

# PARISH NOTES

Newsletter of the  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

July/August 2025

# LOVE



## Why My Heart Is Here

by Leah Powers

It's a rainy Saturday morning. Usually, it's my day to sleep in after a long week of juggling my multiple roles as a parent and community home health nurse. At times it feels like an arduous task getting the kids to school on time, having enough energy at the end of the day to cook dinner, and then finally reading bedtime stories. But I still set my alarm on my phone to get up at an early hour and make sure we all get to church for Pancakes, Play, and Planting Peace. It's a once-a-month commitment, but I make it a priority. We live about 30 minutes away from Concord in the town of Weare. And getting the kids out the door in the morning feels like herding a group of cats some days. But we somehow make it there. When we arrive, I can feel the stress start to noticeably evaporate from my headspace. The kids are greeted by their young friends with warm hugs and shouts of joy. Familiar faces are in the kitchen cooking breakfast and brewing coffee. It's hard to believe that few years ago, we were all strangers.



I first came to the Concord UU to find some community with other families. I was a mother with two boys, and my husband was traveling internationally as a Merchant Mariner at sea. He typically goes on voyages for 2 months at a time. So at times, it feels like I am a seasonal single parent. I don't remember how I found out about the Concord UU. Maybe I was scrolling on Facebook for local events to bring the kids to. But I remember going to my first service in the springtime and being very intrigued with the very open format.

*continued on page 3*

## This issue:

Summer Worship  
PAGE 02

Summer Fun for Kids  
& Families  
PAGE 04-05

Welcome New Members  
PAGE 06-08

Interdependent Web  
PAGE 10-11

Friends of Refugees  
PAGE 13

Blue Moon Music House  
PAGE 15

Senior Singles  
PAGE 16

Hiring in Kids' Programs  
PAGE 18

2025-26 Schedule  
of Events  
PAGE 20-23

## Sunday Worship is at 10 am

IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM AT [WWW.CONCORDUU.ORG/LIVE](http://WWW.CONCORDUU.ORG/LIVE)

**No worship services on Jul 6 and 13.**

### **7/20/2025 “On Brokenness and Grace” Renee West**

Brokenness and trauma are everywhere, on scales both very large and very intimate, and while wounds left untended can allow in what is undesirable, they are also, as Rumi said, the place where the Light enters you. Although we tend to resist and resent that which is fractured, the act of mending allows us to tap into our deepest and most profound gifts, allowing us to create something new and meaningful.

### **7/27/2025 “A Potpourri of Prayer” Rev. Jim Curley**

Rev. Jim brings a long and winding road of worship and prayer practices to our congregation. Brought up Catholic, now a long-time UU, an Interfaith Minister and a Hospital Chaplain, he has experienced a potpourri of prayer practices and methods. Jim will explore what "Prayer" means and will share a wide variety of prayer practices in the form of music, prose, sermon, sound, and free flowing thoughts. Come and join us - and prepare to engage.

### **8/3/2025 “The Relationship Between Spirituality and Religion” Karen Thomas**

Often, these two words are used interchangeably, or sometimes, they are pitted against one another, as if one must choose between a personal, inner journey and a communal, structured practice. But what if, for us, they are not opposing forces, but rather, two intertwined paths leading to a more profound and meaningful existence?

### **8/10/2025 “Faith and Trust: Close Conceptual Cousins That Help Guide Our Spiritual Journeys” Dan Frye**

We shall explore the relationship between the concepts of trust and faith, as inextricably intertwined theological concepts, which taken together, and built upon one another, serve to help us navigate and grow on our own spiritual journeys. Together let's examine the anatomy of these two ideas and observe how they operate as guides to our spiritual growth.

### **8/17/2025 “Lessons from the Serviceberry” Linda Williams**

In her new book, *The Serviceberry*, Robin Wall Kimmerer tells us how one shrub benefits many living things and how all life is interconnected. Is it possible to create a human society that is reciprocal, honoring our interconnectedness, rather than a society based on competition and greed?

### **8/24/2025 ““The Power of Humble Inquiry”” Rev. Bevan Tulk**

Humble Inquiry is a spiritual and practical practice that fosters mindful listening, increased trust, and deeper relationships. It cultivates understanding in families, faith communities, and your work relationships. Let us worship together and explore how integrating this practice into your daily life can open your heart and mind to a more compassionate and peaceful life.

### **8/31/2025 “The Dignity of Labor” Susi Nord**

What does it mean to be working for a living in the 21st century? Between the gig economy, working from home and AI, are unions even still relevant?

## Why My Heart Is Here

BY LEAH POWERS, CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE

I grew up going to Roman Catholic church when my parents were married, and then the Episcopal church with my mother after they divorced. There was always a very set routine for mass, with memorized prayers and the sacred communion ritual. Attending my first UU service was both a confusing and refreshing change to my former church experiences. It was lovely to find a place that held my values without all the complicated dogma.

Since that first time I decided to be brave and step into a new church space very different from my upbringing, I have always found a sense of peace when I enter the building. The people are kind and welcoming. And genuinely care about helping one another and the surrounding community. Over time I gained some confidence interacting and volunteering in the UU community. This year I decided to embark on a new project. I am currently leading the Teaching Garden Project. This idea was born out of the Pancakes, Play, and Planting Peace event. I volunteered to help lead an activity with children and parents to plant vegetable and flower seeds to raise at church. I was able to coordinate donated resources with staff and congregants to make the project a reality. And now the cedar garden beds on the front lawn that were once full of weeds, are revived with fresh compost and seedlings raised by our youngest congregants. I am excited to see them continue to bloom and grow. It has been very rewarding to teach the youngest generation about the love of gardening, the art and skill of nurturing, and the joy that comes with seeing the physical results of hard work for our church grounds.

