



The Vermont Conference of the **United Church of Christ**



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 Fall Edition

September 28th, 2023

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Dear Vermont UCC Earth Lovers.

This coming week will be the culmination of the Season of Creation of 2023 on Oct. 4, the Feast of St. Francis. This season has inspired many moving sermons, prayers and sacred activism around the world - including the Climate March in NY on Sept. 17, where I joined two busloads of Vermonters who marched on behalf of climate justice (and hooked up with some other climate faith leaders, including Vermont's own Jim Antal). Follow this link to learn more about all these events, and about the upcoming Ecumenical online Worship service on Wed. Oct. 4. **#SeasonOfCreation Another** week of non-stop events (laudatosimovement.org) Then scroll down to the link below "Watch the great mobilization on the way to COP 28" - a very moving description of the climate march, with some great photos.

Let's all join in honoring our Sacred Earth and all our interconnections in the coming week.

> Fred Taylor Vermont UCC Environmental Justice representative





Let Justice and Peace Flow

Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River

We are still in the Season of Creation and we are increasingly amazed at the number of events and demonstrations in favor of our common home being celebrated by our brothers and sisters around the world.

This week's featured events:

- The Columban community of Essendon, Australia, together with friends working for peace, ecology and justice in Melbourne, held a **prayer service**.
- Over 100 people planted mangroves in Zamboanga, Philippines.
- The Divine Salvation Society of Pakistan organized a prayer for the Earth with 30 young people committed to environmental conservation.
- In Wirral, UK, they made a **pilgrimage for the planet** reflecting on lifestyles and water use, and prayed for the East African Oil Pipeline (EACOP).
- The Catholic University of Santos, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, held student meetings to discuss Laudato Si' and the socio-environmental crisis.
- Students from the San Francisco de Asís High Schoolin Formosa, Argentina, held a workshop to raise awareness and reflect on environmental care.
- In Badajoz, Spain, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was held as a contemplative prayer for the Care of Creation.

Every day more stories are posted on our social networks. If your community is also celebrating the Season of Creation, share your story via **this form**.

Watch the great mobilization on the road to #COP28 #PrayingForYou

The prayer campaign for political leaders on the road to COP 28 reached the streets of New York during the march to end fossil fuels on September 17, ahead of the United Nations Climate Ambition Summit. Meanwhile, in France, Christians have prayed in front of the National Assembly, calling for climate justice.

Participate in this campaign by sharing a photo of your prayer or of a place affected by the climate crisis on social media using the hashtags #PrayingForYou #COP28 #SeasonOfCreation. **Then tell us your story by completing this form**.

Coming soon—schedule these events!

- September 30th: Ecumenical Prayer-Taizé
- October 4th: Ecumenical Online Prayer Service



Latest News

Fall Boundary Training Opportunities 2023

Have you done your boundary training recently? All classes are offered online, including a self-paced option!

All Authorized Ministers in the Vermont Conference are required to complete boundary training every three years unless they have applied for exempt status. Please submit your most recent Boundary Training certificate of completion to the Rev. Jackie Lingelbach, VT Conference Ministries Coordinator.

Trainings from the New Hampshire Conference

Ending a Ministry Well: An Advanced Boundary Training Session

Facilitated by: the Rev. Peter Ilgenfritz Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Format: via Zoom
Fee: \$25.00

Register: <u>https://www.nhcucc.info/event-details/ending-a-ministry-well</u>

The Foundations of Understanding Boundaries: A Basic Boundary Training Session

Facilitated by: the Rev. Gordon Rankin

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Format: via Zoom Fee: \$25.00

Register: https://www.nhcucc.info/event-details/the-foundations-of-understanding-boundaries

Additional online Boundary Training classes Fall 2023

Enkei Resolutions – online training Cost: \$60
Oct 10 & 11 2-3pm EST/9am-12 PST
Nov 7& 8 12-3pm EST/9am-12 PST
https://enkei-resolutions.com/wp-

content/uploads/2023/08/Boundary-Training-Fall-2023.pdf

Leaderwise - Online via Zoom Cost: \$85 Oct 23 & 24 from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm CST

<u>https://www.leaderwise.org/workshops-programs/not-your-average-boundaries-training-1-spdde</u>



Convergence – self paced online course that can be taken at any time. Cost: \$199.

