



JULY-AUGUST 2017

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# The First Universalist Society of Hartland

## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Services & Religious Education Classes, Sundays, 10 am, in the Church

### SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

#### JULY 9 MANDELA FELLOWS/YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

Led by members of our congregation with representatives from the Mandela Fellows, young leaders from Africa, studying at Dartmouth this summer. The collection will benefit the projects of the Mandela Fellows

#### JULY 16 WORSHIP TEAM

#### JULY 23 SERMON FROM THE QUESTION BOX

Do you have a theological or other question you've been dying to ask your minister? Put it in the Question Box in the back of the sanctuary, or send it to Paul by e-mail by July 20, and during this week's sermon time he'll address the questions he receives. This service always promises to be fun and at least a little unpredictable. We'll also take a moment in the service to offer a blessing to send off our youth and adults heading to New Haven on the Mission Trip. The collection will benefit COVER Home Repair.

#### JULY 30 MISSION TRIP 2018—LED BY THE PARTICIPANTS ON THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP

##### AT 9:30 AM AT THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Join us at the First Congregational Church of Hartland on Station Road in Hartland Village for this special intergenerational service welcoming home the youth and adults who participated in the mission trip from both our churches, and lifting up reflections about the spiritual learning from the week. Please note the time and location of this service. The Collection will benefit Mission Trip 2018.

#### AUG 6 SPIRIT OF THE SONG

Calling all singers and musicians! Is there a song that's played an important part in your spiritual life, or one that's just touched your spirit in some way? This is a service of performing songs and sharing reflections. You're invited to sing or play an instrument—don't worry if you're not feeling like a professional musician—all levels of ability are welcome, so long as you're willing to share from your heart! And if you'd like to sing but need accompaniment, if you give us some lead time, we'll try to accommodate you. Contact Paul by August 2 if you'd like to be a part of this service. The collection will support Sustainable Woodstock.

#### AUG 13 WORSHIP TEAM

*(continued on next page)*

# LOVE IS THE DOCTRINE OF THIS CHURCH

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: Hartland Four Corners • 8 Brownsville Road, Corner Rte. 12 • Hartland, Vermont  
WEBSITE: [www.hartlanduu.com](http://www.hartlanduu.com) • E-MAIL: [hartlanduu@vermontel.net](mailto:hartlanduu@vermontel.net) • PHONE: 802-436-2592  
MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 75 • Hartland Four Corners, VT 05049

**AUG 20 ALL-UPPER-VALLEY UU WORSHIP AND GATHERING IN BARNARD!  
10:30 AM AT THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF BARNARD**

Our congregation was founded in 1802 in close partnership with fellow Universalists in Woodstock, Barnard, Bethel, and Bridgewater, and together our congregations were famously known far and wide as the “Sister Societies.” In those earliest days the Universalist faith in our region was able to grow and to thrive largely because of the strong bonds of connection that we shared with our neighboring congregations. Currently, the Upper Valley region is home to five Unitarian Universalist congregations—us, of course, along with congregations in Norwich, South Strafford, Barnard, and Woodstock—and for the first time, this year, all five have committed to be a part of this gathering! This combined service will be an opportunity for us to strengthen our connections of mutual support and encouragement, and just to spend some enjoyable time together. Weather-permitting, we’ll also gather at Silver Lake State Park which is very near the church in Barnard, for fellowship and fun after the service! Please note the different time and location for this service. In community with our neighbor congregations, we will offer our collection as a gift to benefit the Universalist Society of Barnard..

**AUG 27 OUR ANNUAL HYMN SING!**

Come and share in a simple service of singing and fun. The collection will support the UU Musicians Network Scholarship Fund.

**AND MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**SEPT 3 BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS!**

**SEPT 10 ANNUAL INGATHERING AND WATER CEREMONY**

As is our tradition, we’ll start the fall season off with our annual gathering of the waters celebration. As you travel about this summer—around the world, or just around your own home, gather some water here and there from places that feed your soul. Salt water, fresh water, and murky water are all welcome! And even if you forget, since all water is one water in the deepest sense of spirit and ecology, some fine local water from Lull Brook will be available at the service as well.

