

**Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
**PO Box 1578**  
**New London, NH 03257**  
**603 526-8213**  
[www.kuufnh.org](http://www.kuufnh.org)

**April 2015**

Minister: Rev. William E. Nelson  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton  
Presidents: Amy Dressler & Henry Howell  
Director of Religious Education: Donna Peirce  
RE Teacher: Libby Curran  
Music Director: Martha Woodward

***Unitarian Universalists affirm the worth and dignity of all human beings and advocate freedom of belief and an open search for truth.***  
***The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship***  
***meets weekly on Sundays at 11:00 AM***  
***in the Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy in Andover***

**KUUF Calendar**

Sunday, April 5	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson – “A Humanist Looks at Easter”
Thursday, April 9	Board Meeting – 7:00 PM at the Maloof’s
Sunday, April 12	Credos From Our Personal Lives”
Sunday, April 19	Speaker: Rev. Bill Nelson
Saturday, April 25	Martha Woodward’s Concert – 7:30 PM – The Stone Chapel
Sunday, April 26	Speaker: Rev. Dick Dutton - “Life Stories”

**SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH**  
**"CREDO'S FROM OUR PERSONAL LIVES"**

Three members of our congregation will be presenting the principles of their daily conduct that have guided them through their life's journey.

~~~//~~~



*The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Newsletter*  
**Minister's Missive – April 2015**



Spring and faith: The two are tied so closely together. After such a long and frigid winter we've had this year, it's good to know that one day soon, the buds on the trees will let us know that new leaves are on their way, and that the flowers will follow right along. This year the first Sunday in April will be Easter Sunday, as well as the first full Sunday of Passover, traditional holidays that evoke thoughts of renewed hope and promise. The word "Easter," in fact, comes from the Old English word "eastre," which in turn may have been rooted in the Germanic "Austron," a dawn-goddess whose holiday was celebrated at the vernal equinox. (As the writer of Ecclesiastes puts it in the Hebrew bible, there is "nothing new under the sun.")

My sermon on April 5<sup>th</sup> will be called "A Humanist Looks at Easter," and I look forward to the conversation as we UUs tackle what can be a truly difficult topic.

I often talk about how difficult it can be to human beings, and how our self-consciousness sets us apart from other forms of life on our planet. Life for all of us can be difficult at times. We are struck by loss, illness, confusion, disappointment, fear, anxiety, and all those other difficulties that bog us down. But there's another side of all this, isn't there? This is the side that provides hope and faith in the midst of the storm.

In one of his books, one of my seminary professors cites Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*: "There's an unforgettable passage about a ship's lantern that hung in the captain's room on the Pequod. No matter which way the ship yawed and hawed in rolling, pitching waves, the lantern always hung down exactly perpendicular to a line drawn through the center of the earth. As Melville describes it, 'it revealed the false, lying levels of everything around it.'"

Is this not the way it is with spring? No matter what occurs in life, what losses we may have to bear, spring will come in all its glory, revealing the mysterious, enduring power of faith. As was the case with the lantern's hanging in Melville's captain's cabin, nothing will divert the true plumb of the truth we seek – in our congregation, in our everyday lives, in simply being!

Happy spring to all; and "See you in church! *Bill*"

P.S. Sincere thanks to Henry Howell, Libby Curran, Martha Woodward, and the cast (including eight children), the backstage technicians, the set designers, and all who helped in the production of "The Mouse and the Light" on Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>. Wonderful!

# ROOTS



By Henry Howell      *This little light of ours,  
We're going to make it shine...*

## THE UNION CHURCH OF ANDOVER CENTER

The rivalry between east and west Andover over where a meeting house was to be built was still very much a cantankerous issue. The Universalists Society, organized in 1819 in "a meeting of a number of Brethren ...believing in the restoration of all men through Jesus Christ"<sup>1</sup> eventually decided in 1821 under the leadership of Peter Fifield Esq that the best way to get their meeting house built was to join together with local Methodists, Christians, and lay people Together they "...united in a spirit of harmony to build the long desired edifice..." they were able to finish the main building in 1824. ---And with a handsome bell forged by Paul Revere atop its belfry!

