them! Enjoy the trails that others have made through the forests! Enjoy the gardens you have made! Enjoy the turtles sunning themselves on their fallen wood or rock perches! Enjoy the amazing variety of flowers: big and small, thorny and leafy, brightly colored and modestly attired in pale green and buttery yellow! Enjoy the snake moving in fluid undulations! Enjoy the children & college kids playing baseball at the ballpark! Enjoy the sky over Monadnock!

We must see the earth's beauty to be able to appreciate its singularity and to fully understand that saving the Earth from further degradation is saving all of life from us.

The second part is to find in ourselves the clarity, and capacity to join in, or create, an action-based movement for environmental restoration. If we would reverse the catastrophic impacts that we have wrought, we must do so together.

See ya in church!

*Rev. Michael*

## REV. MICHAEL'S SCHEDULE & OFFICE HOURS August 2023:

**OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesdays 9am-12pm or by appointment.

Please consider calling ahead to reserve a time to visit.

Rev. Michael will be Minister of the Week at Ferry Beach from July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 5<sup>th</sup>.

He will be taking vacation from August 17<sup>th</sup>- August 21<sup>st</sup>.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE— August 2023

Hello fellow KUUC members,

I hope you are all managing the heat and the rain. What a summer we have had. Hopefully the remaining weeks are kinder to us, with sunny days and milder temperatures.

We are entering the new church year here at KUUC with lots of hopes, dreams, plans, and activities. The Board of Trustees had its first meeting with me at the helm, and I have to say I am very excited about all the activities and plans we are preparing. Plans for the 200<sup>th</sup> celebration of the church anniversary is probably the biggest event for the year, coming in March. A committee is being formed as we speak, and members who would like to contribute are invited to speak to Rev. Michael. We want your input!

We have the rummage sale coming up, which has been moved to **September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Our new fundraising team of Barbara Meikle, and Debra Zagaeski are fully enthused and excited to be working not just on the rummage sale, but on many other ideas that will be such welcome activities for our community. Stay tuned for some exciting ways they are planning activities for us, as well as the greater community.

Then there is the very present need to make improvements to our beautiful building. Grant writing, fundraising, plans needing permits, are some of the many moving parts of success. There is a need to bring the building into the 21st century.

So, my message this month is: Tighten your belts, get your boots on, and join us. There is plenty of work to go around, and it does take a village, well, a congregation to get 'er done.

Thank you!

President - Board of Trustees

Caroline Stave-Viemeister

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, EVENTS, ETC.

### PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

At the July 19, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting, changes in this committee were approved. After years of faithful service to KUUC as the chairperson for the Property Committee, Carl has stepped down from this position and stepped up to work with Eloise Clark on the numerous projects to preserve, restore and update our beautiful old building, which by the way is listed on the NH List of Historical Buildings.



Jim Butterfield volunteered to be the chairperson for the committee. He looks forward to having a meeting with all the volunteers who are currently active and others interested in maintaining the interior and exterior of our buildings. He will notify those currently on the committee. Others interested in becoming active members of the Property Committee, please, contact Jim at 603-903-0000 (home) or call or text him at 607-244-8434 (mobile). Also, members who are currently planning or working on projects are asked to contact/meet with Jim to discuss their activities.

### KUUC FALL RETREAT:

#### **KUUC Retreat Invitation: Community as Church/Church as Community**

Since the June Annual Meeting I have been thinking of ways that KUUC could move forward during this era of challenge and possibility. Challenges in increasing congregation numbers, increasing income flow and programs, the upcoming 200<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary of KUUC and building improvements are just a few items that come to mind. In effect, how do we move us forward in ways that serve us as KUUC and serve the Keene area as well.

The urgent tone of the Annual meeting gave me an idea: a KUUC Retreat! I took an outline of the retreat to the board, they said okay-dokey and set the date as Saturday September 23 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Bring a brown bag lunch, coffee or tea and snacks will be provided. Bring your ideas, humor and willingness too!

