

April, 2007

The Net

A Newsletter of the Women's Network of the Upper Valley

Mission:

"A forum for women in all their roles, both personal and professional, to share their viewpoints and interests."

Please Take Note:

- Evening event on Tuesday, April 10th
- Luncheon on Monday, April 16th
- Time to send in reservation form for Spring Dinner

Upcoming Networking Question(s):

Tuesday, April 10th : "What dramatic performance has made the most memorable impression on you and why?"

Inside:

President's Letter	1
Events	2
Membership	3
Program 2006-7	4

President's Letter

Dear Friends,

On March 13th, we had a wonderful evening with Carla Bailey, Senior Pastor at the United Church of Christ at Dartmouth, who spoke on "Women's Spirituality and Meditation Disciplines".

Carla defined spirituality as our "conscious contact with God" or when we "stop for quiet and open doors internally" (per twelve step program). She allowed that spirituality for women might have a greater emphasis upon relationships and connectivity and the need to nurture one another (through such things as, of course, food!). She noted that spirituality can depend upon a variety of things – our age, relationships, health status, and losses. Also, it generally involves circular thinking and is often story oriented.

One can attend to spirituality through a variety of activities. Quickly acknowledging her biases as a Christian pastor, Carla focused some of her time on prayer and its several different types. She suggested aids for focusing our intent, for example, listing all those things for which one is grateful that begin with a particular letter of the alphabet. She also mentioned the power of letter writing, geography, or focusing on a particular scripture. In illustrating how to capture the essence of something through the use of only a few words, she gave an example: "Baby Shoes for Sale. Never Worn." Need I say more?

Personally, Carla finds stitching – one of many possible repetitive activities -- an opportune time to hold people and their needs in her mind. During networking, members shared a variety of other ways they use to nurture their spirituality – praying, gardening, hiking, saying the rosary, yoga, meditation, formal worship, needlework, music, tai chi and shamanistic dance – to name a few.

In addition to activities involving movement, I know that I get in touch with my spirituality in the presence of those who are open and willing to express their truths. Those present admitted to being raised in a variety of religious traditions – atheist, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish/Catholic. Many have deliberately moved away from their roots and found spirituality elsewhere. I so appreciated everyone being

honest about their respective journeys while being respectful of organized religion. I also so appreciated Carla, senior pastor of a protestant faith, who was completely respectful of our journeys and honest about her own. Her capacity in this regard helped me soften towards my own roots -- also in the United Church of Christ -- and remember the characteristics of a tradition that I enjoyed and indeed miss. So ...when I say it was a wonderful evening, I mean it!

Going backwards for a moment, I want to say an additional word about the Vermont Women's Prison and how we might help. Chica Maynard recently forwarded on to me a letter from Ivy Schweitzer, Professor of English at Dartmouth, who in 2005 with a Faculty Fellowship from the Tucker Foundation asked a theater practitioner, Pati Hernandez, to design a workshop program entitled "Telling My Story" at the Women's prison in Windsor. Ivy is seeking funding to repeat this program this spring term. To support this effort, please send donations to her at 217 Sanborn House, Dartmouth College. For more information, you may reach her at 802.649.2947.

We are finishing this year with three awesome programs. Don't miss tomorrow evening when Brooke Ciardelli and Catherine Doherty give us a behind the scenes look at Northern Stage -- from how they select their stellar cast to what goes on until closing night. Then, next Monday, Marysa Navarro, first woman to get tenure at Dartmouth, shares her vast expertise on Eva Peron with us. Don't miss this last luncheon of the year because to know Marysa is to love her. And, finally, surely you are as excited as I am to hear from Carolyn Bellamy at our Spring Dinner on May 15th. A reservation form for this dinner is enclosed.

