

**MAY  
2021**

# Parish Notes

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord



## **What's in a Story?**

**A Reflection by Rev. Scott Tayler, Soul Matters Team Lead**

**S**tories don't just embellish our lives; they make and even dictate our lives. This might be the most important reminder of this month. Indeed, who of us hasn't felt controlled by a story? Stuck in a story? Hopeless about the way our story will end up? Simply put, our stories often write us as much as we write them.

For instance, author Rachel Naomi Remen talks about how her family clings to the childhood story of her being "the clumsy one of the family." Ask all her friends and colleagues and they will describe her as graceful. They've never once seen her trip over her own feet or drop something, ever. And yet, somehow, when she goes to her parents' house or back to a family reunion, she spills coffee on at least one outfit, stubs more than one toe and trips on more steps than she can count. By trying so hard to escape her family's narrative about clumsy little Naomi, she inevitably slips into it anew. Talk about the power of story!

Or think about our current struggles with economic or racial justice. The unconscionable income gap is often described as "natural" or "the result of complex global dynamics over which we have little control." Similarly, the story of race in our country is too often told with an "entrenched" story arc or celebrated as "having come so far." The aim of all these cultural narratives is the same: to undermine action, and worse, to undermine our belief that action can change things.

So let's tell a new story! This is the message of our faith. We have a choice, it tells us. Our stories are not predetermined! Remember that old theological debate for which our UU forebearers gave their lives? All around them people were saying that God had predestined not just the big story of humanity,

but our individual stories too. Supposedly, some of us were slotted for heaven and others for hell. And God had written the list in ink. Nothing any of us could do about it.

"Well," said our spiritual ancestors, "that's a bit harsh, don't you think?!" Forget this extreme fate-driven story, they said. Freedom has a much bigger role than we're giving it credit for. God is not so much the author of the story as she is the magical muse that needles and nags us to put our own stamp on the narratives before us.

Shakespeare said, "All the world's a stage." Our spiritual ancestors might have offered a friendly amendment and said, "All the world is an improv show! Our job is to hop on the stage and make up the script as we go!" So fate and freedom. This month is much more about the tension between these two than one might have thought, leaving us with questions like: Are you an actor conforming to the scripts handed to you? Or have you found your own way of becoming the director or screenwriter of your life? How are you struggling right now to regain control of your storyline? How are you and your friends working to regain control of the storyline of our community? Our country?

Or maybe taking back control is not your task at this time. Maybe your spiritual work is instead about finding a new storyline. Maybe retirement, divorce, illness or the empty-nest has closed the book on one story and is inviting you to leap into a whole new narrative. Does that leave you excited about what's to come? Scared? A bit of both?

Whatever it is. Wherever you are at. Don't give the storyline away. That's the message of our faith. And hopefully the gift of this month.

## Sunday Morning Schedule

### 9:45am | Pre-Worship Ingathering on [Zoom Link](#)

Once the service starts we will close the Zoom room for the duration of the service.

### 10:00am | Worship Service [Live Stream Link](#)

To connect with others during the service you can:

- use the "chat" feature that's to the right of the livestream window,
- choose a fullscreen option at the lower right of the live stream window to hide the chat if you find it distracting.

### Service end time until 11:30 | Informal Social Hour on [Zoom Link](#)

### 11:30am to 12:30pm | One or two programs on Zoom

- One program will be in the same Zoom room that Ingathering and Social Hour happened. [Main Zoom Link](#)
- On second and third Sundays each month, there will be a Spiritual Practice in our "Zoom Meditation Hall." Guided meditation or movement practices such as yoga will be offered. [Second Zoom Link](#)
- The Second Hour program Zoom links are available at <https://concorduu.org/after-service-offerings/> by Sunday morning. They are usually also in your eBulletin.

## Are you having trouble viewing the Sunday Live Stream?

### *Here are some tips.*

- Every Sunday we begin our livestream at 9:45 with our "COVID Diary" slideshow, and some music. The service itself begins at 10:00 sharp.
- If you tune in after 9:45 and click the "play" button, the stream will play from the beginning. This means you will get 15 minutes of slideshow before the service begins.
- To catch up to the live moment, hover on the toolbar at the bottom of the livestream window, and click the red "Live" link.
- If you are still having trouble, try refreshing your browser window. You may need to do it more than once.
- And finally, there are lots of experts monitoring the chat window! Ask your questions in the live chat for quick help.

## **MAY Worship Services | Theme "Stories"**

**Live stream our worship services at [concorduu.org/live](https://concorduu.org/live)**



### **5/2/2021 “What Good Are Blackflies?,” Dr. R. Laurence (Larry) Davis**

May’s theme is stories. While most people don’t think of them as such, scientists are storytellers too. They read the rocks, the plants and animals, the chemistry and physics of the Earth and the Universe and create stories that explain what they are observing. Today we will listen to stories about blackflies and those other annoying insect pests that seem to plague us at this time of year. It is not what you think.

Dr. R. Laurence Davis is Professor Emeritus of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of New Haven. He is also Associate Head of Nature Programs at Camp Pemigewasset in Wentworth, NH where he served as Director of this program for over 50 years. He currently serves on the Board of the New Hampshire Environmental Educators and is Science Coordinator for the Northeastern Cave Conservancy. He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America and has been presented the Non-formal Environmental Educator Award by the New England Environmental Education Alliance. He has been a member of the Concord UU Church since 2019.

Our first Sunday drop-in covenant group will focus on our monthly theme of “Story.” All are invited to participate. Revs. Lyn Marshall & Michael Leuchtenberger will facilitate.

