

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, April 7, 2021

Upcoming Services

Worship Themes: April = **BECOMING**

What does it mean to be a people of Becoming?

THIS Sunday

April 11, 2021
10:00 a.m. via Zoom



On Sunday, April 11th members of the Peaceful Heart Sangha will offer a church service on **Beginning Anew**, a healing practice from our Mindfulness Meditation tradition. This is a fairly simple process that can help us in healing relationships.

As it says on the book Beginning Anew, “Thousands of people have used these techniques, including conscious breathing, loving speech, and compassionate listening, to reconcile with loved ones. Beginning Anew can bring deeper understanding and harmony to any relationship.”

Marilyn Gordon and Susan Burnett will serve as worship associates.
Special Music by Lynn Deeves.

Sangha members Greg Fahy and Lynn Deeves will offer an upcoming workshop for our congregation to experience this practice on Saturday, April 17, 10-11:30am. If you are interested in participating in the workshop, please register with Lynn Smith at admin@augustauu.org or 622-3232.

After the service, join the ***What's On Your Mind?*** session in the UCC Zoom room. Bring your questions with you. <see full notice below>

NEXT Sunday

April 18, 2021
10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Belonging in a Culture of Becoming – Rev. Carie Johnsen
(Virtual road trip with Delaware, PA visiting Augusta)

We will introduce Peter Friedrichs from PA. He will lead the 4/25 service as we join Delaware PA

Sara Hodgkins and Monique McAuliffe will serve as worship associates.
Special Music: Bridget (video). Imagine with Bob Calwell (video)

I grew up in a place where *who you belonged to* was central to acceptance. I arrived in a place where *who you are becoming* is the measure to success. Join Rev. Carie as she explores the tug and pull of belonging and becoming in Unitarian Universalism.

EASTER Service video Link

There have been some requests from people asking for access to view the recent UUCC Easter music video. Below is the link to the UUCC Easter video: Jesus Christ Has Risen Today:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kCdZ74h7rYaP5-HcITJakQGGKRlg6vzG/view?usp=sharing>

UUCC Sunday services and all virtual other events (unless noted) are held in the UUCC 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.**

UUCC 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.

Connections

Change of Date: **Goddess/Earth Circles** will meet 4/18 instead of 4/25

Sunday, April 18 Goddess/Earth Circles 1-2:30pm via church zoom. Rev. Carie Johnsen will be joining us as we share Blessing of the Goddess for her unfolding ventures. For those who are not able to join us, please send your messages to Helen Zidowecki (hzmre@hzmre.com, 582-5308) for sharing at the gathering.

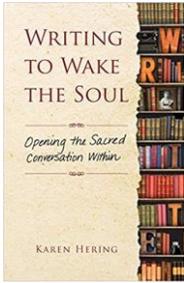
Weekly Events

Monday
Each week
2:00 – 3:30
p.m.

Read Aloud & Discussion

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: admin@augustauu.org

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

<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></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 martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: 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</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. https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRxa3VoUT09 Password 174192 - FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</p> 
<p><u>Thursdays</u> <u>Each Week</u> <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>The login and password information has changed. Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> 
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Thursday</u> <u>9:00 – 10:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i></p> <p><u>PLEASE NOTE the following schedule change (Eff 4/1)</u></p> <p>We will now meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.</p> <p>We will still met from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</p>  <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.</p> <p>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



**** SAVE THE DATE ****

A Night to Remember: Celebrating Twelve Years of Shared Ministry

Friday, April 16th 6:00 - 8:00ish - UCC ZOOM ROOM

Host: Committee on Ministry Facilitator: Harry Grimmnitz

Graphic Artist: Melissa Kendzierski

It's time to reflect, remember, and celebrate twelve years of ministry on the corner of Winthrop and Summer. With this evening of storytelling we will gather up our favorite memories, transformative moments, and compassionate care in a graphic image to commemorate our shared ministry in Augusta.

Tutor Needed!

The Alsaloum family has a need for a tutor for their 1st grade son, Amin. They have requested 1 1/2 hour sessions after school, starting @ 4:30p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. They prefer that the tutoring be offered in person, in their Augusta home.

