

PARISH NOTES

Newsletter of the
Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord



THERE You Are!

SUBMITTED BY ALETHEIA SMITH
MEMBER OF THE CONGREGANT ENGAGEMENT TEAM

We think of 'hosting' as something we do for people we know in an environment we control. What would happen if you were to host random people in an environment you DON'T control or have responsibility for?!

What could happen when you give your kind attention and love even though it's not necessarily requested, even though you're not under obligation (though could be), even though your hospitality and welcome is likely unanticipated, even though you are giving attention and love without condition to random people whom you treat as friends? Does it seem presumptuous to walk up to someone and make a friend - unprompted? Does that seem like something you couldn't do? Is hospitality out of your comfort zone? Is your brain screaming - 'I could never do that!' 'That's not my purview!' 'I'm too shy to do that!' 'That's not my gift!' 'I don't have the personality for it!' 'What would I say?'

So, here's the real question, "Why NOT you?"

Can you imagine the impact you could have on someone's life by just opening yourself to the possibility of conversation with someone you don't know yet? Have you ever been thankful for an unexpected conversation?

Aletheia's story, and an invitation, is continued on page 4 and 5.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship is at 10 am

IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM AT WWW.CONCORDUU.ORG/LIVE

Our theme for
September is
BEGINNINGS.

September 6 will be our final “summer service.”

9/6/2026 “The Communities That Carry Us” Joe Cicirelli

Reflecting on how a young family's experience of unexpected (union) job loss (lockout during negotiations) revealed the power of family, friends, and community to sustain us through times of upheaval and change. Through stories of resilience and the power of labor solidarity, the service will explore how the values of mutual care, human dignity, and interdependence connect the labor movement with the values at the heart of Unitarian Universalism.

The 2026-27 church year launches on September 13.

9/13/2026 “New Beginnings: A Water Communion Service” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

Time for new beginnings as the life of our congregation resumes and creates the rhythms and harmonies of our regular church year. Join us in our beautiful sanctuary for our annual water communion service for a sense of renewal, welcome, and belonging with hearts opened by music and ritual, invited by friendly faces and a caring community.

Our water communion honors the diverse stories that join us together - again and again, or for the first time. Listen to stories of Friendship & Community, of Spiritual Growth & Learning, of Sorrow, Sacred Places, and Works of Justice & Service. Bring some water that has blessed you this summer, directly or symbolically. Spare water will be available for all.

9/20/2026 “Cherished Belonging” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

What does it mean to belong to a community where we are not simply welcomed, but cherished? To cherish someone is more than to accept them, more even than to love them in some abstract, universal sense. To cherish is to hold someone as precious - to recognize that there is something in them worthy of tenderness and care, no matter what wounds they carry, no matter how much healing they will need. For our covenant is not a promise that we will be perfect; it is a promise about what we will do when we are not.

9/27/2026 “Birth of the Concord UU” Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger

On April 4, 1827, a group of congregants from the First Congregational Church decided to found the Second Congregational Society (Unitarian), later renamed the UU Church of Concord. What theological divisions lead to the split? What was the religious context that led to similar separations throughout New England? How were the disagreements navigated? What might be lessons for today's divided social landscape?

Join a conversation after the service to discuss ways to celebrate our 200 year anniversary.





We Love Sunday Mornings at Concord UU

Our new church year launches on September 13! This is the general pattern September through June, but it is a little different in September due to the mid-month launch. As always, see our online calendar for the latest updates at www.concorduu.org/calendar.

1st Sundays: “Social Time” Sunday

- 9am to 9:45am: Choir Warmup
- 10am to 11:15am: Worship Service
- 10am to 12:45pm: Nursery care available for ages 0-4
- 10am to 12:45pm: Young Explorers Program for ages 5 and up
- 11:15am to 11:45am: Social Time: Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation
- 11:45am to 12:45pm: Second Hour Sermon Dialogue or other adult program(s)

2nd & 3rd Sundays: “Community Luncheon” Sunday

- 9am to 9:45am: Choir Warmup
- 10am to 11:15am: Worship Service
- 10am to 12:30pm: Nursery care available for ages 0-4
- 10am to 12:45pm: Young Explorers Program for ages 5 and up.
- 11:30am to 12:30pm: Second Hour Learning, Service & Practice (Sermon Dialogue, Contemplative Practice, & other activities)
- 12:30pm to 1:30pm: Community Lunch