### **5/9/2021 “Old People Are Cool - Part 1,” Youth Group**

Our Youth Group decided to reach out to elders in the congregation to hear their stories. What stories did they hear? What did they learn from their conversations? Come find out in this special youth-led, elder-inspired service why old people are cool.

### **5/16/2021 “Old People Are Cool - Part 2,” Youth Group**

Our Youth Group decided to reach out to elders in the congregation to hear their stories. What stories did they hear? What did they learn from their conversations? Come find out in Part 2 of our special youth-led, elder-inspired service why old people are cool.

### **5/23/2021 “Tell Me A (UU) Story,” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger**

We are our stories - the way we tell them, the way we listen to them, the way we pass them up and down the generations. So what are our stories as Unitarian Universalists? Come hear a range of well-known, barely known, reframed, falsely claimed, surprising, outdated, presently emerging stories that may make you cry, angry, proud, curious, doubtful, and hopefully ready to engage more fully as a UU in the larger narrative of our world.

### **5/30/2021 “The Casualties of Language,” Rev. Lyn Marshall**

This Memorial Day weekend, Rev. Lyn Marshall will explore how the stories we tell of war and violence impact who we are as a nation. Everyday conversation is often laced with the language of war as we declare war on everything from terror to insects. What happens to our stories if we change the language we use to tell them?



## Coming in June: Flower Communion!

If you are new to our congregation, we'd love to include you in a long-standing tradition that is celebrated in many UU churches: Flower Communion! If we were in person, we would celebrate by bringing flowers to exchange. Since its Year 2 of on-line Flower Communion, we will exchange our flowers virtually. If you DID NOT submit a picture of yourself with one or more flowers last year, please send us one this year! (Or if you sent a picture last year you want to update, you may send another.)

Your picture should show your beautiful face & lovely flower up close, preferably with the camera held vertically. Pictures should be emailed to [lyn@concorduu.org](mailto:lyn@concorduu.org) by **Sunday, June 6** to be included in the June 13 Flower Communion slideshow.





## Beltane Ritual

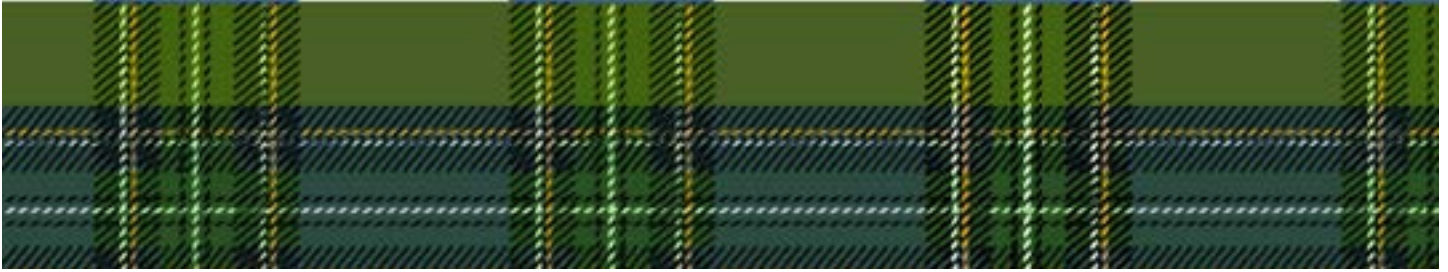
Saturday, May 1, 2021 from 7-8 pm | Rain Date Sunday, May 2

***Sorry but this event is at full capacity.***

Beltane, sometimes called May Day, is the celebration of the beginning of Summer and height of Spring. The Earth is humming with fertility. It is mating season for animals, insects and birds. Flowers blossom, butterflies and bees are busy playing their part. Life springs forth as the Sun warms the land.

On the wheel of the year Beltane falls opposite to Samhain, the last ritual we performed. Whereas on Samhain we recognize and honor the necessity of death, Beltane is a celebration of life and fertility returning to the world. It is a fire festival, a time of purification and renewal. Join us as we open the Grove and the gates to Summer.

This event will be held outside in the grove so we can put up the maypole. So please pray for great weather! The UU is still limiting the number of people who can attend events. Sorry that it is closed to any more sign ups.



## We Second That Opinion!

***“I think all these UU mask makers deserve recognition in our church community.”***

-David Canfield

We assume you know of the amazing team of Concord Women's Club members and friends -- including UU's --produced over 16,000 COVID face masks this past year for about 125 organizations and individuals. Christy Dolat Bartlett, Paula Van de Werken, and Fran Philippe all played major roles.

Project leader Debbie DePuyster accepted a "Special Community Service Citation" by the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce on behalf of her 30-member team. See the YouTube "Citizen of the Year Awards" presentations. The "Masker-Aiders" presentation culminated in the event. Julia Freeman-Woolpert was involved in another mask project that produced about 300 masks for the Concord's Deaf community.

[Click here](#) to watch and start at 28 min (10 min. long) for the full Masker-Aiders' award presentation....

**Thank you all for keeping so many safe in our community!**

---

## Structural Repairs - some complete, more to come

Thank you to Chris Graham of Galloping Horse, Inc, for finishing structural repairs to support the Fellowship Hall roof, for much less than we anticipated. In May 2019 the congregation authorized up to \$30,000 to be taken from the endowment for these repairs, but the project only cost about \$16,000.

We're not done yet though! Our building is about 60 years old and showing its age. There is a rotten corner post behind the building (outside Michael's office) that needs repair/replacement, and rotten wood within the cellar stairwell from an old roof leak which has since been repaired. Franz Vail is getting bids for these repairs. In addition, Lea Smith is

seeking masonry bids to repoint the chimney, which is in poor condition, causing leaks into the kitchenette area, hallway, and Michael's office.

