FALL GATHERING MOVED TO LACONIA.

NHCUCC WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP FALL GATHERING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of LACONIA, UCC
69 Pleasant Street, Laconia NH 03246
• 603-524-0668 • INFO@LACONIAUCC.ORG •
PASTOR: REV. NEIL WILSON

CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE MODERN CHURCH

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):
9:30 .................... Registration and coffee.  White Elephant Tables.
10:15 .................... Welcome:  Margie Kreitler, Chair of Women’s Fellowship, Laconia
 .................... Worship with communion:  Rev. Neil Wilson
 .................... Organist:  Bob Bengtson, Laconia
11:15 .................... Break
11:30 .................... Bob Bengtson—CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE MODERN CHURCH
12:30 .................... Box Lunch, White Elephant Table
1:00 .................... Business (secretary’s report) (financial report) (Celebration XI) (Outstanding Women) (any other business to come before the members)
 .................... Closing (around 2:30)

REGISTRATION FORM for NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship 2021 Fall Gathering.  $12-registration includes a box lunch—Make checks payable to:  NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship.  Mail registrations and checks BEFORE September 27 to Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH 03840.  Questions?  Please contact Trudie at 603-828-4200 (leave message with your name and telephone number) or TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com.

Name ___________________________________________________________ Church
Street/City/State/Zip______________________________________________
Telephone______________________ e-mail (optional)__________________________
Emergency contact—name and telephone number: ____________________________

Special Dietary Needs?  If yes, please explain: ____________________________
K. ROBERT BENGTSON—CLASSICAL MUSIC IN THE MODERN CHURCH—A native of Ansonia, Connecticut, Bob began playing the piano and trombone at a young age, taking on his first position as a church organist while a freshman in high school. He holds both a Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from the Hartt School of Music (University of Hartford) where he studied organ with John Holtz, Harmon Lewis, and Leonard Raver. While at Hartt, and beyond, he was an employee of the Austin Organ Company, also in Hartford. A former camper and counselor at Camp Mowglis on Newfound Lake in East Hebron, New Hampshire, he took a ‘leave of absence’ from Austin in 1983 to become Mowglis’ Acting Director, a position he ultimately held for twenty years. He is now Mowglis’ Director Emeritus where he remains deeply involved. In addition to Mowglis, Bob is the Curator of several notable pipe organs in New Hampshire, and he is the Director of Music, Organist, and Choir Director at the Congregational Church of Laconia.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE BRISTOL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (BUCC) CANNOT HOST THE FALL GATHERING AT THIS TIME. COVID CASES ARE EXTREMELY HIGH IN BRISTOL AND THE SURROUNDING TOWNS. THE BRISTOL CHURCH’S WOMEN ARE SO HEARTBROKEN AND DISAPPOINTED. THEY CAN’T EVEN HOST OUTSIDE BECAUSE THEY HAVE SO LITTLE AREA AROUND THEIR CHURCH. BONNIE BIONDI, PRESIDENT, AND THE WOMEN OF BUCC STILL HOPE TO HOST A GATHERING AS SOON AS IT IS POSSIBLE HEALTHWISE!! THEIR WOMEN ARE PROBABLY MORE DISAPPOINTED THAN WE ARE BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN PLANNING THIS EVENT FOR TWO YEARS. WE ARE GOING TO SAVE MUSIC IN OUR CHRISTIAN LIVES AND B.J. LATES AND JOURNEY SONG AND DEBBIE DOE AND THE BUCC JOYFUL NOISE UKULELE BAND UNTIL A FUTURE TIME WHEN BRISTOL CAN HOST.

WHITE ELEPHANT TABLE AT SPRING AND FALL GATHERINGS

There will be a White Elephant table (including crafts and baked goods) at the Fall Gathering in Laconia, NH. Please bring an item or two, if you can. THIS IS NOT A RUMMAGE SALE. The money raised goes to help the NHCUCC State Women’s Fellowship’s treasury to run both the Spring and Fall Gatherings, as well as provide some scholarship money for women who attend events like the Celebrations held every four years or our own Retreats held every couple of years. We also help our board members attend the Women Leaders of New England events—the group that sponsors and plans Celebrations.