*Our 'Why My Heart is Here' series showcases how individual congregants' roles and activities at Concord UU help them find connection to and meaning in their lives at church. By spotlighting these individual stories, we hope to show how you might also find your heart's home here.*



## JULY FAMILY FUN

### Christmas In July Sunday, July 27 during Social Time

On the last Sunday of July, when the weather is hot and the sun is high, let's cool it down by celebrating Christmas in July! Bring your favorite cookies to share in the cookie swap. There will be Christmas crafts for kids, and holiday cheer for all. Christmas in July will happen in the parlor during Social Time. Email [dory@concorduu.org](mailto:dory@concorduu.org) with questions.

### Intergenerational Afternoon at the John Hay Estate Saturday, July 19 | 1 to 4pm

Families!! The Senior Singles Social Group is inviting you to join them for an afternoon of peaceful intergenerational fun at the John Hay estate in Newbury, NH. Get to know some of the older members of our community while enjoying the gardens and trails of this historic estate. The seniors are inviting their grandkids, so feel free to invite the grandparents of your family! This event is drop - in, so please plan to arrive and leave on your own time-line. Contact Martha Mae Emerson of the SSSG through [office@concorduu.org](mailto:office@concorduu.org) for more information.

### Ponding Field Trip to NH Audubon McLane Center Saturday, July 26 | 10am-12pm

Do your children or grandchildren like nature? What about bugs, and fish, and other things that swim? Do you wish they did? If so, come join us on July 26th from 10am-12pm for a nature exploration field trip to the ponds at the NH Audubon McLane Center at 84 Silk Farm Road. Led by a Naturalist from the NH Audubon, our group will get the chance to scoop from the pond and use scientific exploration to learn about the wetlands of New Hampshire and identify a variety of critters. This field trip is geared towards children 5 and up, but children of all ages are welcome. All children must have an adult present. Please register at [uconcordnh.breezechms.com/form/6076c9](https://uconcordnh.breezechms.com/form/6076c9) by 5pm on Saturday, July 19th. Email [dory@concorduu.org](mailto:dory@concorduu.org) with questions.



## Pancakes, Play, and Planting Peace Saturday, August 9 9am to 11am

Pancakes, Play, and Planting Peace (PPPP) is a pancake breakfast and a service project on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Bring your children or grandchildren as we come together for a pancake breakfast and a service project designed to serve for our community. Our August project is still in the works, so keep your eyes on the ebulletins or email [Dory@concorduu.org](mailto:Dory@concorduu.org) for more information.

NOTE: There is no PPPP in July.

## Discover UU Hike and Scavenger Hunt Sunday, August 10 11:30am to 12:30pm

How much do you and your kids know about Unitarian Universalism? Join our Family Engagement Coordinator, Dory, for a family focused scavenger hunt that will increase your knowledge of Unitarian Universalism, and our special church. We will travel the trails, and the halls, to learn about our community and how it came to be. We will meet in the Grove behind the church after service ends.

## AUGUST FAMILY FUN

### Family Meetup at White Park | Sunday, August 17 11:45 am to 1:45pm

White Park is located at 1 White Street in Concord, and has a splash pad, a playground, a roller hockey rink, and fields for running, jumping, and playing! Join other families from church after service on the 17th for some good old fashioned fun in the sun. Pack your bathing suit, sunscreen, a lunch for your family, and we will spend time getting to know one another in a new setting. Email [Dory@concorduu.org](mailto:Dory@concorduu.org) with questions.

### End of Summer Party Sunday, August 24th 11:15 am to 12:45 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME to celebrate the memories made over the summer at the end of summer party. This casual gathering will include games and crafts for children, and connection and community for all. Bring a small snack to share and your favorite game to play!

## Welcome to our Newest Members

***If you'd like to learn more about our church and consider becoming Member, join our next Exploring Membership Group which will start on Sept. 21. The group will provide a chance to examine your history and spiritual journey that brought you to the UU Church and to hear the stories of others in the group. To add your name to a notification list for the next Exploring Membership Group, contact Lorraine Ellis at [membership@concorduu.org](mailto:membership@concorduu.org).***

### STAR DARGIN

Star is my real name. I am a lifelong UU and first-time member. I and my husband, Steve, are initially from MA and have three grown sons and two grandchildren (any day now, three). Steve is retired. I run my own business and have done so for 20+ years. I am a professional executive coach and speaker. My topics are gratitude and leadership, and I have a technology and project management background.



### BEELER & JONATHAN LILE-SEXTON



We are Beeler and Jonathan Lile-Sexton. We recently moved to New Hampshire from Montana. Jonathan and I enjoy spending time outside, finding new coffee shops, and reading a good book. In our free time, you can find us around town walking our dog Neo. Jonathan works in substance misuse prevention in Laconia. I work at Simply Birkenstock in downtown Concord. We are so glad we chose Concord to settle down. We are grateful for the church and its warm welcome. We look forward to being active members in the church, pursuing justice and peace with you all.