At the Annual Meeting there will be two warrant articles to authorize funding for structural repairs such as these. If both warrant articles are approved, there will be a total of \$21,500 available to spend on these projects and possibly other structural repairs.



*“We find comfort among those who agree with us - growth among those who don't.”*

-Frank A. Clark

# LAST ZOOM ONLINE GAME NIGHT



## Jackbox.TV

**Saturday, May 1 @ 6-8 PM**

Join us anytime from 6-8 pm for a new experience playing different games online together. Our Office Administrator Heidi Page's son Christian will host and help explain how it works. Up to 8 players will be playing a game and others can watch and cheer on the players. We will be playing while in a Zoom room to make it more fun by interacting.

**Video:** [How to play Jackbox Games](#)

**Join the Zoom Room by [clicking here!](#)**

**Connect to the games on your phone or tablet at: [Jackbox.tv](#)**

## Anxiety Peer Support Group

### Anxiety Peer Support Group

**Wednesdays, May 5 & 19 | 7:00-8:30 pm | Zoom | 1st & 3rd Wed**

This is a place to share your challenges, your coping strategies, and resources that have been helpful for you. It grew out of church members sharing informally and wanting to connect with others; it does not replace professional therapy and appropriate medical care.

To participate, [please click here](#) to receive more information and a Zoom link for our meetings.



## Coming Soon! BIG GROUNDS EVENT!

Our grounds still need cleaning up in the spring and fall, even during Covid, and many members haven't seen each other in person for a very long time. The Grounds and the Green Team have just the thing to take care of both! Curious? **Read on . . .**

On our church calendar, **May 16th** is reserved for our **Spring Cleanup**. (Rain date, May 23rd.) But this year it won't be just the usual "come with your tools and rake" day. We're doing that and MORE! There is an area called our 'compost' pile up the driveway just beyond the dumpster. Cleaning this up has been talked about for years and we plan to finally do it on the 16th, but we NEED YOUR HELP. **James Meinecke**, a friend of the church (all of his children have been baby Jesus in our Christmas pageant) and owner of Lewis Farm, has been our volunteer Grounds Consultant helping to organize this grand event. He is donating his time and his equipment and will be taking the leaves and debris, back to his farm to compost.

*Tentative schedule - any changes will be in a separate email.*



**8:00 - 10:00** ..... Earlybird session - come with any tools you have to do light or heavy work  
..... **Bring masks and your own drink.**

**10:00 - 11:15ish** ..... Break for church service for those who would like to. Michael has offered  
..... to set up a large screen on the back patio. **Bring your own chairs.**

**11:30** .. Resume work

**1:00 - ??**..... Break for the free CHILI lunch for those volunteering, or come for lunch  
..... and afternoon help, or just come for the chili (\$5 adults, \$3 children).

**Donate a pot of chili? Donate bread? Donate dessert?**

**1:00 - whenever ...** Finish the job! **Phew!! Well done!**

**Everyone must wear a mask!**

*Please Bring:*

- a sign with chili ingredients
- your own tools for yard work and/or heavy duty for moving compost
- your own chair, bowl and utensils

**Building entry for restrooms only.**

*Thank you in advance for joining in and making it worth James' time!*

**Fran Philippe, Grounds Chair**



**Come one, come teens, come families.**

**Complete the registration form to save your spot  
by [clicking on this link.](#)**

## Pledging to Sustain our Congregation

Our annual pledge campaign is underway as we determine what support you, our Members and Friends, will provide in support of our 2021-22 budget, which we'll vote on at Annual Meeting on June 6. **Thank you to our many new Members and Friends for your first-time pledge! And thank you to our ongoing members for your recurring pledge.**

Pledges on record for the CURRENT year (2020-21) are about \$278,000. Sadly, due to some people moving away or dying, it currently appears that pledges for NEXT year (2021-22) will be about \$274,000, a decrease of \$4000.

**If you are a returning pledger, can you increase your pledge to help us close this \$4000 gap? If you have never pledged, would you consider doing so?** To make your pledge please use this confidential [Online Pledge Form](#).

For more information about how pledging works, see article to the right.

## What does it mean to make a "Pledge"?

Thank you for considering a pledge to Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord NH. We appreciate your generous support of our faith community.

Voting members are required to make and contribute to a pledge, of any amount, in order to maintain their memberships. (Money should not be a barrier to membership, so if you have a hardship, don't hesitate to make a very small pledge, or ask for a waiver.)

We are also blessed by many Friends\* who make a monetary pledge to support the church.

Our fiscal year (and also our "pledge year") runs from August 1 to July 31 every year. We have an annual stewardship campaign in March or April of each year, to determine the pledges for the upcoming fiscal year, and to then create an operating budget for the year.

To make your pledge please use this confidential [Online Pledge Form](#).

Once you make your pledge, we will consider this an on-going commitment from year to year, until you tell us otherwise. You may make, change, increase, decrease, or discontinue your pledge at any time, using the same pledge form.

You will receive quarterly pledge statements by email, and a tax statement in January.

\*Friends are individuals who have not signed the Membership Book, but make an annual pledge and/or participate regularly in worship, groups, classes or other events at Concord UU.

