



The Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ



a just
world
for all
ucc.org

Purpose (from the Gospel of Matthew):

To love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves

Vision:

United in Christ's love, a just world for all

Mission:

United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all

Weekly E-News Winter Edition

March 2nd, 2023

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Message from the Conference

Friends of the Vermont Conference,

I had the opportunity to visit our partners at Yale Divinity School and Andover-Newton at Yale this past week. I went to let students know that the Vermont Conference is a great place to start their ministries as First Call pastors, and of the support we can offer them. I had the chance to have a lunch with a number of students, and heard from them their different perceptions about parish ministry, both positive and negative. We had a rich conversation together.

I also got to meet with Sarah Drummond, who is the Dean of Andover-Newton at Yale. (Andover-Newton at Yale includes most of the UCC students at the school.) She said that in addition to their more traditional curriculum, they are teaching students about how to build community both inside the church and outside the church. In the past, I think many of us in the church just counted on community building to just happen, but she said that this is no longer the case. People come into our churches from such very different backgrounds with such different viewpoints that we have to think intentionally about how to build community among us. At the same time, we want to be building relationships with people who don't go to church in our communities, and so the seminary is helping students think about building community in their wider location. This is a different skill than just building community among those in our church community, but of such great importance as well. She is hopeful about the skills the

students have as they minister in the future.

One final word about our upcoming Vitality Event on Sat., March 11 th with Patty Kogut on "How to be a Vital Church in a Post-Pandemic Age" in Springfield-the registration deadline is next Thursday, Mar. 9 th , so please get a group together from your church and plan to join us! The cost is \$50/church whether you are in person or online, and I can promise you that we have a dynamite day planned. Hope you can come!

Hopefully yours,
Paul

VITALITY EVENT

MARCH 11TH, 2023

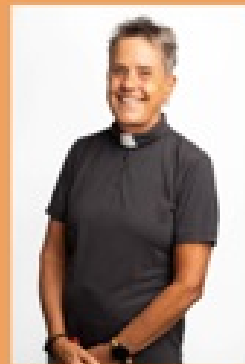
First Congregational Church UCC,
Springfield VT

\$50 per church in person
\$50 per church via Zoom

REGISTER HERE!!

**REGISTRATION
ENDS
03/09!!!**

Featured Seminar
: "How to be a Vital
Church in a Post-Pandemic
Age." with Rev. Dr.
Patty Kogut, Associate
Conference Minister
in the Southern New
England Conference



[Latest News](#)

REGISTRATION IS

NOW OPEN!!!!

REGISTER HERE!!!

“And Who Is My Neighbor?”

228th Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference



April 28-29, 2023
Grace Church, Rutland

The Vermont Conferences 228th Annual Meeting will be connecting the dots between creation justice, economic justice, environmental justice, and LGBTQ justice.

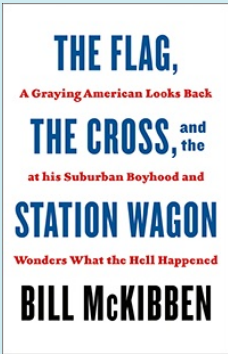
Our workshops this year are so abundant they will happen TWICE. Stay tuned for more information!

Our keynote speaker is Bill McKibben (pictured here) whose new book "The Flag, the Cross, and the Station Wagon" was just released.



“I’m curious about what went so suddenly sour with

American patriotism, American faith, and American prosperity."



"Like so many of us, McKibben grew up believing—knowing—that the United States was the greatest country on earth. As a teenager, he cheerfully led American Revolution tours in Lexington, Massachusetts. He sang "Kumbaya" at church. And with the remarkable rise of suburbia, he assumed that all Americans would share in the wealth.

But fifty years later, he finds himself in an increasingly doubtful nation strained by bleak racial and economic inequality, on a planet whose future is in peril.

And he is curious: What the hell happened?"

You can find the book from the sellers below!

