

Weekly Message June 29, 2015 from The Washington Unitarian Universalist Church

Route 110, Washington, Vermont www.washingtonvtuu.org

Worship Service Sundays at 10 AM, followed by a potluck lunch. All welcome. Childcare provided.

Adult Religious Exploration Group following the potluck on
most Sundays

Films, Singalongs, Volunteer Opportunities, Adult Religious Education, & Potlucks throughout the week.

**Theme for the Summer: Cultivating the Art of Optimism:
Responding Spiritually to Cultural Shifts and Climate Change**

*“The biggest challenge we face is shifting human consciousness,
not saving the planet. The planet doesn’t need saving. We do”
Xiuhtezcatl Martinez*

Announcement/Warning of Our Annual Meeting, Sunday, July 12 at 11 AM after the worship service. We’ll vote on a slate of officers. A copy of the agenda is below.

Upcoming Worship Services at 10 AM

July 5 “Mother of Us All: A New Look at Eve and the Serpent” with Rev. Richard Trudeau A careful reading of the story shows that it is not about sin or the inferiority of women. It is, in fact, a very UU story, and Eve is the hero! Rev. Trudeau is author of “Universalism 1001” and was a very popular guest in the pulpit last summer. With accompanist Joan Stepenske. We’ll have a small group discussion after the potluck on the theme of the service.

July 12 “Trauma, Resilience, Rebirth” with Rev. Dr. M’ellen Kennedy. If we live long enough, we will each experience traumas – if we haven’t already. How we handle life’s disappointments and challenges, makes all the

difference. The natural reaction is to recoil in hurt and calcify into hate. Unresolved trauma is a deeply spiritual issue and the root of so much suffering. How can we --by grace? by mystery? -- find our way to healing, to affirming life and choosing Love? The film, "Rebirth", which will be shown on Monday eve, July 13, will provide us a chance to delve deeper into the crucial human art of resolving trauma. Accompanist to be announced. We'll have a small group discussion after the potluck on the theme of the service.

July 19 "Many Singular Rooms" with Rev. Liz Benjamin.

As Unitarian Universalists, our free and responsible search for truth and meaning takes us in many directions. We come from different traditions and respond to different sources of our faith. While we are grateful for this religious pluralism, we can find it challenging to communicate with one another, to understand, and to work well together.

Rev. Liz has worked as a children's librarian, a kindergarten teacher, a Unitarian Universalist Minister of Religious Education, and a preschool music teacher. She moved to Adamant, Vermont a year ago and is happily immersed in the creative and cooperative Vermont culture. She even did pretty well in the Kellogg Hubbard Library spelling bee this winter. With accompanist Helen Wilson. We'll have a small group discussion after the potluck on the theme of the service.

July 26 Rev. Joan Javier Duval Topic to be announced. The Rev. Joan Javier-Duval is a Unitarian Universalist minister living in Montpelier, VT. Joan recently served the Unitarian Society of Germantown in Philadelphia, PA as a Consulting Minister where she focused on social justice ministry, adult spiritual development, and young adult ministry. She is a graduate of the Yale Divinity School. Before entering the ministry, Joan worked for several years as a community and political organizer and leadership development trainer. In the past year, Joan has embraced the life of part-time itinerant preacher and full-time mother of a curious and active toddler. Joan was recently called to serve as the next settled minister of the Unitarian Church of Montpelier where she will begin in August. With accompanist, Helen Wilson and worship associate, Sue Stukekey.

August 2 with Rev. M'ellen Kennedy Topic to be announced

Summer Films

"Rebirth" Monday, July 13, Potluck at 5:30 Film starts at 6:30, Discussion following the film. REBIRTH is a riveting journey into living history, an act of personal witness to one of the most profound events in

American history and the healing that has come in its wake. The result of a decade-long process by director Jim Whitaker, the inspirational story of REBIRTH follows the nearly ten-year transformation of five people whose lives were forever altered on September 11, 2001, and simultaneously tracks via unprecedented multi-camera time-lapse photography the minute-by-minute evolution of the space where the Twin Towers once rose. Both a singular cinematic and human experience, REBIRTH is deeply intimate and uplifting, providing a moving portrait of how trauma and grief metamorphose into hope and rebuilding as the human spirit transcends the unthinkable over time.

“Brujo” Saturday, August 1, 2015 Gather starting at 6:30, Film starts at 7, Refreshments to follow. This film, presented by Glenn and Katharina Mack, Washington residents, is a dramatic feature film that revolves around the activity at a modern dance workshop in beautiful rural Vermont. The story traces the arc of jealousy to its disastrous result and, at the same time, chronicles the creative intensity of artists coming together to collaborate on a project. Both of these dual narratives provide context for each other. *Brujeria* is the Spanish word for witchcraft. Both men and women can be witches, brujos and brujas, respectively. Donations are welcome and will go in part to the church.

Rise Up Singing! Potluck and Sing-Alongs

Mondays, July 27, and August 17

Gather starting at 5:30, Potluck at 6, Sing-Along starting at 7. Come lift your voice in song! We will gather together to sing songs from the “Rise Up Singing” songbook. Each person will have a chance to choose a song or two, and the group will share the songs together. Bring your “Rise Up Singing” songbook if you have one, or there will be some extras to share. Erica Mitchell and friends will lead the singing.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PITCH IN

You can help make our dear Washington congregation function smoothly by pitching in. We need a few folks to arrive early on Sunday morning, greet folks, make coffee, etc... Please speak with Rev. M'ellen or Sue Stukey or sign up on the clip board at the back of the church. Thanks to all those who have already volunteered to get the church ready for the summer and to help out on Sunday mornings and for other activities.

Washington UU Church Staff & Board

Minister: Rev. Dr. M'ellen Kennedy, President: Sue Stukey

Clerk: Art Stukey, Treasurer: Robert Youngberg

Board Member-at-Large: George Plumb, Roberta Carrier

Washington Unitarian Universalist Church

Annual Meeting Agenda

July 12, 2015

1. Opening Words and Welcome
2. Establish a Quorum (50% of 21 Members = 11)
3. Brief report from Minister
4. Presentation of Proposed Budget (attached). Robert Youngberg, Treasurer
Discussion of Budget
Vote to approve Budget for FY 2015-2016
5. Election of Officers: Proposed Slate:
President: Sue Stukey
Clerk: Art Stukey
Treasurer: Robert Youngberg
Member-at-Large: George Plumb
Member-at-Large: Roberta Carrier
6. Closing Words
7. Adjourn

From our nearby neighbors:

**3rd Annual “Our Children, Climate, Faith”
Symposium**

Making and Being the Change We Need

***Faith-driven climate leadership from the boats,
the banks, and the grassroots***

**Saturday & Sunday, August 8 & 9, 2015,
at the Town House, Strafford, Vermont**

*This year we bring together institutions and activists to build bridges and
create positive changes: Jay O'Hara, Robert Jensen, Shelley Alpern, Tre
Cates.*

<http://faithclimateconference.org/>