

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
Wednesday, December 16, 2020

## Upcoming Services

Worship Theme: December – **STILLNESS**

<p><del>Thursday, 12/17</del> 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u><b>Grief, Loss and Holidays</b></u> <del>Thursday, December 17th — 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.</del></p> <p><b><u>Postponed to Tues. 12/22 due to the inclement weather forecast for 12/17</u></b></p>
<p>THIS Sunday 12/20 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p><i><b>“To Speak or Not to Speak: A Place for Silence”</b></i></p> <p>Rev. Carie Johnsen</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, 12/22</b> 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><u><b>Grief, Loss and Holidays</b></u> Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Please join us <u><b>on the corner of Winthrop and Summer Street</b></u> for a silent outdoor prayer service. All are invited to bring written prayer requests, blessings or messages of hope for the holiday season. Guests will light luminaries as soft music plays. The UUCC Pastoral Ministers will receive your written prayers and hold them in care with you, your families and/or our community.</p> <p>If you are unable to attend, please send your prayers to <a href="mailto:revcariejohansen@gmail.com">revcariejohansen@gmail.com</a>. Social distancing and masks <u>required</u>. LOCATION: Outdoor Vespers Service at UUC, 69 Winthrop Street, Augusta</p>
<p><b>NEXT Thursday, 12/24</b> 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p><u><b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b></u> Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>This year we will join our siblings in faith from the Yarmouth and Brunswick UU Churches to celebrate this season of Hope and Love. This traditional service of readings, carols, and lights will close with the magical moment of singing silent night with friends across Maine. Bring with you to the service a candle for each member of the family. LOCATION: <a href="#"><u>CHRISTMAS EVE ZOOM ROOM</u></a> (<b>DO NOT USE UCC ZOOM ROOM</b>)</p>

**NEXT Sunday 12/27**

**Winter Solstice Arrival**

**Sunday, December 27th 10:00 a.m.**

The darkness of this year is different from other years. Walk with Mother Darkness toward the celebration of Winter Solstice, the turning of the Light Dark and Light together, bonded companions for our lives. Stories, Reflections, Songs, Readings for this time as we step over the threshold into a new year. LOCATION: [UCC ZOOM ROOM](#)

**Sunday services and all other events (unless noted) are held in the UCC ZOOM ROOM** ← ← click this **UPDATED LINK** to join

**Other ways to join 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)

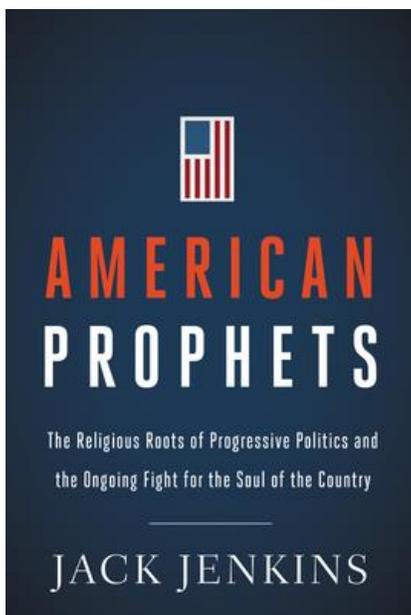
At first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

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.**

**Virtual Connections**



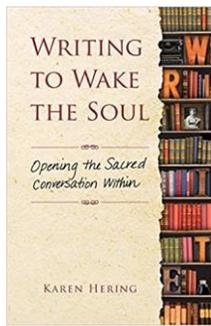
**READ. SHARE. LEARN** will meet in the UCC zoom room on Thursday January 7, 2021 to discuss our current book. We begin at 1pm and end at 2:30. Anyone who is interested in this book is welcome to join us whether or not you have attended before. See the upcoming newsletter for the titles we have chosen for the rest of the year. For more information about this or any meeting of the group, contact June Zellers at [jzellers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jzellers@roadrunner.com) or Kathy Kellison at [kell6787@gmail.com](mailto:kell6787@gmail.com) We would love to have you join us!

