



## E-Kit February 19, 2020

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### UCC at the Lake: Vermont Conference Summer Camp

I had the chance recently to visit with Laurie Chipman, the Christian Education Director for our Essex Junction church. She also serves as our Coordinator for the Outdoor Ministries team, and they are very excited about our Conference Summer Camp, "UCC at the Lake", at Rock Point Camp in Burlington the week of July 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>. The camp is open to all middle schoolers.



They already have a great week of activities planned out that the kids at your church will really love! Vergennes Congregational Church already had a Camp Sunday on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, and a member of the Outdoor Ministries Team came to the service to talk about the Conference Camp, and the Team would be glad to send a member to your church as well if you have a Camp Sunday! You can get more information or sign kids up by registering with the Horton Center which is administrating the Camp at [www.HortonCenter.org](http://www.HortonCenter.org), or by contacting Laurie at [lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org). Hope your kids can come - they will have a great time!

Joyfully yours,  
Paul

### 225th Annual Meeting Registration now open!



Lake Morey Resort (800-423-1211 for reservations)  
April 24 - 25, 2020

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



See Rev. Traci  
Blackmon preach at  
Riverside Church

**Youth at Annual Meeting is here!** Y@AM 2020 takes place on April 25th and includes dedicated time with Rev. Traci Blackmon as well as participation in worship and their own dedicated workshop. Cost is \$60 per church. Click the Y@AM 2020 button to learn more and to register your church's youth group.

The Annual Meeting Planning Committee is proud to present a special panel discussion: *"What is the minority experience in Vermont?"* Our panelists come from diverse backgrounds and will offer their perspectives on the challenges they face living in our state. This is a special opportunity to examine the privilege enjoyed by the majority of Vermonters.

Make sure to reserve your room at Lake Morey Resort



early - they go fast! Call to reserve your room at 802-423-1211.

[Click here to learn more about Annual Meeting](#)

[Who can vote at Annual Meeting?](#)

[Click here for the latest Racism in America installment](#)

[Read the full Invitation to Annual Meeting](#)

## **Boundary Awareness Training for Retired Clergy** **Registration closes February 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Training date: March 4, 2020 (replacing Feb. 21)**

**Time: 10:00 - 2:30**

**Place: United Church of Bethel**

Recognizing and honoring boundaries can present challenges when you have retired from active ministry. How does a retired minister create, and just as importantly maintain, boundaries?

New Hampshire Conference Minister Rev. Gordon Rankin will lead us in this seminar.

Registration fee is \$20.

**Lunch and refreshments are provided**

[Click here to Register!](#)

## **Our Faith, Our Vote, Our Voice: A call to the Church to be a place of civil dialogue that builds community**

*From the UCC officers:* The 2020 election cycle is stirring strong interest and concern across the United States and around the world. In these difficult and challenging times, this is not surprising. There is much at stake as we head to the voting booth this November.



Divisive, mean-spirited rhetoric dominates the airwaves and the public dialogue. Thoughtful, respectful, constructive exchange across differences on the key issues of the day is becoming more difficult to achieve. This is precisely why our voice and efforts as people of faith are needed. We can play a unique role in this election cycle by encouraging respectful, informed dialogue that builds community and a hope-filled vision of the future that includes all people.

[Read more from the UCC officers: Our Faith, Our Vote, Our Voice](#)

## Outdoor Ministries



[Learn more about @ the Lake Camp](#)

@ the Lake Camp week at Rock Point

July 26 - July 31

**Registration is open**

Recruiting for 2 Deans, 4 Counselors, Nurse, 2 Lifeguards & Daytime Volunteers

Looking for our lead team of Deans & Counselors!

[Register for camp here](#)

[Click here for instructions](#)

[Click here for more information](#)

[Which churches have completed their Yearbook upload?](#)

[Click here to find your church number \(organized by town\)](#)

## Has your church completed its UCC Yearbook upload?

UCC Yearbook reporting opened January 8, 2020, and it is important that your church report current and accurate membership information.

Your church number includes the Vermont Conference number which is 82. Therefore, your complete church number (including zeroes) is 82xxxx.

