

The content in this preview is based on the last saved version of your email - any changes made to your email that have not been saved will not be shown in this preview.



Volume 9. No. 2

February 2, 2017

## Greetings!

The Vermont Conference sends this newsletter of events of interest to Conference members. This newsletter provides highlights of events sponsored by the Conference, the Associations and local churches as well as regional, national and other events of interest.

This newsletter is emailed on the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month. Please send us your events by emailing [vtconference@vtcucc.org](mailto:vtconference@vtcucc.org) with the following information: Event Name & Brief Description, Date/Time, Location (complete address please), Contact Information, if any (name, phone and/or email).

## Next Issue:

April 2, 2017

Event items are due that day, by 9:00 am.



## Conference Events Events and Meetings

Pastoring Challenging Parishioners 2/22/17

Annual Meeting 4/28 & 4/29, 2017

A Vermont Conference Continuing Education Offering

PASTORING CHALLENGING PARISHIONERS:  
A Mental and Relational Health Perspective

## In This Issue

[Conference Events](#)

[Events at Churches](#)

[Association Events](#)

[Highlight](#)

[Regional and National](#)

## Quick Links

[VT Conference Calendar](#)

[Newsletter Archive](#)

[Conference Webpage](#)

## Join Our Mailing Lists!

## Association Events

### Events and Meetings

## Highlight

222nd Annual Meeting of the  
Vermont Conference, UCC

April 28 - 29  
Lake Morey Resort  
Fairlee, VT

The 222nd Annual Meeting of the Vermont Conference, UCC will take place April 28-29, 2017 at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee. You can book your room now by calling Lake Morey

As Pastors, we love our parishioners, each and every one. But sometimes, there are those dear ones who challenge us: pastorally, relationally, in committee meetings, in relationships with other parishioners, and with staff. Sometimes the challenges are so great that we wish we had a model of understanding and a method for engaging in pastorally effective ways. This workshop is designed to give some conceptual models for understanding challenging folks from a mental and relational health perspective. Through small group discussion and role play, participants will have opportunities to discuss these models and to practice effective ways to engage.

February 22, 2017  
10:00am - 3:00pm  
Bethany Church - Randolph, Vermont  
\$15.00 - Lunch included  
Registration opens in January

#### FACILITATOR

The Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola is the Pastor of the First Congregational/Puffer UM Church in Morrisville. She holds a PhD. in psychology, and before her ordination eight years ago, was a clinical psychologist in hospital and private practice for more than 20 years. Her specialty areas included sequelae of severe childhood abuse in teens and adults, eating disorders, and women's mental health. She has also given papers and workshops on working with challenging clients in the therapy relationship, women and substance abuse; and is published in the areas of the sequelae of incest, and rethinking labels for severe personality disorders.

---

## Response to Domestic Violence Diocesan Workshop

Holy Family Parish Center, Essex Junction  
February 22, 2017  
10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Resort at 800-423-1211 and asking for the "**Vermont Conference Annual Meeting" group rate**".

Registration for the Annual Meeting will open in mid-February. Everyone-delegates, authorized ministers, church members-is welcome and invited to the 222nd Annual Meeting!

## Regional and National Workshops, Retreats, Education, More

The Northeast Ecumenical Stewardship Council  
March 24-25, 2017

~~~~~

Interested in the intersections of theology, faith, and disability? The 2017 Summer Institute on Theology and Disability will be held at Azusa Pacific University, June 5-8, and hosted by Azusa Pacific University in partnership with Fuller Theological Seminary. Highlights: A multi-faith conference that includes scholars, clergy, seminarians, laity, and people involved in inclusive faith supports, including people with disabilities and their families in all of those roles. We draw about 150 people from North America and other countries around the world. Planned and led by faculty who are widely

In Observance of Domestic Violence Awareness, the Diocese of Burlington is presenting a free workshop aiding in developing tools to reach out and help victims of domestic violence.

This workshop is open to all Priests, Parish Administrators, Parish Staff, DRE's, Youth Ministers, and Lay People.

[To read more about this workshop.....](#)

~~~~~

## Events at Churches

### Education, Dinners, Concerts, More

#### Community Supper

Every Friday, 6 pm at the United Church of South Royalton

#### *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper*

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent, which starts on Ash Wednesday.

This year, Shrove Tuesday is February 28, 2017. Another name for this day, Pancake Day, comes from the old English custom of using up all the fattening ingredients in the house before Lent, so that people were ready to fast during Lent. The fattening ingredients that most people had in their houses in those days were eggs and milk. A very simple recipe to use up these ingredients was to combine them with some flour and make pancakes!

In that tradition, the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Road, Shoreham, will sponsor a **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 28, from 5 to 7 PM.**

The menu includes pancakes with maple syrup, latkes with applesauce, sausage, home fries, and beverages. The cost is only \$7 for adults, \$4 for children, and \$20 for a family, and the meal is open to all. You are also encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Shelf. Come join in this celebration with food and friendship as we prepare for the season of Lent.

known for their work in this area with new plenary speakers invited each year. Videos from previous Institutes are on the website below. Workshops led by Institute participants. The Call for Workshops for 2017 is at the website below.

Deadline: January 1, 2017  
A Cooperative Resource Exhibit featuring books, A/V materials and other resources related to disability, any theological discipline, and ministry. A chance for authors and publishers to promote their resources in this area to a very interested audience. Contact us for an Exhibit Entry Form. We will also distribute information about new resources to over 1000 people, organizations, and networks. A Ph.D. seminar for graduate students doing work in this area, led by Hans Reinders and other faculty. A Jean Vanier Emerging Scholar Plenary Competition. See website. For more information, visit the [website](#), contact Bill Gaventa, and/or "like" our [Facebook page](#) for information and announcements as plans develop.

~~~~~

## About Us

The Vermont Conference is about "Equipping congregations for Christ's ministry and mission today and tomorrow".

OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) contribution to the Vermont Conference makes this email newsletter and the numerous programs available to you and your church. The "Friends of the Conference" helps as well.

Perhaps you would be a [Friend of the Conference](#). Have you considered remembering the Vermont Conference in your will? You could leave a lasting legacy which would support the good works of the Conference and our churches. Be in touch with me for the best way for that. You can also donate now.



Jim Thomas  
Vermont Conference, UCC