



# The UU News

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington, Vermont

"We gather to inspire spiritual growth, care for each other and our community, seek truth, and act for justice."

June 5, 2011 -  
Entire Summer, 2011

## Calendar

### Sunday, June 5

8:30 RE Classroom Clean-up  
10:00 Worship Service  
11:15 Annual Meeting  
1:00 Coming of Age  
5:00 Alanon

### Monday, June 6

\*\*\*\*\* Zen (Call office for time.)  
9:00 Mondays at Martha's SGM

### Tuesday, June 7

10:00 Seekers SGM  
10:30 Library Committee  
12:00 Staff Lunch

### Wednesday, June 8

9:00 Staff Meeting  
6:00 Sapere Aude SGM  
6:00 Music Committee  
7:00 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, June 9

10:00 SGM Steering Committee  
11:00 Coaching Meeting  
6:00 Finding Our Truth SGM

### Friday, June 10

5:00 UU Dungeons & Dragons  
6:30 AA Men's Group

### Saturday, June 11

### Sunday, June 12

10:00 Worship Service  
5:00 Alanon  
6:00 Youth Meeting

### Monday, June 13

\*\*\*\*\* Zen (Call office for time)

### Tuesday, June 14

9:00 Joyful Parenting SGM  
9:00 Finance Committee  
10:00 Sprouts SGM  
12:00 Staff Lunch  
5:30 Property Committee

### Wednesday, June 15

7:00 Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, June 16

11:00 Coaching Meeting  
3:45 Creative Spirit SGM

### Friday, June 17

6:00 Mysteries SGM  
6:30 AA Men's Group  
7:30 Dawna Hammers Concert

### Saturday, June 18

9:00 Wise Together SGM

### Sunday, June 19

10:00 Worship Service  
5:00 Alanon

## Newsletter Schedule Update

In this year of many changes we have decided to offer a Mid-Summer Newsletter to keep everyone updated on the latest and greatest news. If you would like to submit an article for this special edition newsletter, please email it to Kathleen at [office@uusociety.org](mailto:office@uusociety.org) by the deadline of 9am on Monday, July 25, 2011.

## Minister's Musings

Dear Friends,

The time to say good-bye is getting very close, very real, and very tender on my heart. We have traveled a long and difficult road together; full of challenges many of us would have preferred not to embrace. And yet we have embraced them, and, I pray and believe, we have learned from them. Like the Velveteen Rabbit, rubbed raw, but loving together in a new way.

Remember Scott Peck's theory of the four stages of building up a strong, healthy community: forming, storming, norming, and performing. I suspect most of you would agree, we're in the storm, and have been for much of this year. Being there is just about the hardest place to be – in a family, in a community, even as an individual; and yes, in a community of faith.

FUUSB prides itself on being an intentionally diverse community. Embracing diversity means learning how to listen to, absorb ideas, and ultimately find common ground with people whose perspectives are wildly different from your own; exactly what we've all been doing this year.

Peck's point is clear: in order to become a strong, healthy community, you have to be willing to go through the storming stage...the chaotic stage in which all the different opinions are being expressed in all kinds of ways, and by many people who have the best interests of the community at heart; just with differing perspectives.

You have dared to do this work, and I think you're at the tipping point, ready to say, "Let's start looking at the ground we share, the principles we share, the vision we share, the longing we share to be working together for the good of the whole congregation AND the good of the wider community we live in. We have important work to do...together."

Rachel Barenblat has written a poem about the conversation God had with Moses from the burning bush, when he instructed Moses to lead the people out of Egypt. Think of God, perhaps, as the spirit of this congregation you are building together, as the spirit says, in part:

I am becoming who I am becoming  
It is time for you to do the same  
Pick up your staff now  
And make yourself ready  
The journey ahead is long  
And generations will comb their stories  
To learn how you tied your shoes

And how to lead the people  
With compassion and with vision  
As you are about to do.

This is your religious home. Together, now, you are embarking on that long, scary, wonderful journey to lead it through the wilderness to the place you want it to become. I pray you a safe, satisfying, gentle, and inspiring journey. Thank you with all my heart for the gifts of your caring, of yourselves and your kind hearts you have given to me, to us all, along the journey.