**PAUL’S SCHEDULE DURING THE SUMMER:**

My time in the office will be somewhat sporadic during the summer as I try to take a little time, here and there, to catch up with my yard and family. So Please, please! leave a phone message (at my cell phone) or e-mail if you need anything.

In addition, I will have very limited availability or access to my messages during the following times:

Our family will be out of town camping July 5-13.

I will also be in New Haven, Connecticut working with our church youth group on the mission trip, July 24–30.

I will take some personal time off August 8-14.

During any of these times, if you have an emergency, please feel free to leave me messages by e-mail or on my cell phone—802-299-7530—though please understand that I may not be able to get back to you immediately.

# Another successful fundraiser on the 4th of July !

Our UU booth sold ice cream cones, cups, brownie sundaes, root beer floats and popcorn last night from 6:00 pm until the fireworks started.

Thanks to the help from many volunteers, we took in over \$1000 - \$316 from the sale of glow sticks.



# FROM YOUR GOVERNING BOARD

Notes from the Governing Board is back! Watch for a blurb from us each month to stay up-to-date on our meeting discussions and decisions. For those of you less familiar with the Unitarian Universalist governing structure and the function of our Governing Board, we work to make sure bills are paid, contributions are deposited and that all of that is accounted for and that we are staying on budget from month to month. We also make sure that day-to-day operations and committees and circles are running and aligned with church mission and objectives. If a crisis occurs or an opportunity arises, we work to address them as needed, whether that is to make decisions on the church's behalf or to bring the decision making process to the whole congregation. When to do which is often a measure of expediency vs. expense and level of impact. There are some things that we don't do. We don't minister. Our beloved Minister ministers. And our Outreach committee ministers. We don't schedule contractors for repairs or fix things ourselves



(although, in truth, most board members have at one time or another fixed a thing or two); it's not a function of the board. We don't campaign for pledges (although, in truth, most board members have done so at one time or another); that, also, is not a direct function of the board. What we do take responsibility for is making sure these committees are up and running, which brings me to my appeal of the month, which is to consider, if you happen to be looking for a place to step in, joining one of several operational committees. There is the Outreach committee, buildings and grounds, long term planning, pledge committee, greeting committee, lay leadership committee, fund raising committee, nomination selection committee, trustee committee, RE Circle, Coffee hour committee. I am not sure these are all called committees, but they are all part of how our church functions in community. And there is a place here for you if you have a little time to give. Especially building and grounds...but don't feel tied to any one thing. If you are not sure you are able to commit time to a function that meets regularly but would like to pitch in, though we keep it casual during the summer, you can always host a coffee hour or sign up for a volunteer slot on one of several fundraiser activities that happen throughout the year or share your handy-person skills and take on one of many handy-person jobs that need doing around the church. Paul will begin to communicate handy-person needs in his weekly email notes.

The Board has had a relatively active past couple of months. At the end of April, we all met for our second annual working retreat at Chez la Poor, in scenic Cornish. Ricky and Dan Poor have graciously hosted our group for two years in a row, for day-long meetings that have allowed us to take deep dives on particular topics.

This year's focus was an internal look at how we function as a Board. This included discussion of our purpose as the Governing Board, how we function – things we can improve on, and a look at our short and long term goals. Some of the key outcomes included making an effort to communicate more with the congregation through newsletter notes and periodic announcements on Sundays. Reinforcement of our intent to make decisions through the lens of how best to reflect who we are as a church in community with each other and the people around us. To ask ourselves: Is this who we are? Is this sustainable? Are we reaching out? Does this promote growth? Are we agreeing in love?

