



The Mail Pouch

WORSHIP: Sunday at 10 a.m.



“In-Between Time”

On the precipice of autumn, not there yet, we're still savoring September's glorious days. Meanwhile, what is coming to an end? What is beginning? As Mother Nature transforms the palette of the world around us, change within is also in the air.

Note: This Sunday, in lieu of a downstairs Young People's program, we will have a table for parents who wish to crayon/draw or undertake simple activities with their children during the service.

For this week's Coffee Hour, the 4th Sunday of the month, last names S-Z are invited to bring refreshments. Thank you!

Zoom service link: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92959299766>

**Kevin Connerton: Celebration of Life:
Friday, September 27 at 2:30**

We will gather in gratitude for the life of Kevin



Connerton next Friday afternoon. For this event, we need hospitality help!

UUFESians open our doors and welcome so very well. If you can bring cookies/snacks or flowers or plan to help in person, indicate on the sign-up sheet this Sunday or please let Rev. Betsy know.

Where you can help:

- Sanctuary: set out more chairs
 - Flowers
 - Cookies
-
- Cider
 - Cookies
 - Make coffee, set out tea, milk/sugar
 - Set up 1st floor: tables, tablecloths, chairs
 - Food set-up or clean-up
 - Cookies

September Special Collection: NAMI New Hampshire THIS SUNDAY

Michelle Wagner visits this Sunday to introduce NAMI NH- a grassroots organization that improves quality of life by providing support, education, and advocacy for people affected by mental illness and suicide.

NAMI NH provides a safe and comfortable setting for people to share each other's pain and promote hope. "Together we are working hard to build a better tomorrow for our loved ones and for ourselves."

Please send checks to NAMI New Hampshire, 85 North State Street, Concord, NH 03301 or give online: <https://www.naminh.org/donate/>. Thank you.

The Ministerial Search Process

Your Governing Board has had two Zoom conversations with the UUA Transitional Team regarding next steps following Rev. Betsy's retirement announcement in July. Due to our size and our wish to continue with a 3/4-time minister, we anticipate an easier and less time-consuming search than in the past. A 5-person search team, representative of our congregation, is in the initial stage of being formed. Please contact a Board member with your interest or ideas.



We also plan to offer small group listening sessions to hear what people value about UUFES and would like to see continue or change. We hope you will participate! Feel free to speak to Board members who will share your thoughts with the search team as they create a descriptive profile of our Fellowship for prospective candidates.

As interviews will likely take place in the spring, we are grateful to Rev. Betsy

for her offer to continue her usual duties as our minister during this time, preaching twice a month in the new year. Thank you for your support and encouragement during this time.

Board Members: Barbara Lubin, Lew Prillaman, Betsy Loughran, Andrea Boyer, Grace Ferguson, Peaco Todd, Rev. Betsy (ex officio)

Reflections on the Ordination of Margaret Rieser

From 9/15/24 Sunday Service





Once in a blue moon, a congregation has the honor of ordaining and celebrating one among them whom the ministry has found and called. By all accounts, the ordination of the Rev. Margaret Rieser last Saturday was powerfully meaningful. Some forty UUFESian members and friends - and many, many more friends, colleagues, and Starr King UU Fellowship congregants - participated in person and on Zoom.

In the spirit of honoring Margaret and this momentous event in UUFES history, we devoted part of the next day's service to reflecting on the experience:

UUnearians (at the Meeting House)

Betsy Loughran: This was the first ordination I've ever been to. The surprise was to see all the clergy from New England there. I felt part of the UUA in a way that I don't normally. The most meaningful part was definitely the laying on of hands - I get teary just thinking about it! It's such a ceremony of belonging.

Jorge Dominguez: Tear-eyed as well, but it struck me that the authority to

ordain a minister lies with the congregation and only with the congregation, and that is really distinctive.

Kristen Porter: We speak a lot about the interconnectedness of us with others in the world, and the seamless synergy of two congregations coming together was magical.

Ricky Banderob: What I loved and was surprised by was the sense that we were all participating. We were not observers. We were part of the process, and we all had a responsibility toward Margaret.

Lew Prillaman: I'll speak to the warmth of community. It was wonderful to see Margaret's immediate family and then all of her Tamworth friends, her close friends. And that includes the haying group. That's one of the rituals of Margaret's life - to get out there and take in the hay and get it into the barn every year. Everyone she shares that experience with was there.

Shana Aisenberg: It has been an absolute joy to witness Margaret, whom I've known for over 25 years, make manifest this process. To witness that journey is really powerful. And music with Sarah Dan Jones is amazing, too!







