

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, September 20, 2023

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69 Winthrop St., Augusta ME

(207)622-3232 – info@augustauu.org
www.augustauu.org

[Zoom](#)
[Room](#)

A Message from our New Minister

Unitarian Universalist Community Church has a place for you! There are so many different aspects of congregational life that are central to creating connections, working for justice, and connecting us to the work of our Unitarian Universalist faith. Please take a moment to explore the life of this congregation. Here is the calendar link from our website where you'll find many of the activities. It is the practice of the board of trustees to set goals and focus for the church year. Below are some of what will be the focus of the leadership at UUCC. If you are interested in helping with any of these areas, please reach out to the board leads noted after each item. UUCC's Board's five goals for this church year:

1. Increase our presence in the community through outreach and visibility. (Susan Burnett leads, Cheryl Ring, assists)
2. Develop a vision of how our physical plant should look and be, then develop and implement a work plan to address these needs. (Hal Booth leads with Harry Grimmnitz and Susan Burnett assisting)
3. Develop opportunities for more engagement in life of the congregation. Identify many ways for people to support and participate with the UUCC, for example: create opportunities for different levels of engagement. (All Board Members)
4. Develop and implement a safety and security plan. (Jim Caldwell leads)
5. Complete the bylaws revision and present to congregation for vote. (Cheryl Ring leads)

As our time together unfolds, may the beauty of community meet you with compassion, love, and kindness. I will be on vacation from 9/26 through 10/3. I look forward to being with you when I return.

Love and Light,
Rev. Donna, she, hers
Contact Rev. Donna at minister@augustauu.org.

Upcoming Services

<p>Sunday September 24, 2023 Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p>“The Bones of the Earth” Rev. Andrea Greenwood</p> <p>Years ago Annie Dillard wrote a book called Teaching a Stone to Talk. But throughout history it seems that the issue has been more of humans learning to listen. What does the earth have to say?</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Kathy Kellison will be our worship associate and Angie Blevins will manage technology. Morgan Lee, our new Choir Accompanist will be our pianist and the Choir will present "Harvest Moon" by Cristi Cary Miller, with Barbara Moody, viola; Morgan Lee, piano. We will have a special fellowship hour to celebrate Monique McAuliffe on her last day of employment with UCC.</p> <p>BIO: Andrea Greenwood is a retired UU minister living in Owl's Head, where generations of her ancestors lived and threw rocks around. She lived for almost 30 years in Massachusetts, where she and her husband, Mark Harris, served the First Parish of Watertown.</p>
<p>Sunday October 1, 2023 Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p>“Temporary Shelter (Sukkot Theme Service)” Rev. Lara Campbell</p> <p style="color: red;"><Service description not yet available></p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Nan Bell will be our worship associate and Priscilla J. Jenkins will manage technology. Karen Foust will be our pianist. Fellowship Hour will be hosted by Dale McCormick and Nan Bell.</p>

Sunday worship service is now being held *IN-PERSON* in the Sanctuary.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: The church doors will now be locked 10 minutes after the service begins. The greeter will be at the front door to let anyone in after that time.

If you want to watch the livestream of the service, please visit:

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/mtifpth0utvesjqgjej>

If you missed a service or want to watch a service again, the link above also allows access to prior services. Click on the play button on the video of the “broadcast date” you are interested in watching. Services may be viewed by Boxcast for a week after the service is live.

Special Events / Opportunities

Calling All Artists!

UCC has a Facebook page and other possible media locations that would benefit from images that would support our UU message. Lynn Smith, UCC's administrator, and I are looking for a few images that can be used on a rotating basis. At times, they may be used on Facebook to support attention to our announcements and at other times they may be integrated into other media locations. This original work will support our outreach and we're asking for your help. If you are interested in this opportunity, please return this brief [artist form](#).

"SEWING ADVENTURES becomes "Sewing Group"



Sewing Adventures has been such a success that Martha and Nancy will now hold a "Sewing Group". Sewing Group meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month beginning September 11, 2023 through Nov. 27, 2023 from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon. We ask that attendees help set up and put away tables and chairs.

All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like. Just bring whatever you'd like to work on, either machine or hand sewing, and we will all help one another as needed. Be sure to let us know if there is anything you need from one of us... we are likely to have whatever it is! Martha at 887-1104 or 313-5859, or Nancy at 213-3047. Hope to see you. -- Nancy and Martha

An opportunity for reflection...

An opportunity to reflect on the latest wayside pulpit message being shared on the corner of Winthrop and Summer Streets.



