



# Chalice in the Mountains

SEPTEMBER 2010 • Universalist Unitarian Congregation of St. Johnsbury

## OUR CONGREGATION

The Universalist Unitarian Congregation of St. Johnsbury meets at 10:30 AM (Service and Sunday School), and is located on the corner of Cherry Street and Eastern Avenue (across from Catamount Arts).

For further information, please call Rev. Brendan Hadash at 802-748-8074. [bhadash@sover.net](mailto:bhadash@sover.net)  
Skype [bhadash](https://www.skype.com/user/bhadash)  
Please join the church Facebook page.



## Board of Trustees

Moderator: Peter Fichte  
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Religious Education Director: Dana Karuza-Tulp  
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## UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WEBSITE

[//www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)

## NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

<http://nned.uua.org/>



## MINISTER'S SCHEDULE

*Brendan Hadash*

**Mon. & Fri.** Days off (Don't hesitate to call in case of emergency)

**Tues., Wed., and Sat.** Call at home 802-748-8074

**Thurs.**

Office Hours at the Church 3-5 PM  
802-748-2442



## Parking

The parking lot next to the church is owned by the apartment building. Sunday morning please save the right side of the lot (facing the apartment building) for the tenants. *During the week, please park on the street.*

Thank you.

## OPENING WORDS: September

"The breezes taste of apple peel.

The air is full of smells to feel.

Ripe fruit, old footballs, burning brush,

New books, erasers, chalk, and such.

The bee, his hive, well-honeyed hums,

And mother cuts chrysanthemums.

Like plates washed clean with suds, the days

Are polished with a morning haze." - *John Updike*,

## UPCOMING SERVICES:

**Sept. 12 Water Communion and potluck** (Brendan)

(dedication of new rooms) Please bring water back from your summer experience that we will combine to symbolize our coming back together.

**Sept. 19 Yom Kippur** – The Jewish celebration of forgiveness (Steve)

**Sept. 26 Mabon** – The Wiccan celebration of the fall equinox (Brendan)

**Oct. 3 St. Francis** - The Catholic celebration of animals (Sarah)

## Regular Events

**Potluck and Choir Rehearsal** Tuesday, Sep 7 5:30 PM

**Choir Sundays** Sun, Sep 12 and Sun Sep 19 9AM in Sanctuary

**The Seekers** First and Third Thursdays 7 – 8:30 PM

**Growth Committee** Sept. 8

**Community Concerns** Second collection on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays

**RE Committee** September 12

**Board Meeting** Sunday September 26 noon

**Caring Network**

**Committee on Ministry** September 27 4:45 pm

**Finance Committee** September 19 noon

**Sacred Circle Dancing** Fourth Sundays noon

**Fifth Sunday Potlucks** - Get together for food and conversation after church whenever there is a fifth Sunday

**Newsletter Deadline Next To Last** Sunday of the Month

**N. B. The Chalice Deadline** allows the events of the whole month to be publicized!

## JOKE OF THE MONTH

Two UUs were having a heated discussion. One said, "UUs are badly educated when it comes to the bible." "We are not," the other argued. "Oh yeah?" said the first UU. "I bet you can't even recite the Lord's Prayer." Each slammed down 5 dollars and the second UU said, "Now I lay me down to sleep I pray the Lord my soul to keep." The first UU said, "You win." (*I hope to start a bible course on first and third Thursdays starting Sept. 16. Please contact Brendan if interested.*)

## Birthdays

Sept. 7 Nancy P  
Sept. 10 Shane T  
Sept. 20 Tracy Mc  
Leigh G  
Sept. 23 Gudrun U  
Sept. 26 Bob G

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### Renewal

Vacation is almost over and I can hardly wait to see you all again. Summer is a time of rest and renewal for UU churches and ministers. This is especially true of our church this year.

The stage has been removed from the old part of the church upstairs and the junk cleared out so now after 40 years these room are usable. We will dedicate the new rooms with water from our water communion at our opening service. (However the windows in this area have deteriorated and will be taken out temporarily until we decide what to do with them.)

As for myself I am excited this year. After 16 years here and over 30 years in the ministry I am about to get my first sabbatical. The board officially approved my sabbatical for March 1 to June 30, 2011. I plan to go to Albuquerque and Boston to learn the latest Internet techniques for churches. I am grateful to the church and hope to come back brimming with ideas that will bring good things to our congregation for years to come.