To spring and regeneration,

Judi

“Women’s Spirituality and Meditation Disciplines” with Carla Bailey

There are a thousand ways to kneel and kiss the ground. - Rumi

And then the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk to bloom. - Anais Nin

God leads me to still waters that restore my spirit - Psalm 23

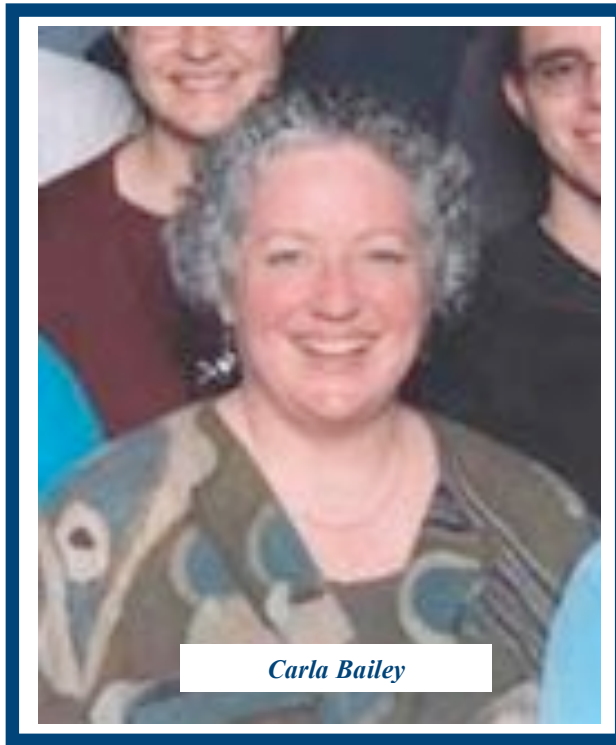
Nothing among human things has such power to keep our gaze fixed ever more intensely upon God than friendship. - Simone Weil

Lead us from the unreal to the real. - Hindu Invocation

The Spiritual life is about becoming more at home in your own skin. - Parker Palmer

Whether drifting through life on a boat or climbing toward old age leading a horse, each day is a journey and the journey itself is home. - Basho

For the raindrop, joy is entering the river. - Ghalib



Carla Bailey

There will never be an “us” if I play small. - Sharon Preiss

I think I could turn and live with animals. They do not sweat and whine about their condition. Not one is dissatisfied. - Walt Whitman

Like the moon, come out from behind the clouds! And Shine! - Buddha

If you can’t cross over alive, how can you cross over when you are dead? - Kabir

When was the last time you danced? - Question put to the sick by a Native American Medicine Man

Another name for God is surprise. - Brother David Steindl-Rast

Just trust yourself. Then you will know how to live. - Goethe

All tempest has, like a navel, a hole in its middle, through which a gull can fly, in silence. - 14th c. Japanese, Anonymous

The cut worm forgives the plow. - William Blake

To direct the mind towards the basic unity of all things and to divert it from the seizing of differences – therein lies bliss. - Tejo-Bindu Upanishad

Note: The above quotations are all from a book -- The Book of Awakening by Mark Nepo -- given to me by long time friend and member, Cary Tall.

Membership

From Carla Bailey

A Tent of Meeting

Church of Christ at Dartmouth College
40 College St
Hanover, NH
April 28 – 29, 2007

Saturday

4 – 6:00 pm Children’s Art Festival
6 – 6:45 pm A Middle-eastern Supper
(donation requested)
7 – 8:30 pm Concert for Peace

Sunday

10 am – Worship
Executive for Middle East and Europe
Wider Church Ministries of the United Church
of Christ

12 noon – Lunch (donation requested)
12:30 pm - Key note presentation

Dr. Ingrid Mattson

President of the Islamic Society of North
America, Director of Islamic Chaplaincy and
Professor at the Macdonald Center for Islamic
Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at
Hartford Seminary in Hartford, CT
With Christian and Jewish responses
2 – 2:15 pm Prayers for Peace

According to tradition, Abramham kept his tent
open in all four directions, the more easily to
share his food and water with travelers from
anywhere. In that spirit, we welcome all those
who thirst and hunger for justice, peace, and
dignity ...”

