

The Call



*The mission of The Call
is to inform, inspire, and
build community.*

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Upper Valley -Different People, Different Beliefs, One Faith / October 2012

President's Message

In the past interim year, Rev. Lee has been instrumental in helping us look at our congregation with fresh eyes and experiment with different ways of doing things. We will miss her wisdom and the compassion of her guidance in the next few months. To keep moving forward, as is her wish and ours, the Board met on September 18th and 27th with the able assistance of consultants from the Northern New England District to make plans to not only survive but to thrive in spite Rev. Lee's absence. We developed an ambitious set of goals for the year which I have listed below. Obviously we will need the help of every friend and member of the congregation to accomplish these goals – but I know that we can do it. We are a big-hearted, talented and committed community. Adversity has sharpened our focus and provided us with the potential to truly come together to build a better future. We are energized and hopeful and so grateful for the support that has poured in both for Lee and for our endeavors. Let us know what you think of our agenda for the year and how you would like to help.

- Prepare for the next step in ministry, whether a third year of interim ministry or a developmental minister, by completing the goals of this interim period – developing our unique covenant, mission and vision.
- Offer weekly, meaningful Sunday services.
- Acknowledge our need for our own sacred space by searching for temporary rental venues while planning for a permanent home. (The Norwich Congregational Church has informed us that even if our negotiations with them are successful, we would not be able to move services to that locale until January 1st).
- Ensure our financial stability by supporting fundraising efforts and providing support and guidance to the Stewardship Campaign
- Enhance thoughtful, informative, clear and inspired communication using a broad range of modes.
- Initiate conversations about our beloved community, acknowledging our sorrow and healing our pain from the recent loss of so many of our members due to death, moves, or mandate and using the opportunity to explore our values with intention, honesty, and depth.
- Fulfill our legal and moral obligations to Lee during her illness.
- Ensure that there is a full slate of board members and committee chairs by the annual meeting.
- Practice Joy with intentionality.

Bless you all.

Cappy Nunlist, President

A Month of Sundays

Dear Friends,

As you might imagine, the Board and Sunday Services Committee have had many conversations about keeping our Sunday morning services as meaningful, fulfilling, and engaging as ever. Yes, these are challenging times, but we are a resilient congregation. Already we have seen evidence of the capabilities and care that run deep in our community.

And we are not alone. The Northern New England District and individual ministers quickly contacted us with offers of support including assistance in finding speakers for our services.

Please contact the Sunday Services Committee if you have suggestions or questions about our Sunday morning services, (mmshaw04@gmail.com). Please consider these opportunities to volunteer—hosting a service, being a reader, providing music. We also have two relatively small requests: volunteering to bring flowers (sign-up sheet is usually on the refreshment table) and volunteering to bring in the sign from the end of the driveway (awkward but not very heavy).

Thank you,

Marty Shaw, Sunday Services Chair

October 7,14,21 to be determined. October 28.....Thresholds, Doorways, Gateways, and Crossroads

This multigenerational worship experience will include blessing our loved ones who have died and preparing ourselves for the dark season. Please bring a memento of someone who has passed to add to our altar if you wish.
~ with Sparrow F. Alden preaching

Sunday School News



Dear Friends,

I miss Lee. She's doing hard, extraordinary work that I cannot begin to imagine. I find that the Meeting House echoes just a bit, knowing that I'm not going to hear the door creak open to her this week.

Please know that your cards and letters and prayers and good works in her name are absolutely helping her. I've been lighting a chalice each morning at 9, thinking of Lee and holding her in that light as I move through my day. When I'm at the Meeting House, I use the chalice-in-brass-circles, found in the meeting room, for this purpose. There's a glass chalice beside it. That's for you. If you would like me to hold you in that light as well, just place a stone there when you can, or let me or Rachel know to place a stone for you. If you would like to add your caring to the light and your strength to the chalice of this congregation, also place your own stone in person or through me.

