

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, May 15, 2024

In this Issue:

- [Upcoming Services](#)
- [Upcoming Special Events](#)
- [Ongoing Connections](#)
- [Notices / Updates / News](#)
- [General / Contact Info](#)



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

69 Winthrop St., Augusta ME
(207)622-3232 – info@augustauu.org
www.augustauu.org

A Message from our Minister

Life is full, lawn care, work groups, fun and fundraising, policy and programming continue at UUCC! There is a historical pattern for some UU congregations of slowing down in the summer. This summer, UUCC, has wonderful programming and volunteer opportunities as we continue to grow and engage with the wider community!

Upcoming excitement continues at UUCC! This Saturday, 5/18, at 4pm the UUCC orchestra and choir under the direction of Michael P. Atkinson, Dir. of the Orchestra and Bridget Convey, Dir. of Music will be offering a special concert to benefit both the Kennebec Land Trust and the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta! There is a wide selection of silent auction items (available for bids at 3:00) and a wonderful opportunity to be together, connecting with both the UUCC community and the greater Augusta area community. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Please stay connected, look at the E-Blast and our website calendar for upcoming opportunities. As I prepare to wind down my 3/4th time contract ministry and move into our settled ministry together, I'm grateful for the fullness, compassion, commitment, and joy found at UUCC. Gratitude is the first word that comes to mind as I reflect on this gift of being the next settled minister of UUCC! WOW!!!! What a year it has been.

Our June 2nd Sunday service, *Annual Meeting as Spiritual Practice*, will offer an opportunity to celebrate together, plan and commit our next steps together and shift and grow our by-laws with our community.

Please don't miss this unique opportunity to join together in the important work of democracy in action at the congregational level. It is a special opportunity to engage in the life and functioning of the congregation. I hope you'll join us for this unique service.

With a full heart and gratitude.

Love and Light, Rev. Donna, she, her

Pastoral Care Invitation

The pastoral care team has been working together to create ways to build a strong structure of care for our community. At this time, we are inviting you to fill out this survey as we create a web of care for our UCC folks. Link: <https://forms.gle/skuAZDymXbUi9w7y5>

Thank you so much for the care of each other! More will come regarding developments in pastoral care.

~ Rev. Donna

Upcoming Services

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday May 19, 2024</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Do You Know Where You Are? Rev. Donna Dolham</p> <p>As we live into this changing world, how will we take the time to create space for where we are as individuals and as a community.</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Marty Peters will be our worship associate and PJ Jenkins will manage technology. Our choir will present "Changes" by Audrey Snyder; accompanied by Morgan Lee, piano. Our greeter will be Nancy Fritz.</p> <p>Join us after the service for a sit down FELLOWSHIP LUNCH <See details in [Special Events/Opportunities] below.></p> <p>SHARE THE PLATE: This month's recipient, chosen by the Social Justice Committee is LINC. Located on Memorial Circle, Augusta, LINC is a grassroots movement that focuses on personal wholeness. It is a place for people, 18 and older, who live with mental health, substance misuse and/or any life challenges to become empowered, make contributions, be creative and learn to be the healthiest version of themselves.</p>
---	--

<p>Sunday</p> <p>May 26, 2024</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.</p>	<p>Preemptive Radical Inclusion</p> <p>CB Beal</p> <p>CB will be joining UUCU for the second time this year! This time we will use our fantastic technology so CB can join us remotely.</p> <p>CB will share reflections on the framework of Preemptive Radical Inclusion. PRI can be understood as an entryway to increase equity and justice among ourselves and in the world, a way to embody beloved community.</p> <p>A special thank you to our worship arts team. Nan Bell will be our worship associate. Technology will be managed by Cheryl Ring monitoring the Boxcast camera and Lindsey Wiehl serving as slide tech person. Stefanie Barley will be out pianist. Coffee Hour will be hosted by Hannah Faulkner and Priscilla J. Jenkins. Our greeter will be Harry Grimmnitz.</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

Fellowship Lunch – Sunday May 19, 2024

11:30 - 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

The third Sunday of each month (Oct thru May) is Fellowship Lunch Sunday which replaces coffee hour. This event will be open to all service attendees.

This is quite posh and definitely not a potluck. Attendees are encouraged to enjoy community at a restaurant style sit-down meal.

<This will be the last Fellowship Lunch for this church year, we hope you can join us. The lunches will resume in October>.

**



The **UUCU Music Program** is **having a Benefit Concert** on Saturday, May 18th at 4pm. The choir and orchestra will be sharing musical selections from their 2023-2024 season. This concert is to benefit the UUCU and Kennebec Land Trust (KLT), we are excited to support a local non-profit that holds strong respect and value for nature and land in our community.

Doors open at 3pm for the Silent Auction, and the concert begins at 4pm. There is no admission fee although donations will be welcome. You can preview the silent auction catalog [at this link](#).



