



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Franklin, NH

Spectacles

December 2022

From Our Minister



Dear ones,

A few days before Thanksgiving, graffiti featuring hate speech and slurs was found on the side of a building near Odell Park. The city, guided by the City Council resolution condemning hate and supported by the Citizens' Taskforce Against Hate, of which I am a member, responded promptly to condemn this act and investigate the perpetrators. It is deeply troubling to confront such hateful symbols so close to home. This is not the first time such symbols of hate have been tagged within Franklin. At minimum, there were gravestones in Franklin vandalized with swastikas ten years ago.

But this is, perhaps, the first time the city has made a public statement condemning such hateful symbols?

Since the summer, a local business has been targeted online by neo-Nazis. As far as we know and hope, none of the people harassing this business owner are in Franklin. But because this impacts a local business, it impacts our community. And you all showed up this summer to support that business, and most importantly to say that Franklin says NO to hate, whether it is coming from online trolls, misguided youth, or your next-door neighbor. The resolution, the taskforce, the city's response condemning hate speech found within the center of this town - **YOU** all played a part in generating this proactive response.

We still have a long way to go. The taskforce is slowly building trust and we don't yet have as much to show for our time as we might like. But our existence alone makes a statement, says that "*Franklin Welcomes All*," says that Franklin wants to be a community that embraces diversity and where all people feel safe. Like the pride flag hanging in front of our building, which reflects our own promise and potential, to be a place within a welcoming community that is explicit and **proud** to be a home to members of the LGBTQ+ community. We counter hate with love. We counter fear with courage. We embody the kind of community we want Franklin to be, and in so doing we help make that happen.

Your passion, commitment, and leadership are a vital part of making this a community that celebrates diversity and sets clear boundaries against hate. Keep up the good work.

May your lights shine brightly in the darkest night. May this season of festivities be a celebration of the diversity present within our midst.

Love,
Rev. Ariel

P.S. I'll be heading out to California mid-month for another retreat, December 15-21. Rev. Linda Barnes from Starr King UU Fellowship will once again be available for emergency pastoral coverage. You can reach her on her cell, 641-351-8762, at the fellowship, 603-536-8908, or by e-mail at minister@starrkingfellowship.org

Upcoming UUCF Services

December 4th, 10am ~ Bettina Lehovec
Musician ~ Hiroya Tsukamoto

December 11th, 10am ~ Rev. Ariel
Aaronson-Eves
Musician ~ Paul Hubert

December 18th, 10am ~ Rev. Jane Dwinell
Musician ~ Robin Charles

Santa Pot Luck and Caroling with Libby following the December 18th service. If your child/grandchild will be attending, please add their name(s) and age(s) to the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall by December 4th.



Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Service, 6:00pm ~ Susan Haines
Musician ~ Robin Charles

The **Music and Worship Committee** is looking for people who would like to volunteer to do a lay led service. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday. If you have questions, please reach out to Howard. howardsmsden@yahoo.com (603) 465-7709

We ask that you consider
the health of others.

Face masks are highly
ENCOURAGED
and much
APPRECIATED
inside the building



We ask that people sit at the tables **spaced apart** in the Fellowship Hall

Face masks are **REQUIRED** when at the communal food table during Coffee Hour.

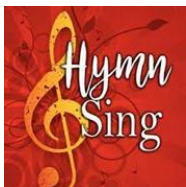
Sign-up sheets for **Coffee Hour** and **Flowers** for the sanctuary are located in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up.



holiday
Craft Fair
 AND
Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 10th, 9am to 2pm

Cookie Bakers, please pre-package all cookies in 2s or 4s, or a number you think appropriate. All cookies need a label with the name of the cookie, if it contains nuts, and any other dietary information that the buyer would want to know. Remember, **the more cookies, the better!**



Hymn Sing Date for December

There will only be one Hymn Sing in December. Tuesday, December 13th at 3:30PM in the Sanctuary. Please let Libby know if you plan on attending. rdan@metrocast.net

Upcoming Parish Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 13th at 5:30pm via Zoom (PC meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month). If you would like to attend, please contact Erin, em41385@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

2022-23 Parish Committee Members

Kim Donovan, Chair
 Erin Metcalf, Clerk
 Cindy Clarenbach, Treasurer
 Lisa West
 Gail Morrison



The Twin Rivers Food Pantry is collecting crackers and canned soups for the month of December. Items may be placed on the Food Pantry collection table located in the sanctuary.

As an alternative you can send a check to:
 Twin Rivers Interfaith Food Pantry
 2 Central Street
 Franklin, NH 03235
 Attention: Daisy Blaisdell



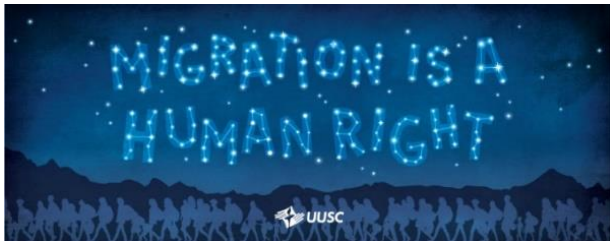
The **Holiday Gift Tree** will be in the sanctuary from December 4th until February 5th. Please hang your homemade and bought hats, scarves, mittens, socks and other warming gifts on or under the tree. These gifts will be donated to the Twin Rivers Food Pantry who will then give them to folks in need.



