

# *Starr King View*

A publication of the  
**Starr King Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship**

**-A Welcoming Congregation-**  
101 Fairgrounds Road  
Plymouth, New Hampshire  
www.starrkingfellowship.org  
(603) 536-8908



**The Reverend Sarah Stewart, Minister**

**January 2012**

**Cindy Spring, DRE**

## **Sunday Services - 9:30 a.m.**

### **January 1: “Annual Book Sharing Service”**

Worship and Music—Join Barbara Lambert in this informal annual service in which we talk about the books that we have enjoyed this past year. Children are very welcome to join us for this service. No regular RE.

### **January 8: “Pragmatism”**

The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart preaching.

### **January 15: “The Arc of the Universe”**

The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart preaching.

### **January 22 : “Coming of Age”**

Our Coming of Age Class, with Belinda Phillips and Bob Clay, will be presenting a service for all ages on religious diversity.

### **January 29: “Katrina and Everything After”**

The Rev. Sarah C. Stewart preaching.

**The New SKUUF Directory  
is Available!**

Pick up your new directory in the foyer.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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*In Fellowship*  
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Our area is home to great differences in economic means. There are wealthy families who live, or summer, along the lakes. There are poor and working families living in mobile homes in the woods. There are families in between, some living paycheck to paycheck, some trying to save the little extra they have. We all live together in this area, but we might not have much opportunity to share our day to day lives together.

Starting in 2012, Starr King Fellowship will be engaging in a process to learn about poverty and class difference, explore our own class identities, and engage with some of the poorer families in our larger community. We're calling this effort **Our Community, Ourselves**. We'll begin with our own education so that we have some awareness and understanding of issues around poverty and class before we jump into direct service. In all this work, we are partnering with Joyce Palmer and the Whole Village Family Resource Center, an initiative of the Lakes Region United Way (LRUW).

We'll begin this month on **Tuesday, January 17** with a potluck supper and discussion of *Nickled and Dimed: On Not Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich. I'll be leading our discussion. Whether you read this book for the first time now, or have read it before and would like to discuss it, this will be a good introduction to the experience of the working poor. And there's a twist on the potluck: To understand some experiences of those living on tight budgets, bring a potluck dish costing **\$1 per serving** or less. I'll be posting suggestions, tips and recipes on the Starr King Facebook page.

Upcoming events include a **Privilege Walk** on **Thursday, February 9**, led by Joyce Palmer, and the **Walk a Mile Experience** in late March. This interactive experience includes a poverty simulation which demonstrates what families go through to access services and supports. It also will be led by Joyce Palmer of LRUW with assistance from community volunteers. We'll conclude in April with another potluck and a discussion about what kind of service project we'd like to undertake with families in our community who are struggling with financial instability.

These events are open to anyone interested in this work. If you have friends in our community who would like to join us, please spread the word and bring them along. Together, we can overcome the barriers of class to build a community of mutuality and respect.

In fellowship,  
Rev. Sarah Stewart

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## **The View From Where I Sit January 2012**

Each month the financial wizards of the Budget and Finance Committee, the Treasurer and the Bookkeeper provide the Board with a report of the financial health of the Fellowship. Looking at the November report the Fellowship has assets of \$1,120,024, liabilities of \$195,130 leaving a total equity of \$924,894. Those figures result in a ratio of twenty-one to one of equity to debt. Said plainly, for each dollar of debt we have, we have twenty-one dollars of equity to back it up.

When our founders started our Fellowship years ago, and again when they made the leap of faith to build the current sanctuary building, I am sure some of the people's thinking could be labeled as being in the survival mode. They were willing to assume the risk but they were aware that they were walking a very narrow pathway between success and failure, survival and just getting by. In more recent times we experienced the same feelings as we wrestled with the Fellowship Hall/RE addition. We questioned, "Can we survive if we take on this added financial obligation?" The mantra for years at SKUUF has been, "We can't do that because we can't afford it."

