

MAY
2020

Parish Notes

The Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord



WARRANT

May 31st, 2020

CONNECTING IN LOVE AND SERVICE
GROWING SPIRITUALLY
TRANSFORMING OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

To all members of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Church will be held on Sunday, May 31st, 2020 at 11:30 am to consider and act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1 To receive and accept the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting and the Special Congregational Meeting of December 22, 2019.

ARTICLE 2 To designate the use of an anticipated surplus in the 2019-20 budget as follows:

- Up to \$5000 will be used to replace our fire alarm panel.
- The remainder will be used as operating income for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

ARTICLE 3 To adopt a budget for 2020-21.

ARTICLE 4 To receive and accept the Slate of Candidates for the Board of Trustees, Officers, and Trust Fund Committee.

ARTICLE 5 To receive and accept the Annual Reports published in the Annual Meeting Prep Packet.

ARTICLE 6 To act upon such additional business as may appropriately be brought before the meeting.

Anne Drewniak
Board of Trustees Chair

Interested people are welcome to come to the meeting and may speak when properly recognized by the moderator, but may not vote unless their name is included on the list of members provided 15 days in advance of the meeting, pursuant to Article IV, Section 4 of the Church's Bylaws.

May Worship Services

Livestream our worship services at concorduu.org/live

Online services stream at 10 am each Sunday followed by interactive Zoom Room offerings. Each week's service theme will be published in our weekly eBulletin.



SECOND HOUR

| LEARNING

| SERVICE

| PRACTICE

STAY CONNECTED

Weekly offerings will be listed with Zoom links in the eBulletin, on the Live Stream page each Sunday, and on the church calendar.

Call for Summer Service Proposals!

Rev. Lyn Marshall will be helping us continue our tradition of lay led summer services - by offering staff support to help move it to an on-line format for as long as necessary. If you have an idea for a summer service you would like to lead, if you have musical gifts you would like to share, or if you'd like to be involved in some way but aren't quite sure what it would be, please get in touch with Lyn at lyn@concorduu.org.

Stay at home order

In keeping with the stay at home order issued by Governor Sununu, all in-person activities at the church are suspended until at least May 31. The building is closed. This timing may be extended as more becomes known about the outbreak, but it will not be shortened.

We want you to know we are still here for you! You can contact our ministers on their cell phones or email for pastoral care; our Caring Circle Leads are reaching out to our members and friends by phone; we have Couriers ready to bring you supplies if you are home-bound; and our staff can help you set up a Zoom meeting to stay connected.

Electronic Giving for Health & Safety

Electronic donations will be the church's lifeblood while we all are staying home to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. Set up your pledge for automatic payment at <https://concorduu.org/get-involved/donate/> or by logging into your Breeze account.

By the way, if you don't have a Breeze account, please email breeze@concorduu.org to get one. It allows you to look up our Members and Friends so you can stay in touch from a distance.

If you are mailing checks, please be patient as we will not be processing them as quickly as usual.

Caring Circles Update

by *Lea Smith*

In response to the COVID19 epidemic, our Caring Circles launched at the end of March. We divided all 300 households on our list of Members and Friends into Caring Circles of 9-10 households. Each Caring Circle has a Caring Circle Lead who checks in with Circle members to see if they are healthy, in need of practical support such as groceries, or could use some pastoral care. Practical or pastoral needs are relayed to Lea Smith, who lines up a Supply Courier, Minister, or Pastoral Care Associate to help.

Please keep contact info for your Circle Lead handy. Even if you don't think you need them checking up on you now, your situation could change quickly if you get sick. Give them a call and ask for help! They can arrange for someone to bring you chicken broth, ginger ale, and even toilet paper! That's what we are here for! If you don't know who your Circle Lead is, email Lea at lea@concorduu.org to find out.

As of April 28, we have provided practical assistance with shopping or other errands to 18 congregants, and financial assistance to several congregants. We have run at least 23 individual errands. In addition, some of our Couriers are helping someone out on a recurring basis, like weekly shopping. For more info about Caring Circles, go to <https://concorduu.org/get-involved/helping-and-healing/caring-circles-program/>

An unanticipated blessing of these Circles is the connections between Leads and their Circle members, people who otherwise might not have gotten to know one another. We have heard stories of Zoom discussions on shared interests, book swaps, and people anxiously awaiting the end of the epidemic so they can meet in person!