This building, with the two wings added in 1874 under the largesse of John Proctor, inventor of the pointed tip threaded wood screw, was originally

Eliza Butterfield of while in her gathering of ladies as much chatter needlecraft."<sup>2</sup>

Universalists of group had a floor sanctuary to become classrooms.



conceived by Mrs. Andover in 1848 sewing circle "--a whose business was and gossip as Together, with many the time, her 'sewing' built over the main

Up until the 1870's, the *Unitarians* were often located in urban areas, such as Boston (notably Harvard University). They strongly believed that man is essentially good and could be morally perfected by a solid humanistically based *secular* education. In 1879 the Unitarian Educational Society, after looking all over New England where a school might be established "free from the theological dogmatizing and unnatural religious methods' then employed by sectarian schools"<sup>3</sup>, answered the call of the many Andover citizens who had adopted Unitarian beliefs --and who just happened to have a really terrific meeting hall in which to place a school.... And so 1881 the second floor of the Union Church of Andover was adopted as a Unitarian academy, named after its chief benefactor, John Proctor.

[Next month: A Stone Chapel is Built.]

<sup>1</sup> From "History of the Town of Andover 1751-1906" by John Eastman, Rumford Printing Co., Concord, NH, 1910

<sup>2</sup> From "The History of Proctor Academy", prepared by Heather Makechnie, Archivist, Proctor Academy, 1987

<sup>3</sup> From "The History of Proctor Academy"



## KUUF Book Discussions

**April 19, 2015 9:30 AM**

**Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption.** Laura Hillenbrand, 2010

Louie Zamperini was a 1930's track star who endured an amazing odyssey In World War II. He was a teenage hellraiser who competed in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. He joined the Army Air Corp as a bombardier in 1940. In 1943, while stationed on Oahu in the Pacific, the engines on his B-24 failed and he plummeted into the Pacific, drifted for weeks on a raft and was picked up by the Japanese...

After 2 years as a POW, Louie started his journey as a post-war Pacific PTSD in 1945. Louie's story is full of staggering surprises and the ferocious will of a man who refused to be broken. His story reads like a fast paced novel.

\*\*\*\*\*

**May 17, 2015 9:30 AM**

**The Invention of Wings: A Novel** Sue Monk Kidd, 2014

In the early 1830's, Sarah Grimke and her younger sister, Angelina, were the most infamous women in America. They had rebelled so vocally against their family, society, and their religion that they were reviled, pursued, and exiled from their home city of Charleston, SC under threat of death.

Their crime was speaking out in favor of liberty and equality for African American slaves and women, arguments too radically humanist even for abolitionists of their time. Their most popular pamphlet inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe's **Uncle Tom's Cabin.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**June 21, 2015 9:30 AM**

**The Glass Cage: Automation and Us** Nicholas Carr, 2014

Nicholas Carr is considered to be our most informed and intelligent critic of technology.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Questions: Marion Allen 526-6776**

## Host/Hostess “Duty” Assignments

| <u>Sunday</u> | <u>Host/Hostess</u> | <u>Host/Hostess</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| April 5       | Kerry Laufer        | David Landers       |
| April 12      | Sara Smith          | Edythe Anderson     |
| April 19      |                     |                     |
| April 26      |                     |                     |
| May 3         |                     |                     |
| May 10        |                     |                     |
| May 17        |                     |                     |
| May 24        |                     |                     |
| May 31        |                     |                     |

If you can take a Sunday morning as host/hostess, please contact Kerry Laufer at 763-3140 or [kllauf@hotmail.com](mailto:kllauf@hotmail.com). Thanks!



### **Meditation**

The Women’s Meditation Group will meet on Wednesday, April 8 and 22, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at Fran Preston’s. If you have any questions, please contact Sally Bergquist at 763-4098.

### **KUUF Web Site**

Please check out the KUUF web site at [www.kuufnh.org](http://www.kuufnh.org) for up-to-date information, recent sermons, calendar, etc.

### **Something Fun and Easy to Do!**

On Saturday, April 4, 2015, 7:30 PM, there is a Silent Film Program: A Buster Keaton Double Feature at the Blazing Star Grange Hall, North Road in Danbury, N.H. ‘**Sherlock Jr.**’ (1924) and ‘**The General**’ (1927). It is free and open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$5 at the door. The music is live, played by the very talented Jeff Rapsis. Marcus and I have attended many of Jeff’s silent film events and enjoyed them very much! If you are interested, give us a call and we can arrange to carpool!

