

Welcome to E-Kit! Charri

Vermont Conference



August 29, 2018



Dear Beloved Community in the Vermont Conference:

It's hard to live in the moment. Here we are nearing the end of August and I find my mind leaping ahead to autumn. We all do this, perhaps even need to do this. There are programs and worship services and committee meetings and visits and "how much can we do before we reach the holiday season." In my world I am anticipating welcoming a new colleague in Paul Sangree and saying farewell to our beloved Pam Lucas. Changes are coming including changes that I cannot yet see. There is anticipation of both grief and of the excitement of new possibilities. Anticipation brings its own energy.

But, it is still August. The heat lies heavy in the hills. There are still annuals blooming in our gardens and sweet corn on the cob, tomatoes, summer squash, and cucumbers to savor. The sun still lingers into the evening, the water still warm enough for a swim. The gifts of God for the people of God.

This week, slow down and notice the bounty of late summer with a beauty all its own. We need these still times to anchor us for the action to come. And, God is still speaking to us when we stop to look and listen.

What is the divine Lover of our Souls offering you this day? Take. Eat. See. Smell. Touch. Hear. Amen and amen.

Lynn

The workshop dates for Appreciative Inquiry were incorrect in the Aug. 15th EKit. The correct dates are: October 20 and 27, November 10 and 17. More details in next week's EKit.

BE THE CHURCH
Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. Reject racism.
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

[BE THE CHURCH](#)



BECOME A FRIEND OF THE VERMONT CONFERENCE

[Here...](#)



VT CONFERENCE NEWS



REGISTRATION ENDS SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

CONVOCATION 2018

[CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION](#)



W.I.S.E.

UCC MENTAL HEALTH

One of the featured presentations at next week's conference is "How to Become a WISE Congregation for Mental Health: Inspiring Stores & Practical Advice" led by

Amy Petré Hill, a former disability rights lawyer and UCC member-in-discernment for ordained ministry who serves as the Director of Mental Health & Inclusion Ministries at Mountain View United Church, a WISE Congregation in Aurora, CO. Amy is also one of the authors of the newest UCC MHN resource, "Becoming WISE" booklet, which will be available for the first time at our upcoming conference.

[Read More Here...](#)



Read it here.....



Important Events Sponsored by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
[Artificial Intelligence....](#)
[Racism in America Announcement...](#)
[Racism in America Schedule...](#)

Registration Open for Boundary Awareness Training

The **Rhode Island Conference** and their Church and Ministry Committee is hosting a Boundary Training session **Oct. 11 from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM** at the Seekonk Congregational Church UCC. Snacks and Lunch will be provided.

The cost of attending is \$35 and can be paid online or by check.

[Go to details and registration form](#)



I'm writing to ask your help in letting UCC churches in the Burlington area know about a terrific performance taking place in Burlington as part of Pride Week: **Trans Scripts, Part I: The Women**, which Pride Center Director Rex Butt saw when it was presented at Randolph's Chandler Music Hall in January. Rex convinced us to reprise it during Pride Week, at 7:00 PM on Wednesday September 5th, at the First Unitarian Universalist Society on Pearl Street.

Thanks so very much, Sharon (Chandler Music Hall)

[See the Information Poster here...](#)



Peacemakers Pulpit

Drought and a dire economy left many Zimbabweans hungry. One elderly widow, without corn meal - an essential ingredient in their diet - looked to her son for assistance. Though it was a challenge for him, he managed to provide a 3 month supply. In two weeks, she was asking him for more. Surprised, he said to her, "Mother, you had plenty. What happened?" "My neighbors were hungry," she replied.

Hers was a shining example of Ubuntu, an ancient African philosophy that declares, "I am because you are ." South African Bishop Desmond Tutu describes it this way: "Ubuntu speaks particularly about the fact that you can't exist as a human being in isolation...We believe that a person is a person through other persons, that my humanity is caught up, bound up, inextricably, with yours. When I dehumanize you, I inexorably dehumanize myself. You can't be human all by yourself, and when you have this quality - Ubuntu - you are known for your generosity. We think of ourselves far too frequently as just individuals, separated from one another, whereas you are connected and what you do affects the whole world."

In a sermon preached at the National Cathedral, Martin Luther King, Jr. evoked Ubuntu when he said, "We are tied together in the single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. And whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly. For some strange reason I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. And you can never be what you

ought to be until I am what I ought to be. This is the way God's universe is made."

Ubuntu, it seems, is integral to the journey to justice. Would that more of the world embraced it.

Rev. Kim McKerley, pastor of Bethany UCC in Randolph

Bethany Church in Randolph is seeking 4 metal covers for communion service trays that carry the juice/wine please contact bethanyucc@gmail.com

UCC NEWS

Church World Services



Lower bills, extra income and cleaner fuel in Georgia

You may have heard the rule of thumb that you shouldn't spend more than a third of your income on housing. But what if it wasn't the rent or mortgage that was so expensive?

What if it was your utility bills?

For families in remote rural parts of western Georgia, accessing affordable energy is a huge challenge. People here rely on trees and shrubs for firewood and on dried animal dung, referred to as biomass, for cooking and heating. They often can't find enough firewood or biomass for heating their homes or cooking, though. The price of electricity is extraordinarily high here, so families can't afford to pay for electricity to meet the needs, either.

