



WELCOMING CARING SEEKING

ALL SOULS NEW LONDON

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

19 Jay Street, New London, CT 06320

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a liberal religious congregation that nurtures lifelong spiritual development. We covenant to create a welcoming, caring, justice-seeking community within and beyond these walls.

Words to live by: "Within you is the light of a thousand suns." Robert Adams

December Ministry Theme: Light

December 1: "A Light in the Dark"

One Service: 10 a.m. No Faith Formation Classes

Worship Leader: Ann Kadlecsek, Ministerial Intern

Liturgist: Kristen Helal

In this season of long dark nights, we do what our ancestors have done for millennia: light candles, gather together and feast, and retell the old stories of hope. But sometimes, hope is hard to find. How might we reclaim or strengthen our hope today? This morning, our ministerial intern Ann Kadlecsek invites you into some of her sources of hope in difficult times.

December 8: "We Are Lit from Within: The Power of Covenant"

Two Services: 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

Worship Leader: Reverend Carolyn Patierno

Unitarian Universalism is a covenantal faith, meaning our connection to each other and to the tradition we stand within reaches deep into our hearts and our heritage, too. How might we access that heritage in the congregational life we share and co-create?

Sign the Book Sunday! For those who have discerned that All Souls and Unitarian Universalism is your spiritual and religious home, you are invited to sign the membership book on this day. See page 7 for more details.

December 15: "Sacred Darkness: a reflection in word and song"

One Service: 10:00 a.m. Town Hall meeting to immediately follow the service. See page _ for details

Worship Leaders: Karen Ethier-Waring, Carol Thompson and Ann Kadlecsek, Ministerial Intern

Just ahead of Solstice & Christmas we pause in the beauty of the Advent season to dwell in quiet anticipation. Come and rest in the beauty of the season.

New London Food Pantry Offering: low sodium soups

December 22: Solstice Celebration-10th Anniversary! Book by Suzanne Wingrove-Haugland

One Service: 4:30 p.m. No Faith Formation Classes

Worship Leader: Suzanne Wingrove-Haugland

For 10 years, All Souls has reveled in the moving stories that are woven together to create this unique Solstice celebration. Lend your voice in singing old favorites in the sparkle of night.

December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Two Services: 4:30 & 7:00 p.m.

Worship Leader: Reverend Carolyn Patierno

The long arc of the year bends toward Christmas Eve. Come to celebrate the ancient story that so closely mirrors the challenges of the day.

Dedicated Offering: Ministers Discretionary Fund see page 11

December 29: "What Wondrous Love is This?"

One service: 10 a.m. No faith formation classes or COA

Worship Leader: Reverend Carolyn Patierno

Guest Preacher: Reverend Lane Campbell

Following the Christmas season, after all is said and done, as we stand on the cusp of a new year, let us return to love. At the heart of Universalism, at the heart of Unitarian Universalism is a deep commitment to love beyond belief, to a love so broad it holds us all. We will explore taking this intention into 2020.

Black Lives Matter

PUBLIC WITNESS ON SUNDAYS
AFTER THE FIRST SERVICE

OFFICE

Monday-Friday
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Telephone: 860-443-0316

WEBSITE

www.allsoulsnewlondon.org

FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/
allsoulsnewlondon](https://www.facebook.com/allsoulsnewlondon)

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

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RE DIRECTOR EMERITA

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

"To expect the unexpected shows a thoroughly modern intellect." – Oscar Wilde, *An Ideal Husband*

I have been involved in enough house renovations (five to date) to know that it is more often the rule and not the exception that things will not go as planned. My affinity toward old houses makes this even more true. I have found all manner of items in old walls, discovered severed floor joists leaving toilets suspended on their plumbing, redirected a stream running through the basement, and adjusted plans based on ledge, support columns, and rooflines.

It takes a certain stomach to tolerate the winding path and intermittent surprises that are inevitable in a building project, and to keep in mind the prize at the end. But once arrived at my finished project I have experienced such a sense of accomplishment!

The Souls on our building team have the stomach it takes. They have met diligently and consistently every week to digest new information, ask great questions, and determine a way forward. They are seemingly undaunted by the surprises and all the while they have kept in mind the prize at the end. And I am so grateful for them!

The focus on the building priorities that were laid out in the very beginning of this process has held true for the congregation as well. I was

struck at the last town hall meeting that fellow Souls seemed to take the latest cost estimate information in stride, staying focused on the promise of community room space and a functioning kitchen, and attending to what steps ought to be taken to get there.

All Souls is nothing short of resourceful and open to differing perspectives. We will need all of that resourcefulness and open hearts as we continue on this journey. Be sure to attend the December 15 town hall meeting. Our path is not quite yet clear. We know there will continue to be surprises and that we are up to the challenge.

Happy Christmas to all. See you at All Souls.

Laurel



All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Town Hall Meeting

Building Project Update

Sunday, December 15, 2019

Immediately following
the 10 a.m. service



A MESSAGE FROM REVEREND CAROLYN

"Away in a manger, no crib for his bed ..."

So the beloved Christmas carol begins. "Away in a Manger" highlights the story of a holy family driven from their homeland and forced to seek refuge in a barn as strangers in a strange land. The ancient story seems less than ancient as the world community now witnesses one of the largest human migrations in history.

All Souls has had a front row seat to the anguish that displacement brings. But we have claimed a role to play in the peace that may come in claiming a new home with the help of strangers who become friends.

In 2016 All Souls purchased the house at 25 Jay Street and soon thereafter, it became home for the Mahlo family, then refugees from Syria by way of a refugee camp in Turkey. After 2 ½ years, the Mahlos moved and are now doing well in their new home.

