



The First Universalist Society of Hartland Unitarian Universalist

JUNE 2015

First Universalist Society
Hartland Four Corners
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Sunday Services & Religious Education Classes 10 am in the Church

Sunday Services

June 7

Paul Sawyer

Annual Worship Under the Tent!—"Love Saves"

Join us under the tent at Connie Tessier's, just a quarter of a mile from the church on Mace Hill Road, for a service filled with songs, stories, and a celebration of free faith. We'll also welcome new members to our society. Come for the service! Please bring a picnic lunch for after the service! *There's no collection at this service.*

June 14

Paul Sawyer

Children's Program Celebration Sunday and Flower Communion

Bring a flower to share! Today we will honor our children and their teachers in this fun annual intergenerational service of recognition and celebration, and we'll also return to honoring a traditional Unitarian celebration of the season, the Flower Communion. The Flower Communion was created by Rev. Norbert Capek, the founder of the Unitarian Church of Czechoslovakia, where it was first practiced in 1923 (you can read more about the history and tradition on-line—just search for "Flower Communion UUA" and the story on the UUA website should be among the top results). We'll all bring cut flowers to share—from our gardens, from a store, from anywhere—and we'll gather our flowers together, and then we'll distribute the flowers so everyone will go home with some beauty shared by someone else. *The collection will benefit Girls on the Run.*

June 21

Compassion

Paul Sawyer

Reflections on our worship theme for the first half of our summer season, "compassion" and some seasonal celebrations for the first day of summer! *The collection will benefit Planned Parenthood of Northern New England*

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OFFERING RECIPIENTS

JUNE

We rely on the planned, committed, pledge support of our members and friends to support the needs of our church. We dedicate our collections during Sunday morning worship to organizations doing good work in our local communities or in society as a whole. Checks for the collection can be made out to "FUSH" and we will consolidate donations to pass on to the organization.

For those wishing to make a pledge payment, or a donation specifically to support our congregation's budget, there is a box on the welcoming table at the back of the sanctuary, or you can use the small manila envelopes available on that same table, or simply mark "for FUSH" in the memo line of your check.

Please contact Paul if you have nominations for organizations you feel would be good choices for our support.

June 14— Girls on the Run Vermont

Girls on the Run (GOTR) is a non-profit organization with a mission to inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident, using a fun, experienced-based curriculum that creatively integrates running. GOTR includes running workouts and games that teach important skills, such as how to make healthy decisions and resolve conflicts. The program challenges and encourages each girl, whatever her fitness level. It also provides positive peer group experiences and role models for healthy living. Several girls in our congregation participate in the program, and Leaders of local GOTR groups include our members Sara Doolan and Leah Gardner in Hartland and Molly Keating in Brownsville. More information is available from them and at girlsontherunvermont.org

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June 28 "Young African Leaders Give Hope for Africa"

Six young African leaders will visit our church to introduce themselves, their countries, and their development projects. President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative, announced during his visit to Africa in 2012, and renamed Mandela Fellows, brings more than 500 young African leaders to 20 U.S. schools for six weeks each summer. Twenty five of them arrive on June 21 at Dartmouth College for the summer, where they will receive leadership training, academic coursework, and mentoring in business and entrepreneurship, civic leadership, and public management. *The collection will be divided among them to be used for their projects back in Africa.*

From Your Minister

Religious Freedom

Our congregation was founded in 1802 in a cooperative effort with several nearby "Sister Societies" and we came together later in that year with the congregations in Woodstock, Barnard, and Bethel to call our first minister, the Rev. Hosea Ballou.

That kind of shared effort—small communities working together to support each other and to make more efficient use of the resources we need—was, and continues to be, a hallmark of Northern New England common sense and organization. In those early years, everyone knew that cooperative effort was essential to survival. In our current times, it's easy to lose sight of the truth that such cooperation remains essential if we want to continue to build and sustain communities that will last and remain healthy and effective long into the future.