Help Concord's Refugees be Counted in Census, From Your Home

Here's a great and enjoyable way to help our community while the coronavirus has us cooped up at home.

Overcomers Refugee Services (ORS) is seeking a few volunteers to help count refugee families in this year's census. The volunteers will team with bilingual youth translators to interview ORS clients via 3-way phone calls – and then, if comfortable with a computer, enter the information collected into the Census database. They're also looking for a team leader (or co-leaders) to help recruit, train and monitor five or more adult volunteers and match them with their translators, and possibly one or two others to do the database entry only.

This short-term "Complete Census Count" project will initiate ORS's new volunteer strategy of teaming volunteers with bilingual translators to assist refugee families in various ways. For more information, email or call UUFOR Chair David Canfield at dwcandfield1@gmail.com or 240-988-8710.

Board of Trustees April Meeting Highlights

This month the Board:

- Planned the Holy Conversations Pilot Project and the process for potentially conducting the Annual Meeting online.
- Downing Trust distributions were announced as follows: each UU congregation in New Hampshire will receive \$600 and UU Action NH will receive \$6,700.



Budget Forums

May 21 at 6 pm and
May 24 after worship

Check out the proposed budget that will be in our Annual Meeting Prep Packet published shortly after **May 1**. Then attend a Budget Forum to hear details about this proposed budget and get your questions answered. By attending one of these Forums, you will be prepared to vote on the proposed budget at Annual Meeting on May 31.

Connecting in Love & Service



UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VIRTUAL GA | JUNE 24-28, 2020

Rooted, Inspired, and Ready! General Assembly 2020

General Assembly is the national annual gathering of the congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association. In light of the coronavirus, 2020 General Assembly will be a 100% virtual event, June 24-28. GA includes several worship services, the Ware Lecture by award-winning journalist Naomi Klein, interactive workshops, and meetings to conduct UUA business. Because a virtual GA is much cheaper than usual, the church is offering to pay the \$150 registration fee for the 6 Voting Delegates that will represent us at GA. Voting Delegates will be able to propose amendments in the live business sessions, participate in debates, and vote in general sessions. If you would like to be a delegate, please contact Betsy Black, betsy.black333@gmail.com.

Our process for selecting our delegates is as follows:

- 1 spot for the Chair of the Board of Trustees.
- 3 spots for Leaders (Board of Trustees, Officers, Operations Leadership Team) (if more than 3 apply, pull names from hat. If not selected, name does NOT go into the Members at Large hat, unless there are fewer than 2 Members at Large applying.)
- 2 spots for Members at Large (if more than 2 apply, pull names from hat)

Our requirements for our Delegates are:

- Must have been a Voting Member of Concord UU for at least two years.
- Must make attendance at General Sessions (business meetings) a priority.
- Review materials provided by the UUA in advance of meeting to be informed on issues for vote.
- Vote in line with your conscience, but get input from congregation and fellow Concord UU delegates.
- Delegates are expected to report back to the congregation in any format they prefer: Parish Notes, a segment at worship, informal chat, etc. Deadline for report is: Oct 15 for GA, last worship service of church year for District Meeting

If you don't qualify to be a delegate or it doesn't interest you, we still encourage you to virtually attend GA. The church may have additional funds to help non-delegates - ask Lea Smith, lea@concorduu.org for more info.

Registration for General Assembly is the same process for delegates and non-delegates. For more info and to register, go to <https://www.uua.org/ga>

Church Receives Payment Protection Program Forgivable Loan

The federal coronavirus relief package included a low-interest loan program for small businesses and non-profits to help them retain staff during this economically challenging time. If those who receive this loan maintain their pre-coronavirus staffing levels through June 30, the loan is forgiven (i.e. becomes a grant.) The church received a loan of about \$59,000 via Eastern Bank and we expect it will be forgiven.

This will allow us to ensure that all our staff do not face financial hardship while the building is closed (including those who are not working or are working reduced hours.) It will cover lost revenue such as lost rentals, reduced Auction income, the cancelation of the Yard Sale, and a May targeted appeal that we have to abandon. And it will help cushion the blow next church year, when some congregants may have to reduce their pledges because of the economic impacts of COVID19.