**WANTED**

**Information about a retired lawn tractor for use by Grounds and Green Team. Donation would be perfect, if possible. Contact [franphilippe38@gmail.com](mailto:franphilippe38@gmail.com)**

**Adopt-a-Spot**

There is at least one spot that currently needs to be loved and cared for - the one at the corner of Fellowship Hall. Tidy it up, add annuals - whatever you'd like to do to make it your own. Let me know if you'd like it or would like to do any other small gardening project. [franphilippe38@gmail.com](mailto:franphilippe38@gmail.com)

# Introducing Our Newest Members



## **Susan McTague**

I am a New Hampshire native. My family consists of chickens, dogs and cats, husband, nieces and nephews. I work as a special education teacher for emotional behavioral disabilities at Souhegan High School. I'm interested in soap making, chicken farming, caning, kayaking, teaching, music, cooking, connecting with friends. I am super shy and really good at 80's pop culture trivia!

I was drawn to the Concord UU because of its openness, and no "be good or be doomed." I'm not sure yet how I see myself becoming involved, but I can cook and make soap and provide eggs. I'm looking to help, just not sure yet what I can do.



## **Ashley Barker**

I currently reside in Epsom, NH, but I was born in Newbury, NH and raised there until we moved to Lebanon, NH. I spent my college years in Waterville, Maine where I studied Elementary Education.

After a semester abroad and graduation I set off for South Korea. I spent about 2.5 years there before a summer long stay in the U.K. and a new job took me to Vietnam where I taught for another 2.5 years.

I moved home in 2018 and began working in higher education. I began my Master's in Business at the end of 2019, took some time off in the pandemic and am about halfway there (as of March 2021). I will be honest that Business is not my passion, but I think it will be beneficial in the long run.

I am passionate about social justice, education, and kindness. I truly believe we can make the world a better place and I want to work towards that every day.

I enjoy good books, gardening, and spending time in the woods or near water. My favorite hobby is foraging mushrooms and I'd be happy to share my favorite fishing spots if you share yours!



## **Lori Amico**

I live in Manchester, but have Midwestern roots. Family includes my husband and four adult children (includes 2 step-children).

I'm curious and interested in learning about a lot of things, but for hobbies I enjoy fiber arts, learning watercolor painting, camping, etc. The type of work I've done is mostly office administrative and more recently working with the mature age group. I dream about getting a small pull-behind camper and traveling the U.S. exploring new sites, people, cultures and art.

I was drawn to UU because I saw that people seemed open and authentic. I am learning about the UU Concord, and see myself involved in nature activities, caring circle, administrative, and whatever else interests me.



**Roger Ballou**

Born and raised in the Boston area. Father worked at Tufts University and mother an RN. Oldest of 3. Attended UMaine undergrad, William and Mary for a master's degree, and Purdue University for a PhD. Been in higher education for majority of career. Currently associate professor at New England College with PT therapy practice in Concord. Came to be a UU a number of years ago when living in Minneapolis. Outside interests -- classical music, hiking, reading history. Favorite places -- hiking in the White Mountains with Ann, Symphony Hall in Boston, Citi Field in NYC watching the Mets, a good museum, a good restaurant. Best thing about UU Concord -- a warm, genuine, authentic group of people. That's ultimately one of the best things one can find in life -- a warm, genuine, authentic group of people.



**Ann West**

Hello! I'm excited to join the Concord UU and be a part of this intellectual and caring community. I'm particularly looking forward to volunteering my efforts in the area of social justice.

After having lived most of my life in New York, I'm enjoying life in New Hampshire. Spending time with family (including my two great adult children) and friends is a priority, and I love nurturing my home circle of husband Roger, dog Rosie, and numerous plants. I am keen on both quiet and creative pursuits (photography, quilting, reading), and more active ones (skiing, year round hiking, road cycling). Plotting our next travel adventure occupies a lot of our thinking, too.

Having recently retired from 20+ years of teaching young children, and with Roger slowing down his schedule a bit, we are working together to create this next phase of life in a way that feels both challenging and purposeful to us. We are happy that this UU community will be a part of that.



**Helga Barnard**

I immigrated to the US from Germany when I was 20. I just celebrated my 80th birthday. I have been a widow for nine years. I moved to Concord two and half years ago, after living in Florida for over 30 years. My son and his family live in Concord which is the reason why I made the move to Concord.

My interests are in art and music. I play the piano from what I remember in my younger years and dabble a little bit in painting. I spend time reading and taking short walks.

My work experience was in the legal field, where I worked as a legal assistant and translator.

**Continued on pg 12**

After being raised and confirmed in the Lutheran Church in Germany, I didn't participate in any organized religion for a long time. Over the years I visited several churches with my husband who belonged to the Episcopal Church.

I was drawn to the UU Church when I lived in Connecticut during the 1980's. The message of acceptance, service and open-mindedness appealed to me. I visited the UU Church then and joined the UU Church in Sarasota after we moved there.

By joining the Concord UU Church, I'm looking forward to not only continue in my spiritual endeavor, but also to be a part of a caring and supporting community.



**Melina Caron**

I live in Concord with my partner Matt and our three fur-babies (2 dogs and 1 cat). We love living in NH and try to spend as much time as possible outdoors. I enjoy hiking, gardening, nature journaling, foraging, biking, really anything that gets me outside. Since exploring UU values I have discovered the language for "earth-centered spirituality". It has always been what is truest to me, that human existence is infinitely intertwined with the natural world.

I tend to be quite shy until I'm not, but I'm excited to connect with others and find my niche within this welcoming community. I'm passionate about creativity and making, particularly sewing, slow stitching and botanical dyes. I went to school for nutrition and love to cook with others and share in delicious food.

I was introduced to the UU Church through my work with Local Harvest CSA. Every Wednesday during the growing season I'm at the church packing and distributing local veggies to our CSA members. Being in the church, I saw that environmental and social activism is part of the work UU does and that really drew me in to start attending Sunday services. I hope to find volunteer opportunities and connect with others who share similar values.