UUfarians (on Zoom)

Laura Campbell: I was struck by the sense of Margaret being at the center of an amazing intersection of several powerful and beloved and often overlapping communities - Fellow clergy, UUFES, Starr King, Tamworth, Family, and Friends - kind of like Love at the center of the UU principles - threads connecting all.... Grateful for so much about yesterday, especially to share the experience with my son, Sandy (raised a child of this community), as helper participants. We both felt truly connected to past come full circle, seeing our beloved past ministers Rev. Mary and Rev. David there alongside Rev. Betsy and now Rev. Margaret - so moving.

Barbara Bald: During the laying on of hands, I never felt so connected, so loved, so hopeful & so ok to be me....Impossible to put into words, even poetic ones, what yesterday's ordination felt like— forever changed, grateful.

Eleanor: There were two things. One was the incredible anointing and the name of "Reverend Margaret" - how she will be relating for the rest of her life in a new way, in a different way. It was like being crowned - it was just beautiful. The other thing was that the collection went to support the clergy and supporting staff. My grandmother was widowed while she was pregnant with her third child, and she lived on the amount the Episcopal Church was able to give her every year. She lived on \$500 a year for quite a few years, having been disinherited by her father (temporarily, as it turned out) for marrying an Episcopal minister - she was Congregational and he was Papist.

Here is the link and password to the full recording:

https://uso2web.zoom.us/rec/share/9yeKyU3Elio5vnZ4ajYwKtiRco5zQOF65mweFQJ6BHgoIVwyaAb_pZXxUMFmt65T.z-sPypI3npuxopG9

Passcode: D=qja!38





Thanks to everyone who gave flowers for Margaret's ordination!



The Reverend Margaret Rieser

Finishing Strong! UUUsed Seeks October Helpers

SATURDAYS 8:30-10:30 or 10:30-12:30
THURSDAYS 12-2

Please contact Kathy Bird or Pamela Ambrose or Peaco Todd . Thank you!

Every UUFES group and every UUFES ministry is cis, trans, and non-binary inclusive. All are warmly welcome!



Book Group - Mondays at 10 in the Library

Zoom option: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/104432872>

Sept. 30: *The Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier

Oct. 28 : We will again join the One Book One Valley discussion, this year's book *The Road to Dalton* by Shannon Bowring. Please note that the conversation with the author (Conway Majestic Theater) takes place Thursday, Oct. 24, at 7. The One Book One Valley website has more info and livestream link.

Nov. 25: *A Man's Place*, by Annie Ernaux

On other Mondays, the group discusses what arises – drop-ins welcome.

Tamworth Meditation Group - Tues/Thurs 4:30 in the Sanctuary

"I was an automaton and didn't know it. It was not until I had an "out of body" episode during a near-death experience that I realized that this type of living was NOT normal....I had been wearing out the bearings in my hamster wheel because I was not being responsible for this incredible gift of life I had been generously afforded."

Read Breathing Room Issue #62 [here](#).

Poetry Group - Tuesday at 4 (Zoom)

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/5022081578>

All are welcome every Tuesday to consider a poet's work. Next week we will read the poem shared at Margaret's ordination.

“Fault Line” by Robert Walsh

Did you ever think there might be a fault line
passing underneath your living room:
A place in which your life is lived in meeting
and in separating, wondering
and telling, unaware that just beneath
you is the unseen seam of great plates
that strain through time? And that your life,
already spilling over the brim, could be invaded,
sent off in a new direction, turned
aside by forces you were warned about
but not prepared for? Shelves could be spilled out,
the level floor set at an angle in
some seconds' shaking. You would have to take
your losses, do whatever must be done next.
When the great plates slip
and the earth shivers and the flaw is seen
to lie in what you trusted most, look not
to more solidity, to weighty slabs
of concrete poured or strength of cantilevered
beam to save the fractured order. Trust
more the tensile strands of love that bend
and stretch to hold you in the web of life
that's often torn but always healing. There's
your strength. The shifting plates, the restive earth,
your room, your precious life, they all proceed
from love, the ground on which we walk together.

Men's Group - WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 23

Topic: Whither UUFES? Rev. Betsy has announced her retirement by the end of June. Thus, what is the state of UUFES now? How is the Fellowship healthy? What might we be doing that we are not doing? What must we do to guarantee UUFES's well-being right now? What might be fixed that is fixable? What is the mission of the Fellowship?

The Men's Group always welcomes transgender, nonbinary, and cisgender persons.