4th & 5th Sundays “Social Time” Sunday

- 9am to 9:45am: Choir Warmup
- 10am to 11:15am: Worship Service
- 10am to 12:45pm: Nursery care available for ages 0-4
- 11:15am to 11:45am: Social Time: Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation
- 11:45am to 12:45pm: Second Hour Sermon Dialogue or other adult program(s)
- 11:45am to 12:45pm: Childcare for all ages is available for after-service programs if you sign up before 10:30am with the Rainbow Room staff.

Watch your eBulletin each week to see what’s coming up on Sunday!



Continued from page 1

THERE You Are!

by Aletheia Smith

We know that building a new relationship includes risk but is often rewarded with great joy. All of us have a story that is fascinating, here's mine:

When I was just starting graduate school (the second time, at 40), I remember a lovely fall evening at a 'Welcome New Students' lobster bake at a small seminary on the north shore of MA. I had just quit my career and moved with my family from Phoenix, AZ to South Hamilton, MA. We had just arrived and were still unpacking boxes in an apartment that was smaller than any place we had ever lived as a family. The boys loved the new environment (tree swing, playground, a big lawn to run around on), my spouse was grieving the loss of so many close friends and I was frankly, numb. As students and faculty socialized and the smell of lobster and other food drifted around us. I stood with one foot up on the parking lot guardrail watching the beautiful fall leaves flutter and fall in the dwindling golden light of sunset. I was wondering if we, if I, had made a foolish decision leaving my career for another. We knew absolutely nobody, had no work, little money, and felt determined but absolutely alone.

Suddenly I heard a voice behind me say, 'There you are!' I turned to see who this warm greeting had been directed to. Behind me stood an older gentleman smiling warmly with his hand extended toward - me. He greeted me like he knew me or at least wanted to know me. His warm conversation start-up was about me, not him. My first thought is 'surely he's mistaken me for someone he knows.' Nope. Yet, we spent a few minutes talking easily (I usually default to awkward and superficial - at least I used to). We both shared several common interests; he asked open-ended questions; and was curious to know me regardless of who he or I was. I had no idea who this man was until weeks after our meeting, other than his name, Haddon Robinson. He was, I discovered, one of the pre-eminent professors of homiletics (preaching) on campus (heck, in the country - at least in some circles).

I often think of him. It is almost a matter of habit now, to give 'There you are!' energy when meeting people I don't know yet, just the same as when I see people I have come to know and love - everyone I know, and love was a stranger to me at some point.

'THERE YOU ARE!' energy is the core of spiritual hospitality and welcoming. Regardless of our circumstances, our ability to talk with people, our fear of rejection or of not having something to say; we can allow it to happen anywhere, at any time with anyone. It is welcoming someone into relationship with YOU with curiosity about THEM.



Spiritual Hospitality and Welcoming Workshop

presented by Aletheia Smith and the Congregant Engagement Team

We are pleased to announce a Spiritual Hospitality and Welcoming Workshop for everyone!

Sunday October 11, 2026 at 11:30 am in the Parlor

Are you curious about what 'Spiritual Hospitality' means? Fantastic! If you're curious, you are approximately 58.63% of the way to understanding what Spiritual Hospitality and Welcoming is all about!

You may be curious to know - "How are hospitality and Spiritual Hospitality and Spiritual Welcoming different?" Spiritual Hospitality happens without prompting or premeditation or condition - it's a mindset and a skill anyone can learn and grow.

Please join us for this fun workshop to share an unlimited supply of 'there you are energy!'



Celebration of Life Loren Hill

**Saturday, Sept 19 at 2pm
in the Sanctuary**

**reception to follow
in Fellowship Hall**

To protect our volunteer leaders from scams, we don't publish their personal contact info in Parish Notes. You can look them up in the church paper directory, in the Breeze digital directory, or email office@concordUU.org.

Church Members and Friends may request a Breeze account by emailing breeze@concorduu.org.