## BEVERLY PIETLICKI

Born in Wichita, Kansas and moved before knowing what it looked like to Denton, Texas. Baptized in the Lutheran church and later attended the Selwyn School. Father finished graduate school and mother wanted to move closer to family in New Jersey. We moved to Laconia, New Hampshire in 1967. My father was a psychologist at Laconia State School and mother a homemaker. Fondest memories are befriending resident workers and visiting the cow barn. Parents let me wander freely around the farm and sitting by the stream making mud pies was the best. My favorite hobby was skiing - a car accident prevented me from skiing as an adult so I took up swimming. In college I swam three miles a week in a spring fed pool. Accepted into a summer program at Trinity Hall in Cambridge, I studied comprehensive education, drama and history. Love of language, reading and writing is from good teachers. I still recite poetry learned in Ray Seabeck's class.



I was drawn to this church on the recommendation of other UU members and its respect for our natural world. Aside from reading and writing, a hobby is contemplating nature. Being in nature has always helped me to cope with life's struggles. Serving the community as called and able, working with people accomplishing a goal, or on a project that will help others – to learn and keep learning is how I hope to stay involved.

## CHELSEA DRZYMALA



I've lived in Warner, NH for the past 9 years but have also had the pleasure of calling upstate New York, Colorado, and Southwestern Virginia my home. My husband Simon is from Quebec. We met rather unconventionally while thru-hiking the Appalachian Trail (Northbound) in 2014. We crossed paths somewhere in Pennsylvania, hiked a thousand miles together to Mount Katahdin, and decided we didn't want it to end. We now have three sons, Hugo, Charlie, and Eliot, who also enjoy hiking very much. I've been a radiologic technologist for thirteen years and have had the privilege of working at Boston Children's Hospital and Concord Hospital prior to that. Most recently, I've co-founded a non-profit called The Bravery Alliance. We supply care bags to local ERs for victims of sexual assault who choose to undergo forensic examination. ([www.thebraveryalliance.org](http://www.thebraveryalliance.org)) I'm so glad to have found such a warm and welcoming community at the Concord UU church. I look forward to sharing stories, meals, and hugs with you all in the coming months and years.

## Welcome to our Newest Members

### LILA CATE

I am a Manchester native who has spent several decades away and returned a few years ago for the support of my fantastic siblings and son. I feel like a stranger in a foreign land as I learn to navigate the relatively new landscape of widowhood and retirement.

The folks in this congregation have made me feel incredibly welcome and I am looking forward to finding my place in this community!



### KRISTA SCHNECK ROBICHAUD

Hello! My name is Krista Schneck Robichaud and I use she/her pronouns. I came to the UU Church of Concord by way of my love of singing. I first performed in a CLOC production of Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore at the UU in March of 2014. It was through those rehearsals that I grew friendships (one of them being with our very own Michael Leuchtenberger!). I have worked for the State of NH for almost 20 years and I'm currently a Human Resources Specialist at NH Employment Security.

I'm a hockey mom and that keeps me busy for 1/2 the year. You might have seen my son, Gavin, behind the scenes at the A/V computer (when he's not jamming out on a keyboard). He's going to be a sophomore at Concord High next year. I'm also the mom of a 26 year old who lives in Ohio. When I'm not at the UU singing with the choir, singing in the Taize service or Drumming, you might find me as a Sous Chef/Baker for the Tuesday Welcome Table Dinners. I value culture, literature and the opportunity to travel (I'm fluent in German and I'm learning Spanish). To renew my spirit, I commune with bodies of water. My other hobbies are quilting, skiing and dancing.



## Plant and Yard Sale raised over \$6,000!

Thank you to all the helpers, and to especially our extraordinary leaders, Jim Downie & Betsy Kennedy!



## Board of Trustees Highlights from June meeting

SUBMITTED BY ANNE MEYERS

- The old stove is GONE!
- The Village Camp-in was well attended and joyful.
- The Board strategized and brainstormed for the retreat in the fall and elected 2025-2026 officers.

## The new stove and ovens are here!



Thank you to Bob Gabrielli for managing this extraordinarily complex project, which included much more than the stove and ovens themselves: electrical upgrades, new countertops, moving cabinets, and more!



# Interdependence

## Caring for the Interdependent Web

ELM and Ground's gratitude to our bittersweet queen and king, Nancy Mills and Andy Duncan as they attacked the invasion on the junipers out front. (It took two stuffed Prius loads to bring it all to the upper parking lot to dry.) And to Dana Sansom and Fran Philippe for planting the replacement rhododendron for the one damaged during snow removal and site repair. And to Laurel Horne for work on our milkweed garden.

Goodbye to the orange cone and welcome to a planter of flowers at the East Entrance.

The team would like to try to keep the bittersweet at bay that is being removed along the stone wall by covering it with cardboard and a deep layer of wood chips. Cardboard donations are needed. Please leave them behind the little shed near the wood chip pile up the parking lot on the left. Many thanks in advance.



Andy weeding bittersweet from the blooming mountain laurel.



Nancy removing invasive bittersweet by the Sanctuary.



Fran and Dana replacing a damaged rhododendron.