Women's Luncheon (cis, trans, non-binary inclusive)

1st Thursday, 12 noon - At UUFES unless otherwise noted :-)

Links to Recent Services



"Water Brings Us Together - The Water Communion" 9/15 - about Margaret's ordination and a walk to the river

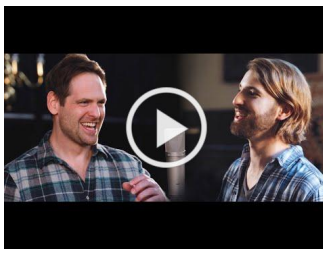
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Last Sunday felt like one of the most beautiful gatherings in my UUFES memory - a perfect capping off of a momentous UU weekend! Watching the video of our interlude by the river at the end of the service, even with the sound in and out, I found myself smiling inside and out. Thanks to Tom Posner for continuing to host Uufarians and UUnearians staying at the Meeting House and for sourcing the magnificent audio recording of Voces8 & Ringmasters singing "Shall We Gather at the River." Thanks to Chris Barr for capturing by phone, with moving artfulness, the walk, the scene, and the river. Even the silent movie part is gripping! - Rev. Betsy

Appreciation to Jorge who helped present the Benediction:

"All Rivers Lead to the Sea" by UU Rev. Kayle Rice

It starts with a drop,
Then a trickle...
A burble, a rush of water, bubbling toward its destination;
And finally the wide, endless sea.
All rivers run to the sea.
Today you brought water
Poured it into a common bowl.
Though our experiences have differed,
These waters mingle, signifying our common humanity.
Today you came
And shared in this sacred community.
May you depart this sacred space,
Hearts filled with hope for new beginnings;
A fresh start.
Go forth, but return to this community,
Where rivers of tears may be shed,
Where dry souls are watered,
Where your joy bubbles,
Where your life cup overflows,
Where deep in your spirit you [may] have found in this place a home.
All rivers run to the sea.



“In the Flow” 9/8 - about overwhelm and oneness

[https://uuma.zoom.us/rec/share/Bhy6fS77Llw8a4B-M-09UcP1ReapCma7QuPTXvFpfZ5NyTYLNhAHHKhzEEYiX5ag.Fo7DoTzXF9RIQzKD?](https://uuma.zoom.us/rec/share/Bhy6fS77Llw8a4B-M-09UcP1ReapCma7QuPTXvFpfZ5NyTYLNhAHHKhzEEYiX5ag.Fo7DoTzXF9RIQzKD?startTime=1725800222000)

[startTime=1725800222000](https://uuma.zoom.us/rec/share/Bhy6fS77Llw8a4B-M-09UcP1ReapCma7QuPTXvFpfZ5NyTYLNhAHHKhzEEYiX5ag.Fo7DoTzXF9RIQzKD?startTime=1725800222000)

Passcode: XU^RZ+9m

UUFES Calendar - September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10 Service	2	3 4 Poetry - Zoom 4:30 Meditation	4 4:30 Chanting	5 12 Women's Group 4:30 Meditation	6	7 9-12 UUSED
8 10 Service	9 10 Book Group	10 9:30 Gov. Board 4 Poetry - Zoom 4:30 Meditation	11	12 4:30 Meditation	13	14 9-12 UUSED 3 Margaret Ordination
15 10 Service	16 10 Book Group	17 4 Poetry - Zoom 4:30 Meditation	18 2 Men's Group	19 4:30 Meditation	20	21 9-12 UUSED
22 10 Service	23 10 Book Group	24 4 Poetry - Zoom 4:30 Meditation	25	26 4:30 Meditation	27 2:30 Kevin C. Service	28 9-12 UUSED
29 10 Service	30 10 Book Group					

Please email the UUFES Office with calendar additions/edits.

Rev. Betsy Tabor:

Email is preferred contact, and by all means call when in need. I'm in the office most Tuesdays if you would like to arrange a meeting.

Email: revbetsytabor@gmail.com

Cell: 603-431-6693

UUFES Office: Danielle Mason works in the office 6-7 hours/week, mostly midweek afternoons. Becky Thompson works 2-3 morning hours/week to manage bills, deposits, and payroll. Please send office business to Rev. Betsy/Barbara Lubin and Mail Pouch correspondence to Rev. Betsy.

Using the Online Directory

If your email address is in the UUFES directory, you can access the directory online. Log in as an InstantChurch

member: <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com>

Office 603-323-8585
UUFES WEBSITE LINK: www.uufesnh.com



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