Well the view from where I sit tells me that with equity of almost \$1 million we are definitely surviving. It is time to change our way of thinking and get out of the survival mode. To be sure there is complete understanding, we are, to use a phrase common to new homebuyers, house poor in that our readily expendable dollars are limited. Our cash flow must be watched closely, BUT, we are not in the survival mode any longer. If we stay in the survival mode we will continue to look at meeting our operating expenses as the primary goal of our Stewardship Drives. And with that, we will be limited to what we can do to meet the mission and vision of the Fellowship. It is time for us to get into the thriving mode. To get into the mode where we can envision meeting the goals of the Strategic Plan and the other new ideas that will come to the forefront of our thinking. Think of the possibilities that are open to us, to our community if we are bold enough to change our way of thinking about ourselves as a Fellowship. No longer just surviving, but now a thriving vibrant Fellowship that can become a positive force for change in our greater community.

Are we bold enough to bring this transformation about? A resounding YES! I know we are! It will take a commitment to the Fellowship from each and every member and friend to go beyond past levels of financial support. You will have to create a metaphor for Starr King that reflects what you want to see us be, and then take the action to support your metaphor and vision. Step up and realize that we can do what we are already doing, but we can do it better and we can do more. We can cease being limited by the haunting view of "surviving" and instead see ourselves as thriving and fulfilling the potential that exists in the Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Plymouth, New Hampshire.

Sincerely,  
Paul Tierney

## **SKUUF Finances Snapshot** as of December 15, 2011

Fiscal Year to Date, Operating:	Change from Last Month	
Income	\$ 59,395.43	+\$ 11,987.24
Expenses	\$ 67,794.22	+\$ 14,490.28
<b>Important Balances</b>		
Operating Funds	\$ 3,308.66	- \$ 4,118.28
Building Funds*	\$ 4,855.93	+\$ 2.46
Endowment Funds*	\$ 12,924.75	+\$ 176.01

This snapshot shows only selected funds. This is not a full accounting of assets or liabilities. If you would like more detailed information feel free to contact Nancy Chaddock, or me.

\*These funds represent multiple accounts grouped together.

Meticulously submitted,  
Mark Becker

### **Memorial and Other Gifts to the Endowment Fund**

Donations received by SKUUF in memory of someone who is deceased, and not directed by the giver to a particular fund or project, are now automatically credited to the SKUUF Endowment Fund if the gift is \$500 or less. If such undesignated gift is more than \$500, the Governing Board will determine where the donation will be credited.

Please keep the Endowment Fund in mind for special donations you make to SKUUF, perhaps to honor an event in the life of someone close to you. We are always grateful for donations to our Operating Budget and that is often the most appropriate place to direct a donation. However, to celebrate an event or remember someone special, a donation to the SKUUF Endowment Fund is a good choice. The Endowment Fund was established many years ago for the purpose of providing annual funds for projects and purposes that cannot be paid from the Operating Budget.

Nancy Chaddock, Treasurer

## **Heating the Building**

If you are holding meetings in the building, please see Barrie Sawyer on the proper procedure for temporarily heating the meeting space. Guidelines are posted above each unit.

Barrie Sawyer  
Building and Maintenance

## Religious Education Notes

As many of you know by now, we are running a “Coming of Age” Program for our 14 to 16 year olds in the Conference Room each Sunday morning. There are seven youth and four leaders (**Bill Dowey, Bill Trought, Bob Clay and Whitney Howarth.**) Many other adults have been involved with the group this fall.

**Barbara Lambert, Belinda Phillips, Betty Ann Trought, Jeannette Bilodeau, Margaret Salt, Paul Tierney and Stew Weldon** are serving as “advocates” for individual students. They have met together twice to talk about UU values and beliefs. On December 17 they delivered Holiday Baskets together for the local Community Closet.

**Karen Weldon** accompanied the group to Fairlee, Vermont in September and **Gigi and Paul Estes** went along on their camping trip in October. **Nevin Scrimshaw and Nancy Chaddock** met with the class in November to talk about what it has meant to them to be Unitarian Universalists and **George Maloof and Mimi Ford** talked with them in December about helping those in need.

Religious Educators often talk about how hard it is to connect the teenagers to the adult congregation. I am delighted that so many of our adults are willing to spend time with our youth. These are the Unitarians and Universalists of tomorrow so good role models at this time are essential - thank you all!

In January Belinda will be meeting with the group to help them plan a multigenerational service and in February they will be meeting with UU Youth from other New Hampshire congregations and spending the weekend with them.

I have enjoyed helping to plan the activities for this Program. Our hope is that they will form into a Youth Group next year and go on a “mission trip” together. The Coming of Age experience seems like a good foundation for a strong Youth Group.