Check out the [UUCC Tomato and Plant Catalog](#) and support the UUCC of Augusta by placing your order for the tomatoes, vegetables, herbs and flowers.

The deadline for orders is Sunday, May 19th so that we can get them picked ahead of time and ready to go! Pickup will be from 6:30 to 7:30 on Wednesday May 22nd and Thursday May 23rd from noon to 1.

There will also be some plants to purchase that are not in the catalog. Email your order and/or questions to uuplants@gmail.com and we will respond as soon as possible!

UUCC Yardsale

Wanted - clean, saleable items for the Yardsale to be held on Saturday May 25th from 9:00 to 1:00. (No electronics please).



Donations will be accepted on Thursday May 23rd from 3-7pm and Friday from noon until 6 pm.

If you want to help sort and get things ready, join us any time between 12-6pm on Friday, please contact Marilyn Dunn maine2007@hotmail.com and if you can help on Saturday for a few hours between 8:30am and 2:00pm please contact Karen Foust karma-foust@gmail.com.



Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation

5-6 pm on two Mondays - June 3 & July 1
Fellowship Hall

Mindfulness is the practice of paying attention to the present moment. In our practice we infuse mindfulness with qualities like kindness, curiosity, & acceptance. During our time together we will explore ways to weave mindfulness into our daily lives, including conscious breathing and meditation. If you would like, you may stay for our in person/hybrid sangha in the sanctuary after our class.

Mark your calendar!



Social Activities will hold a "Dinner and a Movie" night on Friday June 14th beginning at 5:30 p.m.

We have chosen the movie "FAR FROM HEAVEN" starring Julianne Moore, Dennis Hestert and Dennis Quaid. The movie is rated PG 13.

We haven't settled on the dinner menu yet, but we guarantee it will be delicious. Stay tuned...more information will be in the next E-Blast.

Are you interested in offering programming or scheduling an event for the UCC community?

Please use this [program request online form](#) to help guide the process.

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:](#)

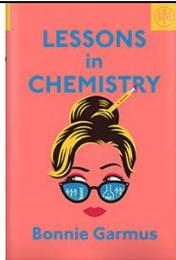
For other ways to join Zoom, see [General Information](#)
Zoom meeting id: 823 807 0673 – Password: 6971



<p><u>Monday</u> Each week <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> p.m. <u>Private</u> <u>Zoom</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>BY Private ZOOM –EVERY Monday. You may join us at 6:15 to settle in. PLEASE NOTE: In June and July, the group will meet in-person in the Sanctuary and online, on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.</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> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Monday</u> <u>9:30 – Noon</u> Next Meeting is May 27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><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! Martha 887-1104 or 313-5859 / Nancy 213-3047. All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like.</p>
<p><u>Tuesday</u> <u>10:30 a.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><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 is held on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 on Zoom.</p>

<p><u>UUCC</u> <u>Virtual</u> <u>Zoom</u></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><u>Tuesday</u> <u>4:00 pm</u></p> <p><u>Weekly</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Drop-in Sustainable Heath Qijong group</u></p> <p>Meets weekly on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00pm. We will gather in Fellowship Hall (or in the yard, weather permitting).</p> <p>Sustainable Health Qigong teaches how to get healthy and stay that way by using the five elements of Traditional Chinese Medicine (“TCM”). We do this through movement, meditation, and other simple daily practices based on the seasons and meridians. Come discover how these simple <i>qigong</i> movements and daily habits can make big differences in health. All are welcome.</p> <p>This weekly "drop-in" group is available to anyone who wants to explore qigong and TCM's approach to health and healing. Attending is free but donations are encouraged to offset the cost of the use of the space. FMI: Susan Roberts (718-517-0807), and email (slrotr1@gmail.com).</p>
<p><u>Wednes-</u> <u>day</u> <u>6:00 -</u> <u>7:30 p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><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> <u>Each Week</u> <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Gentle YOGA</u></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:</p> <p>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><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Wednesday</u></p> <p><u>1:00-2:30pm</u></p> <p>CHANGE: We will meet 5/22 in person</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. Our normal meeting schedule is as follows: On the 2nd Wednesday monthly we will meet in the Fellowship Hall and on the 4th Wednesday, we will meet in the UUCU Zoom room. Please note that on 5/22, we will meet in person in the Fellowship Hall.</p> <p>FMI: please contact John Seksay (netmotel@gmail.com or 317-690-3636).</p>
<p><u>Thursdays</u> <u>Each Week</u></p> <p><u>8:00 – 9:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>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 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><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Thursday</u></p> <p><u>In the</u> <u>UUCU</u> <u>Virtual</u> <u>Zoom room</u></p> <p><u>9:00 – 10:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></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 UUCU Virtual Zoom Room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact Debbie at (207)557-2697 or debbiemattson@hotmail.com</p>
<p><u>1st</u> <u>Thursday</u></p> <p><u>Noon-1:30</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> <p>Next meet- ing is June 6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Read Learn Share Book Group</u></p> <p>Our group meets on the first Thursday of the month from noon until 1:30. Some of us are in Fellowship Hall and others participate in the church zoom room. Discussions are lively, fun and expansive as we learn how others respond to a book, not who has the best interpretation. We invite anyone who enjoys reading to consider participating in this group. We have one meeting left before summer vacation.</p>



The book title for our last session this year on June 6 is Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus. JOIN US FOR A GREAT DISCUSSION!