Soon thereafter, my friend Father Bob Washabaugh (St. Mary's RC Church in Norwich) contacted me. With a group of compassionate folks (who named themselves the "Emma Lazarus Society") he was supporting a Haitian asylum seeker who had serious health challenges. He wondered if the house on Jay Street was free. So it was that All Souls welcomed Jozelaine as our newest next door neighbor, along with a care giver living in the upstairs apartment.

Soon thereafter (there are plenty of "soon thereafter-s" in the immigration justice community) I was contacted by immigration justice activists asking if I would write a letter of support on behalf of All Souls to benefit an asylum seeker from Honduras. Fr. Bob was asked the same as was Reverend Steve Junkeit of First Congregational Church of Old Lyme (FCCOL). Letters were writ and Jose was released to the care of "welcoming, caring, justice-seeking" congregations – FCCOL & All Souls.

Some of you are aware of the arc of this story, but I wanted to put it all together for all of you with a bit of an update.

Led by All Souls' intern Ann Kadlecsek, 14 Souls committed to helping with Jose's transition from Honduras, from five months in a MA detention center, and finally, to CT. I first met Jose and a bevy of supporters from Central and South America with him, at a dinner at FCCOL, where Jose is staying until permanent, low-cost housing is procured. He is lovely, his story heart wrenching. (I encourage you to read Rev. Junkeit's sermon telling this story. The link is below.) Since that first meeting, the folks at FCCOL have jumped into action, as they do so beautifully. They got Jose enrolled in an English language class and he's been sup-

ported in many other ways by the congregation.

We welcomed Jose to All Souls last week so that once he makes his move to New London he will know that there is a community that stands ready to support him. In that letter of support I wrote to the judge, I said the following:

We stand ready to help with transportation, navigating the necessary appointments, medical needs, finances, and companionship.

As well, there is a strong community of immigrants in this area and quite a few of them hail from Honduras. We will facilitate this young man's connection with this compassionate community.

As you consider [Jose's] future, know that it will include the strong support of All Souls.

Honestly, Dear Souls, what these strangers in a strange land need most from us is compassionate companionship. They have experienced trauma on multiple levels and the reassurance of good people goes a long way toward claiming this strange land as "home." Bonus if you speak even some Spanish or Creole – but if you do not, do not let that hold you back.

In this Christmas season, let's hold close the old beloved carols and equally important, let's remedy the injustice at the root of the ancient story now playing out in modernity. The country music artist, George Strait amends the old lyric and sings: "Let there be not one stranger / To away in a manger ..." I hope you will join me with an "Amen."

If you are able to support Jose and Jozelaine (and yet another asylum seeker who we are supporting) please be in touch with Ann at: intern@allsouls.net or 203.606.4180

In this holiday season when our country and indeed the world is fraught with violence, injustice, and sorrow, may beauty, truth, and love rest upon your hearts. May you take solace in the company of the many Souls who make their way to All Souls every Sunday determined to keep hope kindled. You are joyfully called into beloved community.

Wishing you peace (and some holiday fun & sparkle!) with much Love, Carolyn

Listen or read Reverend Dr. Steve Junkeit's sermon here: <https://fccol.org/2019/11/11/november-10th-service/>





Faith Formation Perry's Ponderings



In November, I attended the Liberal Religious Educators Association fall conference: *Theologies of Suffering and Wholeness*. Theme speakers Dr. Elias Ortega, Rev. Sofia Betancourt, and Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt led us in considering oppression, suffering, and healing in a Unitarian Universalist context. In times of suffering, it is our innate dignity that becomes the building block back to wholeness. We support the journey to wholeness by reminding each other of our unique core self and its beauty.



That same weekend in November, the Coming of Age (COA) class traveled to Boston for their UU Heritage Tour. They visited the Unitarian Universalist Association headquarters, toured historic Arlington Street Church where they also attended Sunday worship, walked the Freedom Trail, viewed historic UU sites, and attended the Blue Man Group show. They were deeply affected by portraits at the UUA of Rev. James Reeb and Viola Liuzzo who sacrificed their lives in the civil rights movement, and also by the Holocaust Memorial, pondering how complicity was possible in such atrocities. It caused them to pause and consider the reality of the sacrifice when they say they would give their own lives in the name of justice.

The youth appreciated their learning experiences, but named the "vibes" of being together as the best part. The trip offered a chance to further bond as a group, along with three youth from the Madison congregation. Sharing meaningful experiences connects us at a soulful level.

The families that attended Family Faith Friday, for dinner, conversation about life stresses, and making comfort food for themselves and the Care Team, found this same warmth of connection. There was a separate conversation circle for the children who named their stressors and how they cope. The stress and bad feelings we carry become lighter when they are held in a circle of friends.

During these difficult political times, we joined with our Jewish neighbors for a Saturday night concert and a Sunday service at Temple Emanu-El that was upbeat, joyous, and heartwarming. The choir and Israeli guest musicians created music to move the body and soul, while the rabbi and our minister captured in words the meaning of beloved community.

Our younger children joined a religious education class at the temple that focused on visiting and caring for the sick. We will be doing that in December with our holiday outreach project, when families will deliver gifts to homebound Souls. Please contact me to sign up to make a delivery. With a simple visit, you can bring All Souls holiday cheer to those who cannot be present. Your presence brings the feeling of All Souls to them and blesses your family in return.



Thank You

Coming of Age mentors for accompanying the youth through this rite of passage. Thanks to: Maria Bareiss, Susanne Colten-Carey, Eileen Ego, Peggy Flood, Jim Mello, Shami Salter, Patrick Sheehan-Gaumer and Jonathan Towne. Special thanks to Maria Bareiss who chaperoned the Heritage Tour.

Emmy Franklin and Erin Tudisco for substitute teaching in our 1st-3rd grade class on Nov. 10.

Lillith Davies-Smith for helping out in childcare for the Town Hall meeting on Nov. 10.

Ginny Campbell for helping to plan and host Family Faith Formation Friday on Nov. 15.

