

The HEED DECEMBER, 2018

Newsletter of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Services at 10 AM Sundays

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| Dec 2 | Prof. Marion (Molly) Dorsey
“Giving it Their Best Shot: Highlights in the History of Vaccination in the U.S.” |
| Dec 9 | Rev. Mary Edes
“In the Place of One Who is Waiting:” A wondering piece about time and our relationship to it, as we await the world we hope to inhabit |
| Dec 16 | Jake Kritzer
A Triptych for Rosa |
| Dec 23 | No program |
| Dec 24 | (evening) Marjorie Wolfson
Christmas Eve service |
| Dec 30 | No program |
| Jan 6 | Rev. Mary Edes
Endings and Beginnings |
| Jan 13 | Merry Stockwell |
| Jan 20 | Julien/Jane Olivier
Bringing spirituality to the Strafford County Jail |

PROGRAM NOTES/UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

There will be no program on Sunday, Dec. 23. Please plan to attend the Christmas Eve service, hosted by Marjorie Wolfson, on Christmas Eve (Monday, Dec. 24). Specific time and details will be shared later.

There will also be no program on Sunday, Dec. 30. Enjoy this time with your family or yourself.

The Dover Area Religious Leaders Association (DARLA) is hosting an inter-denominational Blue Christmas program on Sunday, Dec 16 at 7 p.m. at St. John's Methodist Church, 28 Cataract Ave, Dover. Designed especially for those who, for whatever reason, find Christmas a less-than-happy occasion, it is open to all.

First Parish Church in Dover will be hosting a Messiah Sing on Sunday, Dec 9. Come sing the "Christmas" portion of this traditional work or just listen and enjoy.



The December Board Meeting will be on
Wednesday, December 12th at 6:30PM.

Welcoming Congregation vs. a Safe Congregation

As noted each week in the order of service, our fellowship is certified as a Welcoming Congregation, fully inclusive of those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered. The process of becoming a Welcoming Congregation is a comprehensive and lengthy one. Thanks to Dottie Oliver and others for guiding us through this. We also strive to be welcoming to new people who come through our doors; this is part of being a faith community. Recurring tragedies at churches and synagogues, as well as other community locations, have challenged the typical open-door approach.

Recently Rabbi Ira Korinow, interim rabbi at Temple Israel in Portsmouth, joined members of the Dover Area Religious Leaders Association (DARLA) and shared some of the ways the Jewish community has been dealing with this issue for quite some time. First Parish Church in Dover recently invited a member of the local police force to visit their facility; the staff there found the visit to be helpful and are currently assessing how they might implement some of them. Wentworth-Douglass Hospital is also reassessing its security policies. Many schools have adopted increased security measures already.

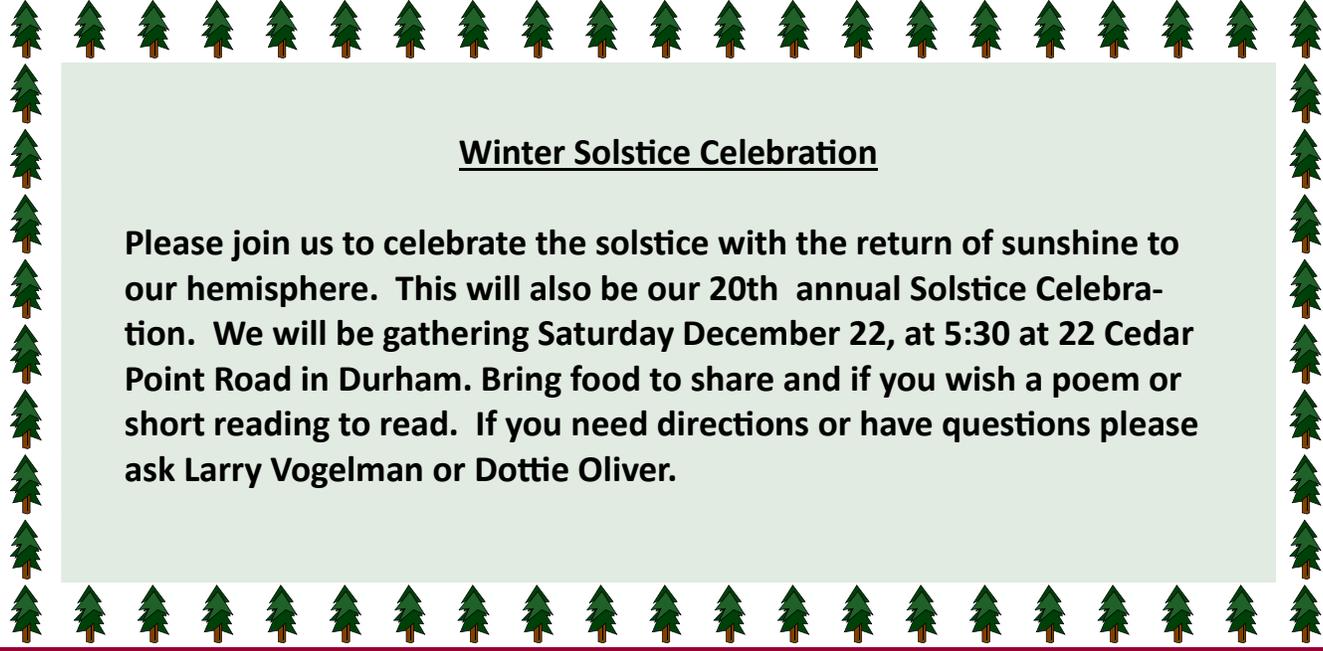
Houses of worship, hospitals, and schools are all designed to be open, welcoming facilities, yet a number of them have adopted or are considering adopting security measures that may seem to counter the concept of welcoming. How do we find a workable balance between the two?

