



The HEED

February 2025

Newsletter of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Caring Committee

Our committee hasn't had a high profile recently, and indeed hasn't had much to do. While this is potentially a good thing in that we could take it to mean that our Members and Friends have been well, it could also mean that some people may be unaware of our existence and willingness to help. So, if you have any needs such as sympathy, visits, rides, prepared meals, etc., please contact me, or any member of the **Caring Committee** below.

*Chris Rodgers (603) 970-0502;
Dawn Meredith; Susan Bullivant;
Susan Neal; Michael O'Sullivan*

Circle Dinners

Four Circle Dinners involving 21 members and friends are scheduled to take place on February 22. Let's hope the weather gods are kind. Julie and Rich Lipari, Betty and Rod Crepeau, Hilary and Jon Babon and Sue and Chip Noon all graciously agreed to host. The hosts are contacting their circle members to plan the potluck menus. Thank you to everyone who signed up either to host or to attend and be involved in good food and good conversation. Enjoy!

Carol Bullivant

Join Our Services at 10:00 AM Sundays

February 2 – Jeannie Sowers – Gaza in Context

UNH Professor of International Affairs and Political Science, Jeannie will talk about "Gaza in Context." She is always an insightful speaker and we are very excited to have her.

February 9 – Dawn Meredith & Betty Crepeau – Social Action at DUUF

We will engage in a discussion in which we will explore together some of the following questions: What do we consider social action? What kinds of social action do you participate in or want to participate in? What motivates your choices of where you put your "social action" energy and time? What value is there, if any, in doing social action as a fellowship? What resources do you want (or not want) from your social action council?

February 16 – Dawn Meredith – "Black Love is Black Wealth"

Exploring lives and loves of African American Women in celebration of Women's History Month. We will learn about the glorious work of Nikki Giovanni, Bisa Butler, Kimberlé Crenshaw, and others.

February 23 – Betty Crepeau – Reflecting on Our Values and Beliefs

We will discuss the first two values in the UUA Purposes and Covenant, the values of interdependence and pluralism. Betty will begin the discussion by defining these terms so that we can explore their meaning to us as a Fellowship and how our actions embody these important values.

Martin Luther King Day "Rock My Soul"

ProjectMusicWorks.org.

February 2, 2025 - 7:00 pm



St Mary, Parish of the Assumption
25 Chestnut St, Dover, NH

We celebrate the work of The Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. in this interfaith event. Passages from the "Letter from Birmingham Jail" will be read.

Refreshments will be served by the Dover Cooperative Ministries. This program is sponsored by the Dover Area Religious Leaders Association (DARLA). Rock My Soul is part of the non-profit ProjectMusicWorks.org.

ONLINE LINK: [go to POADoverNH.org](#), [go to Live Streams, St Mary](#), click arrow

*"One has not only a legal, but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws."
— Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from the Birmingham Jail*

Short Takes

Oyster River Folk Music Series

The next program will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, 7 p.m., and will feature **Craig Werth**. Suggested donation is \$20. Craig is a well-known singer and songwriter. He is also a minister and will be speaking at a Sunday service at our Fellowship later this year.

DARLA (Dover Area Religious Educators Association) Martin Luther King, Jr. Event

The event will include multi-cultural music by Rock My Soul and others and readings from MLK's Letters of Birmingham jail. It will be held at St. Mary's Church, Chestnut St., Dover, on Sunday, February 2 at 7 p.m. See the poster to the left for additional information and the link for watching a live stream of this event.

Super Bowl Sunday - February 9th

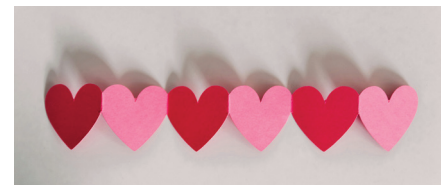


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President's Message - Our Last Potluck:



Valentine's Day - February 14th



kelly-sikkema/unsplash

President's Day - February 17th



unsplash

Fellowship Financial Considerations

Members have commented that they would like to know **what level of donations are necessary/appropriate for keeping the Fellowship running**. Here is information that should shed some light on their question:

This year the **DUUF Operating Budget** calls for income of approximately \$47,000 in order to balance the books for the current fiscal year. Income comes from several sources including \$27,000 from our tenants and other users of our facility and \$1,500 from fundraisers and interest. The balance, \$18,500, is needed from member donations.

We currently have 44 active adult members in 32 households. **We will meet this year's goal if donations are an average of \$420 per member or \$580 per household for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.**

As in the past, some can and will give more; others will do their best.

We appreciate all you do to help the Fellowship thrive!



The Six Sources Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

1. Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
2. Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
3. Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
4. Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
5. Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
6. Spiritual teachings of Earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

The Seven Principles

Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote seven Principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. We live out these Principles within a "living tradition" of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from sources as diverse as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

As Rev. Barbara Wells ten Hove explains, "The Principles are not dogma or doctrine, but rather a guide for those of us who choose to join and participate in Unitarian Universalist religious communities."