## Recent decisions:

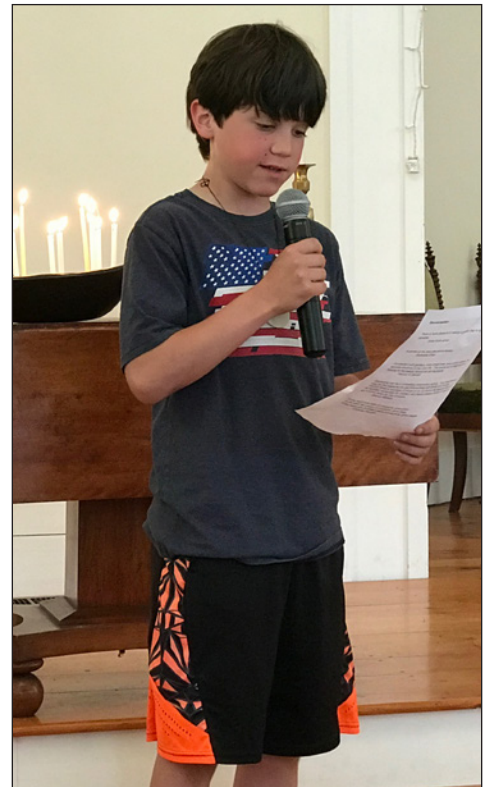
**May's Meeting:** No motions made to be approved. Reviewed budget – on track. Vt-Quebec Grant Application made for floor improvements. Water sensors available free through insurance. Passing information off to building and grounds to review and decide. In anticipation of building maintenance and improvement requests, need to develop process for handling Capital Improvements.

**June's Meeting:** Chuck Fenton and the Long Range Planning Committee have spent long hours developing a set of recommendations for building maintenance and improvement. The board received a presentation of the recommendations and immediately approved floor replacement for the fellowship hall, with the understanding that this had been previously approved and the funding already earmarked for the work and also approved roof repair of a hole left behind as a result of the weathervane falling from the steeple several years ago. The Board also tentatively agreed to approve the installation of a new sink in the kitchen, if a decision can be easily made regarding location. The remainder of the recommendations are improvements that will require approval by the congregation and a capital campaign fund. More to come on this as a presentation for the congregation is developed.

The next Governing Board meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Parsonage House. Our meetings are open for all to attend. You are always welcome.

Thank you to all,  
Colleen Spence, FUSH Governing Board President







# WEEKLY OFFERING RECIPIENTS

**July-August 2017** — *We rely on the planned, committed financial pledges 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.*

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

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## **JULY 2 YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2017**

Help support our Youth Mission Trip to New Haven, taking place July 23-30. Your donations support our expenses for food, transportation, small donations to our partner organizations, and other needs.

## **JULY 9 THE PROJECTS OF THE MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWS**

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 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>

## **JULY 16 TBA**

## **JULY 23 COVER HOME REPAIR**

COVER Home Repair, located in White River Junction, Vermont, works to ensure warm, safe, dry housing for people in need in the Upper Valley. COVER works together with homeowners, and volunteers to provide urgently needed home repairs, and they also offer a weatherization program empowering homeowners and volunteers with knowledge and supplies to button up homes and reduce fuel/energy usage. They also operate the ReCOVER store, which resells used but useful building products at low rates. More than simply providing services, the mission of COVER is to build community and foster hope through cooperation and fellowship among all home repair and reuse participants. More information is available at: [www.coverhomerepair.org](http://www.coverhomerepair.org)

## **JULY 30 YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2018**

At this service led by our returned mission trip participants, help us kick off our efforts for next year's Youth Mission Trip to New Haven, taking place next summer!

## **AUGUST 6 SUSTAINABLE WOODSTOCK**

Founded in 2009, Sustainable Woodstock is a non-profit organization that works to inspire, educate and empower people to live environmentally, economically and socially responsible lives. The focus on their work is primarily in the communities of Woodstock, Pomfret, Barnard, Reading, and Bridgewater—where a number of members and friends of our congregation live, and several folks from Hartland and other communities have also participated in their programs. This organization was nominated for our support by our worship team, in honor of our recent guest speaker, Stephanie Kyriazis, who works closely with Sustainable Woodstock. You can learn more at their website: [www.sustainablewoodstock.org](http://www.sustainablewoodstock.org)

## **AUGUST 13 TBA**

## **AUGUST 20 THE UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY OF BARNARD, VT**

At our newly annual joint service with our partners from our neighbor Unitarian Universalist congregations, it is our honor to offer our support to our hosts and friends at the Universalist Society of Barnard.