The Big Umbrella story participants on Nov. 17: Clarissa Mock, Noah Tudisco, Patrick Elliott, Jonathan Harger, Erin Tudisco, and Brad Mock.



Faith Formation Happenings



Faith Formation Calendar:

December 1: 10 a.m. service: No Faith Formation Classes or Youth Group. Nursery for children under five. Coming of Age will meet 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

December 8: 9:30 a.m. service; Faith Formation Classes, 9:30 a.m.; Youth Group, 11:15 a.m.; Coming of Age, 12:30-2 p.m.

December 15: 10 a.m. service; Faith Formation Classes & Youth Group, 10 a.m.; Town Hall Meeting follows service (childcare provided for infants-6th grade). Coming of Age, 11:30-1 p.m.

December 22: 4:30 p.m.: Solstice Service. No Faith Formation classes. Nursery for children under five. Youth Group holiday party will follow service (including a Yankee Swap!)

December 24: 4:30 & 7:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Service. Nursery for children under five at the 4:30 p.m. service *only*

December 29: 10 a.m. service: No faith formation classes, Youth Group or Coming of Age. Nursery for children under five.

Questions? Perry at dirdfaithformation@allsouls.net or 860-514-2434



UUA Common Read Book Discussion

Justice on Earth:

People of Faith Working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the Environment

This anthology presents a powerful and penetrating look at environmental justice from some of the key thinkers and activists in Unitarian Universalism today, revealing ways that capitalism, white supremacy, patriarchy, and other systems of oppression intersect with and contribute to ecological devastation. They also explore how spiritual practices, congregational organizing, and progressive theology can inform faith-based justice work in the twenty-first century.

Buy your discounted copy during coffee hour in December and January.

Discussion Groups:

Sunday, February 2, 12:30-2 p.m.

Thursday, February 6, 6:30-8 p.m.



Questions? Perry at dirdfaithformation@allsouls.net or 860-514-2434



Caring Team

For our Caring Team volunteers and Pastoral Visitors, it has been an engaging fall season of offering hospitality and support to All Souls congregants. We see this ministry as one of presence. A visit may involve a ride somewhere, a home cooked meal, or a caring conversation, but we believe it's the simple presence that matters most. If you or someone you know might benefit from a connection with us, please be in touch with Rev. Caitlin.

Photos from November's "Family Faith Friday:"



Faith Formation families gathered on November 15 to enjoy dinner and Sharing Circles on the topic of seeking balance in an overscheduled culture. In the spirit of "taking care of ourselves and taking care of others," the adults took a cooking class and created a meal for their fridge at home, as well as a meal for the Caring Team. Special thanks to Ginny Campbell, Barbara Montrose and Erika Harger for helping to make the event go smoothly!

Questions? Reverend Caitlin O'Brien at associate.minister@allsouls.net or 617-596-1853

Couples Enrichment workshop February 1, 2020

9 a.m. -5 p.m. (childcare provided)

\$50 per couple fee includes materials, snacks and lunch

We are excited to host a couples enrichment workshop at All Souls on Saturday February 1, 2020! The Co-facilitators, Debbie and John Humphries, share a bit about their approach below:

The workshop emphasizes creating a safe and supportive community, learning concepts and skills, and giving couples the time and space to focus on each other. Some sharing is expected, but no one has to share on any particular topic. Much of the couples' work is done in private. The program is not confrontational and the ground rules are designed to assure safety and comfort for all participants.

Couple Enrichment workshops are open to all couples in a committed relationship, regardless of sexual orientation, marital status, or religious affiliation. Virtually any couple that gives a good faith effort to a Couple Enrichment program can benefit.

Advance registration is required: bit.ly/FCE-NewLondon2020 See flyer on page :

Questions? Reverend Caitlin O'Brien at associate.minister@allsouls.net or 617-596-1853

Membership News



Sign-the-Book-Sunday, December 8 and January 12

On Sunday, December 8 and January 12 between services there will be an opportunity to become a member of All Souls by signing our historic membership book in the presence of Rev. Carolyn and the membership team.

We are reaching out to congregants for whom this would be a good opportunity! Is this you?

- Your search for a religious community has led you to All Souls and,
- You've been attending services at All Souls for a while now and you consider it your religious home and/or,
- Your children have been attending Faith Formation classes and they consider All Souls to be their religious home or,
- You have been a member of a Unitarian Universalist congregation elsewhere and have recently moved to the area or,
- You have intended on becoming a member but attending at our day-long workshop in the spring doesn't work in your schedule and/or,
- You attended the workshop previously and are now ready to become a member and/or,
- You are ready to deepen your commitment to this congregation and faith tradition.

Here's what you need to do. Show up on Sunday, December 8 or January 12 after the first service and you will be joyfully welcomed into membership as you sign the membership book in the presence of Rev. Carolyn and the membership team. You will also be given a folder of membership orientation materials.

For those who are newer and want a more in-depth experience, we will be offering our Considering Membership Workshop on Saturday, April 4. More about that in future newsletters.

Questions? Contact Lynn Tavormina, Membership Chair bltavo@atlanticbb.net or 860-389-3859



Support All Souls While You Shop

Did you know that you can support All Souls when you shop at Amazon?
It's very easy and doesn't cost YOU anything.

Here's how:

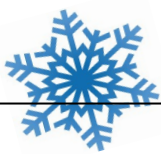
1. Instead of the regular amazon home page, go to smile.amazon.com
2. Sign into your existing account or create an account
3. From the dropdown menu at the top select All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation this allows you to select support All Souls!
4. Once you set this up, always access Amazon through the link above.

That's it! Amazon donates a percentage of your purchases to All Souls.

It adds up and it helps.

Thank you!





