



## **Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

**P.O. Box 1578**

**New London, NH 03257**

**(603) 526-8213**

**[www.kuufnh.org](http://www.kuufnh.org)**

### **February 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

February 2020

It is with sadness that I announce the passing of my Aunt. As many of you know I have been traveling back to Minnesota frequently for the last 6 years – taking care of both my Uncle (who passed in 2015) and then my Aunt who had dementia and wanted to stay in her home. I helped make that possible. It was a great honor to serve family and other human beings, by being part of their lives and most recently as a caregiver. While this was my Aunt, I need to let everyone know that, Kathy, my wife, was a significant force in caring for my Aunt and Uncle. Thanks Kathy, for your huge heart and guiding spirit.

My message, however, isn't about my/our support of my family, it is about the circle of life that we all participate in. My Aunt's passing ended living membership of her generation. She was the last of my father's siblings and the last of, what my cousins and I looked to as our "Elders" – all now deceased and only in our memories. With my Aunt's passing, the burden of shouldering the "Elder" responsibility lies on the shoulders of me and my siblings and cousins, of which, there are still 38 living. We are now the "old folks" and I am the eldest male and my cousin Jeananne is the eldest female (6 months older than me). The torch is now passed to us.

And with this "burden" also comes the great joy in welcoming into this life – the new! (last month I said Happy New Year). And as Nature/ the Universe/ God/... intended – on Jan.1, 2020 Kathy and I were in the Concord, NH Hospital, Witnessing the birth of New Life! Our grandson, Orlando James Vashro-Wanlass was born! If you have talked to me in the last 20 days – I have shown you pictures of this wonderful bundle of joy.

So, the circle of life continues! The bliss of newness, the birth of new life on Jan. 1, to the sadness of a life passing on Jan 17<sup>th</sup>., the proof that we all continue life's circle. I have had the wonderful experience to be personally part of that journey this last month. Knowing this fact, the circle of life, gives me, and I hope all of you, comfort in the fact that life continues and that new beginnings are part of that cosmic certainty!

**Jim Vashro,**

**President – Board of Trustees, KUUF**

**February**  
KUUF Calendar

<b>February 2</b>	11am	<b>MAGBÈ SAVANÉ</b>
<b>February 3</b>	2 pm-4 pm	<b>Women's Meditation</b>
<b>February 9</b> <b>TWO EVENTS</b>	9:30am  11am	<b>ADULT RE</b>  <b>CREDO SERVICE</b>
<b>February 11</b>		<b>NH Primary</b>
<b>February 14</b>	6:30pm	<b>Movie Night</b>
<b>February 16</b> <b>TWO EVENTS</b>	9:30am  11am	<b>BOOK DISCUSSION</b>  <b>CARISSA PEIRCE</b>
<b>February 23</b> <b>TWO EVENTS</b>	9:30am  11am	<b>ADULT RE</b>  <b>REV. DICK DUTTON</b>

**February 2, 2020 Magbè Savané**

**Bringing a Dream to Life**

**February 9, 2020**

**CREDO Service**

Please join us for this special Sunday service in which Jocelyn McCannon and Donald F. Bent describe their individual CREDO.

**February 16, 2020 Carissa Peirce**

**Being in the World**

What it is like to be in high school now and a member of the LBGTQA+ community.

**February 23, 2020 Rev. Dick Dutton**

**Fruits of the Spirit**

Forbearance, Kindness, Goodness. Development of the New Testament theme of the fruits of our lives at their best.



## **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.

### **MEMBERSHIP CEREMONY – DURING ANNUAL MEETING IN JUNE**

*The congregation commits to supporting you with in the KUUF community and you commit to supporting the KUUF community .*

*(The commitment words are scripted)*

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

***Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Wishing is not enough; we must do.***

**Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe**



## **ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**9:30 AM**

**February 9 & 23**

### **THE AMERICAN MIND:**

#### **The Intellectual Geography of America**

A Great Courses Series exploring the history of American ideas—the thinking and institutions that have mattered most to Americans. This series is built around six basic themes in American thinking.

- The fundamental struggles... is it more important to Think or to Act ?
- The persistence of Religious Ideas and Control
- The formation of two souls in our thinking ... Puritanism and Enlightenment
- The struggle between Liberty and Power
- The shift in the Post-Civil War decades toward Pragmatism and Secularism
- Dilemmas posed by becoming a World Power

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**FEB 9                      Jefferson and His Debts**

**FEB 23                    The Edwardseans – From Hopkins to Finney**

**MAR 1                     The Moral Philosophers**

**MAR 15                  Whigs and Democrats**

**MAR 29                  American Romanticism**

Please join us on designated Sunday mornings for viewing and discussion. COORDINATORS: Susan Nellen and Marion Allen

**QUESTIONS: 526-6776**

## **KUUF Children's Sunday School**

Sunday School activities will be based on children's skill level and seasonal appropriateness.

