

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024

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## A Message from our Minister

### ***Intentions and Impact... the Creation of Beloved Community!***

The weather last Saturday was unpredictable, and yet, 20 people arrived to participate in the *Into the New Year Retreat!* Tables set by tender hearted volunteers engaging the hospitality of welcome. Some folks were UUCC active members and some UUCC past members and others, friends of friends. Together we reflected on what our intentions will be for the upcoming year and created both written and collage vision boards to remind us of what our deepest yearnings are. Our time together ends, this transient moment of beloved community. Tables taken down and dishes washed by the tender hearts of volunteers caring for the tasks of leaving this community space how we found it for the next opportunity to unfold.

As a congregation, there are many groups centering hearts around the collective work of creating beloved community. This task invites every member and friend into its creation. As a congregation, we are each responsible and accountable to how we invest in the health of our Beloved Community. What are the ways we invite engagement with our UUCC Covenant? In what ways are you living into UUCC's Covenant?

The next few weeks are filled with wonderful opportunities... toward and beyond the Feb. 11, 2024, congregational meeting where members will be invited to vote regarding the settled ministry of UUCC going forward. There will be candidating week events [see search committee's e-blast entry below], movie night this Friday, fellowship dinner this coming Sunday, dinner and dancing on 2/17. All opportunities, social and business, are invitations to live into covenant together.

Rev. Paul Lanston-Daley will join me in the pulpit on February 4<sup>th</sup> as a follow up to the work covenant. I hope you will join us as we explore the intention and impact of creating and living into UUCC's covenant.

Love and Light,  
Rev. Donna, she, her

*UUCC covenant - Approved by the congregation at the annual meeting June 5, 2023*

To manifest our Vision, implement our Mission, and increase our understanding and practice of our UU Principles, we, the congregation of the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta, Maine, covenant as follows.

1. **Because we value our relationships with each other, we promise to:**
  - Get to know one another, create opportunities to gather, work, and play together, and build trust in our relationships.
  - Respect each other’s boundaries, honor our commitments to others and the community, and protect the safety of community members, especially children.
  - Listen to one another with intention and curiosity and respond thoughtfully.
  - Accept one another for who we are and not allow differences of opinion to affect our respect for the person.
  - Take responsibility for our own words and actions and explore differences openly, directly, and with compassion while assuming the good intentions of one another.
2. **Because we value our relationships with our greater community, we promise to:**
  - Model our UU Principles and Covenant in our relationships with the greater community.
  - Respond to the needs of our community and seek to engage with others in helping to make the greater Augusta area a safe and supportive place.
3. **Because we value the wisdom and power of Covenant, we promise to:**
  - Forgive ourselves and others when we do not live up to this Covenant and begin again in love.
  - Display and recite these promises to each other on a regular basis, exploring them in our hearts and minds, and refer to them when difficulties arise. Recognize that our Covenant may evolve as our community evolves.

*Music Follow up...*

Some folks asked for these music links.

A New Year: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHILYhYNbc0>

Let the Life I Lead: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WKJlozcPLZs>

Praying for Change: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrXC2AVN0Io>

