

**Champlain Valley
Unitarian Universalist Society
Spirituality and the Arts Summer Series**

Prelude Ronnie Romano, Music Dir.

Land Acknowledgement Rev. Tricia Hart

Welcome & Pathways to Connection Rev. Tricia

Call to Worship #428 (gray) by May Sarton Brett Millier

Chalice Lighting (Unison) Brett

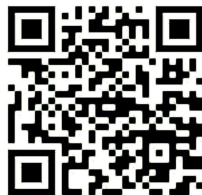
For daylight and darkness,
for sunshine and rain,
for the earth and all people,
we offer deep thanksgiving.
We kindle this light in celebration
of the life that we share. –Gary Kowalski

Hymn *You that Have Spent the Silent Night* (Gray #41)

Time for All Ages The Poetry Game Brett

Offering Five Flood Relief Organizations Jean Terwilliger

This month we are sharing our plate with five different organizations involved in **flood relief** within Vermont. Please write checks to CVUUS. Cash and checks not otherwise specified will be split between CVUUS and the donee. You can donate online with the QR code.



Offering Music Ronnie Romano

Receiving the Offering *From You I Receive* (#402 Gray)

Milestones & Passages Brett

Meditation Rev. Tricia

Readings: Poems by Ruth Stone

Advice Ellen Flight

Things I Say to Myself... Becky Strum

Curtains Kimberli Gray

Reflection *The Poetry of Ruth Stone* Brett Millier

Hymn *To See the World* (Gray #398) Sing 3 times

Benediction Rev. Tricia

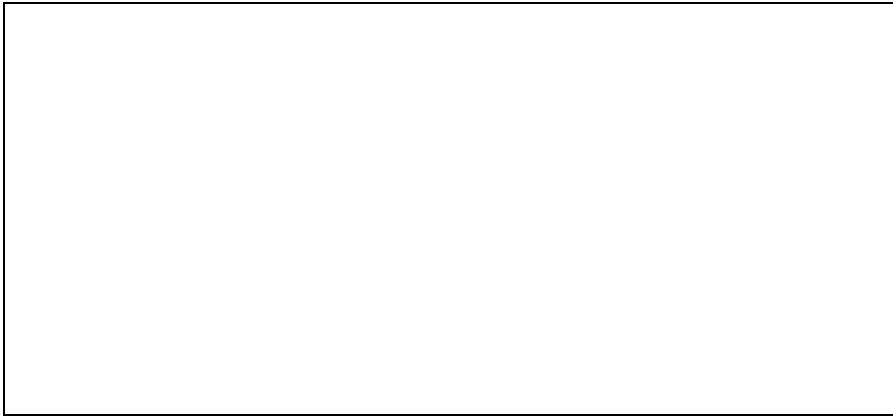
Postlude Ronnie

Welcome Brett Millier– Brett is a member of CVUUS, our choir, our Board, our rhubarb pie bee team, our radical love granola maker and so much more. She’s taught English at Middlebury College for years and brings us her devotion to literature and Ruth Stone’s poetry.

Thank you! Thanks to Brett Millier, our speaker; Rev. Tricia Worship Associate; our readers Ellen Flight, Becky Strum and Kimberli Gray; our tech team Margy Young and Liam Battjes Greenwood; Alice Berninghausen for flowers; and all who ushered, helped with Social Hour and made today possible.

WHAT CVUUS SAYS ABOUT COVID We encourage you to care for yourself and each other in whatever ways you can. **If you have COVID symptoms**, please don't attend CVUUS events (unless you know you have allergies or something like that). **If you have been exposed to someone with COVID**, it's fine to come to CVUUS but please follow the current CDC guidelines: mask inside around others for 10 days after exposure AND test on Day 5 (or earlier if you develop symptoms). **If you need COVID tests but aren't able to get them for any reason**, please let us know and we will get you a test.

FREE THINKER'S SPACE



RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION (RE) FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Nursery is open and staffed from 9:45-11:15 Sunday mornings, Older children may also choose to sit with their adults or at the table on the west side of the sanctuary or go to the nursery.

Stay Connected!

Weekly Blast (Wednesdays) provides links to our upcoming worship service, past services, and events.

Contact Us: 2 Duane Court, Middlebury VT 05753

Phone: 802-388-8080; **Email:** office@cvuus.org

Facebook: CVUUSVT; **Web:** cvuus.org

Co-Minister: Rev. Tricia Hart, revtricia@cvuus.org

Co-Minister: Rev. Christina Sillari, revchristina@cvuus.org

Office Manager: Laura Asermily, office@cvuus.org

Director of Religious Exploration: Poppy Rees, re@cvuus.org

Bookkeeper: Cara Mosier, fm@cvuus.org

Music Director: Ronnie Romano, music@cvuus.org

Hearing Assistance: Headsets to amplify sound or for hearing the worship service audio while elsewhere in this building are available in the back of the Sanctuary by the sound system.



CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY

Spirituality and the Arts

Celebrating the Poetry of Ruth Stone

Brett Millier, Special Guest

August 27, 2023

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society exists to spiritually nourish, challenge, and sustain people of all ages and circumstances, so that they might lead lives of meaning, integrity, and service.

Pathways to Connection

NEXT Sunday Sept 3—Gardening at Birdsong With Bethany Barry who has dedicated herself, with others, to the sacred work of protecting pollinators. Assisted by Abi Sessions with Ronnie Romano on piano.

Spirituality & the Arts Guest Speakers: Visit cvuus.org/past worship services to find wonderful reflections from Gina Stevenson's service on July 23 and Christal Brown's service on Sunday Aug 13. See the blast for a link to the wonderful congregant art compiled by Liam Battjes Greenwood shown in our worship service slides this summer. We'll resume zoom and recordings on Sept 10 which is our Ingathering Service.

Welcoming our new ministers Rev. Tricia and Rev. Christina! Look for their emails on the back cover of your bulletin, on our sanctuary bulletin board (center), in our July Directory and at cvuus.org/staff. You'll start to see more of them on site soon as they attend upcoming retreats of the staff (Aug 29), the worship team (Sept 6) and the Board (Sept 8).

Sunday Sept 10—Ingathering Sunday Water Communion: Riding the Waves Together with Rev. Christina Sillari, Poppy Rees, and the CVUUS Choir *What are you hoping for at CVUUS? How can we foster a sense of connectedness and community for the upcoming year?* Through words, song, and ritual we will explore what it means to ride the waves of life together through co-creating sacred space. Please feel free to bring water to the service (we will also have water). We will use the water in our communion to name our hopes and dreams for this new and interesting congregational year. Followed by the Pride Parade in Burlington. CVUUS will be marching in it again.

Filled with the sound of music: Music Dir. Ronnie Romano welcomes anyone interested in Choir to come to the **Choir Retreat** all day **Thur. Sept 7** from 9 am to 7 pm to prepare for the upcoming year and share potluck lunch. Come and go as you can. Contact the Office to be added to choir@cvuus.org if you are new to choir or find Ronnie after worship. He'll be directing rehearsals for CVUUS Choir on Thursdays at 5:45 pm starting Sept 14, **Wellspring** (Hospice singers) on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 5 pm starting Sept 13, and **Middlebury Community Choir** on Sundays and Wednesdays at 7 pm starting Sept 17. Meanwhile we welcome back, **Point Counterpoint** for their faculty concert (free!) **THIS Fri. Sept 1 at 7:30 pm** and **Opera Co of Middlebury orchestra** for rehearsal the afternoons of Sept 22 and 23. All in our sanctuary.

Middlebury's Community Living Room: Gather *A PROJECT OF THE BREAD LOAF MOUNTAIN ZEN COMMUNITY* is a comfortable, welcoming, free-of-charge gathering place that serves the neighborhood. See Colleen Brown for more.

YOU CAN HELP EASE THE HOUSING CRISIS Housing advocates say that only about 1,000 people in Addison County know about these resources. 1) [HomeShare Vermont](https://www.homesharevermont.org/) See Abi Sessions, Ellen Flight or Connie Kenna 2) [Accessory Dwelling Units \(ADU\)](https://accd.vermont.gov/adu) Basic Info: <https://accd.vermont.gov/adu> Addison County Guide: <https://acrpc.org/regional-programs/housing/> See Mike Small. **Take the ACRPC housing survey** to help them help you construct an ADU. See bulletin board for QR code and online link. 3) [Homes First \(Tiny Homes\)](https://homesfirstvt.org/) <https://homesfirstvt.org/> See Jean Terwilliger. Come to **Addison Housing Rocks! Community Celebration & Benefit**, Fri Sept 15 (4-8 pm) on Middlebury Town Green with music from The Grift & Moira Smiley and food from Viva el Sabor and Full Belly.

Poems by Ruth Stone (1915-2011)

Advice

My hazard won't be yours, not ever;
But every doom, like a hazelnut, comes down
To its own worm. So I am rocking here
Like any granny with her apron over her head.
Saying Lordy me. It's my trouble.
There's nothing to be learned this way.
If I heard a girl crying help
I would go to save her;
But you hardly ever hear those words.
Dear children, you must try to say
Something when you are in need.
Don't confuse hunger with greed.
And don't wait until you are dead.

Second-Hand Coat

I feel
In her pockets; she wore nice cotton gloves
kept a handkerchief box, washed her undies,
ate at the Holiday Inn, had a basement freezer,
belonged to a bridge club.
I think when I wake in the morning
that I have turned into her.
She hangs in the hall downstairs,
a shadow with pulled threads.
I slip her over my arms, skin of a matron.
Where are you? I say to myself, to the orphaned body,
and her coat says,
Get your purse, have you got your keys?



Mantra

When I am sad
I sing, remembering
the redwing blackbird's clack.
Then I want no thing
except to turn time back
to what I had
before love made me sad.

When I forget to weep,
I hear the peeping tree toads
creeping up the bark.
Love lies asleep
and dreams that everything
is in its golden net;
and I am caught there, too,
when I forget.