

Welcome to E-Kit! Charri

# Vermont Conference



**May 9, 2018**

Dear Beloved Community in the Vermont Conference,

Greetings from Puerto Rico!

Please form a UCC volunteer work group to come to help repair homes in Puerto Rico as soon as possible. We will be ready for you beginning in June and thereafter. We already have some groups coming later this summer, but especially need folks to sign up for June and July.

Working in tandem with the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico (IEUPR) and the UCC, we (as UCC Volunteer Disaster Recovery Coordinators) left Vermont to come down here last week to help get things ready to receive work groups. This entails getting an IEUPR camp/conference area cleaned up and repaired for volunteer housing, vetting and inspecting homes to be repaired by our groups, working with Fema's Valor program to order materials to work on these homes (although we hear that not all supplies are available, such as doors and windows) etc.

For information contact us, Doug and Judy Moore at

[uccdisaster.puertorico@gmail.com](mailto:uccdisaster.puertorico@gmail.com)

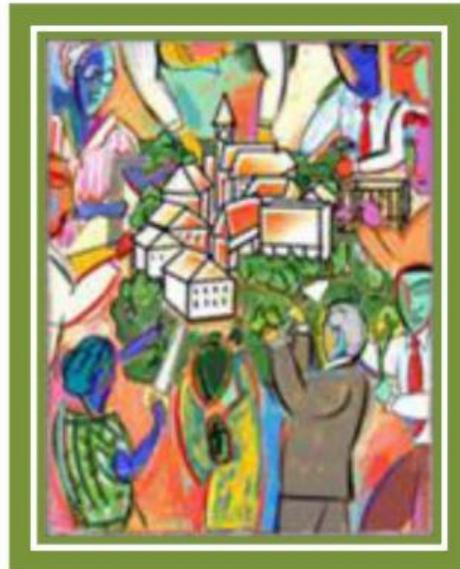
Here is a poster for hanging in churches and all over town. Judy and I "found" it hanging on a wall in the Iglesia Evangelica Unida offices. We have permission to use it all over the world.



DISASTER RECOVERY WORK GROUPS IN PUERTO RICO  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
AND IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA UNIDA DE PUERTO RICO



***Join the effort to rebuild Puerto Rico  
Come alone or with your friends  
We need you now***



Contact us at:

[Uccdisaster.puertorico@gmail.com](mailto:Uccdisaster.puertorico@gmail.com)

*"Un testimonio radical de acompañamiento" ¡Únete!*

*"Witness to radical unity" Join us!*

Thank you and peace, Doug

# VT CONFERENCE

# NEWS

**The survey for Annual Meeting has been sent to those who registered. Please take a few minutes to answer a few short questions!  
Thank you!**

*"I have attended most years since the 1982. This was, by far, the best I have ever attended. Wow! And I loved that Lynn used the storytelling approach to give her report. It really came home to me."*



## **SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM GRANTS -**

The Department of Mission is hoping UCC congregations are all currently preparing to help feed hungry children this summer by participating in a local summer lunch program or continuing or initiating your own. Schools are doing their best to help feed children during the school year with not only lunches but breakfast, after school snacks and some are even providing an evening meal. Just imagine the financial impact on a low income family when summer arrives. Children will be hungry. In 2010 approximately 28,000 children in Vermont received free and reduced price meals at school...only 6000 participated in summer lunch programs when school was no longer in session. We don't think these numbers have significantly changed. Please make it a goal to find the other 22,000 children and feed them.

The Vermont Conference strongly supports our churches' involvement in Summer Lunch programs. In 2017, 13 churches received grants for their summer lunch programs through the Vermont Conference Department of Mission Summer Lunch Grant Program.

Your questions about existing summer lunch programs can be directed first to Hunger Free Vermont at [www.hungerfreevt.org](http://www.hungerfreevt.org). The staff members there are working with community and/or church members in most towns in Vermont to establish or maintain/augment summer lunch programs. Vermont 211 also has information on most summer lunch programs in the state.

Secondly, contact the Vermont Conference, Department of Mission, Summer Lunch Grant Coordinator Mary Lou DeCosta ([colchsummerlunch@aol.com](mailto:colchsummerlunch@aol.com)). She will give you advice and recommendations gleaned from 35 Vermont UCC congregations who participate in Summer Lunch Programs. Mary Lou will sing the praises of the Vermont Food Bank which provides food for a fraction of the store cost.

If your congregation feels called to help and would like additional funding, then click here for the "2018 summer lunch grant application form". Forms must be received by May 28th.