Fall in Love with (or even at?) Concord UU's Fall Family Potluck Picnic on Sunday, September 13th

SUBMITTED BY RENEE WEST

While summer sun still scorches, why not come inside to plan for our Fall Picnic? What you'll fall for: delicious grilled burgers and dogs, including vegan/GF offerings, along with cold drinks and chips, as well as the array of swoon-worthy sides and desserts that are always offered by your fellow congregants. You'll also be enamored with the captivating conversations while watching the kiddos have a blast in the bouncy house!

The suggested donation is \$7 to \$9 per adult, and kids eat free. Please don't let the cost be a barrier to you, as your presence is what's desired!

Your help would also be adored, whether you help with setting things up, making sure everything runs smoothly, or cleaning up afterwards. Please let us know you're coming, what dish you can bring, and how you can help by filling out this form: uuconcordnh.breezechms.com/form/picnic. Signup sheets will also be available at church. If you have any questions, please email Renee West via her contact information in Breeze or by emailing office@concorduu.org with a subject line Picnic Questions.

See you there!





Young Explorers (ages 5-13) begins September 20

The Young Explorers Program is our nature based play and faith exploration program for children ages 5-13.

When: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning after Time for All Ages in the sanctuary until pickup at 12:45pm.

Where: Outside on our natural playground and grounds, and inside in the Armenia White Room (and occasionally other open indoor spaces). Please dress your children for outside play in all weather, and bring a water bottle!

Why: Children will have the opportunity to engage their whole hearts, minds, and spirits in the exploration of Unitarian Universalist values while experiencing authentic connection with one another, the wider congregation, and with the natural world.



[Click here to sign up for Young Explorers or Rainbow Room](#) or scan the QR code below.



Rainbow Room Nursery ages 0-4

Children 6 weeks to 4 years old are welcome in the Rainbow Room Nursery for loving care and playtime during Sunday service and any after service adult programming.

When: Every Sunday from 9:50am until the end of adult programming.

Where: The Rainbow Room and occasionally outside on the playground if appropriate for the group.

Why: Our youngest children will have the opportunity to play with, and learn from, each other while their adults enjoy the service, quiet time, and adult activities and interactions. Nursery caregivers will always notify parents if a child is having a challenging time in the nursery or is inconsolable. Parents can drop off and pick up as they feel comfortable within open hours.



Exploring Membership: Making a Home at Concord UU

This group is for newcomers considering joining the church, and members and friends who have been around a while but are looking for more or different ways to connect, as well as a refresher on UU spirituality, history and values.

We'll meet at 1pm for 2 hours at a time, on these Sundays:

- September 27
- October 4
- November 22
- December 6

For those who decide to join the church, the New Member Covenanting Ceremony will be on December 13 during the Sunday service.

Please pre-register at uuconcordnh.breezechms.com/form/exploring-membership-fall-20241395

Questions? Please email Lorraine Ellis by looking her up in Breeze or use office@concorduu.org to get her contact info.

If you are interested, but these dates don't work for you, email membership@concorduu.org to be added to the notification list for future groups.





Harvest Moon Festival at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum Saturday, September 26

Submitted by Edie Daigle for the Land Acknowledgement and Kin Exploration Group

Do you know the name Kawasiwajo? This is the traditional Abenaki name for the mountain we now know as Mount Kearsarge. The Concord UU Land Acknowledgment and Kin Exploration group (LAKE) would like to invite and encourage all members to learn about the traditional caregivers of the extended land that our church community is supported by. We see it as an expression of respect and gratitude to learn about the culture, values and contributions of the Native peoples who for many centuries have been on and with the land that supports our church and our members.

Every September the Mt Kearsarge Indian Museum hosts a Harvest Moon Festival on their beautiful land overlooking the Mink Hills at 18 Highlawn Rd in Warner. According to the Museum's website, the festival is a Native American celebration of the harvest, the end of one cycle and the beginning of another. Harvest Moon is about more than just crops and food. It is a celebration of a season's worth of hard work throughout the community.

The day will include the opportunity to make dolls from corn husks, braid sweet grass, and try beading. There is also a special scavenger hunt to complete - even the adults will have fun with this! Enjoy watching the art of basket making, a live demonstration of flint knapping (making arrowheads), and learn the process of how acorn flour is made. There will be sensory friendly activities and games. The entire family can savor the taste of Native foods, including the ever popular Hidatsa Bison Stew and Three Sisters Soup.