Most of all, I am grateful - and I know that Lee is grateful - for the volunteering, the caring, the filling-in-the gaps, the TLC for our congregation that everyone has extended to pull together.

This is the UUCUV at its finest - doing the hard work of moving the congregation forward, responding with kindness and cooperation with one another, holding each other responsible.

Thank you,

Sparrow



Thank you, Congregation, for your kind reception of the service on September 23rd on *The Hobbit*. I went a little way out on a limb with that one, and your support of my idea means a great deal to me. - Sparrow

October in Sunday School:

October 7th - join Sparrow in learning a new song from our children's hymnal!

October 14th - Honored Guest Nikko the Therapy Dog and his handlers will join us to explore the Third Principle: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth. Our LILAC Youth group will be Laughing In Library At Church during Sunday school, and will get some special time with Nikko during coffee hour.

October 21st - wear your sweaters, jeans and hiking shoes! It's time for our Autumnal walk with sketch journals and all our senses. Join the Shains and Sparrow for a beautiful day outdoors!

October 28th - all kids are expected in the multigenerational service - there will be singing, dancing, and blessing. Bring a memento of someone who has died to add to our altar if you wish.

Parents as Spiritual Guides will continue to meet through October 21st. New folks welcome.

Coffee Urns Needed

The Hospitality Committee needs 2 more coffee urns that make up to 30 cups. The present ones are in bad shape and one has stopped working. We would appreciate a donation if anyone has an urn they aren't using. Thanks!

--Babette Hansen, Hospitality Chair

Path of Science to Mysticism

Join Phil Kern in following up his July worship service topic. Several people have requested the chance to explore this material more deeply.

Help Phil plan by emailing or calling the office to let Sparrow know what times, days, and formats work best for you (she will coordinate).

Thank You to NNED

Thank you to the Northern New England District of the UUA, which has gotten ministers who can help in communication with our Sunday Services Committee.

Library Update

By Olive MacGregor, Library Committee Chair

Polly Gould, Olive MacGregor, and Margo Nutt met at the Meeting House after church on Sunday, September 9, 2012. We looked at about twenty potential donations and kept half for the collection. We already had several of the items, one was a VHS videocassette, a format which we no longer accept, and we used one donation to replace a book which had water damage. On one shelf we found two books under a candle - *A Passion for the Possible*, by William Sloan Coffin and *The Other Islam*, by Stephen Schwartz. We didn't know if these were meant to be donations. There was no note. If you know about either of these books, please call me at (603) 448-2289.

In the future we plan to process the donations we are keeping, look at the collection for weeding, and rearrange the shelves. I appreciate Margo's book reviews. Thank you to Lee for donating a copy of Ginger Wallis's new book.

Church Events Calendar

Our up-to-date online calendar can be found by clicking on "See Full Calendar" on our home page at

www.uucuv.org

The next Call newsletter deadline will be October 14, for the November issue.

Please send your submissions to Rachel at office@uucuv.org

Book Review

By Margo Nutt



A Gentle & Curious Path: Through Cancer to Points Unknown

By Ginger Wallis

This wonderfully inspiring book is not just for people with cancer, or for people with friends or family who have cancer. It is a book about Life with a capital L. It contains reflections on how to appreciate every day; how to enjoy the little things (re-growing eyelashes after chemo, for instance); how to be in the present moment; how to get through the dark times (whatever they may be) with equanimity. It contains practical ideas to help you or someone you love deal with the fear, grief or worry associated with a life-threatening illness. Our Ginger is a beautiful soul, and she conveys this through her beautiful writing.

Ways & Means Events

By Lori Fortini, Ways & Means Chair

I have put together an overview of our upcoming fund raising events and tentative dates for the winter and spring. I tweaked the starting/ending times of some of the events and may have to do some more tweaking as we go. I will keep you all updated.