We are now in the midst of some very early efforts to build more meaningful connections with our neighbor Unitarian Universalist communities. Last summer we joined with members of the First Universalist Society of Barnard, and a few from Woodstock and Bethel, in a joint worship service and picnic in Barnard. I've just confirmed that we'll be able to hold another such gathering this summer, on August 30, and I've already heard that on that day we'll also have some participants from the Universalist congregation in South Strafford. Now that we have the date, I'll be reaching out to others as well, and we'll hope to have an even larger gathering with representatives from more congregations this year. And as we build relationships, I hope we'll find ways to collaborate in even more productive and supportive ways. It can be hard to reach across the gaps of practice and habit and community lines, but we're learning in all aspects of human activity that the more collaborative and more cooperative we can be, the better chance we have to meet the needs of our times, and to survive for generations to come.

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Offering Recipients
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June 21—Planned Parenthood of Northern New England

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England offers reproductive and general healthcare services across our region, including clinics located in West Lebanon and Claremont. Planned Parenthood's work in advocacy, education, and direct services is a vital force in promoting sexual health in our wider society. Planned Parenthood is also a strong supporter of our Our Whole Lives comprehensive sexuality education programs.

More information is available at www.plannedparenthood.org/ppnne.

June 28—The Projects of the Mandela Washington Fellow

The Mandela Washington Fellows are young people from Sub-Saharan Africa who have been chosen to study at Dartmouth College during the summer as part of the US State Department's Young African Leaders Initiative. The goals of this program are to build and sustain a network of young Sub-Saharan leaders; to strengthen ties between Sub-Saharan Africa and the United States; and to prepare the Fellows for future leadership opportunities in Africa. Dartmouth is one of 20 universities nationwide serving as a host to Mandela Washington Fellows, and through our own Don Foster, who is one of the community members involved in the program (and someone with extensive experience working on issues of development and leadership in Africa himself) we were honored to hear from several of the young leaders participating in last year's inaugural class of Fellows. Our contributions will support the work of the Fellows who will be sharing their stories

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With those relationships in mind, I want to make sure you know about two important developments happening this month in nearby congregations.

First, at the end of June, the Rev. Daniel Jantos will retire from his ministry with the North Chapel Universalist Society in Woodstock. Daniel has served the Woodstock church since 2000, and his ministry and his leadership has been transformative for both the congregation and the community. Daniel will be returning to Australia, where he grew up and where his adult children now live full time, so I'm happy for him and for his family, but personally, I will miss Daniel greatly. His presence and his support have been constant and deeply inspiring for me since my very first days in ministry in our church, and I have benefitted greatly from his generous openness, and his kind spirit and unique energy. NCUS will have an interim minister for the next year or two, and then they will be in search for a new settled minister. I know that you will join me in offering blessings to Daniel on the next phase of his journey, and offering our support to NCUS as they begin the challenging and inspiring work of a ministerial search.

And then, in Norwich, there's a truly exciting development taking place at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Upper Valley. On June 1, they will break ground, beginning construction of their new sanctuary on their property on Route 5. As many of you know, since its founding in 1984, this congregation has not ever had their own space for worship. They've met in a local school, in neighboring churches, and in the small house on the property they purchased several years ago, but those have all been temporary and insufficient spaces. This building project has been a long time in coming for UUCUV, and I'm as excited for them as they are for themselves (and they're very excited, let me tell you!). I know that in this relationship, as well, that you'll join me in supporting UUCUV, and in celebrating with them in the coming year as they build and move into their new and long-awaited space.

I'm inspired every day by the historic cooperation that helped us create and sustain our congregation in the nineteenth century, and by the increasingly meaningful relationships we're working to build with our neighbors in faith today. And I'm grateful that our congregation can serve as a leader in working to build a more effective and sustainable future for our faith tradition in our area.



Offering Recipients
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and their inspiration with us on this day. More information is available from Don, or at the website of the program: <http://dickey.dartmouth.edu/global-engagement/conferences/initiatives/young-african-leaders-initiative>.

Engaging the Spirit Upcoming Themes

Here are our monthly Engaging the Spirit worship themes for the next few months.

If you have a personal story, or suggested worship materials, or possible related worship topics, or any thoughts at all about any of these themes, please share your ideas with Paul.

Thank you!

June/July— Compassion

July/August—Harmony

September—Sabbath

October—Reverence

Welcome to Summer!