This retreat will look at what has worked, what hasn't worked, what could work and will generate action plans to fulfill our vision as a community. A group of 20-25 folks would be ideal including the board, committee members and interested congregation members.

RSVP Jane Stave Viemeister with your interest in participating at [jane.lathrop@gmail.com](mailto:jane.lathrop@gmail.com).



# Monadnock Interfaith Lay Leaders Gathering

Wednesday, August 9, 5:30-7:30pm  
St. James Episcopal Church, Keene

Faith is a bridge across differences. MIP connects people to make more good things happen. Come share a meal and connect with others who live lives with hope, promise, and purpose.

We will:

- Develop meaningful relationships across faiths
- Learn how our fellow congregations put faith into action
- Come together with others for positive change



Dinner will include soup, salad, and bread. Click [here](#) to reserve your spot and let us know about any dietary preferences or accessibility needs. Please reach out to Angela at [angelapape.mip@gmail.com](mailto:angelapape.mip@gmail.com) with any questions.



**Monadnock Interfaith Project**

*Building An Interfaith Coalition for Community Understanding and Social Justice*

[WWW.MIPNH.ORG](http://WWW.MIPNH.ORG)

[MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com)

## Interfaith Breakfast Program

**“ A PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE; A TEAM CAN MAKE A MIRACLE ”**

The Interfaith Breakfast Program is planning for the Fall start of this important Program.

The Knights of Columbus #5414 became unable to continue with their Wednesday coverage. However, we are happy to announce that Congregation Ahavas Achim with Rabbi Aronson has agreed to provide a donation and a crew for the Wednesday slot!

This season, food will be prepared and served at the new Hundred Nights Shelter. A tour of the new kitchen will be conducted soon for the "crew leaders" in the Program. We also have the sponsorship and support of two local food pantries. The Interfaith Breakfast Program provides a tangible opportunity to fulfill the principles of our faiths and to embrace social justice through community service.

Thank you to all the efforts of recruitment and outreach through MIP and the Interfaith Clergy.

Gratefully,

Carol Hill, Coordinator

P. 7



**KUUC Outdoors**



**MONADNOCK  
INTERFAITH  
PROJECT**

### KUUC Outdoors 2023 Schedule

- Aug 26 Paddle & Swim Island Pond, Stoddard, (Deb McLay)
- Sept/Oct Birding, TBA (Wendy Byrn)
- Sept 30 Fall Paddle, Washington Pond, Marlow, (Deb McLay)
- Nov 5 Lily Pond Hike, Gilsum (Stella Scott)

If you would like to become a subscriber and receive the MIP eNews directly through your email contact MIP at [monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com).

### JESUS AND BUDDHA SERIES



Jesus and Buddha series continues!

The UU Christian Scriptures Fellowship Group will continue with the Jesus and Buddha series in August. The August meeting will be on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00, in person in the Alliance Room with the option to participate via ZOOM. All are welcome to attend any meeting.

This group follows the 4<sup>th</sup> UU principle (free and responsible search for truth and meaning) and is free of the dogma associated with traditional religion. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month at 5:00.

For information contact Carol at [CStamatakis@outlook.com](mailto:CStamatakis@outlook.com) or 603-398-5389.



**KUUC**  
**Rummage Sale**  
**September 30th**  
**\*NOTE CHANGE OF DATE\***

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!**

PLEASE HELP US MAKE THIS IMPORTANT FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

SIGN UP BY EMAILING DEBRA ZAGAESKI: [dzagaeski@gmail.com](mailto:dzagaeski@gmail.com)  
OR ON THE SIGN UP SHEETS POSTED IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.



HAVE QUESTIONS?  
INTERESTED IN HELPING?