Tickets are available the day of the event and include admission to the museum. For more information, call the museum at 603/456-2600 or visit their website at indianmuseum.org.

This is a family friendly event with food, craft demonstrations and to try, and games. Let's make a church-wide commitment to attend this event on Saturday, September 26, 10am-3pm. Please plan to attend, encourage your friends to come, and bring your curiosity and learner's hearts!



Please share questions with Edie Daigle or Margaret Fletcher. (Look them up in Breeze or email office@concorduu.org for their email address.)

Laughter Yoga

submitted by Grandma Ha Ha (Betsy K.)

HA HA HA HA! I've been having fun this summer, let's share our laughter! I have also had some frustration. We can share gibberish for that. Gtebn muurds kaublin! Laughter Yoga will start up again on Tuesday, September 1 and Tuesday, September 15. We will start with the same schedule, first and third Tuesdays at 5 in the chapel. But wait! There's more!! I am now retired, so I am open to suggestions for another day/time. Come learn how to incorporate more healing laughter to your day. HO HO HA HA HA! Very good!! Very good! YAY!



Spanish Conversation Group: 3rd Sundays at 11:30

Join our informal group of people who enjoy practicing Spanish together. Our September 20 topic will be travel stories.

Pancakes, Play, and Planting Peace Saturday, Sept 12 | 9am to 11am

Bring your grandchildren or children and join us for a pancake breakfast and a service project on the Second Saturday of each month! Adults and children will gather as UUs to explore what it means to be of service. Each month, after eating pancakes made by dedicated volunteers, we will participate in a service project to benefit the wider community. Children and adults will practice what it looks like to give to others, and explore the various ways we can share our resources



UU Great Artists Series

SUBMITTED BY ROGER BALLOU

Many at Concord UU appreciate great paintings and the artists who created them. Here's an opportunity to connect with like-minded UU folks during our 2026-2027 church year.

Concord UU member Roger Ballou facilitates on Zoom a series of explorations of great artists from various time periods in art history. Roger uses Zoom to show photos of the artist, brief biographical information, and some examples from the artist's body of work.

Once registered, you can attend one session, all sessions, or any that you choose (see registration form below). Roger provides email updates to our group to get us ready for our art explorations, and Roger sends the Zoom link the day prior to each presentation.

For this year's series, **our focus during the art talks is on artists whose work will be on display next spring at the Hood Museum of Art on the campus of Dartmouth College in Hanover.**

Our final event on **Wednesday, May 12, 2027, is a UU art trip to the Hood Museum at Dartmouth** to see the many artists we studied. We will make an enjoyable day of it -- coffee stop together on the way to the museum, tour the Hood's galleries, picnic lunch (we each bring our own and eat as a group on the Hood's shaded porch), and a return to Concord by midafternoon.

Wednesday mornings, 10am to 11am, on Zoom

- September 16 -- Lilla Cabot Perry (1848–1933), a Bostonian, befriended by Claude Monet, she became a noted early American Impressionist
- October 21 -- Paul Manship (1885–1966), member of the Cornish Art Colony and America's most celebrated mid-20th century sculptor
- November 18 -- John Frederick Kensett (1816–1872), famed landscape artist of the Hudson River School
- December 16 -- Fernand Léger (1881–1955), French painter, sculptor, and Paris colleague of Pablo Picasso
- January 20 -- Frank Stella (1936-2024), colorful and inventive painter and sculptor during the late 20th century
- February 17 -- Thomas Eakins (1844–1916), 19th century American realist painter and educator
- March 17 -- Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986), early Modernist and painter of the desert Southwest
- April 21 -- Mark Rothko (1903–1970), acclaimed color field artist associated with the 1950-1960 New York School
- Wednesday, May 12, 2027 -- UU art trip to the Hood Museum

To register for the UU Great Artists Series, go to: uuconcordnh.breezechms.com/form/UUGreatArtists

Questions about registering for the UU Great Artists Series should be directed to Lea in the church office at lea@concorduu.org.