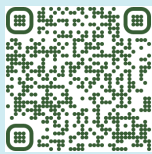
[Indie Bound](#)

[Amazon](#)

[Audible](#)

[Would you like to be a vendor at this years Annual Meeting?](#)

A limited amount of display space is available for this year's meeting. Tables are 8' and may be reserved on a **first come, first served basis**. Displays may be set up Friday morning between 8-10am. A \$30 fee is being charged per table. All organizations, committees, departments, and vendors must pay the fee. Extension cords can be provided.

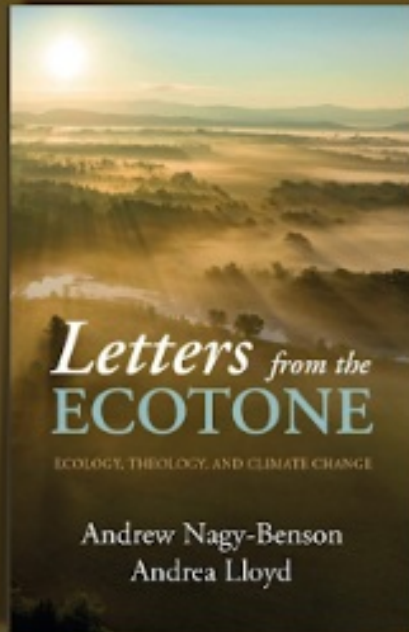


Use this QR code to pay for your table if you are using the fillable online form!

[Fillable Exhibitor Form \(Online\)](#)

[Exhibitor Form \(Print\)](#)

A reading & conversation with
Andy Nagy-Benson and Andi Lloyd
with introductory remarks from **Bill McKibben**



March 4th
4:00 p.m

at the

The Congregational
Church of Middlebury

Copies of the book
will be available
for purchase at the event

The
Vermont



Book Shop

Since 1946



QUESTIONS?
lingelbachj@vtucc.org

**Black
Lives
Matter
Commissioning
Project
Workshop
-Celebrating
Black
Composers-**

The workshop will be presented at two locations from 9:00 am -4:00 pm :

April 15, 2023
Guilford Community Church
38 Church Dr.
Guilford, VT 05301

May 13, 2023
Malletts Bay UCC
1672 W. Lakeshore Dr.
Colchester, VT 05446

Do you lead a choral group, choir, or do you simply love to sing? Join us for a workshop celebrating black composers this Spring.

The Racial Justice Task Force of the Vermont UCC is hosting two workshops featuring new choral music by contemporary black composers commissioned by the BLM Commissioning Project.



Renowned choral leader Kathy Bullock, Professor Emerita of Music from Berea College will lead the workshops, introducing the eight award-winning songs from black composers and teaching selected songs over the course of the day. In addition, she will host a panel discussion of the issue of appropriation of black music.

For more information on the Black Lives Matter Commissioning Project: <https://blmcommissioning.com/>

**April Registration
in Guilford**

**May Registration
Mallets Bay**

The Hope Fund Discernment Team is pleased to announce the Guilford Community Church as the first recipient of a Hope Fund Grant.

Guilford Community Church is creating a park for the residents of Guilford and the surrounding communities. The Guilford Community Park “will feature a 48’x24’ timber-frame pavilion in the old Vermont style, a classic

seven circuit labyrinth, a playground for young children, open areas for kicking a ball or throwing a Frisbee, and a campfire pit for singing songs and telling stories. The park will serve as a platform for music and cultural events, a public space for having a picnic or getting away from it all for meditation and relaxation.”(GCC, Hope Fund application)

Out of respect for their neighbors’ concerns (and as Robert Frost put it, “Good fences make good neighbors”) the Hope Fund is helping the Guilford Community Church with the construction of a fence on the park’s property line. We are excited to see how this multi-faceted project unfolds. We hope you will make a pilgrimage to the Guilford Community Park, walk the labyrinth and celebrate this amazing project!



The Pavilion was made with local timber by local craftspeople.



Community members pounding pegs into the timber frame beam.



