

The Quest

October 2011

The North Universalist Chapel Society
Woodstock • Vermont

Affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association

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10:00 AM—4:00 PM
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What would you think if we dedicated October in the North Chapel as a self care month? Over the past month our lives and our region has been affected by some significant levels of upheaval. How does our mind and then in turn most surely, our bodies process that kind of stress? Does the sight of houses dislodged and roads broken and strewn debris influence our sense of well being... let alone for those whose homes have been profoundly disrupted? October with its quite speedy shift from vibrant foliage to bare landscape in any year creates a heightened sense of flux and perhaps anxiety. Many of us find ourselves feeling some urgency about what needs to get done before winter sets in and the frost seals the ground.

We would like to propose October at the North Chapel and in our community of fellowship as a time to focus some special attention on health and well-being. Some of the reflections offered this month will be oriented around healing and reconnecting to a steady, centered and holistic sense of self within in the larger order of things. As we offer reflections and thoughts and suggestions about practices that can be helpful, we would love to invite you each one to not discount the need for self care at this time. So many have been personally and profoundly affected by the floods of Irene. Many others have been strongly involved in

(Continued on page 2)

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relief efforts that have left you tired and feeling at the edge of your capacity to cope. These things do have physical and emotional implications that cannot be covered up as we “push” through. They need attention, care and consideration. Let us intentionally join this month in focusing on wellness. And once again thank you to all who have helped our communities through this difficult and unusual time.

Daniel

From the Board

The Board meeting this month focused on activities and disruptions related to tropical storm Irene. While many Board members contributed to recovery efforts, two have done extraordinary things. Norwood Long has put in an enormous effort on the part of the church which started with supervising the repair of the parsonage roof before the storm and then organizing and monitoring the cleanup of the church property afterwards. This also involved working with the Woodstock Nursery School to make sure they were following public health regulations regarding children being exposed to the silt. In addition to Norwood, the entire Building and Grounds Committee has worked to help cleanup the church property and giving needed advice. So far, it does not seem the church is eligible for compensation from insurance or from state or federal agencies. We are eligible for a small business loan but it is not clear whether or not that would be a good idea.



The other Board member who has provided an extraordinary service for the community is Peter Rousmaniere who organized the very successful “Goodbye Irene” event on Sunday

(Continued on page 3)

(From the Board—Continued from page 2)

September 18th. Peter's extensive knowledge of disasters led him to realize how important it would be at a suitable interval after the event to have a positive celebration of the community's strength and resilience. Not only was the event marked by successful performances, it was also the kind of emotional or spiritual boost the community needed.

The Board is considering how we move ahead and help church members recover but also what role we play in the broader community. Daniel told us that he, Susan Jantos and Charity Gray are planning to have sessions scheduled for people to talk about their emotional and physical needs and how they make plans for the future. The weekly Hand in Hand dinner is another opportunity for people to gather and tell their stories and listen to each other. The Board, Caring Committee and Membership Committee are considering further options to reach out.

Prior to the storm a group had formed to consider options for a special space for meditation and prayer. This was described in last month's Quest. Their initial survey suggested a spot by the river would be best. But with the storm and flood, the group declared "The river has spoken!" - the risk of flooding no longer makes that an option. So, the group is now considering other options.

The final major consideration had to do with the church's finances. Our new Finance Committee meeting under the guidance of its chair Trish Compton is beginning to consider the likely needs over the next five years and how we can best meet those needs. This is especially timely as we approach our annual Canvass. Indeed, the Pledge Dinner is planned for Saturday, November 19th - keep the date open and plan to come!

For the Board,

Lynn Peterson

Church Notices

The Pastoral Care Committee

Do you know of anyone who might want or need support of some kind?

Perhaps, a ride, a meal, some company, a card, or assistance in some other way would be helpful. If so, please contact the Pastoral Care Committee.

The co-chairs are:

Nancy Peterson [672-3697] and
Judy Williamson [457-3620].



Book Corner

Our Book Corner downstairs needs some fresh input. Bring some books you have enjoyed to pass along to others, and take some home for your fall reading!

Missing from Kitchen



Sometime during early September one of our coffee urns may have been borrowed and not returned.

If you happen to know where it is, can you please help bring it home?