## New Podcast Available

Rev. Josh Simon (First Congregational Church of Essex Junction) and Rev. Sally May (Malletts Bay UCC, Colchester) are proud to present the podcast *Faith in Vermont: Conversations with LGBTQ Religious and Spiritual Leaders*.

*On this week's episode of Faith in Vermont: Conversations with LGBTQ Religious and Spiritual Leaders:*

*Rev. Laura C. Engelken is the Coordinator of the UVM Interfaith Center. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.*

[Click here for the latest podcast](#)

## Update on Puerto Rico earthquake

Here is a small report received Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, from Lydia Rosaly, our on the ground coordinator, who lives in Ponce, one of the towns hit by the recent earthquakes:

"The aftershocks are continuing - around 3 or 4 a day registering 4.0. There are still thousands of people sleeping outside their houses and thousands of refugees in camps...

[Click here for more info](#)

[Donate to UCC Puerto Rico recovery](#)

## Pastoral Transitions

- Rev. Cass Poulos has been called as Pastor of the Post Mills Congregational Church.
- Rev. Elissa Johnk was installed as Pastor and Teacher at First Congregational Church in Burlington.
- Lava Mueller was granted the status of Ordination Pending Call by the Windsor-Orange Association following an ecclesiastical council.

[Click here for full list of transitions](#)

## Prayers and Thanksgivings

Please hold Associate Conference Minister Rev. Paul Sangree in your prayers as he mourns the passing of his mother.

Rev. Marisa Laviola gives thanks for the prayers and support she has received as her spouse Carol has recovered from an accident.

Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno gives thanks for the support and prayers she and her husband Tristan have received as Tristan has recovered from a heart attack.

## Useful Links

- [UCC Newsfeeds](#)
- [UCC Weekly Seeds](#)
- [2020 Tax preparation resources](#)
- [Pension Boards rate calculator](#)
- [UCC Yearbook](#)
- [Stewardship blog](#)
- [Prevent frozen pipes](#)
- [Australia wildfire resources](#)

## Who should I contact for...?

- Conference Minister: Rev. Lynn Bujnak
  - [bujnakl@vtcucc.org](mailto:bujnakl@vtcucc.org)
- Assoc. Conference Minister: Rev. Paul Sangree
  - [sangreep@vtcucc.org](mailto:sangreep@vtcucc.org)
- Search & Call, operations, events: Jesse Davis
  - [vtcoordinator2018@gmail.com](mailto:vtcoordinator2018@gmail.com)
- Finance: Tanya Frazier
  - [vtcfinanceucc@gmail.com](mailto:vtcfinanceucc@gmail.com)
- E-Kit postings
  - [vermontconference@gmail.com](mailto:vermontconference@gmail.com)

## Justice & Witness Ministries news

The VT Conference Department of Justice and Witness Ministries is contacting all the local churches in the Conference to gather information and offer support and information. We do not have e-mail contact info for each church, but we would like to hear from everyone. A letter with a link to a brief survey is available. Please identify your church when answering the first question of the survey. Please contact Mary Brownlow if you would like to receive the letter or pass it along to a committee in your church.

[Contact Mary Brownlow](#)

## Resources from the Vermont Conference website (click the buttons below)

[Annual UCC Church Yearbook upload period continues through February 2020.](#)

[The Magic of Hogwarts - February 28 & 29 at Bethany UCC in Montpelier](#) [Click here for more](#)

[Strafford Choral Singing Workshop - February 29, 10:00 - 3:00, United Church of Strafford](#) - [More information here](#)

Click  
here  
for  
local  
church  
events

Boundary Training for Retired Clergy - March 4, 10:00 - 2:30 at  
United Church of Bethel [Register here](#)

Chili Supper - February 29, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Shoreham  
Congregational Church [More information here](#)

Grafton-Orange-Sullivan Association spring meeting - March 8,  
2:00 at Bradford Congregational Church

Vermont Conference Annual Meeting - April 24 & 25 at Lake  
Morey Resort, Fairlee, VT - [Click here to register](#)

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