**Anna Gallagher**

I am so happy to be a member of the UU church! I love the intellectual and musical aspects of this church. It seems like a great community! I am fairly new to Concord, NH. Previously, I lived in Boston, MA. I moved to New Hampshire for "a boy" who is now my husband. I am in social work school. In my free time, I do a lot of volunteer work, take classes, read, write, and keep up with my friends. We have fish that are fun. Someday, we hope to get a dog and have a house with a big library!



**Debbie Kruenegel-Farr**

I am blessed. I have a wonderful husband of over 40 years, 3 great adult sons, wonderful daughters-in-law, 2 grandchildren, and 2 cats. I am adjunct faculty at New England College teaching Life Span Development & Positive Psychology. I am also a parent coach & educator, owning my own company - Flourishing Families. I am also on the Boards of the Family Life Coaching Association and National Parenting Educators Network. I'm in the final stages of publishing a parenting book I've been working on way too long!

I love to travel, garden, sing, play the piano, dance, edit documents (yes-I know that's a bit odd!), and spend time with family & friends.

I am a people person & look forward to meeting others of like mind, working together to make our community & world more inclusive, peaceful, healthy, and fair.



**Rick Farr**

I was born in Salt Lake City, Utah. My spiritual journey started as a Mormon, and traversed through Congregational, United Church of Christ (3x), Methodist, Judaism, Jesuit Catholic, Lutheran, agnostic, atheist, ending with Unitarian Universalist. During my life, besides living in Utah, I also lived in Nevada, South Carolina, New York City, Wisconsin (3x), Connecticut (2x), Kansas, Texas, and now New Hampshire for the past 8 years.

My greatest joys in life are my wife, Debbie, and our three sons and daughters-in-law and grandchildren. My greatest frustration has been that we only see our sons and their families 3-4 times per year due to physical distances.

I retired 5 years ago after 40 years in corporate life and now in semi-retirement, I conduct part-time Human Resources Consulting.

I love to travel with Debbie, spend time with family, visit National Parks (favorite is Acadia NP Maine), mindfulness in nature, view birds, garden & yard work, hike, kayak, exercise, read, learn, political junkie, and watch my favorite sports team, the Green Bay Packers (I am a proud team owner).

Now, I look forward to a 'new normal' life after Covid-19!



**Congrats, Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord (NH)!**

**You passed 100 subscribers**

Please sign up to follow us by [clicking here](#) and then click the SUBSCRIBE button.

## Budget Forums to prepare for Annual Meeting

**May 27 at 6pm and May 30 at 11:30am**

Check out the proposed budget that will be in our Annual Meeting Prep Packet published in mid-May. Then attend a Budget Forum to hear details about this proposed budget and get your questions answered. We will be voting on a deficit budget, but it's not as scary as it sounds. Come find out why! In fact, we have great news to share about our current budget status, thanks to your generosity, and our careful sheltering from the COVID storm. By attending one of these Forums, you will be prepared to vote on the proposed budget at the **Annual Meeting on June 6**.

## Annual Meeting via Zoom June 6

Our church's Annual Meeting reflects our commitment to our 5th Principle: "The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large." Our members will vote on changes to our Bylaws, approve an operating budget for next year, and elect our leaders. The meeting will be held on Zoom on June 6 at 11:30am. Only members may vote, but all are welcome to attend. Watch for our Annual Meeting Prep Packet to be published in mid-May that will give you all the info you need to prepare for the Annual Meeting.



## New Furnishings for New Americans

After her father's recent passing, one of our members called to see if the Church knew of a family needing household furnishings. A few email exchanges later, UUFOR (UU Friends of Refugees) found a mom and her four children who were thrilled by the offer. They're now the happy owners of gently used dining and living room tables, chairs, couch, lamps, rugs, and even a beautiful "hi-fi" radio.



## Caring for Aging Loved Ones Sunday, May 23 @ 7 pm

Whether you are providing hands-on care for an aging loved one in your home, overseeing their care in a facility, or trying to help an aging loved one who is miles away, this group is a place to receive and offer support and share the wisdom we gain from our experiences. We meet on the fourth Sunday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm on Zoom. Look for the link in the eBulletin or email [lyn@concorduu.org](mailto:lyn@concorduu.org). Next meeting is Sunday, May 23. We'd love to have you join us whether it's for one meeting or for the ongoing journey.

## Call for Summer Service Proposals!

Rev. Lyn Marshall will be helping us continue our tradition of lay led summer services - by offering staff support for congregants to lead worship virtually. 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](mailto:lyn@concorduu.org).

## A Quick Brief Endowment Committee Update

The Endowment Committee met recently for our annual portfolio review with our manager (The Colony Group). Risk adjusted performance continues to be well. The committee finished our transition into fully Socially Responsible Investing by directing our manager to reallocate our Fixed Income portfolio (the last segment in need of transition) into a series of funds that embrace principles that align with our church values. After years of work, we can proudly say that our portfolio is now more aligned with the mission of the church than at any time in the church's history. As always, requests and inquiries regarding the church endowment can be directed to Rob Fleischman or Jack Wakelin.

## Thank you, Long Term Members!

If you've been a member for 25 years or more, you are invited to our Long Term Member Zoom Breakfast on Sunday, June 6 at 9:15 am. You, our Long Term Members, are the strong roots of this congregation and we'll be honoring you during our service. Alas, you'll have to make your own breakfast, but your steadfast presence and support of this congregation through times of struggle as well as times of ease are what keeps us strong, keeps us going, and makes our liberal faith available for the greater Concord community.