~ Cindy Spring (want to “friend” me? - I’m Dre Spring on Facebook)

## Stewardship Update

The Stewardship Committee has been meeting for several months with new co-chair Laura Thibeault, a fresh point of view from Chuck Kriebel, and visits and encouragement from Paul Tierney. The energy is high and the ideas come fast. We are pleased to have Kelli Thompson bring her talent and expertise again this year for our brochure design and production, and Forrest Seavey for his exceptional creativity for a visual rendering.

Mary Tierney told me recently that every hour of volunteer help is worth about \$18. We are all, indeed, truly enriched by the willingness, talent and many hours given to our SKUUF community as well as the greater community of Plymouth and surrounding towns by the members of this fellowship. I look forward to the coming year with delight and bright anticipation.

Beverly Walker, co-chair

## **About Membership in Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

### **What It Means to Be a Member**

SKUUF membership is open to all individuals regardless of race, creed, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation. You are invited to become a member by participating in a membership orientation or by meeting with the Minister to review the rights and responsibilities of membership. All new members sign the official Fellowship membership book witnessed by the Membership Chair or the Minister.

Members are entitled to the services of the minister and the use of the sanctuary for rites of passage (weddings, dedications, funerals, etc.) at no cost. Members also have the privilege of full voting rights, are eligible to serve as Chairs of committees, and may be elected to Officer positions.

Membership is maintained by active participation in the Fellowship and by supporting the annual fund and/or contributing service towards the Fellowship.

### **What it means to Be a Friend**

A Friend is an individual in harmony with the visions, goals, and programs of SKUUF who chooses not to sign the Membership book. A Friend may participate in any and all Fellowship activities, but does not receive rites of passage services without fee, cannot vote and may not serve as a committee Chair or Fellowship Officer.

### **For More Information on Membership**

If you are considering becoming an official member of our Fellowship, or if you can support membership activities, please contact, Membership Co-Chairs, Danni Simon or Darlene Nadeau.

### **Office Announcements**

Rev. Sarah will be out of the office at a meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association Board of Trustees from Wednesday, January 18 through Sunday, January 22. She will check e-mail while she is away. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact the office or the fellowship President, Paul Tierney, to reach Sarah.

The Rev. Sarah Stewart is usually in her office Tuesday through Thursdays by appointment.

Cindy Spring, Director of Religious Education, is in her office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

The Fellowship Office is open Thursdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**Remember to wear your Nametag.  
It helps Everyone.**

## Hospitality—Coffee Hour Schedule

Here is the list of those responsible for coffee hour from December through June. If you are unable to do coffee hour on the date you are assigned, please try to find a replacement, or ask a member of the Hospitality Committee to help you find one. **Remember, every Sunday a person from the Hospitality Committee will be there to direct you. You will not be alone.**

Hospitality Committee: Elizabeth Becker, Deedie Kriebel, Nancy Dowey

January 1	No Coffee Hour
January 8	Marcia and Quentin Blaine Marceline Boomer
January 15	Rodger Ellsworth and Eva Nagorka and Family
January 22	Coming of Age Parents
January 29	Mimi Ford Barbara Spike
February 5	Cappy and Tom Hahm Kay Hanson
February 12	Pat and Manfred Hoertdoerfer Katherine Hillier and Ed Loranger
February 19	Darcy and Eric Hoffman and Family TBA
February 26	Whitney Howarth and Michael Nicholas Barbara Lambert
March 4	Mary Joyce and Gino Infascelli Katharina Kelsey
March 11	Bev and Gary Walker Marcel LeBrun
March 18	George DeWolf TBA
March 25	Bob and Helen Lindstrom Leslie Livingstone
April 1	Phyllis Rockwell and Mitch Manseau TBA

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April 8	Joe Kelaghan and Thad Defauw Margaret Salt
April 15	Mary and Paul Hazelton TBA
April 22	Mary and Don Crowell and Family Suzanne Appleton
April 29	Connie and Jon Maatta TBA
May 6	Valerie McQueeney Ryan McQueeney and Family
May 13	Leslie and Peter Nicola Edie Patridge
May 20	Governing Board
May 27	Barrie Sawyer and Danni Simon Mary and Paul Tierney
June 3	Celia and Jim Connolly Betty and Bill Trought
June 10	Coke and Selma Levin Harry Vogel
June 17	RE Cookout



### **Flowers or Greens Needed for the Sanctuary**

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those who would like to provide flowers for the Sunday services. Please consider volunteering to add flowers or a plant for a service. This could be as a remembrance of a special occasion or person or just as a nice addition to the service.