"May you experience each day as a sacred gift woven around the heart of wonder."

~John O'Donohue

Thank you to Angie Blevins for maintaining the wayside pulpit and providing us with messages to ponder.

Join us after service on Sunday, September 24th for a special coffee hour for Monique on her last day of employment with us.

Connections by Day of the Week

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UUCC calendar
Click below to view ALL events, including any group meetings or other business meetings.
<https://www.augustauu.org/calendar-and-communications/>

Some events are still being held in the UUCC Zoom Room.

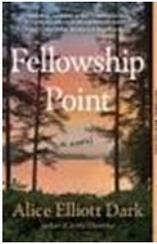
[Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room:](#)

For other ways to join Zoom, see [General Information](#)
Zoom meeting id: 823 807 0673 – Password: 6971



<p><u>Monday</u> Each week <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u> <u>Private</u> <u>Zoom</u></p>	<p><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>NEW SCHEDULE, effective Jan 30th: BY Private ZOOM –EVERY Monday (we will no longer meet in person at the UUCC on the last Monday of the month). You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated Zoom login information at: email: martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com <i><u>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</u></i></p>	
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Monday</u> <u>9:30 – Noon</u></p>	<p><u>Sewing Group</u></p> <p>Sewing Group meets in the Fellowship Hall the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon beginning <u>September 11, 2023 through Nov. 27, 2023</u>. We ask that attendees help set up and put away tables and chairs.</p> <p>Just bring whatever you'd like to work on, either machine or hand sewing, and we will all help one another as needed. Be sure to let us know if there is anything you need from one of us... we are likely to have whatever it is! Martha at 887-1104 or 313-5859, or Nancy at 213-3047.</p> <p>All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like.</p>	
<p><u>Wednes-</u> <u>day</u> <u>6:00 -</u> <u>7:30 p.m.</u></p>	<p><u>UUCC Choir Rehearsal</u></p> <p>Choir rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Questions? Please reach out to Bridget Convey at: musicdirector@augustauu.org. All are welcome!</p>	
<p><u>Wednes-</u> <u>days</u> Each Week <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p><u>Gentle YOGA</u></p> <p>Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p> <p>UU Yoga is now offered as a hybrid gathering. People can choose to gather in the Fellowship Hall for yoga, Wednesdays 5 PM-6 PM or</p>	

	<p>join via zoom. Here is the zoom link: https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09 Password: 174192</p> <p>Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin class right at 5:00 p.m. FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</p>
<p>2nd & 4th Wednesday</p> <p>10:30 a.m. - Noon</p> <p>2nd Wed. - C-FH 4th Wed. - Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Seasoned Souls</u></p> <p>Seasoned Souls is a group of older church members that meet as a study/support group to talk openly about topics related to the aging process. Seasoned Souls is open to any church member over 65 years of age. On the 2nd Wednesday monthly we will meet in the Fellowship Hall and on the 4th Wednesday, we will meet in the UUCC Zoom room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact John Seksay (netmotel1@gmail.com or 317-69-3636) or Stefanie (mstefbarley@gmail.com or 629-8890)</p>
<p>Thursdays Each Week</p> <p>8:00 – 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>You may join us by Zoom at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30</p> <p>-- IN-PERSON every Thursday at the River Studio, 332 Water St. Hallowell (except the last Thursday of the month) --BY Private ZOOM – last Thursday of the month</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p> 
<p>2nd & 4th Thursday</p> <p>In the UUCC Zoom room</p> <p>9:00 – 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Writing to Wake the Soul</u></p> <p>This is an open group that gathers and writes together to explore spiritual themes. The writing is used as a conveyance to connect more deeply with ourselves and each other. We are not writing to develop skill.</p> <p>Come and try it out; there is no obligation to come each time we gather. This group will be meeting in the UUCC Zoom Room.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FMI: please contact Debbie at (207)557-2697 or debbiemattson@hotmail.com</p>
<p>1st Thursday</p> <p>Noon-1:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Read Learn Share Book Group</u></p> <p>The READ LEARN SHARE book group is now on break for the summer months. The group will resume Oct. 5th. We meet the first THURSDAY of each month (Oct. thru June) at noon in the UUCC ZOOM ROOM and in FELLOWSHIP HALL using the OWL technology to have a hybrid meeting. For more information, contact Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com or</p>