# Interdependence

## Pollinator Festival & Monarch Butterfly Bench Dedication

SUBMITTED BY LAUREL HORNE  
& ANDY DUNCAN

When: Saturday, August 2, 10AM - 2PM

Where: Rollins Park, Concord, centered around the pollinator garden, near the tennis courts, 33 Bow St

Wear: Your favorite pollinator costume, shirt, or hat

What: Fun pollinator and native plants activities and information for all ages

Bring: Re-useable water bottle and phone/camera for photos



Come help celebrate the installation of a Monarch butterfly bench in memory of Natalie Duncan (2/28/97-8/2/24) within the pollinator garden in Rollins Park in the South End of Concord. The handcrafted bench is made possible by generous donations from friends, family, and neighbors. The vibrant pollinator garden and Adopt-a-Spot has been a meaningful place for us since we began volunteering in 2022. Filled with native plants, butterflies, bees, and dragonflies, the Monarch Waystation pollinator garden now holds even deeper significance as we honor our daughter Natalie. In her parting words, she wrote: "...just imagine I'm a bird or a butterfly – a pollinator of some sort – who gets to fly by your sides always..." Her life and love serve as a motivation for us on a daily basis.

We are working with the City of Concord to host this pollinator festival and would love to see you there. For more information, please contact Laurel, or in late July check out the City of Concord Parks & Rec Facebook page or Rollins Park Monarch Waystation Instagram.



## Annual Meeting Summary

The Annual Meeting was held on June 1, 2025. The draft minutes are available by request to Lea Smith, [lea@concorduu.org](mailto:lea@concorduu.org). Below is a summary of the motions that passed.

**ARTICLE 1 To receive a Board of Trustees presentation with no vote to be taken.** Craig Whitson shared a "State of the Mission" address, and highlighted the Board's work on Linkage (Project Wayfinder and Powerful Question), Monitoring work (Executive limitation policies and Board relationship policies), and Fiduciary responsibilities.

**ARTICLE 2 To receive and accept the minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting.** Motion passed.

**ARTICLE 3 To receive and accept the Slate of Candidates.** This slate was elected:

- Assistant Treasurers (one year term): Lorraine Ellis (re-elect) and Ann West (re-elect)
- Custodian of Investments (one year term): Jack Wakelin (re-elect)
- Clerk (one year term): Ann Hoey (re-elect)
- Moderator (one year term): Barbara Keshen (re-elect)
- Member of Investment Committee (four year term): Chris Soule (re-elect)
- Member of Investment Committee (two year term to complete the unexpired term of Rob Fleischman, who is stepping down): Rik Yeames

**ARTICLE 4 To adopt an operating budget for 2025-26.** The proposed budget with a bottom line of \$533,285 included a 2% cost of living increase for staff. There were a few motions to amend the budget in an effort to increase this percentage. In the end, a budget of \$536,148 was approved, and it was stated that the spirit of the meeting indicates that the increase goes to salaries.

**ARTICLE 5 To adopt a capital budget for 2025-26.** The proposed capital budget of \$14,000 was approved. This includes a new Sanctuary projector, a mesh wifi system, and an energy audit.

**ARTICLE 6 To receive and accept the Annual Reports published in the Annual Meeting Prep Packet.** Motion passed.

**ARTICLE 7 To act upon such additional business as may appropriately be brought before the meeting.** There was a motion to transfer \$17,434 into the Operating Reserve Fund from the expected 2024-25 operating surplus, as a result of the retroactive trust income from the George Griffin Trust. The motion was approved.



## Summer Outing to Lost River with UU Friends of Refugees

UU Friends of Refugees took a group of New American children to Lost River in Woodstock, NH. We partnered with Project STORY, bringing 23 kids to climb through caves and 'mine' for gems. The trip was partially funded by a grant from NH Environmental Educators.

The next UUFOR outing will be to the beach on July 19. If you'd like to learn more about what UUFOR does, email [office@concorduu.org](mailto:office@concorduu.org) and we'll forward your message to the UUFOR Steering Team.



# Generosity

*Some of our programs are on hiatus for the summer. Our regular church year resumes on September 7 with our Water Communion and Fall Picnic.*

## Summer Break June 30 to July 13

There will be no worship services on July 6 and 13. The church office will be closed from June 30 to July 13.



## Please finish up your pledge payments!

Your timely pledge fulfillment will make the difference between whether we end the year with a balanced budget, or not!

You can make an online payment at [concorduu.org/make-a-pledge-payment](https://concorduu.org/make-a-pledge-payment) or mail a check to be received by July 27. Thank you so much for your generosity!



# Interdependence

## Blue Moon Music House a home for diverse music and art

Second Tuesdays

Themes are only suggestions.

Donation \$5, if you can.

For more info email Heidi through  
office@concorduu.org

Join us outside by the fire, weather  
permitting, or in the parlor if it rains.



Campfire Tunes | 7 to 9 pm on Tues, July 8  
Bring a camp chair if it is not raining.



Family Sing-a-longs | 6 to 8 pm on Tues, Aug 12

NOTE EARLIER START AND FINISH FOR FAMILIES

Bring a camp chair and kids instruments.

Lead a song by signing up here:

<https://forms.gle/d3y25rghZYfVVJfX7> or online at  
[concorduu.org/blue-moon/](https://concorduu.org/blue-moon/)

## Lots Happening with the Senior Singles Social Group!

### Monthly Social Hour (recurring)

When: second Tuesday of each month at 10:30

Where: Totally Tea, 2 Capitol Plaza, Main Street, Concord  
GREAT BEVERAGES, GREAT COMPANY, GREAT CONVERSATIONS!

