

The HEED OCTOBER, 2019

Newsletter of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



Services at 10AM Sundays*

October

6	Jo & Marley Beltre	Medical Training and Service Missions
13	Michael Evans	When All Your Food Has Souls: Traditional Belief Systems in the Arctic
20	Carolyn Towler, MD	Epigenetics
27	Khemavassika	Bringing Buddhism to the NH State Prison

November

3	Robert Azzi	TBA
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*Music for services provided by Carmen Buford-Paige

Board Meetings

The next Board Meeting is on Wednesday, October 2nd at 6:30PM

President's Message

Thanks to all who helped make September a great start-up month at the Fellowship! Many thanks to Susan, Jake, Rev. Mary Edes and Thomas for outstanding Programs for the month.

Thanks to Mike Fleming, the Green Sanctuary Council, and the Youth Group for two great Climate Forums, featuring Adm. Joe Sestak and Gov. Bill Weld.

Special thanks to Bob Pavlik, Brad and the Youth Group for their help with the Climate Forums as well as serving refreshments at the first Oyster River Folk Concert on September 28th.

The Program Committee has some excellent Programs planned for October!

-Bob Sheehan

Indigenous Peoples' Day Events

Durham United is putting on a wonderful series of events (talks, discussions, field trips and more) this fall for Indigenous Peoples' Day; two of these talks will be at DUUF, sponsored by the Social Action Committee. For full details of this series of events, go to DurhamIPD.org

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

Thursday, October 10, 7:00 pm at the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 20 Madbury Rd. This program will begin with an Al Jazeera report addressing the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women, a group that experiences some of the highest rates of violence in this country. [Amy Michael](#), a biological anthropologist in the UNH Dept of Anthropology, will then share her experiences and insight as a forensic lab director near an Indian reservation in Idaho. [Denise Pouliot](#), Sag8moskwa (Female Head Speaker) of the Cowasuck Band of the Pennacook Abenaki People and a traditional Abenaki artist, will describe artists' responses to this crisis.

What if there had been no one here when the Europeans arrived?

Monday, October 14, 7:00 pm at Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 20 Madbury Rd. In this counter-factual inquiry, [Frank McCann](#), UNH Emeritus Professor of History, will challenge us to consider what Europeans would have faced if there were no Indigenous People when they arrived in the lands that are now known as the Americas. Colonists benefited from Indigenous transportation networks, crop development, and governance models and even adopted vocabulary from the Native languages. Join Prof. McCann in imagining life without the considerable contributions of the Indigenous People of the Americas.

FROM THE SOCIALS COMMITTEE

Our next set of DUUF Circle Dinners will be held on Saturday, October 26th. Please let us know if you would be able to host one of these dinners—your willingness to welcome fellow DUUFers to your home, provides all of us with the opportunity to better know one another. Thanks!

Thanks to the Youth Group for the tasty treats they baked for last Saturday's Oyster River Concert. Leftovers were donated to DUUF's Sunday Coffee Hour and enjoyed by all!

Looking ahead: There will not be a potluck lunch this month but we will be holding one on November 10th.

We'll also be celebrating the birthdays of all Fall-born DUUFers on Sunday, November 3rd. Cake and birthday wishes will be shared with all. Don't miss it!

See you soon,

Your Socials Committee (Deb J., Carol B., Betsy T. Edna O. and Bob S.)

From Mike Fleming: I've been asked to share the information below, which originated with Dee Stewart and was forwarded to us on 9/26 by Kristin Forselius of Durham Congregational Church:

... [This is] about starting a corner on Mill and Maine as a visibility for climate/immigrant, etc... issues. ... The inspiration came from <https://standoneverycorner.com/> as well as Civil Rights Sunday in Portsmouth. I would love to build up our presence on our own little corner in Durham. I really think folks are looking for a local way to stand up and speak out and create some visibility around the issues they care about. ... We stood out there last Friday and...a few folks stopped by for just a few minutes on their way through-lots of honks and waves of support, as well as promises to stand with us this Friday. ... there's no commitment. Folks can come when they are able. ... I'm hoping that we can build our own little coalition of activists standing up for justice every Friday on our Durham corner. 4:00-5:00 pm. ... Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/387541295526385/> Please feel free to reach out ...text/call me at 603-244-8990.

The Power of We

UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray used this as the title of a recent article in *UU World*. It was also the theme for this year's General Assembly in Spokane, Washington. In that article she wrote the following:

"We don't create any real positive impact alone. Community gives us strength. Love gives us courage. Remembering we are not alone—remembering the people, the family, the community, the ancestors we belong to—gives us resiliency and power to keep on loving, keep on acting, keep on working for the values and commitments we hold dear."

Here in our Fellowship we can see the beneficial effects of "we" in our outreach, e.g., to Seacoast Family Promise; in our connections, e.g., between our youth and those in the Durham Community Church; to others in our Fellowship, e.g., by members of the Caring Committee. It is also good to remember that we are a part of a larger faith community, whose formal name is the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations.