## **AUGUST 27 THE UU MUSICIANS NETWORK SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network inspires and supports high quality music in our faith tradition. The UUMN scholarship fund helps UU musicians attend UUMN events, workshops and conferences. More information is available at [www.uumn.org](http://www.uumn.org). This organization was suggested by Patty Talbot, who notes that the UUMN has been central in her work, particularly in inspiring new music for our choir and congregation.

# MEET YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS THIS SUMMER

Dear Friends,

This is the fourth summer Dartmouth College has sponsored the Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI) program hosting another 25 amazing young people from Africa.

You may meet some of these YALI Fellows and hear their stories, learn about their countries and their projects at the First Universalist Society of Hartland Four Corners on Sunday, 9 July at 10 AM. The Fellows speaking will be spending that weekend with host families, including Jill Crowley, who will conduct the service, with Sue and Dave Taylor, the Weinbergers, the Fosters, and Jill and Todd Lloyd.

In addition to meeting the Fellows on 9 July, here are other scheduled opportunities:

**CULTURAL CONNECTIONS (5 minute mini presentations from Fellows about their work, country, culture— over tea and cookies):**

**Wednesday, July 5 "Focus on Youth & Women's Empowerment" 4pm-5:30pm,  
ONE Wheelock Room, Collis Center, Dartmouth**

**Wednesday, July 12 "Focus on Arts & Cultural Preservation" 4pm-5:30pm,  
ONE Wheelock Room, Collis Center, Dartmouth**

**Wednesday, July 19 "Focus on Entrepreneurship & Innovation" 4pm-5:30pm,  
ONE Wheelock Room, Collis Center, Dartmouth**

**FINAL PRESENTATIONS (come see them Pitch!):  
Wednesday, July 26th 9am-noon, location TBD**

Those of you who attended any of these sessions can vouch for the richness of the discussions.

Feel free to invite others who would be interested.

See you there,

Cheers,

Don Foster



YALI participants 7/8/2017



Dartmouth 2015 Mandela Washington Fellow Kenny Tonga of Zambia discusses his design thinking project with Joel Almeida of Cabo Verde. (Photo by Emily Albrecht '16)

## SAVE THE DATES

*Upcoming joint worship services...*

**Sunday July 30 at the First Congregational Church of Hartland**—our annual Mission Trip celebration service led by the youth with Paul and Lucia.

**Sunday August 20 at the Universalist Church of Barnard**—Annual Combined Upper Valley UU Service at the Barnard Church, followed by time for conversation and recreation at Silver Lake State Park.



# YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Our Youth Group members and leaders greatly appreciate your support as they again head to New Haven for the 2017 Youth Mission Trip—a great week of hard work and fellowship. Please look through the list provided here ([www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080F4BA5A82EA46-youth1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080F4BA5A82EA46-youth1)) and consider signing up to donate a few items. This list is half of the food needed for the trip, the half we hope the UU church members will donate. Members of the UCC church will be asked to donate the other half. Please leave donations at the UU church by Friday morning, July 21, on the table or in the fridge/freezer in the fellowship hall kitchen - if in the fridge/freezer please label it as mission trip food so it doesn't get confused for food pantry food.

**Email [sara.d.morin@dartmouth.edu](mailto:sara.d.morin@dartmouth.edu) if you can't make that deadline or have any questions along the way.** After midday on the 21st all food will be moved to the UCC church for inventory and packing. Our Youth Group thanks you for your continued support of their efforts!