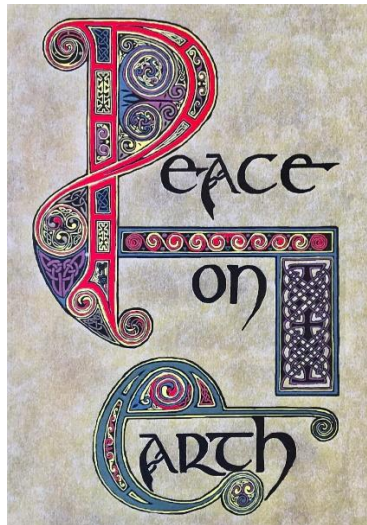
JOIN US FOR A BRIEF INFORMATIONAL &  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING IMMEDIATELY  
FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON  
SEPTEMBER 10TH IN THE ALLIANCE ROOM

OR CONTACT

BARBARA MEIKLE: [bpameikle@gmail.com](mailto:bpameikle@gmail.com)  
DEBRA ZAGAESKI: [dzagaeski@gmail.com](mailto:dzagaeski@gmail.com)

**WE WILL BE ACCEPTING ITEMS ON  
SEPT. 24TH IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY  
AND SEPT. 28, & 29  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

ITEMS ACCEPTED: VINTAGE, ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, SMALL  
FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, KITCHEN & DINING ITEMS,  
HOLIDAY ITEMS, PET ITEMS, SPORTS EQUIPMENT, BABY &  
CHILDREN ITEMS, TOYS, JEWELRY, WHITE ELEPHANTS.



## GENERAL INFORMATION:

### AUGUST MESSENGER DEADLINE

The deadline for the *August Messenger* will be 5 P.M. on Sunday, August 20th. The due date for *Messenger* submissions will be on the 20th 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 a blended June/July *Messenger*).

Send all your articles to Rev. Michael at [rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com](mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com) and Allie Stoddard Gruber [office@kuuc.org](mailto:office@kuuc.org).

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

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



# 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.  
**Address:** 69 Washington Street  
 Keene, NH 03431  
**Phone:** (603) 352-1719  
**E-mail:** [office@kuuc.org](mailto:office@kuuc.org)  
**Website:** [www.kuuc.org](http://www.kuuc.org)  
**Facebook:** Keene Unitarian Universalist  
 Church@KeeneUU

**Minister:** Rev. Michael Hall  
[rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com](mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com)  
 (508) 821-6092  
**Religious Exploration Coordinator:**  
 Mallory Hicks [kuucrec@gmail.com](mailto:kuucrec@gmail.com)  
 (540) 849-7550  
**Music Director:** Donna Dearth  
[rdearth@hotmail.com](mailto:rdearth@hotmail.com)  
**Office Manager:** Allie Stoddard Gruber  
[office@kuuc.org](mailto:office@kuuc.org)  
 (603) 352-1719

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022-2023

|  |              |  |              |
|--|--------------|--|--------------|
| Caroline Stave Viemeister, President<br><a href="mailto:Caroline.Stave@gmail.com">Caroline.Stave@gmail.com</a>                 | 916-817-9117 | Tom Haynes<br><a href="mailto:piperhistoricalservices@gmail.com">piperhistoricalservices@gmail.com</a> | 603-357-7645 |
| Mickey Cronin, President-Elect<br><a href="mailto:mfpepera@aol.com">mfpepera@aol.com</a>                                       | 603-852-2903 | Tina Stevens<br><a href="mailto:tinaleone127@gmail.com">tinaleone127@gmail.com</a>                     | 603-209-6268 |
| Susie Ericson-West, Past President<br><a href="mailto:swest.keene@gmail.com">swest.keene@gmail.com</a>                         | 603-313-9013 | Stella Scott<br><a href="mailto:stelsco@gmail.com">stelsco@gmail.com</a>                               | 603-400-3448 |
| John Walter, Treasurer<br><a href="mailto:jnwalterjr@gmail.com">jnwalterjr@gmail.com</a>                                       | 603-358-3101 | Barbara Meikle<br><a href="mailto:bpameikle@gmail.com">bpameikle@gmail.com</a>                         | 617-233-6280 |
| Rev. Michael F. Hall ( <i>ex-officio</i> )<br><a href="mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com">rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com</a> | 508-821-6092 | Jim Butterfield<br><a href="mailto:butterjl37@gmail.com">butterjl37@gmail.com</a>                      | 607-244-8434 |