Please, everyone try to come to the water communion homecoming service so that we can hear how you have been renewed since we last met, or (if you are not feeling renewed) tell us how we can support you because caring for one another is what churches do.

## NOTES FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

It's been a wonderfully musical summer as once again I attended the Unitarian Universalist Musicians Network conference, which was held in July at the First Unitarian Society of Madison Wisconsin. I also was able to participate in a wonderful session on choral singing conducted by Peter and Mary Alice Amidon in Montpelier. I have brought back new music from both which I and the choir will be sharing with you during the coming church year.



If you have been thinking about singing in the choir, please show up for our monthly pot luck rehearsal at the church Tuesday, September 7 at 5:30. We guarantee that you will have fun and it is a no pressure way to find out if the choir is for you.

On our water gathering in service Sunday, Sep 12, we will be singing Laura Jensen's setting of Reverend Bill Schulz's "Come Into This Place", which is now one of our favorites, "Spirit of the Waters" by Joyce Markle, and a new arrangement I have done (with permission) of Tom Benjamin's "For You Shall Go Out in Joy". Our opening hymn that day will be the kid's favorite, Joyce Poley's "Open The Door".

I will be conducting the Jewish High Holyday service the following Sunday, Sep 19 and the anthem shall be "Eli, Eli" a Hebrew melody. The congregation and choir together shall sing and recite "We Begin Again in Love: A Litany of Forgiveness" We will close with my arrangement of a Hebrew "Amen".

## **MODERATOR MUSINGS – September Newsletter**

Kudos to Diane Band Sarah B (under the umbrella of our Worship Committee) for a successful series of summer services/discussions. Although attendance was small, there was very active participation of those present.

It's September, and soon regular services will resume, starting with our Water Communion service. During the upcoming year, the congregation will be asked to consider a number of important items, such as what should be the disposition of the Lambert Packard windows, what should be our future mission/vision, and how the side lot should be used.

## **BOARD MATTERS**

Our Board met this past Sunday (August 29). The good news (from Treasurer Bill M) is that the church is in good financial shape. There is no bad news! The Board spent much of its time discussing the financing of various projects that will substantially improve our building's infrastructure and accessibility. Money is in hand to begin renovation of the bathrooms. Renovation of our kitchen will begin if we receive a Chalice Lighter grant, for which our Finance Committee is applying. We should know by mid-October if the application was successful.

The Board also spent some time discussing the timetable and resulting costs for removing the four Lambert Packard windows from their frames in the room in back of the sanctuary. Because of their fragile positioning, they have to be removed (and stored) within a few weeks. At some point in the near future, the congregation will be asked to decide whether or not they should be refurbished or replaced. In any event, four "plugs" have to be installed to protect the building from the weather. Other congregational decisions will involve the review of our current mission/vision, and the future use of our recently-graded side lot.

In other actions, the Board gave the go-ahead for Peter F to provide funding for a year of high-speed internet access. Our next Board meeting will be September 26 (starting at noon).

## **SOCIAL ACTION Saturday Community Lunch**

Saturday Community Lunch 11-12:15 p.m. UU Congregation

All are welcome! Volunteers needed

<http://www.itihealth.org/>

[Default.aspx?pageId=117500&eventId=102940&EventViewMode=EventDetails](http://www.itihealth.org/Default.aspx?pageId=117500&eventId=102940&EventViewMode=EventDetails)

## RE NEWS

Greetings!! I certainly hope everyone has enjoyed the glory of the summer season. As the warm days of late summer continue to lure us outdoors my mind is turning towards our ingathering Water Communion and Religious Education season. I so look forward to another year of working with the children, as it is truly a blessing in my life. This year Sara B will be joining me as a second RE teacher. We will begin our church school year together on **Sept. 19th. Sept 12th** is the congregations water communion which will be an intergenerational service. This years church school themes will focus around our seven principles. Numerous creative activities, stories, theater, outdoor time will fill our time together in a one room school house model for 3 to 13 year olds. **The Joyful Journey** group for 9 and up will meet approximately 6 times during the year with a social service focus.

