



The Pilgrim



Affirming the inherent worth and dignity of every person

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President's message: It only takes a spark...

Do you have the brilliant idea to get the NUUF back on the path to growth?



September service Lighting a candle in the world on fire

See the service description on this page and put it on your things to do list.

Website news: Major makeover

After ten years, www.nuuf.nl has been given a major facelift....



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Service in the Park an idea worth repeating



Service on 7 September: Rev. Derek Suchard

Lighting a candle in a world on fire



Lighting candles is an integral part of the UU experience in general and the NUUF experience in particular. We light them for joys, for concerns, in remembrance, in meditation, in reflection...in the dark.

To illuminate. To banish shadows. It's what candles do. It's what they live for. And this has been a summer of shadows, hasn't it? War(s), pestilence, a new (but expected) wrinkle to the global warming catastrophe-in-waiting, cruelty and evil have made what should be lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer a period of darkness that reminds one more of Mordor than of Sunnybrooke Farm.

Which presents us with a challenge. How can one keep one's candle burning when the flames of chaos are licking at our heels, both figuratively and, as in California, Russia and Australia, literally as drought associated with climate change leads to more frequent and more intense forest fires.

At the September service, we will be exploring this challenge, as well as rejoicing in the fact that we can again be

together. As part of that celebration, please bring a flower to add to our bouquet during our flower ceremony. We look forward to seeing you!



President's message

'It only takes a spark....'

A new season. A new start. After the traditional break for the summer, the Netherlands UU Fellowship is getting ready for the start of its 33rd year. Not bad.

Of course, we still have room for growth in both numbers and range of activities. So, this year, one of the things we should concentrate on is just that...growth.

Including spiritual growth as individuals and as a fellowship community.

You may have already thought of some areas where we could grow and improve.

Come on...don't be shy...either tell us, or e-mail us, or Telegram us (cause Whatsapp is so 2013), or even snail-mail us....we're not proud. We'll take

good ideas any way we can get them. Smoke signals, even!

I have a feeling that 2014-15 could be the start of an exciting time for the NUUF. And your idea could be the spark to get it started.



The September service will be held on Sunday, 7 September 2014 at the Keizersgracht Church, Keizersgracht 566, Amsterdam. Bring a friend! (or a total stranger)

Netherlands Unitarian Universalist Fellowship



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Your home for English-speaking liberal religion in The Netherlands



Photos of NUUF

Come to a service

Our next service is Sunday September 7. We invite you to join us!

The Netherlands Unitarian Universalist Fellowship is an English-speaking, liberal religious community based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. We are a member Fellowship of the European Unitarian Universalists, and through that organization we are affiliated with the International Council of Unitarians and Universalists.

Many of our members are native English speakers, but we certainly have Dutch members as well. And we often welcome North American UU visitors who are traveling in Europe.

Our services usually begin with a candle-lighting ceremony and sharing of joys and concerns. Each month a minister or other speaker presents a talk or sermon about a particular religious, spiritual, quest or other topic of interest to religious liberals. Music and singing are always part of our services, but we also provide time for contemplation and meditation. After the service, we have a social hour with coffee, tea, juice, refreshments and, of course, good company. We hope you join us!

Latest News

Ingathering

The annual ingathering potluck will be held on Saturday August 16, 2014 at 18:00 in Amstelveen. Contact us for more information. Call +31 20 337 9961.

First service

The 2014-15 Fellowship year begins with the first service of the new season led by Rev. Derek Suchard on Sunday September 7 at 10:00.

Thanksgiving

We celebrate a US-style Thanksgiving potluck in November each year. See this space for details.

Pilgrim

The latest issue of The Pilgrim, the newsletter of NUUF, is now available. [Click here to see the Pilgrim.](#)

European retreat: Autumn 2014

Would you like to attend the fall retreat of the European Unitarian Universalist association? The retreat will take place in Spa, Belgium. Watch this space for more details or contact Rev. Derek Suchard to learn more.

Services 2014 - 2015

Our year

September 7: Rev. Derek Suchard
October 5
November 3
December 7: Rev. Mark Morrison Reed
January 4
February 8
March 8
April 5
May 3
June 7

All services at 14:00

First Sunday of the month, Sept.-June

The Keizersgrachtkerk
Keizersgracht 566
Amsterdam

New NUUF website takes us into the next phase

Given how important the NUUF website has become, being responsible for virtually all of the new visits and contacts over the past decade, it's hard to remember that we have only had a website since 2004.

Through the combined efforts of Brenda de Jong, MJ Knoester and Derek Suchard, the site that had served unchanged since those early forays into the world wide web, has now been updated and went live on 10 August.

It's not done, of course. But the principle of the new design is that it is dynamic....it'll never be done. That way, we hope to keep it fresh and vibrant for years to come.

Solstice Service

Service in the Park an idea worth repeating

A pleasantly surprisingly large group of 20 attended the NUUF's first service in the park in the Amsterdamse Bos today, led by druid Taco IJzerman.

The service was originally intended to fill the rather lengthy gap between the first Sundays in June and September.

This service, held on the weekend of the solstice, filled that gap (actually the gap until the Ingathering in August) most satisfactorily,

A special shout out to former NUUF president Quinte, visiting Amsterdam from Montana with her niece from Pennsylvania on her first trip to Europe.



The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

UUSC advances human rights through grassroots collaboration. In more than a dozen countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. UUSC's innovative approaches and measurable impact are grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights.



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CHOOSE COMPASSIONATE CONSUMPTION

UUSC defends living wages, fair trade, and workers' right to organize — and you are essential to these efforts. You have the power to make a difference in the lives of workers, especially workers in the food chain, every day when you make choices that align with your values of justice and equality.



THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER

Water is essential to human life. Yet, almost three-quarters of a billion people around the world lack clean drinking water. UUSC is on the cutting edge of ensuring that all people — no matter their race or bank account — have access to safe, affordable water.



SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY IN HAITI

Contrary to what you may hear in mainstream dialogue, there is hope in Haiti. UUSC is cultivating that hope every day as part of a long-term commitment to supporting a recovery in Haiti that is grounded in justice.



The NUUF Women's Group

meets once each month on a Friday at 7:30 p.m. For information, contact Christina Tomlow at 030-288-7657.



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<http://www.nuuf.nl>

Facebook: Netherlands Unitarian Universalist Fellowship group



**On deck for October
Rev. Wies Houweling:
the liberal's pilgrimage**

The October service will explore the phenomenon of pilgrimage as experienced by adherents of liberal religion. Does pilgrimage mean the same when one's beliefs are not frozen in dogma? Join Wies in October on this fascinating journey into faith practice.



Masthead

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Copy deadline: the 10th of the month.



Our services

The Netherlands Unitarian Universalist Fellowship services usually begin with a candle-lighting ceremony and sharing of joys and concerns.

Each service, a guest speaker or a member of our congregation presents information about a particular religion, spiritual quest or another topic of interest to religious liberals.

Music and singing is always a part of our service along with time for contemplation and meditation. After the service we have a social hour with coffee, tea, juice, refreshments and, of course, good company.

We meet most months at 2 o'clock in the afternoon on the first Sunday of the month (Sept. to June) at the Keizersgracht Church, Keizersgracht 566, Amsterdam.

For more information, contact Eva Kortekaas by email at info (at)nuuf.nl.

We look forward to seeing you!