Treasurers Report

Operating Account

For the period July-October, income of \$190,967 exceeded expenses of \$164,743, giving a net income for the period of \$26,224, which is encouraging. What is discouraging, however, is that the month of October ended with a net income of (\$19,884), due largely to lower-than-budgeted pledge income. However, you raised the bar with the first of three planned mission offerings, generating nearly one-third more than expected with \$8,435!

Thank you for keeping up your financial commitment schedule. The annual budget supports our ministers, staff, teams and committees, pays utilities and keeps our ministries and programs going.

Capital Campaign

If you are enthusiastic about moving forward with All Souls' building plan, please consider an additional financial commitment to help reduce our borrowing. More information will be shared at the December 15 town hall meeting.

We are in interesting times! With our financial review, building plans, and financial reports in hand Tom Lescoe and I are investigating what is available in the way of mortgage and construction loans.

One or two more 7-month CDs will be purchased at a 2.00 % interest rate. Your continued attention to your capital campaign contributions is deeply appreciated. Thank you.

Jay Street Ministries, LLC

New tenants are settled in their apartments. After October income of \$1,800 (rent and deposit) and expenses of \$1,536, the net income is \$264. Many thanks to the facilities team who continue to work hard to make 25 Jay accessible and comfortable.

Why am I reporting financial information for July-October? We do not have financial data reconciled until early in the following month due to bank statement reconciliations. For instance, the newsletter deadline for December is too early to include data for this month.

Please read the *My Two Cent\$* column to learn about how you can give gifts of securities.

Questions? Tina DuBosque, Treasurer at treasurer@allsouls.net or 860-705-3151



Board of Trustees Notes

The Board of Trustees met on Thursday, November 21, 2019. Highlights of the meeting include:

- A report from Reverend Patierno about the progress on our Building project. There will be a town hall meeting Sunday December 15 to explain the various options available to the congregation for the building project.
- A report from Rev. Patierno about 25 Jay Street. Our new tenants moved in and a new caregiver will be moving in.
- The winter board retreat will be January 11.

For complete minutes go to www.allsoulsnewlondon.org. Click on "About Us", then "Board of Trustees and Governance".

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be Thursday, November 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the Vail Library. All meetings of the Board of Trustees are open to the congregation as observers, except in those cases when it goes into executive session.

David Burnside, Secretary

Questions? David Burnside, secretary at davidburnside1962@gmail.com or 860-984-9041



Tina's Two Cent\$ for November 2019

Making Gifts of Marketable Securities to All Souls UU Congregation

Do you own stocks or other marketable securities? Consider making a sizeable **impact on our operating account and/or the capital campaign** by gifting stocks.

You might also benefit tax-wise by gifting directly to All Souls from your investment portfolio via stock transfers. Transferred stocks are sold immediately. Funds are put to work per your direction. All Souls does not hold on to stocks or other securities.

The value of your gift is based on what the stock, or other security, sold for on the exchange on the day of your donation (the average price between the highest and lowest quoted selling prices on the donation day is used).

The Process

It's extremely easy to give stocks and other securities that are sold to the public on stock exchanges or over-the-counter markets.

Contact your investment agent to start the process.

As soon as you and/or your agent have initiated an exchange, please tell us immediately.

Alert All Souls Stock Agent Maureen Gallagher at editormmg@gmail.com and Ria Brooks, All Souls Bookkeeper, at bookkeeper@allsouls.net. Once transferred, we will confirm and sell the funds.

Here is the information that you need in order to transfer stock/bonds/mutual funds:

The transfer should go into Schwab Account 1084-7275 with DTC#0164;

The Schwab account is named All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation;

Please let us know clearly that this gift is towards your Annual Pledge, Capital Campaign, some other account, or a combination.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation is a tax-exempt organization under IRS code section 501(c)(3). In addition, the congregation qualifies for the charitable contribution deduction under section 170(b)(1)(A), and has been classified as an organization that is not a private foundation under section 509(a)(1).

If you have further questions about gifts of stock, please contact your financial wizard.

If you have further questions about the transfer process, please contact Maureen Gallagher at editormmg@gmail.com or 860-271-3558.

The information in this article is not intended as financial advice, but a discussion of ways of gifting money to All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

Questions? Tina DuBosque, Treasurer at treasurer@allsouls.net or 860-705-3151



WE ARE BUILDING A NEW WAY

All Souls UU Congregation – New London, CT



Building Team

The building team greatly values the thoughtful input from the congregation at the last town hall meeting in relation to our “Plan C” design strategy. Plan C retains the core elements of the original design the community room, kitchen, and classroom space while integrating the narthex and new entrance with the community room. Our takeaway was that this design overall still enjoys a high level of support.

As we shared, however, we are still significantly above our budget and currently reviewing additional cost saving strategies. Concurrently, we are consulting with financial leadership as they consider the possibility of expanding our capital campaign, as well as options for bank financing that benefits from the current low interest rate environment.

With this information we aim to reaffirm our maximum total project budget and provide a fixed target for finalizing our design. We look forward to reporting back to the congregation at the town hall meeting on December 15.

Questions? Neal Overstrom, Chair at bc@allsouls.net, or 860-639-8535

Stewardship

As another year is drawing to a close, I can't help but reflect on what an amazing year it has been here at All Souls and particularly here on the stewardship committee perch. Last year began as a dream for building's transformation, a dream of alchemy transforming our gold into love. We set about the task of raising over a million dollars with a capital campaign. It still amazes me, the number of people that came together for this task- the artists, the technologists, the handy, the brainy, the culinary wizards, the eloquent, the organized, the disorganized, the hosts of visiting stewards. People jumping in and out of their comfort zones, learning, growing, transforming, eating cake. It was a privilege to get to know so many of you, to talk about church and life and dreams and, of course, money! And we did it! We raised 1.1 million dollars and counting! Of course we are still working, worrying, hoping, and worshipping together. The building team and finance committee are working hard on making our means and our dreams align.