I will draw from a diverse array of UU readings, games and art projects, as well as my own 40 years of teaching to make the children's experience at Sunday school worthwhile and fun.

Possible topics:

-Comic characters and pagan Gods and Goddesses

Possible and confirmed Famous UU's

Beatrice Potter - author

Maria Mitchell – astronomer

Louisa May Alcott - author

Helen Keller – author, speaker, motivator

**Contact Susan Nellen 735-4242**



## **FOOD PANTRY**

**When you go to the grocery store, pick up something for the food pantry. There are always food needs in this area.**

**February's Request - Large Juice (especially low sugar & 100% juice)**

The Kearsarge Lake Sunapee Community Food Pantry will always accept coffee (regular, decaf, & instant), paper towels, toilet paper, peanut butter & jelly, cake and brownie mixes, and monetary donations are welcome.

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

**HOW MUCH WILL YOU BRING  
TO FEED THE HUNGRY????**

**REMEMBER, FOOD IS NEEDED YEAR ROUND**

## KUUF Completes 2019 Toys for Tots Campaign

The Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship recently completed its 2019 toys for tots campaign to support needy children in New Hampshire and Vermont. Fellowship members contributed a total of **\$470**. Our Community Services Committee members brought the check to the Toys for Tots Campaign Office in West Lebanon on December 20, 2019.

The mission of the Toys for Tots program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

The toys for tots campaign is organized and managed by the US Marine Corps Reserves. KUUF has been a continuing sponsor of this very worthwhile effort.

Our Fellowship Board commends the significant participation of the membership.



## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARYS**

**February 12**

**February 13**

**February 26**

**Kathy Vashro**

**Donna Pierce**

**Alex Marquez**

## UU ACTION NH

KUUF has joined Action NH! This is the only statewide social action network representing Unitarian Universalists in New Hampshire.

Six other UU churches are already involved- Concord, Manchester, Nashua, Franklin, Laconia and Peterboro. (Brochures are available on the sign-in table each Sunday.)

What are Action NH's current activities?

TO Educate New Hampshire UU's, keeping them current on social justice issues in our state

TO Support Immigrant Justice in NH

(ICE is imprisoning both recent arrivals and immigrants who have lived in NH for decades. Action NH has helped to raise money to set up a bail fund, in conjunction with the New Hampshire Chapter of the NAACP)

TO Oppose new restrictions on voting rights in New Hampshire.

Concern for SOCIAL JUSTICE is a hallmark of UUism. Being a part of Action NH, and working with them to achieve meaningful goals, should make us proud!

Please contact Tom Maloof if you would like more information. [tommaloof21@gmail.com](mailto:tommaloof21@gmail.com) telephone: 603-526-9889

### **Don't Forget to Vote**

New Hampshire primaries are **February 11<sup>th</sup>**!





## The Secret of Judaism

In Crown Heights, there was a Jew, Yankel, who owned a bakery. He survived the camps. He once said, "You know why it is that I'm alive today? I was a kid, just a teenager at the time. We were on the train, in a boxcar, being taken to Auschwitz. Night came and it was freezing, deathly cold, in that boxcar. The Germans would leave the cars on the side of the tracks overnight, sometimes for days on end without any food, and of course, no blankets to keep us warm," he said. "Sitting next to me was an older Jew – this beloved elderly Jew - from my hometown I recognized, but I had never seen him like this. He was shivering from head to toe, and looked terrible. So I wrapped my arms around him and began rubbing him, to warm him up. I rubbed his arms, his legs, his face, his neck. I begged him to hang on. All night long; I kept the man warm this way. I was tired, I was freezing cold myself, my fingers were numb, but I didn't stop rubbing the heat on to this man's body. Hours and hours went by this way. Finally, night passed, morning came, and the sun began to shine. There was some warmth in the cabin, and then I looked around the car to see some of the other Jews in the car. To my horror, all I could see were frozen bodies, and all I could hear was a deathly silence.

Nobody else in that cabin made it through the night – they died from the frost. Only two people survived: the old man and me... The old man survived because somebody kept him warm; I survived because I was warming somebody else..."

Let me tell you the secret of Judaism. When you warm other people's hearts, you remain warm yourself. When you seek to support, encourage and inspire others; then you discover support, encouragement and inspiration in your own life as well. That, my friends, is "Judaism 101".

## February KREM Collection

During the month of February KUUF will be collecting contributions from our members and friends, and adding our support to KREM (Kearsarge Regional Ecumenical Ministry). KREM is a non-profit association established by churches in New London, NH designed to respond to people in crisis, usually as a result of referrals from local churches, schools, social or private agencies and local or state governments. KREM can be of assistance when individuals or households have experienced...