We need volunteers!

Nancy Dowey  
Hospitality Committee

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## Social Justice

Community Outreach for January:  
**Pemi Baker Literacy**

Pemi Baker Literacy is sponsored by the Social Justice Committee for the month of January. This local group, founded by two congregational members as well as other local citizens, helps adults in our area with unmet needs in reading, math, English as a Second Language, and specific computer skills. This group provides GED classes at convenient times, one-on-one tutoring with local volunteers, and family literacy resources to parents and also reading aloud weekly to the children at Pemi Bridge House. Pemi Literacy is supported primarily by local donations as well as small grants from local and state foundations.

By getting their GED, local adults can improve or stabilize their employment as well as model the importance of education to their children. Pemi Baker Literacy helps make this happen, one person at a time. If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities, or if you want to hear more, see Margaret Salt who is a long time member of the board.

Margaret Salt

### Our Community, Ourselves

#### Education and Action to Bridge Class Difference in the Plymouth Area

A series of events are being planned to educate all of us about the reality of living day to day in poverty.

On Tuesday January 17, Rev. Sarah and the Social Justice Committee, in partnership with Joyce Palmer of Whole Village Family Resource Center, will lead a discussion of the book *Nickled and Dimed: On Not Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich. Get a copy now to be ready for our book discussion!

We will begin our evening at 5:30 with a Frugal Pot-luck Dinner. The challenge: bring a dish to share that costs ONE DOLLAR per serving or less. A family of four on food stamps needs to spend less than \$6 per person per day for food. Stand in solidarity with poorer members of our neighborhoods by practicing frugality for this special event.

In February and March Joyce Palmer, Director at Whole Village, will lead two simulation activities designed to help us become more aware of the struggles endured by families living in poverty in the Plymouth area.

In April we should be ready, as a congregation, to decide how best to move forward with collaborative projects with Whole Village. A list of possibilities has begun. The ultimate success of such projects will depend a great deal on the level of interest and participation in the educational events being planned for January through March. Please join us!

Social Justice Committee

## **In Managua: The Children are Waiting for Books**

How does it feel to grow up in a home without books? If you are lucky, your mother sings to you or your grandfather may tell stories. Still, it's very magical to visit the community center and have whole shelves of beautiful books just waiting for you. In Managua's poorest neighborhoods there are no bookstores or libraries. At the Women in Action center, the Share-a-Book library is one of the few sources of books for children of all ages, and there is even a section of reference books so that children can look up information they may need for school or to answer those persistent questions! We know there is a regular story hour, and that all the children have been requesting their favorites.

The Lectorum Catalogue is a source for the best books written in Spanish by Hispanic authors. We were pleased with the quality of last year's order, and with your help, we can continue to add to the collection. Our December collection barely got us started, so if you are planning to help, please send your check before the end of January. We want to send many more books to the children we have met on previous visits! We run this short fundraiser around the holidays and in the early new year to make it easy for you to give a tax-deductible gift. Danni Simon located a wonderful closeout sale last year, and we hope to find another chance to buy extra books for the children. Make your checks payable to SKUUF and write "share-a-book" in the check legend. If you have questions, check with Margaret Salt or Danni Simon. Thank you!

For more information see Margaret Salt or Danni Simon.

Margaret Salt



### **Community Closet Needs Our Help**

Remember, the Community Closet can always use our help. There is a basket in the foyer for your non-breakable food contributions. You can drop off canned or boxed goods anytime.

Thank you.

## **Extending Family**

Extending family, in my name, has received so much credit for helping with functions and jobs at SKUUF, but in reality all I do is ask for help and it is always forthcoming.

There are so many members and friends who help out and make everything work so well and they don't get individual credit. So without being able to name everyone for the simple reason that there are so many in our community who are so caring and are always ready to give a helping hand, I want to give thanks to them all. You are wonderful!

Thank you,  
Sue Brothers

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## **Adult Education for January Sundays at 11:00 a.m.**

### **January 1—No Program**

### **January 8—Gratitude**

**Rev. Pat Hoerl**

A short film on Gratitude and discussion from the program Spirituality and Practice

### **January 8—What is UUism**

**Rev. Sarah C. Stewart**

This is a one-hour class aimed at those new to Unitarian Universalism or to Starr King Fellowship. We will share our spiritual journeys, learn about the history of Unitarian Universalism, and explore the history of our fellowship. The Rev. Sarah Stewart is open to any and all questions you may have.