The stewardship committee is already looking towards spring and our annual financial commitments. As All Souls moves forward on the building project, the stewardship committee is focused on the funding for next year's annual budget. Your annual financial commitments are crucial in keeping our amazing staff and ministers and keeping the doors open, whether here or at temporary digs. As building plans continue to change and the draft budget for next year continues to adapt, we do not have a firm idea of next year's operating budget. The congregation has been so generous in increasing your annual financial commitments leading up to the capital campaign, that we do not want to strain ourselves overmuch. That said, we hope we can maintain our commitments from last year and grow them as we are able. The challenges and opportunities for our congregation are real and I am confident we will meet them with wisdom and tenacity.

Here are some dates to mark on your new 2020 calendars:

Sunday, February 9, 2020: Annual Campaign Kickoff Sunday!

Sunday, March 22, 2020: Celebration Sunday! celebrating the conclusion of the annual campaign

Questions? Danny Spurr at bandanmansu@yahoo.com or 860-444-7445



Green Sanctuary

Come join us on December 10 at 7p.m. as we move forward in the reaccreditation process, and reserve the second Tuesday of each month from 7 to 8 p.m. to be a part of our recommitment as a congregation to Green Sanctuary.

We need to apply green sanctuary themes to our new building expansion and become a continuing green sanctuary congregation. The specialty tasks are worship and celebration, religious education, environmental justice, sustainable living, and solar grants.

Questions or solar panel production numbers? Jonathan S. Harger at hejeharger@atlanticbb.net or 860-739-4224.

Attention All Souls

Do you have a good idea for fundraising events? Ways to connect to the larger community while also working to support All Souls' mission?

If you want to be part of the brainstorming mission to explore what we might do please contact Laurel Holmes at laurelghr@yahoo.com or 860-287-7756 or Maggie Clouet at maggielouet@yahoo.com or 203-215-6227.

Dedicated Offering

This month offering is for the Minister's Discretionary Fund, (MDF). This fund supports Souls within and beyond the congregation in time of need. As well, the MDF supports organizations that share our values.

October's Mission Offering raised - \$8,435.00

Thank you for your contributions!



Follow us on
Instagram!

@allsoulsnewlondon

Opportunity for Service: Community Meal

We continue our ministry to feed our neighbors at the New London Community Meal Center on Montauk Avenue in New London. Serving two meals in December.

Your help is needed!

Please consider signing up to work one of the following regular shifts:

Wednesday, December 11

Serve food from 4 to 6 p.m.

Saturday, December 21

Prepare the food from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Serve and clean up from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Questions? Carol Irwin at 860-822-3391 and leave a message or send an email to meals@allsouls.net to be put the list to receive the Doodle invitation. Or just show up and help! Youth 14 and older are welcome.

Caroling Party!



Friday, December 13 at 6 p.m.

Join us as we enjoy our annual Christmas caroling event for our downtown neighbors! We will meet in Unity Hall at 6 p.m., to pick up lyrics and lights and then spend an hour caroling. If we are really good, Santa sometimes lets us carol from the roof of the Mohegan Hotel! Afterwards we will return to Unity Hall to share our own cheer, hot cider, cocoa, and whatever finger food goodies we carolers (you!) bring to the celebration!

Transportation will be provided for mobile challenged carolers.

All are welcome! Bring your kids! Bring your friends!

Question? Platt Arnold:
platt_arnold@yahoo.com or
860-691-1125



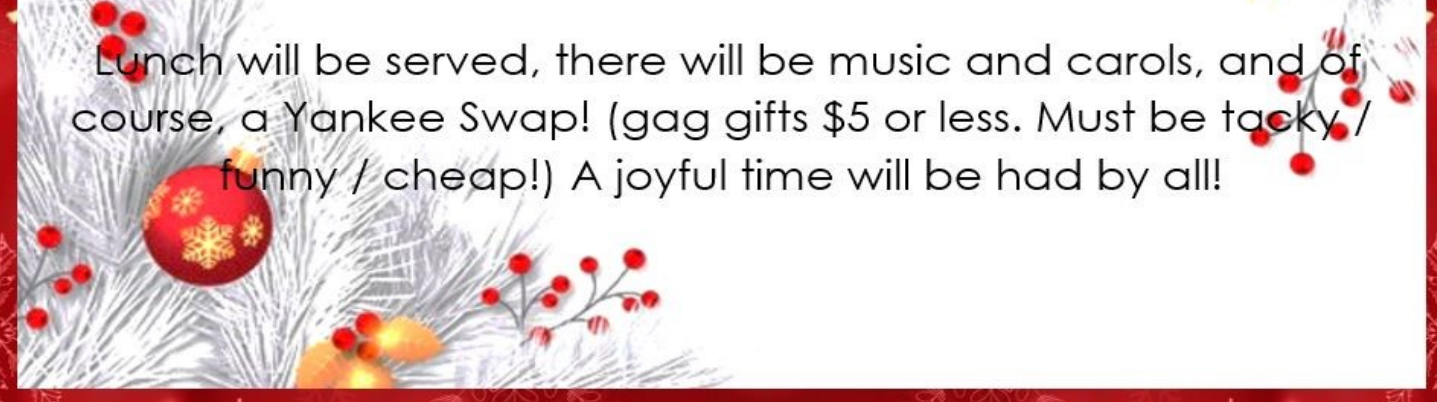


Elderjourney Holiday Party

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Tuesday, December 3 at 12:00 p.m.

Lunch will be served, there will be music and carols, and of course, a Yankee Swap! (gag gifts \$5 or less. Must be tacky / funny / cheap!) A joyful time will be had by all!



GOOD WORKS-Holiday Adopt-a-Family

We will purchase requested items and gift cards for three families this year. The Christmas tree posters (with the tags) are posted in the hallway .