## Upcoming Services

<p>Sunday January 21, 2024</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p><b>“Envisioning a Different Reality?”</b> Reverend Donna Dolham</p> <p>"Imagination offers resolutions out of the conflict by dreaming alternative ways of imagining/feeling/thinking. For positive social change to happen we need to envision a different reality, dream new blueprints for it, formulate new strategies for coping in it." Gloria Anzaldúa Let's imagine our way forward together.</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Lori Milner will be our worship associate and Angie Blevins will manage technology. The choir will present “Here I am” accompanied by Morgan Lee, piano. After the service, join us for the sit down Fellowship Lunch. Our greeter will be Cheryl Ring.</p>
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	<p><b>SHARE THE PLATE:</b> Today’s collection will be given (in its entirety) to <b>Maine Equal Justice</b>. Maine Equal Justice focuses its work on many of the issues that affect people’s daily lives – access to adequate health care, housing, transportation and childcare; food and income security; and higher education and training.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Sunday</b>  <b>January 28, 2024</b>        Ingathering music to begin at 9:55        a.m.     </p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>“Turning Towards Each Other:          building the kin-dom of heaven”</b>        Rev. Jodi Hayashida     </p> <p>How do we hold onto and create hopeful, hope-filled communities when so much of what surrounds us seems oriented towards encouraging despair? We ground ourselves in an ever-expanding understanding of "us" and take hold of the power that we build together.</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Kathy Kellison will be our worship associate and Priscilla J. Jenkins will manage technology. Our pianist will be Hannah Faulkner. A Fellowship hour volunteer is still needed. Can you help? If so, please sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Our greeter will be Michaela Loisel.</p> <p><b>Bio:</b> After serving the First Universalist Church of Auburn for over 20 years, this past spring Rev. Jodi began a new ministry organizing a statewide movement called Multi-faith Justice Maine under the auspices of the Maine People's Alliance. In addition, she serves on the board and Public Policy Committee of the Maine Council of Churches, serves as tri-chair of the Maine Poor People's Campaign, and works with the harm reduction community. She has two daughters, one of whom is, impossibly, in her freshman year of college, a husband, and, at this time of year, many, many mice who happily share their home.</p>

***Sunday worship service is held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary.*** Please be aware that 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/mtifpth0utvesjggjvej>

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

February 4<sup>th</sup>

### Workshop with Rev. Paul Lanston-Daley

The Rev. Paul Langston-Daley will share our pulpit with Rev. Donna Dolham on Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Following coffee fellowship he will conduct a two-hour workshop, as a follow-up to our work on our new Covenant.

### Introduction to Sustainable Health: Feb. 6 – April 9



10 Week Course at UCC Augusta on Tuesdays from 4 to 5pm, starting February 6, 2024 and running through to April 9, 2024. Registration is required. If you have any questions or would like to register for this course, please contact Susan at [SLROTR1@gmail.com](mailto:SLROTR1@gmail.com) or (718)517-0807.

Have you started the new year with health concerns? Come explore how changing some simple low-cost/no-cost habits can help you heal and thrive. This 10 week class includes learning a five element (*wuming*) *qigong* practice called *Energy, Everybody, Everyday*. Emphasis on learning to listen to our bodies and tapping into our natural ability to heal and enjoy life.

Taught by Susan Roberts, author of [\*SustainableHealth: Simple Habits to Transform Your Life\*](#), and 14 year student of *wuming qigong* with [Dr. Nan Lu, OMD](#)

## Post Valentines Tea Dance and Italian Dinner Feb. 17th

Join us for a post-Valentine's Tea Dance and Italian Dinner on Saturday February 17th.

The dance will be from 2-6 pm in the sanctuary with dinner starting at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The cost will be \$10 per person for the dance and a suggested donation of \$12 for the dinner with a discount for attending both, for couples and for families.

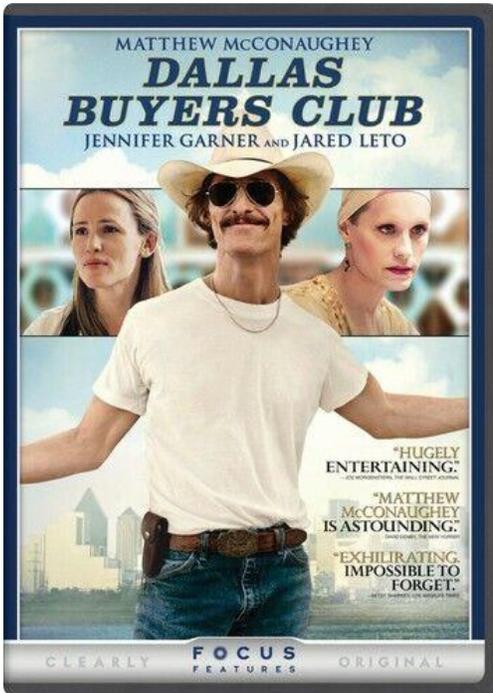
If you can't come to the dance, join us for dinner!

