
**Our Church:** Love Church is a non-traditional worshiping community. We welcome everyone, including those who have not been connected with a church in the past or have left the traditional church for whatever reason. At Love Church we worship as we share a meal, hike in the woods, create art, dance, pray, laugh, sing, meditate, and love our neighbors. It’s all about love! Join us as we redefine what church can be.

**Our Minister:** Rev. Lava’s call to ministry includes a passion to serve those who have little or no desire to connect with the traditional church yet who consider themselves to be spiritual and who feel a longing to explore what it means to be part of a spiritual community. Lava’s own spiritual journey includes being raised non-churched by atheist Jewish parents, finding her higher power through the 12-step program of recovery, an ongoing exploration of Eastern religions, practicing the teachings of Abraham Hicks, a deep (oh, so deep) love for Jesus and his teachings, and a fervent belief in the ever-present, healing, power of the Holy Spirit of Love. Lava is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

**Our Team:** The Love Church Launch Team is a jolly mix of eager seekers. Some have minimal to no experience with church, some have left the church for many reasons, some embrace traditional church, some are in their 20s, some are older, all are enthusiastic about offering something new, vibrant, and spiritually uplifting to a mostly non-churched, rural Vermont community. Each member of the team has something to offer the Love Church community during our weekly Dinner Church worship service and in our Love Church Workshops.

**Our Mission Statement:**
At Love Church we redefine what church can be as we explore non-traditional worship, engage in a relationship with a caring and loving community, and embrace the ever-present Holy Spirit of Love.

**Our Vision statement:**
We seek to increase the number of neighbors in our region who will experience and embrace the loving and creative alternative worship community that Love Church offers.

**Our Hope Through The Hope Grant:** Because Love Church is launching during the pandemic we are naturally embracing the necessity of virtual worship. Recognizing the benefits of allowing all our neighbors, far and near, to gather together so easily, Love Church is committed to continuing our virtual accessibility long after the social restrictions are lifted. Seekers will be welcome to join both in-person and on the screen. The Hope Fund Grant will allow Love Church to purchase some of the electronic equipment to support this essential live-streaming endeavor. Here is a rough breakdown of how we will use the $2,500 gift:

- Computer: $1500
- Projector: $500
- Screen: $150
- Microphones: $220
- Webcam: $100
Tripod: $30

Total: $2500

“... and you shall love your neighbor...” (Mark 12:31)