Select a tag that contains the name, family number, and item an individual is requesting. Purchase the item, wrap and label it with the recipient's name including their family number and return to All Souls no later than Sunday, December 8.

Important!! With three families it is especially helpful to include the family number on your wrapped gift. We have been asked by the organizer to do this since it aids proper distribution of the gifts when they are separated by family to prepare for delivery.

Questions and drop off arrangements, Pat Murphy at 860-464-0160.





Join us for one of All Souls' most popular intergenerational events for nearly 40 years!



All Souls Holiday Craft Fair



For adults and children

Saturday, December 7

10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in Unity Hall

Join us for this most popular event.

Bring relatives, friends and neighbors.

☆☆☆☆They will all thank you! ☆☆☆☆

☆☆This is a different kind of craft fair!☆☆

Have a fun & relaxing holiday experience.

☆☆☆☆Come for an hour, for the day or ☆☆☆☆

★★★ just at noon for a delicious homemade lunch.★★★

For a minimal price, supplies will be available for you to make:

A CANDY HOUSE ☆ A GIFT ☆ ORNAMENTS

A TOY ☆ DECORATIONS

A WREATH ☆ & MORE

★★★★

☆☆☆☆☆☆

Helpers are needed

Little or no experience is necessary!

Volunteer Elves are needed to help with the following:

Friday morning, December 6 at 9 a.m.

- Set up Unity Hall

Saturday, December 7:

- Sell tickets at the door
- Staff a craft table and organize supplies
- Staff the Kitchen: make sandwiches and organize lunch foods
- Bake desserts (finger foods are best)
- Donate evergreen / holly branches from your yard for wreath making

Sign up with Sandy at the display in the hall table on Sunday mornings.

Questions! Sandy Geaman at geaman@hotmail.com or 860 739-6798



Holidays in a Nutshell



Elderjourney Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 3 at 12:00 p.m.

The social event of the season! You who are 65 years and beyond, come to celebrate!
Lunch is served, carols sung, and a Yankee Swap enjoyed!



Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, December 7 at 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join us for one of All Souls' most popular intergenerational events for nearly 40 years!
This is a different kind of craft fair!

Caroling Party

Saturday, December 13, 6 p.m..

Bundle up and join the festive All Souls Carolers. We will gather briefly at Unity Hall at 6 p.m. to pick up music and then head out into the neighborhood, make the rounds spreading good cheer for about an hour, and return to warm up in Unity Hall with hot chocolate, cider and such goodies as your choir members and you are moved to contribute. Join the fun!



Solstice Service 10th Year Anniversary

Sunday, December 22 at 4:30 p.m.

Winter solstice is a celebration of ancient wisdom. Suzanne Wingrove-Haugland's Solstice Cycle Ritual accompanies the songs that have become All Souls favorites. We journey together through the darkness and emerge renewed into the light. Come and celebrate!



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The lights dim and we gather to celebrate the ancient story's beauty and resonance.
Hope born again!



Sunday, December 29

Following the Christmas season, after all is said and done, as we stand on the cusp of a new year, let us return to love. At the heart of Universalism, at the heart of Unitarian Universalism is a deep commitment to love beyond belief, to a love so broad it holds us all. We will explore taking this intention into 2020.

HOLIDAY POINSETTIAS



Order a poinsettia for display in the sanctuary and then take it home with you after the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service as a gift on Christmas Day or to enjoy for the rest of the holiday season.

Plants are \$10.00 each. Choose from red, pink, or white.

You may order as many plants as you wish. Clip or print the order form below and mail it with your check to: **All Souls UU Congregation**
19 Jay Street, New London, CT 06320

OR place your order with the payment in a sealed envelope and put it in the offering basket. Please write "Poinsettia" on the memo line.

Only those plants that are ordered and paid for by December 18 will be delivered in time for holiday services.

✂✂=====

Please make check out to: "All Souls UU Congregation" and write "Poinsettia" on the memo line.

NAME: _____

TEL: _____

If you wish the flower(s) to be placed in memory or honor of a special person please note the name(s) below:

NAME: _____

RED how many?____ PINK how many?____ WHITE how many?____

Total plants _____ **@\$10 each** | Amount enclosed \$_____

Only those plants that are ordered and paid for by December 18 will be delivered in time for the holiday services.

Download and print form [here](#)



GET CONNECTED!

Elderjourney *The annual Elderjourney Christmas party is Tuesday, Dec. 3 at noon*

Questions? Tammy Barber, Office Administrator at office@allsouls.net or 860-443-0316



Book Club *Monday, December 16 at 1 p.m.*

This month the book club will discuss, *I am, I am, I am*, short stories by Maggie O'Farrell
All congregants are welcome .

Questions? Mary Rioux at maryrioux@icloud.com or 860-271-1037 or Pat Abraham at plat915x@gmail.com or 860-434-5758

Meditation The meditation group meets twice a week every *Tuesday's at 7:15 a.m. at All Souls and every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at Harkness Chapel on the CT College Campus.*

Everyone is most welcome! Basic guidelines are offered to all newcomers and guided meditation is offered during some of the sessions. No experience necessary

Each session includes 30 minutes of silent sitting meditation, 10 minutes of walking meditation, and 15 minutes of dharma sharing, in which folks, if they choose, may share their meditation experiences.

Attendance is free but donations are gratefully accepted.

The Tuesday morning group, The New London Community of Mindfulness Meditation Group in the Thich Nhat Hanh's Plum Village Tradition, meets every Tuesday from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m.

This group is suitable for those both with and without experience in meditation. We practice sitting meditation, walking meditation, reading from Thich Nhat Hanh, and Dharma sharing.