Taking shape, the older folks are watching the younger folks.



The **Justice & Witness Ministries Team** is looking for full sets of Tinker Toys. If you have a set you are not using or would like to donate for us to use at our Annual Meeting Workshop and at presentations offered through your Association, please contact Rev. Sally May at revsallymbucc@gmail.com or Sally Kruschnek at smwkersch@comcast.net.

You can order send them to Justice & Witness Ministries directly from their

[Amazon wish list here.](#)

**REFUGIA FAITH
LENTEN RETREAT**

a day-long online retreat for pastors and spiritual leaders led by Rev. Eileen Gebbie and Rev. Doug Clark

Thursday, March 23, 2023
10.00am – 3.00pm (Eastern)

**THE BTS
CENTER**

Refugia Faith Lenten Retreat

Thursday, March 23, 2023

10:00 am – 3:00 pm (Eastern) • Online

\$40 retreat registration

\$60 retreat registration including a copy of *Refugia Faith*

A limited number of scholarships are available for this online retreat. Contact Program Director, Nicole Diroff, at nicole@thebtscenter.org to inquire.

[Learn More!](#)

[Register!](#)

Justice Witness Ministries is Back!

Your conference has a robust group of social justice-minded folks working together on several issues. Here's an update on our activities:

Justice "Road Show"

We're putting together a 90-minute workshop to share current activities and brainstorm ideas around racial, reproductive, and environmental justice, global mission, and gun safety. This workshop will involve videos, discussion, and hands-on activities to get folks excited about our UCC witness to justice in the world!

This "Road Show" will be piloted as a Workshop at Annual Meeting (April 28-29) and will be available to be presented at Association Meetings. Please contact Debbie Ingram at debbie@viavt.org if you would like to feature it as the program at your next Association gathering.

Racial Justice

Our VTCUCC Task Force is sponsoring two workshops in which church choirs and community choruses can learn spiritual music by black composers, to honor them and give them the recognition these composers deserve and have been unfairly denied for decades. The southern workshop is in Guilford on April 15 and the northern one is in Mallett's Bay on May 13. Contact the Conference office for more information.

Also, Vermont Interfaith Action is looking for congregations that would like to help in their towns advance racial justice initiatives around the Declaration of Inclusion, a statement your Selectboard can sign onto to make your town more hospitable and welcoming to all, and a

Community Engagement Guide with Local Police, to build a meaningful relationship with your police department around racial equity and true public safety for all. If you would like to know more, please contact Debbie at debbie@viavt.org.

Faith Climate Action Day

Wed., March 29, is a day to draw attention to the climate change crisis. There will be a Press Conference in the Statehouse and opportunities to meet with legislators and be present in the Gallery during the session. This event is organized by VT Public Interest Group (VPIRG) and co-sponsored by VT Interfaith Power and Light and VT Interfaith Action. For more information, contact VPIRG.

Gun safety

The issue of gun safety is important to the VTCUCC, but we need a point person to help us stay connected with the efforts of other groups. If you would like to be that person, please let us know by contacting Debbie at debbie@viavt.org.

Global mission

Did you know that Rev. Kim McKerley is our Conference's liaison to the national setting's Global Mission? She can help your church connect with visiting Mission Co-Workers to speak at an event, or help your church plan a pilgrimage to another country, and so much more! Contact kmbethanyucc@gmail.com to find out more.

Our JWM group meets regularly the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm for an hour. If you are interested in joining us, let Debbie know at debbie@viavt.org. As people of faith, let us “do justice” together!

Coffee with Joe Andriano

Our new State Representative

Saturday March 4 2 PM

Shoreham Congregational Church

Come . . .

Learn his interests

Express your opinions

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR POSITION - available Summer 2023
Second Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Londonderry, Vermont
(About 45 minutes from Rutland, Bennington and Brattleboro)

We: are a faithful, music-loving congregation that seeks an enthusiastic, creative organist and choir director. We have a beautiful Essex upright piano and a new (2017) Rodgers Classic and Artist series windless 2-Manual (559) organ.