- *Unexpected loss of income*
- *Accidental Injury or serious illness*
- *Major crises which threaten children or families*
- *Other critical situations for which no other help is available*

For people in need, KREM 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.

There are two ways you can make a donation:

1. There will be an envelope on the guest/membership table for cash or check donations. If you make a donation by check, please make your check **payable to KUUF** and in the memo portion of your check indicate "KREM or
2. You can make a check **payable to KREM** and indicate "KUUF Fellowship" in the memo column This can be mailed directly to:

KREM, PO Box 1465, New London, NH 03257

Thank you in advance for supporting KUUF's efforts to be part of this area's larger community.



## Book Discussion

9:30 AM

February 16, 2020

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### **The Water Dancer**, Ta-Nahisi Coates, 2019

Hiram Walker was born into bondage on a Virginia plantation – the son of the plantation owner and a slave mother who was sold away when he was very young. Hiram was robbed of all memory of her but was gifted with a mysterious power.

This is the unexpected journey that takes Hiram from the corrupt grandeur of Virginia's proud plantations to desperate guerrilla cells in the wilderness, from the coffin of the Deep South to dangerously idealistic movements in the North. The dramatic story of the violent and capricious separation of families- the atrocity inflicted on generations of women, men, and children of color and the war they waged to simply make lives with the people they loved.

**The Water Dancer** is a transcendental work that restores the humanity of those from whom everything was stolen.

Please join us for discussion even if you have not read the book.  
Available at your Public Library or on InterLibrary Loan.

**This is a new book, published 9/19, so place your request ASAP.**

Questions: Marion Allen 526-6776

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#### **Good Reads...**

**Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind**, Yuval Noah Harari, 2018

**A Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border**, Francisco Cantu, 2018

A former US Border Patrol Agent in Texas, Arizona, & New Mexico shares his story.

**The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness**, Michelle Alexander, 2010, 2012.



## **Always Proud, San Francisco: A Brief Gay History**

This is a story we'll all tell 50 years from now: "When I was your age, an iPhone cost \$200. And gay people couldn't get married. Can you imagine?"

Love won. On June 26, 2015 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that marriage equality is a right guaranteed by the 14th Amendment of the Constitution. The decision has been eagerly awaited by the community and city of San Francisco, and the announcement came on the eve of the 45th Pride celebration and parade unfolding in San Francisco that weekend.

As the symbolic heart of gay rights progress for decades, San Francisco has so many reasons to be proud of this moment. The first gay bar. The first gay Pride parade. The first same sex issued marriage license. So many "firsts" in this civil rights struggle have taken place right here.

See the timeline of milestones [here](#).

Social Committee



**February 14** Valentine's Day 6:30pm

Location - TBA

Come and have a date at the movies!

**The Lake House**

Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock (2006)

Fantasy romance about a relationship that forms between an architect and the doctor who lived in his new lakeside house two years previously. Only able to communicate by passing letters into the house's mailbox, the pair begin to fall for each other, but will they ever be together? Hollywood remake of the acclaimed South Korean film `Siworae`.

Appetizers and desserts

BYOB

non alcoholic drinks and paper products will be provided

Sign up on Sunday or call Kathy 208 440 1855 or Yvonne 927-4735

Financial additions to the social fund are welcomed





**PASTORAL CARE TEAM  
CONTACT US FOR YOURSELF OR SOMEONE YOU  
KNOW WHOM MAY ENJOY A VISIT 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 visit, cook a meal, bake some cookies, drive or write a note, please contact Lee Page or Kathy Vashro.

**REACH OUT AND TOUCH SOMEONE**

Make a phone call or a visit to those that are at home sick, lonely, alone.

Thank you to those volunteering their time to reach out and visit with Helen Kennedy. If you are interested in visiting once or once a month, please contact Kathy 208 440 1855.

Doing grocery shopping for those that are having difficulty getting to the store.

Driving those who need assistance to our chapel.

Delivering dinner to those that need a meal.

Thank you!

## **The KUUF Women's Meditation Group**

February 3<sup>rd</sup> – 2:00 to 4.00pm

All Women members and friends of KUUF are welcome.

Questions: Call Fran – 526-9623



## **KUUF Directory Update**

To keep the directory updated, please send the KUUF Administrator your current mailing/physical address, your email address and your phone numbers.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Email: [admin@kuufnh.org](mailto:admin@kuufnh.org)



**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.

## Q: Procaffeinating:



### **COFFEE TIME HOSTS ARE NEEDED – SIGN UP**

If you want to be a Coffee Time Host and you don't have someone to work/play with, Yvonne Howard will find another person to create coffee time with you. Your 'spread' can be simple (cheese, crackers, cookies, fruit) or extravagant (shrimp, cake, meatballs etc). Whatever you want, food and coffee are always appreciated!

**A: The tendency to not start anything until you've had a cup of coffee.**