In faith,

## Upcoming Sundays

### Sunday, June 5, 10am

#### One service only

**"Annual Youth Sunday"** Today, there will be one service at 10 AM, planned and led entirely by the members of our high school "Yuuth" Group. This year's theme is "Morning." We will do a bridging ceremony to welcome the incoming ninth graders, as well as bidding farewell to graduates. The service will include our Coming of Age participants' sharing of their Credo's with the congregation. Hope to see you there!

### Sunday, June 12, 10am

**"For All the Saints"** And Flower Communion! Bring flowers from your garden to share; we'll gather them in vases on the chancel before worship begins, and take them home after the year-end pot luck. In this final and multigenerational service of the formal worship calendar, Rev. Olivia will reflect on the blessings of the year. The congregation will also welcome new members. This will be a joyful occasion.

## Annual Meeting

Please set aside this date on your calendar! Our Annual Meeting will take place on June 5, 2011 at 11:15am following the 10:00 am Youth Service. Registration will take place starting at 9:40am. Child care will be available during the meeting (please see accompanying notice about child care in this newsletter) and refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting. This Annual Meeting is going to be an especially important one as we vote to adopt a new slate of officers and difficult budget decisions as we move forward to 2011-2012. It is critical that all members are present to make their voices heard.

Linda Gross, Board President



## Message from Martha



Summer camp.

What comes to mind for you when you read that pair of words? What do you see, smell, hear, feel, and taste at the idea of summer camp?

Among many things for me, summer camp connotes a kind of *release*. A whole bunch of rules and fetters that apply from Labor Day to Memorial Day just let go, it seems, and there's a freedom for trying new things, taking risks, experimenting, and letting down our usual guard. It's no wonder that when I see children after the summer, they often *look* surprisingly different. Summer's verdant, prolific ways insist we partake in this annual *growth of soul*.

To steep in a Unitarian Universalist summer camp experience, many folks in New England flock to either Ferry Beach in Maine, or Star Island, in New Hampshire. There is also Unirondack in upstate New York and Rowe Camp in Massachusetts. Cu2c2.org is the website for the Council of Unitarian Universalist Camps and Conferences. It provides basic information and links to websites for UU camps across the U.S.

Recently, I've learned of several families who will be attending a UU camp this summer, and I'm so tickled to hear it because I myself have had so many enriching and memorable experiences as an adult at UU camps! Lucy and I will again be attending the Lifespan RE Week at Star Island, which is not at all just for RE professionals! All sorts of UUs go! And I'll very likely be helping to lead a weeklong UU youth leadership school at Ferry Beach, too – a chance to work with that fresh, wild, and optimistic spirit of teens!

All of this, to me, is summer camp: late nights, early mornings, naps in the sun, singing songs that make you howl and sob, holding hands, campfires, trust games, deep sharing, ice cream, Frisbee, skits, crafts, lots of reading, noticing the wildlife, bug bites, making new friends, and reconnecting with old ones.

I hope each and every one of you gets a little summer camp time this summer – UU-style or otherwise -- so those wild eager tendrils of your soul can stretch and twine into new sunshine!

Martha Dallas,  
Director of Religious Education

## Childcare for the June 5, 2011 Annual Meeting

There is only one service on June 5 which will be held at 10:00 A.M. Worship will be at **10 am** for the annual youth service. No RE classes are scheduled and children ages preschool and up will be with us in the sanctuary for the full service. Nursery care, however, will be available for infants and toddlers. The annual meeting will start at 11:15 and child care and supervised activities for older children will be available. If you will need childcare during the Annual Meeting, please bring your children to the Nursery after the service and check in with childcare staff who will need to know the names and ages of children in their care. They will also inform you where supervised activities will take place. The Annual Meeting will start in the Sanctuary promptly at 11:15. During the meeting there will be food for children; following the meeting there will be a reception with refreshments. Questions? Linda Gross 865-0038 or Martha Dallas (863-2438, ext. 28.