Our Church: Our weekly attendance averages 45; official church membership is 83. Our commitment to music is long standing. The choir – while small! - is energetic and enthusiastic. On any given Sunday the choir may be as small as a soloist or up to six people, with a mix of parts and singing experience.

You: We are looking for someone who is energetic and flexible. Experience as a church musician would be great but is not required. We will consider a pianist who does not have organ experience, and we will pay for short term organ lessons.

Musical requirements: Play gathering music before worship service and a postlude at end. During the worship service: accompany 3 hymns, play the Doxology, Gloria Patri, Introit, Call to Prayer, and offertory. Accompany anthem (sung by soloist, small ensemble or choir). Also play for two special services during the year (Christmas Eve and a Holy Week service).

Weekly Schedule: Warm up and choir rehearsal (if needed) 8:30 AM-9:15 AM;

Worship 9:30AM-10:30 AM; (coffee hour/snack 10:30 AM-11:00 AM); Choir rehearsal for the next week and beyond (generally) 11:00 AM-12:00 Noon.
Salary: \$9,000-\$9500 (depending on experience), which includes 6 paid Sundays off, where the church finds the substitutes.

Interest and questions can be directed to Rev. Laurie S. Krooss, (802) 824-6453, LKROOSS@yahoo.com or Val Austin, Valenat1933@aol.com.



Financial Seminars in West Dover!

If your church is anything like ours, you probably have a good number of folks over 55 which in some circles qualifies them as “seniors”. After hearing some scary stories of friends who experienced a loss of their spouse and had little or no knowledge about their finances, the **Loose Knit Group (LKG)** of the West Dover Congregational Church came up with an idea to help our members be more prepared for such an event. Thus, Financial Seminars were established. One of our church members was a financial services professional who agreed to help us understand financial planning for the future. He presented his thoughts on how to be “Money Wise”, including budgeting, why to plan financially, the first important steps and how to begin. In addition, he discussed how to protect one’s income, retirement and other topics. Scott then arranged for a local attorney to share his knowledge about wills and trusts. A second session with the attorney is scheduled for March. We hope that this information will prove to be helpful to our members.

last minute
helps for Lent



Online Resource Center

All of our booklets, webinars, and other resources for Lent and Easter in one handy spot. Go forth and grab what you need!

[Online Resources](#)



40 Hours Together

There's still time to download and distribute our 40 Hours Together for families.

[40 Hours](#)

Join the Movement creates Lenten journey for courageous conversations

by [Kayla Berkey](#) | published on
Feb 14, 2023



Lent is a season when many people take on a new spiritual discipline. When it begins this year on Wednesday, Feb. 22, [Join the Movement Toward Racial Justice](#) is inviting people to take up the spiritual practice of courageous conversations.

Each day during Lent, Join the Movement will offer daily prompts that encourage antiracist conversations. These will include a reflection question, a prayer and a reference to a time when Jesus engaged in courageous conversations. Examples of prompts include “When did you discover your race?” and “What about your racial/cultural/ethnic background brings you joy?”

[Read more HERE!](#)



NEW ENGLAND
QUAKERS

Sponsored by Glover Equity,
VT United Church of Christ,
and the New England Quakers

The Online NonViolence 365 training course offered by the King Center will be held March 8th, 9th, and 10th from noon to 2pm for our Vermont cohort.
Suggested Donation is \$25/person

Register for three two-hour Zoom sessions here: <https://gloverequity.org/category/non-violence/>

Nonviolence365 speaks to a lifestyle that empowers participants to adopt a nonviolent posture in thought, speech, and action. This training aims to transform the way that individuals approach problems, conflict, tension, and differences by providing the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to constructively act in the spirit of nonviolence.



