



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

SPRING 2018

NHCUCC STATE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FALL RETREAT, SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2017

BY DIANE WELLS

LACONIA CHURCH, LACONIA NH

“Living Together in One World” was the theme of the Fall Gathering of the NH Women’s Fellowship, held at Camp Sentinel in Tuftonboro NH on September 29 and 30, 2017. The about 38 women in attendance spent Friday afternoon exploring the beautiful setting of mountain trails or enjoying Dan Hole Pond by kayaking, canoeing, or swimming across the lake—in September! Others enjoyed the lodge and the beads that Trudie Bergeron organized for those who love crafts.

Rev. Renee Rouse was the leader for the weekend. She hoped to help Christian women better understand how we can live together in one world, no matter what race or religion we are. She quoted that “ignorance is not bliss, it’s downright destructive.”

With an historical movie, much discussion, and sharing with one another, we were given a better understanding of what it was like to be different, especially as her role as the only female black minister in NH. As quoted in the evaluations, it was a hard subject, and Rev. Rouse was very powerful and empowering, and made us all realize it was a much needed, but difficult discussion, with much more time needed to break out and talk more deeply about these issues. Someone else said, “Will we ever be able to change it all so we are just one race?”

So with facing a discussion that touched us all differently, the campfire with s’mores, the wonderful meaningful prayers, and with the beauty of God’s world around us, everyone said in the evaluation that they wanted to come back to Camp Sentinel.

We hope you all will take note of that, and look forward to another retreat in the fall of 2019 at Camp Sentinel, where we can share friendships, nature’s beauty, and more food for thought as we travel the path of becoming the best Christian women we can be, through education and love of one another.

SHARING CELEBRATION X

If you attended Celebration X

If you had a wonderful time...

If you have something to share...



We would love to hear from you at the Spring Gathering in Deerfield!

Contact Diane Wells at gjosiah75@gmail.com or 603-527-1401 to schedule time or with questions.

OUTSTANDING WOMAN RECOGNITION

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.

At the next Spring Gathering, 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 mail your nominations by April 10, 2018, to **Elaine Barker**, 31 Chestnut St., Apt. 311
Tel: 603-778-0713 E-mail: ebarker3@outlook.com Exeter, NH 03833

Please mail early; do not wait until the deadline!

APPLICATION FOR OUTSTANDING WOMAN RECOGNITION

I/We _____

of _____ Church

Address _____

would like to recommend _____

Her address: _____

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

Will this person be able to attend the Spring Gathering on April 28, 2018, at the Deerfield Community Church (UCC) in Deerfield? 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.

**SAVE THE DATE— WE ARE GOING TO CELEBRATION X IN PORTLAND ME ON APRIL 6, 7, 8, 2018.
WE ARE GOING TO DEERFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH ON APRIL 28, 2018.**

Note: If your church has not yet made a contribution to the State 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.

NHCUCC WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING 2018

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

DEERFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

15 Church Street, Deerfield NH 03037-0420

• 603-463-7734 • pastor@deerchurch.org • admin@deerchurch.org • www.DeerChurch.org

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE):

- 9:30.....Registration and coffee. Set up White Elephant Tables.
- 10:00..... Welcome: Susan Robertson, Deerfield
..... Worship with communion: Reverend Carol Meredith
..... Speaker: B.J. Lates—The World at the Table
- 12:00.....Lunch, fellowship, White Elephant Table (includes crafts and baked goods)
- 1:00.....Business (introduce slate of officers) (Outstanding Woman Presentation)
(Celebration X) (secretary's report) (financial report) (any other business to
come before the members)
..... Speaker: Bonnie Gardner—Pilgrimage in Haiti
..... Sharing Celebration X in Portland ME 
..... Closing (around 3:30)

REGISTRATION FORM for NHCUCC Women's Fellowship 2018 Spring Gathering. \$12-
registration includes lunch—Make checks payable to: **NHCUCC Women's Fellowship**. Mail
registrations and checks by April 10 to Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place, Greenland NH
03840. Questions? Please contact Trudie at 603-828-4200 or TrudieGlenn@yahoo.com.

Name _____ Church _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ e-mail (optional) _____

Emergency contact—name and telephone number: _____

Special Dietary Needs? If yes, please explain: _____

B.J. LATES—*THE WORLD AT THE TABLE*—B.J. Lates, Ed.D., Retired School Administrator, worked as an elementary school principal in Lowell MA and Shrewsbury MA. She also worked as a Director of Curriculum and Instruction in the Timberlane School District in NH. BJ is a member of the Community Congregational Church in Greenland NH. She is on the Missions Ministry Group and has worked with the Seacoast Area CROP Walk Committee for the past two years. This year BJ organized a World at the Table dinner for local church members who assist with the CROP Walk effort.

This session will provide you with an opportunity to experience what it might be like to be among the world's poorest people in the world or to live like those who have a basic, sustainable lifestyle. We will compare those people's lifestyles with our own.

BONNIE GARDNER—*PILGRIMAGE IN HAITI*— Bonnie Gardner is a librarian who, after retiring, traveled around the country with her husband, Rod, for ten years in their motor home before returning permanently to Greenland, where she is a lifelong member of the Community Congregational Church. Bonnie currently serves as Member-at-Large (chairperson) on the CCC Council. Haiti is the first foreign country she has visited in 18 years.