### Weekly Wednesday Walks along the Merrimack (recurring)

When: Wednesdays at 4 PM

Stroll a shady, mostly flat path, 2 miles or shorter as fits your schedule and energy

Where: Meet at Sewall's Falls Trail Head at NH Fish and Game Recreational Area off of Sewall's Falls Road, West Concord (NOT the trail head off Second Street).

### June Monthly Meeting

When: Sunday, June 29, at 1:30.

Where: Totally Tea, 2 Capitol Plaza, Main Street., Concord (Pink exterior on Main Street).

AGENDA: Fun activity, discuss our growing popularity and membership changes, also event planning, door prize!

BRING YOUR CALENDARS - help set the date for our August Summer COOL POOL Party!

Make a big splash or just dangle your feet in the pool. UU member Margaret Fletcher has so very generously offered her pool and pool house at her home in the South End for the SSSG Summer Celebration Gathering. We will set the date at this meeting.

### July and August Monthly Meetings

When: Sunday, July 27, and Aug. 24, at 1:30. Location TBA

### An Intergenerational Afternoon at the Hay Estate July 19

WELCOME TO ALL UU'ERS! Families, seniors, singles, grandparents, and grandchildren, everybody!

When: Sat., July 19, 1pm-4pm

Where: The John Hay Estate at The Fells on Lake Sunapee in Newbury  
Co-sponsored by SSSG and the UU Family Program with Dory LeCount  
Wander through formal and informal gardens and fountains, 83 acres with beautiful woodland trails going down to the lake shore, and tour the 22 room Colonial Revival Summer Home of John Milton Hay, private secretary to Abraham Lincoln, Secretary of State under Presidents McKinley and Teddy Roosevelt.

Entrance fee: adults - \$10; seniors - \$8, students, ages 6-17 - \$4; under 6 free; families of 2 adults and 2 or more children ages 6 or above, \$25.



**Monday, Sept 1, Labor Day Picnic at Ugo's house in Bow** to celebrate Ugo's 96th birthday! Details will follow.

For more information about the Senior Singles Social Group, look up Martha Mae Emerson in the Breeze directory, or email [office@concorduu.org](mailto:office@concorduu.org) and your message will be forwarded to her.

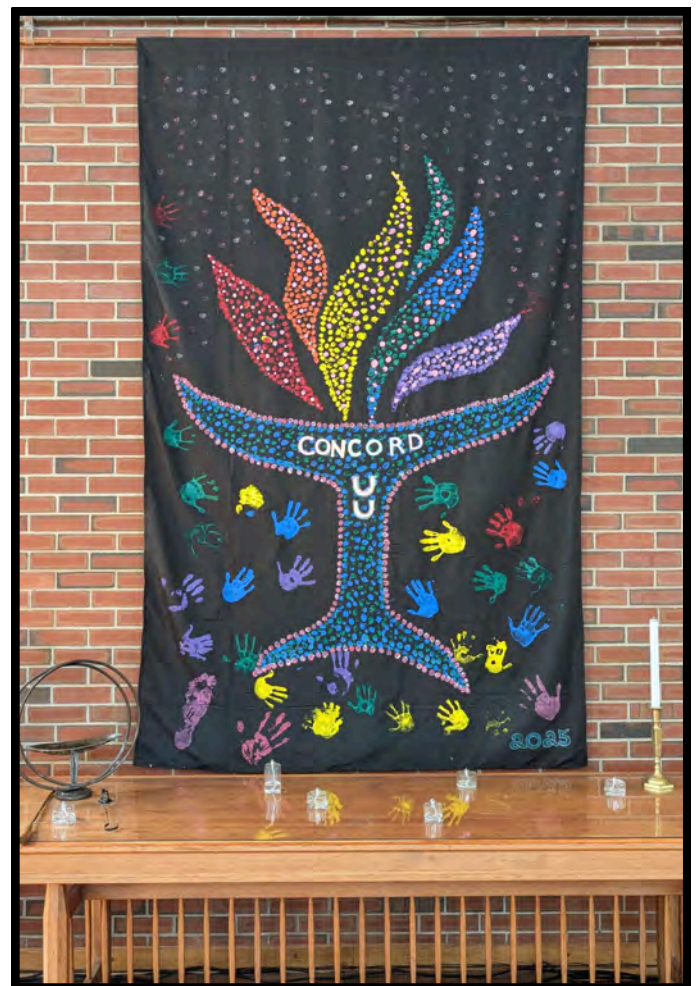


## July Events

June 30 - July 13 Office Closed for Vacation  
July 6 & 13 | Sun | No Worship Service  
July 8 | Tue | Blue Moon Music House @ 7 pm  
July 10 | Thu | ELM Grounds Work Day @ 10 am  
July 19 | Sat | Intergenerational Afternoon at the Hay Estate @ 1 pm  
UUFOR Beach Outing @ 2 pm  
July 20 | Sun | Summer Smoothie Session 3 @ 10:15 am  
July 26 | Sat | Family Meetup - NH Audubon @ 10 am  
July 27 | Sun | Christmas In July @ 11:15 am  
ELM Grounds Work Day @ 11:45 am

