



Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 1578

New London, NH 03257

(603) 526-8213

www.kuufnh.org

January 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

January 2020

Well the longest night of the year is now behind us and life is getting a little brighter every day. The New Year brings us new things, new life, new surroundings, new habits, new relationships, even new feelings, hopes, and dreams. Everything from now on is new and an opportunity to refresh and re-apply ourselves to those things we want.

A wise woman said:

“Let this coming year be better than all the others. Vow to do some of the things you've always wanted to do but couldn't find the time.” Ann Landers

Along with starting anew, I recognize that we are all faced with change – both welcomed and un-welcomed. Change is also an opportunity for fresh starts. As we all age, we get an opportunity to decide what we are going to do with these changes. I have seen others fight the change, or loss of capability, only to become bitter and frustrated. Others have taken the attitude “it is what it is” and made the best of things they have and moved on. I prefer to wake up in the morning and think about the new opportunities I have and put my energy in a chosen positive direction, a new beginning that I choose!

All the best to you this New Year, and as a UU congregation, enjoy the new questioning, the new search for meaning, the new opportunity to help, and the wonderful camaraderie we share with one another.

Jim Vashro
President, KUUF Board of Trustees

January
KUUF Calendar

January 5	11am	TOM FARMEN
January 12 TWO EVENTS	9:30am 11am	ADULT RE REV. DR. DAVID ROBINS
January 19	11am	REV. KALI FYRE
January 26 TWO EVENTS	9:30am 11am	ADULT RE REV. DICK DUTTON

January 5, 2020 TOM FARMEN

Bessie's Story: Watching the Lights Go Out

An inspiring story about a charming, brave, chocolate Lab who gradually loses her eyesight. From unexpected diagnosis of terminal blindness of his four-year-old pet through the two-and-a-half-year transition to sightlessness, Bessie unwittingly becomes an expert mentor and teacher for the high-wire act of growing older with grace and optimism.

January 12, 2020 REV. DR. DAVID ROBINS

Three UU's Went Sailing Off Kennebunkport When Suddenly!..."

New year's thoughts on UU skeptics, atheists, agnostics, humanists, and the increasing number of "Nones."

January 19, 2020 REV. KALI FYRE

The Heart and Soul of It

For many of us, January is a time of resetting, of reorganizing - the time we make our resolutions to "fix" ourselves or improve our lives. Often our lists fill with things of visual or tangible value so we have a measure of success in the endeavor. However, perhaps something lies hidden beneath the surface, an unseen space that could use a bit of attention and dusting off...?

January 26, 2020 REV. DICK DUTTON

2020 Hope

Reasons for hope – for us, for our nation.



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.

(moving the Membership Ceremony from the third Sunday in October to the Annual Meeting)

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

We may encounter many defeats but we must not be defeated.

Maya Angelou



ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

9:30 AM

January 12 & 26

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

JAN 12	Deism, Science, and Revolution
JAN 26	Hamilton and His Money
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.

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

PICTURES FROM OUR ANNUAL KUUF HOLIDAY PARTY!



cre·do

[ˈkrēdō, ˈkrādō]

NOUN: *A set of fundamental beliefs that guides one's actions:*

An article of faith · one's essential convictions · a code of conduct

ORIGIN: Middle English: Latin, 'I believe.'

Sunday February 9th, 2020

Please join us for this special Sunday service in which members of our church describe their individual CREDO.

This is an opportunity to hear what guides your fellow parishioners in their personal conduct;

Their belief systems that help make the fundamental decisions of their daily lives;

What in their soul helps them get up every morning;

What in difficult, trying times gives them consolation.

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IMPREACHMENT RALLY!

MoveOn.org led a nationwide impeachment rally on Tuesday, Dec 17th. More than 600 local rallies took place around the country. The one in New London was organized by Kathryn Butler and Yvonne Howard.

With only two days to make it happen, approximately 70 people came out, including 7 KUUF'ers, in spite of dangerous snow conditions. As Kathryn noted in her welcome remarks before the rally, this is day is cause for hope for us all.

CLIMATE ACTION RALLY

On Saturday **January 11th**, a rally sponsored by UU Action NH will take place at the UU Church in Concord, called to confront the climate crisis and to work for climate justice in New Hampshire.