This was only possible due to very fast action on the parts of Treasurer Karen Mayo, Custodian of Trust Funds Jack Wakelin, Finance Team Member Cathy Menard, Board Chair Anne Drewniak, Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger, and Lea Smith. A huge thank you for their work in parsing out this complicated federal program to submit our application in a timely manner, while each was enduring their own challenges brought on by the stay-at-home order. We are truly blessed to have people who are so dedicated to the short- and long-term financial health of our congregation so we can continue to be a source of care in the world.

RED ROVER, RED ROVER, SEND IT ON OVER

We would love to publish some uplifting stories that you have witnessed, poems, and art that you are making during this time of reflection and creativity. Please share writings & high resolution images to ParishNotes@ConcordUU.org

2020 Auction and TALENT SHOW

Viral Edition

FEATURING: You , You, and You

Bring your talents to the forefront!

LIVE & Prerecorded performances welcomed.

Donations | Items | Services | Events*

WHEN: Sunday, June 14 at 11 a.m.

DETAILS:

Fill out a form for each donation and performance.
Then start practicing!

[Auction Donation Form](#) | Due 5/24

[Talent Show Performance Form](#) | Due 6/7

**In planning your gathering or service offering please use your best judgment keeping possible COVID-19 developments in mind.*

New or like new donated items worth at least \$25 value welcomed.



Growing Spiritually, Staying Connected

by Rev. Lyn Marshall

What a month it has been, and the month ahead still holds so much uncertainty and change! It has been amazing to watch our community figure out how to stay connected in love and service, how to continue to grow spiritually during this shock to so many of our systems, and how to find new ways to transform ourselves and our world. I have been moved to laughter and to tears by the sharing in our Zoom groups after church and throughout the week, I have been deeply touched by the generosity you have made manifest in gifts to the community plate; gifts of your time to check in on each other; gifts of service to help our most vulnerable congregants get what they need without leaving home; gifts of creativity and beauty as you make and distribute masks both within and beyond the congregation... In addition to the various groups that have moved on line, there are some new ways to connect!



**CONCORD UU
KIDS
CONNECT!**

**Concord UU Kids Connect!
Wednesdays
4-5:00 pm**

Started on April 29, we have a Wednesday “Church Kids Connect” meeting from **4:00-5:00 pm** weekly. All families who are registered for church school should receive a link, and others may contact Lyn to receive a link if you have children who would like to participate. The gatherings will include a story, a time for sharing, and a short activity.

Have You Checked Out Our YouTube Channel

We have testimonies, poetry, choir moments, worship services, and hopefully lots more to add soon. Please visit and follow our channel. Also, share some of your favorite moments by sending links via email or on your Facebook page to friends and family. We hope to keep adding to it for posterity and so others can see what a wonderful supportive community we have here. [Click here](#) to visit. Thank you.



Pandemic Parenting Check-In Tuesdays, 8:30-9:30 pm

If you are a parent or grandparent involved in homeschooling, juggling work from home while kids are also home 24/7, I encourage you to join our Pandemic Parenting group that meets on Tuesdays at 8:30 pm on Zoom.

Join Rev. Lyn Marshall and other UU parents to check in, offer mutual support, and share creative solutions to 24/7 family life. [Sign up here](#) to receive a Zoom invitation.



Concord UU Connects Facebook Group

This group is open to all active members and friends of the church. We'd love to have you join us in all the fun.

If you're on Facebook and would like a way to connect with church friends informally, please search for Concord UU Connects and ask to join. Unlike the church Facebook page which is available to the public, this group is just for members and friends. We've been sharing photographs of pets, selfies, artwork, and baby pictures.

[Click here](#) to find us and request to join.

Meet Our Newest Members

Dana A. Hook

Hello Concord UU Church. My name is Dana Hook & I am new to the church. I live in Franklin, NH with my husband Brian Parent. We have been together for 21 years. We have two children- (2 cats actually) - Zoe & Cassie. I work for Dead River Company as a routing specialist in Bristol, NH. We recently bought our house in Franklin last July (2019). It has a large yard which I enjoy taking care of. I love to walk in my spare time. Pleasant Lake in New London, NH is my favorite route. It is 5 ½ miles around the lake which is comprised of large second homes & tranquil scenery. I have been pleasantly surprised by Concord UU Church. The organization of activities is top notch. I am a worker bee so you will find me helping out with coffee hour, luncheons after worship & whatever else is going on. I am looking forward to getting to know more of you in the future months. Peace & Joy to all of you. †