PRAYER BOOKS FOR SALE--$10 EACH

THE NHCUCC WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP HAS PRAYER BOOKS FOR SALE.

Prayers were written and/or submitted by women and me throughout New Hampshire and compiled by Hollis Thompson and Claudia Wright from Laconia UCC.

TO PURCHASE A PRAYER BOOK(S), PLEASE CONTACT:
MARGIE KREITLER, mvkreitler@gmail.com or 603-279-6150
OR TRUDIE BERGERON, TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com or 603-828-4200.
GPS Users: If you are using a GPS for directions to the church, please use the church’s physical address: 69 Pleasant Street, Laconia NH.

Driving Directions

From Interstate 93: Take Rt. 3/Rt. 11—Exit 20.
Turn left onto Rt. 3/Rt. 11 and travel approximately 7.6 miles.
Turn left onto Main Street. Drive straight through the downtown area approximately .5 miles.
Turn left onto Veterans Square/Church Street at the traffic lights. On your left, after turning, you will see a white-steepled church, a tan brick building (Parish House), and then the Congregational Church of Laconia (brown stone building).

From Concord via Rt. 106: Follow Route 106 North, which is Main Street in Laconia.
After stopping at the traffic lights at Rt. 107 and Court Street, drive straight through the downtown area approximately .5 miles.
Turn left onto Veterans Square/Church Street at the traffic lights. On your left, after turning, you will see a white-steepled church, a tan brick building (Parish House), and then the Congregational Church of Laconia (brown stone building).

From Portsmouth NH: Take Rt. 4 West for 4.0 miles.
Stay straight to go onto Rt. 16 North for 16.2 miles.
Take the Rt. 11 west ramp towards Farmington/Alton. Turn right onto Rt. 11 for 31.5 miles.
Take a left at the lights onto Rt. 3, Union Avenue. (Rite Aid is straight in front of you.) Get into the right-hand lane, and bear to the right at the lights onto Church Street. After the second set of lights, you will see a white-steepled church, a tan brick building (Parish House), and then the Congregational Church of Laconia (brown stone building).

Parking: There is parking available on the street in front of the buildings. Additional parking is available by turning left on Pleasant Street. During Sunday Worship Services, the Bank of New Hampshire parking lot (on your right) is available. Or proceed down Pleasant Street and take your first left into the downtown parking lot.

Masks must be worn in Laconia.
We will eat our box lunch outdoors.
OUTSTANDING WOMAN RECOGNITION
Lee Miller, Chair of Outstanding Woman Committee

Every church has someone who seems to be the “backbone” of her church. You know… the ones who are in the kitchen, organizing the rummage sale or the bazaar, working in the food pantry or soup kitchen, stuffing the envelopes or folding the newsletter, filling in for the secretary, and staffing the serving line at all the receptions. They are the ones who dust and clean out the refrigerators or just pitch in where needed. They also take their turns in holding church offices as deacons and Sunday School teachers; they serve on the Boards of Missions, Stewardship, Trustees, and Women’s Groups; and they organize prayer groups and/or study groups, etc.

At every Spring Gathering we like to recognize these wonderful women for their faithfulness and dependability. There is a nomination application form below for you to nominate one of your own. Please write a brief statement of why you feel she should be recognized.

Due to Covid and the cancellation of our last Spring Gathering, we will honor Outstanding women at our Fall Gathering in Bristol. We will honor some of our outstanding women who live their faith every day in their churches and communities, but we need your help to identify them.

Please e-mail your nominations by September 27, 2021, to TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com. If necessary, snail mail to Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH 03840.
Questions? Please call Lee Miller at 603-436-9469.

Please mail early; do not wait until the deadline!

APPLICATION FOR OUTSTANDING WOMAN RECOGNITION

I/We ____________________________________________________________

Telephone: ___________________________ E-mail: ____________________________
of ____________________________ Church

Address __________________________________________________________

would like to nominate__________________________________________________

Her address: __________________________________________________________________________

from my/our church to be recognized at the NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship Fall Gathering.