From Molly Scheu

Ghana Circle Luncheons

Spring 2007
Dana Dakin

Cordially invites you to attend an
update:

Women’s Trust Pokuase Village

(Their January 2007 and Susan’s
March trip to Ghana)

Thursday, April 19
and/or
Tuesday, May 15
12 noon – 2 pm

The Old Firehouse
5 Campground Road
Wilmot, NH 03287

You, a friend, and your partner are
welcome to attend one or both
luncheons.

Please RSVP to
skraeger@womenstrust.org or call
526.4366

A Spring Treat

Cantabile

Rollins Chapel
Sunday, 4/15/07, 4 pm

Featuring Dartmouth College
Organist Chris Lundell
And Women’s Voices

J.S. Bach, Liszt, Messiaen, Poulenc,
Durufle, Mendelssohn, Mozart

From Lindsey Toomey

Lindsey’s husband, David, directs a foreign
language initiative of Middlebury College
that is opening an administrative office in the
Upper Valley. They are hiring staff and the
brief positions descriptions are now available.
For more information, contact David at:

David Toomey, Ph.D.

Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy

802.649.1618
dtoomey@middlebury.edu

President

Judi Colla
jcolla@collaassociates.com
603.643.9274

Vice-President/Program

Judy Music
judithmusic@verizon.net
802.649.2535

Secretary/Publicity

Sheila Buckley
sbucklevr@yahoo.com
603.643.5359

Treasure/Photographer

Inge Brown
inge.brown@dartmouth.edu
802.296.5777

Core Committee 2006-7

Hospitality

Esther Colby
Escolby@verizon.net
603.643.2483

Hospitality

Kathy Sherrieb
kathleen.sherrieb@dartmouth.edu
603.795.2831

Hospitality

Alyssa Smith
alyssas@gmail.com
603.448.1759

Special Events

Debbie Aliber
debaliber@yahoo.com
603.643.0107

Biographer

Estelle Diamond
estelle.diamond@valley.net
603.643.2710

Raffle

Judy Rocchio
judith.rocchio@valley.net
603.643.6902

Membership

Mary Ann O’Connor
MaryAnnOConnor@dartmouth.edu
603.643.8280

Nominations

Carol Weingeist
cpereraw@verizon.net
603.643.6850

Website

Diana Greywolf
myrrhia@sover.net
802.333.9793

Past President

Mary Kukowski
mary.kukowski@valley.net
603.643.8994

Program 2006 - 7

Evening Program

*Unless otherwise noted, Howe Library in Hanover
Second Tuesday of the Month, 6:15 to 8:30 pm*

October 17

Fall Reception

November 16

“A Journey of Transformation:
From Physics to Energy Healing”
Margarita Crocker

December 12

“Gems: Mystique and Mistakes”
Antoinette Matlins

Tuesday, January 9

“Mapping the Human Genome”
Jennifer Loros
Professor of Biochemistry and Genetics

February 13

“Windsor Women’s Prison”
Betsy Morse

March 13

“Women's Spirituality and Meditation Disciplines”
Carla Bailey, Senior Pastor, United Church of Christ

April 10

“Northern Stage:
From Casting Call to Curtain Call”
Brooke Ciardelli and Catherine Doherty

May 15

Spring Dinner – Hanover Inn
Carol Bellamy

June 13

Potluck/Brainstorming for Next Year’s Program

Luncheons - “Remarkable Women”

*(In collaboration with the Program on Gender and Women
Studies at Dartmouth)*

*Tip Top Café in White River Junction
Selected Mondays, 12:00 to 2:00 pm
Advanced Reservations Required*

October 30

“Salon Movement in 17th c. France:
Madeleine de Scudery and Marie-Madeleine Pioche de la Vergne,
comtesse de Lafayette”
Faith Beasley, Assoc. Professor of French/Italian

January 22

“Female Leadership in Afghanistan”
Jennifer Fluri, Assistant Professor of Geography

April 16

“Eva Peron: A Remarkable Woman”
Marysa Navarro, Professor of History

The Net

P.O. Box 183
Hanover, NH 03755-0183