## Care Network Outreach

The FUUSB Care Network folks and Rev. Elaine are available to visit, support and listen during times of difficulty and illness. So we may follow up with Joys and Sorrows entered into the notebook available to you on Sunday mornings, you are encouraged to add your name to entries you make in the book; if you do NOT wish your name to be read during the service but would appreciate contact from a Minister or the Network, you may write your name to the side of the entry. And, as always, you may contact Rev. Elaine or the Care Network Chair, Linda Ayer, directly and confidentially via e-mail or a call. If you or a loved-one find yourselves in Fletcher Allen, let the hospital staff know you are a Unitarian Universalist; Rev. Elaine will be alerted when she checks the list of patients and can visit you there. The strength of our community rests upon our care for one another. Those interested in participating in this grounding and rewarding pastoral ministry are encouraged to contact Linda Ayer or Rev. Elaine.

## Partner Church News

We are very pleased to announce the exciting news that our Partner Church minister, Zoltan Koppandi, has been awarded the Balazs Scholarship for a year of study at Starr King in California. He and his family are coming to the states, and we hope to find time and a way for them to visit us. We are considering some type of fund raiser in the fall to enable their visit.

Bill Suiter

## 2011 Summer Services

Sunday mornings of fellowship, music, heartening words and inspirational reflection continue June through mid-August with Summer Services. Enjoy informal (come as you are!) services at 10 a.m., with child care and creative activities offered for younger folks.

(Greeters, Readers and Musicians, your participation is welcome and appreciated; contact the service leader.)

**June 19** Stephen Rainville celebrates FATHER'S DAY Contact Stephen if you have stories, poetry or music about fathers and fatherly figures to share (343-9546 or [stephen@stephenandburns.com](mailto:stephen@stephenandburns.com)). Musicians: Sheefra, Celtic music on Harp and Concertina

**June 26** Reverend Elaine will lead the Unitarian Universalist Flower Celebration. Please bring a flower (or 2, or more!) from your garden or the wild for this moving service. Flower helpers (all ages) are needed, please contact Rev. Elaine. Dawna Hammers, Musician

**July 3** "Summer Music and Poetry" An FUUSB favorite coordinated by Bridget Meyer. Celebrate summer by sharing your writing, reading or musical talent. Contact Bridget if you would like to participate: [bmeyer1038@aol.com](mailto:bmeyer1038@aol.com).

**July 10** Reverend Elaine and guitarist Keith Penniman share their smooth, jazzy, folksy music and reflections for a summer morning.

**July 17** "Spiritualism" Explore the outer limits with Reverend Elaine as we consider: What is Spiritualism, and what do Unitarian Universalists have in common with Spiritualists?

**July 24** The Humanist Small Group, Sapere Aude, leads our service. Musicians: Sheefra, Celtic music

**July 31** Ken Swearingen offers warm, engaging wisdom, complemented by the inspiring music of Tom Cleary and Amber deLaurentis.

**August 7** "Creating Truth" Unitarian Universalist minister Rev. Erica Baron and her grandmother, FUUSB member Jeanne Parsley lead our service, with music from Dawna Hammers.

**August 14** "Heal Our Earth, Heal Ourselves" Members passionate about Green concerns reflect on climate change, encouraging us to tap our UU faith and community to realize nourishment in sacrifice, find peace despite an unknown future, and cultivate seeds for sustainability. Tom Cleary, Musician

**First Unitarian Universalist  
Society**  
**862-5630**

*Olivia Holmes,  
Interim Senior Minister*

*Elaine Bomford,  
Assistant Minister*

*Linda Gross,  
Board President*

*Martha Dallas, Director  
of Religious Education*

*David McFeeters,  
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*Christina Fulton,  
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*Kathleen Kemp,  
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## Hello FUUSB!

My name is Kristin Cadwalader, the new Youth Programs Coordinator - and I couldn't be happier working with our high school youth! I was involved with my own UU youth group at Skylands Fellowship in Hackettstown, NJ; it was an incredible experience. I feel there is no better way to learn the beauty of the UU principles than through exploration with peers in an environment full of love and acceptance. It is my goal to help create this safe environment with youth where they can explore who they are, ask those deep questions, and of course have tons of fun while doing it!