Will this person be able to attend the Fall Gathering on October 13, 2021, at the Congregational Church of Laconia NH? Please circle: Yes / No **Someone from your church MUST BE present to accept award if the Outstanding Woman is not present.**

Please give a brief summary of why you recommend this woman—Use a separate sheet.

Note: If your church has not yet made a contribution to the NH Women’s Fellowship, please consider doing so. Make checks payable to NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship.

Please send articles, book reviews, and other information to LINK editor: Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH 03840; E-mail: TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com; Cell: 603-828-4200—Please leave a message.
**World Day of Prayer—Vanuatu 2021**

What is World Day of Prayer? Who We Are.

Worldwide Movement of Christian Women

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide, ecumenical movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service. It is initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions. It is symbolized by an annual day of celebration observed on the first Friday in March to which all people are welcome. It brings women of different races, cultures, and traditions together in fellowship, understanding, and action throughout the year. Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and have immeasurable influence in the world.

The motto of World Day of Prayer is “Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action.”

**Friday, March 5, 2021.** On this day, the NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship, under the leadership of Margie Kreitler, hosted World Day of Prayer—Vanuatu 2021. Diane Wells organized the program and the speakers for the skit. Mike Marshall from the Congregational Church of Laconia UCC put a beautiful YouTube presentation together for all to watch on Friday, March 5, and the three weeks following. Margie Kreitler, Hollis Thompson, Diane Wells, and Claudia Wright, all Board members and also members of the Congregational Church of Laconia UCC, led the Worship Service based on materials provided by the women of Vanuatu and [www.wdp-usa.org](http://www.wdp-usa.org). Other Board members were voices of Vanuatu women: Rhetoh by Keira Rand, South Newbury Union Church; Mothy by Anne Crawn, Deerfield Community Church; and Jacklynda by Elaine Kernozicky, Keene United Church of Christ. Diane Wells obtained a short video clip and music from WDP-USA which Mike Marshall incorporated in the YouTube video. Additional items on display were a map and flag of Vanuatu. The program ended with music by organist Bob Bengtson, Congregational Church of Laconia, UCC.

The Women’s Fellowship raised $410, which was sent to WDP USA. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**World Day of Prayer 2021—Vanuatu**

The women of Vanuatu have chosen Matthew 7:24–27 for the theme “Build on a Strong Foundation.” Vanuatu is a country that is moving from a political and economic situation where they were governed by others to one of independence. Vanuatu is a beautiful archipelago whose inhabitants are vulnerable to frequent storms, earthquakes, and active volcanoes.

**World Day of Prayer 2022—England, Wales, and Northern Ireland**

World Day of Prayer 2022 will be held on Friday, March 4, 2022. If you want to be involved with the NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship and the World Day of Prayer, contact Margie Kreitler. Join women around the world to support women’s efforts to build a strong foundation in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland and discover how we can respond with prayer and action.

See map on back of World Day of Prayer page.
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022—ENGLAND, WALES, AND NORTHERN IRELAND
NHCUCC WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP
FALL GATHERING
Wednesday, October 13, 2021
9:30 AM until 2:30 PM
Congregational Church of Laconia
69 Pleasant Street
Laconia, NH 03246

Classical Music in the Modern Church

Presenter:
Robert Bengtson, organist
“Classical Music in the Modern Church”

Cost of Gathering is $12, which does include lunch. Please register by September 27th. Please make checks payable to NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship. Mail check to Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH 03840. Questions: Contact Trudie at 603-828-4200 or e-mail to TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com.
NHCUCCSWF (New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ, State Women’s Fellowship) Board Meeting and Luncheon on June 15, 2021, at the Red Blazer Restaurant in Concord NH. Around the table, starting on the front left: Hollis Thompson, Laconia; Margie Kreitler, Laconia; Keira Rand, South Newbury Union Church; Trudie Bergeron, Greenland; Roberta Daw, South Newbury Union Church; Diane Wells, Laconia; Elaine Korznicky, Keene; Esther Murray, East Concord; Lee Miller, Greenland; Claudia Wright, Laconia; Elvena Anderson, Laconia.