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Sunny Greetings RE Families,

Here is an outline of our Summertime Religious Education program:

## JULY

Sunday, July 2nd- Joint Old Home Day Service (Wildflowers grow Wild & Free)

Sunday, July 9th- Roots & Shoots (Gardening- Acceptance)

Sunday, July 16th- Roots & Shoots (Gardening)

Sunday, July 23rd- Roots & Shoots (Gardening)

Friday, July 28th- Friday Night Firelight Storytelling (@ Hartland Farmers' Market)

Sunday, July 30th- Mission Trip Service (Children In Service)

## AUGUST

Sunday, August 6th- Roots & Shoots (Whistle While You Work)

Sunday, August 13th- Roots & Shoots (Gardening- Prophecy)

Saturday, August 19th- Under the Tree 5K/10K

Sunday, August 20th- Hymn Sing (Children Hymns in Yurt)

Friday, August 25th- Friday Night Firelight Storytelling Camp-in (@ FUSH)

Sunday, August 27th- Joint Service in Barnard (Aloha)

Hope everyone is finding beauty in many places this season! See you soon :)

*Blessings,*

*Sam*





# ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

## About Membership in the First Universalist Society of Hartland Four Corners

Our congregation is made up of both “members” and “friends,” with varying degrees of commitment to our work. Whether you formally join our congregation as a member, or whether you prefer to consider yourself a non-member “friend,” you are welcome and encouraged to participate actively in the life of our church community.

### What it Means to Be a Member of Our Congregation

Members of our congregation are those who have made a formal commitment to our community by “signing the book”—declaring their commitment publicly by setting their signature to our book of membership, in consultation with our minister.

According to our by-laws, membership is available to all those over 18 years of age who:

- “State that they are in agreement with the purposes of our Society and of the Unitarian Universalist Association”
- Are willing to participate in the work and activity of our community
- Are willing to support our work with their time, energy, and resources

There is no set time frame or specific guideline about when you might choose to become a member, but we do ask you to spend some significant time learning about the mission, history, theology, practices, and culture of our congregation through regular attendance, through our “Introduction to Unitarian Universalism” sessions, and/or through conversations with our minister and other leaders of our community.

Members of our congregation can serve in volunteer leadership positions on our governing board, board of trustees, and our committee on ministry, and can vote in congregational meetings (please note that our by-laws require that to vote to amend our by-laws, or to call or dismiss a minister, an individual must have been an active member of the congregation for at least a full year).

Members are entitled to the services of the minister and the use of the church building for rites of passage (weddings, memorial services, child dedications, etc.) at no cost.

Members are formally considered “Unitarian Universalists” by the Unitarian Universalist Association, and receive *Unitarian Universalist World* magazine at no additional cost.

### What it Means to Be a “Friend” of Our Congregation

Friends of our congregation are welcome to participate in nearly all aspects of the life of our church, including attending programs and services, serving on committees, leading lay-led worship, and, of course pledging to support our work financially.

They are not eligible to vote in congregational meetings, or to serve on our governing board, committee on ministry, or as a trustee. They can, however, serve in other leadership roles in church life, including serving as a champion of an activity.

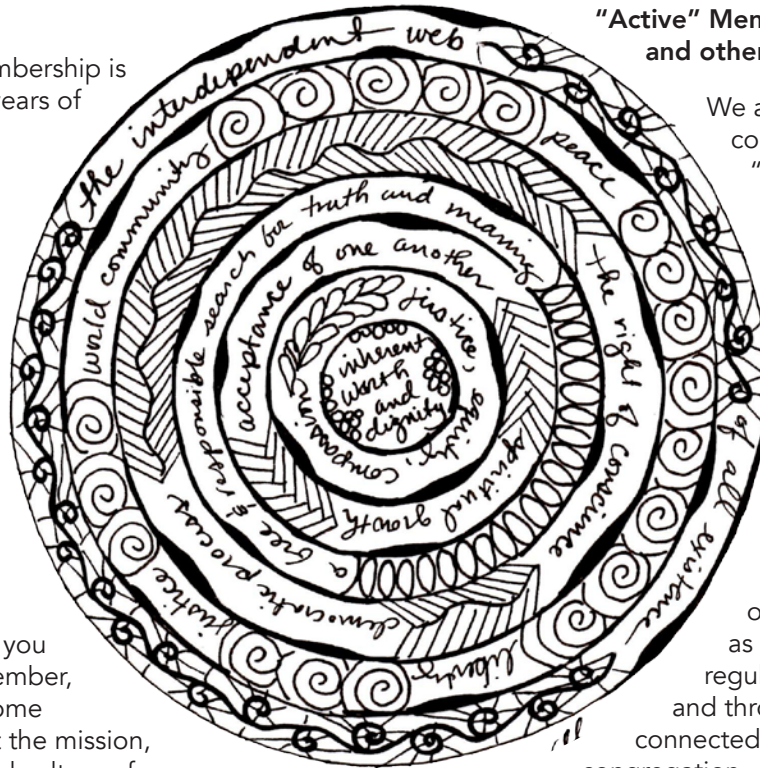
### “Active” Membership Status, Moving Away, and other Concerns