**[Find the Application Form here.....](#)**



**The Norwich Congregational Church, UCC** has an online giving option. Recently we were told by the service that manages this that we needed to have an Internet Security Policy. The one they had on hand was c. 80 pages long! We are wondering whether other churches in the conference have an Internet Security Policy that is more streamlined that we could use in our research on this...or as a template.

Please get in touch with me, Mary Brownlow, the pastor:  
at [brownlowmary@gmail.com](mailto:brownlowmary@gmail.com)

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Just a note from the Conference Office. Any/every check you send from your church to the Conference needs to be accompanied by a Remittance Form. It should clearly state your church name (First Congregational (Town)) and what the funds are to be posted to. Example: If you are paying for three Delegates from your church to Annual Meeting, please state their names. Any description is very helpful.

Thank you!

<http://www.vtcucc.org/mt-content/uploads/2017/12/remittance-form-for-sending-money-to-the-conference.pdf>

## UCC NEWS

### UCC NEWSFEED

Two Dallas congregations act as one, raise awareness about gun violence  
A stark display outside a Dallas church, one which makes tangible statement against gun violence, has helped unite two UCC congregations in social justice and in worship.

'Leading by Example,' UCC national officers are tested for HIV  
The three national officers of the United Church of Christ are leading by example, joining a worldwide campaign to end the stigma around HIV by taking an HIV test.

Commentary: Seeking Peace in Korea: Hope or "Hooey"?  
North and South Korean leaders held an historic summit on April 27-the first in more than a decade.

### Weekly Seeds

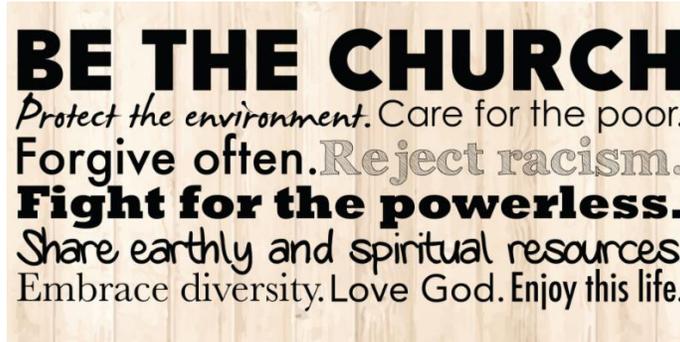
Focus Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Thomas Merton, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, 20th century  
"I was not sure where I was going, and I could not see what I would do when I got [there]. But you saw further and clearer than I, and you opened the seas before my ship, whose track led me across the waters to a place I had never dreamed of, and which you were even then preparing to be my rescue and my shelter and my home."

Rob Liano, 21st century  
"Don't ask for directions if you're not going to start the car."

Chriscinthia Blount, poet and artist, 21st century  
"When God throws something your way, catch it!"

Francine Rivers, *As Sure as the Dawn*, 21st century  
"God's will isn't hidden away like the myths and philosophies and knowledge of the world. Jesus told us openly and daily what his will for us is. Love one another."



BE THE CHURCH



## BECOME A FRIEND OF THE VERMONT CONFERENCE

[Here...](#)



## HAPPENINGS

### UCC Open and Affirming

The ONA Coalition's webinar series is designed both for Open and Affirming congregations, and for churches taking their first steps towards an ONA covenant. We're providing four webinars in spring 2018, and will add three new webinars in the fall. Dates and a link to the registration page for each webinar are provided below. All webinars are on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Eastern, 6 p.m. Central, 5 p.m. Mountain, 4 p.m.

Pacific and 1 p.m. Hawaiian, and run for about 90 minutes. The webinar includes time for questions and conversation. We offer discounts when more than three participants participate at one computer, so consider gathering a group and projecting the webinar on a screen. Contact Andy Lang at [ed@openandaffirming.org](mailto:ed@openandaffirming.org) for more information!

[Read More Here....](#)

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## **SAVE THE DATE:**

**On May 20th, a Spring Gathering with Maren Tirabassi at 4 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Springfield.**

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## **The Boston University School of Theology (BUSTH)**

is pleased to announce a new opportunity for congregational churches in the New England area. We have been awarded a \$1.5 million five-year grant from the Lilly Endowment to create an innovation hub to foster creative vocational reflection in congregations today. This hub will focus on the important BUSTH constituency of mainline New England Protestant congregations. BUSTH officials intend to share resulting research with others across the United States. The project is called "Creative Callings", and we would like to invite parish churches to apply, as the deadline to apply is July 15. Please see the full invitation letter attached, and information about the grant can also be found in the [press release](#) posted on our website.

