

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Sunday Services for September 20th and September 27th

September worship theme is: RENEWAL

<p><u>THIS Sunday 9/20</u> at 10:00 a.m. <i>“Renewal”</i></p>	<p>Join Reverend Carie for this service on the theme of Renewal. As we all seek to survive and thrive in times of pandemic, how do we stay committed and connected to the climate, racial, equity, justice work of our time. Sara Hodgkins will assist as worship associate and Karen Allen will be on the piano.</p> <p>Selfie round up - Please send Rev, Carie a selfie of you engaged in an activity that brings you an experience or moment of renewal. This selfie could be taken in your home, yard, with family or pets, or in solitude.</p>
<p><u>NEXT Sunday</u> <u>9/27</u> at 10:00 a.m. <i>“UU the Vote: Faith Love Action”</i></p>	<p>Join Reverend Carie, Michaela Loisel and Debbie Mattson, with Sara Hodgkins as Worship Associate and Karen Allen on piano.</p> <p>UUCJ Joins UU the VOTE! Let us live our UU values and join with UU’s around the nation to make a difference in the Fall election. This non-partisan faith initiative calls on us to mobilize voters, encourage early voting, serve as poll workers, and more -in partnership with MUUSAN and the Maine League of Women Voters.</p>

All events (unless noted below) are held in the UUCJ ZOOM ROOM:

Three ways to join:

- 1. Join from your internet browser by clicking this link or typing this into your browser:**
<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>
- 2. Select “Join Meeting” from the Zoom application on your computer or mobile device.**

UUCJ Meeting ID: 823 807 0673

No Passwords unless noted in event listings below.

- 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)

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

UUCJ ZOOM ROOM (← click this link to join either service OR see above for other ways to join)

Virtual Connections

UUCC Music Zoom Zone



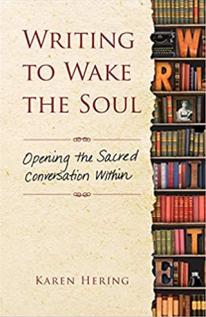
1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 7:30pm.



This is an opportunity for our UUCC musicians (singers and instrumentalists) to gather, sing and share UUCC music updates and information.

We will meet using the church's Zoom room. If you would like more information, please email Bridget Convey at: musicdirector@augustauu.org

<p><u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>2:00 – 3:30</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Read Aloud & Discussion</u></p> <p>The Monday afternoon reading and discussion group has changed our process. We have chosen to have each person who joins us, and who wishes to, bring a poem, an article, a book excerpt with something in it to spark a discussion. What has grabbed your attention or what is something you are wondering about? Our discussions are always lively and interesting. Join in!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>UUCC ZOOM ROOM</i> (← click this link OR see Pg. 1 for other ways to join)</p>
<p><u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u> You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"><div style="text-align: center;"><p>Click on the direct link below: https://zoom.us/j/99346520797?pwd=NGRD-NHcyVHM0YWtodmVHM2xwNjJjdz09 Zoom Meeting ID: 993 4652 0797 Password: 063175</p></div></div> <p>FMI: email martysoule@gmail.com or peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>Wednesdays</u> <u>Each Week</u> <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gentle YOGA Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p> <p>Zoom Login: NEW Zoom ID as of 5/27 Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin our class right at 5:00 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOT-RXa3VoUT09 Password 174192</p> <div style="text-align: right;"></div>

<p>Thursdays Each Week 8:00 – 9:30 <u>a.m.</u></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. 8-9:30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click the below direct link: https://maine.zoom.us/j/680555360?pwd=UDJIRHY4WjYrejdu-anFjL3ZkY3ZYZz09</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting ID: 680 555 360 - Password: 741266</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FMI: email martysoule@gmail.com or peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> 
<p>Thursdays Each Week 10:00 – 11:30 <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i> Thursday mornings -- 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.</p>  <p>Writing to Wake the Soul, every other Thursday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30. This is an open group and if you would like to participate in this event, please contact Debbie Mattson (debbiemattson@hotmail.com) for the login/passcode information. Hosting of this event is shared and zoom link changes week to week. We gather and write 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.</p>

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/>

Notices

Our Church Admin will be on vacation this week

Our Church Administrator will be on vacation NEXT WEEK – September 14 through September 18th

The office will be CLOSED for the week. Please be patient and allow time for the Admin to get to your email and/or schedule your event or group meeting when she is back in the office.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

RELEASED: Attached please find the report and recommendations from the Congregational Engagement Working Group regarding the UUC Congregational Survey – Summer 2020. Thanks again to all who provided input. The report includes a word cloud created from survey responses as well as recommendations to the Board and a summary of the CEWG process and survey results. If anyone is interested in receiving a hard copy, please contact Susan Caldwell at 207-446-0079 (text or call okay) or jscaldwell@roadrunner.com.”

UUC Joins UU the VOTE!

Let us live our UU values and join with UU's around the nation to make a difference in the Fall election. This non-partisan faith initiative calls on us to mobilize voters, encourage early voting, serve as poll workers, and more -in partnership with MUUSAN and the Maine League of Women Voters.

Our Sunday, September 27, 2020 service on UU the Vote is a call to action to celebrate our democracy and promote electoral justice.

To find out more about UU the Vote go to: <https://www.uuthevote.org> If you wish to join with others in our congregation on this important initiative, contact: Michaela Loisel at Michaelatloisel@gmail.com or at (207) 592-5655.