THE KING CENTER

NONVIOLENCE 365
NONVIOLENCE 365®



[It's time to share!!](#)

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are

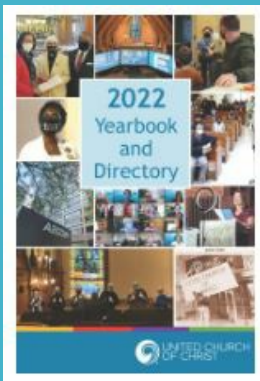
displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

Click here to visit the OGHS webpage on [ucc.org https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/one-great-hour-of-sharing/](https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/one-great-hour-of-sharing/)
Suggested offering date: **March 19, 2023**

DataHub is Open for Yearbook Info!

[Access DataHub!!!](#)



It's that time again for the UCC to begin preparing the Yearbook & Directory for the coming year. We are deeply grateful for your continued efforts to help us maintain up-to-date and accurate data, especially as 2022 has continued to be a year of pandemic challenges and uncertainty. To best help us prepare for the upcoming Yearbook & Directory, please consider the important items in the sections below.

[Yearbook Instructions](#)

Do you or your church want to apply for a Hope Fund grant?

HOPE FUND FOR THE FUTURE



**“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, and certain of what we do not see”
(Hebrews 11:1)**

You can now find the application online [HERE](#) or by clicking the link above!

Please help us thank the wonderful Discernment Team members who helped make this application happen! Those team members are:

Rev. Paul Sangree (Associate Minister, Vermont Conference),
Rev. Dan Haugh (Stowe Community Church),
Rev. Mary Hoadley (Brownington Congregational Church),
Rev. Jessica Moore (First Congregational, St. Albans),
Rev. Lava Mueller (Love Church, Randolph),
Rev. Paul Eyer (Williston Federated Church),
Rev. Caryne Eskridge (Weybridge Congregational Church)

Please send all completed applications to
VermontConference@gmail.com.

PRAYER CONCERNS



All those dealing with the trauma of mass shootings
All those experiencing war and violence
All those dealing with illness and pain
All who are grieving

Prayers for the family and friends of Rev. Holsman.

Please keep Evelyn Lavelli in your prayers as she mourns the loss of her both

AROUND THE CONFERENCE

(Please let us know what your Congregation is up to by sending an email to
VermontConference@gmail.com .

You may just see yourself or someone you love in the eKit or our Facebook page!)

Farewell, Welcome and Blessings

Pastoral Transitions since the 2021 Vermont Conference Annual Meeting

[For the most up to date information click here](#)

Don't forget to click below in your email to view the entire newsletter



Happy Birthday to our Clergy!

March 1st

C. Michael Caldwell
James Mills

March 2nd

Larrimore C Crockett
Amy Davin

March 3rd

Catherine Cadieux

March 4th

Joseph Will

March 5th

SallyAnn Silfies

March 8th

Dale N. Hindmarsh

March 9th

Chris Heintz
Elisa Lucozzi

March 11th

Linda L. Kulas

Happy Ordination Anniversary to our Clergy!

March 9th

Marcia Dorey

March 17th

Mark Blank



March 12th
Josh Sharp

March 13th
Kevin E. Goldenbogen

March 22nd
Susan Cooke Kittredge

March 23rd
Hal C. Miller III
David Andrews
Caryne Eskridge

March 25th
Kathy W. Eddy
Jeffrey W. Cornwell
Katelyn Macrae

Just for fun!!!



**Click here to update your
contact information!!!**

Eden
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

EDEN BOOKSTORE

Progressive theological resources

Welcome to Eden Bookstore Online, the bookstore for progressive Christians. The Eden Seminary Bookstore online shop offers works on theology and religion.

Eden merchandise available at www.eden.edu/shop/

LIFE at Eden: History and Polity of the UCC

Via Zoom and in-person! Free for current Eden students

Dates:

Friday, Feb. 10, 2023 @ 7:00-9:00 PM CST

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023 @ 9:00 AM -2:00 PM CST

This intensive class will provide an overview of the predecessor denominations that shaped the United Church of Christ's style of congregational governance. It will also look at how General Synod functions, explore some theological foundations, discuss how the authorization process works and review educational resources available from the denomination.