Certificate provided on completion – turn into the Conference office.

https://www.faithlead.org/p/boundarytraining-clergy

FALL RUMMAGE SALE AT THE DORSET CHURCH

The fabulous shopping day you have been waiting for is on Saturday, September 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Remember outside sales begin at 8:30 a.m.) at the Dorset Church! This year all outside merchandise such as children's clothing & accessories, linens, sports gear, tools, garden equipment, small appliances, books, nature table and other interesting treasures will go on sale outside at 8:30 a.m. There will be no EARLY-BIRD SHOPPING! However, sale items inside the church will go on sale at 9:00 a.m. The bag sale will take place from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM

The rummage sale is always packed with useful and interesting items at reasonable prices. There will be women's separates, Ladies' Boutique, men's clothing, jewelry and accessories, footwear, attic treasures, miscellaneous house wares, and small appliances. Christian Education members will be selling coffee, donuts, our famous egg sandwiches and lunch—hot dogs, soup, etc. .

Donations of clean, serviceable fall and winter clothing (children's clothing is always appreciated), jewelry, purses, linens, kitchen and household items, houseplants and books will be accepted at the Dorset Church on Monday, September 25, Tuesday, September 26th 25th and Wednesday, September 27th We do not accept large furniture items, TV's or computers. The church is located at 143 Church Street, off Route 30 in Dorset. If you have any questions, please call 867-2260. For the shopping experience you will remember come to the Rummage Sale on September 30th





Rev. Bill Borror was installed at the First Congregational Church of Manchester on Sunday, September 17th, 2023.

Happy Retirement!!

August 27th, 2023 was Rev. Evelyn Lavelli last day in the pulpit at the



United Church of Hardwick.

Sept. 24th was Rev. Kathy Clarks last Sunday in the pulpit at the Federated Church of East Arlington.







Boundary Training for Authorized Ministers Sept 20 & 21 OR Oct 10 &11 OR Nov 7&8 9 am to 12 pm (PT) each day



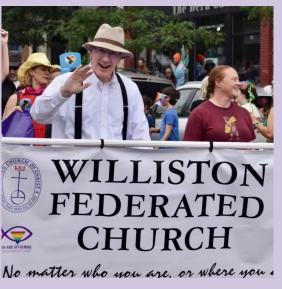
The sun, the sea, and the sand are each aware of their own boundary and that of the other. This is what allows for the creation of a beautiful sunset.

Facilitator:	Rev. Dr. Diane Weible, Ordained Minister & trained facilitator
Structure:	Six hours divided into two Zoom sessions, three hours each day. For credit, participants must be fully present and participate in all sessions. Each topic will include a case study and be discussed as a group prior to breaking out into small groups for discussion.
Topics Covered	Power and Vulnerability Social Media Finances Pastoral Identity and Vocation Self-Care (burn-out, stress, compassion fatigue) Receiving Gifts Boundaries and Church Conflict When a Minister Leaves/Retires Ministers as church members/Ministers in Four-Way Covenants Cultural Boundaries
Cost:	\$60
To Register:	Register by 5 p.m. PT, the day before the training is to start. Once you register and pay (these are separate steps), you will be emailed the Zoom link.





Burlington Pride 2023













We just sent out \$18,000 in Grants!!

Can your church or someone you

know use one!!!



You can donate here by using the QR Code OR by sending a check to: Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ c/o Flood Relief 36 North Main Street Randolph, VT 05060

Can you spare \$3 to spare three churches?

There are three churches in the Vermont Conference whose ministry in the community will be disrupted without our help due to losses incurred due to the recent flooding.

Those are three entire faith communities that may be disbanded.

Three church families full of people who have chosen each other may be separated.

Don't let these parishes perish. Every dollar counts right now.



OR

CLICK HERE

If you would like to request monetary relief for your church or a congregant click below

CLICK HERE



Rev. Mark Wilson (Waitsfield United Church of Christ) was kind enough to share Boundary Training with a <u>COUPON CODE!!!!</u>

Thank you, Rev. Wilson!!!