We sometimes allow our church members to borrow items but it is always helpful if you first check in with the church office beforehand.

Many thanks!

Treasurer's Report

YTD (8/31/11) Budgeted

TOTAL RECEIPTS
\$139,494 \$207,960

Expenses
Church Building
\$23354 \$29828

Parsonage
\$1150 \$1530

Administration
\$27739 \$33717

Benefits
\$24928 \$39633

Minister's Package
\$46339 \$69509

Worship
\$1337 \$3250

Music
\$10486 \$16279

Coffee
\$83 \$500

Resource Dev.
\$0 \$500

Membership
\$3051 \$4850

RE
\$3863 \$8354

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$142,330 \$207,960

Balance <\$2835.96>

Treasurer:
Ann Wynia 457-2217

October Birthdays

- 10/1 Paul Dunkel
- 10/8 Joan Rothstein
- 10/10 Leah Atwood
- 10/13 Joanne Boyle
- 10/14 Ed Durgin
- 10/15 Tess Belisle
- 10/16 Audrey Kern
- 10/17 Liz Cassell
- 10/18 Mike Backman
- 10/18 Vassie Sinopoulos
- 10/18 Charity Gray
- 10/19 Leigh Snell
- 10/20 Julian Jantos
- 10/20 Ross Taylor
- 10/22 Mark Auriema
- 10/22 Jordan Mellinger
- 10/24 Hannah Weintraub
- 10/25 Emma Bragdon
- 10/25 Jack Nelson
- 10/26 Kris Durgin
- 10/26 Teale Bohem
- 10/26 Spruce Bohem
- 10/28 Seth Mellinger

Mark your calendars for Saturday October 22!



It's Circle Dinner time again, and you are invited to attend or even host this special evening of getting to know each other more personally. The host provides the home and main entrée; the guests bring the supplementary dishes. You will be grouped in tables of approximately eight according to the most interesting mix: new folks who have been at NUCS for a short time with those who have attended for years, young and not-so-young - a potluck of food and of people!

To register, look for Pru in her unusual hat during October services or call Ann Wynia 457-2217 or Fran Lancaster 457-1169

Anniversaries

- 10/3 Lou & Peggy Kannenstine
- 10/15 Mike Backman & Steve Swayne
- 10/28 Sharon Miller & Lester Blake



Clearness Committees

Are you struggling with an important issue that you could use clarity on? Then consider being a "focus person" in a clearness committee of people you trust who ask you open and honest questions to help you gain clarity around that issue. The process takes about two hours and is entirely confidential.

For more information about clearness committees and/or to see about setting up a committee for yourself, please contact Daniel (sotnaj@aol.com), Richard (richardaschramm@gmail.com) Veronica (delays@comcast.net), Shoshana (sboar@comcast.net) or Donna (wdstkuu@sover.net).

Spirituality Connections

Divinity Group

The Divinity Group will continue this Fall on Thursday Oct. 6th at 7pm in the Church Library. Spiritual support, snacks and the illumined perspective of Jeshua & Mary Magdalen form the basis for our free & open Divinity Group. Topic for this month is "Empowerment through Permission". Drop-ins welcome.

Offered by Jennifer Donaldson of Through The Rose Mystery School, Pomfret. FMI: 457-3690.

Meditation and Oneness Blessings every Tuesday at 5:15 in the church parlors

The Oneness Blessing offers a simple effortless method of giving profound rest to the body and peace to the mind, promoting wellness in all areas of live. Oneness Experience creates a neurobiological shift in the brain silencing the ceaseless chatter of the mind, enabling us to simply experience reality as it is, in the present moment where there is peace and a deep sense of well being. ***Come and experience for yourself!***

Additional Opportunity: A Meditation and Oneness Blessing will be offered from 5:15 to 6:15 on the first and third Thursday each month at the **Barnard Library**. Please contact Mary 234-5541 or Anne 457-3889 for directions or information.

Wednesday Morning Meditations

For those who might feel the need or welcome the opportunity to participate in a group meditation in the middle of the week please feel welcome. Charity Gray, who has had long and diverse experiences with meditation practice will be facilitating a meditation experience in the carpeted children's room starting at 8 a.m. and completed to allow people to comfortably make 9 a.m. appointments. All are welcome.