We ask members of our congregation to maintain their “active” status through ongoing participation and/or support of our congregation. Members who discontinue participation or support of our congregation, for whatever reason, may be listed in our records as “Inactive” and may need to reactivate their membership in order to vote or to hold a leadership position.

Even members that move out of town are welcome to remain as “active” members, through regular financial or other support and through making an effort to stay connected in some fashion with our congregation.

For those who move either to or from our region, it’s good to know that Unitarian Universalist tradition allows individuals to be members of more than one congregation, provided the member meets the requirements set forth by each congregation. Under the same stipulation, we are also open to members who continue to hold ongoing membership in communities identified with other faith traditions.

Youth who are active participants in our congregation are welcome to become members after their 18th birthday, and can be considered active members during their young adult years, even if their work or school commitments leave them unable to participate regularly in the life of our congregation. We do not have a formal “confirmation” program for our youth. Youth considering membership should speak with the minister.



# ADULT CHOIR

We will rehearse at 9 a.m. on Sunday, July 2nd before the service. We'll take the month of August off from choir, but people who love to sing should stay tuned for the hymn sing service!

# PAINTERS NEEDED

Repainting of the Fellowship Hall interior will begin soon. This will include the ceilings, walls and touch ups in the children's room. All interested in volunteering some painting time please contact Chuck Fenton, 802 698-0257.



Be a guest at your own party

## THE RED APRONS

Red Aprons provides support for all kinds of gatherings.

Our services include:

- Event Planning
- Kitchen and food management
- Buffet and serving
- Clean up

The program is not only a fund raiser for the Church but also a great way to promote it to the wider Upper Valley community.

If you are planning an event, please see our web page at [www.hartlanduu.com/redaprons](http://www.hartlanduu.com/redaprons) or call us at (802) 738-0255.

If you would like to participate in this work, please contact Joan Fariel or Chuck Fenton at (802) 738-0255. **We always need more volunteers.** And for those who have volunteered, a **BIG THANK YOU!**



## Under the Tree 5k and 10k Road Race

Saturday, August 19, 2017  
Start time 9am - Hartland Rec Center, Hartland Vt.



