

# The Messenger

August 2020 Volume 28 Issue 7



Keene Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Washington Street, Keene, NH 03431 <http://www.kuuc.org/> [office@kuuc.org](mailto:office@kuuc.org) 603-352-1719

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- Sunday Services are virtual for the time being. A link to each new service and an invitation to the "Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour" will be sent out by Saturday @noon.

## Worship Schedule: July 26 Through September 6

July 26:	"Theodore Parker: Part Two"	(Jim Smart)
August 2:	"The Power of Saying Yes: My Journey to Teotihuacan"	(Rachael Walter)
August 9:	"UU History"	(Jill M. Hall, DRE)
August 16:	"Zen-Inspired Therapy"	(Joan Roelofs)
August 23:	"Feeling Groovy?"	(Rev. Michael)
August 30:	"Ambassadorship"	(Membership Comm.)
September 6:	"Breakfast Communion"	(Carl Jacobs)



## 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

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

- 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.



## Sharing Ministry: August 2020

“Memory is the diary we all carry about with us.”

— Oscar Wilde

As we feel our way through a very different kind of summer, one thing I have noticed is that this summer is just that—different—though many aspects of it are familiar by now. We are still trying to keep our distance, wear our masks when it is appropriate, wash our hands thoroughly or use the hand sanitizer as needed. Many stores are closed, (sadly some for good), and takeout is still the best option for restaurant dining. We are being careful during this summer of 2020—as well we should be.

There are also other things swirling around on the political/social/economic landscape that many of us are watching closely, as they seem different too. We may all be wondering if they will resolve peacefully, as a passing shower, or build up momentum and tear across the country like a parade of tornadoes creating havoc from sea to shining sea.

It is good for us to consider what may be ahead, and to remember the strange times we are living through and those times of trouble and tumult that we have already lived through and survived. It is good for us to remember the joy we have known and the love we are feeling for our friends and family, not to take for granted the little delights and unexpected pleasures that pave our days. It best to live in the moment, to create memorable times even if we are sharing cocktails with friends over Zoom or gathering with loved ones wearing masks.

I have every intention of creating moments to remember for our Keene Unitarian Universalist community this year. I hope to have and share together experiences that we will treasure; to work with your staff, the Board of Trustees and all of you to carve indelible memories and forge closer connections that we can depend on in 2020-021. But we all need to be part of this process; your ideas are needed and your thoughts appreciated—please send them to me

<mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com>. Keep an eye on this column, check the website and Facebook page, call me with your new ideas, call each other to check in. Stay in touch, we will get there, we get through, together.

Yours in faith, hope and love,

*Rev. Michael*

## A Message from your Board President August 2020

By Jim Peale

As I write this note in July, I am full of the uncertainty with which this year has made us all too familiar. We seem to be living in a state and region that has been less damaged by the pandemic than most others. As our political leaders move us toward “reopening,” I hope that we maintain the cautious approach that has reduced our exposure to harm so far. Carol and I feel lucky that our personal situation has allowed us to be safe and sequestered with little consequence. We know that many others in our community do not have this luxury and we hope that those who must undertake risk for their children, or their economic situations can stay safe. For their sake, we continue to keep our public contacts at a minimum.

That leads to the great question of how we continue to function as a community. We worship together through shared experiences on Zoom and Youtube. We may share a meal with friends at a few feet of distance on a shady deck or converse while walking a trail or a country lane. Our convivial coffee hours are just a memory and something to be seen in an anticipated future. Your board will be thinking of ways to maintain our connections, but we need the thoughts of our congregation as well. We urge any members who have ideas for events, fundraisers, or opportunities to be together in some fashion to pass their thoughts along to us. What you might have said to me, to Michael, or another board member in Church should not go unrepeated. We really do want to hear from you.

I can't let this opportunity go by without expressing my own gratitude to the church staff and members who have put so much into producing our shared worship experiences. Michael, Donna, Dave Teubner, Jill, and all the other singers and speakers have provided us with continuity and those bits of “normal” that seem so precious these days. I also appreciate the work put in by Bob Hill, Carl Jacobs, Larry Butcher and everyone else who has dealt with the ongoing story of our physical plant. My apology to anyone whose name I have omitted.

Please stay in touch with us, and with each other!