New families are always welcome!! Please feel free to call me at any time if you would like further information about our program or have questions or concerns (802)748-8108, [mosquitohawke@msn.com](mailto:mosquitohawke@msn.com) .

Below you will find a poem that I hope everyone in our congregation reads. It speaks very nicely to putting our Faith into Action. The words of the poem are the actions that our children deserve. I very much look forward to being with my church community once again.

Blessings! Dana

**Little Poem** by Rev. Dr. Randolph Becker  
UU Community Church, Park Forest, IL

I was so little - and it was so big.  
My little legs could not reach the floor - the pews were bigger than I.  
My little fingers could not hold the hymnal- that book was bigger then my hands.  
My little eyes could not see everything- the big railings blocked my view, expecially when I stood on my little legs.  
My little toes could not raise me high enough to see all the goodies- the big coffee hour table was like a forbidden banquet.  
My little mind did not understand everything- the big words were mysteries to me.  
My little sense of time made it all seem so long- that hour of services was bigger than anything I did.

So, it was the little things I noticed.  
It was the little things that told me this was a place of safety, of goodness, of love, of growth.  
It was an adult kneeling down to talk with me eye to eye, which made me feel bigger.  
It was someone handing me a blank piece of paper and a pencil during the sermon and then complimenting my drawings, which made my world seem bigger.  
It was the glowing picture of a child in one of the windows, and the many images posted on the walls down where I could see them that looked the biggest to me.  
It was hearing my little voice singing, echoing in a pageant that made me feel as big as the whole room.  
It was many adults who knew my little name, and handed me snacks from the back of the table.  
It was the stories about other little people who made a big difference in life.

So, now I kneel eye to eye, give, share, listen, teach, include, compliment, applaud because I want my little piece of the world to be as big as all of that.

## CHURCH NEWS

Farewell to Leigh who will be moving to Mississippi Oct. 1

Gudrun is off to Germany to visit her mother

Condolences to Patty H whose mother passed away recently

**SEEKERS** (open to all) 7 - 8:30 pm First and third Thursdays starting Sept. 16

We hope to study the Bible from a liberal perspective.

## LOCAL EVENTS

### **Coffeehouse featuring Woods Tea Co. at First Parish on September 4**

Please mark this date on your calendar and join us at First Universalist Parish of Derby Line for an evening of great music and tasty desserts at our coffeehouse on Saturday, September 4, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

Our featured musical artists are none other than the acclaimed musical group WOODS TEA CO. The group has seen many changes in the past few years, starting with the tragic deaths of Rusty Jacobs and Chip Chase. Following these losses, two bright spots: in 2007, former band mate Tom MacKenzie rejoined the group, and Patti Casey signed on in 2008.

In May of 2010, Woods Tea Co. saw the retirement of inimitable band member Mike Lussen. In light of all these changes, Woods Tea Co. returns to the stability of their roots – a solid trio composed of Howard Wooden, Tom MacKenzie, and Patti Casey. Woods Tea Co. offers a diverse show of traditional and original music that includes Celtic, sea shanties, French Canadian, and Appalachian.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, and another \$2 will get you a dessert and coffee, tea or milk at intermission. We hope you can join us – it's sure to be a great show!

**National Alliance on Mental Illness** Thursdays 6:30-8 UU Congregation

**Lesbian potluck** at UU Congregation, 6 pm October 2.

## **DISTRICT EVENTS** (details and more events on the bulletin board)

**Growth Workshop** Bennington Oct. 10-11

**Second Annual Leaf Peeper Weekend** Plymouth, NH

Oct. 8-10, 2010 603 536 1179 or email [Maloof@mail.plymouth.edu](mailto:Maloof@mail.plymouth.edu).

## DENOMINATIONAL EVENTS

### **UUSC-UUA Joint Pakistan Flood Relief Fund**

Please help us help the people of Pakistan recover from this unfathomable disaster - give to the UUSC-UUA Joint Pakistan Flood Relief Fund at <http://tinyurl.com/PakistanFloodReliefFund>

**“Interested in Meditation and Spiritual Growth?** Check out the new Internet blog started by UUCA member John Kirszenberg: “ [www.meditationandspiritualgrowth.com](http://www.meditationandspiritualgrowth.com)