Wishing you a rewarding season of great art!



Georgia O'Keeffe, Hollyhock Pink with the Pederal,
New Mexico, 1937



Engagement Fair: Nourishing Connections October 4 after the worship service

At the Engagement Fair you will get to meet the many groups that support **nourishing connections within our church community and beyond**. These groups offer many kinds of connections: social, spiritual, service, connections with the greater community of Concord, connections to our environment, to nature and our planet, to name a few. The groups play an important role in building a community that includes the many interests, values and needs of our congregants. **Come explore and discover new connections that will fill your church experience with deeper meaning and purpose.**

Immediately after the service, grab a cup of coffee or tea, and an extra special snack from Fellowship Hall, before you go out to the courtyard. Make sure you **stop by the Chain of Connection table to add a link to our chain!**

(In case of rain, the Engagement Fair will be in Fellowship Hall.)



Senior Singles Group

SUBMITTED BY MARTHA MAE EMERSON

The Senior Singles Group is in its second year as an active UU group and I mean active! Part of our goal is to provide opportunities for senior singles to build connections with each other, to socialize and to have fun together, all the while exercising our minds and bodies. Here's a sampling of some of our activities from the past year: apple picking, deck and dock party, the Bookish Club, crafts (origami boxes, flower arranging, Christmas centerpieces, Easter egg decorating), Holiday Yankee Swap, attend movies, concerts, visits to art galleries and studios, snowshoeing, nature walks, swimming and kayaking, and a Supper Club.

Some nuts and bolts about who we are:

The UU Senior Singles Group (SSG) is a fun-loving group of single UUs aged 55+ who enjoy sharing interests and a wide variety of activities, all in good company. Members take an active role planning and organizing all that we do.

There are unique needs that are a part of being older and single. A goal of our group is to be supportive of each other in many ways. SSG is also a place where people who might feel lonely can find connections. Sometimes people ask if we are a dating group, and the answer is no.

If you would like more information about SSG and membership please chat with Kits Tunney or Janet Kibbee. (Look them up in Breeze or email office@concorduu.org to get their contact info.)

When you are a member you will receive the SSG Bi-Weekly Update on the first and third Sundays of each month. Here you will find information about our weekly Stay Active Wednesday activities (a new activity each week), as well as reminders of the monthly reoccurring meetings. Recurring SSG monthly meetings are posted on the UU calendar on the church website, as well as in Parish Notes.

SSSG SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Stay Active Wednesdays, every Wednesday 4 times a month
For specific times and places please check our Bi-Weekly Update. In September we have planned activities on September 2, 9, 16, and 23. Final activity selections are set at the previous Monthly Meeting. Fifth Wednesdays occur in some months and these are "free" activity days when members can connect with each other and plan their own activities.

Monthly Social Hour, 2nd Fridays at 1:30 pm

When: Fri., Sept. 11 at 1:30 pm

Where: Abenaki Room at the church

Monthly Meeting, 4th Sundays at 12:45 pm

When: Sun., Sept. 27 at 12:45 pm

Where: Abenaki Room at the church

DOOR PRIZE EVERY TIME!!



Love in Action (LIA) & UU the Vote: Key Things to Know Before Voting

SUBMITTED BY BECKY DOLLIVER

With election season approaching, now is the time to make sure you're ready to vote. Recent voter roll updates make it especially important for everyone to verify their registration status before Election Day.

Important Reminders

- **Check your voter registration now.** Contact your Town Hall or City Clerk to confirm you are registered. Don't wait until Primary or Election Day, as resolving registration issues may require documents you don't have with you.
- **Verify your registration status.** New Hampshire voter rolls have been updated, so everyone should confirm they are still registered as soon as possible.
- **New voters should prepare early.** First-time voters may need additional documentation to prove eligibility. Information and handouts are available at the LIA/UU the Vote table in the Parlor.
- **Student IDs cannot be used to register to vote.**
- **Mail-in and absentee voting have separate requirements.** Please review the rules carefully if you plan to vote by absentee ballot. You can find this info at the UU the Vote table.