But for now here is what is coming right up:

Marian Shields Memorial Apple Peeling Party for the Harvest Bake Sale:

October 20, 2012 from 9:30 to noon at the Meeting House

Fellowship and preparing apples for pies together. This was started by our dear Marian Shields. We want to continue this tradition and keep Marian's memory alive. What could be better? We need a few people to donate apples, and everyone is invited to bring peelers, bowls, and trays. We sit and peel and cut apples and bag a pies worth for distribution to our bakers. Good simple pleasure. Many hands make light work. In the past we have had a light lunch available. If there is an interest, we could have a bag lunch or potluck after the peeling.

The peeled apples (which can be frozen) will be distributed on Sunday 10/21 with pie tins to those people making pies or other apple goodies for the sale on 10/27.



Annual Harvest Bake Sale and Upscale Resale:

October 27, 2012 from 8:30 AM to 1 PM at the Meeting House

The combination of the Upscale Resale with Harvest Bake Sale is one of our key fund raisers and our first event of the church year.

The Harvest Bake Sale is a tradition started by Marian and Arnold Shields. This is a popular event for discerning pie and apple lovers. Last year a visitor let us know that he looks for this sale every year. He even came in with his fork in his shirt pocket because he was planning to start eating his pie on the ride home!

We welcome any food made with fall's bounty – pies, breads, preserves, or pickles. Anything goes, but apple pies seem to sell the best! We sell the pies for \$1.00 an inch.

The Upscale Resale is better than your average yard sale.

Monday, October 22 through Friday, October 26 from 5 to 8 PM we will be at the Meeting House to collect all items (no clothes or computer/electronics please). Please let us know if you need to have things picked up or if you need to drop things at the Meeting House other than the evening hours. We will need people to help us to organize and price everything on those evenings.

We will hold the sale inside the Meeting House with larger items on the front porch and lawn weather permitting. We will need a core group of people to help at the Meeting House on the day of the sale to sell, sell, and sell.

Ways & Means Events (Continued)

Events in November

(See articles in this issue of The Call)

The elders of our congregation are planning to participate in the Five Church Holiday Bazaar by making and selling stocking stuffers.

And of course the largest money-raising event at the UUCUV will be the Pods for the Pulpit Craft Fair on the weekend after Thanksgiving. Sally Page is organizing this event with Mary Layton helping with the lunch for the crafters. We still need a group to take on selling raffle tickets at the sale.

Save the dates for after the holidays:

Tentative dates for our Soupathons for the season –

December 7, 2012 and February 8, 2013

Fall is pretty packed this year but our fund raising efforts would not be complete without a couple of Soupathons. Mark your calendars to plan to contribute to our winter dinners of homemade soup and desserts. This is a wonderful social event that brings people to our Meeting House for a great night of fellowship and good comfort food. Homemade soup, breads, and desserts - all you can eat.

Our other efforts will be working the concessions at a couple of Dartmouth Men's Hockey games, our annual Book and Music Sale, and a Super Salad Bar in the spring.

Hockey dates have just been decided: December 1 and January 26, with helpers needed at 5:45 PM for a game at 7 PM.

For more information about these events or to sign up to help, please contact Lori Fortini at la14e@valley.net or (603) 448-2936. If anyone has ideas or passion for Ways and Means, please let me know!



Five Church Bazaar November 10th, Norwich Congregational Church

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE WORKING AWAY—the Bazaar is coming up quickly. Join the Sunday after-church work group at the Meeting House all Sunday afternoons during OCTOBER. The focus this year is on items for stuffing into a Christmas Stocking. Bring your own project or work on one I have planned. All ages welcome.

--Elaine Backus (802) 763-2476

NEEDED: You, with your lunch if you wish. We'll make coffee, tea, etc.

STILL NEEDED:

Cardboard rollers from TP

Leftover or new contact paper

Small bags of Heshey's kisses, peppermint patties, or any small wrapped candies

Bird seed: one small bag, one large bag

18th Annual Pods for the Pulpit Craft Fair

**TRACY HALL, NORWICH VERMONT
FRIDAY & SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23 & 24 from 10 AM TO 4 PM**

By Sally Page

On November 23 and 24 we will have our 18th Annual Pods for the Pulpit Crafts Fair. PODS is UUCUV's most lucrative fund raiser; last year we raised \$8,400, an all time high. 50% of the net proceeds from Pods for the Pulpit was donated to charitable organizations instrumental in helping with the Irene disaster, namely LISTEN, the Haven and COVER.