*From one of the country's most respected religion reporters, a paradigm-shifting discussion of how the Religious Left is actually the moral compass that has long steered America's political debates, including today.*

~Goodreads

## Weekly Events

<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  <u>Each week</u>  <b><u>2:00 – 3:30</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Read Aloud &amp; Discussion</u></b></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! FMI: <a href="mailto:admin@augustauu.org">admin@augustauu.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>UUCZ ZOOM ROOM</b> (← click this link OR see Pg. 1 for other ways to join)</p>
<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  <u>Each week</u>  <b><u>6:30 – 8:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>The login and password information has changed. Please contact Marty Soule for updated 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></p> 
<p><b><u>Wednesdays</u></b>  <u>Each Week</u>  <b><u>5:00 – 6:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gentle YOGA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p> <p>Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin our class right at 5:00 p.m. Zoom Login:  Click link below to join.  <a href="https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09</a>  Password <b>174192</b>  FMI: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p> 
<p><b><u>Thursdays</u></b>  <u>Each Week</u>  <b><u>8:00 – 9:30</u></b>  <u>a.m.</u></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>The login and password information has changed. 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><b><u>Every Other Thursday</u></b>    <b><u>9:00 – 10:30</u></b>  <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i>  <b>Every OTHER Thursday morning -- 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</b></p>



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.

**PLEASE NOTE: This group will now meet EVERY OTHER Thursday (instead of every Thursday). Upcoming meetings are scheduled on 12/31 and 1/13/21.**

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

### **Condolences to the family of William "Bill" Byrne**

With sadness and condolences to the family, we share the death of William "Bill" Byrne on 11/12/2020. Roxanne Reed welcomes cards, calls, texts, and emails.

Address: 2 Academy St. #410  
Hallowell, ME 04347

Phone: 207-530-4965 <Note the change in phone number... no longer have home phone.>

Email: [roxreed215@hotmail.com](mailto:roxreed215@hotmail.com)

**PLEASE NOTE:** The CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE **CLOSED** from Christmas Day until after the New Year's Day holiday. The office will reopen on Tues. Jan 5<sup>th</sup>. While this is a relatively new practice at UCC of Augusta, this is a common practice in church culture.

Monique and Bridget are typically flexing hours during this timeframe, but Lynn has generally worked through this period. All of our staff deserve accolades and restorative space to enjoy the holidays.

### **December 2020 Board Highlights:** At its December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board...

- Approved a motion to acknowledge the minister's housing allowance which has no impact on the church budget but has tax implications for the Minister.

- Celebrated earnings from the Holiday Fair and Hannaford card program and discussed hopes for the upcoming year-end annual appeal.
- Agreed to discuss issues arising from the lack of a Stewardship Chair (as well as the need to recruit a Facilities Chair) at the January meeting.
- Discussed the Congregational Engagement Working Group recommendations and assigned tasks to Board members to pursue the priorities set by the Board.
- Discussed Building and Grounds issues and the need to do renovations.



## Small Group Ministry facilitators and members!

**Mark your Calendars!**

The first Leadership Meeting of the New Year (already!?) will be held on Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-2:00 p.m. via Zoom (of course). All current, past and even hopefully future participants in our SGM movement are not only welcome, but encouraged, to attend. These gatherings are an essential part of Small Group in that they reinforce the bond that all of our groups have with each other and the UUCC in particular.

As always, we will be very mindful of your valuable time and the meeting will not stray past 2:00 p.m. More information will be sent out as we near the date. Of course, if any group has a concern or topic that they feel needs addressing, please be sure to let us know. Thank you for your commitment to this wonderful movement!

-- Michael, Helen, Judy and Linda --

## FREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Community volunteers will be providing a free (curbside or delivery) Community Christmas dinner on Christmas day at So. Parish Congregational Church, 9 Church Street, Augusta, Maine from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Please share this invitation with your Church Community. A poster is also attached for sharing. If you would like a hard copy of the poster, please let me know and I will get one delivered to you.

**Donated items needed for dinner – Desserts.**

**Those unable to come to the church and who would like a dinner delivered to the greater Augusta area (Augusta, Manchester, Chelsea, Gardiner, Hallowell, Randolph), please call the So. Parish Congregational Church office at 622-0552.**

## *Social Justice: It's Who We Are*

As Unitarian Universalists we affirm seven principles through which we envision an equitable, interconnected world community. Each principle offers aspirational guidance for being our best selves, while together they articulate a collective responsibility for social justice. In recognition of the many ways UU's are defined by social responsibility toward all humanity, this year our Social Justice Committee will identify and facilitate opportunities for all members to advance social justice, both individually and in community with other church members.

