



NH CONFERENCE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
N.H. WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP  
**WOMEN'S LINK**

FALL 2017

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**NHCUCC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SPRING GATHERING MARCH 25, 2017**

**BY BARBARA HALL**

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN KEENE**

The Women's Fellowship of UCC-Keene was delighted to host the Spring Annual Meeting of the NHCUCW Women's Fellowship on Saturday, March 25. There were 66 women in attendance from all over the state. With several husbands on parking duty, there were places for everyone. The fellowship began in the dining room at the registration and white elephant tables. Coffee and muffins were served in the parlor until worship began at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

There was a short introduction describing the church's iconic role in the city of Keene and the major renovation project taking place on the ground floor. The service was highlighted by music of the Ringers on the Square, led by bell choir director Diantha Dorman. Readings came from the 2017 International Women's Day and World Day of Prayer liturgies. The offering (over \$250) was presented to the Keene Community Kitchen. Communion was led by Pastor Cindy Bagley, newly installed senior minister and the first woman to be called to that position in Keene. "Leaving a Legacy of Love" was the title of Pastor Cindy's program for the day. She encouraged a discussion of how we pass along our values—not just our valuables.

Luncheon followed in the dining room, with sandwiches and salads for all. Those who found a sticker under their dinner plate got to take home the fresh daffodils on the table.

The annual meeting was held after dessert. Three new "Outstanding Women" were honored, including a very surprised President Diane Wells.

The afternoon was spent in the parlor as Pastor Cindy presented a form she developed for assessing values and sharing them with others. Small groups joined in discussions until the closing hymn, "Bless Be the Tie That Binds." Amen to that.

**OUTSTANDING WOMEN RECOGNITION**

Each year prior to the NHCUCW Women's Fellowship Spring Gathering anyone from a NH UCC church may fill out a form recommending the name of a person they consider to be an outstanding woman in their church. Past President Dot Pitman is in charge of collecting the applications and presenting the awards. This year, three very deserving women received Outstanding Woman Recognition. They are: Betsy McCall, First Parish Church, UCC, East Derry; Deb McNeish, First Congregational Church, Meredith; and Diane Wells, Congregational Church of Laconia. They each also received a living plant. Congratulations to all!

**DIANE WELLS SAYS THANK YOU.**

I had a wonderful surprise at the Spring Gathering and Annual Meeting in Keene when my name was called during the Outstanding Women time. I was humbled and excited! Thank you for sponsoring me and I hope someday my daughter or friend can remember how much that presentation meant to me. Thank you for that honor! Congratulations also to the others who received the honor in March. —Diane Wells

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# NHCUCC WOMEN'S FALL GATHERING 2017

*LIVING TOGETHER IN ONE WORLD*

## CAMP SENTINEL

**Main Office: 29 Sentinel Lodge Road Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816**

603-539-4839 • WWW.CAMPSENTINEL.ORG

**Friday & Saturday, September 29 & 30, 2017**

**RETREAT LEADER: REV. RENEE ROUSE**—Rev. Rouse is the minister at the United Church of Warner. She lives in Pembroke, and is very active with the NHCUC's Justice and Witness Commission. With this background, she will help us, as Christian women, to better understand how we can live together in one world. She is basing her time with us with the following in mind: "Ignorance is not bliss, it's downright destructive." We, as women of God, are called to live a life of unconditional love, seeking justice for all, loving kindness (mercy), and walking closely with our God. (Micah 6:8)

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

#### FRIDAY

2:00–5:00 .....Registration; free crafts available; make a prayer chain with beads \$10 each  
6:00 .....Dinner  
7:00 .....*Gathering*—Rev. Renee Rouse  
9:00 .....Campfire Vespers—Rev. Renee Rouse

#### SATURDAY

7:30 .....Breakfast  
9:30 .....*Gathering*—Rev. Renee Rouse  
12:00 .....Lunch  
1:00 .....*Gathering*—Rev. Renee Rouse  
2:30 .....Worship with communion—Rev. Renee Rouse  
.....Closing (Around 3:00)