The lion's share of the work has been done. Most booth spaces are sold, posters and cards are printed, and publicity will be taken care of. Help is needed in four areas; getting the word out, making soup or desserts for the lunch, working a shift or two at the fair, and coordinating the Raffle. Sign up sheets will be at services in late October.

RAFFLE:

In lieu of an admission fee, we have a raffle which brings in a significant amount of revenue. Matt Brown, one of our artists, has once again donated a color woodblock print. Matt Brown's generosity makes this fairly easy, as the prints are lovely and people willingly purchase tickets. We will, however, fall short of our goal of raising \$2,500 on the raffle if we don't have a coordinator. Who will step forward to do this? Call Sally Page at (603) 653-5344 for more details.

GETTING THE WORD OUT:

We have post cards in the form of a mini poster and ask that each member or friend mail or hand them to at least ten non-UU friends. We will also ask that you consider e-mailing friends telling them about the fair. Word of mouth is our best form of publicity. Once experiencing a fair people keep coming back, but often it is a personal reminder that gets them there. Cards will be available at services.

LUNCH:

A lunch of soup, bread, and desserts is provided for craftspeople and volunteers. This hospitality is greatly appreciated and is one of the things that makes our artisans faithful to the fair. We provide a recipe for Jane Brody's Lentil Brown Rice Soup (known as Crafts Fair Soup!) which is simple and delicious. It can be made ahead and frozen, but is best brought in warm. Mary Layton will head up the lunch. Thank you Mary!

WORKING AT THE FAIR:

We need help in setting up and breaking down the fair, serving lunch, booth sitting, and selling raffle tickets

Look for sign up sheets at services.



Tenth Anniversary Restoration of the Spirit-in-Nature Path

By Phil Kern

In the first week in October we have a wonderful opportunity to engage in a community volunteer activity that is doubly to our own benefit. On Wednesday, October 3, from 8 to 1, four volunteers from King Arthur Flour's Community Service program will join us to help replace the rotted and broken planks that pave parts of the woodland section of our Spirit-in-Nature Path. The 16-foot 2 x 10 planks that are stored in the Meeting House basement must be carried up to the yard, cut in half, and nailed in pairs to supporting end cross-pieces. They will be used to replace all of the 15 plank pairs now on the path, and the old ones must be carried out to the road for disposal. If time and energy are sufficient, we might build and place another dozen plank pairs in additional persistently wet places not now covered. The King Arthur volunteers are needed to help our aging path team with the strenuous work of carrying all those large and heavy planks.

There is also plenty of work for the rest of us old and feeble folk, helping settle the plank units in place, cutting and nailing the wood, trimming the path, and perhaps placing some path markers and inspirational signs. Together we can put the path back into its original state. We would also appreciate contributions to a lunch that will be provided to the workers and/or drinks and snacks to sustain them on the job. Come help renew our Spirit-in-Nature Path in time for its tenth anniversary. The day will conclude with a celebratory walking tour of the restored path at 1 PM.

This opportunity has been made possible for us through the efforts of John Taylor of the Upper Valley Trails Alliance, with whom we are partners, and Barbara Sleeper, the volunteer coordinator at King Arthur.

Elder Luncheon

Life is a Journey--Beginning to End

**October 16 12:30pm
at the Meeting House**

At the September luncheon all present voted to continue the group after Elaine moves to Connecticut in December. **New format--bring your own brown bag lunch October 16th.** Beverage and dessert will be provided.

Eva Smith volunteered to send a postcard reminder to those who have been attending. New folks always welcome. Call Eva at (802) 295-8735 and let her know you will be coming.