### **January 15—Turkey**

**Janet and Jules Doner**

The Doners' experiences in Turkey date back to the 1970's and 1980's. They will share why they view Turkey as their second home.

### **January 22—Nature**

**Barbara Lambert**

When and how do you feel connected to your natural surroundings? When you feel a disconnection, why does that happen? Your observations and thoughts on these topics will be our springboard for discussion. Quotes from Richard Louv's book, *The Nature Principle* will give us additional ideas to consider and discuss.

### **January 29—Sermon Discussion**

**Rev. Sarah C. Stewart**

Katrina and What Came After. Rev. Sarah just returned from a meeting of the UUA Board of Trustees in New Orleans, Louisiana. She visited the UU churches there and learned how they have recovered after Katrina. Discuss the government's response to Katrina and how black and white communities in New Orleans experienced the storm and the recovery.

Barbara Lambert

### **Discussion group starts in February**

Adult Education at SKUUF and D Acres of New Hampshire are offering a new program in February. **Hungry for Change: Food, Ethics and Sustainability** is a six session discussion course which will be facilitated by Betty Ann Trought and George Matthews at SKUUF beginning on Thursday February 2 at 7:00 p.m. and continuing each Thursday through March 8. Discussion guides which include assigned reading and study questions may be borrowed at no charge or purchased for \$22. Space is limited so contact Betty Ann as soon as possible at [batrought@gmail.com](mailto:batrought@gmail.com). or 786-9342. George is a resident of D Acres of New Hampshire who has taught philosophy at the college level for many years and continues to explore living more conscientiously on the planet.

Betty Ann Trought

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## **As we look forward to 2012 perhaps this will help us set our goals**—Betty Ann Trought

### **9 Reasons to Live Deeply**

*By Bill Gerlach*

“As human beings, our greatness lies not so much in being able to remake the world...as in being able to remake ourselves.” – Mohandas Gandhi

The more you look around the more you see a movement underway. The status quo is being challenged from every angle. People are feeling a subtle yet constant tug – like an eager toddler at your legs – that something is awry in their life and the life of the world. Many have put their hopes in material happiness. Yet now, those same people are seeking a new balance in their lives; abandoning the pursuit of ‘more’ that consumerism has pushed upon us and the resulting disconnect with the natural world it has fostered. For me, deep living represents the convergence of three major pillars of our existence:

- LIFE // From the literal breathing, eating, moving kind to the qualitative how-we-spend-our-time kind. Life is the basis on which we all connect, experience and hopefully thrive.
- NATURE // This is the living world around us. The eco-sphere. The amazing manifestation of creation without which we would be unable to survive.
- BEING // The sentient-self. The essence of who we are, expressed both internally and externally. The ability to recognize such qualities in other life forms.

This is just my definition though. What I call “deep living” you may call something else. It’s not about the label, rather how we each approach the call to get more out of this one and only life. Some aspects or elements may be more important to you than they are to me. That’s OK. It’s more about the end, not so much the differences between the means. What IS critical though is how we approach this deep living as we go about our day-to-day. It is a way of being more than a to-do list. In my mind, when you live deeply, deliberately and with intent you: Strive towards a minimalist lifestyle, shedding the unnecessary and embracing what remains; Are one with Nature, not apart or above it; Allow mindfulness to bring the present moment into focus ;Live by example and share this insight with others, especially children. Let’s be clear: This is a journey that takes time and patience. It is not an overnight wonder pill that we pop to clear the ailments of our personal and collective situation. For me, I am still a beginner navigating the ups and downs of this path. Each day brings new opportunity and new perspectives; new awareness of short-comings and new lessons learned. I don’t know all the answers and probably never will. The effort is well worth it though! For all of us there are immediate tangible benefits to living deeply:

- You are not bogged down by unnecessary possessions and thoughts
- You are outside more, appreciating the awesomeness of nature
- You enjoy all that the present moment has to offer
- You find common ground with others
- You enrich the lives of children around you

But think of what could happen if such a shift in how we live happened on an even grander scale:

- A re-balancing of humanity with the natural world around us
- A re-awakening to the sacredness of all life
- A passion for the pursuit of that which brings each of us true happiness
- An embracing of harmony rather than the sewing of discord

Perhaps I’m being overly optimistic. You know what? I’m OK with that. When more and more people think big like this the exponential power of focused intention starts to take over.