Questions? Nick Evento at nickevento@gmail.com or 860-908-5906

The Wednesday evening group now meets at Harkness Chapel on the campus of Connecticut College, which is just inside the college west entrance, across from the Arboretum on Old Norwich Road. Parking is available along the entrance of the Arboretum.

Visit us on Facebook: New London Community of Mindfulness

Questions? Pamala Lewis at pamalalewis@comcast.net or Jean Jerbert at j.jerbert@yahoo.com or Sean Kane at sean.kane@conncoll.edu or (860) 442-6152

Craft Circle *Every Wednesday 7 p.m.*

Craft Circle meets every Wednesday, 7- 8:30 p.m. Do you knit, crochet, quilt, cross stitch, scrap-book, _____? (fill in the blank.) Bring your current projects to work on as we have a social gathering. We may have someone with the know-how if you are seeking a new craft or have questions for a current project.

[Please refrain from wearing scent. Some of us are highly sensitive/allergic.]

Questions? Carol Bunting at 860-460-3373 or cbeema@sbcglobal.net





Friday Night Folk

Bringing Folk Music to New London since 1989



Friday Night Folk is BACK at All Souls but still on Saturday!

Presents: The Vox Hunters

Saturday, December 14

Doors open at 7p.m., show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Award-winning songwriters **The Vox Hunters** will perform on **Saturday, December 14**. The music starts at 7:30.

*Wonderful singers and inveterate song and tune collectors...
the Vox Hunters – Dan Neeley, the Irish Echo*

The Vox Hunters, "voice hunters", are Armand Aromin and Benedict Gagliardi. They bring new life to old songs with tight harmonies. They write songs set in their beloved Rhode Island. Their motto of "play local and play often" has the ethos of folk clubs of the '50s and '60s, while their tight harmonies and varied repertoire promise to surprise and delight you. <https://www.thevoxhunters.com/> <https://www.thevoxhunters.com/music>

Armand plays fiddle & English concertina. Ben plays an Anglo concertina, Hohner melodeon & tremelo harmonica.



Tickets are \$17/advance, \$20/at the door, and \$10/students and active military with ID. They may be reserved by calling All Souls 860-443-0316, and on EventBrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-vox-hunters-bring-song-and-dance-to-friday-night-folk-on-saturday-tickets-78889630007>

The next concert in the Friday Night Folk 2010-2020 series will be Geoff Kaufman and Judy Gorman a *double bill* on January 11, 2020. For a complete listing of the 2019-2020 season, visit www.fridaynightfolk.org.

To be added to our guest list, please email fnfolk@gmail.com or call 860-443-0316.

The mission of Friday Night Folk at All Souls is to joyfully support social and environmental justice by bringing live traditional, contemporary and multicultural folk music to the larger community in a welcoming and accessible performance space.



**Faith Friday, Jan 10
5:30-7:30 pm**



Pizza Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Gluten-free pizza available upon request
(There will be a freewill offering to help with food costs)

Chalice Lighting, Song & Story 6:10 p.m.

Faith Formation Program 6:30 p.m.

“Articulating Your UU Faith”

Adult / Youth Program: facilitated by Ann Kadlecsek, Intern Minister
Children’s Program: led by Perry Montrose, Dir. of Faith Formation

RSVP to faithformation@allsouls.net



CONNECTING FROM THE HEART

A Couples Enrichment Workshop

Saturday, Feb 1, 2020

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Congregation

New London, CT

A Couple Enrichment workshop is an opportunity for a couple to focus on their relationship, enhance communication skills, and deepen their appreciation of each other. Couple Enrichment workshops help couples to celebrate their relationship's joys and strengths, and to develop skills to deepen and improve their relationship. A Couple Enrichment program is not therapy; it is a way to make good relationships even better.

The workshop emphasizes creating a safe and supportive community, learning concepts and skills, and giving couples the time and space to focus on each other. Some sharing is expected, but no one has to share on any particular topic. Much of the couples' work is done in private. The program is not confrontational, and the ground rules are designed to assure safety and comfort for all participants.

Couple Enrichment workshops are open to all couples in a committed relationship, regardless of sexual orientation, marital status, or religious affiliation. Virtually any couple that gives a good faith effort to a Couple Enrichment program can benefit.

Registration Deadline: Friday, January 24

Cost: \$50/couple (covers registration, materials and food)

♥ **Scholarships available.** ♥ **Free childcare.**

Online Registration: bit.ly/FCE-NewLondon2020 or =>

Questions? jhumphries@igc.org



The program is not confrontational, and the ground rules are designed to assure safety and comfort for all participants.

Couple Enrichment workshops are open to all couples in a committed relationship, regardless of sexual orientation, marital status, or religious affiliation. Virtually any couple that gives a good faith effort to a Couple Enrichment program can benefit.



Facilitators **Debbie & John Humphries** are members of Hartford Friends Meeting (Quakers). Debbie and John were married in 1990 and began attending Quaker meeting shortly after. They moved to Connecticut in 1998. They received training as a leader couple for Friends Couple Enrichment in 2015 and have been leading workshops since 2016. Debbie is part-time faculty in nutrition and public health; John leads a nonprofit organization working on climate change. They have two grown children, both living in Massachusetts.

Learn more about Friends Couple Enrichment: www.FriendsCoupleEnrichment.org

ALL SOULS TAG SALE 2020!!!

We're holding the tag sale before we move!!!

Coming to Unity Hall, Rain or Shine, on Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Carefully read our exceptions as we don't anticipate putting any items outdoors.



Get an early start on Spring cleaning!!

Thin out those closets, peruse your attic and basement.

Your stuff is needed in GOOD & CLEAN condition for our annual fund-raiser.

ALL items will be gratefully received during the week before the sale.

Please remember clothing and shoes must be in gently worn condition.

EXCEPTIONS:

analog TVs, computers, VHS tapes, large appliances, mattresses, stuffed animals and
outside gear, plants, gardening supplies, sports equipment

Clothing exceptions: lingerie / pajamas, underwear, socks, any pieces that are torn or stained

We need:

HELPERS for our short but intense tag sale week.