About the Instructor:

Dr. Jill Baker is an adjunct faculty member at Eden and Coordinator of Eden's Houses of Study. She regularly teaches UCC History and Polity, among other courses. She has been active at the local, Conference and national levels of the United Church of Christ since 1991. Jill is the current Moderator of Illinois South Conference.

The Future of Co-Vocational Ministry

Date(s) - 02/21/2023

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Annual Bracke Public Lecture on Leadership

Via Zoom

The Future of Co-Vocational Ministry!

Join us to get an update on the latest trends from The Hartford Institute of Religious Research, about the state of the church, and what ministry jobs will look like in the future?

This event is for all. It is also part of the Eden students' Progressive Christian Leadership Seminar

Speakers:

Dr. Allison Norton is the Faculty Associate in Migration Studies and Congregational Life at Hartford International University, where she directs the Pastoral Innovation Network of New England. She teaches courses in sociology of religion, immigration, and multicultural and inter-generational ministry. Her research and publications explore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on U.S. congregations, the rise of megachurches in West Africa, the transnational dimension of African Pentecostalism, the role of migration on the worldwide expansion of the Christian faith, and the religious identities of the "new" second generation.

The Rev. Aaron Rogers is a passionate preacher, teacher, and nonprofit leader based in St. Louis, MO. He received his B.S. from Bradley University and his M. Div from Eden Theological Seminary. In his 10+ years of nonprofit leadership, he has served nonprofits, churches, and foundations. Most notably, Aaron served as the Associate Minister of Stewardship and Development at the historic Riverside Church in Harlem NY and as the Associate to the Rector for Trinity Episcopal Church in the Central West End neighborhood of St. Louis. He serves as chair of the board for East Side Aligned, a collective impact organization for children and youth in East Saint Louis and for Faith for Justice, a coalition of Christian activists in the St. Louis area. Currently, Aaron is a candidate for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church and is completing a Diploma of Anglican Studies at Virginia Theological Seminary. He is passionate about racial equity, social justice, and creating thriving organizations.

Affectionately known as “Rev. Raquel,” the Reverend Raquel S. Lettsome, Ph.D. informs and inspires congregants and classes through her preaching, teaching, writing, and online course and webinar experiences. To this end, she founded Raquel S. Lettsome, LLC. (www.raquelslettsome.com) to use these gifts in the service of churches and educational institutions to help them advance their missions. She is also the Founder & President of the not-for-profit corporation, RSL Ministries, Inc., (www.rslministries.com) where she works with faith leaders and lay people to interpret Scripture more effectively for preaching, teaching, and living. Dr. Lettsome is currently the Distinguished Visiting Scholar of the New Testament at Eden Theological Seminary (St. Louis, MO) and has been an invited lecturer and instructor for classes at Princeton Theological, Payne Theological, United Lutheran seminaries as well as national conferences, and denominational meetings. Dr. Lettsome is also a published author in the fields of homiletics, biblical studies, womanist biblical interpretation and theology, and Christian spirituality. Her latest publication, Breakthrough You! 30 Daily Devotions to Move You Forward, was a #1 New Release in Religion & Spirituality Short Reads on Amazon.com. Dr. Lettsome holds a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies (Yale University), a Master of Divinity (Princeton Theological Seminary) and is the first African American to earn a Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from Princeton Theological Seminary (2005).

Stavenger Social Justice Symposium (Peace UCC, Eden, Metropolitan Congregations United)

Date(s) - 03/11/2023

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Theme- *Citizenship: Belonging and Participating:
The Realities and the Possibilities*

Speakers/Panelists:

- Ms. Ana Garcia Ashley, Director, Gamaliel Network
 - Rev. Angel Luis Rivera-Agosto, Area Executive Latin America and the Caribbean, Global Ministries (UCC/Disciples)
- Rev. Rebecca Turner, Pastor of Christ Church United Church of Christ, Maplewood, Missouri

Stepping Out: Re-Imagining your Elderhood In Person Retreat

In person retreat.