First, we recognize that many folks at UUCC are already engaged in a wide variety of social justice activities. We will create a directory of UUCC Social Justice Actions where folks can learn who's doing what and identify potential areas for individual action. We hope that members already doing this good work will serve as resources for others. Please send your name, contact information, and area of social justice engagement to Hilary Neckles ([hneckles@gmail.com](mailto:hneckles@gmail.com)) to be included in the directory and inspire others to action.

Second, we have identified two focus areas for active engagement this year, racial justice and electoral justice. Watch for the Social Justice Corner in the first e-blast of each month, where we will identify ways to take positive action toward "justice, equity, and compassion in human relations"

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### Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on Covid-19 "Vacca-cination" (vacca, Latin for cow)

COVID-19 vaccines are in the news daily. Before considering them and the complexities of immunization, I pause to pay respect to the first vaccination, developed to prevent smallpox, a major killer of the not too distant past. As proof of the danger being only recently past, the upper arm of many of us older folks have a round scar somewhere around the size of a nickel - evidence of our having received the smallpox vaccine when we were younger.

Edward Jenner is often considered the Father of Vaccination due to his development of the vaccine used to prevent smallpox, a highly infectious disease which infected 60% of the population and often led to the death of 10% of the population and up to 20% in severe epidemics. He is thought to have saved more lives than any other human. Jenner was the son of a vicar and was provided a good basic education, later apprenticed as a surgeon and anatomist and earned his MD from the University of St Andrews in 1792. He returned to his home town of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, England where he was a successful family physician and surgeon.

Jenner had serious interest in zoology which led to his study of animal biology and its role in animal-human disease transmission. It had been known for some years that human infection by cowpox, a minor infection of cattle provided immunity against smallpox, but it was not until Jenner's work that the procedure became widely understood. He saw that milkmaids were generally immune to smallpox and reasoned that the pus in the blisters that milkmaids received from cowpox (a disease similar to smallpox, but far less virulent) protected them from smallpox.

Dr. Jenner performed his first vaccination in 1796 by inoculating James Phipps, an eight-year-old boy who was the son of Jenner's gardener. He scraped pus from cowpox blisters on the hands of Sarah Nelmes, a milkmaid who had caught cowpox from a cow named Blossom, whose hide now hangs on the wall of the St. George's

Medical School library. The importance of this work cannot be over emphasized as it directly led to the discovery of vaccinations as we know them today. His vaccine against smallpox is virtually unchanged to this day and in 1980 led the World Health Organization to declare smallpox an eradicated disease.

To show you how little has changed in other respects I suggest you look up the satirical cartoon "The cow-pock - or - the wonderful effects of the new inoculation" by James Gillray, published in 1802 by the Anti-Vaccine Society, or the statue in Rome of Jenner vaccinating his very reluctant son.

What do you want to know about COVID 19? Let me know.

Dr. Don: [naber@gwi.net](mailto:naber@gwi.net)

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### **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	<a href="mailto:StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com">StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com</a>	207-215-6394
Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac.	<a href="mailto:tlnaturalhealth@yahoo.com">tlnaturalhealth@yahoo.com</a>	207-557-2557
Harry Grimmnitz, MD	<a href="mailto:hgrimmnitz@gmail.com">hgrimmnitz@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	<a href="mailto:naber@gwi.net">naber@gwi.net</a>	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	<a href="mailto:cathieenielsen@gmail.com">cathieenielsen@gmail.com</a>	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	<a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270

### **UUCS 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)	<a href="mailto:revcariejohnsen@gmail.com">revcariejohnsen@gmail.com</a>
Martha Pelletier, Chair	207-685-9592 (H)	<a href="mailto:Mjpell14@roadrunner.com">Mjpell14@roadrunner.com</a>
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	<a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>
Tracy McNaughton	207-623-3110 (h)	

**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 Angie Blevins, 592-5655

## UUC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

### UUC Administrator Hours

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

Church Administrator: Lynn M. Smith,  
[admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org) or 622-3232

To schedule a visit, appointment, or meeting,  
please

### Rev. Carie

### VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

To schedule a visit, appointment or  
meeting with Rev. Carie, please call (508)  
221-5295 or use her local # (207) 623-3663  
(both lines will reach her!) or email her at  
[RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com](mailto:RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com).

She is happy to meet outdoors, by phone,  
or zoom.

### Staff Contact information:

Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org), Phone 622-3232

Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, Monique McAuliffe, [LifespanFF@augustauu.org](mailto:LifespanFF@augustauu.org)

Music Director, Bridget Convey, [musicdirector@augustauu.org](mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org)