Come shake out the winter doldrums and have some community fun!

## Social Activities

### POPCORN AND A MOVIE

**Friday, January 19th at 5:30 pm**



Join us for DALLAS BUYERS CLUB with a great cast, starring Mathew McConaughey, Jennifer Garner and Jared Leto.

The film tells the story of Ron Woodroof (Matthew McConaughey), a cowboy diagnosed with AIDS in the mid-1980s, a time when both the etiology and the treatment of HIV/AIDS are poorly understood and its sufferers subject to stigmatization. As part of an ongoing experimental AIDS treatment movement.

~ Wikipedia

**Socialize a bit at 5:30**  
**Movie starts at 6:00 p.m.**  
**Bring a snack to share if you wish.**

FMI: contact Cheryl C.

### An opportunity for reflection...

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



"There is always light...if only we're brave enough to be it."

~Amanda Gorman

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

## Timeline of Opportunities

### Leading up to the Feb. 11 – Call to meeting

January 22 - Rev Donna Visit with sewing Group; this is a drop-in group and everyone is welcome.

January 24 Donna Zoom with Seasoned Souls

January 27 Rev Donna meets with orchestra & the Saturday Breakfast for Unhoused Neighbors

February 6- 6:30 to 7:30 on Church Zoom Q&A with Rev Donna and everyone is welcome.

February 7- 10:30 to noon coffee Drop in conversation with Rev Donna in Fellowship Hall.

February 9 6 PM Q&A Session in the Sanctuary followed by a catered supper with Rev. Donna in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. Please RSVP: <https://forms.gle/WR1HnxHo2Av1jyaaA>

February 11 at 10 Church Service with Rev. Donna followed by 11:30 Congregational Meeting with vote on decision regarding Call of Rev Donna as our next settled minister.

See the letter attached to this E-blast for more important information  
from the Ministerial Search Committee

CHINESE NEW YEAR is Feb. 10. Samee Quong, long time Augusta resident has agreed to offer a Chinese Cooking class. This class will be participatory and "good eating".

A date has not yet been set, so stay tuned. Class size will be limited.

## 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.***

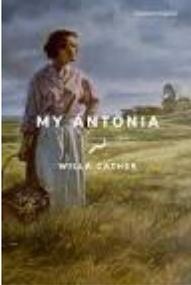
**[Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room:](#)**

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



<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  <b><u>Each week</u></b></p> <p><b><u>6:30 – 8:00</u></b>  <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Private Zoom</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p><b>BY Private ZOOM –EVERY Monday.</b> You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated Zoom login information at:  email: <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>.  FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a>  <i>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p> 
<p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Monday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>9:30 – Noon</u></b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting  is Jan 22nd</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group</u></b></p> <p>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group meets in the Fellowship Hall the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon. We ask that attendees help set up and put away tables and chairs.</p> <p>Just bring whatever you'd like to work on, machine or hand sewing, craft or hobby item you are working on, 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!</p>  <p>Martha at 887-1104 or 313-5859, or Nancy at 213-3047. All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like.</p>
<p><b><u>Tuesday</u></b>  <b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>UCC</u></b>  <b><u>Virtual</u></b>  <b><u>Zoom</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Begins 1/9</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Lectio Divina</u></b></p> <p>Lectio Divina will be a weekly group facilitated by the Rev. Donna Dolham and Lori Milner, Pastoral Ministry Associate. The group will be held on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 on the UCC zoom account <b><u>beginning on January 9th, 2024.</u></b></p> <p>The group invites you to join divine reading and lived experience through a practice called Lectio Divina. Lectio Divina originated as a monastic practice of scripture reading, meditation, prayer and action. The group utilizes various authors and scripture as our written word for reflection. Please feel free to join as you can. <b>All are welcome.</b></p>
<p><b><u>Wednes-</u></b>  <b><u>day</u></b></p> <p><b><u>6:00 -</u></b>  <b><u>7:30 p.m.</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>UCC Choir Rehearsal</u></b></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: <a href="mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org">musicdirector@augustauu.org</a>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All are welcome!</p>