Hannaford helps in December and so can you! During the month of December, Franklin Bread and Roses Kitchen will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable Fight Hunger Bag at the Hannaford store located at 952 Central Street, Franklin.



Mission: Amplifying Unitarian Universalist voices and values in the public square throughout New Hampshire and beyond.



UUCF voted to be a Level 2 Sanctuary Church in support of Manchester UU, which is a Level 1 Sanctuary Church.

News from November:

Gratefulness. What is it? Do we 'have' it? How do we express it? Can we direct it, to expand it, from our being grateful for something in our life to helping others to use their gratitude in ways to help others? I'll be thinking of these questions all month, as November is the month of Thanks Giving.

Chris has sent the post below. Although the situation with his brother & wife is not good, I am sure they are very grateful that Chris can be with the children helping them out during this difficult time. In Chris's email, where he uses the word "twice" I think he means "two" or maybe "twins".

"Here's a photo of me and my nephew and my niece. I spent all my day taking care of them because they did not go to school, only my big nephew and the twice who go to school. Every morning I'm waking up to make breakfast for them, and every 3 pm I took them out for walking around the area, and every 8:30 we watched a cartoon before they go to bed. My brother and his wife are not living with us until he will obtain his surgery."



Meanwhile, Ben is doing well, and has found a house here in Manchester. I have his new address, but due to privacy issues, I am not including it. If you would like it, please contact me (lizalcauskas@gmail.com).

Join us on December 6 at 9am at the GSOP Interfaith Vigil and Jericho Walk at the Norris Cotton Federal Building at 275 Chestnut St. If you want to do more than just walking, reach out to Martin Toe, if you would like to help design or lead the program. The vigil will be followed by a meeting of the ISN (Immigration Solidarity Network), at House of Praise, 351 Chestnut Street. Please join us for one or both

of these events. RSVP not needed. Just show up!

Liz Alcauskas, Sanctuary/Asylum Committee,
Unitarian Universalist Church of Manchester

Here are some of the ways you can continue to support the Sanctuary/Asylum network:

We accept **Market Basket gift cards** and checks to help support Chris as his case slowly works through the courts. Gift cards must be bought in-store, but then can be mailed to UU Manchester c/o Asylum Committee at UU Manchester, 669 Union St. Manchester NH 03104. Or, the cards can be dropped off at church during our new church administrator's hours, M-F, 8am-12 noon. Her name is Amy. **Checks** can be sent to the above address. Designate Asylum in the memo line and if your donation is for general support, specific support for legal fees, or specifically for food. We are a 501(C)3 organization, so your donations are tax-deductible. If you have any questions, contact our church administrator, Amy (603-625-6854) or Liz Alcauskas (703-447-5701). **Credit card** donations can be made by going to uumanchester.org. 1. click on "Give" OR 2. Click on "Please Donate today" in the yellow ribbon on top of the page. In either case, the Planned Giving page will appear. 3. Scroll down to Donate and click on the DONATE button. 4. Be sure to find the "write a note" section and designate your donation is for the Asylum Fund. If you have any questions, call Liz at 703-447-7701. Thank you for your anticipated donation.

[Upcoming Franklin Events](#)

December 2, 2022: 2nd Annual Franklin Falls **Holiday Stroll**, presented by the City of Franklin and the Franklin Falls Business Group. The event features Santa's Workshop, Wagon Rides, the Holiday Craft Village, Festival of Trees, the Where's Frankie Contest, Carolers, and Holiday Parade with Santa Claus arriving on a fire truck. Followed by the annual Christmas tree lighting and much more. For more information

franklinfallsbusinessgroup@gmail.com

Franklin Opera House **Festival of Trees**

December 2, 3, & 4

<https://www.franklinoperahouse.org/>



WHERE'S FRANKIE?

Enter to win prizes donated by local businesses. Look for Frankie in local participating businesses. More details at each location! GREAT Prizes! The contest will run every day starting on December 2nd thru December 16th. Enter every day 12/02-12/16. Drawing will be held on December 16th.

franklinfallsbusinessgroup@gmail.com

Lights of Memory at the Episcopal Mission of Franklin, Sunday, December 4th at 4pm. For more info dzujina@metrocast.net



December 8th, 9th, 10th at 7:30pm

December 11th at 2:00pm

<https://www.franklinoperahouse.org/>

Link to Directory: It will bring you into the folder containing the directory. Double click on the filename Directory Update 2022.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19ctaNjZXqhb1afpmqfjN5vlx05mfsVSg?usp=sharing>

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Franklin
PO Box 562
206 Central St.
Franklin NH 03235
(603) 934-2141
uucfranklin-nh.org



Kathi Sheer ~ 3rd
Pam LaCroix ~ 17th



Pledges may be mailed to
UUCF PO Box 562
Franklin, NH 0323

UUCF Mission: We are a liberal religious congregation that provides a welcoming sanctuary to all. We support the spiritual growth of our members and the needs of the local community as we seek to make a better world.

Do you have news to share? Kindly email your submissions for UUCF's Spectacles to hope@metrocast.net by the 27th of each month.



We have a Facebook Page!

<https://www.facebook.com/UUCFranklinNH/> Like Us! Then invite all your friends to Like Us, too!



Support UUCF through AmazonSmile

Help make a difference

Shop for gifts using AmazonSmile to support us, at no cost
amazonsmile

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-0355278>