Boundary Training for Clergy

Use the code BOUNDARY to receive 35% off!

Register Now for \$199



We celebrate having had the opportunity to meet a number of our UCC conference ministers, staff, delegates, COM members and clergy while we were at the recent General Synod meeting. If we didn't get to see you personally, we hope we have an opportunity to do so in the future.

It's time for us to alert you to PATHWAYS' Fall Schedule of Courses, especially the Fall II courses that begin in October. Fall I begins in mid-to-late August and people can still sign up any time during the first week of class. Fall II courses will begin in October. Now is the time to try one of our courses and to invite friends and colleagues to sign up for the Fall courses.

Cost Effective Apply online at PATHWAYStheological.org
6-week courses are \$325.
The 12-week UCC History and Polity course is only \$625.

Fall II: 6-week Courses Begin October 2 or 9, 2023

- BF10602 Understanding the Bible as a Progressive Christian (Oct 9-Nov 10)
 - BF20602 Old Testament Hermeneutics (Oct 9-Nov 19)
 - TH30605 Ecological Theology (Oct 2-Nov 12)
 - MP30609 Practicing Our Faith in the Public Square (Oct 9-Nov 19)
 - HT10604 Stories of Christian Saints and Sinners (Oct 9-Nov 19)

PATHWAYS Theological Education, Inc. is a 501c3 program that grew from a program of the Southeast Conference UCC. It remains affiliated with the Southeast Conference. The program offers a full menu of courses for those seeking authorized ministry, for those wanting continuing education, and for those looking for progressive theology courses in theology, ethics, praxis and more. The courses are asynchronous, geographically unbound,



affordable, and aligned with the UCC Marks of Faithful and Effective Authorized Ministers. The learners cannot hide in these online classes! The course requires people to answer the weekly questions as a blog post to which the other learners respond. This asynchronous approach builds community among the learners and with the facilitator. Please be in touch with any questions. Individuals may apply online at pathwaystheological.org.

Have you done your boundary training?

*All Authorized Ministers are required to do boundary training every three years unless they have applied for exempt status

Online Boundary Trainings in Summer Fall 2023

Convergence – self paced online course that can be taken at any time. Cost: \$199.

Certificate provided on completion – turn into the Conference office.

https://www.faithlead.org/p/boundarytraining-clergy

Leaderwise - Online via Zoom Cost \$85
https://www.leaderwise.org/workshops-programs/not-your-average-boundaries-training-1

The following Boundaries Training sessions are scheduled for 2023:

October 11 & 12 from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm Central

Enkei Resolutions – online training Cost: \$60

https://enkei-resolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Aug-and-Sept-2023-Boundary-Training.pdf

The following Boundaries Training sessions are scheduled for 2023:

September 20 & 21 9am-12pm (Pacific Time)

PRAYER CONCERNS

For the family and friends of Rev. Anne Melendy Hancock. <u>Click</u> <u>here for obituary</u>