The Spirit of Water on Sunday, October 2 FREE

The Spirit of Water: A community healing event for our relationship to the rivers after the flooding. Inviting children, families, those affected by the flood, volunteers, artists, musicians, poets, and healers of all kinds to the Woodstock History Center's back lawn, 26 Elm Street, on Sunday October 2nd beginning at 1pm and going until dusk. A huge sand mandala will be created with public participation throughout the day and returned to the river at dusk. All are encouraged to bring your hearts, your hands, your voices, your stories, your words, your tears, mementoes, ideas, instruments, and creativity. There will be singing, chanting, drumming, readings, free cookies and cider, free journals, making prayer flags, free reiki, and lots more, on-going. Come for a while and stay as long as you want. Info: Jennifer Donaldson 457-3690.

The 2012 Seminar:

October 11th, 12th and 13th, 10 am - noon

Three classes based on a series of informative channelings on the higher meaning of the 2012 prophecy, the global consciousness revolution, why we are experiencing so many physical and emotional challenges, and how we can be most grounded, peaceful and of service during this crucial period in our evolution.

Cost: Tuition for the seminar is \$30

Location: Church library room

Pre-registration is required, so please call Jennifer Donaldson at 457-3690 or email jdonaldson7@yahoo.com if you want to explore this fascinating material in a small group.

Woodstock Meditation and Mystic Healing Retreat

Friday, Oct 21st to Sunday, Oct 23rd, 2011

Directed by Raymond Cadwell of Dublin, Ireland

Contact for info about tuition or registration:

Emma Bragdon, 802-674-2919 or EBragdon@aol.com

Raymond Cadwell is an Irish mystic and an initiate and instrument of the Master Jose---a living Master whose vibration he transmits in the service of your purpose and destiny in life.

Raymond will be providing our Sunday reflection on October 16th.

North Universalist Chapel Society
Annual



**Red Flannel Hash
Supper**

5—7 pm Saturday, November 5, 2011

Adults \$10 children under 12 \$5

No Reservations

**Lots of Help Needed
Contact Ann Wynia 457-2217**

Western Wind

the Labor Day Workshop is Rescheduled!!

An Autumn A Cappella Revel
in Beautiful Woodstock Vermont
October 21-23 2011

(FRIDAY NIGHT TO SUNDAY AFTERNOON)

Sing Medieval and Renaissance, Early American, Romantic, Folk, Jazz and contemporary songs in an Autumn revel in one of New England's most picturesque towns.



What makes the Western Wind workshop unique is the focus on small ensembles, where everyone makes an essential contribution as an individual singer. Most of the day is spent in small groups, working on a variety of a cappella repertoire. Each group sings an intriguing selection of music which could include Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Early American; 19th- and 20th-century part-songs; rounds, hymns, and folk-songs; jazz, pop, doo-wop, and improvisations.

To Register: For workshop details and to register online:
www.westernwind.org
call 1-800-788-2187 or email: info@westernwind.org

PLEASE NOTE: There will not be a public concert on Friday night for this rescheduled workshop.

Housing Needed: Workshop participants and faculty may opt be housed in local church members' homes, and we are looking for possible hosts to provide housing for them for Friday and Saturday nights. Please contact Deborah Rice at 234-5349 or by email: debarice@gmail.com

Music - in our sanctuary

Classical Music Series

Sunday, October 9, 2011, 2 pm

Vento Chiaro Woodwind Quintet



As one of the country's foremost woodwind quintets, Vento Chiaro captivates audiences with engaging performances and inspiring residencies. Founded at the Peabody Conservatory in 1997 and currently based in Boston, the ensemble places a strong

emphasis on breaking down the traditional barriers that exist between performers and audience members.

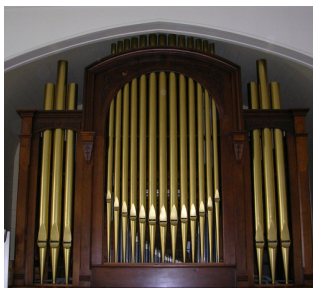
Since 2002 Vento Chiaro has been the woodwind quintet in residence at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute, one of the world's most renowned summer festivals for talented and ambitious high school music students. Vento Chiaro currently is Ensemble in Residence at The Rivers School Conservatory in Weston, Massachusetts, where its members are on the faculty and coach chamber music, lead master classes, and present a recital series.