<p><b>Wednes- days</b></p> <p><b>Each Week</b></p> <p><b>5:00 – 6:00 p.m.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Gentle YOGA</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">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 join via zoom. Here is the zoom link:  <a href="https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09</a>          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: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday</b></p> <p><b>1:00-2:30pm</b></p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. – C-FH          4<sup>th</sup> Wed. - Zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Seasoned Souls</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;">Please note the TIME CHANGE for this group effective 12/27/23.</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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday monthly we will meet in the Fellowship Hall and on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, we will meet in the UUCS Zoom room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact John Seksay (<a href="mailto:netmotel@gmail.com">netmotel@gmail.com</a> or 317-69-3636).</p>
<p><b>Thursdays</b></p> <p><b>Each Week</b></p> <p><b>8:00 – 9:30 a.m.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">You may join us 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  <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>. FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p>
<p><b>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday</b></p> <p><b>In the UUCS Virtual Zoom room</b></p> <p><b>9:00 – 10:30 a.m.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Writing to Wake the Soul</u></b></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. Come and try it out; there is no obligation to come each time we gather. This group will be meeting in the UUCS Virtual Zoom Room.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FMI: please contact Debbie at (207)557-2697 or <a href="mailto:debbiemattson@hotmail.com">debbiemattson@hotmail.com</a></p>

<p><b><u>1<sup>st</sup></u></b> <b><u>Thursday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Noon-1:30</u></b> <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting is Feb 1st</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Read Learn Share Book Group</u></b></p> <p>READ LEARN SHARE is a group for booklovers. Once a month between October and June we meet to discuss a book chosen by the group in our summer ballot. Our multiplatform meetings occur on the first Thursday of the month from noon until 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and in the church zoom room. Anyone is welcome to join for one discussion or all nine.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div> <p>We will meet on February 1 to discuss MY ANTONIA by Willa Cather. 'The novel is important both for its literary aesthetic and as a portrayal of important aspects of American social ideals and history, particularly the centrality of migration to American culture.' Penguin Random House</p> <p>Our title for March 7: The Creative Lives of Animals by Carol Gigliotti</p> <p>For more information or to receive email related to the group, contact June Zellers: <a href="mailto:jzellers@roadrunner.com">jzellers@roadrunner.com</a> <a href="mailto:jzellers@roadrunner.com">jzellers@roadrunner.com</a> or Kathy Kellison: <a href="mailto:kell6787@gmail.com">kell6787@gmail.com</a></p> </div> </div>
<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b><u>Friday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>6:30 – 8:30</u></b> <b><u>Sanctuary</u></b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting is Jan. 26<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Free Style Drum Circle</u></b></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 <a href="mailto:mtmoods@gmail.com">mtmoods@gmail.com</a> or 229-1118.</p>
<p><b><u>Every</u></b> <b><u>Saturday</u></b></p> <p>9:00–11 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>UUCC Occasional Orchestra</u></b></p> <p>The UUCC Occasional Orchestra rehearsals will be held each Saturday until Easter in the Sanctuary from 9:00-11:00 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Come and share your musical talents with our UUCC community. All are welcome, please join us!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Questions: please contact Dale McCormick at: <a href="mailto:dmmccormick11@aol.com">dmmccormick11@aol.com</a>.</p>

**4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday**

**Regular  
time is 1-  
2:30 p.m.  
In-Person**

**Next  
Meeting is  
Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>**

## **Goddess / Earth Circles**

January 28<sup>th</sup> - 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall and Zoom

Celebration: Imbolc (Awakening)

Yule Virtues: Virtues for the New Year, from Norse Paganism Harmony of the natural world and in the life of individuals.