## UNDER THE TREE 5K & 10K RUN Saturday August 19th

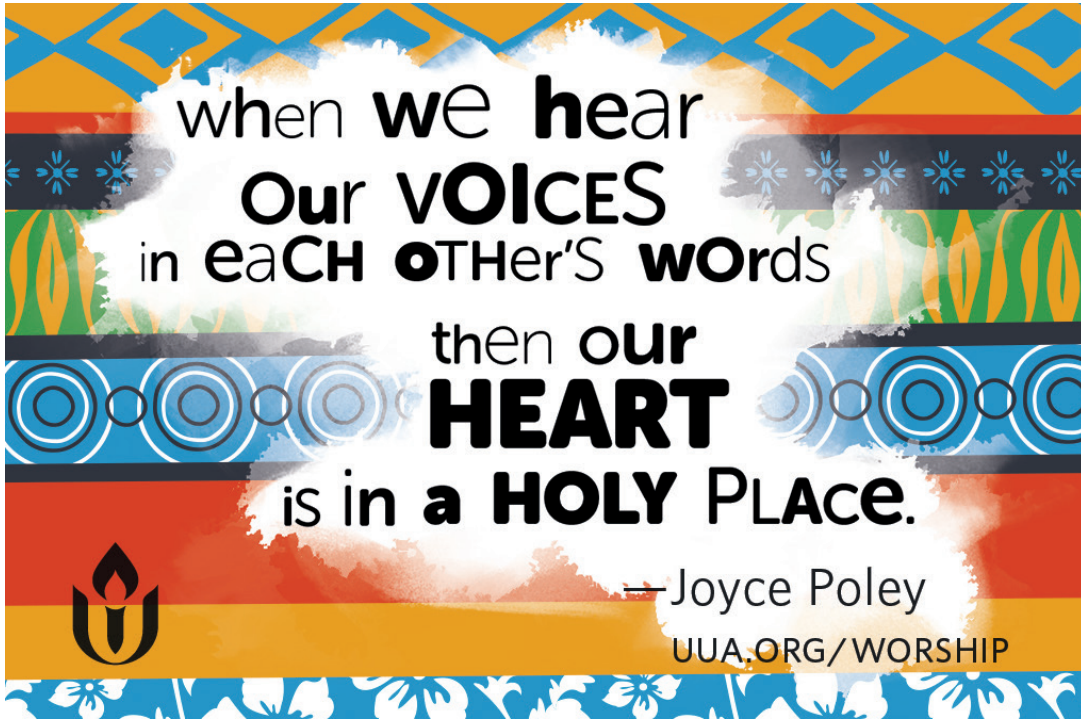
Run begins at 9am at the Hartland Recreation Department. Pre-register on-line at [underthetreerace.org](http://underthetreerace.org) or register the morning of the race. After race raffle with great prizes. **All proceeds benefit the Hartland Christmas Project which helps Hartland community members in need during the holidays and all year.**

Volunteers needed for the Under the Tree Run - Saturday August 19th. We need you to help make this the great community event it has become!! Volunteers needed for water stops and other strategic places along the course to cheer the runners on. Volunteers are entered in the after race raffle with great prizes.

If you are able to help please contact Beth Rice at [brice@vermontel.net](mailto:brice@vermontel.net).



The UUA has many pieces of art available for your use on social media, on signs, or just to hang in your home.  
See these and others at [uua.org/images](http://uua.org/images)



جيرانتنا



المسلمين

We ♥ our Muslim neighbors



## Welcoming Congregation

This Unitarian Universalist community welcomes and celebrates the presence and participation of people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer.



### DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER CONTENT: AUG. 21

If you have photos of people or places in our church community, please send them to saradmorin@gmail.com for possible inclusion in the newsletter.

## JULY-AUGUST 2017 CALENDAR

- July 9 Mandela Fellows/Young African Leaders Initiative
- July 14 Food Shelf
- July 16 Worship Team  
RE: Roots & Shoots (Gardening)
- July 21 Food Shelf
- July 23 Sermon From the Question Box  
RE: Roots & Shoots (Gardening)
- July 28 Food Shelf
- July 28 Friday Night Firelight Storytelling (@ Hartland Farmers' Market)
- July 30 Mission Trip 2018—Led by the Participants
- Aug 4 Food Shelf
- Aug 6 Spirit of the Song  
RE: Roots & Shoots (Whistle While You Work)
- Aug 11 Food Shelf
- Aug 13 Worship Team
- Aug 18 Food Shelf
- Aug 19 Under the Tree 5K/10K
- Aug 20 All-Upper-Valley UU Worship and Gathering in Barnard!  
10:30 am at the First Universalist Society of Barnard
- Aug 25 Food Shelf
- Aug 25 Friday Night Firelight Storytelling Camp-in (@ FUSH)
- Aug 27 Our Annual Hymn Sing!

# When greeting others, be mindful of language.

Consider

“Thanks, **friends**.  
Have a great  
night.”

“Good morning,  
**folks!**”

“Hi, **everyone!**”

“And for **you?**”

“Can I get  
you **all**  
something?”

Why?

Shifting to gender-inclusive language respects and acknowledges the gender identities of all people and removes assumption.