Brian Parent

I joined Concord Unitarian Universalist and then they told me I had to write a bio, sigh! I can't lie to you, I think they are boring so I will make mine brief. Married to Dana Hook, speak French and English, love the outdoors, laughing, refinishing furniture, triathlons, hanging out with friends and family, movies, cooking, and sharing food. I also love to advocate for a debt-free and plant-based lifestyle. **Ladies and gentlemen this isn't an e-harmony profile, I am married, see above.** Looking forward to getting to know you, although I will not read your bio! †



Molly Morgan

From suburban Detroit, born to a large Catholic family (60 cousins!), I went to an all-girl Catholic high school. As a result, I left to attend UC Santa Cruz. There, I met my husband, Tom, where we (literally) lived in the woods while I studied Environmental Studies and led backpacking trips.

In 1999, I migrated to Colorado so Tom could pursue his Master's in Poetics at Naropa Institute, a Buddhist University. I have been practicing Buddhism ever since. Loving travel, I taught for a few years at Mountain

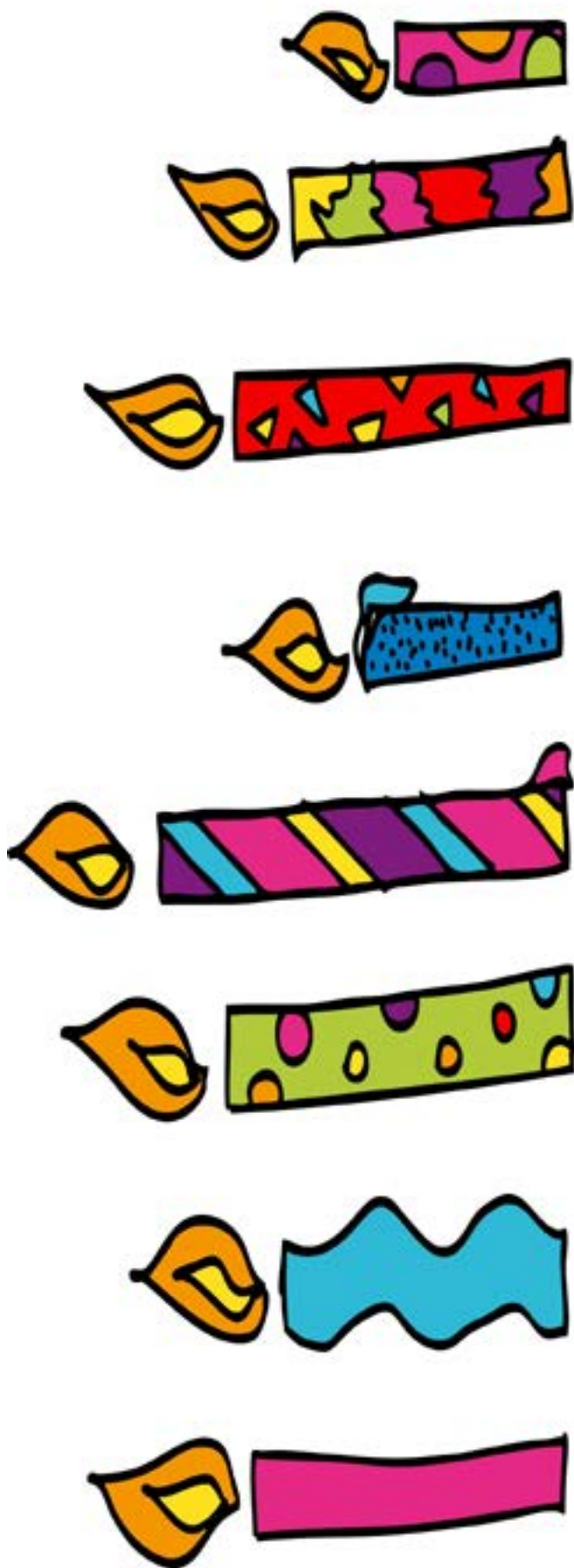
Classroom (Proctor Academy), a unique academic program that takes 10 teens out West to camp and learn for a term. I later earned my Master's degree in Science Education from Antioch University. Then, for some reason (Catholic roots?), Tom and I decided to have 3 kids in 3.5 years. We have been deep into parenting 3 active, smart, contrary, neuro-diverse kids: Linden (11), Ember (10) and Azalea (8) ever since.