Dates: March 14-16, 2023. Tuesday evening-Thursday lunch

Location: La Salle Retreat Center, St. Louis, MO

Description:

Stepping Out It is an in person gathering for adults contemplating, or currently retired.

This open enrollment retreat will explore new material that is explored in the NEXT Steps semester course.

No prior experience with the NEXT Steps program is required, all are welcome and encouraged to attend. (For those that have attended the full semester course this retreat will be presenting new material with time for deep reflection and action planning.)

All program activities are designed to stimulate your individual self-discovery as you delve deeply into your personal plan and truth and discover meaning and

VTCUCC CLASSIFIEDS



Stowe Community Church
Director of Youth Ministry Job Description

MINISTRY DESCRIPTION: The Director of Youth Ministry is responsible for developing and delivering a comprehensive program of Christian Education for youth (6th-12th grades). It is important that the Director inspires and excites the youth of SCC to learn and study the faith by communicating and demonstrating a personal passion for Jesus Christ.

[Read more \(including how to apply!\) HERE!](#)

Vergennes is seeking a Sunday School Coordinator.!!!

The Congregational Church of Vergennes, United Church of Christ, is an Open and Affirming congregation of 135 members seeking a Sunday School Coordinator. We are a vibrant, Christian community—full of life, music, and laughter. We have a long history of deeply appreciating the gifts of our staff in supporting an inclusive, loving, and compassionate ministry in the heart of our little city.

The pay rate is \$25 per hour, and the hours range from 8 to 15 hours per week depending upon applicant interest. We seek a person of faith with experience working with children, who will direct a program of stimulating and nourishing faith formation. If this sounds like the way you want to make a big impact in our community, please contact Rev. Elliott Munn at elliott@vergennessucc.org.

For more information, including the Job Description, please go to the church's website:

<https://www.vergennessucc.org/ccfmsearch>



Middle School Ministries Coordinator: First Congregational Church UCC of Burlington Vermont is looking for a team player ready to work with youth in a great location – Burlington, Vermont! The person hired for this new part-time position will work with our great team to oversee programs and service-learning opportunities, facilitating the spiritual development of youth (6th-12th grade). You'll work with

middle school youth on Sunday mornings at FirstChurchBTV and with our collaborative youth program (youth in grades 6 thru 12 from both the College Street Church and FirstChurchBTV) one evening per week and periodically on weekends. Learn more about this opportunity

here: <https://bit.ly/middleschoolcoordinator> Approx. 6 hours per week - \$20/hour.

We are hiring.

If you have a passion for young people, outdoor recreation and building a community of faith, we should talk!

Stowe Community Church is seeking a Director of Youth Ministry who is ready to build on a solid foundation and bring new life to the growing ministries of SCC. Experience in education or leading a youth-based program is preferred, but a love of Christ and passion for our youth group is a must. Duties include developing an inspiring and engaging ministry for students 6th grades and up; including curriculum, programs, music and maybe a trip to the mountain every once in a while.

Any interested applicants should send a resume or a letter of interest to Marylou Durett at info@stowechurch.org. The position is available for the right person to start immediately.

NURSERY

COORDINATOR NEEDED

Stowe Community Church is seeking a Nursery Coordinator, teen or adult, who will provide a dependable, safe, nurturing environment to infants and toddlers, ages three and under. Duties include being silly, giving big hugs, reading stories, cuddling and a diaper change or two.

Any interested applicants should send a resume or a letter of interest to Marylou Durett at info@stowechurch.org. The position is available for the right person to start immediately.

It takes a big heart to help shape little minds and we believe the nursery is the most important room in the Church building. Please help to keep this very important ministry growing!!

VT CONFERENCE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Christian Education:

Administration & Finance:

Music & Other Lay Ministries:

Music Director- North Pomfret Congregational

Church Musician- Tunbridge Church

Don't forget to click below in your email to view the entire newsletter



SAVE THE DATE!

