

The Universalist Unitarian Congregation of St. Johnsbury, Vermont

Chalice in the Mountains January 2020



Upcoming Services – 10:30 am

January 5

Being Present

The Rev. Susan-Lynn Johns, Minister



According to Eckhart Tolle, “The state of presence is the only state in which creative energy is available to you.” New Year’s eve is traditionally a time for looking

forward to the future year and thinking about ways we can avoid making the same mistakes we did in the past year. But I feel this is a relatively non-productive way to go about it—just think about all of the New Year’s resolutions you’ve made and broken! The future is simply too unpredictable to gauge. In truth, the present is the only time we really have.

January 12

Joy

Paul Bengston, Guest Speaker

Karen Budde, Worship Associate

**More details on this service
will be sent in an e-blast.**

Paul Bengston was CEO of Northern Vermont Regional Hospital for 32 years. He retired from that job in 2018. Paul lives with his wife and three grown daughters in St. Johnsbury. He is an avid skier and runner, and enjoys being outdoors in all seasons. Paul has been a field ornithologist, or bird watcher, since he was a child. Other hobbies include writing poetry and reading. He used to give poetry readings in the East Village in New York City. He reads books about ornithology and scientific literature and likes reading about math and physics as well as fiction by some of the American and Russian novelists. “I read the Bible because I think it’s good reading. It’s extremely human. I read it for wisdom.” He does not watch much television.

January 19

MLK service at United Community Church

Celebrating Martin Luther King

Rev. Eliza Lucozzi

Rev. Susan-Lynn Johns

**This service, at UCC,
starts promptly at 10:00 am**



We’ll be joining with the United Community Church, UCC, to celebrate Dr. King. The service will be led by Rev. Eliza Lucozzi and Susan-Lynn will be assisting. Both will deliver short sermons. Don’t panic . . . we did two summers ago and the service actually ended right on time! There will be a choir of anyone who wishes to sing. Rehearsal begins at 9 am.

January 26

In Search of a Happy Ending

The Rev. Susan-Lynn Johns, Minister



Maybe it’s because of books, movies, cartoons—or maybe because of humankind’s indomitable spirit—it seems as though most of us are looking for happy endings. But is there even such a thing? L. Frank Baum, in his book *The Marvelous Land of Oz*, wrote: “Everything has to come to an end, sometime.” We can’t live in Oz forever! Of course this is true, but over the course of our lives we face many endings—most of which provide us with golden opportunities to experience new beginnings. How gracefully we approach those endings, will often determine how our fresh starts will proceed.

January Birthdays

20th ~ Patricia Turner



Meetings & Events

January 1

Sacred Circle Dance 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Parkinson's Caretaker Support Group 2:00 pm

January 7

Caring Network 3:30 pm

January 10

Parkinson's Art Group 1:30 pm

January 12

Board of Trustees Meeting After Service

January 14

Worship and Membership Committee Meetings

9:00 am Worship ~ 10:00 am Membership

January 26

Social Justice Team After Service

Every Thursday

Fall Prevention Tai Chi 1:30 to 2:30 pm

Every Saturday

Community Meals 11:00-12:15

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

The Worship and Membership Committees would like to a few ways members and friends could help our congregation and programs:

Attend Services Whenever You Can

Arrive on Time

Join a Committee

**Consider helping with our SEA Program
(Spiritual Exploration Activities)**

Make a Pledge

If You Haven't Done so Already

Wildflower Honey & Happy Eggs



Freshly extracted wildflower honey, \$4.00/lb. Specify how much you want. Clean jars welcomed. All proceeds to be donated to the piano fund for its upkeep and tuning.

Fresh, organic, free range, happy eggs, \$3.00/dozen. Clean paper-only egg cartons welcomed. All proceeds to be donated to the congregation's general fund. What a delicious way to support our congregation! Contact Libby Hillhouse with the date you want your produce.



redlool@fairpoint.net

Caring Network

As a new decade dawns, we seem to be bombarded with disturbing news from all sides, but there are also rays of hope. This is a time for reflection as each of us decides how we can make a difference and nurture those positive rays of hope. The Caring Network welcomed Trish Turner to our Core Committee and she is already making her positive presence felt.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Nancy Potak who, when she wasn't inundated with work, was such a vibrant and positive member of our congregation, always asking insightful questions when we had difficult decisions to make.

Please feel free to contact a member of the Caring Network core committee if you or someone you know could benefit from a bit of support:

Jane Brickett (603-788-2220 / silofarm@gmail.com)

Brendan Hadash (802-748-8074 / bhadash@sover.net)

Trish Turner (802-324-0388 / patricia.turner.mail@gmail.com)

Susan-Lynn Johns (802-424-1380 / reflectionsforuu@gmail.com)

Rest assured that any information shared with the Caring Network will remain confidential.