We are looking forward to seeing you all at Youth Sunday on June 5th at 10:00 am. If you have any questions about what the Youth Group does, or if you would like to be involved (teens or adults!) please get in touch with me!

~Kristin, [youth@uusociety.org](mailto:youth@uusociety.org)

## Blue Books

All Committee Chairs and Board Members: Please bring your Blue Book to the Annual Meeting on June 5. Updates and changes to the Blue Books are made during the summer so that they are ready to hand out in the fall. If you will not be at the Annual Meeting, please drop off your Blue Book in the main office as soon as possible. Thank you!

*Kathleen Kemp,  
Administrative Assistant*

## Congratulations New Legacy Society Members!

Established in 2009 by the Board of Trustees and then minister Gary Kowalski, the purpose of the Planned Giving Committee is to seek bequests and planned gifts from members and friends of the First UU Society, to grow the Society's endowment funds to help preserve and protect the historic building and perpetuate the mission of the First UU Society of Burlington. The Planned Giving Committee initiated the First UU Legacy Society to celebrate the first two hundred years of our congregation's founding.

The goal of the Planned Giving Committee is to boost the Society's endowment assets over the next twenty years. Throughout a sustained initiative that goal eventually will be realized when at least 200 members and friends of our congregation include the First UU in their estate plans.

This year under the able leadership first of Martha Fitzgerald and now Janice Lange, 13 additional members have joined the First UU Legacy Society: Aileen Chutter, Robert Chutter, Deborah DeLadurantaye, Cheryl Herrick, Lois Holbrook, Shirley McLane, Nick Nixon, Anne Nixon, Elaine Sopchak, Kathy Stamper, Tony Stamper, Peg Twitchell, and one anonymous donor. As of April 2011, a total of 67 members and friends of our congregation are members of the First UU Legacy Society. We deeply thank all Legacy Society Members for their vision, generosity, and dedication to the future of the First UU Society of Burlington.

Committee members are: Gene Ashley, Sally Conrad, Martha Fitzgerald, Janice Lange, Nick Nixon, Jerry Packard, and Tom Porter, with help from Debby Bergh, Linda Gross, and Karen Tronsgard-Scott. We thank all for their dedicated work this past year. We also thank Christina Fulton for her on-going, tireless assistance. We urge anyone interested in Planned Giving and the Legacy Society to contact the Chair Janice Lange or any member of the Planned Giving Committee.

## JUMP Needs Food All Summer!

JUMP doesn't close down in the summer. The clients come year-round, looking for many kinds of support from the staff and volunteers. The JUMP shelves still need baby food and rice cereal over the summer. So, please consider a final donation of these baby supplies before you go on summer break from FUUSB. Thank you!

## Book Group

The book group will hold one summer meeting, both afternoon and evening group people are invited and welcome. We will meet at the UU on Tuesday, July 19 at 12 noon. Please bring a sandwich and a book you liked recently, or are currently reading, and/or ideas for books for next year. *Gerry Quinlan*

## New Members!

Please join the membership committee in welcoming the following new members into our society. These members have joined since our last new member ceremony in November. Below you will find their names and some words they have used to describe themselves. They will be formally welcomed into our society at a New Member Ceremony during the service on June 12.

*Nancy Freeze*, caregiver, widow, laid back mother, RN, long term friend, passion for caring for people with dementia

*Nina Wyatt Harrington*, loving wife and mother of two wonderful children, also a new grandmother of a beautiful little girl

*Courtney Scott*, mother, scientist, knitter, searching for balance and meaning

*Melissa Brooks*, loving mother, loyal friend, enjoys travel, reading and good food, cares about the earth and feels most peaceful when surrounded by nature

*Danielle Rochford*, active in the community, diligent worker, enjoys learning new things

*Henry and Rachel Schek*, focused on family, home and hobbies that start with, "Make my own . . . ."