If you've been a member for 25+ years, you'll receive a personal invitation from us in mid-May. If you don't receive it, please let Lea Smith know so we can add you to our list. ([lea@concorduu.org](mailto:lea@concorduu.org) or 224-0291 ext 4#).



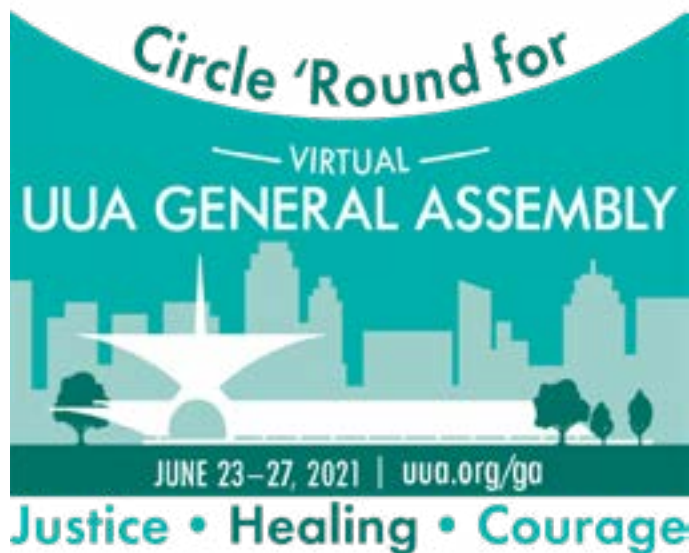
## Hands free personal amplifiers make your meetings more enjoyable for all!

The good news is that the spring weather is allowing us to gather outdoors! The bad news is that it can be hard to hear one another when we sit 6 feet apart with masks on, with traffic noise in the background.

Personal amplifiers solve this! Each user wears a microphone headset and small amplifier on a lanyard around their neck, to project their voice. We have ten of these hands-free devices so everyone in your group can use one. The youth group uses them every week for their outdoor meetings, with great success!

In the interest of accessibility and inclusion, all groups should use them. They allow those whose hearing is poor to participate, and they make it more enjoyable for everyone since they don't have to yell or strain to hear. Ask Heidi Page for instructions when you book your meeting space!

Request for [Outdoor Meeting Form](#) with a request for the personal amplifiers and read the [Fire Policy Procedure](#) (If you'd like to use the fire pit.) Questions [Heidi@ConcordUU.org](mailto:Heidi@ConcordUU.org)



## Seeking Delegates for General Assembly of the UUA

### June 23-27

General Assembly is the annual nationwide conference and business meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association. This year it will be virtual so it is more accessible than ever. Worship, learn, network with other UUs, and vote from your own couch! No travel! Less money!

We are seeking voting delegates to represent our congregation. If you plan to attend and would consider serving as a delegate, email Lea Smith ([lea@concorduu.org](mailto:lea@concorduu.org)) for more info.

## REGISTER NOW for General Assembly

### June 23-27 | 100% Virtual

For all the latest information & to register, [click here](#).

If you haven't registered for Virtual GA 2021 already, there is no better time than right now! Registered attendees are among the first to hear program announcements, such as the Ware Lecturer and featured speakers, and only registered attendees will have access to the NEW! GA app.

So, register early to join online discussions, familiarize yourself with the GA schedule, and find your place in our community of communities.

## Centering Saturdays | May 22 | 8-10 am

**Please join Lorna Tobin to start your weekend off just right, "Centered".**

Learn why it's important to develop a relationship with your breathing, how to clear negativity from the sub-conscious, Open restricted breathing patterns and create a deeper connection to oneself and your Spiritual nature.

**Centering Saturdays Runs April-August | 8-10 am**

Led by our many teachers | No Registration Fee (Free)

All levels welcome. Great way to begin your mindfulness journey.

No cost, but registration is required to get the Zoom link.

[Register by clicking here.](#)



## Concord Insight Meditation Sangha 3rd Fridays | 4-6:30 pm | May 21

You are invited to join guiding teacher, Rae Houseman in Buddhist instruction in the insight meditation/Vipassina tradition. The sangha includes guidance that leads into meditation, a meditation period, and then a discussion that is generally a reflection on the sitting practice. The group is appropriate for beginning and experienced meditators alike. Please contact Kim for more information at [kgillis@live.com](mailto:kgillis@live.com)

# MAY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Happy birthday to our Members, Friends, and their children, for whom we have birthdays in our church records. If you want to be included on future birthday lists, enter your birthday in your Breeze profile or email it to [heidi@concorduu.org](mailto:heidi@concorduu.org).


May 02	Tom Herbert	May 13	Andrea Baird
May 03	Giacomo Rodolico	May 16	Lisa Cassell
May 04	Laurie Meyer	May 17	Jakob Ingersoll
May 04	Scott Pollard	May 18	Carmel Gangi
May 05	Maya Clough	May 19	Nicholas Dupre
May 06	Hilary Thomson	May 19	Rose Koladish
May 07	Crystal Kennard-Emery	May 20	Dorian Blackburn
May 09	Aiden Munro	May 20	Aric Stratton
May 09	Em Taylor	May 23	Eleanor Bond
May 09	Clark Todd	May 25	Sutton Bishop
May 10	Sara Butcher	May 26	Oliver Dickinson
May 11	Brenda Rowe	May 28	Marin Smith
May 12	Joyce Bennett	May 29	Gail Rueggeberg
May 12	Sue Moyer	May 31	Grace Ann Kontak
May 13	Ruth Axelrod	May 31	Brackett Scheffy