What You'll Need to Register

To register to vote, you must be able to prove:

1. Age
2. Residency/Domicile
3. Identity
4. Citizenship

Important notes: No single document proves all four requirements, so you may need to bring multiple documents. Married women who have changed their name from their birth name may need to bring both a birth certificate and marriage license to document their citizenship and name change. For additional info, visit the UU the Vote table.



SCAN TO CHECK IF
YOU ARE REGISTERED
TO VOTE!

Planning to Vote by Mail?

If you need an absentee ballot, **request it from your Town Clerk as soon as possible.** Once received, complete and return it early. New requirements affect ballot submission timelines, including when ballots must be postmarked.

How You Can Be Vote Ready

Whether this is your first election or you've been voting for years, please take a few minutes to:

- Confirm your voting plan
- Encourage friends, family, and neighbors to vote
- Offer a ride or assistance to someone who may need help getting to the polls
- Check your voter registration before voting
- Bring paper or digital documents with you when you vote, even if you believe you are already registered

Stop by the UU the Vote Table

Have questions about voting? Visit the **UU the Vote table in the Parlor** to pick up voter information resources, and learn more about voting requirements, registration, absentee voting, and upcoming election deadlines.

Every vote matters. Let's help ensure everyone is prepared to participate in our democracy.



Youth Group

1st, 2nd
and 3rd
Fridays
at 7pm



**All high-schoolers
welcome!**



Our Youth Group is open to high schoolers and any 8th graders who have completed the Our Whole Lives human sexuality education program. The group meets on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Friday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm, and sometimes at other times for special outings or events. We emphasize building relationships, having fun, developing leadership skills, and serving the community within and beyond the congregation. Whether you are a returning youth or brand new, please fill out these two forms to join the 2026-27 youth group:

[Click here for Registration](#)

[Click here for Field Trip/Overnight Permission](#)

If these links don't work for you, email office@concorduu.org for assistance.



September Special Events

Bold, colored events are perfect for families and kids!

Sept 6 | Sun | Last Summer Service @ 10 am

Sept 12 | Sat | Choir Springboard Rehearsal & Potluck 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

Sept 13 | Sun | Water Communion Service @ 10 am

Fall Picnic @ 11:15 am

Sept 19 | 2pm | Celebration of the Life of Loren Hill

Sept 20 | Sun | Concord Multicultural Festival 11 am to 5 pm at Keach Park

Sept 20-27 | Mystery Match Sign Ups

**Sept 26 | Sat | Harvest Moon Festival at Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum 10 am to 3 pm
with the Land Acknowledgement Kin Exploration Group**

Sept 27 | Sun | Family Promise Volunteer Gratitude Potluck Celebration @ 12:45 pm

Exploring Membership: Making a Home at Concord UU #1 @ 1 pm

HOLD THE DATE for the return of Lama Liz Monson

SUBMITTED BY BETSY BLACK

Lama Liz Monson, Spiritual Director of Natural Dharma Fellowship in Springfield NH will return to Concord UU for a day-long retreat (in the Sanctuary and on Zoom) on Saturday October 17. Watch for more details to follow.

Office Staffing Changes

The church office (and building) are open on Tues to Fri 9am to 2pm. Our Church Administrator Becky Bosse staffs the office during these hours. Becky also works additional hours as needed.

For family reasons, Lea Smith's hours are reduced this year. Most of her membership responsibilities will be covered by our fabulous Congregant Engagement Team and by our new Family Engagement Coordinator Amelia Borgus. Because Lea won't be our membership coordinator anymore, her title is changing to Director of Finance and Operations. Her workdays are Tues, Wed, and Fri in the office, and Mondays at home.

New this year: the office will not be staffed on Sunday mornings. Please do your church "business" with Lea or Becky during the week. We extend our heartfelt thanks for your cooperation during this transition.



Recurring Events

Concord UU offers many opportunities for connection beyond Sunday mornings. Check out some of the activities below. Bold, colored events are perfect for families and kids!