WHITE ELEPHANT TABLE AT SPRING GATHERING

There will be a White Elephant table (including crafts and baked goods) at the Spring Gathering in Deerfield 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 Leader of New England events—the group that sponsors and plans Celebrations.

DIRECTIONS TO DEERFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC

15 Church St., Deerfield, NH 03037 603-463-7734 or 603-370-1407

WHEN COMING FROM THE NORTH on I-93 S: In Manchester, use the left 2 lanes to take Exit 7 to merge onto NH-101 E toward Seacoast/Portsmouth. [*Continue at *** below.*]

WHEN COMING FROM THE SOUTH OR THE WEST via I-93 N / I-293 / NH-101 E: In Manchester keep right to take Exit 7 to merge onto NH-101 E toward Seacoast/Portsmouth. [*Continue at *** below.*]

*** In 6.3 miles, take Exit 3 toward Candia/Deerfield, and go right at the end of the ramp onto NH-43 N. Continue on NH-43 N for a total of 6.7 miles until the intersection with Church Street (along the way, in order to stay on NH-43 N, veer left soon after the gas station, turn left at the blinking light after the main Candia cemetery, pass through a regular stoplight in Candia, make a 90-degree turn to the right in Deerfield, pass the fairgrounds, and go left at the stop sign where NH-43 N merges with NH-107 N).
Go left onto Church Street. Take a right into DCC's parking lot, immediately after Upham Drive.

WHEN COMING FROM THE EAST AND/OR THE SEACOAST: Exit from I-95 or take another route to get onto NH-101 W going toward Manchester.

Take Exit 5 for NH-107 / NH-156 toward Fremont/Raymond. Go right toward Raymond at the end of the ramp. In ½ mile, at the stoplight at the "T" intersection, go left onto NH-107 N / NH-27 W. In 3.9 miles, turn right onto NH-107 N toward Deerfield. In 5.7 miles, go left onto Church Street. Take a right into DCC's parking lot, immediately after Upham Drive.

**NHCUCC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
SPRING GATHERING
A SEAT AT THE TABLE**

**SPEAKERS — BONNIE GARDNER
BJ LATES**



APRIL 28, 2018

9:30 AM-3:30 PM

**DEERFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC
DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

9:30 AM Registration

10:00 AM Worship -Rev. Carol Meredith

Morning Program - "The World at the Table" BJ Lates

Afternoon Progrm- "Pilgrimage in Haiti" Bonnie Gardner

Cost is \$12 and includes lunch. Registration Due April 10.

Make checks payable to NHCUCC Women's Fellowship.

Mail to Trudie Bergeron, 46 Nantucket Place

Greenland, NH 03840

Questions? Please contact Trudie at 603-828-4200 or email

trudieglenn@yahoo.com.

HOSTING A SPRING OR FALL GATHERING

When was the last time your women's group or church hosted a Gathering for the NHCUCC Women's Fellowship? Maybe you have never hosted, but would like to. We need a place for our Fall Gathering 2018 and our Spring Gathering 2019. Contact Diane Wells at 603-527-1401 or gjosiah75@gmail.com or Margie Kreitler at mvkreitler@gmail.com or 603-279-6150 if you are even the least bit curious as to what hosting means.

CELEBRATION X IN PORTLAND ME ON APRIL 6–7–8

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

On Friday–Saturday–Sunday, April 6–8, 2018, we are going to Portland ME. Go online at www.uccwomenscelebration.org for more information and to register.

A SEAT AT THE TABLE



Come for all things are now ready.
-Luke 14:17b

COME TO THE TABLE

By Rev. Alice O'Donovan

In March 1982 we drove from Scotland CT to Portland ME to be part of the United Church of Christ (UCC) New England Women's Celebration I, the largest gathering of women I had ever stepped into.

That weekend hundreds of women sang their hearts out, attended fascinating workshops, and listened to powerful speakers—including Pat Schroeder the first woman elected to Congress from Colorado. We learned about Lydia, a business woman and leader in the very early church who sold purple cloth.

Lives were changed at Celebration I. Women returned home to make important contributions to their communities and congregations. Since Celebration I, UCC New England Women's Celebrations II through IX have happened. Leadership, technology, themes, and locations, have changed. The purpose, quality, importance, and blessing of Celebration have remained constant. Thousands of women have returned home to be stronger leaders in hundreds of churches and communities throughout New England.

Now, Celebration X—“*A Seat at the Table*” is close at hand. On April 6 women will once again gather to hear powerful speakers such as the Reverend Traci Blackmon and the Reverend Deborah Blood. We will learn in workshops like “Dismantling Racism Is Not A Spectator Sport,” “Support in Prison Ministry,” “Interfaith Dialogue,” and more.

On Sunday afternoon we will once again return to our homes. Around New England, around the world, people will be blessed, lives will be better, hope will live because hundreds of women once again gathered together in Portland ME April 6–8, 2018 and became Celebration X.

You are invited. Be part of Celebration X. Claim your seat at the table. Come for a blessing—leave to be a blessing. Fill a car, a van, or a bus from your town, church, or village because there really is a seat at the table for you, for everyone.

Visit our Web site: www.uccwomenscelebration.org. REGISTER FOR CELEBRATION X.

COME TO THE TABLE—EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



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, March 6, 2018, at 10:30 a.m.
at the Conference Center, 140 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke NH
Everyone welcome!



Celebration X—April 6–8, 2018—Portland ME
Spring Gathering—April 28, 2018—Deerfield NH