DARLA hopes to have a member of the Dover Police Department meet with us at one of our monthly meetings. I will, of course, share relevant information with DUUF folks. Pastor Goodell at First Parish, though, encouraged each faith community to have an on-site visit. Each facility has some unique features that may not be included in the general comments presented by local police representatives.

What are your thoughts on this? I will admit to quite mixed feelings here but the apparent randomness of so many of these tragedies leans me toward seeking additional information about how we can make ours both a welcoming and a safe environment.

In faith,

Thomas Pistole



Winter Solstice Celebration

Please join us to celebrate the solstice with the return of sunshine to our hemisphere. This will also be our 20th annual Solstice Celebration. We will be gathering Saturday December 22, at 5:30 at 22 Cedar Point Road in Durham. Bring food to share and if you wish a poem or short reading to read. If you need directions or have questions please ask Larry Vogelmann or Dottie Oliver.

Message from the President

November was a busy month at the Fellowship. Thanks to Thomas for his Program on Star Island, Michael O'Sullivan for his Veterans' Day message, and Susan for her Program on Gratitude. Also, we had a great message from Rev. Craig Werth followed by a great Potluck Luncheon. Thank you all who participated.

December 1st will be a very busy day starting with the Holiday Fair in the morning, a Café Lunch, soup-to-go, and many White Elephant items.

After a quick clean-up, our Oyster River Folk Holiday Concert with Susie Burke, David Surette and Kent Allyn will begin at 7:00PM. Hope everyone can join us for all or part of the festivities.

Bob Sheehan

A Contemporary Reflection on the Long Shadow of World War One

(A conclusion to Michael O'Sullivan's November 11th program at the Fellowship)

The Centenary of World War One recalls to our minds its catastrophes and disasters. So does the sobering realization of today's geo-political alignment and geography. The long 17-year War in Afghanistan and the continuing wars in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Libya, Sudan, Congo and other hot spots in the Middle East and Africa are powder kegs much like the Assassination in Sarajevo in 1914 of Archduke Ferdinand. For all the differences of time and place, these conflicts are essentially similar stories. They are collations of simplistic assumptions, inept planning, sloppy intelligence and duplicitous spin. It is tragically apt that, having reflected on the last days of World War One, we are still pondering what "Mission -Accomplished" really means.

I believe that every political leader, maybe every person, should visit the Memorials to the Dead and Missing of World War One, as well as the Memorials to the Dead of all the other wars that have rocked the world, in the United States, Europe, Canada, Germany, Austria, India, Russia or wherever. To touch their names and sense the pain of all those lives cut down so early. Of all those families who lost lovers, relatives or friends. Of all the dreams, hopes and aspirations of life that were never realized. Many of us have visited the Vietnam Memorial on the Mall in Washington. However, the Memorials in Durham, Madbury, Dover and others throughout the land are often bypassed without a thought given to the multitude and magnitude of sacrifices that the memorials commemorate. To take into the deepest recesses of our hearts, and dare I say souls, the human costs and environmental losses of all these wars. That is why for me, ultimately, World War One matters. We should not forget November 11, 1918. A century on, and however hard it now may be, we should remember those on all sides, allies and enemies, whose lives were needlessly sacrificed.

Michael O'Sullivan

*Susie Burke and David Surette
with Kent Allyn*

Saturday, December 1

Three of the Seacoast's finest singers/songwriters, and instrumentalists will perform their annual Holiday concert at the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Doors open at 6:15; Concert begins at 7:00

Ticket Price: \$15 adults; \$5 students



2018-2019 DUUF Officers & Committees**Officers**

President: Bob Sheehan

Vice President: Dottie Oliver

Treasurer: John Macri

Secretary: Rachel Legard

Committees

Program: Thomas Pistole (Chair); Susan Bullivant, Carmen Buford-Paige, Julia Kinsey

Religious Exploration: Bob Pavlik (Chair) Brad Kinsey

House and Grounds: House: Sarge Legard (Chair); Grounds: Eric Nordgren;

Rentals and Cleaning: Maria Isaak (Rentals); Edna O'Sullivan (Cleaning)

Socials: Deb Johnson (Chair); Edna O'Sullivan, Amy Randlov, Bob Sheehan

Membership: Brooke Baldwin (Chair); Caring Subcommittee: Chris Rodgers, Betty Crepeau,
Michael O' Sullivan, Bob Sheehan, Joyce Sheehan

Councils

Nominations: Michael O'Sullivan (Coordinator), Joyce Sheehan

Green Sanctuary: Mike Fleming (Coordinator), Jake Kritzer

Social Action: Dawn Meredith (Coordinator); Betty Crepeau

Music: Carmen Buford-Paige (Coordinator); Thomas Pistole; Maria Isaak

Communication & Outreach: Brett Gibson (Webmaster); Stefanie Griffin (HEED Editor)

Denominational Affairs: Joyce Sheehan (Coordinator)

**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

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