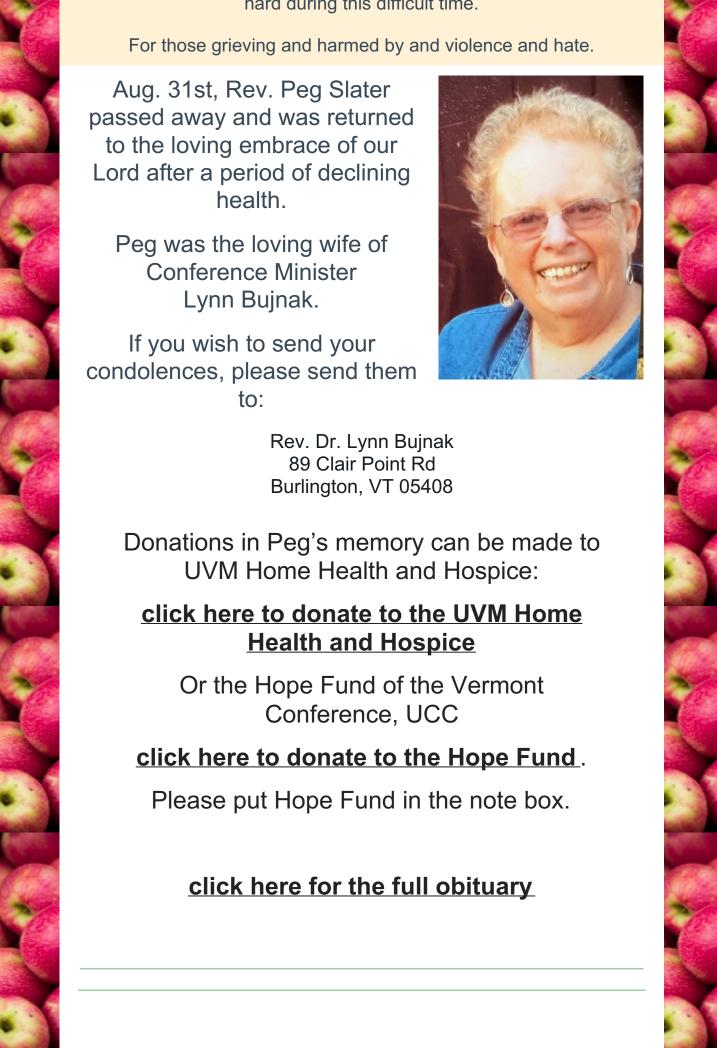
For the family and friends of Rev. Christina J. Del Piero who passed away on July 17, 2023. **Click here for obituary**

For the family and friends of Rev. Neil C. Carr who passed away in Plymouth, Massachusetts on August 12, 2023.

We pray for all affected by the recent flooding and other natural disasters.

Prayers for all our first responders, volunteers who are working so

hard during this difficult time.





AROUND THE CONFERENCE

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



Happy Birthday to our Clergy!

September 2nd

Judith D. Waible Alden M. Launer

September 6th

Margaret T. Wright Amelia C. Pitton

September 10th

Robert William Wagner Moyer

September 11th

Marjorie Ann MacNeill

September 16th

Paul H. Sangree

September 17th

Kathleen S. Clark

September 18th

Laura C. Engelken Andrew Ponder Williams

September 22nd

Susan Webster-Toleno

September 23rd

Jane LoBrutto Jonathan Hauze

September 24th

Gail T. Dimick

September 27th

Benjamin W. Thurber

Happy Ordination Anniversary to our Clergy!

September 1st Karen Lipinczyk

September 17th
Gary Lewis

September 18th Sally May

September 21st Pete Hults

September 22nd Barbara Purinton

September 23rd Evelyn Coupe

September 24th
Mary Simpson Thompson

September 26th Sandra Daly

September 27th James Macintyre

September 28th John Weatherhogg Tracy Weatherhogg





Farewell, Welcome and Blessings

Pastoral Transitions since the 2022 Vermont Conference Annual Meeting

For the most up to date information click here

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



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 <u>VermontConference@gmail.com</u>.



OUR MISSION: TO HELP YOU STAY IN YOUR HOME — HAPPY, HEALTHY & CONNECTED!



SASH is **free** and available to Medicare-eligible people in our community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SIGN UP, CONTACT:

Sue Balfe 802-989-3134

VTCUCC CLASSIFIEDS

<u>First Congregational Church of Essex Junction</u> is currently looking to hire a Children's Ministry Coordinator.

Position Description:

Coordinator for children's Christian Education programs for ages Nursery up through 5th grade. Primarily responsible for the Sunday morning Faith Formation program. Other children's programs with which the



Coordinator may be involved currently include the Young Apostles "youth group" and summer Vacation Bible Camp.

Compensation:

Hourly Rate: \$18-22/hour based on experience, equivalent for expected work hours of 10 hours/week with reduced responsibility mid-June to mid-August.

Interested candidates may send resumes & cover letters to welcome@fccej.org

FCCEJ is an open and affirming church, serving all in the spirit of Christ.



JUMP - the Joint Urban Ministry Project - an interfaith and community organization with support from many individuals, businesses, foundations and more than 20 faith communities - manages a direct services Drop-





In Center (in donated space) at First Congregational Church UCC of Burlington, VT.

