



Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 1578

New London, NH 03257

(603) 526-8213

www.kuufnh.org

October 2020

Assisting Ministers: Rev. Dick Dutton & Guests

President: Jim Vashro

Music Director: Martha Woodward

Pastoral Care Team: Rev. Lee Page 603-759-8064

Kathryn Vashro 208 440 1855

Adult RE Coordinator: Marion Allen and Susan Nellen

Children's RE Coordinator: Susan Nellen

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 a.m.
(September through June)
in the Stone Chapel of Proctor Academy in Andover*

President's Message

October 2020

Fall is in the air! Our fields have had frost on them the last three mornings and we have gleaned what we can out of the garden. Now for winter preparations.

As we move towards the winter months and enjoying the bounty from our work this last summer, let us look forward to a few of the things we have coming up in the next few months.

First, this should go without saying: stay Safe! The current best practices are stay a safe distance (social distancing) and wear a mask when inside and safe distancing is not assured. We are fortunate to be living in an area that has few Covid issues – let's keep it that way.

Second, we have a national election to attend to. Please vote! If you haven't registered yet, do so. Many, because of Covid, are registered for absentee voting. In any case – VOTE.

Third, Our KUUF Sunday Service Committee has done another great job of preparing for this church year with a wonderful selection of speakers and their talks on relevant topics. Because of current Covid conditions, KUUF will be hosting ZOOM services until things change. The ZOOM technology can be used from anywhere and we are fortunate to be joined by several of our friends that are geographically separated from us. The ZOOM services can be accessed by your computer, smart phone, or regular phone. If you are not attending and want to do so, just email: admin@kuufnh.org and our Admin, Rose, will get you the information needed.

Fourth, Participate. Along with voting, we have an active community that has interests in many things and there are always causes to work on, participate.

There are many that are working behind the scenes to make KUUF function and I again want to express my gratitude to them all for keeping KUUF a vital congregation. Thank You!

By the way, a new Member directory is out, if you have not gotten an email copy and would like one, please email: admin@kuufnh.org.

The weekend of Sept. 26, I was KUUF's representative at our NNED (Northern New England District UU) conference (via Zoom). Next newsletter I will provide an update about what is going on in our UU district.

A quick note: The KUUF website (www.kuufnh.org) has been down for a few weeks and our web master (me) has been working to restore it to proper order. We somehow picked up some malware on the system and the hosting service, quite properly, detected the intrusion and shut the site down until it is repaired.

One final thing, I am currently the host for our Sunday Services on ZOOM. I want to put out a request to you all for someone to be trained as a back-up host in case I cannot host for a given Sunday. I would be happy to train you, not much training needed. Let me know.

Jim Vashro

President, KUUF Board of Trustees

October KUUF Calendar

October 4	11am	Art Rosen
October 11	11am	Tom Farmen
October 18	11am	Rev. Mellen Kennedy
October 25	11am	Rev. Dick Dutton

October 4, 2020 Art Rosen

Pilgrimages and Parables

It will be a two-part talk. The first will outline the Festival of Booths, Succoth, the holiday current at the time of the meeting. The talk will cover its origin as a Canaanite agricultural festival, its development into a Hebrew pilgrimage, and its commemorative purpose. The second will cover parables as a stealth means of delivering a moral lesson. To illustrate, a parable written for this occasion will be read. Its title, "The Parable of Three Fish Shacks."

October 11, 2020 Tom Farmen

How to Be a Maise Bright Mouse

We will explore the art and science of balancing education, organization, and creativity in accomplishing goals and achieving desired outcomes.

October 18, 2020 Rev. Mellen Kennedy

Universalism – The Next 250 Years

Looking at contemporary expressions of Universalism and also where we might be/can go with it.

October 25, 2020 Rev. Dick Dutton

Our Next President

Personality traits – humility, empathy, and others.



Membership

Do you want voting rights and help make decisions for KUUF's future? Or do you want to support and continue KUUF's wonderful services, projects, and ideals?

Ask about MEMBERSHIP.

If you are interested in becoming a member
Please contact Kathy Vashro 735-5642 or 208 440 1855

"Don't be distracted by emotion like anger, envy, resentment. These just zap energy and waste time." –

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Directory Update

An email sending out an updated KUUF Directory was sent to you on September 18th. We hope everyone received it and printed it for their use communicating with Members and Friends of KUUF.

Liz Maloof called a few people who may have needed hard copy mailed to them because of no access to a printer. If you are in need of one being mailed to you, please contact:

Liz Maloof Telephone: 603-526-9889
Email: lizzijo48@gmail.com

She will be glad to mail you a copy.

If you have any changes to your information please let Liz Maloof or Rose Jansen, Administrator for KUUF, know and they will make sure these changes are made to the Directory for the next mailing sometime in 2021.



FOOD PANTRY

Due to COVID-19, the food pantry's preference is currently monetary donations via mail.