## Office Hours Resume May 18

Beginning on May 18, the church office will be open **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm** and on **Thursdays from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm**. There are abbreviated hours during the summer. We are available through email for your convenience also at [Heidi@ConcordUU.org](mailto:Heidi@ConcordUU.org) and [Lea@ConcordUU.org](mailto:Lea@ConcordUU.org)

Are you interested in booking an outdoor meeting and to use our fire pit? It is as easy as filling out a [outdoor request form](#) and just reviewing our [fire policy](#). Please try to give us a week's notice. If you have any questions please email Heidi at [Heidi@ConcordUU.org](mailto:Heidi@ConcordUU.org)



*Faith, Climate, & Civil Disobedience*



**Wednesday, May 12**  
**7:30 PM**  
**on Zoom**

*What is civil disobedience?*  
*How can it help the climate?*  
*What does faith have to do with it?*

Join us for a conversation with leaders from the 2019 civil disobedience action at the power plant in Bow, NH.



Speakers (from left to right): Rev. Kendra Ford, First Unitarian Society of Exeter, Sonia Birthesel, Maria Marcum, co-founder of the Climate Civil Disobedience Center, scientist and chaplin, Kira Kelley, lawyer.

## Faith Climate Civil Disobedience

**May 12 @ 7:30 pm**

[Click here](#) to register.

**What is civil disobedience?**

**How can it help the climate?**

**What does it have to do with faith?**

Join us for a conversation with leaders from the civil disobedience action in September 2019 in Bow, NH.



## Crossing Borders

UU Action NH

May 22 from 10-11:30 am

Register below to join:

<https://uuactionnh.salsalabs.org/2021522crossingborders/index.html>

# WARRANT

June 6th, 2021

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, June 6th, 2021 at 11:30 am via the Zoom remote meeting platform to consider and act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1 To receive and accept the minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE 2 To authorize that any operating surplus for fiscal year 2020-21 as of July 31, 2021 be moved to an Operating Reserve Fund to be used for operating deficits in 2021-22 or any future year.

ARTICLE 3 To adopt an operating budget for 2021-22.

ARTICLE 4 To reallocate the use of unspent funds that were authorized by the congregation in May 2019 for Fellowship Hall structural repairs, to other structural repairs. Unspent funds to be reallocated are about \$14,000.

ARTICLE 5 To authorize the withdrawal of up to \$7,500 from the Trust Funds for additional structural repairs. This Article requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote to pass.

ARTICLE 6 To amend Article VI, Section 3, and Article X, Section 1 of the Bylaws as follows. This Article requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote to pass.

## Article VI, Section 3. Chair

The Chair of the Board of Trustees shall be the chief governance officer of the Church. The Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair, shall ensure the preparation in advance of agenda(s) for Board meetings, the notice of such meetings and topics to the members of the Church, and the conduct of all Board meetings.

~~The Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair, shall execute all contracts, deeds, mortgages, and other instruments of the Church unless, in a particular case, the Minister or some other officer is authorized to do so by the Church or the Board of Trustees.~~ The Chair or, in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair, shall also have ~~such~~ powers and perform ~~such~~ duties as are authorized or prescribed by the Board of Trustees.

## Article X, Section 1. Selection and Compensation

The **Senior** Minister of the Church shall be called by a vote of not less than ninety percent of the Church's voting members present and voting at a meeting of the Church convened for that purpose. The **Senior** Minister's compensation and terms of engagement shall be negotiated by

the Board of Trustees and established by the ministerial agreement between the **Senior** Minister and the Church, **[ADD] to be signed by the Chair of the Board of Trustees.**

ARTICLE 7 To amend Article 1 of the Bylaws as follows. This Article requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote to pass.

Article 1 - Name and Mission

This Church shall be a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) ~~and of the Northern New England District of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.~~ It is the intention of this Church to make annual financial contributions to ~~both~~ the Association ~~and the District~~ equal to the full fair shares as determined by the Association ~~and the District~~.

ARTICLE 8 To amend Article VIII of the Bylaws as follows. This Article requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote to pass.

Article VIII: Budget and Fiscal Year

At each Annual Meeting the Board of Trustees shall submit an operating budget for the coming fiscal year. The budget shall be adopted by a simple majority of the voting members present at the meeting. Once the budget has been adopted, the **Senior** Minister may expend the funds budgeted. The **Senior** Minister may reallocate funds as long as the total annual reallocation does not exceed 10% of the total approved budget. ~~All other budget changes must be submitted to a meeting of the Church's members.~~ **[ADD] All other budget changes must be made according to our governance policies.** The fiscal year of the Church shall be from August 1 to July 31 each year.

ARTICLE 9 To amend the Bylaws to replace references to Minister with Senior Minister where appropriate. This Article requires a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote to pass.

ARTICLE 10 To receive and accept the Slate of Candidates.

ARTICLE 11 To receive and accept the Annual Reports published in the Annual Meeting Prep Packet.

ARTICLE 12 To act upon such additional business as may appropriately be brought before the meeting.