## August Events

Aug 3 | Sun | Kids Crafts & Games @ 11:15 am  
Aug 9 | Sat | Pancakes Play & Planting Peace @ 9 am  
Aug 10 | Sun | Family Discover UU Hike  
& Scavenger Hunt @ 11:30 am  
Aug 12 | Tue | Blue Moon Music House @ 6 pm  
Aug 14 | Thu | ELM Grounds Work Day @ 10 am  
Aug 17 | Sun | Summer Smoothies @ 10:15 am  
Family Meetup - White Park @ 11:45 am  
Aug 24 | Sun | Family End of Summer Party @ 11:15 am  
ELM Grounds Work Day @ 11:45 am



***Also check out the Senior Singles Social Group events on page 16 and recurring events on page 21 for additional events. See our online calendar at [www.concorduu.org/calendar](http://www.concorduu.org/calendar) for the most up-to-date listing of events.***

Thank you to Jenn Star for completing our new banner for the Sanctuary.



# LOVE

## Do you know someone who loves working and playing with kids?

Check out our website for more info about these positions, and to find out how to apply.  
[concorduu.org/about-us/job-openings](http://concorduu.org/about-us/job-openings)

### **Program Lead – Young Explorers**

We are seeking a creative, organized, and reliable team member to serve as Program Lead for our Sunday morning Young Explorers Program for children 5-12 years old. Our ideal candidate will have experience guiding children in a school or camp setting and at least two years of college level training in early childhood or school age education, or equivalent lived experience.

5 hours per week, with 3.5 hours on Sundays and 1.5 hours of flexible planning time.

\$120 per week

### **Children's Program Assistant**

We are seeking two (2) flexible, welcoming, and loving program staff to assist on Sunday mornings in our childcare programs to begin in August. Our ideal candidate will have at least two years of experience working with children in a childcare setting, and be at least 16 years of age.

3 hours per week on Sundays, with opportunities for occasional additional hours for special events during the week.

\$13 per hour

*It is the policy of the UU Church of Concord to hire the most qualified person for the job, without regard to membership in this church. We welcome applicants of any faith, or none, that share our values of justice, equity, and compassion. Being an employee of a church of which one is a member comes with particular benefits and challenges for both the employee and the church. Members who become employees, or employees who wish to become members, are encouraged to give careful thought to the challenges of holding this dual role. During any hiring process, we will educate applicants/candidates about this issue, if applicable.*



# LOVE

## Parish Notes Deadline

Sept issue: August 17  
Submit to [parishnotes@concorduu.org](mailto:parishnotes@concorduu.org) by 2pm  
on the day of the deadline.

## Officers

Treasurer | Vacant  
Custodian of Investments | Jack Wakelin  
Assistant Treasurers | Lorraine Ellis, Ann West  
Moderator | Barbara Keshen  
Clerk | Ann Hoey

## Board of Trustees

Chair | Craig Whitson  
Vice-Chair | Susi Nord  
Secretary | Anne Meyers  
Bank Signatory | Jim Curley  
Larry Davis  
Arthoen Wolf

## Staff

Senior Minister & Choir Director  
Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger  
603-715-7557 (cell) | [michael@concorduu.org](mailto:michael@concorduu.org)

Dir. of Membership & Administration  
Lea Smith  
603-224-0291 ext 3# | [lea@concorduu.org](mailto:lea@concorduu.org)

Church Administrator  
Becky Bosse  
603-224-0291 ext 1# | [becky@concorduu.org](mailto:becky@concorduu.org)

Family Engagement Coordinator  
Dory LeCount | [dory@concorduu.org](mailto:dory@concorduu.org)

Accompanist | Heather Maconaghy  
[heather@concorduu.org](mailto:heather@concorduu.org)

Sexton | Russell Perseveres

Custodian | Agnes Sesay

Childcare Providers | Bayshay Bruss & Maria  
Ruelas

Audiovisual Assistant | Gavin Robichaud

*Love is the power that holds us together  
and is at the center of our shared values.*

*We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our  
shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.*

-- part of the Values and Covenant in the bylaws of the Unitarian Universalist Association,  
adopted in June 2024

# Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

## 2025-26 Calendar of Church-wide Events

### Sunday Mornings

This is the general pattern September through June.

*See online calendar for exceptions (especially for September, as the church year launches mid-month)*

#### **1st Sundays**

**9am to 9:45am:** Choir Warmup

**10am to 11:15am:** Worship Service

**10am to 12:45pm:** Young Explorers Program for ages 5 and up. Nursery care for ages 0-4

**11:15am to 11:45am:** Social Time: Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation

**11:45am to 12:45pm:** Sermon Dialogue or other adult program

#### **2nd & 3rd Sundays**

**9am to 9:45am:** Choir Warmup

**10am to 11:15am:** Worship Service

**10am to 12:30pm:** Young Explorers Program for ages 5 and up. Nursery care for ages 0-4

**11:30am to 12:30pm:** "Second Hour" Adult Learning, Service & Practice  
(Sermon Dialogue, Contemplative Practice, & other activities)

**12:30pm to 1:30pm:** Community Lunch

#### **4th & 5th Sundays**

**9am to 9:45am:** Choir Warmup

**10am to 11:15am:** Worship Service

**10am to 11:15am:** Nursery care available for ages 0-4

**11:15am to 11:45am:** Social Time: Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation

**11:45am to 12:45pm:** Sermon Dialogue or other adult program

**11:45am to 12:45pm:** Childcare for all ages is available for after-service programs if you sign up before 10am on the board near the Rainbow Room.



# Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

## 2025-2026 Calendar of Events

All events are open to all, unless otherwise indicated.

### Special Worship Services

*Taize at Concord UU* - every 1st Sunday @ 7pm, October through April

*UU Worship at Havenwood* - every 4th Thursday @ 1pm, September through May

*Earth Centered Spirituality Rituals* - on or near solstices, equinoxes, and cross-quarter days

### Recurring Faith Exploration Events

*Sermon Dialogue* - 1st, 4th & 5th Sundays at 11:45am

*Second Hour Adult Programs* - 2nd and 3rd Sundays at 11:30am

*Young Explorers Program* - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays @ 10am, September through May

*Youth Group* - 2nd and 3rd Fridays @ 7pm, starting Sept 12

*Elder Circles of Healing & Wholeness* - 2nd Fridays @ 10:30am, October through May

*Covenant Groups* - monthly small group ministry (open enrollment in January)

*Power of Myth Viewing and Discussion* - 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30pm, October through March

### Recurring Contemplative Events

*Daily Silent Morning Meditation* - Daily @ 7am Zoom Only

*Thursday Morning Meditation Group* - Thursdays @ 7am Zoom Only non-church link

*Mindful Yoga* - 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays @ 6:30pm, Sept through May

*Mindfulness Practice Group* - 2nd and 4th Mondays @ 6pm, Sept through May

### Recurring Social, Family, & Fellowship Events

*Community Lunch* - 2nd and 3rd Sundays @ 12:30pm, September through May

*Tuesday's Welcome Table* - Tuesdays @ 6pm, Sept 9 through June 2

*Games and Chocolate* - 1st Fridays @ 6:30pm

*Art & Appetizers* - 2nd Fridays @ 6pm

*Pancakes, Play & Planting Peace* - 2nd Saturdays @ 9am

*Knitting Group* - 2nd Saturdays @ 10am

*Family Covenant Group* - 3rd Fridays @ 6pm (please contact organizers before attending)

*Neurospicy Humans Group* - 3rd Saturdays @ 6pm

*Softball Team* - June through August, Games are Mondays @ 6pm, Mid-June through Mid-August

### Recurring Musical Events

*Choir Rehearsal* - Thursdays, 7pm to 8:30pm, starting Sept 4

*Choir Warm Up* - Sundays when choir is singing @ 9am

*Drum Circle* - 3rd Sundays @ 7pm

*Blue Moon Music House* - 2nd Tuesdays @ 7pm

### Recurring Outreach Events

*Friendly Kitchen prep and serve day* - 1st Wednesdays @ 3pm

### Recurring Healing & Helping Events

*Concord Area Support Group for People with Parkinson's and their Care Partners* - 1st Tuesdays @ 10am

\* *PFLAG Support Group* - 3rd Sundays @ 3pm

\* *Renaissance New England Transgender Group* - 2nd Saturdays @ 3pm in September, November, January, March & May (please contact organizers before attending)

\* *public support groups that meet at the church but are not church programs.*

# Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord

## 2025-26 Calendar of Church-wide Events

(This listing is for non-recurring events only - see separate list for recurring events)

Aug. 31	Sun	Last Summer Service @ 10 am
Sept.	TBD	Mabon/Autumn Equinox - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
Sept.	TBD	Day Long Meditation Retreat
Sept. 1	Mon	Labor Day Office is Closed
Sept. 5	Fri	Picnic Food Prep Party 3pm to 6pm
Sept. 6	Sat	Choir Springboard Rehearsal & Potluck 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Sept. 7	Sun	Water Communion Service @ 10 am Fall Picnic @ 11:15 am
Sept. 21	Sun	Exploring Membership Class #1 @ 1 pm Concord Multicultural Festival 11 am to 5 pm at Keach Park
Sept. 25	Thurs	Tween Night 6:30 to 8:30 pm Blues, Brews & BBQ - CCEH Fundraiser at the Barn at Bull Meadow 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Sept. 28	Sun	Spiritual Hospitality & Welcoming @ 11:45 am
Oct.	TBD	Samhain - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
Oct. 4	Sat	Intergenerational Picnic & Hike at Mount Kearsarge 11 am to 2 pm sponsored by Senior Singles Social Group and UU Children's Program
Oct. 5	Sun	Bring-a-Friend Sunday @ 10 am Engagement Fair with Children's Classrooms Open House @ 11:15 am Exploring Membership Class #2 @ 1pm
Oct. 5-12		Family Promise Host Week
Oct. 11	Sat	CROP Hunger Walk (for Church World Service) @ 9am
Oct. 13	Mon	Indigenous People's Day Office is Closed
Oct. 15	Wed	Dinner & Volunteer Playshop for Children's Programs @ 5:30 pm
Oct. 23	Thu	Choir Open House - Sing & Social @ 7 pm
Oct. 23-28	Thu-Tues	WindowDressers Build
Oct. 26	Sun	Green Burial Info Session @ 11:45 am
Nov.	TBD	Samhain Ritual @ 7 pm - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
Nov. 2	Sun	Everybody's Birthday Social Hour @ 11:15 am All-Church Fall Grounds Clean-up (Rain Date Nov 9)
Nov. 8	Sat	Mystery Match Reveal Party at Pancakes Play and Planting Peace @ 9 am
Nov. 11	Tues	Feedback & Ideas Forum during Tuesday's Welcome Table @ 6 pm
Nov. 19 & 20	Wed & Th	Outreach Phone-a-Thon by Operations Leadership Team, Board, and Pastoral Care Associates
Nov. 22	Sat	Thanksgiving Dinner @ 6:30 pm (Social Hour at 5:30 pm)
Nov. 23	Sun	Exploring Membership Class #3 @ 1 pm
Nov. 27 & 28	Th & Fri	Office is Closed for Thanksgiving
Dec.	TBD	OWL Parent Orientation
Dec. 7	Sun	Exploring Membership Class #4 @ 1 pm
Dec. 7-14		Family Promise Host Week
Dec. 14	Sun	New Member Covenanting
Dec. 19	Fri	Caroling with the Homeless @ 6 pm
Dec. 21	Sun	Winter Solstice/Yule Ritual @ 7 pm - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
Dec. 24	Wed	Christmas Eve Worship Services @ 5 pm and 9 pm Christmas Eve Community Dinner @ 6:15 pm
Dec. 25 to Jan 1		Office Closed for Holiday Week
Jan.	TBD	OWL begins Jan 4 to Apr 19, 2025
Jan. 1-18		Covenant Group Open Enrollment
Jan. 1	Thurs	New Year's Day Games and Chocolate @ 1 pm
Jan. 3	Sat	New Year's Self-Directed Retreat 9 am to 4 pm
Jan. 4	Sun	Family Meet & Greet Breakfast @ 9 am Covenant Group for All @ 11:45 am
Jan 4 to 18		Raffle Ticket Sales
Jan. 7	Wed	UU Art Talks from Home @ 10 am on Zoom