[Read More Here..](#)

The beautiful steeple on the landmark Williston Federated Church must be replaced after 100 years overlooking our community. We are asking the community to help. All are invited to a concert Saturday, May 5 at 7:30pm at the Williston Federated Church, 44 N. Williston Rd. to benefit the steeple replacement. The concert will feature a wide range of sacred and secular music by the Williston Federated Church Choir, The Social Band - classical and folk traditions and special guest Williston native Helen Lyons performing opera and Broadway songs. A goodwill offering will be collected. Contributions may also be made at: [www.steeple.org](http://www.steeple.org)

**The 26th Annual New England Summer Institute, 2018  
United Church of Christ History, Theology, and Polity  
Camp Calumet, Freedom, NH**

Sponsored by the six New England Conferences  
of the United Church of Christ  
Week 1: May 29-June 1, 9:00-3:00  
Week 2: June 4-8, 9:00-3:00

There is NO SUBSTITUTE for learning about the UCC in direct, face-to-face conversation with others-and in beautiful, spirit-filled surroundings!

[Read more here.....](#)

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ONLINE  
UCC History, Theology and Polity Course  
June/July 2018

A UCC History, Theology and Polity Course that meets the requirements as set forth by the UCC Polity Teacher's Network will be offered online in June/July 2018. The instructor will be Rev. David Gaewski, Conference Minister of the New York Conference, UCC. Classes will begin at 9:30am and end at 3:30pm on the following dates: June 16, 23, 30 and July 7. The platform utilized will be Zoom Video Conferencing (zoom.us) The tuition will be \$475. For more information contact course administrator, Ms. Diana Pelletier, at [dkluscombe@msn.com](mailto:dkluscombe@msn.com).

This polity course is sponsored by the Oneida Association of the New York Conference. Payments should be sent no later than May 23rd to: Diana Pelletier, 114 Munro Dr., Camillus, NY 13031. Make checks payable to Oneida Association UCC.

A syllabus is available upon request. Laity, Members in Discernment and Privilege of Call candidates are all invited! Class size is limited to the first fifteen to register. The course will be cancelled if we do not obtain seven registered students. A student is considered registered when full payment has been received. Students who cancel enrollment will receive reimbursements up until June 13th. Please note the last three online classes reached maximum capacity.

[Read more here....](#)



Original worship resources for local churches...because Sunday's coming.

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**VERMONT OUTDOOR MINISTRIES**

## [SEE THE LATEST CAMP NEWSLETTER HERE.....](#)

### WHAT CAN CHURCHES DO TO PROMOTE CAMP?

- Promote camp in your bulletins and newsletters
- Hand out the brochures
- Have campers that have been to camp share stories in worship.
- Have a camp Sunday- Children's time, Smores for coffee hour, or camp songs in worship.
- Someone from Outdoor Ministries can come to your church to talk about camp with the children or share a sermon about Outdoor Ministries
- Let campers know there is scholarship money available
- Support the scholarship fund with a special gift of offering to Outdoor Ministries
- Check out the website at [www.hortoncenter.org](http://www.hortoncenter.org)

For questions or to apply: Laurie Chipman [lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org)  
or Nancy Folwer [fowler@gmail.com](mailto:fowler@gmail.com)

**[Preview 2018 Camp Brochure here!](#)**

**[Read more here...](#)**

**If you would like to volunteer, please contact Nancy Fowler at  
[fowler5vt@gmail.com](mailto:fowler5vt@gmail.com)  
Nancy Fowler or Laurie Chipman  
[lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org)**



**Rev. John Dorhauer was at at the Outdoor Ministry Association Consult Gathering at Silver Lake, CT in November and listened to some of our camping stories. We applied and were awarded a \$1000 Deering Grant to help with the cost of paddle boarding at Rock Point next summer.**

**[See Camp Job Opportunities here.....](#)**

**Job Replies to:  
[LaurieChipman@fccej.org](mailto:LaurieChipman@fccej.org)  
or**



**OUTDOOR MINISTRIES ASSOCIATION**  
United Church of Christ

**DINNERS AND SOCIAL SERVICE  
OPPORTUNITIES**

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



**Bradford Congregational Church**  
The Community Suppers are the  
4th THURSDAY of each month

**Pot Luck and Hymn Sing - third Tuesday of every month, 6:pm, at the Roxbury  
Union Congregational Church.**

**Essex Eats Out Community Dinners Continue... 1st Friday of Every  
Month**

[www.essexeatsoout.org](http://www.essexeatsoout.org)

**Bradford Congregational Church**  
The Community Suppers are the  
4th THURSDAY of each month

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**The Shoreham Congregational Church Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, May  
19 between 8 and 10 AM will have a special feature - Swedish Potato  
Sausage!Quantities are limited so come early to get some.There will also be  
blueberry pancakes, French toast, egg dishes, sausage, home fries, and  
beverages.The cost remains only \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 12 and under,**

and \$20 for families. Come to the Church at 28 School Road, Shoreham, VT, and trade spring experiences with your friends and neighbors as you enjoy great food.