An Invitation

To Open or Not to Open:

Conversations with the Board and Ad-hoc Covid -19 Advisory group

What do we do when there are no clear right answers? In an exercise I did when I was in eighth grade, we were told we had been stranded on the moon and were told to prioritize the resources we had.

First we made our lists individually and then as a group. Though this was nearly fifty years ago, the exercise made a lasting impression on me that consensus can bring about a better result than going it alone.

While we are not stranded on the moon, we are faced with a situation that requires decisions—decisions that would best be made with the input of all involved.

The COVID Ad Hoc Group has been meeting regularly since March to discuss how we can maintain safety while still being the busy congregation that we are. While we have used our varied medical and scientific training to make decisions, other questions have been raised that are more philosophical in nature. The COVID Ad Hoc Group referred these philosophical questions to the Board, and now the Board is asking for your input. In a nutshell, what we are grappling with is how and whether we can safely and with equity open our church to some of the activities we are used to participating in.

I know there are members and friends of our congregation who say we should stay closed and virtual and safe, while there are others who say it is time to start safely reopening, and many others between these two extremes.

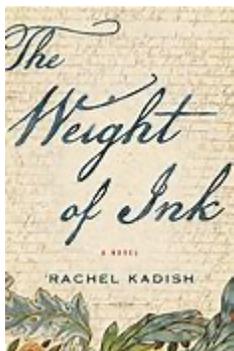
The Board and the COVID Ad Hoc Group invite you to bring your thoughts, ideas, concerns, hopes and fears to a community ZOOM forum on Saturday, September 26 from 8:30-9:30 (**UCC ZOOM ROOM**.) If you are unable to attend but want your voice heard, please email or call us. I believe we will be better equipped to navigate these uncharted waters with your input!

For the Board and the COVID Ad Hoc Group.

Thurs. October 1, **Read. Learn. Share**

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

UCC Church Zoom



The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish

Electrifying and ambitious, sweeping in scope and intimate in tone, The Weight of Ink is a sophisticated work of historical fiction about women separated by centuries, and the choices and sacrifices they must make in order to reconcile the life of the heart and mind. Goodreads

Join the **Read. Learn. Share** Book Group in October and throughout the year. We read a book during each month from October through June and spend an hour and a half in stimulating discussion on the first Thursday of each month. We meet in the church Zoom Room from 1:00 until 2:30. Join us every month or watch for a book that interests you and join that one discussion. For more information, contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com or 582-5862, or Kathy Kellison kell6787@gmail.com or 445-4415.

We have chosen the following titles for the 2020-21 year:

October 1 “The Weight of Ink” by Rachel Kadish

November 5 “The Warmth of Other Suns” by Isabel Wilkinson

December 3 “The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek” by Kim Richardson.

January 7, 2021 “American Prophets: The Religious Roots of Progressive Politics” by Jack Jenkins

February 4 “A Burning” by Megha Majumdar

March 4 “Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls” by T Kira Madden

April 1 “The Overstory” by Richard Powers

May 6 “Braiding Sweetgrass” by Robin Kimmerer

June 3 “Homegoing” by Yaa Gyasi

Readers are invited to attend any or all of the book sessions. We hope for lively discussions focused on the books and the ideas they contain. Books are generally available from inter-library loan.

UCC ZOOM ROOM login instructions are on Page 1

The church's pro account allows for meetings up to 100 people for up to 24 hours.
To schedule a meeting using the church's account, please contact admin@augustauu.org

If you would like to have short private 1:1 meetings with a church friend, you can click on this link to sign up for a free personal Zoom account: <https://zoom.us/signup> and participate in a Zoom tutorial. This FREE account allows for 1 on 1 meetings up to 40 minutes.

If you or a member of your group needs a zoom tutorial, please contact Rev.CarieJohnsen@gmail.com. As more people develop the skill set to offer tutorials, schedule and lead, these roles will shift to volunteers. If you are skilled in Zoom and would like to volunteer to help others, please contact RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com. Delegating some of these roles to volunteer support will be invaluable.

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.

Rev. Carie Johnsen, Minister	508-221-5295 (c)	revcariejohnsen@gmail.com
Martha Pelletier, Chair	207-685-9592 (H)	Mjpell14@roadrunner.com
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	hzmre@hzmre.com
Nancee Campbell	207-621-7727 (h)	
Tracy McNaughton	207-623-3110 (h)	
Marilyn Gordon	207-660-8338 (c)	mqweider@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 Nancee Campbell, 621-7727
If you would like to request or suggest cards: Contact Angie Blevins, 592-5655

Ad-hoc Covid-19 Advisory Group

This group has generously volunteered to be available to support members with personal safety, health or travel questions, concerns, or anxieties. Feel free to reach out to one of them directly.

Betty Cairn, RN	StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com	207-215-6394
Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac.	tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com	207-557-2557
Harry Grimmnitz, MD	hgrimmnitz@gmail.com	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	naber@zwi.net	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	cathieenielsen@gmail.com	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	martysoule@gmail.com	207-685-9270

UCC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

UCC Administrator Hours

Tues, Wed & Thurs. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Church Administrator: Lynn M. Smith,
admin@augustauu.org or 622-3232
Rev. Carie

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

To schedule a visit, appointment, or meeting, please call (508) 221-5295 or use her local # 623-3663 (both lines will reach her!) or email her at RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com

Sunday Services / Staff Contact information:

Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, admin@augustauu.org, Phone 622-3232

Religious Exploration Coordinator, Monique McAuliffe, RECoordinator@augustauu.org

Music Director, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org