Lois Magenau – 735-5637, 387-0360 cell

## April K.R.E.M Collection

During the month of April there will be an envelope on the guest/membership table for donations to Kearsarge Regional Ecumenical Ministry, (K.R.E.M.)

For people in need, K.R.E.M meets emergency needs when other resources are unavailable. The service area includes the towns of Andover, Bradford, Danbury, New London, Newbury, Salisbury, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot.

Many families in the towns served have been particularly hard-hit by inflation in the face of persistent unemployment and underemployment. Difficulties in meeting financial obligations have exacted a heavy toll on families, many with dependent children, and/or elderly or disabled members. Too often these conditions have been accompanied by family breakdown and by disruptive and costly relocations from one town to another.

Checks should be made payable to KUUF with K.R.E.M. noted on the memo line of the check. Please be as generous as you can.



### 2015 FOOD PANTRY CAMPAIGN

April – Hearty soups and stews

**Note:** Paper products (paper towels and toilet paper) coffee (regular, decaf, and instant), and peanut butter and jelly are always welcome. Also do not forget pet products.

## Fund Drive Packet Mailing

Watch the mail for your Fund Drive Packet! Please be as generous as you can so that KUUF can meet its budget needs for our next fiscal year, July 1, 2015- June 30-2016.

Your prompt response would be appreciated so that the Board of Trustees can finalize the budget that will go to the congregation on June 7.

Thank You, *Liz*



## **Social Activities**

Spring is in the air. Time to get out and about so let's have a few ...

### **CIRCLE DINNERS**

Friday, May 15

Signups for hosts and for guests will be found at church . Please sign up soon if you can HOST a dinner for about 6 guests.

If you would like to be a GUEST this time, please sign up on the Guest's sheet.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Vashro, Lois Magenau, or Meredith Smith

# 2015 ANNUAL SPRING GATHERING

OF THE

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT OF UU'S

SATURDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>

UU CHURCH IN CONCORD, NH

The Rev. Scott Taylor, Director of Congregational Life, will lead us in this annual Spring Conference & Annual Meeting. The theme will be:

## EXPLORING INTERCONNECTIONS

- How we see elimination of old barriers and building new working relationships within and among congregations.
- How do you see your passion and your congregation's calling around *your* interconnections.

These gatherings are a lot of fun and a chance to meet other wonderful people, who also happen to be UU'ers.

If you would like to attend, please contact Henry Howell

(Tel) 938-5706 or (email) [exartik45@gmail.com](mailto:exartik45@gmail.com)

## . Adult Lecture Series

For a variety of reasons, we have only been able to view and discuss 12 lectures since we began "Big History" in September. Furthermore, most of us have missed a good number of these 12 lectures. There has been a serious lack of continuity for all. At last week's session it was agreed that we will shut down for the remainder of this church year and begin next September in two parts:

First, devote September to a replay of the last 3 lectures of "The Great Sages", which beautifully summarize the series and compare and contrast the lives and messages of Confucius, The Buddha, Jesus and Muhammad.

Then, we will re-enter Big History at lecture 7, when the history of our planet is taken up. *Tom*



# Getting to Know Our KUUF Community Members

## Marion Allen

### Finding Wilmot

We first saw Wilmot in 1964 at the invitation of a former student of my husband, Peter, who was teaching Forest Ecology at UNH. We traveled from Nottingham, NH to spend weekends of fun activities with our 3 small children and their 2. By 1965 we were living in Hillsborough, NH at Fox State Forest where Peter was the NH State Research Forester and we were house hunting. Pinnacle Farm, Wilmot Center, was a “summer home” of 136 acres for a widow of 85.

The circa 1800 cape at the end of the road had no insulation, no storm windows or central heat (one working fireplace), a dug well that went dry 4+ months of the year, and no electricity. I insisted on having electricity before moving in as we now had 4 children. After 21 years Peter and I divorced in 1982. I retained the house and a few acres. An electrical fire destroyed the house in 1997 but the barn was saved. I built a federal farmhouse with a large farmer’s porch in 2000 but it has none of the charm of the original cape but is well insulated.