SAVE THE DATES—WE ARE GOING TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF WARNER IN SPRING 2022.

WE ARE GOING FOR AN OVERNIGHT RETREAT AT CAMP SENTINEL FALL 2022

WE ARE GOING TO CELEBRATION XI IN MANCHESTER NH ON MARCH 17–19, 2023.

The NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship Spring Gathering 2022 will be held at the United Church of Warner. We will also make a visit to the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum.

The NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship would like to build an outdoor labyrinth at Camp Sentinel. The current plan is to use rocks… we will need LOTS of rocks, newspapers, and landscaping material to prevent weeds. For this project to be successful, we will need lots of volunteer help—we will want to enlist spouses, partners, sons, grandsons, brothers!!!
Women Leaders of New England (WLNE) is a group of about 30 women from NH, CT, ME, MA, RI, and VT who plan and organize an event called Celebration, held every four years since 1982. More than 600+ women attend these Celebrations.

In 1980, during the Annual Meeting of the New England Women’s Presidents, a committee was formed for the purpose of establishing a UCC Regional Women’s Event in New England. Carol Seaman from CT, Barbara Bowman from MA, Laura Bailey and Rosalyn Baston from ME, Elinor Burroughs from NH or VT, and Sally Bradley from RI served on that exploratory committee. These women gathered with several others in MA to brainstorm and develop the concept of NEW ENGLAND WOMEN’S CELEBRATIONS.

PURPOSE: The purpose was to reach the women in the pews, and to involve them in learning about and sharing their Faith beyond the local church and the Conference setting.

Mid-March, mid-Lent was chosen as the time for Celebrations because of the historical reference to Mothering Sunday, which was a time when the strict observances of Lent were relaxed for a day so church folks could return to their Mother Church or their roots. The purpose of the celebrations was to reach the women in the pews, to involve them in learning about and sharing their Faith beyond the local church and the Conference setting. These Founding Mothers had a dream and incredible Faith. They were drawn to Lydia, the weaver of purple cloth. From there it was decided that the gathering would have a special color, purple, and many of the traditions that were used at subsequent Celebrations come from the early researching and deliberations of these representatives from each of our six states.

Celebration XI in Manchester NH
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

On Friday–Saturday–Sunday, March 17–19, 2023, we are going to Manchester NH for Celebration XI. Please note the change in date from 2022 to 2023 due to Covid. Go online to www.uccwc.org for more information. There are three featured keynoters already booked: Dr. Marcia McFee, Ph.D; Rev. Karoline Lewis, Ph.D; and Rev. Dr. Velda Love. In addition, there will be four (4) workshop blocks—one (1) on Friday, and three (3) on Saturday. In the past, there were only two (2) workshop choices.

With most things in this world, all come at a price. The Steering Committee has worked long and hard at trying to provide a weekend event, meeting spaces, inspirational worship, dynamic speakers, fellowship, and “marketplace.” You will find a happy, friendly, enthusiastic group of women. So, encourage your young women (ages 14 and up), daughters, and granddaughters to come with you and be part of this awesome time in the life of the wider church. Costs are real, but please do not let that be a reason not to join us. Start saving NOW, run a bake sale at your church, ice cream Sunday/Sundae, put on a soup and bread supper this fall and ask for donations… you will be surprised at the results. (Be creative and tell us those stories on our Web site and/or Facebook page and it will encourage others to do the same.) Trudie has a purple piggy bank; she and Glenn put all their quarters in it every evening! You would be surprised to see how fast those quarters can grow.

You’ll never know how much fun and enjoyable this weekend could be for you and your friends unless you go at least once—and remember the next Celebration won’t happen again until 2026 or 2027!
Next NHCUCC Women’s Fellowship Board meeting is on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. at the Conference Center, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke NH. Everyone welcome!

Spring Gathering—2022—Warner NH and Indian Museum
Fall Retreat—2022—Camp Sentinel, Tuftonboro NH
Celebration XI—March 17–19, 2023—Manchester NH