- 1st Principle: The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
2nd Principle: Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
3rd Principle: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
4th Principle: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
5th Principle: The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
6th Principle: The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
7th Principle: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

The seven Principles and [Six Sources](#) of the Unitarian Universalist Association grew out of the grassroots of our communities, were affirmed democratically, and are part of who we are.



Oyster River Folk Concerts

Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Saturdays 7:00pm – 20 Madbury Rd.

Tickets sold at the door - Doors open at 6:30

Adults \$20 Students \$5 - Cash Only



Craig Werth

February 1

Juno Award-winning singer/songwriter, Craig Werth, of local fame, has performed internationally for two decades with various artists and is now returning to his solo roots.

Green Heron

March 29

The music of Green Heron stretches across the entire folk landscape. Old-time, folk, bluegrass, country, and blues music are all represented as the band brings the back porch to the stage.



Liz & Dan Faiella

April 26

With each performance, this effervescent duo takes listeners on a journey through haunting ballads, danceable jig and reel medleys, and poignant slow airs.



We're An Honor Congregation

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

Extends our appreciation to the

Durham UU Fellowship

In
Durham, NH

WITH RECOGNITION AS A

2025

25+ Honor Congregation

For Participation in the Annual Program Fund

Rev. Sofia Betancourt, Ph.D.
President
Unitarian Universalist Association

Norrie Gall
Congregational Giving Administrative Director
Unitarian Universalist Association



Dear Leader,

Every year, each congregation in the Unitarian Universalist Association is asked to give a financial contribution to support the wider movement and sibling congregations across our Association. This contribution supports the Annual Program Fund, which is the single largest source of income for the work of our UUA. Our support of one another strengthens the covenant among us.

Your congregation gave the **full requested amount** to the Annual Program Fund during this fiscal year 2025. **This means you are an Honor Congregation, honoring the covenant between and among our congregations.** THANK YOU!

Your giving is a concrete expression of our congregations' covenant with one another, and is a recognition that we are not alone, but are part of an Association of Congregations. This support allows the UUA to serve the diverse needs of the 1,002 member congregations across five regions. **Congregational giving through the Annual Program Fund (APF) makes the work of the UUA possible.**

Please display this Honor certificate somewhere prominent and share with your congregation my personal appreciation on behalf of all the congregations that your generosity benefits.

Your support strengthens Unitarian Universalism and its vital, liberating message for our time. Together we are organizing for justice, imagining new ways forward in community, and growing spiritually. Thank you for your giving to the Annual Program Fund. You make so much possible.

With gratitude and hope,

Rev. Sofia Betancourt, Ph.D.
UUA President

Unitarian Universalism is a living tradition that has changed in many ways from the original Christian roots of its Universalist and Unitarian heritages, and it continues to evolve today. Most recently, this evolution has taken the form of adopting new language to describe who we are as UUs. At General Assembly in June 2024, UUs voted to replace existing Seven Principles and Six Sources language in our bylaws with language describing Unitarian Universalism through these shared values:

Interdependence: We honor the interdependent web of all existence and acknowledge our place in it.

Pluralism: We are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology.

Justice: We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all feel welcome and can thrive.

Transformation: We adapt to the changing world.

Generosity: We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

Equity: We declare that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion.

DUUF Officers, Chairpersons and Council Coordinators, and Members of Committees and Councils for 2023-2024 - Under 2018 By-Laws

BOARD OFFICERS

President: Chip Noon
Vice President: Rachel Legard
Treasurer: Jen Pavlik
Secretary: Julie Lipari

COMMITTEES

Program: Thomas Pistole (Chair), Dawn Meredith, Betty Crepeau
Religious Exploration: Bob Pavlik
House and Grounds: House: Jonathan Babon (Chair), John Macri; Grounds: (TBD); Dottie's Garden: Sarah Tambling; Rentals: Maria Isaak
Socials: Carol Bullivant (Chair), Deb Johnson
Membership: Tom Reicheld (Chair), Rachel Legard; Caring Subcommittee: Michael O'Sullivan, Dawn Meredith, Susan Bullivant, Susan Neal, Chris Rodgers (co-ordinator)

COUNCILS

Nominations: Sarge Legard (Coordinator)
Music Council: Maria Isaak (Coordinator)
Green Sanctuary: Mike Fleming (Coordinator), Nick Isaak
Social Action: Dawn Meredith (Coordinator), Betty Crepeau
Communication & Outreach: TBD (Webmaster), Bob Bullivant (HEED Editor)
Marketing Subcommittee: Julie Lipari, Chip Noon, Susan Noon
Denominational Affairs: Deb Johnson (Coordinator)

Durham Housing Association Representative: Susan Noon, Secretary

Our Mission Statement

The real test of our religion is the way we live our lives. The Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship affirms the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism:
We seek to be a place in which each person's unique worth and beliefs are acknowledged and respected and where each person's voice may be heard – a place in which each may freely explore his or her own spiritual path. We join with others in reaching out to make the world more just, and commit ourselves to caring for the earth and all that makes up the web of life. We strive to be a source of inspiration, a forum for intellectual exchange, a wellspring of comfort to those in need and a nurturing, supportive community for each other and our children.



Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

HEED is published by the
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
of Durham, New Hampshire.
Editor: Bob Bullivant
Designer: Chip Noon

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