

# The HEED APRIL 2016

Newsletter of the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



## SERVICES

### 10AM SUNDAYS

April 3

"Creativity and Spirit

Shape Each Other, and Us"

Ginny Towler and Two Guests

April 10

"What Does It Mean To Be a Jew"

Rabbi Alvin Mars

April 17

Passover

Larry Vogelman

(Remember to sign up

to bring items)

April 24

Climate-based service/

Solar Panel Dedication

Rev. Fred Small

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

Here are a couple of dates in May to keep in mind:

- The May board meeting is scheduled for Monday 5/16 at 6:30. All are invited to attend. We have had some pretty lively discussions at many of the meetings so far this year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who have attended board meetings to date. Your presence has added to the work we have done and the decisions we have made.
- The annual business meeting (ABM) is scheduled for Monday, 5/23 at 6:00.

Both meetings will be held in the sanctuary and a good turn-out, especially for the ABM, would be appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact me at [nslepian@gmail.com](mailto:nslepian@gmail.com).

Thank you, Marjorie Wolfson

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

There will be an Earth Day pot-luck celebration following the April 24th service when Rev. Fred Small dedicates our solar panels. In keeping with our theme of caring for the Earth, you are encouraged to contribute food that is healthy, local, or vegetarian.

**On the afternoon of April 24, following the DUUF solar panel dedication by Rev. Fred Small, he is leading a workshop entitled “Give Light: Spiritual Nurture in the Climate Crisis.” Please spread the word, including to people outside the Fellowship who may be interested.**

About the workshop: As we come to understand the gravity of climate disruption, it's easy to become disheartened. Facing the crisis will demand the best of us, calling us to courage, creativity, kindness, and love. In this interactive workshop, Rev. Fred Small will invite us into meditation, reflection, prayer and song, strengthening our spirits for the struggle to heal the earth and human relationships.

About Rev. Fred Small: Cited by Bill McKibben as “one of the key figures in the religious environmental surge,” Rev. Fred Small is the founder of the Creation Coalition, a new organization to mobilize people of faith as an irresistible political force for climate and environmental justice. A former environmental lawyer and folksinger-songwriter, Fred left parish ministry in October, 2015, to devote his energies full-time to climate justice.

Time and place: Sunday, April 24, 1:00-3:00 p.m., at the Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 20 Madbury Road

Donation: Donation of \$25 requested. Scholarships available, please talk with us if cost is a barrier

To Register: Email Mike Fleming at [mfzenith@gmail.com](mailto:mfzenith@gmail.com) to confirm registration. Checks are payable to *DUUF*, please notate with “Rev. Small Workshop”. Send to DUUF, Attention Treasurer, 20 Madbury Road, Durham, NH 03824.



Bob and River read the opening words

### DUUF in Need of iPad

We need an iPad to stay permanently at Fellowship in the sanctuary. This will allow us to fully use our sound system. Without one, we cannot play cd's, iphones, ipods, etc... Please talk to Sarge if you or someone you know may want to donate or sell one to DUUF.

Two Poems. The first poem I wrote after Larry Vogelman and I witnessed the migration of Monarch butterflies while fishing on Great Bay. The second, a response I wrote while revising the first poem, and reflecting on the current situation with migrants world-wide.

Michael OSullivan

## Michoacán

September 25, 2014 - revised March 19, 2016

I.

In the midmost middle of Great Bay on a still September afternoon,

brooding, slate-gray clouds, decorating a motionless sky.

Over placid, glassy waters, hardly a breath of wind.

Mist rising, while we, seemingly in an endlessly cycle of waiting, hoping for

A silver-backed fin breaking the surface, striking a lure, ---- but nothing.

Just repeatedly casting, casting out, then reeling, reeling in,

only the lures plopping, then retrieving yet again, their gurgling wakes, rippling the tranquil surface.

Lifting my gaze, looking about, noticing vagrant leaves swirling,

Are these leaves with beating wings?

A flight of autumn's orange and black, their regalia glistening, glittering,

Abruptly realizing - not Maples or Oaks, - But Monarchs -

Migrating, dancing, fluttering Southward,

Relentlessly pursuing pine-oak Refuge in Michoacán

Migrating Monarchs, we witnessed a miraculous fragment of life's cycle.

## Michoacán- A Reflection

March 20, 2016

II.

From the Levant to ancient lands of Aztec, Maya, Inca,

From Michoacán itself.

Other migrants, with beggars' bodies,

Within life's tumult, held between birth and death,

Seeking Rest and Refuge from ravages of war,

Remnants of Contras, CIA Death Squads, ISIS, United Fruit, EXXON.

Crossing seas in rafts of rubber. Staggering across deserts,

Relentlessly to barred borders, walls, armed guards.