<https://www.learnreligions.com/noble-virtues-of-asatru-2561539>

**Goddess/Earth Circles** focuses on Goddess and women's lives, pagan and earth-based spirituality and practices, earth celebrations and cycles, the role of women today. Includes

Women of Wisdom celebration. All ages and genders are welcome.

For more information, contact Helen Z at [hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com) or 207-582-5308.

## **Notices / Updates / News**



A humble THANK YOU to all who participated in making the Holiday Dinner and Poetry Soiree and Holiday Craft Fair such a success! We raised \$3,260 between the two events (with the promise of a few more dollars still coming in).

Whether you gave time cooking or serving, decorated, donated craft or other items, purchased, or did all of the above - you participated, and together we raised way more than the \$2,000 that was budgeted.

**Reserve your spot SOON -- for Q&A and supper with Rev. Donna!!**

February 9 at 6PM Q&A session and free catered supper with Rev Donna in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP SOON so that we can plan accordingly with the caterer. And it would help to state your dietary restrictions.

Sign up at <https://forms.gle/WR1HnxHo2Av1jyaaA>.

## Introducing the “UCC Incident Report”

This article is to introduce you to the UCC Incident Report. You may well ask, “What’s an incident report? Why do we need an incident report? Whose idea was this? What the heck is an incident anyway?”

Perhaps a little historical background is in order to make sense of all this. In October of 2022, a half dozen members of the congregation and our minister attended a daylong seminar entitled *Safeguarding our Houses of Worship* put on by the Federal & Maine Emergency Management Administrations (FEMA & MEMA). This group of people were asked to form a UCC Safety Workgroup which continues to meet and look for ways to ensure the physical safety of our church and those who attend activities here.

One of the first things that the Safety group noted was that we had no way of keeping track of any events that disrupted our collective sense of safety. Everyone could recall events in the past that were concerning, but no one could clearly remember the specifics. We defined an incident as **any event that occurs on church property that is out of the ordinary and leaves you or others feeling uncomfortable or at risk**. These can include many things such as threatening or disruptive behavior, threats from outside directed at the church community or other credible threats.

We will maintain a clipboard with blank Incident Reports in both the Sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall. We invite any attendee at church activities to use the form to document their observations and concerns about perceived incidents, please provide as much detail as possible. The completed form should be given to the minister, a worship associate or folded and placed in the pulpit in the Sanctuary. These forms will be collected by the church administrator and maintained in a secure file in the office to protect confidentiality. They will be reviewed by the chairperson of the Safety Committee at regular intervals and any concerning patterns will be reported to the Board of Trustees.

By documenting any and all such occurrences it will be possible for us to recognize any patterns and make data informed decisions about how best to provide effective communal security while respecting individual rights.

<A copy of the Incident Report form is attached to this E-blast for your information.>

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### *Caring Connection:*

UCC member Terry Cairn’s mother, Evelyn Waterman, was in a car accident recently. Terry has mentioned that cards to her mom would be appreciated. If you would like to send a card to Evelyn, her address is: Evelyn Waterman, 406 Old County Road, Knox, ME 04986. She enjoys pictures of animals!

# Social Justice Updates

## Gun Safety Press Conference at Maine State House, Hall of Flags, Augusta

January 3, 2024



Photographer: Brianna Soukup

People from all over Maine showing up for gun safety!  
Unitarian Universalists among those advocating for gun  
safety legislation.

Join

on!

Maine Unitarian Universalist State Adcoay Network has been actively engaged in reshaping our Action Team (formerly Issue Group) Advocacy to fit with the current issues that are of greatest importance to the Maine UU community.

**In 2024 we will have 5 different Action Teams:**

- **Gun Safety and Violence Prevention**
- **Wabanaki Sovereignty**
- **Climate Action**
- **Democracy in Action**
- **Housing and Homelessness**

If you are interested in joining or learning about one or more action teams, please contact [admin@muusan.org](mailto:admin@muusan.org).