This is a regular luncheon on third Tuesdays to talk about what needs exist for those of us who spend our later years living in the Upper Valley. Let us come together to share lunch and discuss what brings us and others joy as well as concerns. The fun is in the interesting conversation and fellowship. We never know where the talk will take us!

Cares and Concerns Update

By Elaine Backus, Cares and Concerns Committee Chair

REMEMBER:

- Rev. Lee, who is still not up to seeing visitors, but would love to hear from you. You may send cards to her home address: 171 Campbell Rd., Bethel, VT 05032.
- Nancy Martin--at DHMC but please send cards to her home, and keep her in your prayers.
- Marjorie Hybels at Brookside Nursing Home, who would welcome visitors, cards and notes.
- Arnold Shields, who is living at Grafton County Nursing Home in Haverill, with notes, cards, visits or calls to (603) 787-6971
- Babette Hansen's sister Jeanette will be here from NJ recovering from foot surgery and participating in our congregation. Feel free to send cards via Babette.

Remember with your thoughts and prayers those in our midst who have had recent problems. Urgent needs will be on our message board at Sunday Worship.

News from Our Partner Church in Mukhap



Dear Polly and all our friends in UUCUV

I am sorry for being so late to communicate. I already read your email and we are appreciative of every information and photos shared by you. Hope you have solved the problems which occur in the last few months. Always believe that our life is not perfect, but the main thing is to accept our mistakes by understanding and respecting one another. We also pray to god that your dream will come true to have a beautiful church building as we have it here through cooperation between the members.

As a march for the celebration of 125th year of Unitarians in Northeast India, the women's wing (seng kynthei) organized a special program of debate, drawing and painting on 18.08.12. The participants were divided into two groups according to their age, Group 1- Ages between 7-10 years and their theme was Chalice. There were 23 participants in this group. Group-2 Ages between 11-14 years and their theme was Deforestation leads to destruction of environment. There were 12 participants in this group.

(continued next page)

Partner Church News (continued)



The function started at 9.30 A.M morning and a short service was held to inaugurate it.

After it was over, the participants went straight to their respective rooms to display their talent in drawing and painting. The Debate on the topic of the environment was held after the first session was completed. There are 16 participants who express their ideas and opinions in this topic, 8 participants were on motion and 8 participants were on opposition's side.



Before the prize distribution to the winner, we had light refreshment which was sponsored by some ladies.

Partner Church News (continued)



Interestingly even the prizes were donated by some member of the Church.

We hope such type of program will help young children and youth to have gain confidence and talents and to be uniting.

As usual we have come near to our special month i.e. 18 September (Anniversary day). Every evening we have Home visiting, and preparation in various program regarding this day is going on.

Hope each one of you is in a good health and I send you best wishes.

Khublei

Hehbok Sonroy Shadap

About the UUCUV

Board of Directors

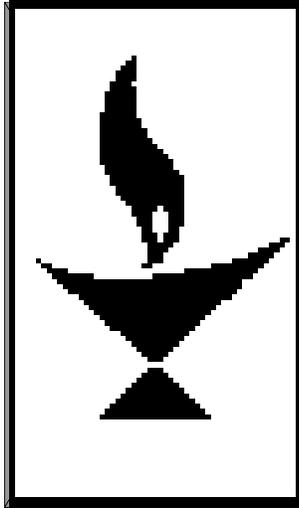
Cappy Nunlist, President
Bill Brawley, Vice President
Christine McDonough, Secretary
Lucy Taylor, Treasurer
Karen Kluge, Member-at-Large
Dan Mendelsohn, Member-at-Large
Jamie Gibson, Member-at-Large

Staff

The Rev. Lee Devoe, Interim Minister
Sparrow F. Alden,
Credentialed Religious Educator
Linda Hoover, Choir Director
Rachel Clark, Office Admin.

