

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, April 3, 2024

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www.augustauu.org

A Message from our Minister

I will be out of the office until Tuesday, April 9th. If you are having a pastoral care emergency, please reach out to the Rev. Marty Pelham at (813) 205-6910. Rev. Marty is the minister of the UU Rockland congregation.

If you have a church related question or emergency please contact UUCC Board President, Michaela Loisel michaelatloisel@gmail.com or any member of the Board of Trustees.

I am holding the community in my heart and thoughts as we process the loss of longtime UU member, Heide Munro. See notices below for information about the upcoming memorial service on Saturday, April 13th.

peace and gratitude,
Rev. Donna, she,her

Lifespan Faith Development Conversations Update

Reverend Donna has facilitated two conversations regarding lifespan faith development. Here is a [link to review the outline](#) of the meetings and notes from conversations. Please watch for more opportunities to participate in conversations as UUCC makes its way forward.

Upcoming Services

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday April 7, 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Monsters in the Sky, and Other Stories Claire Curole</p> <p>It is deep, old human nature to look for meaning in our lived experience. When we face the unexplainable, we try to explain it anyway. Join Rev. Claire for a conversation about meaning-making and storytelling. There might be dragons, too.</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Sara Hodgkins will be our worship associate and Angie Blevins will manage technology. Our pianist will be Karen Allen. We still need a host for Fellowship Hour. If you can help, let Catherine Palmer know. Cheryl Ring will be our greeter.</p> <p>BIO: Rev. Claire Curole serves as a staff chaplain at Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, and lives in Augusta. Rev. Claire is an Affiliated Community Minister in covenant with our board, and has been a member of UUCC since 2008.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday April 14, 2024</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>New Member Sunday</p> <p>April 14, 2024 10:00am</p>  <p><small>Please join us as we welcome our newest members into UUCC's community!</small></p> <p><small>In Person or Online</small></p> </div> <p>Please join Reverend Donna Dolham on Sunday, April 14th as we welcome our newest members of UUCC! If you'd like to know more about membership, please contact Rev. Donna at minister@augstauu.org.</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Marty Peters will be our worship associate and Priscilla J. Jenkins will manage technology. Our Choir will present "Alchemy" by Andrea Ramsey with Morgan Lee, piano. Hilary Neckles & Annie Blanchard will host coffee hour. Our greeter will be Cheryl Ring.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join us after the service for a <i>Sharing Café</i>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><<See Special Events / Opportunities below for more info >>.</p>

Sunday worship service is held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary. Please be aware that the church doors will 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

Dale McCormick’s Tomato Baby and Plant Sale is back again this year! We hope to have a link to our catalog of offerings in the next e-blast so stay tuned and plan to get your seedlings here! Aside from those little tomato darlings we will have an even wider variety of herbs, flowers and veggies. More details to follow!

Talents Galore on Saturday evening, April 6th from 7 to 8:30 – Come see what a superbly talented group we have! Teaser alert - among others acts we will have some funny skits, original poetry, singing, guitar playing, Lindsey Wiehl playing her bassoon (on YouTube) a sing along with Hannah Faulkner and more. Come be entertained and enjoy what your UUCC has to offer!

Auction April 20th from 6-7:30 – We will have light refreshments as you browse, starting at 5:30 – a link to the catalogue will be in the next E-Blast so that you can get a sneak peek at the items. There are some incredible offerings for the auction, but we would always love to have more! If you have a unique item, skill or experience that you are willing to offer, please contact Karen Foust or Nan Bell so that we can put it on the list. Some past offerings have been “dinner cooked at your house”, “a soup for all seasons”, “home brew”, “fresh eggs”, “bicycle tune up”, “a kayak paddle and lunch”, “artwork”, handmade items such as quilts, photos; use your imagination! Please contact Karen at karmafoust@gmail.com or text at 207-441-8971.

SHARING CAFE

Our next sharing cafe will be on April 14th, New Member Sunday. It will take place from 11:30 to 12:30. The theme will be “What does inclusion of everyone mean to you?” This theme was the winner of our survey result. It also reflects the purpose of New Member Sunday.