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 (not in Nov or Dec)

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

Contemplative Events

Daily Silent Morning Meditation - Daily @ 7am Zoom Only

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

UU Yoga - 1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays @ 6:30pm

Mindfulness Practice Group - 2nd and 4th Mondays @ 6:30pm

Food, Fellowship, & Faith Events

Tuesday's Welcome Table - Tuesdays @ 6pm, Sept 15 through June 8

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

Art & Appetizers - 2nd Fridays @ 6pm starting in October

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

Knitting Group - 1st Saturdays @ 10am

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

Youth Group - 1st, 2nd and 3rd Fridays @ 7pm, starting Sept 18 (please contact Michael before attending)

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

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

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

Senior Singles Group weekly and monthly events - see page 13

Musical Events

Choir Rehearsal - Thursdays, 7pm to 8:30pm, starting Sept 10

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

Drum Circle - 3rd Sundays @ 2pm

Blue Moon Music House - 2nd Tuesdays @ 7pm

Outreach Events

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

Healing & Helping Events

American Sign Language Practice Group - Sundays @ 8:30am

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

Laughter Yoga - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays @ 5 pm



As the new year starts, here are reminders of a few of our health and safety policies.

Chemical Use and Pest Control

The UU Church of Concord aims to support a healthy church environment, indoors and out, for all human beings, as well as other creatures and plants. Therefore we choose non-toxic chemicals, materials and processes, unless there is no alternative. We ask all staff and volunteers to be familiar with our [Chemical Use Policy](#). In short, it says we will use the least toxic products possible. For example, if you are involved in a maintenance project, please choose zero VOC paints or other non-toxic supplies and cleaners. Pesticides and herbicides may not be used unless there is no alternative, and approval from Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger would be needed.

In order to help us keep our commitment to non-toxic pest control, please help keep the building free of rodents and insects by:

- storing food in the metal kitchen cabinets, glass containers, or other sealed containers.
- taking out the trash when you leave, if you've left food in it (the dumpster is in the rear of the parking lot) - make sure you use the TRASH dumpster not the recycling dumpster.
- ensuring the compost bucket is well-sealed.
- rinsing recyclables before putting them in recycle bins.

Child Protection

We have a policy to create the safest possible environment for our children while they are involved in church programs. We require that all volunteers who work regularly with children have been involved at the congregation for at least 6 months, have a background check, and provide references. We require that there are at least two caregivers present when children are being supervised for a church activity, one of whom must be at least 18 years old. We want every child who comes through our doors to have an experience of feeling cared for, valued, and safe, and we take seriously our responsibility as adults to adhere to these policies. For more details, please read our [Child Protection Policy](#).

Sex Offender Participation

We have a policy regarding people who have been accused or convicted of sexual offenses. As Unitarian Universalists we affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We believe in the healing power of involvement in a spiritual home. As a faith-based community, we can provide support, compassion, and vigilance to maximize safety when individuals who have sexually offended participate in the life of our church community. We require anyone who meets the criteria of the policy to contact Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger. For details, please read our [Policy for Safely Including Sex Offenders in Our Church Community](#).

If links on this page don't work for you, email lea@concorduu.org.



Parish Notes Deadline

Oct issue: September 20

Submit to parishnotes@concorduu.org by 2pm on the day of the deadline.

Do you create art, poetry, or prose that says something about our church or your faith? Send it to parishnotes@concorduu.org.

Officers

Custodian of Investments | Jack Wakelin
Financial Secretaries | Lorraine Ellis, Ann West
Moderator | John Tobin
Clerk | Ann Hoey

Board of Trustees

Chair | Susi Nord
Vice-Chair | Arthoen Wolf
Secretary | Beeler Lile-Sexton
Larry Davis
Anna Morrison
Anne Meyers

Staff

Senior Minister & Choir Director

Rev. Michael Leuchtenberger
603-715-7557 (cell)
michael@concorduu.org

Dir. of Finance & Operations

Lea Smith
603-224-0291 ext 3# | lea@concorduu.org

Church Administrator

Becky Bosse
603-224-0291 ext 1# | becky@concorduu.org

Music Ministry Coordinator

Heather Maconaghy | heather@concorduu.org

Family Engagement Coordinator

Amelia Borgus | amelia@concorduu.org

Young Explorers Guide & Youth Group Assistant

Amir Robertson

Childcare Providers

Bayshay Bruss & Riley Carr

Custodian/Facility Manager

Joe Bonavita

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274 PLEASANT STREET
CONCORD, NH 03301-2551

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