Participants will gather from **10:00 to 11 30AM** at the **Concord UU Church** to advocate for laws that support clean energy and green jobs.

If you would like to participate in this UU initiative, call Tom Maloof for more information!

GUEST AT YOUR TABLE
“Women Leaders. Strong Communities”

Martha Woodward will be collecting for the UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) **Guest at Your Table** program.

This year’s theme is
“Women Leaders. Strong Communities”

Here’s a link for more information:

<https://www.uusc.org/resources/congregations/guest-at-your-table/>

Martha will be taking collections through early January.

There will be brochures and collection boxes available on the back table in church. *Martha will collect the boxes* and submit funds with your name and the name of the Fellowship. If you are writing a check to send in one of the envelopes provided, please make it out to **UUSC/Guest**.

Thank you!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARYS

Social Committee

Planning a movie night – late January at the Vashro's.

Biggest Little Farm

A testament to the immense complexity of nature, *The Biggest Little Farm* follows two dreamers and a dog on an odyssey to bring harmony to both their lives and the land.

When the barking of their beloved dog Todd leads to an eviction notice from their tiny LA apartment, John and Molly Chester make a choice that takes them out of the city and onto 200 acres in the foothills of Ventura County, naively endeavoring to build one of the most diverse farms of its kind in complete coexistence with nature. The land they've chosen, however, is utterly depleted of nutrients and suffering from a brutal drought. The film chronicles eight years of daunting work and outsize idealism as they attempt to create the utopia they seek, planting 10,000 orchard trees and over 200 different crops, and bringing in animals of every kind... Written by NEON

KUUF Directory Update

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

Thank you in advance for your help.

Liz Maloof

Tele. 603-526-9889

Email: lizzijo48@gmail.com



Book Discussion

9:30 AM

February 16, 2020

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

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.



Merriam-Webster's Word of the Year 2019

Our Word of the Year for 2019 is *they*. It reflects a surprising fact: even a basic term—a personal pronoun—can rise to the top of our data. Although our lookups are often driven by events in the news, the dictionary is also a primary resource for information about language itself, and the shifting use of *they* has been the subject of increasing study and commentary in recent years. Lookups for *they* increased by 313% in 2019 over the previous year.

English famously lacks a gender-neutral singular pronoun to correspond neatly with singular pronouns like *everyone* or *someone*, and as a consequence *they* has been used for this purpose for over 600 years.

More recently, though, *they* has also been used to refer to one person whose gender identity is nonbinary, a sense that is increasingly common in published, edited text, as well as social media and in daily personal interactions between English speakers. There's no doubt that its use is established in the English language, which is why it was added to the Merriam-Webster.com dictionary this past September.

Nonbinary *they* was also prominent in the news in 2019. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal (WA) revealed in April during a House Judiciary Committee hearing on the Equality Act that her child is gender-nonconforming and uses *they*. Singer Sam Smith announced in September that *they* now prefer *they* and *them* as their third person personal pronouns. And the American Psychological Association's blog officially recommended that singular *they* be preferred in professional writing over "he or she" when the reference is to a person whose gender is unknown or to a person who prefers *they*.

Merriam-webster.com. (2019). *Merriam-Webster's Word of the Year 2019*. [online] Available at: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/words-at-play/word-of-the-year/they> [Accessed 23 Dec. 2019].



**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.

A Gentle Reminder

Please be considerate of people around you at the chapel or an event and of Martha while she is performing. If you must talk during Martha's performances, do so quietly and keep it brief. Your voices may make it difficult to hear speakers or music being played.

Thank you for your mindfulness of your space near friends, guests, and members!

KUUF Directory Update

If your contact information has changed (i.e. address, phone/cell number or email) please let me know. I will be updating the directory sometime the beginning of 2020.

If you are new to KUUF and would like to be included please send me your contact information for the next update.

This information is for members and friends to be in contact with each other and is not shared beyond the KUUF family.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or changes.

Liz Maloof

lizzijo48@gmail.com

603-526-9889



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.

Please consider lending a Helping Hand!

(Will you help write cards to visitors or the ill?)

**Drivers are needed to get our congregants to church.
Help keep our friends and members involved!!**



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: What's the opposite of coffee?



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: Sneazy.