Because the goal of the cafes is to provide for structured but intimate sessions, we will try to keep groups to 5-6 members. The door will be posted when a group is full and we will give you other options.

Connections by Day of the Week

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UCC 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 UCC Zoom Room.

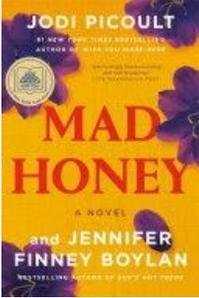
[Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room:](#)

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



<p><u>Monday</u> Each week</p> <p><u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> <p><u>Private Zoom</u></p>	<p><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>BY Private ZOOM –EVERY Monday. 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>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</i></p>	
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Monday</u></p> <p><u>9:30 – Noon</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Apr. 8th</p>	<p><u>Sewing/Craft/Hobby Group</u></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><u>Tuesday</u> <u>10:30 a.m.</u></p> <p><u>UCC</u> <u>Virtual</u> <u>Zoom</u></p>	<p><u>Lectio Divina</u></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.</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. All are welcome.</p>	

<p>Tuesday 4:00 pm</p> <p>Feb. 6 – Apr. 9</p>	<p>LIMITED TIME COURSE – <u>LAST CLASS</u> Next week, April 9th</p> <p>Introduction to Sustainable Health: Feb. 6 – April 9</p> <p>10 Week Course at UCC Augusta on Tuesdays from 4 to 5pm, starting February 6, 2024 and running through to April 9, 2024. Registration deadline has passed.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Taught by Susan Roberts, author of Sustainable Health: Simple Habits to Transform Your Life, and 14 year student of wuming qigong with Dr. Nan Lu, OMD. FMI: Susan at SLROTR1@gmail.com or (718)517-0807.</p>
<p>Wednes- day</p> <p>6:00 - 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><u>UCC 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.</p> <p>All are welcome!</p>
<p>Wednes- days</p> <p>Each Week</p> <p>5:00 – 6:00 p.m.</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 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>1:00-2:30pm</p> <p>2nd Wed. – C-FH 4th Wed. - Zoom</p>	<p><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 UCC Zoom room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact John Seksay (netmotel@gmail.com or 317-690-3636).</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 style="text-align: center;">You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-- 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 UCC Virtual 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. Come and try it out; there is no obligation to come each time we gather. This group will be meeting in the UCC Virtual 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>Next Meeting is April 4th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Read Learn Share Book Group</u></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 style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>We will meet on April 4 to discuss Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan.</p> <p><i>A soul-stirring novel about what we choose to keep from our past, and what we choose to leave behind. ~Goodreads</i></p> </div> </div> <p>Our book for May 2 is <u>Migrant Souls</u> by Hector Tobar.</p> <p>For more information, contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com</p>

<p><u>4th</u> <u>Friday</u></p> <p><u>6:30 – 8:30</u> <u>Sanctuary</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Apr. 26th</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>Every</u> <u>Saturday</u></p> <p>9:00–11 am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>UUCC Occasional Orchestra</u></p> <p>The UUCC Occasional Orchestra rehearsals will be held each Saturday until Easter in the Sanctuary from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Check with Dale for the after Easter schedule.</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: dmmccormick11@aol.com.</p>
<p><u>4th</u> <u>Sunday</u></p> <p><u>1-2:30</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> <p>Next Meeting is Apr. 28th</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">April 28, Fellowship Hall, 1-2:30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Phases of Our Lives: Honoring the Maiden, the Mother/Nurturer/Crone and Sage Planning Croning and Recroning Celebrations on May 19 Reflections and Remembrances as we open the Memorial Book</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://augustauu.org/assets/bulkUpload/Phases-of-the-Goddesses-and-Our-Lives.2021.pdf</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on the phases of our lives and earth-based spirituality. All ages and genders are welcome. Contact Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com) with questions or if you would like to consider croning.</p>

Notices / Updates / News

Condolences to the family and friends of Heide Munro

In an email on Friday, March 29th, we relayed to you the sad news that Heide Munro, our long time member, had died. Heide was active in many facets of UUCC's life, the history group, goddess group and small group ministry to name just a few.

Social Justice Updates

Family Mentor Team Members Needed!