UUCUV Committee Chairs

Cares & Concerns: Elaine Backus
Communications: Bill Brawley
Finance: Mark Laser
Hospitality: Babette Hansen
Investment: Peter Christie
Leadership Development:
Lori Fortini
Librarian: Olive MacGregor
Meeting House: open
Membership: Kathy Christie
Partner Church: Polly Gould
Stewardship Canvass: Claudia Kern
and Suzanne Simon
Sunday Services: Marty Shaw
Ways and Means: Lori Fortini



OUR MISSION: The UUCUV is a liberal religious community that:

- Welcomes and supports all who search for meaning and truth.
- Celebrates and respects life in all its diversity.
- Nurtures honesty, love, and freedom in people of all ages.
- Fosters spiritual growth and promotes compassionate social action; and
- Expresses Unitarian Universalist ideals, views and heritage to the community at large.

The UUCUV is a part of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The UUA is a religious organization that combines two traditions: the Universalists, organized in 1793, and the Unitarians, organized in 1825. The two denominations merged in 1961, but both trace their roots back hundreds of years, to the Unitarian view of the unity (as opposed to trinity) of God, and the Universalist belief that everyone is eligible for heaven and salvation.

SUNDAY SERVICES: Services are held at the Marion Cross School in Norwich, VT, at 10 a.m.. every Sunday from September through mid June. (Look for the sign at the school's driveway on the right as you enter Norwich on Main Street.)

MINISTER: Rev. Lee Devoe is on an extended sick leave. We look forward to welcoming her back in January, 2013.

TO CONTACT THE DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Call Sparrow F. S. Alden at (603) 359-8426, or e-mail her at education@uucuv.org

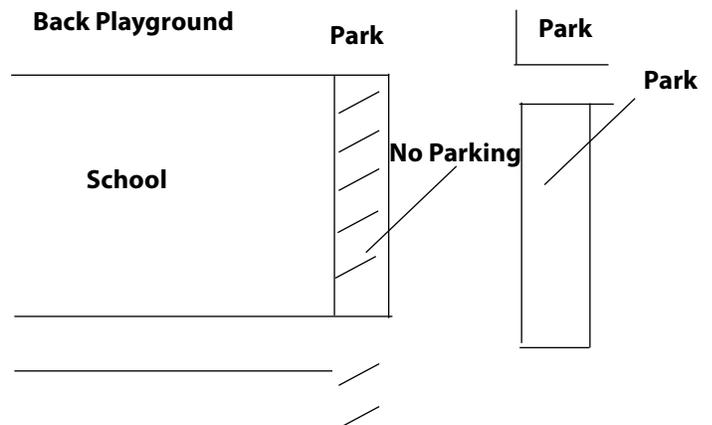
MEETING HOUSE: Located on Route 5 South in Norwich opposite The Family Place, the Greek Revival farmhouse contains our offices and meeting spaces. Office hours at the Meeting House are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9-12, unless otherwise posted.

CARES AND CONCERNS: With cares and concerns, please call Elaine Backus at (802) 763-2476.

NEWSLETTER: The Call, our monthly e-newsletter, is available upon request. Contact the office at (802) 649-8828, or e-mail office@uucuv.org with the usual details, including a phone number.

Parking at Marion Cross School

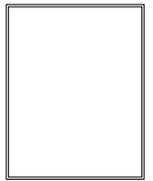
Because we are not able to establish official HANDICAPPED and VISITOR PARKING, we need to create temporary spaces for every Sunday service at the Marion Cross School. Those of you who are able, please park in the back parking lot. Please consider the 10 spaces nearest the sidewalk to the lobby reserved for visitors and those who cannot easily walk the distance to the school entrance. PLEASE KEEP FIRE LANE CLEAR! Whenever necessary, drivers can always drive up to the entrance to drop off passengers.



Unitarian-Universalist Congregation
of the Upper Valley

PO Box 1110

Norwich, VT 05055



We are

**A Green Sanctuary,
A Welcoming Congregation,
and A Partner Church**



Photos from Mukhap

UUCUV Phone: (802) 649-8828

Web: <http://www.uucuv.org>

E-mail: office@uucuv.org

Harvest Bake Sale/Upscale Resale Oct. 27