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REGISTRATION FORM for NHCUC Women's Fellowship **2017 Fall Retreat**. Early registration is \$75 by September 10. Late registration is \$85 after September 10. **A DEPOSIT OF \$25 IS REQUIRED BY AUGUST 1.** Fee includes overnight accommodations (but no bed linens), Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch—Make checks payable to: **NHCUC Women's Fellowship**. All registrations and checks are due by September 22. Mail all registrations, deposits, and balances due to Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH 03840. Questions? Please contact Trudie at [TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com](mailto:TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com) or 603-828-4200.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact—name and telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs? If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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Send Scholarship Application (see page 5) to Dot Pitman. Send above Registration and \$25 to Trudie by August 1. Successful applicants will receive a credit of \$50.

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**FALL OVERNIGHT RETREAT**  
**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**NO LINENS ARE SUPPLIED**—you will have to bring a sleeping bag or sheets, blankets, pillows, towels, and wash cloths. You might also want to bring a flashlight, mosquito repellent—non-aerosol, and maybe a folding chair—although there are plenty of benches around. There is also a small camp store.

Camp Sentinel is located in the foothills of the Ossipee Mountain range in Center Tuftonboro, New Hampshire. Sentinel hosts year round rustic retreats and is known for its home-cooked meals, attention to detail, and Christian hospitality. Amenities include: five unique hiking trails, 5-element ropes course with zip line, giant swing, 25-foot tall rock climbing wall, large field, archery range, chapel for up to 200 guests, and more. The camp provides solitude on its 645 acres and over a mile of water frontage on crystal clear Dan Hole Pond, formed from a former volcano. It is just minutes from Lake Winnepesaukee, North Conway shopping outlets, and family attractions.

Some basic policy rules:

- No alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs are allowed on the grounds.
- Smoking is not allowed in any building or on the grounds.
- No pets are allowed.
- The property and buildings must be left clean and all furniture returned to original place upon departure.
- For more information, visit [www.campsentinel.org](http://www.campsentinel.org).

There are three to seven beds in each room in the lodge. There are bathrooms on the main floor and the third floor. There are three-plus beds in each cabin. Most cabins do not have bathroom facilities within—there are outside bathrooms shared by all the cabins.

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**DIRECTIONS:**

**CAMP SENTINEL**  
**29 Sentinel Lodge Road**  
**Center Tuftonboro NH 03816**  
**603-539-4839 • WWW.CAMPSENTINEL.ORG**

**VIA SEACOAST:** Off Route 16 onto Route 171 for about 8 miles to Camp Sentinel sign, turn right onto Canaan Road. Turn right at the top of the hill into the camp.

**VIA WOLFEBORO:** Bear left off Route 28 onto Route 109A to Tuftonboro School (8 miles), then right on Ledgehill Road for 3 miles to Route 171. Turn left on Route 171 for ¼ mile. Look for the Camp Sentinel sign and turn right on Canaan Road. Turn right at the top of the hill into the camp.

**VIA I-93:** Travel towards Meredith. Go East on Route 104 to Route 3. Left on Route 3 to stop lights in Meredith Center. Right on Route 25 to Route 109. Right on Route 109 to Route 171 (Left at fork). After 6 to 7 miles, look for the Camp Sentinel sign, turn left onto Canaan Road. Turn right at the top of the hill into the camp.

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**THERE IS NO WHITE ELEPHANT TABLE AT RETREATS**

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## MARTHA'S VINEYARD FISH FARM FOR HAITI PROJECT

- Haiti is the poorest country in our hemisphere and the third hungriest in the world
- Haiti is about the size of Maryland
- Life expectancy is 47 years
- 76% of Haiti's children under the age of five are underweight
- 46 % of the population has access to safe water and only 28% access to sanitation
- 52% of females are illiterate

By donating \$25 to the Fish Farm project, your church or group can make a difference. The New Hampshire Women's Fellowship sponsors Thamar Chanson, a fourth-grade student at the school built by the fish farm project. Through our combined donations of \$25 from individual churches, we provide backpacks and breakfast, and help Thamar with her school uniforms.