FOLDING TABLES, TRUCKS/VANS for clean up.

CLEAN-UP CREW at 2 p.m.



Watch for the Signup Table in February!!

Questions? Tracey Dubee at traceydubee@yahoo.com or 860-917-9131

Sher Lofgren at sheryllynnlofgren@gmail.com or 203-848-7865

Carol Bunting at cbeema@sbcglobal.net or 860-460-3373

Early Registration Open!

**UUA General Assembly
In Providence, Rhode Island
On June 24-28, 2020**



Adult full-time registration is \$400 through March 15.

NEW! Registration Payment Plan: With a \$50 down-payment, the cost of registration can be paid over the course of several months. Final payment must be received by February 29, 2020. When your final registration is complete, special consideration for dormitory lodging bundles will become available:

- Financial aid at <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid>
- Volunteer opportunities <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration/financialaid/volunteer>
- Register Now! at <https://www.uua.org/ga/registration>

(Other rate options are listed on the site)

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Attendees worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend.

NOW AVAILABLE for Information:

GA 2020 Housing Options <https://www.uua.org/ga/travel/general-assembly-hotels>, including descriptions and rates for all eight GA hotels, two GA dormitory options, and local home hospitality.

The GA Housing Reservation System will open on Monday, March 2, at 9 a.m. EST.

For more information go to: <https://www.uua.org/ga>

If you are an All Souls member interested in serving as Congregational Delegate to UU/GA 2020 please contact Bob Bunting, Chair of Denominational Affairs.

Questions? Bob Bunting at denominational-affairs@allsouls.net or 860-8892110









December 2019

Updates at: www.allsoulsnewlondon.org



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<u>12/1/2019</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> *Worship <u>11:30 AM</u> *COA	<u>12/2/2019</u> <u>5:00 PM</u> *Nominating and Leadership <u>7:00 PM</u> *Big Book Study	<u>12/3/2019</u> <u>7:15 AM</u> *Meditation <u>12:00 PM</u> *Elderjourney Christmas Party <u>5:00 PM</u> *Ministerial Internship Com. <u>6:00 PM</u> NAMI <u>7:00 PM</u> *NL LGBTQ AA	<u>12/4/2019</u> <u>6:30 PM</u> *Choir Practice <u>7:00 PM</u> *Craft Circle	<u>12/5/2019</u> <u>8:00 AM</u> *Building Team	<u>12/6/2019</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> *Set up for fair <u>7:00 PM</u> *Alanon	<u>12/7/2019</u> <u>9 AM</u> *Holiday Craft Fair
<u>12/8/2019</u> <u>9:30 AM</u> *Worship Faith Formation classes <u>11:15 AM</u> *Worship Youth Group <u>12:30 PM</u> *COA	<u>12/9/2019</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> *Facilities *Big Book Study	<u>12/10/2019</u> <u>7:15 AM</u> *Meditation <u>5:30 PM</u> *Executive Committee <u>6:00 PM</u> NAMI <u>7:00 PM</u> *NL LGBTQ AA *Green Sanctuary	<u>12/11/2019</u> <u>4:00 PM</u> *Finance Meeting *Community Meal <i>New London Meal Center</i> <u>5:30 PM</u> *Stewardship Committee <i>Vail Library</i> <u>6:30 PM</u> *Choir Practice <u>7:00 PM</u> *Craft Circle	<u>12/12/2019</u> <u>8:00 AM</u> *Building Team	<u>12/13/2019</u> <u>5:00 PM</u> *Annual All Souls Caroling Party <u>7:00 PM</u> *Alanon	<u>12/14/2019</u> <u>7:30 PM</u> *Friday Night Folk
<u>12/15/2019</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> *Worship <u>11:00 AM</u> *Town Hall Meeting <u>11:30 AM</u> *COA	<u>12/16/2019</u> <u>1:00 PM</u> *Book Club <u>5:30 PM</u> *Safe Futures Holiday Party <u>7:00 PM</u> *Big Book Study	<u>12/17/2019</u> <u>7:15 AM</u> *Meditation <u>6:00 PM</u> NAMI <u>7:00 PM</u> *NL LGBTQ AA	<u>12/18/2019</u> <u>4:00 PM</u> *Caring Team Meeting <u>6:30 PM</u> *Choir Practice <u>7:00 PM</u> *Craft Circle	<u>12/19/2019</u> <u>8:00 AM</u> *Building Team <u>5:30 PM</u> *Board Meeting	<u>12/20/2019</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> *Alanon	<u>12/21/2019</u> <u>9:00 AM</u> *Facilities Work Party
<u>12/22/2019</u> <u>4:30 PM</u> *Worship <i>Solstice Celebration 10th anniversary</i> Youth Group Holiday Party following service	<u>12/23/2019</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> *Big Book Study	<u>12/24/2019</u> <u>7:15 AM</u> *Meditation <u>4:30 PM</u> *Worship Xmas Eve <u>7:00 PM</u> *NL LGBTQ AA *Worship Xmas Eve	<u>12/25/2019</u> Office Closed Merry Christmas! 	<u>12/26/2019</u> Office Closed 	<u>12/27/2019</u> <u>7:00 PM</u> *Alanon	<u>12/28/2019</u>
<u>12/29/2019</u> <u>10:00 AM</u> *Worship <i>Unity Hall</i>	<u>12/30/2019</u> 	<u>12/31/2019</u> <u>7:15 AM</u> *Meditation <u>6:00 PM</u> *NAMI	<u>1/1/2020</u> Happy New Year! 	<u>1/2/2020</u> <u>8:00 AM</u> *Building Team	<u>1/3/2020</u>	<u>1/4/2020</u>