<p>Will resume Oct. 2023</p>	<p>June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com</p>  <p>Plan to join us as we resume our meetings on October 5. We will be discussing Alice Elliott Dark's novel Fellowship Point.</p> <p>“Fellowship Point” is a novel rich with social and psychological insights, both earnest and sly, big ideas grounded in individual emotions, a portrait of a tightly knit community made up of artfully drawn, individual souls.” NY Times</p> <p>A full list of books for the year will be included in the Fall Newsletter.</p>
<p><u>4th</u> <u>Friday</u></p> <p><u>6:30 – 8:30</u> <u>Sanctuary</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Sept 28th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Free Style Drum Circle</u></p> <p>The Augusta Community Drum Circle is a free style drum circle welcoming people of all ages, walks of life, and abilities. Free style means no one is assigned ‘pieces’ to play. Just play! Or don’t play! Just come watch, sing, dance, or bring your own instruments. No one cares if you’ve never played before or if you make a mistake. As long as you are having fun you can’t get it wrong! <u>ALL are welcome.</u> Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!</p> <p>The Drum Circle meets the fourth Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information you can contact Mike Moody at mtmoods@gmail.com or 229-1118.</p>
<p><u>1st and 3rd</u> <u>Saturday</u></p> <p>9:30–11 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>UUCC Occasional Orchestra</u></p> <p>The UUCC Occasional Orchestra is now on break for the summer months. We will resume rehearsals on September 16th. Rehearsals are usually held the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. We practice in the Sanctuary from 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Join us this September. Come and share your musical talents with our UUCC community. All are welcome, please join us!</p> <p>Questions: please contact Dale McCormick at: dmmccormick11@aol.com.</p>
<p><u>4th</u> <u>Sunday</u></p> <p><u>1-2:30</u> <u>p.m.</u> <u>In-Person</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Sept 24th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Goddess, Earth Circles Gathering: Fall Equinox/Mabon September 24, 2023, 1-2:30pm In Person in Fellowship Hall Cycles of the Seasons and Phases of Our Lives "Pagan and Earth-Centered Voices in UUism" Help us plan the gatherings for the year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Goddess/Earth Circles focus on Goddesses, the phases of our lives and earth-based spirituality. All ages and genders are welcome.</p> <p>The October 29 gathering will focus on Wisdom, celebration of Samhain, and the possibility of croning. For more information and if you would be interested in becoming a crone, contact Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com)</p>

Notices / Updates / News

Covid Update

Unfortunately, we are having a resurgence of Covid within our church community, which is consistent with what is happening in our state and the country at large. This is a good time to remind ourselves of the CDC guidance and ask everyone to remember to wear a mask at Church if you have been exposed or think you may have been.

When Covid hit my household, I was surprised by how uncomfortable it felt to wear a mask again. That discomfort quickly subsided as I heard of more church members falling sick with the virus.

Please take care of yourselves, and if you have been exposed, or even have cold-like symptoms, it helps protect our community if you wear a mask.

Stay safe and healthy, Michaela Loisel Board President
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Fall Poetry Service

The UU Service on Nov 12th will be a poetry service once again! This time the theme will be quite different. The theme will be “Conversations with Nature”, poems that speak to encounters with the natural world and how we have been affected by them. These can be original works, or favorite poems by other authors that create a connection for us. If you would like to be a reader, please contact John Seksay at netmotel@gmail.com with a copy of your poem. The draft of the service needs to be prepared by Nov 7th, so we would need to have the poems by Nov. 4th. We will include as many works and readers as possible for a rich bouquet of experiences. Looking forward to a thoroughly





This looks like WAY too much FUN
to be work!

It ended up being both!

This crew jacked up the sagging Drew House
porch and replaced the rotting stairs
while sharing some laughs!

Thank you to this crew consisting of
(from left to right):

Dale McCormick, Angie Blevins,
Harry Grimmnitz, Matt Foust and Bill Allen.

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Ministerial Search Committee Update

The search committee met in the Fellowship Hall for a retreat facilitated by Jess Hunt from the UUA.

We established a timeline for our search over the course of the year ahead. We will be conducting a congregational survey in October. Ministerial Search Committee includes—Kevin Kane, Nan Bell, Debbie Mattson, Stefanie Barley, Harold Burnett and Angie Blevins.

Social Justice Committee

Ongoing efforts from our Social Justice Committee

Donation boxes have been placed in the church coat room for non-perishable food items to go to the **Augusta Food Bank** and for toilet paper, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, tampons, sanitary pads, diapers and wipes, which are high priority needs right now, to go to the **Essential Hygiene Pantry at Bridging the Gap.**

The Augusta Overnight Emergency Warming Shelter (located at South Parish Congregational Church) has many needs which frequently change. Go to their Facebook page and check “Our Needs” to find out what’s urgent. There is a donation box for the Shelter in our coat room, too.