Momentum builds—albeit slowly at first—and before long, we start to see the fruits of our happy

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'labor'.

*Bill Gerlach is freelance writer, blogger and public speaker exploring the intersections of Life, Nature, Being and Community. He lives in Rhode Island with his family, gardens and other simple joys. You can read more of Bill's writing at: [www.thenewpursuit.com](http://www.thenewpursuit.com).*

## **SKUUM**

The men's group, affectionately known as SKUUM (Starr King UU Men) usually meets on the first and third Sundays of each month. However, because of the holidays, meetings in January will be held on January 15 and January 29, in the upstairs conference room at the Fellowship from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Group leaders are Bob Clay, George Maloof, and Bill Trought.

All adult males are invited to join these sometimes informative, always lively discussions covering a wide range of topics

Bill Trought

## **Wise Women in Training**

Wise Women in Training is a women's study group which meets to discuss issues of women and aging. Members share experiences, questions and concerns about improving their lives while optimizing their happiness. Generally this group is recommended for any women over fifty years of age but younger women are welcome. Questions will be researched and discussed by various members. Meetings will be held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m., in the upstairs conference room at SKUUF. Members do not need to be members of Starr King Unitarian Unuversalist Fellowship. For further information, contact Marce Boomer at 726-3999 or Betty Ann Trought 786-9342.

Betty Ann Trought

## **Fundraising**

### **Line Dancing**

Starting in the New Year, line dancing is spreading it's wings to Holderness on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Town Hall and "Intergenerational Chess" in the same area from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. It is also being taught in Meredith at the Community Center on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. If you know of people in these areas who might be interested please alert them to these classes. Thanks

As usual, line dancing continues at SKUUF on the second and fourth Sundays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Donation fee of \$5.00 goes to SKUUF.  
Never too late to join in. Yeehaw!

George Maloof

## Activities Committee

**Activities Committee Meeting** – Sunday, January 8 at 11:00 a.m. Anyone interested in planning the Activities for SKUUF is invited to attend. We welcome all ideas and participants. The meeting will be adjourned in time to participate in the Second Sunday Hike at noon.

**Second Sunday Hike** – Sunday, January 8 at noon. The group will leave from the lower parking lot at SKUUF. All are welcome, including children, who are experienced hikers. The hike is TBA, depending on the conditions at the time. As for all hikes, please let Mitch ([mitch@newfoundfarm.org](mailto:mitch@newfoundfarm.org)) know that you want to play so that he can advise you by e-mail of any changes.

**Annual Family Snow Party** – Saturday, January 28. All ages are welcome to join in outdoor and indoor games. Bring your favorite snow gear/toys, games, and food to share. It all happens from 1:00 p.m. until who knows when at 148 Page Road, Campton. Please call our hosts Jules and Janet Doner for more information. Think snow!!!

**Wentworth Square Dance** – Friday, January 6 from 8:00 – 10:30 p.m. Old Wentworth Town Hall. The price is \$7 per person, no advance tickets required. There are polkas, and a variety of square dances. Jeans are fine. Wear comfortable shoes and prepare to have some good, old fashioned, country fun!

**Silver Center PSU** – Sunday, January 29 at 2:00 p.m. Plymouth State University's Educational Theatre Collaborative: *The Wild Swans*. This is a World Premiere performance. Join Eliza as she saves her beloved brothers from enchantment in this bewitching tale of love and sacrifice for the whole family to enjoy together. Hanaway Theatre. Contact the Silver Center for tickets at [silver-center@plymouth.edu](mailto:silver-center@plymouth.edu) or 603-535-2787. If you would like to meet for dinner **after** the performance, please contact Deedie at [cdkriebel@gmail.com](mailto:cdkriebel@gmail.com).

**Have Cardigan Weekend** We will again join the Nashua Church for their outdoor activities and dinner on their Have Cardigan weekend March 3, 2012. More information as available, but please notify Mitch if you are interested, [mitch@newfoundfarm.org](mailto:mitch@newfoundfarm.org).