For the last 7 years, I have attended retreats and teachings at Wonderwell in Springfield, and will continue to do so. However, I struggled with finding ways to include our young children into our Buddhist practice. I am excited for all the amazing youth programs Concord UU has to offer.

I live with Tom, our 3 wiley kids, our Pomsy, "Snowy", a corn snake, cat, and 3 newly-acquired chicks, in Andover, NH where Tom teaches English at Proctor and I run a small tutoring business. We are all passionate environmentalists (check out KidsCare4PolarBears). I am elated to be a part of such an inclusive, diverse congregation that embraces social justice and environmental activism so enthusiastically. †

MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Be sure to stay connected through Breeze to easily email or call members & friends to wish them a happy birthday.



- May 02Tom Herbert
- May 04Laurie Meyer
- May 04Scott Pollard
- May 05Maya Clough
- May 06Hilary Thomson
- May 07Crystal Kennard-Emery
- May 09Aiden Munro
- May 09Clark Todd
- May 10Sara Butcher
- May 11.....Brenda Rowe
- May 12Joyce Bennett
- May 12Sue Moyer
- May 13Ruth Axelrod
- May 13Andrea Baird
- May 16.....Lisa Cassell
- May 17Jakob Ingersoll
- May 19.....Rose Koladish
- May 19.....Nicholas Dupre
- May 20Aric Stratton
- May 20Dorian Blackburn
- May 23.....Eleanor Bond
- May 26Oliver Dickinson
- May 26Darlene Olivo
- May 27.....Cristina Taylor
- May 28Marin Smith
- May 29Gail Rueggeberg
- May 31Brackett Scheffy
- May 31.....Grace Ann Kontak

May Special Events & Ongoing Events

Please see our calendar online for the most up-to-date listing of events happening through Zoom:
www.concorduu.org/calendar

Remember to keep your eBulletin for private Zoom links

Longtime Members Breakfast | Sharing Stories Virtually | May 31 @ 9:15

Virtual Annual Meeting | May 31 @ 11:30

Family Village Camp-in | unfortunately will be cancelled this year. Though we encourage camping in your backyard for a fun time! Share pictures too! We'd love to see you.



Yardsale & Plant Sale Cancelled

Due to the difficulty in all the logistics surrounding the Corona Virus we are sad to report we won't be having our annual Plant & Yard Sale.

We certainly look forward to having the Downies bring it back next Spring! Until then here are some plants that you can color to brighten your day.





Check out our Livestream

If you are traveling or sick, or want to share our service with friends from afar, check out our livestream every Sunday at <https://concorduu.org/live/>. You can even post comments during or after the service that are visible to others, helping to build our “virtual community.”

We appreciate your patience and feedback as we work out technical glitches with our livestream. If you experience trouble that you think is on the church’s end, please post the trouble in the comments on the livestream page - an office volunteer or staff person will keep an eye on the comments and if they see trouble, they will try to resolve the issue.

After hour Zoom links can be found at <https://concorduu.org/after-service-offerings/>

Staff

Senior Minister | Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger
715-7557 (cell), michael@concorduu.org

Minister of Lifespan Faith Development
Rev. Lyn Marshall
224-0291 x3(office) 568-8084 (cell),
lyn@concorduu.org

Accompanist | Calvin Herst
calvin@concorduu.org

Dir. of Membership & Administration | Lea Smith
224-0291 x4 lea@concorduu.org

Office Administrator | Heidi Page
224-0291 x2 heidi@concorduu.org

Facility Manager | Kathie Martin
717-5268 (emergencies only)

Officers

Moderator | Barbara Keshen

Clerk | Sara McNeil

Treasurer | Karen Mayo

Custodian of Trust Funds | Jack Wakelin

Assistant Treasurer | Beth Corcoran

Assistant Treasurer | Lorraine Ellis

Board of Trustees

Chair | Anne Drewniak

Vice-Chair | Ann Hoey

Secretary | Zoe Picard

Kelly Mahony

Jeff Fetter

Parish Notes Deadline Schedule:

ISSUE	DUE
May	Mon. May 20

Please email articles and images by end of day to ParishNotes@ConcordUU.org

eBulletin

Information for the upcoming week's events, happenings, and announcements are due at 6 pm on Wednesdays of each week.

Please email short articles and images to ebulletin@ConcordUU.org

Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

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www.concorduu.org

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