*Ann Hoey*  
Board of Trustees Chair

*All Articles require a simple majority to pass, unless otherwise noted.*

[Click here for a marked-up version of the Bylaws showing all the proposed amendments.](#)

*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.*

IN PERSON Beltane Ritual | May 1 | Grove | 7 PM



# MAY Special & Ongoing Events

Please see our calendar online for the most up-to-date listing of meetings, events, and happening:

[www.concorduu.org/calendar](http://www.concorduu.org/calendar)

Remember to keep your eBulletin for private Zoom links

**All meetings & rehearsals are through Zoom unless otherwise noted.**

*Links are available through private emails, through eBulletin, and Parish Notes.*

Saturday, May 1 @ 6 pm | **JackBox.TV Game Night LAST ONE\***

Saturday, May 1 @ 7 pm (Rain Date May 2) | **Beltane Ritual (Wiccan)** ([more here](#)) | [Sign Up Here](#)

Sunday, May 2 @ 8:30 pm | **POP Parents of Preschoolers**

Thursday, May 6 @ 7 pm | **Showing Up for Racial Justice\***

**May 18 to June 11 Office Hours Resume: Tues, Wed, and Fri | 10 am - 3 pm; Thurs | 11 am - 5 pm**

Saturday, May 22 @ 8 am | **Centering Saturday w/ Lorna Tobin** | [Register for Free Here](#)

Sunday, May 23 @ 8 am | **Grounds Clean Up and Chili Lunch**

Sunday, May 23 @ 11:59 pm | **DEADLINE to Submit Silent and Live Auction Items**

Sunday, May 30 | **Silent Auction BEGINS**

## ONGOING EVENTS

Mondays @ 6 pm | **Yoga/Meditation**

Mondays @ 6 pm | **LGBTQ+ AA mtg Come As You Are\***

1st Tuesdays @ 7 pm | **UU Friends of Refugees (UUFOR) Committee Mtg**

2nd Tuesdays @ 1 pm | **Chronic Pain Support Group\***

1st & 3rd Wednesdays @ 7 pm | **Anxiety Peer Support Group**

Thursdays @ 7 pm | **Choir**

Fridays @ 7 pm | **Youth Group**

3rd Fridays @ 4 pm | **Insight Meditation Sangha**

2nd Saturdays @ 4 pm | **Renaissance New England\***

Sundays @ 5 pm | **Augustine Fellowship\***

4th Sundays @ 7 pm | **Caring for Aging Loved Ones**

\*Support or special interest groups that meet at the UU (due to COVID meeting on ZOOM) who are not affiliated with the church, but open to anyone interested in attending.

## Interfaith Holidays/Rituals

**Beltane** (Wiccan) - May 1 ([more here](#))

**Ramadan** (Islam) - April 12 - May 11, 2021 ([more here](#) and [here](#))

**Ascension Day** (Christian) - May 13, 2021 ([more here](#))

**Eid al Fitr** (Islam) - Begins May 12, 2021 ([more here](#))

**Shavuot** (Jewish) - May 17, 2021, begins on the evening of the 16th ([more here](#) and [here](#))

**Pentecost** (Christian) - May 23, 2021 ([more here](#))



## Office Hours Resuming

We are excited to be offering regular office hours beginning May 18. Because the office staff are now fully vaccinated we will have office hours.

### Regular Office Hours (May 18-June 18)

Tues, Weds, and Fri. | 10 am - 3 pm

Thurs. | 11 am - 5 pm

### Summer Hours (June 21-August 27)

Tues, Weds, Thurs, and Fri. | 10 am - 1 pm

## Unitarian Universalist History

Anniversary of [William Ellery Channing's Baltimore Sermon, "Unitarian Christianity"](#)  
- May 5th (1819)

[UUA Founding Day](#) (1961) - May 12

[Emerson's birthday](#) - May 25 (1803)

American Unitarian Association founded May 25 (1825)

## 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

### Dir. of Membership & Administration

| Lea Smith  
224-0291 x4 lea@concorduu.org

### Office Administrator

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

### Accompanist

| Calvin Herst  
calvin@concorduu.org

### Choral Ministry Assistant

| Kate Huizinga  
kate@concorduu.org

### A/V Production Assistant

| Alex Woody

### A/V Operations Assistant

| Noa Leuchtenberger

### Finance Assistant

| Christina Oliva

### Custodian

## Officers

**Treasurer** | Karen Mayo

**Custodian of Trust Funds** | Jack Wakelin

**Assistant Treasurer** | Lorraine Ellis

**Moderator** | Barbara Keshen

**Clerk** | Sara McNeil

## Board of Trustees

**Chair** | Ann Hoey

**Vice-Chair** | Kelly Mahony

**Secretary** | Zoe Picard

Anne Drewniak

Jim Schlosser

Tom O'Brien

## Parish Notes Deadline Schedule:

ISSUE	DUE
*June/July*	Wed. May 19

Please email articles and images by end of day to [ParishNotes@ConcordUU.org](mailto:ParishNotes@ConcordUU.org)

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord**

274 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301-2551

603-224-0291

[office@concorduu.org](mailto:office@concorduu.org)

[www.concorduu.org](http://www.concorduu.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

# Hats & Tales Church Auction



**Donate: Items | Services | Events**

[Auction Donation Form](#)

**Please donate:** your professional or volunteer services, homemade dinners, handmade items, gift certificates, or high quality new items valued at \$25+ (please no items that would sell at a yard sale.)

**Deadline to donate is Sunday, May 23**

**To Bid & Win!**

**Silent Auction: Opens May 30!**

More details to follow in eBulletins.

**Live Zoom Auction: Sunday, June 13**

Heads up & hats on! With our Hats & Tales theme, we encourage you to wear a hat this year. We'll be gathering on Zoom after our Flower Communion service on Sunday, June 13 at 11:30 am. You'll have the opportunity to bid on dinners, gardening, vacation spots, monthly flowers and other monthly goodies, and more. Your hat will come in handy for a game we've played in person as Heads or Tails - we'll be dressing it up with hats for 2021! Choose a hat that's functional, sporty, or as over the top as you wish!