After our traditional June services, we'll start our summer program, "Summer Sun." We will spend the SUNdays during the next few months having fun with crafts, science, and books, all while enjoying each other's company. The children will share books they are reading, get a chance to make a sun god or goddess while learning about the Egyptian god Re, do tie dye, decorate sun visors, and maybe even make solar ovens! We'll be putting the volunteer sign up schedule online, so check out the fun activities to see when you can help out.

We have a big group "graduating" from the K-6 RE this year. The dynamics of the RE program will be changing a bit with these older kids moving on, but we still have a healthy group of children who will continue to make the time together fun and enriching.

Thanks again to our RE volunteers in May: Dan Lambert, Heather Findlay, Mariet Jaarsma, Dianne Rochford and John Hikory.

As most of you know, I have given my notice of resignation, effective at the end of this RE year which is coming up in the next month. I have immensely enjoyed my role as Director of Religious Education with this wonderful group of children and their families. I can't thank the RE Circle enough for all of their ideas, and most of all Paul for his support and guidance in learning all that is involved with this position and in the church community.

Sara
DRE

June RE Calendar

7	10:00 am	Tent Meeting
14	10:00 am	Multigenerational: Children's Sunday
21	10:00 am	Welcome to Summer: Games
28	10:00 am	Garden Planting

WE WILL MISS YOU



Calling All Circles

Fundraising

Cookies at the Farmers Market

We will be selling cookies at the Hartland Farmers Market at Nada Pierce's booth on every Friday during the summer.

Two or three volunteers are needed to bake cookies for this fundraiser and if you are able please look for a sign up sheet at church. The cookies can be left at the church Fellowship Hall on Friday mornings between 8:00-10:00 am, or call the church office to find out when it is open, or bring them to Nada's Notes Booth at the Hartland Farmers Market at 4:00 pm.

One volunteer is also needed to help sell at the booth. This fundraiser starts on June 5 and runs through the summer.

For more information contact Nada Pierce.

Money from this fundraiser will benefit the church's budget.



Quilt Raffle

Elaine Hart has donated a beautiful quilt "Civil War Chronicles" to be raffled off starting on June 5 at Nada's Notes Booth. This raffle will continue until the final Turkey Supper on October 31 when the winner will be drawn.

For more information contact Nada Pierce.

The money raised from this fundraiser will benefit the Ladies Aid Building

The Red Aprons

Motto:
*Be a guest
at your own party.*

The Red Aprons are volunteers from the church who can take the work out of your party by organizing and managing food service, clean up and other things you may need done.



If you are having a wedding reception, birthday party, graduation party, or reunion think of us.

We are looking for more volunteers. If you would like to be put on the e-mail list, please contact Joan Fariel or Chuck Fenton.

Proceeds for these services will be donated to FUSH.

Calling All Circles

Connections Circle

Going Green

The folks who regularly work on our all-church meals have been struggling with a predicament.

There's not often a lot of energy to help clean up after such events, especially when they occur following a church meeting or an activity like our all-church clean-up. Often, to reduce the amount of cleaning



that's needed, they've chosen to use paper products rather than real dishes, cups, and silverware—but that hasn't felt right to many in our congregation, given the energy and other resources required to produce such paper products, and the significant amount of trash we create when we use them. So they're asking us to try an experiment.

Bring your own plates, and whatever else you'd like to use for the meal, and then take them home to wash them, or you can wash them at the church. And, of course, if you forget, or if you just prefer to do so, you can always use the church dishes, so long as you are sure to wash them and put them away yourself at the end of the meal.

Coffee Hour

We thank all those who have provided delicious snacks and organized coffee hour for us since September. The hospitality and hard work are appreciated by the congregation.

We have Sue Buckholz and Patti Eckels signed up to do Coffee Hour on May 31 and Todd Lloyd and Debra Hart in charge of Coffee Hour for June 21. We still need volunteers for June 14 and June 28. We will send directions to each team the week before and there are directions on the coffee pots and on the wall by the coffee pots.

We go on summer schedule without a formal coffee hour in July and August, when anyone can make coffee or bring snacks. It will be very much appreciated but just be sure to organize the clean-up afterwards.