Monetary donations can be made to: KLS Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 536, New London, NH 03257

REMEMBER, FOOD IS NEEDED YEAR ROUND

What is Love?

What does love mean to 4-8 year olds? Slow down for a few minutes to read this...



A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds, 'What does love mean?' The answers they got were broader, deeper, and more profound than anyone could have ever imagined!

- 'When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore... So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love.' Rebecca - age 8
- 'When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth.' Billy - age 4
- 'Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.' Karl - age 5
- 'Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs.' Chrissy - age 6
- 'Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.' Terri - age 4
- 'Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.' Danny - age 8
- 'Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and just listen.' Bobby - age 7 (Wow!)
- 'If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate.' Nikka - age 6 (we need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)
- 'Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day.' Noelle - age 7

- 'Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.' Tommy - age 6
- 'During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore.' Cindy - age 8
- 'My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.' Clare - age 6
- 'Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken.' Elaine - age 5
- 'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford.' Chris - age 7
- 'Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.' Mary Ann - age 4
- 'I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones.' Lauren - age 4
- 'When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.' (what an image!) Karen - age 7
- 'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross...' Mark - age 6
- 'You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.' Jessica - age 8

And the final one: The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.'

A Note

We have had the privilege of hearing music by the members of the Nagahara family at our spring concerts. Many of you have met Kanichi, who made my flute, and Sonoko, a pianist as well as flute maker, and their daughters, Mari and Miki.

I am very sad to write that Sonoko died from cancer last month. She was 54 years old. Miki, our violinist, graduated from Northwestern University and has been playing in Germany, and Mari is a cellist and senior at New England Conservatory.

Here is a link about Sonoko:

<https://obituaries.eagletribune.com/obituary/sonoko-nagahara-1079965448>

Sonoko leaves behind many devoted friends and students.

If anyone wants to send a card to the family, the address is:

32 Wild Rose Lane
Andover, MA 01810

-Martha Woodward

If you have been with the fellowship for a while, you will remember our part time minister for two years, Bert Steeves and his wife, Maxine.

I received this message from the Newburyport UU church frsuu. – Martha Woodward

September 17, 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of Reverend Bertrand Steeves' death last evening. Rev. Steeves served our beloved congregation for thirty-eight years. He was a pillar in the city, respected by all for his commitment to justice and standing up for what is right. He and his dear wife Maxine loved the First Religious Society and its members to their core.

He was a great man and a fabulous minister. Please join me in extending condolences and love to his family.

Details on how we will be honoring and celebrating his life will be forthcoming as they are arranged.

Cards may be sent to:

The Steeves Family
360 Merrimac Street
Newburyport, MA 01950

Yours,

Reverend Rebecca



Glossary of Terms Related to Transgender Communities

Terminology frequently morphs within LGBTQIA communities, and a word that means one thing in one community may mean something else in another community. The terms used here are commonly used in the Stanford LGBTQIA community.

Basic Definitions:

- **Assigned Sex or Sex Assigned At Birth:** The sex (typically M or F) that is assigned to a person based on external genitalia at birth.
- **Cisgender, Cis:** Someone whose gender identity corresponds with expectations based on the sex they were assigned at birth. For example, a person who was assigned female at birth and identifies as a woman is regarded as cisgender or as a cisgender woman.
- **Gender-Affirming Surgery:** Any surgical procedure that aims to increase a sense of congruence with one's gender identity and physical body. In California, surgery is not required to change one's legal gender marker. Note: This term is preferred over the outdated term Sexual Reassignment Surgery (SRS). It is also preferred over the term gender confirmation surgery (GCS) because gender cannot be "confirmed" by having surgery. A person's gender is to be respected regardless of surgical history/status or what kind of genitals they have or had. It is best to avoid terms such as "pre-op", "non-op", or "post-op," as they reinforce the assumption all trans people want to or will have the opportunity to have surgery.
- **Gender Dysphoria:** Emotional distress related to the sense that one's assigned sex is not in line with one's gender identity. Gender Dysphoria is also a medical and mental health diagnosis that may warrant treatment in the form of gender-affirming medical interventions.
- **Gender Expression:** The ways in which a person outwardly expresses their gender, often through hair, makeup, clothing, and other aspects of appearance. Gender expression does not always correspond to gender identity.