Jim Peale

## Music

I'm especially looking forward to the time when we can all be together again. Be well and peaceful,

Donna Dearth, Music Director

## RE Calendar

August 6, 7:30pm Parent Conversation via Zoom

August 16, 4pm Religious Exploration Committee meeting via Zoom. All are welcome; email Jill for a link

## The Year Ahead

The RE program's motto this year is "be flexible." We have several options for religious exploration for the KUUC community of all ages for the coming church year, and are planning to solicit input and respond as needs and wants become apparent. To that end, Jill and Betsy Stacey will be hosting a Zoom parent conversation on Thursday, August 6 at 7:30pm. We guessed at what might work for most families, but are very willing to change the day/time or even host a second meeting in order to accommodate as many people as possible. If you'd like to participate but this day/time is unworkable, please email Jill at [kuucdre@gmail.com](mailto:kuucdre@gmail.com) or text 508-821-8935 and we'll work something out.

We will be using Soul Matters resources again this year, with an emphasis on supporting families in their Unitarian Universalist learning at home. Live and/or recorded Zoom offerings will extend opportunities for connection and exploration with elementary-age children.

For KUUC's growing group of middle-schoolers we have several options for in-person Zoom meetings and are hoping to hear from the teens & tweens about what they'd most like to do. As interest warrants, continuing religious exploration opportunities for adults will also be offered via live Zoom; stay tuned for descriptions and sign-ups.

I'd like to share with you this poem written by Elizabeth Cogliati, a Religious Education professional, on the topic of grief over the loss of so many regular things over the last months, and probably the months to come.

## Grief

For the children  
You are mad  
You are angry  
You are frustrated  
You want to scream, to cry,  
Maybe even hit something  
The grownups say you are sad  
But they are wrong  
They don't understand  
You aren't sad

You are mad!  
You can't see your friends  
You can't play on the swings  
You can't do any of your regular things  
It's okay to be mad  
It's okay to be boiling with rage  
You don't have to like it  
You don't have to smile  
You don't even have to tell us it's okay  
Because this is not okay  
And we don't like it either

I, and the Religious Exploration Committee, sure don't like the idea of not being in community with you at the end of the summer like usual. But, we are looking forward to finding ways to be connected while we are apart. Even while we are sad, or mad.

I hope you are enjoying some of your favorite summer activities while you stay well and stay cool.

Jill

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

508-821-8935

## Soul Matters Themes for the Coming Year:

After hearing positive feedback from members, staff and folks in committees about the Soul Matters Sharing Circle, and the worship, music, small group and other congregational support materials it provides, we have decided to subscribe again this year. We will be using their worship support packets and membership program they offer as well as a program called "Soulful Home" a resource that helps us support families in their lived faith journey. "Soulful Home" offers many ways to introduce spiritual reflection and practices to children and help parents to assume their role as a child's primary spiritual, and ethical guides.

Jill, Donna, and I are excited to be using this program again because it not only suggests material we might *choose* for worship or other programs, but as a sharing circle each of us has access to online group of other worship professionals off whom we can bounce ideas, ask for help, and share our own writings, music ideas and writing from our own creative ministries.

In 2020-2021 our Soul Matters monthly themes are as follows:

**September:** Renewal

**November:** Healing

**October:** Deep Listening

**December:** Stillness

**January:** Imagination

**April:** Becoming

**February:** Beloved Community

**May:** Story

**March:** Commitment

**June:** Play

Look for more information and suggestions of how we might use these themes as part of our communal and family life, as a catalyst for individual spiritual practice, and to deepen our Unitarian Universalist faith.

--Rev. Michael

## **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, MEETINGS, EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES ETC.**

### **LIBERAL CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES FELLOWSHIP GROUP**

USUALLY MEETS FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 5:00

UPCOMING MEETINGS: August 4 and September 1

Our fellowship group is planning to meet via Zoom (until further notice) the first Tuesday of every month from 5:00 – 6:30. We usually have a topic we focus on each month. This group is for anyone inspired by the teachings of Jesus or who identifies with aspects of Christianity and would like to share their experiences, feelings and insights in a supportive environment, and support one another's spiritual growth and understanding. This group is guided by our fourth Unitarian Universalist principle (a free and responsible search for truth and meaning") and 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).