They are worthy organizations that provide much needed services to our community. Your donations will be greatly appreciated and put to good use. For more information, contact co-chairs Stefanie Barley (stefbarley@gmail.com) and/or Susan Shaw (susanmaine@gmail.com), who will make regular deliveries of items that you contribute or email Susan Shaw, susanmaine@gmail.com regarding food donations.

Board of Trustees

Draft Board Meeting AGENDA
Thursday, September 14, 2023 - 5:00 to 7:00 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Chalice Lighting Rev. Donna Dolham
Board Covenant Board Members (Read)
Check in: Experimenting with up to two minute check-in, timed. Michaela Loisel

New Business:

1. By-Laws Review discussion
 1. Letter of Transmittal from Bylaws Work Group to Board
 2. Bylaws draft Cheryl Ring
2. Leadership Development Michaela
3. File Sharing discussion Cheryl Ring
4. Community or Board Read Rev. Donna

5. Personnel Team/Committee Rev. Donna
6. Goals Discussion (quick check-in) Michaela

Reports

1. Finance Committee's Report:
2. Treasurer's Reports Nancy Fritz
3. President's Report: Michaela
4. Minister's Report: Rev. Donna

Old Business

Extinguish Chalice Rev. Donna

ADJOURN:

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact Michaelatloisel@gmail.com. **Next Board meeting: Thursday, October 12, 2023**

General Information

Worship Services are held IN-PERSON
Events may still be held virtually in the
UCC ZOOM ROOM

Other ways to UCC Zoom Room Zoom:

1. **Join from your internet browser by clicking this link or typing this into your browser:**
<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>, launch Zoom, then enter **passcode: 6971**
2. **Select "Join Meeting" from the Zoom application on your computer or mobile device.**

UCC Meeting ID: 823 807 0673 – then enter **passcode: 6971**

3. **Join by phone:** dial 1 646 558 8656 (**NOTE:** toll charge may apply)

At first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

At second prompt: press # (no personal id needed) <No passcode needed when joining by phone>

NOTE---*6 is mute AND un-mute on your phone. The host cannot mute or un-mute people who phone-in.

HOSTS: Once in your meeting, claim the host using the **HOST KEY** as you have done in the past.

UCC Pastoral Ministry Team

We are here for you. Feel free to reach out in times of need for compassionate listening, for casual conversation, to share some good news, to share your struggle or just to say hello.

Martha Pelletier, Chair	207-685-9592 (h)	Mjpell14@roadrunner.com
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	hzmre@hzmre.com
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	plambflowers@outlook.com

Caring Cooperative support includes rides, meals, errands, get well and condolence cards as well as companion visits.
If you would like to request or suggest meal support: contact Martha Pelletier 685-9592.
If you would like to request or suggest cards: contact Peggy Lamb 622-5174.

UCC Small Group Ministry



Looking for greater human and spiritual connection during this most disconnected of times? Small Group Ministry offers this vital need in our spiritual community, and so much more! For more information, contact Linda Findlay (207-337-8028, linda.findlay@gmail.com) or Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com)

UCC Office Hours & Notes

UPDATED E-blast & Office Hours

E-blasts will be produced on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. The upcoming schedule is:

- NO E-Blast (9/13)
- E-Blast (9/20) – Church Admin on Vacation –A volunteer will prepare an E-blast in my absence. Please be brief and timely with submissions and your patience would be appreciated.
- NO E-Blast (9/27)
- E-blast (10/4)

EBLAST SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Articles due by noon on Tuesday, the day before the E-blast is distributed. Articles received after this time may not be included in the E-blast.

UCC Office Hours NEXT WEEK

Church Administrator - Open office hours:

Tues, Wed and Thurs – 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Visit [Calendar Scheduling Link](#) to schedule an appointment with Rev. Dolham.

Rev. Donna Dolham

Minister's study – (207) 623-3663
Pastoral Emergencies only – (207) 701-1581
Email: minister@augustauu.org

Open office hours
Tues. mornings between 10 to noon, just drop in for a visit with me & whoever else happens to pop-in.

Staff Contact information:

Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, admin@augustauu.org, Phone 622-3232
Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, M. Monique Bergère, LifespanFF@augustauu.org
Music Director, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org