Jan. 10	Sat	Octagon Dinners @ 5 pm Off Church Grounds
Jan. 17	Sat	Sweet 17 Dance Party @ 7 pm
Jan. 18		Raffle Drawing
Jan. 18-25		Family Promise Host Week
Jan. 21	Wed	UU Art Talks from Home @ 10 am on Zoom
		Exploring Membership Class #1 @ 6 pm
Jan. 25	Sun	Pathways to Leadership @ 11:45 am
Jan. 31	Sat	Fire & Ice: An Imbolc Family Formal @ 7 pm (Snow Date Feb. 7th)
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Feb. 4	Wed	UU Art Talks from Home @ 10 am on Zoom
		Exploring Membership Class #2 @ 6 pm
Feb. 7	Sat	Snow Date for Fire & Ice: An Imbolc Family Formal @ 7 pm
Feb. 18	Wed	UU Art Talks from Home @ 10 am on Zoom
Feb 15 to Mar 1	Sun-Sun	Silent Auction
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Mar.	TBD	Ostara/Spring Equinox Ritual - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
Mar. 1		Auction @ 11:30 am
		Children's Auction @ 11:30
Mar. 4	Wed	UU Art Talks from Home @ 10 am on Zoom
Mar. 6	Fri	Mud Season Dance Party @ 7 pm
Mar. 8	Sun	2025-2026 Stewardship Campaign Kickoff
Mar. 11	Wed	UU Art Talks from Home - Lunch and Tour at the Currier Museum of Art
Mar. 14	Sat	Pancakes, Play and Planting Peace Art Collage Activity with SSSG @ 9 am
		Octagon Dinners @ 5 pm Off Church Grounds
Mar. 21 to 29		Costa Rica Trip
Mar. 25	Wed	Exploring Membership Class #3 @ 6 pm
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Apr.	TBD	SouperFest for the Concord Coalition to End Homelessness
Apr. 1	Wed	Exploring Membership Class #4 @ 6 pm
Apr. 5	Sun	Easter Worship @ 10 am
		Easter Egg Hunt @ 11:30 am
Apr. 11	Sat	Passover Seder Supper @ 5:30 pm - tentative date
Apr. 12	Sun	New Member Covenanting
Apr. 12-19		Contemplative Practice Spirit Week
Apr. 18	Sat	All Day Mindfulness Retreat 9 am - 4 pm
Apr. 19	Sun	Stewardship Campaign Finale
Apr. 25	Sat	UU Friends of Refugees Fun & Fellowship Potluck Dinner @ 6 pm
Apr. 26	Sun	Long-term Member Breakfast @ 9 am
Apr. 26-May 3		Family Promise Host Week
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May TBD		Beltane Ritual - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
May 3	Sun	Youth Led Service
		All-Church Spring Grounds Clean-up @ 11:45 am (Rain Date May 10)
May 10 -15		Yard & Plant Sale donations accepted
May 16	Sat	Yard & Plant Sale @ 9 am
		Octagon Dinners @ 5 pm Off Church Grounds
May 17	Sun	Rainbow Room Graduation
May 25	Mon	Memorial Day Office is Closed
May 31	Sun	Budget Forum @ 11:45 am
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June TBD		Summer Solstice - Midsummer/Litha Ritual - Earth Centered Spirituality Group
June 5-6	Fri-Sat	UU Village Camp-in @ 5:30 pm
June 7	Sun	Music Sunday
		Annual Meeting @ 11:30 am
		Kids Council @ 11:30 am
June 14	Sun	Flower Communion Service @ 10 am
		Spring Picnic @ 11:15 am
June 21		Beginning of Summer Services
June	TBD	General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association

updated 6/25/2025

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