MUUSAN's Action Teams meet regularly while the Maine State Legislature is in session (this year it will be January to early May), identify legislation they wish to have MUUSAN advocate for, and plan advocacy actions such as testifying for bills, writing letters to the editor, lobbying legislators, and joining rallies in Augusta. You can really make a difference on issues that you care about!

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED**

**LD 1578 An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by Popular Vote** (NPV) had a public hearing Monday, January 8th at 10:00 am at the Veteran's and Legal Affairs Committee.

Check out our [NPV Talking Points](#). Click to [submit written testimony](#) or sign up to testify on Zoom, or check out MUUSAN's Legislative Advocacy [Tips and Tools](#) for more resources.

**Board of Trustees**

**Reason to hope:**

We are a thriving, vibrant community. I so love being a part of UCC with you.

In a recent e-blast, under **Connections by Day of the Week** there were at least 15 varied events listed, each occurring on a regular basis. In addition, we have occasional Movie Nights, A Tea Dance coming up, beloved Small Group Ministries, Social Justice Committee work & MUUSAN advocacy actions. Twenty people braved Saturday's storm to attend the Retreat & Vision board event led by Rev. Donna. Sunday's Sharing Cafe was robust with over 20 people sharing in small, intimate groups.

Clearly, church doesn't only happen on Sundays! Although, I find Sunday Services to be spiritually nourishing, with beautiful music and engaged, energized people. One new member told me that the recent (storm day) zoom service led by Rev. Donna was the best UU Service she has ever attended. I happen to know that Rev. Donna worked the day before to create an entire service on video - in case her power went out. That is dedication. As it happens her power did not go out and we got both live and pre-recorded segments that flowed together beautifully.

Let us remember that we all have reason to hope.

Love to all,

Michaela Loisel  
Board President

**Next Board meeting: Thursday, February 8, 2024.**

## 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)	<a href="mailto:pellsav64@gmail.com">pellsav64@gmail.com</a> <NEW EMAIL 12/31/23>
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	<a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	<a href="mailto:plambflowers@outlook.com">plambflowers@outlook.com</a>
Lori Milner	520-437-3442 (c)	<a href="mailto:lmilner3@gmail.com">lmilner3@gmail.com</a>

**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 (207-377-8028, [linda.findlay@gmail.com](mailto:linda.findlay@gmail.com)) or Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, [hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com))

## The UUCC Website

The Website has two primary functions:

- Inviting people who are searching for information about Unitarian Universalism and/or a connection to come and see what we have to offer.
- Providing a communication network and prominent resource for people who are already involved with UUCC.

### ACCESSING THE UUCC WEBSITE

- Go to [www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)
- Sections* are in bold capital letters at the top. Click on a section.
- Left side of page has a menu. Click on an *item*. If there is > next to the title on the left, click for more options.

You are invited to try another way for accessing the UUCC Website.

Go to the UUCC address, [www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)

At the very bottom of the Home page, click on Sitemap.

Scroll down the Sitemap (basically a Table of Contents) and click on the title you are looking for.

Comments are welcome.

----Send comments, updates and suggestions to [website@augustauu.org](mailto:website@augustauu.org)----

## UUCC 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:**

- o E-blast (1/17)
- o NO E-Blast (1/24 or 1/31)
- o E-Blast (2/7)
- o No E-Blast (2/14)

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.

### UUCC Office Hours NEXT WEEK

Church Administrator - Open office hours:

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

### Rev. Donna Dolham

Minister's study – (207) 623-3663

Pastoral Emergencies only – (207) 701-1581

Email: [minister@augustauu.org](mailto:minister@augustauu.org)

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

**Staff Contact information:** Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org), Phone 622-3232  
Music Director, Bridget Convey, [musicdirector@augustauu.org](mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org)