- **Gender Identity:** The inherent feeling within an individual of what gender they are; a person may identify as a man, woman, neither, in-between, both, or fluidly moving between these two binary categories.
- **Gender-Neutral Pronouns:** Pronouns that a person may use when they do not fully identify with binary gender categories. Examples of gender-neutral pronouns include singular they/them/their, ey/em/eir, zie/hir/hirs, or no pronouns. It's best to ask what pronouns are appropriate for them.
- **Intersex:** A general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a physical characteristics (e.g., gonads, chromosomal makeup, external genitalia, internal reproductive or urinary organs) that do not fit typical medical or social definitions of female or male. Some people use the term DSD (Disorders of Sex Development) to describe intersex people, but this is not seen as affirming by intersex communities.
- **Nonbinary:** A gender identity that denotes someone who does not fully identify with the binary genders of male/man/masculine or female/woman/feminine. A nonbinary person may identify as neither a man nor a woman, in-between, both, fluidly moving between these two categories, or as a third/alternate gender. Related to the term *genderqueer*, which was used more often prior to the 2010's.
- **Passing:** Being perceived as cisgender or as a gender in line with one's gender identity. This term is not considered affirming to many, as it implies that trans people are deceptive or are not truly the gender they say they are. Passing is important to some people (e.g., for safety reasons), but it is not the goal of every trans person.
- **Queer:** Used to describe non-normative identities (both sexual identities and gender identities) that might not easily be classified under other terminology (gay, lesbian, etc.). Queer can also be used as an umbrella term to describe LGBTQIA identities as a whole. In many communities, the term "queer" also has a political connotation that is connected to LGBTQIA activism. The term queer may be offensive to older LGBTQIA individuals, so it is best to use caution and only use this term when you know that someone uses it as an affirming term to describe themselves.

- **Sexual Orientation:** A way to describe a person's romantic and/or sexual attractions to others. Sexual orientation may consist of attraction, behavior, and identity, and not all of these factors need to be aligned/consistent. For example, a person may have attractions towards trans women, be sexually active with cisgender men, and have an identity as heterosexual. Some labels to describe sexual orientation include: heterosexual, straight, lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, queer, or fluid.
- **Transgender, Trans:** An adjective to describe someone who does not fully identify with the sex they were assigned at birth. These terms are often used as umbrella terms for more specific terms that people within trans communities use to describe themselves (and sometimes a person may use several to describe themselves). Related to term *transsexual*, which was more often used before the 2000's. Some of these terms include:
 - Man
 - Woman
 - Transgender man, trans man, trans masculine
 - Transgender woman, trans woman, trans feminine
 - Genderqueer
 - Bigender
 - Gender neutral
 - Demi-boy
 - Demi-girl
 - Agender
 - Genderless
 - Neutrois
 - Pangender

It's best to ask how a transgender person identifies. Be aware that the word "tranny" is considered offensive.

- **Transition:** The process of shifting one's gender identity and/or expression. Transition is a process that occurs over time, varies greatly among individuals, and may consist of physical/medical, emotional, social, and legal components. There is no uniform or set path for how a person transitions, if at all. Some transgender people consider themselves post-transition, and some no longer consider themselves to be transgender. Others feel that they are in a state of transition for the rest of their lives.



**PASTORAL CARE TEAM
CONTACT US FOR YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU
KNOW WHO MAY ENJOY HEARING FROM ONE OF US**

**Thank you to those whom have kept us informed of people's
life changes, joys and concerns.**

**Please continue informing us, as you are our ears and eyes for
the congregation.**

Thank you

Rev. Lee Page 603-759-8064 Kathryn Vashro 208 440 1855

We are now a team of two and need more to be our eyes and ears and hands and feet. Please pass on information to us about those you know who are 'shut ins', in the hospital, sick at home or would enjoy some company. If you can spare time to help, please contact Lee Page or Kathy Vashro.

Thank you to all who were our eyes and ears during the summer. We were notified by some of you to contact another congregation member and all who were called this summer were happy to have contact. All expressed comments about joining the Zoom Sunday gatherings. Some joined and others didn't. I think the summer gathering program was very helpful for staying connected in this world of reduced connection.

THANK YOU TO LOU for hosting and for all those that attended, making the gathering an interesting and nice connection.



Several of the KUUF committees need help. It was thought that this is a good way to ask for help. Because we are a smaller congregation we have a limited number of people doing several jobs and some of the committees need more members. Here are the some that needs more members.

1. **The Caring Committee** (Parish Care Committee)
These members are contact points for our congregation members expressing needs. These members work with the Pastoral care team to help keep them informed of the needs of the congregation.
2. **Sunday Services Committee.** These members help plan the services through the year. Because of our “no permanent Minister” status, this role is especially needed
3. **Membership Committee.** Members work to welcome new and interested members to our congregation. They work to help our congregation grow
4. **Photo Committee.** Not a real committee but KUUF has a need for people that can capture those precious moments at services, outings and activities

There are other committees that do great work, these listed above are of particular need.



KUUF Endowment FUND

**Provides a lasting legacy for Unitarian Universalism
in our Kearsarge Sunapee region.**

Making a bequest to the KUUF Endowment Fund is a simple way to protect your values and help our congregation remain a voice for liberal faith throughout the Kearsarge Sunapee region.

You can name KUUF as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy or financial accounts. Anyone can make a bequest and no amount is too small.



For further information, contact a member of our Finance Committee, currently serving 2019-2020 are Tom Maloof, Sandy Wells, Henry Howell, or Ken Preston.

Why did the scarecrow win the Nobel Prize?

Because he was out-standing in his field.