The group will perform selections from J. S. Bach, Paquito d'Rivera and David Maslanka.

This free series, sponsored by NUCS, is graciously underwritten by music lovers in our community. Donations will be gratefully accepted at the door and all proceeds will benefit the church.

Next in the 2011 UU Sundays at 2 Classical Music Series:
November 6 - Anna Schemetieva, violin, and Ellina Blinder, piano

We are now planning our 2012 UU Sundays at 2 Classical Series, which will be announced in the February 2012 Quest.



Annual Whitney Organ Recital October 30, 4:00 pm Church sanctuary

The eighth Whitney Organ Recital will showcase Lubbert Gnodde, organist of Our Lady of the Snows in Woodstock.

His program will feature Bach and French Romantic composers, especially C. Franck, Durufle, and Widor. Widely educated in the Netherlands and France, Mr. Gnodde currently apprentices at the workshop of A. David Moore where he researches the Romantic organs of Cavaille-Coll and Walcker.

The North Chapel's famous organ, purchased for the studio of Eugene Thayer, was built by the Hutchings, Plaisted & Company in 1875, and partially rebuilt by the Andover Organ Company (1969) and A. David Moore (2008). The program, partly funded by the Vermont Chapter of American Guild of organists, is free to the public although free will offerings to the artist are welcomed.

Mark your calendars -

More details in the November Quest!

- ✧ **Red Flannel Hash Supper November 5—social hall**
- ✧ **Classical Concert November 6 at 2 pm—sanctuary**
- ✧ **Annual Canvass Dinner November 19—social hall**
- ✧ **Winter Farmers Market begins November 19 at Masonic Hall**
- ✧ **Hand in Hand Craft Market on November 26—social hall**

Religious Exploration



Children's Chapel Schedule for October

October 2 - The Natural World with Anthea

October 9 - Yoga and Lessons with Geraldine

October 16 - Lessons with Charity and Ann

October 23 - Yoga and Lessons with Geraldine

October 30 - Arts and Crafts with Marion and Norman

All children age K-6 are invited to attend Children's Chapel each Sunday during the school year.

Valerie will provide nursery care downstairs for babies and pre-school children each Sunday.



Change the World Kids

Our *para la Tierra Bonk and Beauty* events were fun! Huge thanks to all of you who came and created sidewalk chalk art in Woodstock Village or visited our booth at the Woodstock Arts Festival for a look at art

by youth and for coffee.

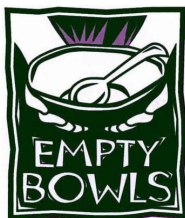
para la Tierra means "for the Earth"....its biodiversity and people, for now and generations. Our *para la Tierra* dinner was postponed due to Hurricane Irene and will be held on Sunday, October 30 at the Woodstock Inn and Resort Country Club. Fabulous fancy meal. There will be a terrific silent auction, a short presentation by the Change the World Kids, and more. Tickets are \$100. We still have seats available for this memorable dinner, so contact us with your reservation.

If you haven't already, please pick up a copy of the latest issue of our Regeneration magazine. It is available outside of the social hall on the table near the church office.

Coming soon - our holiday gift program of hearts to hearts.

Please contact us if you know of someone who needs our help or if you have an idea for us!

457-2622 or changetheworldkids@yahoo.com



Empty Bowls Fundraising Dinner & Silent Auction

Saturday, October 15th

4:00 - 6:00 pm

NUCS Social Hall

Purchase an empty bowl from \$6–\$20, then enjoy as many soup refills as you like! Breads, beverages and dessert will be served.

A silent auction will also take place.

All proceeds support Hand In Hand Community Service

New Covenant Groups Forming Now

Sign-up sheets are available on the table at the back of the church, downstairs at coffee hour, in the church office and online at www.nucs.org/committees-groups/covenant-groups/

If you are interested in participating in a covenant group, please complete the sign-up sheet and either drop it by the NUCS office or mail it in. For more information about the upcoming Covenant Groups, please feel free to contact: Don Ransom at 295-5135, Rick Fiske at 457-7185, Mary Blanton at 234-5541 or Daniel Jantos.

The sign up deadline is October 2nd and groups will begin meeting in October or November.