New Offerings from Practical Resources for Churches!!!

40 Days Together is Cultivate Faith's Lenten initiative for families.

In a nutshell, 40 Days Together is a chance to help equip families *totake on* regular spiritual practices together (rather than giving up something for the season). There will be two parts to it:

- Free on our website: table tents with mealtime prayers for families to use all through Lent and conversation questions for the car, for family group text threads, for the table, or whenever. These will be released on our website for all to freely use
- Fee based packets: more comprehensive materials for families to use,

towards the goal of spending 40 Hours Together throughout the Lenten season. Materials will include:

1. book lists for read-alouds/read-togethers for every developmental stage
2. ideas for simple family hikes
3. lunchbox notes (for parents/caregivers to slip into their kids' bags AND for kids to slip into their parents'/caregivers/ bags)
4. ideas for midweek simple sabbath rests together (can also be done together virtually)
5. ideas for family collaborative art prompts using materials found around the home
6. suggestions for family devotionals/prayers
7. bedtime blessing ideas for every developmental level
8. paper tracker of the 40 Hours Spent Together

Click the link below to pay for 40 Days Together with PayPal
40 Days Together: Family price \$10

40 Days Together: Congregations 50 and under in worship \$30

40 Days Together: Congregations 100 and under in worship \$50

40 Days Together: Congregations 200 and under in worship \$70

Thursday February 9

First meeting of the Game Changer Cohort with Kay Kotan

Each workshop will be one hour of content followed by a 30 minutes Cohort coaching session where you will assess your church's current levels of game changing leadership and work towards creating a MAP (ministry action plan) to enact the needed game changing leadership strategies in your local church context. Participants will need to watch the initial webinar and read the book *Being the Church in the Post-Pandemic World*. This work is best engaged by both the clergy and 4-6 leaders from their church.

Click to register for all three Zoom meeting.

There is a fee for this Cohort

Congregations that are members or belong to a Judicatory Member (see list below)
- \$75 for the three sessions (Includes up to 6 registrants from the same church/ministry)

Non-Members

- \$100 for the three sessions (includes up to 6 registrants from the same church/ministry)

When: Feb 9, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

When: Mar 9, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

When: Apr 20, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Participants will need to watch the recording or Eight Game Changers for the Post Pandemic Church and read the book Being the Church in the Post-Pandemic World. This work is best engaged by both the clergy and 4-6 leaders from their church.

NEAUCE 2023

"Beyond Church Walls:
Hearing New Voices"

May 4 - 6 (Th, F, S)

Pilgrim Pines
Swanzey, NH

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A new year brings new opportunities to learn and grow in faith! PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc. is pleased to announce our January term online, asynchronous courses that are accessible and affordable for curious Progressive Christians. All courses are designed with the Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers at their core, and are helpful to anyone who wants to develop spiritual and leadership gifts for use in the church and the world.

- United Church of Christ History and Polity, January 11-April 7; this course is designed according to the content recommendations of the UCC History and Polity Network Teachers group (12 weeks, \$625)
- Practicing Our Faith in the Public Square, January 11-February 21 (6 weeks, \$325)
- Understanding the Bible as a Progressive Christian, January 11-February 21 (6 weeks, \$325)
- The Art of Worship, January 11-February 21 (6 weeks, \$325)

We will also offer a three week Introduction to Supervised Ministry for student ministers and their site supervisors who are participating in the PATHWAYS Supervised Ministry track.

For more information about PATHWAYS as an organization, our courses, and to register, please visit www.pathwaystheological.org.

For the latest [news click here](#)

[The Online Learning Platform of the United Church of Christ](#)

How to Contact Vermont Conference Staff

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DEADLINE for E-Kit News must be received by **Tuesday of each week.**
Please send any and all information to vermontconference@gmail.com.

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visit our website at <http://www.vtcucc.org/>

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining!"