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**  
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**The Congregational Church of South Hero, VT, UCC is looking for a part-time (or full time) organist. This person would be responsible for playing for Sunday services at least every other week (sharing with another organist), as well as additional services such as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday , etc. The organist would also accompany the choir at rehearsals.**

**The sanctuary contains an Allen Protegé L321i/e organ with 3 manuals, 38 stops, and 266 voices and a piano.**

**This position is available after June 1, 2018.**

**If interested please contact the church office at 802-372-4962 or [ccshvt@gmail.com](mailto:ccshvt@gmail.com) for a full job description.**

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**MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST** Active community church of 400+ members seeks a vibrant music director/organist. Responsible for adult choir, youth choir, and all liturgical services. Time commitment averages 20 hours per week. Range of compensation \$30,000 - \$35,000 dependent on experience. Submit cover letter, resume with 3 references, and any other material you feel would support your candidacy to: Music Director Search Committee, United Church of Dorset and East Rupert, P.O. Box 263, Dorset, VT 05251 [dorsetchurch@gmail.com](mailto:dorsetchurch@gmail.com)

**BOOKKEEPER AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** The Dorset Church is currently seeking a Bookkeeper and Administrative Assistant skilled in digital and internet communications for a 3 days a week part time job. The applicant should be a friendly team worker and good multi-task worker ready to fulfill the mission of a vibrant growing church. To apply, please submit by email a cover letter and resume stating your qualifications and your interest in the position to [dorsetchurch@gmail.com](mailto:dorsetchurch@gmail.com)

**Jane A. LoBrutto, Licensed Minister - Administrator  
United Church of Dorset and East Rupert  
PO Box 263  
Dorset, VT 05251  
802-867-2260  
[Jane@dorsetchurch.org](mailto:Jane@dorsetchurch.org)**



**The First Congregational Church UCC of Burlington,  
Vermont**

**Invites candidates for two part-time positions:**

**Children's & Family Ministries Coordinator:** Dynamic innovator needed to grow programming for children (pre-K to gr.5) and families at Open & Affirming, mission-centric church. Be passionate about leading children into faithful, loving and hopeful lives. Start at 15hr/wk, \$20/hr. Work closely with staff and volunteers.

To apply, send resume and cover letter to: [info@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:info@firstchurchburlington.org)  
Details: <http://firstchurchburlington.org/?s=hiring>

**Youth and Young Adult Ministries Coordinator:** Thoughtful relationship builder needed to grow youth ministry for, with and by youth. Be proactive guiding middle and high school students to develop identity and apply their passion for social justice in the world. Start at 15hr/wk, \$20/hr. Work closely with staff and volunteers.

To apply, send resume and cover letter to: [info@firstchurchburlington.org](mailto:info@firstchurchburlington.org)  
Details: <http://firstchurchburlington.org/?s=hiring>



**Youth Ministry Leader wanted**

College Street Congregational Church in Burlington is seeking a leader for our Christ-centered peer group of 6-12 graders who can guide youth in Christian discipleship through theology, service, fellowship, and fun. Our church is growing - especially our youth program - and we seek someone who can continue to support our youth as we grow. This is a part-time (20 hour) position.

For more details, go  
to

<http://www.collegestreetchurch.org/youthministryleader/>



We hope you like our ever changing look as we try to make each E-Kit fun to explore!  
We welcome submissions for the weekly E-Kit. Please submit your submission by Tuesday of each week! We will be running all events and news in this weekly E-Kit.  
Have you seen our new website? If you have anything you would like to see published on the website, please let me know!

[robinsonc@vtcucc.org](mailto:robinsonc@vtcucc.org)



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Did someone share this email with you? [Sign up](#) to receive more of our emails.

Vermont Conference, UCC | 802-728-4999 | [VTCConference@vtcucc.org](mailto:VTCConference@vtcucc.org) | <http://www.vtcucc.org>



Vermont Conference, UCC, 36 N Main St, Randolph, VT 05060

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