### Early Life

1937- 1959 My mother was a widow at 23 with 3 small children. We moved to the village of Woodsville in Haverhill, NH in 1943 so I could start school there. My mother considered herself a Protestant but did not attend church. I was 6 when I tried all the churches, except the Catholic, in town and settled on the Methodist until I was 11 when I decided I was not a Christian. I was a cheerleader and co-captain of the girls’ basketball team. I started working my way through UNH in 1955 and graduated with a BS in Zoology in 1959. I taught 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Science in Hampton, NH for 2 years and married in 1960.

### Book Years

I completed a Master of Library Science (MLS) in 1987 and spent 28 years, primarily as a Medical Librarian, but also 7 years as a Reference Librarian at Colby Sawyer College, retiring in 2010 from NH Hospital, Concord, NH. I actually started my work in libraries very early as a Library Trustee in 1962 in Nottingham, NH and then in Wilmot in 1967 where trustees did everything except check out books. I wrote the agenda article for the annual school meeting of the newly formed Kearsarge Regional School District and Wilmot purchased the building for \$1 that my oldest daughter had

attended in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, before the regional school district was formed, which is now the Wilmot Public Library.

I organized my first book discussion group in 1983 and it continues to meet 10X/year for a book discussion/pot luck. Over the years I have added 3 more book discussion groups.

### **Hobbies and Other Interests**

Hiking – I climbed all 48 mountains over 4000 ft. in NH and 5 in Maine before I was 55.

Camping and canoe camping in tents – US, Canada and Alaska (2 months with 4 children under 8 years). Tanzania and Kenya in 1989 sans children.

Skiing (mostly X country in recent years).

Permaculture gardening – purchased/planted 12 blueberry plants for the Town of Wilmot in 2014, I concentrate on native species when planting on my property.

**Clan Lindsay** – My maternal grandmother, Ivy Lindsey, was descended from Clan Lindsay in Scotland. Since 1996 I have been the NH Rep for Clan Lindsay USA at the annual NH Highland Games, Loon Mt, Lincoln, NH, and run the Clan Lindsay tent at the 3 day games in September. Member of Wilmot Conservation Commission, Wilmot Community Association, Garden Club, and secretary of the Wilmot Democratic Committee.

### **Bucket List**

Trekking in Nepal and Tibet, Mt Kailash, the most sacred mountain for Buddhists

Spend a week or two at Findhorn, an Ecovillage in northern Scotland  
A 4<sup>th</sup> trip to Scotland to see Clan Lindsay lands again

### **Joy and Love**

My family of 4 children and 5 grandchildren are the primary focus of my life. We spend all the holidays and birthdays together. Since 1983 KUUF has been the second focal group in my life.

The Seven Principles of Unitarian Universalism are my “Sacred Texts” and are the beliefs I live by. This community of like - minded souls is a safe haven from the world for me. Our shared values and goals for social justice give me hope for making the world a better place.

I believe these words of Mother Teresa...

“We can do no great things. Only small things with great love”



## When is Your Birthday or Anniversary?

We want to acknowledge your birthday and anniversary, so write down your name and dates for these events on the papers that are left on the front table at KUUF. Each month the newsletter will post the current month's celebration dates...

Sally Bergquist - 763-4098 – [salbob2@comcast.net](mailto:salbob2@comcast.net)

Kathy Vashro – 938-5476 – [jvashro@gmail.com](mailto:jvashro@gmail.com)

### April Birthdays Are:

Sally Bergquist - the 26th

Martha Woodward – the 26th



### Please come to the annual KUUF concert on April 25th.

This is a fundraiser for the Fellowship and will be held in the Stone Chapel at 7:30 PM. The program will be music for flute, cello and piano, with Martha and her guests, Sonoko and Mari Nagahara. Mari played for us last year, and we welcome her back. She is a student at Andover, MA high school and is a finalist in the upcoming Boston Symphony concerto contest, among her many other honors. The program will feature some interesting music by Beethoven, Handel, Rameau, Ibert and Schocker.

Tickets are \$15.00 & \$5.00 (16 and under) and are available at Morgan Hill Bookstore and at the door the evening of the performance. You can also purchase them from Sally Bergquist or Kathy Vashro on Sunday mornings at church.

**Martha Woodward Flute Concert  
with Sonoko Nagahara (Piano)  
and Mari Nagahara (Cello)**



**MUSIC BY HANDEL, RAMEAU,  
BEETHOVEN, DVORAK, AND IBERT**

**Saturday, April 25, 2015 – 7:30 PM  
The Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy  
Route 11 – Andover, NH**