Read Job Descriptions Here!

Client Services & Outreach/ Development Managers



Based in Burlington, JUMP has been providing direct assistance to people in need in Vermont for 35 years. If you are a team player who cares about people and community, apply to work with JUMP!

MANAGER OF CLIENT SERVICES:

Manage JUMP Drop-In Center; meet with clients; allocate direct assistance; maintain records; supervise volunteers; collaborate with JUMP staff/leader team.

MANAGER OF OUTREACH & DEVELOPMENT: Coordinate JUMP communications, outreach, social media; JUMP Drop-In Center involvement, collaborate with JUMP staff/leader team. Apply with letter and resume: JUMP, P.O. Box 1657, Burlington, VT 05402.

Positions @20 hours/week. Details: jumpvt.org

Music Director Wanted

The Danville Congregational Church in Danville, Vermont is seeking a part- time Organist/Music Director. Responsibilities include providing organ/piano music for the church's weekly worship service, providing for/or performing anthems and special music at all services, directing the church's choir, coordinating guest musicians, etc..

Salary and hours are negotiable.
For more information please contact Rev. Douglas Carter.
dcarter36@charter.net; 802-684-1151

The First Congregational Church, UCC, of Burlington, Vermont is a progressive faith community, intentionally and enthusiastically in a time of visioning and transition. The Director of



Congregational Life (DCL) will be passionate about creative and transformational ministries, working with the Lead Minister, church staff, and congregation to steward this progressive faith community into its next manifestation. This position will be the primary professional staff working to assist and guide member-driven teams in the creative development and implementation of



creative development and implementation of programming throughout the church community. They will focus on two main areas of oversight: Congregational Care and Welcome; and designing and activating engaging faith experiences for all life stages.

Read more here!

The <u>Bradford Congregational Church</u> of the United Church of Christ is searching for a part time organist/pianist. All interested persons should

contact Pastor Jeff Long-Middleton. A job description is available upon request. Phone: 978-273-6399

Email: pastorjeffuccbradford@gmail.com



Read More 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@vergennesucc.org.

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

https://www.vergennesucc.org/ccfmsearch

First Congregational Church of Berlin is looking for a music director!

First Congregational Church of Berlin (FCCB) seeks an enthusiastic Music Director to lead our vibrant music program. We are looking for an individual with skill and





experience both as keyboardist (organ and/or piano) and as choir director whose music will inspire our congregation and invite participation from the larger community. As a "singing congregation", we know that music is vital in our lives and welcome the opportunity to share in music from every genre and tradition.

Visit www.fccbvt.org to submit a question or a cover letter and resume. You can also mail your cover letter and resume to FCCB, PO Box 1157, Montpelier VT 05601-1157, or send email to FCCBorganist@gmail.com. You can call us at 802-229-0338 with questions.

The Waitsfield United Church of Christ in Waitsfield, Vermont, an Open and Affirming church, is seeking a MUSIC DIRECTOR AND ACCOMPANIST to join our church ministry. We are seeking one person to fill both roles or two people to fill the two roles individually. This person should possess strong interpersonal skills, keeping lines of communication open between the choir and the pastor, and build and maintain relationships in the church.

READ MORE HERE!!!



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.

VT CONFERENCE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Christian Education:

Administration & Finance:

Music & Other Lay Ministries:

Music Director- North Pomfret Congregational Church Musician- Tunbridge Church





For the latest news click here

The Online Learning Platform of the United Church of Christ

How to Contact Vermont Conference Staff

Conference Minister: Rev. Dr. Lynn Bujnak llbvtc@gmail.com
Associate Conference Minister: Rev. Paul Sangreesangreepucc@gmail.com
Office Administrator: Elise Foster vermontconference@gmail.com
Ministries Coordinator: Rev. Jackie Lingelbach vtconmincoor@gmail.com
Bookkeeper: Tanya Frazier vtcfinanceucc@gmail.com

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

Thank You for Your Support!

Our Churches Wider Mission Basic Support, Association Dues, and Friends of the Vermont Conference make this communication possible.

Donate

Connect with us





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

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