Unlike some other religious organizations Unitarian Universalism honors the concept of congregational polity. Fellowship members alone make decisions about our congregation. Although there are regional offices and a central one in Boston, the staff in these locations serve largely to support the individual congregations. We, in turn, make annual contributions to maintain these centralized entities.

In her *UU World* column Frederick-Gray cites the Rev. Fred Muir who writes "of the 'trinity of errors' that have come to define Unitarian Universalism. They are individualism, exceptionalism, and our allergy to authority.' The ability to "be oneself" is what often attracts people to this faith. However, sometimes that individualism prevents us from seeing the larger picture and what we can achieve collectively. Muir suggests an alternative to individualism; he calls it "individuality." Individuality, Muir writes, "celebrates the very real differences between people, without denying our fundamental interdependence.... [It] recognizes that each of us, varied as we are, exist within a context of mutuality, shared fate, and collective responsibility."

I spoke of this tension at a recent Sunday service in the context of immunization and how decisions to immunize involve both the individual and the community. Frederick-Gray and Muir argue that we can embrace the "we" without sacrificing the "I." Whether in our Fellowship or in the broader community, there are good reasons to work toward this we/I balance. May we keep at it.

In faith,

Thomas Pistole

Snapshots from the Past: A Celebration of DUUF History

By Deb Johnson (with thanks to Kitty Howe)

Part one of a planned series on aspects of the approximately sixty-year history of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Now that days are turning chillier, we are all grateful for our fellowship's heating system, which ensures that members are almost always warm. It was not always thus. In the winter of 1959, when a group of Durham Unitarians began meeting publicly, their Sunday morning services were decidedly chilly. Adults met on the unheated third floor of Durham's Scammell Grange Hall* (located on Main Street across from Durham's Post Office). One thoughtful and compassionate member eventually hung a set of chicken brooder lamps (with warm red bulbs) from the ceiling to provide some warmth for attendees. It appears that the Durham Unitarian Fellowship originated in a red-light district!

The reasons behind the selection of the Scammell Grange Hall as a meeting place are not fully known, but the Grange has its own interesting history. Originally built as one of Durham's schoolhouses, it became the home of Scammell Grange #122 in 1893. By 1959, when the Unitarian fellowship took up residence, the Durham Grange was a three-story building, housing both the Grange and the Durham Art Association. Because the Art Association occupied the entire second floor, the approximately 35 fellowship members, joined by their children and several UNH students met on the first (heated) and third (unheated) floors. Adults generously allocated the heated downstairs space to the children and youth, while the fellowship adults met in the chilly upstairs level. We are grateful to those who endured the chill of Durham Unitarian Fellowship's first dwelling place, warmed only by a few glowing red lights.

To be continued next month . . .

*The Durham Grange Hall currently houses luxury student apartments, furnished with central heating and air conditioning, among other amenities.



Photo of Scammell Grange, courtesy of: <https://www.unh.edu/main/gallery/scammell-grange>

The Oyster River Folk Series Presents:



July 08, 2015 / / [Moors Magazine](#)
(Netherlands)

"Hungrytown is a remarkable folk duo.

Rebecca Hall began as a jazz singer, Ken Anderson a drummer for a variety of garage bands. When a mutual friend who died young bequeathed to them her guitar and collection of folk albums, a spark was kindled. Multi-instrumentalist and singer Anderson and writer Hall together form Hungrytown, a special folk duo with literary texts, beautiful arrangements and remarkable vocal harmonies, with Hall as the lead singer.

Her singing is unexpectedly reminiscent of Karen Carpenter of the Carpenters, but Hungrytown's music is just a bit more intelligent and subtle. As previously stated, attractive arrangements, brilliant guitar playing, and above all, very good songs. Sometimes recalling British folk, at other times reminiscent of the Appalachians or the Byrds, it falls somewhere between folk rock and old time folk. Hungrytown is simply unique. Pure class."

HUNGRYTOWN

IN CONCERT

NOVEMBER 2, 2019

7 PM

DURHAM UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

20 MADBURY RD., DURHAM, NH

TICKETS \$15 / \$5 STUDENTS

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

2019-2020 DUUF Officers & Committees

Officers

President: Bob Sheehan

Vice President: Dottie Oliver

Treasurer: Jen Pavlik

Secretary: Rachel Legard

Committees

Program: Raelene Shippee-Rice (Chair); Betty Crepeau, Joyce Sheehan, (Deb Johnson—60th Anniversary Celebration Coordinator)

Religious Exploration: Bob Pavlik (Chair); Brad Kinsey

House and Grounds: House: Sarge Legard (Chair), Rachel Legard; Grounds: Sarah Tambling
Rentals: Maria Isaak

Socials: Deb Johnson (Chair); Edna O’Sullivan, Bob Sheehan, Carol Bullivant, Betsy Tyrol

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

Councils

Nominations: Michael O’Sullivan (Coordinator); Joyce Sheehan

Green Sanctuary: Mike Fleming (Coordinator); Jake Kritzer, Nick Isaak

Social Action: Dawn Meredith (Coordinator); Betty Crepeau

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

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

Denominational Affairs: Thomas Pistole (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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