

the
HEED

Newsletter of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Follow-Up to Our Green Sanctuary Service

Our Sunday service on climate change was really lively. We ran over schedule, and didn't even have time to do our final hymn. Pretty exciting!

Backing up, to explain for those who weren't at the service...it consisted of: Part I-- a mini-lecture (think "An Inconvenient Truth" like); plus Part II--a mini-sermon (on avoiding emotional numbness in order to act); plus Part III--a discussion on what green Sunday services we should be doing next year, in order to help people find ways to act in response to climate change.

During the discussion, we brainstormed about possible service topics in five areas: moral and spiritual actions; personal and family actions; DUUF actions; community actions; and state/national/world actions. People contributed many ideas, in many different directions, and if there had been time the discussion probably would have gone on even longer than it did. At the end, we took a "temperature check" vote to get a sense of the group regarding which topic areas had the most interest. There was substantial support for services in all five areas, with "DUUF actions" having the most votes.

As one of the follow-ups to our service, I've sent out a survey to find out more specifically who is interested in which of the five topic areas. In fact, you probably have already received that survey. Please be sure to respond, because it will be critical for planning next year's green Sunday services. Based on your general areas of interest, later we'll be asking you about preferences for specific service topics.

It was great to feel all the energy during our Green Sanctuary service, especially during the discussion. We all know that no one of us can alter the course of the Earth's climate change, but if we work together—within DUUF and with all the many other concerned people around the world—we can and will make a difference.

-Mike Flemming

Upcoming Services:

May 3 – "Our DUUF Community" *Lead by Susan Bullivant* –with an opportunity for fellowship committees to get together and wrap up the year.

May 10 – "Mother's Day/Parent's Day" *Lead by Carmen Buford-Paige.* –a discussion about what our parents mean/have meant to us, with several hymns. All are encouraged to bring pictures of parents to share.

May 17 – "Neighboring Faiths" *Lead by the Middle School RE group.* –presentation of what they have learned in this curriculum.

May 24 – "End of the Year Celebration" *at the home of Dottie Oliver and Larry Vogelmann starting at 11:00 a.m.* -please bring food to share. There will be a barbeque for grilling. Drinks provided. Low tide will make a fun time for kids to hunt for crabs, etc. Please park in our driveways or along the side of the road, but not where the cones are. Address is: [22 Cedar Point Road in Durham](#). We will celebrate regardless of weather.

A Significant Milestone

Take a moment to recognize a milestone that might otherwise just pass by. It might seem unremarkable given that nothing changes as it passes. But the importance and value of some joys – and this is a joy – remains hidden if we miss opportunities to reflect upon them. So, reflect upon this.

Betty and Eric Nordgren have been coming to Sunday services at the DUUF for fifty years. They have challenged more than a thousand of our speakers and gave all sitting in our seats and sipping our coffee plenty to think about. They've observed the workings of this long-surviving all volunteer

Durham institution from multiple sittings in every seat on every committee. They've seen initiatives work and flop and watched the soul of this Fellowship change with the times. They've generously and repeatedly helped ensure a solid presence of this liberal religious organization in our community. All that, breakfast every Easter, and it's really fun to be with them.

-John Macri

Spiritual Growth Group

I am very excited and encouraged by the response following the service I lead on the 19th to begin a Spiritual Growth Group here at the DUUF.

An important goal is to meet each other where we are, and to see in what areas we can learn and grow while in a spiritually diverse and supportive community.

Currently, nine have shared interest and we have room for 2-3 more. If you are interested, please email me. Info will be emailed on 4/30 to those nine.

-Joyce Sheehan

Annual Business Meeting

We will have our Annual Business Meeting on May 17th following the Service.



Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

HEED is published by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Durham, New Hampshire
20 Madbury Road • Durham, New Hampshire 03824 • www.uudurham.com

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.