Weekly Message July 17, 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

Upcoming Worship Services at 10 AM

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 "A Living Religion," with Rev. Joan Javier Duval More and more people in the United States identify as "spiritual but not religious." What would it mean for Unitarian Universalists to embrace both of these characteristics of our faith? Can ours be a church of the spiritual AND religious? 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 Stukey.

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

August 9. "Security and Insecurity" with Rev. Deb Robinson It will include discussion of the effects of seeking security on ourselves and the world, and finding ways to live hopefully and lovingly in the midst of insecurity. Deb is a member of the Washington Unitarian Universalist Church and the Montpelier Unitarian Church. She is also an ordained Methodist minister. Wonderful that she will gift us with her spiritual insights this Sunday. Accompanist to be announced.

Summer Films

"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 Thanks to our newly elected Board Members (at the July 12th Annual Meeting).

President: Sue Stukey, Clerk: Art Stukey, Treasurer: Robert Youngberg
Board Member-at-Large: George Plumb, Roberta Carrier
Minister: Rev. Dr. M'ellen Kennedy

Calef Memorial Library Summer Food and Fun

FROM APRIL JOLLEY, <u>CALEFLIBRARY@GMAIL.COM</u>, DIRECTOR, CALEF MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WASHINGTON

Come join us for free meals (meals available for purchase for adults). All children 18 and younger are eligible. June 29th-August 13th 12:00-12:30pm. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Lunch everyday, Activities on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 12:30-1:30. Calef Memorial Library, Main Street, Washington, Vermont

Volunteer Drivers Needed

LYNN CRAIG, <u>LCRAIG1974@GMAIL.COM</u>, ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK/ASSISTANT TREASURER, ORANGE

Volunteer with Meals on Wheels: Miles of Smiles!

There is an immediate need for volunteer drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels to seniors in the area. If you are available to lend a hand to your neighbors once a week or once a month, your help and support is invaluable.

As a Meals on Wheels driver with RSVP, you make a real difference in the lives of local seniors by helping to improve their nutrition, maintain social connection, and supporting their overall well-being while enabling seniors to remain living independently.

For more information on how to volunteer, please contact Kate Reilly-FitzPatrick, RSVP Coordinator at the Central Vermont Council on Aging, at 802-479-1953 or kreilly-fitzpatrick@cvcoa.org.