A novel that is “irresistible, satisfying and full of fuel” (The New York Times Book Review) and “witty, sometimes hilarious . . . the Catch-22 of early feminism.” (Stephen King, via Twitter)

Over the summer we will choose nine books to read and discuss next year. We create the year’s list by inviting suggestions for the year’s ballot in June and use ranked choice voting to develop the list. If you know of a book you would love to share and discuss with others, consider adding it to the list. For more information, contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com.

**4th
Friday**

**6:30 – 8:30
Sanctuary**

**Next
Meeting is
May 31st**

Free Style Drum Circle

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! ALL are welcome. Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!

<PLEASE NOTE: In May 2024, this group will meet on Friday, May 31st>

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.

**Every
Saturday**

9:00–11 am

UUC Occasional Orchestra

The UUC 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.

Come and share your musical talents with our UUC community.
All are welcome, please join us!

Questions: please contact Dale McCormick at: dmmccormick11@aol.com.

**4th
Sunday**

**1-2:30
p.m.**

**Next
Meeting is
May 19th**

Goddess / Earth Circles

May 19, 2024 Fellowship Hall, 1-2:30pm

Notice change to the third Sunday this month only.

Finding the renewing energy of May in the phases of our lives and Memorials

Note June 23 -- Join us for Croning and Recroning celebrations.
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).

Notices / Updates / News

Hallelujah to work crews!

Kathy Ann and Joe Shaw want to thank our Saturday, May 4th work crew: Marsha Stone, Kevin and Mary Kane, Catherine Palmer, Nan Bell and Betty Cairn. It was a beautiful day, and they mulched all our gardens in record time with smiles and giggles to boot. We had “paid” for them from 12:30 - 4:30 pm and they were done by 1:45 giving us some time to sit down with cold drinks, snacks and wonderful conversation. Yet I still couldn’t get Nan and Betty to stop asking for more work to do!

And thank you Karen Foust for putting these all together. I believe our work crew was only the second one of many more.

Some pictures to attest (clockwise): 1. An example of why we were mulching (tulips). 2. Sammie the Newfoundland dog, doing no work at all, visiting Nan, Marsha and Mary. 3. Betty working hard. 4. The crew at the end of the day (missing Catherine) UNDER the pergola that our work crew built two years ago!



We Have a New Protective Film On Our Windows.

Please be careful with this film for these first 30 Days (installation was May 6).

Please do not apply any tape or notices and do not wash the windows. Thank you.

A Reminder...to share resources

Our church is growing and we are getting busier with so many different committees meeting regularly, small group ministry groups, and tons of new programs, events and offerings. We still have the same amount of resources (spaces to meet and tools to use, i.e. Zoom room, OWL, etc.)

Given the limited space and resources, it is important that we are all mindful of contacting the Church Administrator when needing to use space or resources. Reserving resources allow us all to have what we need, when we need it! Please remember to contact admin@ausutauu.org BEFORE you need the space/resource.

Social Justice Updates

Pre-General Assembly Note: Congregations are invited to select urgent Actions of Immediate Witness (AIW) to be voted on at General Assembly in June. Between May 26 and June 1, we can vote for 3 social justice issues that have been suggested for discussion at GA.

--See UU Connections on the UCC website for more information on the process.

--Watch for an announcement on how to vote for Actions you would like to be discussed.

Social Justice and UU Connections.

Board of Trustees

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

At its May 9 meeting, the Board:

- Approved a BUDGET for FY24-25 to be presented to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting on June 2. Members of the FINANCE COMMITTEE will be available after the Sunday service on MAY 19 to address questions from the congregation.
- Discussed the installation of our new, called minister and agreed to appoint a committee to organize the event for the fall.
- Asked the Congregational Engagement Team to develop plans to embed the practice of our covenant into the life of the congregation.

- Agreed to provide opportunities for the congregation to ask questions about the proposed NEW BYLAWS to be voted on at the annual meeting.

Full minutes can be accessed online by clicking here: [May 9 Minutes](#).
Minutes can also be found on the Board of Trustees bulletin board at the church.

The next board meeting is Thursday, June 13, 2024.
All are welcome to attend but please see the [UUC Policy for Board Meeting Visitors](#).

General Information

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

Other ways to UUC 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.**

UUC 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.

UUC 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.

UUC 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 (5/15)
- NO E-Blast (5/22) or (5/29)
- E-Blast (6/5)
- NO E-blast (6/12)

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

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