Tent Meeting and Celebration of New Members Sunday, June 7

On Sunday, June 7 we will have our outdoor service where we get to celebrate our new members. Please bring a picnic lunch for after the service. Don't forget to bring dishes for your family so that we only have to use minimal paper goods. We appreciate everyone's enthusiasm for trying to live by our green principles for the environment.

Unitarian Universalism 101 the Nuts and Bolts of FUSH

**Sunday, May 31
11:30 am - 1:30 pm**

Our minister Paul Sawyer will lead a discussion of Unitarian Universalism history and theology as practiced in the First Universalist Society of Hartland Four Corners. The workshop will be an opportunity to have your questions answered and to explore the workings of our Society, the activities available, and the privileges and responsibilities of membership.

This is a workshop for people who are new to the church, as well as members and friends who want to explore our faith or who have questions about UU history or theology.

Lunch and childcare will be provided.

Please RSVP to Sue and David Taylor at:
dstaylor342@gmail.com or at 603-675-6566.

We especially need to know if childcare is needed
so we can hire a child care person.

Bulletin Board

Adult Choir - Rehearsal at 9:00 am on Sunday, June 14 and Sunday, June 21 to sing in the service on the 21st.

Folk Choir - Rehearse at 9:15 am on Sunday, May 31 and Sunday, June 7 to play at the tent service on the 7th.

Under the Tree 5K and 10K

Road Race - This fundraiser is looking for volunteers. It will take place on Saturday, August 15. The road race is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the Hartland Christmas Project, which supports local families year round. Volunteering is fun and easy – you basically get assigned a spot on the race course and serve as a race course maker and cheerer for the runners. The runners love having people along the course route. The race takes place in the morning and is usually all done by 11:00 am. Volunteers are entered into a raffle – we get all kinds of cool prizes. Contact Beth Rice at brice@vermontel.net or 436-3168 if you are interested in volunteering. If you are interested in running, sign up at Signmeup.com. Runners also are entered in the raffle. Come join the fun and support a great cause.

YALI - Don Foster is looking for folks interested in hosting or connecting with some of the Young African Leaders Initiative Mandela Fellows (YALI) who will be in residence at Dartmouth this summer. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Don. Several of these students will present their projects at our church service on June 28

The General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association - To be held in Portland Oregon, June 24–28. Even if you can't make it to GA, you can follow the action and watch many of the major events on-line at www.uua.org, beginning with the Opening Ceremony and Banner Parade on Wednesday, June 24.

“Sermon from the Question Box” - Sunday, July 26. During this service, Paul will respond to questions you send him in the coming month. The questions can be theological or spiritual, or personal, or informational, or random. Look for the official box to appear soon on the information table in the sanctuary, or simply send or give your questions to Paul by hand or electronically.

Save the dates:

We have two joint worship services with the First Congregational Church of Hartland (The Brick Church) this summer:

Sunday, July 5 at our church—Joint Independence Day worship service with both ministers leading worship.

Sunday, August 2 at FCCH at **9:30 am**—our annual Mission Trip celebration service led by the youth with Paul and Lucia.

We're also working on the possibility of a very special worship service for Sunday August 30—the second annual shared celebration and picnic with all of the Unitarian Universalist congregations of the Upper Valley. Look for more news about this service soon!



Calendar - June 2015

5	Fri.	8-10am	Food Shelf
			Drop off cookies for Farmers Market
7	Sun.	9:15 am 10	Folk Choir rehearsal & sing
			Worship Service & RE
8	Mon.	7pm	Governing Board
12	Fri.	8-10am	Food Shelf
			Drop off cookies for Farmers Market
14	Sun.	9am 10	Adult Choir rehearsal
			Worship Service & RE
18	Thurs.		Deadline for July/August newsletter
19	Fri.	8-10am	Food Shelf
			Drop off cookies for Farmers Market
21	Sun.	9am 10	Adult Choir rehearsal & sing
			Worship Service & RE
24-28			General Assembly of UUA, Oregon
26	Fri.	8-10am	Food Shelf
			Drop off cookies for Farmers Market
28	Sun	10am	Worship Service & RE



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