– Mitch Manseau and Deedie Kriebel  
Co-chairs

## Play Bridge -Thursday Afternoons at SKUUF



If you are a bridge player interested in the Thursday afternoon bridge game at Starr King Fellowship, please see Anna Wilken.

## Plymouth Area Chess Club

New beginning/intermediate classes start in January on Saturday mornings. \$5.00 donation suggested. Ages 12 and over are welcome. Need four players to make the class run. Great gift for kids. Lifetime of entertainment and challenge await them!! Family rates are also available. If you have any question, please contact George Maloof.

George Maloof



## News Notes for January

Have you made your New Year's resolutions yet? Every year I make a few and some years I keep them and more often, some years I don't. The "I will lose weight" resolution is always the biggest failure. Last year I thought I'd outsmart myself and resolved to eat more fruits and vegetables.

It's a funny thing about intentions. I did accomplish this resolution, but in a way I had not anticipated. I signed up for a Permaculture Design course at D Acres farm in Dorchester, along with Danni Simon and Betty Ann Trought from SKUUF. One weekend a month for seven months through the growing season, we attended lectures, tours of organic farms in New England and heard from several folks involved in Permaculture design from farms to city streets. Well, of course I wanted to try these new ideas in my own backyard. With the help of Michael Nicholas, I created a 1500 square foot garden. With a problematic back I devised ways of mulching with hay to minimize weeding, used a kid's plastic sled to ferry hay and other stuff from place to place, spreading it with a long handled hoe and got things growing. I limited the time I worked to several short periods a day. It worked very well so I added seven chickens for eggs and fertilizer but that's another story.

Gary and I ate LOTS of unbelievably good vegetables, especially zucchini, summer squash and very tender lettuce. I didn't lose any weight but I learned a lot by doing and next year will make adjustments to rotation and choices of plants. I'm already looking at the seed catalogues and thinking about dwarf fruit trees.

Congratulations to Rosa Bailey, daughter of Amey and Scott Bailey, for being recognized during the Plymouth Elementary School's Veterans Day assembly among several teachers and students for demonstrating the attributes of strong leadership listed by Stephen Covey in his book "The Seven Habits of Highly Successful People."

Well done, Rosa.

Joan Thomas is a proud grandmother, again, and Ashley and Morgan Maxner the proud parents. This baby girl, Rhys Victoria Maxner, was born on Saturday, December 3. Congratulations to all!

Every year I start watching the big Christmas cactus at the front of the sanctuary for blooms and there they were on December 4. This plant was given to SKUUF at the time of Will Hopkins birth. Will is a veteran and now lives in Concord where he is executive director of New Hampshire Peace Action.

As a member of the SKUUF choir, I am delighted to have Mary Ann and Stuart Terry joining us again for the month of December before they return to South Carolina. Their added voices give a greater richness to the sound of our music.

Here's hoping you enjoy the holidays as Gary and I am, with family and friends. So, Happy Solstice, Yule, Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanza and New Year.

Bev Walker

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**You must catch Walt Mayshark and ask her about her recent, impressive and unbelievable, trip to Washington, DC.**

## Stewardship Committee

If you prefer to use cash to pay your pledge, please use the designated envelopes available by the Sanctuary door. Simply add your name to the outside and seal in your cash!

Thank you all for pledging to Starr King !

## Connect with Starr King Fellowship online in various ways!

Go to the Starr King website—[www.starrkingfellowship.org](http://www.starrkingfellowship.org). Here you can:

- \* Click on “Newsletters” where you can read, or print out, any of several past issues;
- \* Click on “Podcast” and enjoy listening to sermons you have missed, or just want to hear again;
- \* Click on “Events Calendar” to find out what is going on in our Fellowship.

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the February Newsletter is Friday, January 20.

Please send all items, committee reports, notice of events and activities to Barbara Avery at:

PO Box 35, Woodstock, NH 03293, or  
bdavery@roadrunner.com, or  
call 745-8845.

*SKUUF Newsletter Policy :*

***“Activities covered in the Newsletter are those sponsored by SKUUF or related to SKUUF Committees. As room permits, UU activities happening elsewhere may be included. There may also be a column mentioning activities that are happening in our building but not directly related to SKUUF.”***

Barbara Avery

*Starr King View*

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Don Crowell

**Mission Statement**

Starr King Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is a multigenerational, welcoming congregation where different beliefs come together in common covenant. We work together in our fellowship, our community, and our world to nurture justice, respect, and love.