



Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

P.O. Box 1578

New London, NH 03257

(603) 526-8213

www.kuufnh.org

January 2021

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)
Currently meeting via Zoom*

President's Message

January 2021

Welcome to 2021. The new year has come, and I am wondering what the new year will bring! There is no way I would have guessed how 2020 ended up. Here is to hoping a year of good in the world and health to all of us!

KUUF is starting the year off with our annual "Credo" service. If you haven't attended a Credo service before, you may want to. The service is interesting and thought provoking. Members from the congregation (usually 2-3 per service) talk about what their beliefs are, what "gets them up in the morning". I have always found it a great opportunity to get to know some of our fellow KUUF'rs in a deeper way. Join us, January 3, 2021 at 11am via Zoom.

We have other great speakers for the rest of January as well as the rest of the KUUF year. Please join us. If you are not getting the Zoom meeting invites, send a quick email to Rose, our admin at: admin@kuufnh.org. Rose will add you to the weekly Zoom Service invite.

Please stay safe, I know the Covid precautions are getting old but the risk of infection is even more prevalent. As we all wait for vaccinations, take the necessary precautions and wear a mask!

Let's all take this new year as an opportunity to start anew,

Jim Vashro
President KUUF Board of Trustees

January KUUF Calendar

January 3	11am	CREDO Service
January 10	11am	Rev. Kathleen Rusnak
January 17	11am	Tom Maloof
January 18		Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 24	11am	Rev. Dick Dutton
January 31	11am	Phyllis Piotrow

January 3, 2021

CREDO Service

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

January 10, 2021 Rev. Kathleen Rusnak

Appearances: Spiritual Insights of Paranormal Experiences at the End of Life and In Bereavement

The very last experiences of the dying are that of deceased loved one's returning, or angels emerging, to accompany him or her safely over the threshold into life after. The departed often reappear then to the bereaved to give them assurance, strength, and purpose to go on. This spiritual terrain is not reasonable or scientifically provable, yet these experiences happen regularly and can teach us about the spiritual terrain of the living.

Drawing on her work with the dying and bereaved in hospice and on her theological and spiritual reflections and insights, Dr. Rusnak will explore these questions.

January 17, 2021 Tom Maloof

Resilience and Social Justice

The fight for Social Justice in America must overcome a great danger - that we lose faith that the goal can be reached. How do we sustain our optimism?

January 24, 2021 Rev. Dick Dutton

Runners to Your Marks, Get Set, BANG

New beginning for us, church, community, nation.

January 31, 2021 Phyllis Piotrow

One God or Many

What and where I think God is in an abstract and in a more easily visualized way with emphasis on avoiding a historical monotheistic view.



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 -855

Directory Update

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.

*Help us to be the always hopeful
Gardeners of the spirit
Who know that without darkness
Nothing comes to birth
As without light
Nothing flowers.*

May Sarton

Reminder of Area Need

The holiday season has ended but the need is still GREAT in this area. You can continue to make a difference by sending checks to either of the following organizations in our area:

KREM (Kearsarge Regional Ecumenical Ministry) which assists individuals or household who experience unexpected income loss, accidental injury or serious illness, major crises or other critical situations for which no other help is available.....

KREM
PO Box 1465
New London, NH 03257

OR

Kearsarge Lake Sunapee Community Food Pantry which supports many communities in the New London area with their weekly food distributions.....

KLSC Food Pantry
PO Box 536
New London, NH 03257

Your continued generosity acknowledging those in need is a gift that is very much appreciated.

KUUF Social Concerns Committee
Lou Botta, Donna Peirce & Liz Maloof

Discussion Group hosted by The Social Justice Committee of KUUF

Beginning in late January 2021

The Social Justice committee of KUUF is offering an opportunity to explore race issues in America through reading, watching documentaries, and respectful conversation via Zoom. We hope the participants will be eager for exploration, support, disagreement, and sharing honest responses to the material.

This committee is committed to learning and to offering opportunities to explore current issues. The Civil Rights Movement, galvanized by Black Lives Matter, is a force to understand, one that has put forth basic tenets for the white community to grapple with. The act of pondering and discussing these issues can be profound in clarifying where we are individually within this system.

I've been meeting weekly with another small group on this topic because last spring I realized that I don't know much more than the attitudes and stereotypes that I grew up with. The discussions are fascinating and we've created a safe environment to explore our reactions and assessments.

There are many comprehensive resources online now for further exploration of this topic and I would hope that participants will share articles and books for the group to read. I don't want to lead as much as facilitate the group's engagement.

To begin, I've created an outline for the first few weeks as an example (below). This is an extremely flexible plan and will change and adapt to the pace the group is comfortable with. And if you haven't done the reading, your input will still be welcomed.

When a small group has signed up, we can decide on the weekly day and hour. Meeting a short time each week seems to increase the commitment and interest as the conversation continues.

To sign up or to ask questions, please contact Kathryn Butler at kb.19@icloud.com or 978-939-3650. I hope you'll consider joining.

Happy Holidays!

Kathryn Butler and the Social Justice committee of KUUF

First book: So You Want to Talk About Race by Ijeoma Oluo (Seal Press)

First Documentary: The Thirteenth, available on Netflix

Week 1: So You Want to Talk About Race

Introduction So you want to talk about race

Chapter 1 Is it really about race?

Chapter 2 What is racism?

Week 2: So You Want to Talk About Race

Chapter 3 What if I talk about race wrong?

Chapter 4 Why am I always being told to “check my privilege”?

Week 3: Watch the documentary, The Thirteenth



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!



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARYS

January 7 Sandy Wells
January 13 Bob Berquist
January 17 Tom Maloof



LGBTQ+ Books

Winter nights are always the best for reading. But perhaps all this Safer at Home has gotten you through your To Be Read list, or you are looking for some LGBTQ+ rep in what you are reading. Or are you challenging yourself to [read more diversely](#) in 2021? Check out the sites below for some recommendations!

[Best LGBTQ Books of 2020](#) by Oprah Magazine

[LGBTQ Reads](#) – a site dedicated to promoting curated LGBTQIAP+ literature for all ages

[24 Queer Fantasy Books That Should Be On Your Radar](#)

[LGBTQ Memoirs For 2020 Pride Month](#)

Now that you've added *more* to your To Be Read list, here are some links for helping you get a hold of those titles!

[Tracy Memorial Library](#) in New London– offers porch pickup

[Andover Libraries](#) – offers curbside service

[Morgan Hill Bookstore](#) in New London – offers curbside pickup

[Libraries that offer non-resident borrowing privileges](#)

[Libro.fm](#) – you can buy audiobooks and support your local independent bookshop

[Bookshop](#) – an online bookstore with a mission to financially support local, independent bookstores

Happy Reading!



PASTORAL CARE TEAM

**CONTACT US IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW ENJOY
HEARING FROM US.**

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

**Please continue informing us - 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.



Several of the KUUF committees need 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.

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For further information, contact a member of our Finance Committee. Currently serving 2020-2021 are Tom Maloof, Sandy Wells, Henry Howell, and Ken Preston.

Which is quicker, hot or cold?

Hot is quicker because you can catch cold.