### **THE CIRCLE OF CARING TO HOLD ZOOM MEETING ON AUGUST 19th**

The Committee of Caring invites both old and new members to a ZOOM meeting, on Wed. Aug. 19 at 1:00 PM:

We plan to update our Mission and guidelines, and need input from current & past members. We also need to discuss ways we can adapt to the current Covid situation. If the Zoom platform is not possible for you, or you prefer to email your thoughts/suggestions, please send them to Betty Forrest ([mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net](mailto:mandbforrest@myfairpoint.net)), Betsy Zimmerli ([betsyzim4@ne.rr.com](mailto:betsyzim4@ne.rr.com)) & Rev. Michael - (copy all three). If you are new to the church or never been part of the Circle of Caring previously, email Rev. Michael so you will be sure to receive an invite to the meeting. "See" you there!



## MONADNOCK INTERFAITH PROJECT (MIP) SEEKS PART-TIME PAID ORGANIZER:

### Could It Be You?

The Monadnock Interfaith Project (MIP) is looking for a paid, part-time Community Organizer. The Job Description for this 15 hour/week position is on the link below. Perhaps this is the perfect part-time position for you, a family member or friend that has some of the experience that MIP is looking for? If you have trouble opening the link contact Tom Julius [tjulius54@gmail.com](mailto:tjulius54@gmail.com). [MIP Community Organizer Job Description 07/20/20](#)

## BECOME A "CONGREGATIONAL CAPTAIN" FOR FAITH CLIMATE JUSTICE:

Dear Keene UU,

My name is Andrew Ahern and I am the Faith Climate Justice Voter Campaign Manager for [New Hampshire Interfaith Power and Light](#): a local chapter of the national organization who seeks a religious response to global warming by inspiring and mobilizing people of faith to take bold and just action on climate change.

For this election season, New Hampshire Interfaith Power and Light is engaged in the [Faith Climate Justice Voter Campaign](#) to get congregations and individuals activated and organized in making climate change a top priority among voters and candidates.

We're reaching out to congregations that might be interested in collaborating with us for our campaign. We are looking for volunteers, and especially "Congregation Captains:" people to organize their fellow congregation members and work with us on election actions like relational organizing, voter registration, outreach, education and more.

Do you think your congregation or any individual members would be interested in joining our efforts and become Congregation Captains? If so, please fill out this [Google Form](#) indicating your Congregation Captain interest. Please share this email with your congregants as well if possible.

You can learn more about the Faith Climate Justice Voter Campaign at [FaithclimateJusticevoter.org](http://FaithclimateJusticevoter.org) where we also have pages for our Faith Values Voter Guide, the Faith Climate Justice Voter Pledge, and other campaign information. You can also find us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/NHInterfaithPowerandLight](https://Facebook.com/NHInterfaithPowerandLight)!

If there are any questions or you'd like to talk more I'm happy to chat anytime!  
Best,

Andrew Ahern

[Faith Climate Justice Voter Campaign Manager](#)





**Greetings outdoors enthusiasts!**

**As we engage in social distancing,  
let's remember that a healthy  
practice is to be outdoors, soak in  
the sun, wind, rain, and snow.  
You just might see some springtime  
sign of the web of life.**

**We will stay in touch about  
upcoming events. Meanwhile...  
Go Take a Hike!**

For KUUC Outdoors information contact:  
Tom Julius (603) 357-4521 [tjulius54@gmail.com](mailto:tjulius54@gmail.com)



**Hope Blossoms!**



**Drummer Hill hike pre-distancing**

#### **KUUC Outdoors 2020 Schedule**

Sun, Apr 5	WallDog Murals Walk, Keene
Sun, May 24	Birding & Blooms, Surry
Sun, Jun	Stonewall Farm Bike/Walk, Keene
Sat, Jul 25	Gap Mtn Hike & Berryin', Troy (rain date, 8/1)
Sat, Aug 15	Willard Pond Paddle/Swim/Hike, Hancock (rain date, 8/16)
TBD	St. Gaudens National Historical Park, Cornish, NH
Sat, Sep 19	Hogback Mtn Hike & Southern VT Natural History Museum, Marlboro, VT
TBD	Source to Sea Cleanup, Swanzey & Keene
Sun, Oct 4	Horatio Colony Preserve Hike, Keene
Sun, Oct 24/25	Partridge Berry Picking, Keene
Sun, Nov 8	Bear Den Natural Area, Gilsum (rain date, 11/15)

## **KUUC Ferry Beach Weekend will be in October**

We have rescheduled the KUUC Ferry Beach Get-away weekend for October 16 -18, 2020. We hope that people who were unable to attend in April will sign up for the October weekend. Ferry Beach has paired us up with the UU Church of Marblehead. The Marblehead coordinators have been organizing their weekend for more than thirty years. When we thought about starting a KUUC Ferry Beach weekend fifteen years ago, we contacted them for their advice and suggestions. The Marblehead group would be a nice fit with us. If you would like to have more information, please contact Carol McIntyre-Peale and Jim Peale at [pealefamily@gmail.com](mailto:pealefamily@gmail.com) or 357-7875.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Rev. Michael's Schedule for the End of July & August:

I will be on vacation from Sunday July 26 through Saturday, August 1 (Lammas Day).