Would you like to get to know a new refugee family and help them learn the ins and outs of life in central Maine? Join a Family Mentor Team! It's the most rewarding way to be part of CANMP. For more information, email newmainersproject@gmail.com.



MUUSAN Updates

→Gun Safety Action Team:

We are so close to actually getting common sense gun legislation in Maine! If you were ever inclined to reach out to lawmakers, NOW is the time. Contact your lawmakers and ask them where they stand on our priorities.

Update: A new gun safety bill ([here](#))--a Red Flag bill for all intents and purposes--has just been released and will be taken up by the Judiciary Committee sometime this week. The Gun Safety Coalition has prioritized showing up and testifying at that public hearing.

We are looking to rapidly identify which lawmakers support the bills as proposed and which support a true ERPO (Extreme Risk Protection Order) Bill (ask them, "Do you support a crisis order process that allows families and law enforcement to file a petition without a mental health evaluation?"). **After you hear from them, please complete [this form](#) with their responses.**

→Democracy Action Team:

National Popular Vote is going back to the house, and then will go to the Governor. Contact the Governor by [email](#) or phone 207-287-3531 to voice your support!

Interested in helping your congregation connect to Get out the Vote efforts over the coming summer and fall? Participate with UUtheVoteME as a Congregational Voting Liaison! Contact admin@muusan.org to get more information.

→Housing & Homelessness Action Team:

Take action from home today in support of the rent relief and shelter funding! Let's get hundreds of short messages to the chairs of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs committee.

 **Call the House Message Line at 800-423-2900** to leave a message for Representative Melanie Sachs (co-chair, Appropriations Committee) and **then call 800-423-6900 for Senator Peggy Rotundo** (co-chair, Appropriations Committee).

 **Instructions for messages:** When prompted, say your name, city or town you're from, and ask them to **“please support rent relief in the budget to reduce evictions and support families, cities and towns all across Maine.”**

Want more information about the bill? Click [here](#).

Board of Trustees

General Assembly News

General Assembly (GA), the annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists is completely virtual this year- June 20-22, 2024. This year's GA theme is **Love Unites, Stories Ignite**.

UUCC can have 4 Delegates attend GA. Representing a congregation as a delegate is an honor and a privilege. Delegates are the voting participants regarding the business of the Unitarian Universalist Association and engage in important policy deliberations. The major item of business this year is the vote to accept the revised Article II of the UUA Bylaws. This includes the Purpose, Values, Covenanting and Inspirations.

At last week's Board meeting, we made the decision to offer financial assistance for the cost of registration for two people attending this year's UUA General Assembly as delegates.

We believe that having members of UUCC attend GA is enriching for the attendees and for the congregation. In the past, we have been informed and inspired by the testimony of attendees who share their learnings as part of a Sunday service here at UUCC.

Please let Michaela Loisel know if you are interested in representing UUCC as a delegate and if you are in need of financial assistance. (Michaelatloisel@gmail.com)

We will keep you updated about happenings at GA on the UUCC Website. Stay tuned for upcoming information as we organize “Watch Parties” for the public events offered to all.

BOARD AGENDA

The next board meeting is Thursday, April 11, 2024.
Click here to view the meeting agenda: [April 11th Agenda](#)

All are welcome to attend but please see the [UUCC Policy for Board Meeting Visitors](#).

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)	pellsav64@gmail.com
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	hzmre@hzmre.com
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	plambflowers@outlook.com
Lori Milner	520-437-3442 (c)	lmilner3@gmail.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 (207-377-8028, linda.findlay@gmail.com) or Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com)

UUC 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:

- E-Blast (4/3)
- No E-Blast (4/10)
- E-blast (4/17)
- NO E-Blast (4/24)

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. Send articles to admin@augustauu.org

UUC Office Hours NEXT WEEK

Church Administrator - Open office hours:

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

Rev. Donna Dolham

Rev. Donna is on vacation until 4/9. Please see page 1 for whom to contact in emergencies in her absence.

Minister's study – (207) 623-3663

Pastoral Emergencies only - use cell phone

Email: 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, Phone 622-3232
Music Director, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org