This is called energy poverty, and it is often ...

[Read the article here....](#)



Adam Smedberg
Community & Congregational Engagement Specialist
Church World Service
PO Box 749
West Springfield, MA 01090
Phone: 413-279-4039
Skype: asmedbergcws
Email: asmedberg@cwsglobal.org

UCC NEWSFEED

Faith Witness at the Border forging immigrant justice connections across UCC

More than 100 people from seven Conferences in the United Church of Christ, joined by members of three ecumenical partner Churches, are converging on the border town of Sahuarita, Ariz., for several days of study and service around immigrant justice.

Lingering Hurricane Lane brings winds, rains, floods to Hawaii

As Hurricane Lane brings torrential rains to the islands of Hawaii, UCC Disaster Ministries is keeping watch on the storm, as local churches and congregants take shelter.

UCC assists Maine congregation serving asylum seekers from around the world

A congregation in Portland, Maine, which serves asylum-seekers from around the world, has been sent a grant from the United Church of Christ to help further its ministry.

UCC Disaster Ministries gearing up for busy fall as Gulf Coast marks Harvey anniversary

As the Texas Gulf Coast prepares to mark the one year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey, the UCC Disaster Ministries' team and partners in the area are preparing for a busy fall season of rebuilding work.

Commentary: Reflections of a Womanist

I mourn the loss of Rev. Dr. Katie Geneva Cannon.

**Jim Moos to end service as UCC National Officer following General Synod 32 in
Milwaukee**

**The Rev. James Moos, UCC Executive Minister for Global Engagement, has decided not to
seek a third term as a National Officer of the denomination.**

Weekly Seeds

Focus Reading: James 1:17-27

**Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century
"Go put your creed into your deed."**

**"What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say." (some sources say
Henry Adams)**

**Francis Beaumont, 17th century
"Faith without works is like a bird without wings; though she may hop with her
companions on earth, yet she will never fly with them to heaven."**

**Mother Teresa, 20th century
"Keep in mind that our community is not composed of those who are already
saints, but of those who are trying to become saints. Therefore let us be extremely
patient with each other's faults and failures."**

**Marcus Aurelius, Meditations, 2nd century
"Waste no more time arguing about what a good man should be. Be one."**

**Christian Wiman, My Bright Abyss: Meditation of a Modern Believer, 21st century
"What we call doubt is often simply dullness of mind and spirit, not the absence of
faith at all, but faith latent with the lives we are not quite living, God dormant in the
world to which we are not quite giving our best selves."**

**John O'Donohue, To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Blessing, 21st
century
"Each of us is an artist of our days; the greater our integrity and awareness, the
more original and creative our time will become."**

**Johnny Cash, 20th century
"I wore black because I liked it. I still do, and wearing it still means something to
me. It's still my symbol of rebellion--against a stagnant status quo, against our
hypocritical houses of God, against people whose minds are closed to others'
ideas."**

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
 - Invite campers that have been to camp share stories in worship.
 - Support our VT OM program & Camper Scholarships with a Special Offering on a Sunday
 - 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
- Check out the website at www.hortoncenter.org.

[Preview 2018 Camp Brochure here!](#)





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



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.essexeatsout.org

United Church of Underhill hosts community dinners on the second Thursday of each month from 5:00-6:30 pm



The Shoreham Congregational Church

Saturday September 1, 2018
Start your day off right (before the Shoreham Town-Wide Yard Sale) by having Breakfast on Saturday, September 1 from 8 to 10 AM at the Shoreham

Congregational Church, 28 School Road, Shoreham, VT. The blueberry pancakes, French Toast, sausages, home fries, quiche or egg dishes, fruit, and beverages will give you energy for all your Saturday activities and errands. The cost is still only \$8 for adults, \$4 for children under 12, and \$20 for families. Please bring a non-perishable food item to help those in need.

Saturday, September 8, 2018

The Fall Rummage and Food Sale will be held on Saturday, September 8 from 9 AM - 2 PM at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Road, Shoreham, VT. Find great bargains in clothes and good food items. Clean donations will be accepted from 1 to 3 on Thursday and Friday afternoon before the sale.. Call Jeri at 897-8591 for more information.

Sunday, September 30, 2018

Come to the Annual Jamaican Hymn Sing on Sunday, September 30 at 7:30 PM at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Road, Shoreham, VT. For decades, the Jamaicans who work at our local apple orchards have met to celebrate and worship in song and fellowship. Refreshments will be served following the hymn sing. A free will offering to benefit mission work in Jamaica will be taken.

United Church of Underhill

Old Fashioned Harvest Market will be held on September 29 & 30. The festivities kick off on Saturday at 9AM with the Harvest Market parade. Stay for kids games, hayrides, tag sales, arts vendors, and the tastiest food around. A brief worship service open to all occurs at 9:30 on Sunday morning. We can't wait to see you there!

~~~~~  
**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**  
~~~~~

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

for a full job description.

~~~~~  
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>



**We hope you enjoy E-Kit! 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.**

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



**Know someone who might enjoy this email? Share it with them.**

**Did someone share this email with you? Sign up to receive more of our emails.**

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



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

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [robinsonc@vtcucc.org](mailto:robinsonc@vtcucc.org) in collaboration with



Try it free today