I will also be taking a week set aside for concentrated study from August 24 through August 30.

In between I will be at the office regularly, attending various committee meetings for planning and start up, hosting coffee hour and trying to visit as many members and friends in-person as is safely possible. I want to know how you are doing, and what, in your eyes, would be helpful for the church to do to serve member needs, to expand our programming along the lines of what interests you and your children, and to hear and help pastorally with the challenges and concerns that you are facing.

I know I am not alone in feeling the need for connection in these strange and ominous times.

--Rev. Michael

### NEXT MESSENGER DEADLINE:

The deadline for the September *Messenger* is 5 P.M. on Saturday, August 15. The due date for Messenger submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the prior month (the only exception is June 15, as there is no July Messenger). Send all your articles and notices directly to Rev. Michael at [rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com](mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com).



## COMMITTEE CONTACTS:

Circle of Caring:	Betsy Zimmerli & Betty Forrest
Covenant Groups:	Carolyn Antrim
Investment:	John Bordenet
Membership:	Melinda Hildreth-Honkala
Music:	Carin Torp
Personnel:	Ruth Shepard
Religious Exploration:	Barbara Bryce
Senior Lunch Bunch:	Betty Forrest
Shawls of Love:	Darcy Doyle
Slice of Fellowship:	Betty Forrest
Social Action/Green Sanctuary:	Ann Shedd
Stewardship:	Carol Stamatakis
Ushers:	Jenn Wyman
Wayside Pulpit:	Vicki Keller
Worship:	Susie Ericson-West & Gwyn Powers
Property:	Carl Jacobs
Fundraising:	David Robinson
Greens Sale:	Open
Welcoming Congregation:	Open



## KUUC CONTACT LIST 2019-2020

### WORSHIP SERVICES

### STAFF

<p>Sunday Services: 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>Religious Exploration: 10:00 A.M.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">September-June</p> <p>Summer Services 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>Address: 69 Washington Street Keene, NH 03431</p> <p>Phone: (603) 352-1719</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:office@kuuc.org">office@kuuc.org</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.kuuc.org">www.kuuc.org</a></p> <p>Facebook: <a href="#">Keene Unitarian Universalist Church@KeeneUU</a></p>	<p>Minister: Rev. Michael Hall</p> <p><a href="mailto:rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com">rev.michaelkuuc1824@gmail.com</a></p> <p>(508) 821-6092</p> <p>Director, Religious Exploration: Jill M. Hall</p> <p><a href="mailto:kuucdre@gmail.com">kuucdre@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Music Director: Donna Dearth</p> <p><a href="mailto:rdearth@hotmail.com">rdearth@hotmail.com</a></p>
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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2019-2020

<p>Jim Peale, President-Elect 357-7875</p> <p><a href="mailto:pealefamily@gmail.com">pealefamily@gmail.com</a></p> <p>John Walter, Treasurer/Past President 358-3101</p> <p><a href="mailto:jnwalterjr@gmail.com">jnwalterjr@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Carl Jacobs, President-Elect 831-1409</p> <p><a href="mailto:cjacobs@ne.rr.com">cjacobs@ne.rr.com</a></p> <p>Carol Hill, Clerk 903-4974</p> <p><a href="mailto:hcbhill@ne.rr.com">hcbhill@ne.rr.com</a></p>	<p>Eloise Clark 352-9182</p> <p><a href="mailto:clarktreat@myfairpoint.net">clarktreat@myfairpoint.net</a></p> <p>Tom Haynes 357-7645</p> <p><a href="mailto:piperhistoricalservices@gmail.com">piperhistoricalservices@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Ruth Shepard 477-5694</p> <p><a href="mailto:ruthshep47@gmail.com">ruthshep47@gmail.com</a></p> <p>David Robinson 355-7812</p> <p><a href="mailto:davide.1945@hotmail.com">davide.1945@hotmail.com</a></p>
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