Woodstock Community Food Shelf News

The community has been tremendously generous in this time of need following the storm. We have been able to share food with food shelves in our neighboring towns of Bridgewater, West Hartford, Sharon, Bethel and Killington. The need continues, and to that end, we will extend our hours for the next month or so:

Monday: 3-6 pm, Wed, noon to 3 pm, Saturday 10 am to 1 pm

The shopping list for the next couple of weeks includes: canned tuna, salmon, sardines, canned chicken, canned fruit (lite syrup if possible), meal extenders such as Hamburger Helper, dry milk, juice, and cereal (hot and cold).

The Woodstock Community Food Shelf is located at 2176 Maxham Meadow Way, Woodstock. Phone 457-1185. Donations of cash are also much appreciated. Non-perishable donations may be dropped off in the basket in our church narthex.

Church Committee & Group Meetings

- **Resource Development Committee**
2nd Sunday after church in Library
Contact Lynn Peterson 672-3697
or Peter Rousmaniere 457-9149
- **Men’s Discussion Group**
1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm
in Library
Contact Lynn Peterson 672-3697
- **Membership Committee**
4th Monday, 7:00 pm in Library
Contact Sherry Belisle 457-1919
- **Worship Committee**
1st Tuesday, 5:30 pm in Library
Contact Don Ransom 295-5135
- **Buildings and Grounds Committee**
1st Tuesday, 6:30 pm in social hall
Contact David Doolittle 763-8773
- **Board of Trustees**
3rd Tuesday at 6:15 PM in Library
Contact Mary Jeanne Taylor
234-6953
- **Pastoral Care Committee**
4th Tuesday, 6:30 PM in Library
Contact Judy Williamson 457-3620
- **Choir Rehearsals**
Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, sanctuary
Contact Diane Mellinger 234-6619



Save this Date:
November 19
Canvass Dinner

Ongoing Activities at the Church

Mondays - AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Social Hall. Open meeting, all are welcome.

Tuesdays: Oneness Blessings held in the parlors, 5:15-6:15 PM. All are welcome. Contact Anne Dean 457-3889 or annesheart@aol.com

Wednesdays - Course in Miracles: 5:30-7:00 PM in Library. Contact Robert Walker (802) 359-4047

Thursdays - Yoga Class: 8:30-10:00 AM in Social Hall. Contact Instructor: Phoebe Standish 672-3800

Thursdays: Hand in Hand dinners held in the Social Hall, 5:00-7:00 PM, free. Volunteers welcome. Contact Lauren Jane Wilder 802-299-1777

Divinity Group: 7:00-9:00 pm, library room, 1st Thursday each month. Contact Jennifer Donaldson 457-3690

October Worship

Sunday services at 10:00 until 11:00 AM

Child care provided every Sunday.

October 2

Reflection: Joanne Findley

Music: Diane Mellinger

October 23

Reflection: Mark Kutolowski

Music: Western Wind

October 9

Reflection: Daniel Jantos

Music: Diane Mellinger

October 30

Reflection: Daniel Jantos

Music: Diane Mellinger

October 16

Reflection: Raymond Cadwell

Music: Diane Mellinger

October Worship Notes

October 2: Joanne Findley, plagued throughout her life with a short attention span, has hop scotched her way from hot dog vending through corporate America and academia with retirement stints as a nature guide, a stock market trader, a teacher of creative writing and a facilitator of self-inquiry workshops. She divides her time between Barnard, Vermont and Vero Beach, Florida, and shares her life with her heart's delight, Shoshanna Shelley, and Maude, a Clumber spaniel.

In a bitter and protracted struggle with Reality, Joanne has emerged as the vanquished. And she couldn't be more grateful. In *Seeing Without Looking*, she tries to explain why she makes no sense.

October 16: Raymond Cadwell—more info on page 7 of this Quest

October 23: Mark Kutolowski is a Vermont guide and traditional wilderness skills instructor. In addition to running New Creation Wilderness Programs, Mark teaches wilderness living skills at Dartmouth College. Mark is a Wilderness First Responder, and has over a decade of experience leading trips, teaching classes and workshops, and living simply with the land in New England. www.newcreationwilderness.org/

North Universalist Chapel Society
7 Church Street
Woodstock, VT 05091



October Quest

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Woodstock VT
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Return Service Requested