**Will your church join us in sponsoring Thamar?** FFH is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt charitable organization. All churches and groups are invited to enjoy the opportunity of helping Thamar by donating \$25 to our sponsored child at the next Women's Fellowship Gathering. Please make checks out to NHCUCW Women's Fellowship, and bring with you or mail to Mrs. Dot Pitman, 12 Maple Knoll Drive, Hollis NH 03049.

Anyone who wishes to write to Thamar may mail letters to: Thamar Chanson #15, Little Children of Mary, Fish Farm for Haiti Project, PO Box 1803, Vineyard Haven MA 02568.

Please send articles, book reviews, and other information to LINK editor: Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH 03840; E-mail: [TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com](mailto:TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com); Cell: 603-828-4200.  
Suggested reading: *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving, *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates.  
Write a testimonial for any previous Celebration, and forward to Trudie for publication in the next LINK.

### SAVE THE DATE: COME TO CELEBRATION X IN PORTLAND ON APRIL 6-7-8, 2018

Another LINK will follow after our Retreat to tell you more about Celebration X.

**TRUDIE BERGERON** from Greenland NH went to her first Celebration in Portland in 2014. She attended two workshops—one she didn't like, and one she loved. The one she loved was Art for the Soul—making a prayer chain with **Kristin Putney**. Her first thought was, Why are Protestants making a prayer chain with beads? She wanted to find out the answer. And she did. When the Greenland attendees returned, the Pastor asked us to give a report during one of the Lenten programs. Ten of us reported. Trudie was still excited about the prayer chain she made, as was Evelyn Sammel excited about the prayer chain she made. Donna Lee Lewis, President of the Women's Alliance asked Trudie to show the women of the church how to make a prayer chain. Trudie was so excited about this idea that she immediately started buying beads at Michaels and JoAnn's, and anywhere else she found beads that she especially liked. Since Celebration IX, she did Prayer Bead workshops at the Greenland church, other churches, and our Fall Gathering in Rindge in 2015. She will again bring beads to Tuftonboro in September 2017. And Kristin Putney will be doing two more Prayer Chain workshops at Celebration X—sign up early so you don't miss out!

**REMEMBER WHEN ELLEN MACLELLAN** from Concord NH came to the Woodbound Inn in Rindge in 2015 with her labyrinth? Well, she's going to Celebration X in Portland ME on April 7, 2018. If you missed our retreat in Rindge, now is another opportunity to hear what she has to say about her labyrinth. If you did hear her, spread the word and encourage others to go to Celebration X in Portland in April 2018 to walk Eleanor's labyrinth. **ELEANOR MACLELLAN—SOLE TO SOUL**—Eleanor MacLellan helps women use guided storytelling in small groups to share their faith journeys. An active church member, her faith was shaken in the midst of a serious family crisis. During that time, she worked with five other women to create a large portable labyrinth for her church and community. As the women worked, they shared the stories of their spiritual journeys. In her memoir, *Sole to Soul, Finding a Path toward Loving Accompaniment*, Eleanor recounts those stories and others to demonstrate not only that a very active Holy Spirit *is* working in our daily lives, but also that we can find parables in our own times that illustrate the central Christian message of loving accompaniment. Eleanor has considerable experience traversing life's labyrinthine paths. Like many of us, she has dealt with divorce, remarriage, and community activities.

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NH Conference, UCC  
140 Sheep Davis Road  
Pembroke NH 03275

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**NH Women's Fellowship**  
**WOMEN'S LINK**

Next NHCUCC Women's Fellowship Board meeting is on  
Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 10:30 a.m.  
at the Conference Center, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke NH  
Everyone welcome!

Fall Retreat—September 29–30, 2017—Tuftonboro NH  
Celebration X—April 6–7–8, 2018—Portland ME