Unlike Monarchs, these without a realm,

These wanderers huddle in squalor, cocooned in plastic.

Their regalia, muddied, soggy. Their gaunt, sorrowing eyes,

Reaching for Life, Rebirth and Return.

Finding no pine-oak Refuge.

Bearing witness, sighing, I return to watching The News Hour.

## Budgeting

The treasurer prepares a budget for the coming fiscal year and presents it for discussion and vote each May at the DUUF's Annual Business Meeting. This plan for income and spending must address the realities of our resources and the costs of operating our fellowship. But it can and should also be aspirational. It should reflect our mission and our short and long-term goals. For these reasons I will be requesting budget inputs from each of our committee chairs at this year's two remaining board meetings. Fellowship members with ideas they would like to see reflected in our financial planning, please pass them along to the board. I will do my best to include them in the budget proposal to be presented discussed and voted at the ABM. Yours, John Macri, Treasurer



DUUF members in the Easter Parade make it into the HEED instead of the rotogravure

## Book Group

For the final meeting and discussion this spring, the DUUF readers have selected Jane Mayer's *Dark Money*, which according to the NYT "Book Review" (Sunday, March 27, 2016, p. 26), is "An account of how the Koch brothers and other super-wealthy donors deployed their money to change American politics." Please come to discuss this timely topic Monday evening April 25 at 7:00 at the Fellowship.

## **SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP**

**The Spiritual Growth Group is continuing with the resource book, Bridging the God Gap, by Roger Christian Shriner, a Unitarian Universalist pastor and a psychotherapist. We met on 31 March and plan to meet again on 21 April and 5 May from 6:30 – 8:30 PM @ DUUF. We will be finishing our current resource by the middle of May and opening the group to new members again. Info will be in the May HEED.**

**Below are a few suggestions for a new resource.. Please, go online and read the synopses and critiques so you can assist in the decision. (Feel free to make suggestions!)**

**The Road Less Traveled M. Scott Peck**

**Spiritual Growth: Being Your Higher Self Sanaya Roman**

**A New Earth Eckhart Tolle**

**The Soul of a New Self: Embracing the Future of Being Human Jeff Carreira**

**I'd like to reemphasize the fact that the group's purpose is for our own spiritual growth and it is not a discussion/debate group. I want everyone to feel comfortable expressing their personal beliefs in a safe environment. We are different and yet we have many similarities. We are about sharing our personal beliefs and struggles so that we can help ourselves and one another in the process.**

**Anyone with questions about the group may email me at [Joycesh@msn.com](mailto:Joycesh@msn.com).**

**-Joyce Sheehan**



## 2015-2016 DUUF Officers & Committees

### OFFICERS

President	Marjorie Wolfson	Vice President	Joyce Sheehan
Treasurer	John Macri	Secretary	Rachel Legard

### COMMITTEES

**Program:** Susan Bullivant (Chair), Larry Vogelmann, Joyce Sheehan, Betty Crepeau, Dorothy Oliver, Tom Schram, Carmen Buford-Paige

**Religious Exploration:** Jen Pavlik (Co-Chair), Brad Kinsey (Co-Chair)

**House and Grounds:**

House: Sarge Legard

Grounds: Nick Isaak & Eric Nordgren

**Rentals and Cleaning:** Karen Smith (Rentals), Edna O'Sullivan (Cleaning)

**Social Action:** Dawn Meredith (Chair), Betty Crepeau

**Socials:** Cindy Schram (Chair), Deb Johnson (Co-Chair), Joyce Sheffield, Edna O'Sullivan, Bob Sheehan, Hilary Babon

**Denominational Affairs:** Michael O'Sullivan (Chair)

**Membership:**

Membership: Bob Pavlik (Chair)

**Caring Subcommittee:** Chris Rodgers, Michael O'Sullivan, Joyce Sheehan

**Nominations:** Jim Nute (Chair), Thomas Pistole

**Music Committee:** Carmen Buford-Paige (Chair), Thomas Pistole

**Green Sanctuary:** Mike Fleming (Chair), Brett Gibson, Michael O'Sullivan

**Webmaster:** Brett Gibson



## Our Mission Statement

The real test of our religion is the way we live our lives. The Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship affirms the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism:

We seek to be a place in which each person's unique worth and beliefs are acknowledged and respected and where each person's voice may be heard – a place in which each may freely explore his or her own spiritual path.

We join with others in reaching out to make the world more just, and commit ourselves to caring for the earth and all that makes up the web of life.

We strive to be a source of inspiration, a forum for intellectual exchange, a wellspring of comfort to those in need and a nurturing, supportive community for each other and our children.

## Durham Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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