*Kristin Cadwalader*, aspiring gardener, outdoor adventurer, lover of people, wants to make the world a better place

*Paula Fives-Taylor*, gardening, flower arrangement, computer, hospice, cooking, travel

*Mike Nichols, Michele Grimm, and Meaghan McEntee*

Jeff Byam, Membership Committee

## SAC Summer Meeting

The SAC will hold its annual summer meeting on Sunday, August 21, at the home of Maggi Hayes in Williston, Vermont. This is an opportunity for all interested to bring their ideas and enthusiasm for the committee in the coming year. It is a day of lively discussion, calendar organization and other planning activities. We are a very active group and welcome new members with new thoughts. If you have a particular interest or just want to find out more about us, please join us. The day will begin with coffee and light goodies at 9:30am, then discussions, a break for a yummy potluck lunch and then a bit more planning until approximately 4pm. Come and add your voice to the group! For further information, contact me at [mehayes@uvm.edu](mailto:mehayes@uvm.edu) or 878-4418

*Maggi Hayes  
for the Social Action Committee*



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## New Member Recognition

June 12 will be a very special Sunday for our congregation. We will be welcoming new members who have joined the First UU since last November. We will also be wishing a fond farewell to Rev. Olivia. If all this isn't enough, it is also the last official Sunday of our regular church year. So much to appreciate and celebrate! Please join us after the service for a potluck picnic. If you are going to attend please let me know how many will be in your party and what dish you will be bringing, (dessert, main course, salad, etc.) Finger food usually works really well. If you are a new member or if you are a staff member, the picnic is on us. Come and enjoy some fine food and conversation.

*-submitted by Jeff Byam [jeffbyam@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffbyam@yahoo.com), (802) 399-2112*

## Coming of Age Offered Next Year!

Coming of Age (CoA), a UU program supporting and acknowledging the passage from youth to adulthood, will be offered again next year to all youth in grades ten through twelve. "Rising" sophomores are especially encouraged to consider doing it, at the advice of our current participants! If your child is a "rising" tenth, eleventh, or twelfth-grader, please discuss CoA with them. Direct any questions to me, Martha Dallas, or to Lucy Bogue, youth advisor, or to Erin Marvin-Riley and Aaron Schlossberg, this year's participants. There will be a chance at the Youth Group overnight on May 27th, to discuss it more. Most importantly, if youth think they might be interested for next year, please let me know! *Martha Dallas*

## Office Schedule Change

We will close the office during the following times to accommodate Staff Coaching Meetings:

June 16	10:45 – 12:45
June 23	10:45 – 12:45
June 30	10:45 – 12:45

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and give thanks for this precious time to work together without interruption!

## Annual RE Classroom Clean-Up

Many hands make light work!

RE stewards : Please mark your calendars for June 5 @8:30am as the time to help tidy up all Religious Education classroom spaces for the summer! Children are welcome to join in the fun! Then we can all go up to the fabulous Youth Group Service @10:00. Contact Martha Dallas with questions, [martha@uusociety.org](mailto:martha@uusociety.org).

## Summer Office Hours

During the summer we go down to a skeleton crew. Those of us that work through the summer like to take vacation time. Therefore, please note our reduced summer hours. For the most part, these are the hours that the building will be open. However, if you are making a special trip to the meeting house, please call ahead as there may be times when the staff is on vacation and the building closed. Beginning on Monday, June 20, the building will be open Monday through Thursday from 9am - 2pm. If you come during these hours and the door is locked, please ring the bell. If a staff person is alone in the building, they will keep the door locked. We return to normal business hours (M-Th, 8:30 - 4) on Monday, August 22.

## Here Comes the Sun

Are you ready for this? Is the First UU ready to go solar? The short answer is . . . maybe. A potential solar project is in the works. The proposal is for a solar carport to be put up in the back parking lot. Anonymous donors and a state incentive for solar would pick up the cost. It would provide up to 100% of our electricity needs. It would save the church \$4,500 annually and it would reduce our carbon footprint by almost 15,000 lbs. Potentially it could serve as an inspiration for others to go solar. So what is the catch? There really isn't one . . . other than we need to move quick enough to secure the funding yet we also need to make sure that we have the right proposal for this church with all of the important questions answered. If you have any questions, comments or concerns about this project please feel free to contact me at any time [jeffbyam@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffbyam@yahoo.com) (802) 399-2112 -submitted by Jeff Byam