If interested, please contact UCC/CANMP family mentor, Christine Little, for details:
calittledance@gmail.com, or (c)#207-272-3418.

Condolences to the family of Monique McAuliffe

With deep sadness we share the news of the passing of Monique's Aunt Ginny on Saturday 3/27. Years of weekly lunches along with reciprocal care and deep friendship bring about great loss of Monique and her family. Monique has requested cards be sent to her children during this time. She writes, "*It would mean so much if my children received the cards - I know our congregation is with me in heart & spirit*".

Cards may be mailed to:

Katelyn Alexander:
515 N Sheridan Rd
Unit # 106
Evanston, IL 60202

James McAuliffe
445 SW Tunison Ave APT 3
Corvallis, OR 97333

Shannon McAuliffe
751 Brunswick Ed
Richmond ME 04357

Liam McAuliffe
751 Brunswick Rd
Richmond ME 0435

EMBODY OUR PRINCIPLES WITH MUUSAN

For those of you focused on CLIMATE CHANGE there are two very important bills coming up in the legislature this spring.

An Act Regarding So-called Green Banks will create the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator, a statewide Green Bank to improve financing for efficiency, clean energy and other climate solutions. On Friday April 9 at 1:00 the Sierra Club is hosting a webinar to discuss this legislation as well as action at the federal level. The presentation will include local and national experts.

An Act to Support and Improve Municipal Recycling Programs and Save Taxpayer Money is also coming. The bill will extend producer responsibility for packaging.

We will let you know when reaching out to your legislators in connection with these bills will be important, so stay tuned.

If you are interested in registering for Friday's seminar, visit MUUSAN.org and click on the advocacy calendar in the Take Action section.

Also on the website is the video of Secretary of State Shenna Bellows' presentation at the latest MUUSAN Network Meeting. Check it out!

For more information on any of this, contact Michaela Loisel at michaelatloisel@gmail.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com.

PEEPERS

Peepers were first heard at 5:00am on Friday, March 26th.

By Martin Spahn and family



Spring is here!!!

How Are We Doing?

For the 2021-2022 Pledge Campaign, That Is!!!

Thank you to all who have sent a pledge form in to the church office!

Our goal is \$165,000. We are now at 63% of our goal!!!

As of Today **31 pledges** have been received, raising **\$103,480** for the work of UUCC in the next fiscal year.

Way to go! Keep it coming! Yeah Team!

Thank you, thank you all!



Off to a good start

FREE BOOKS

There are still MANY FREE books for the taking. Come to browse. Fill a bag or two to take home. With the activity of reorganizing spaces and Rev. Carie's leave taking, an abundance of books have been shelved in the minister's study. We hope you will take the opportunity to browse the shelves and take home one or two to ten or boxes of books to supply your summer and winter reading shelves.

The books include:

- Books that have been a treasured part of UUCC over the years.
- Historic Religious Exploration materials, UU writings and material.
- Contributions from Rev. Carie's library

With Covid restrictions, we are asking folks to reserve time on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 9-4. We are continuing to book appointments. You can come in your family pod or alone to browse the library. Contact Lynn Smith to reserve your time: 207-622-3232 admin@augustauu.org Masks are required. Bring your own bag please.

If you need an evening or weekend time, please contact Rev. Carie (508-221-5295 revcariejohnsen@gmail.com) or Helen Zidowecki (582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com) to set an appointment.

The Free Books will be available through April 16th. All remaining books will be donated to the Kennebec Historical Society for their annual book sale later this year.

Board of Trustees



Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta
Board Meeting A G E N D A
April 8, 2021 - 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>, then enter passcode: 6971

or

Join by phone: dial 1 646 558 8656, at first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

Chalice Lighting

Words to Inspire

Check in

REPORTS

1. Clerk's Report: Susan / **VOTE**
2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
 - a. Stewardship Campaign update
3. Finance Committee's Report: Catherine (CP) / **VOTE**
 - a. 2021-22 Budget update

4. COVID-19 Task Force's Report: Terry

5. President's report: Kathy

- a. Interim Minister Committee process and update
- b. Campus renovations toward reopening

6. Minister's Report: Rev. Carie / **VOTE**

NEW BUSINESS

- Beginning Anew / CEWG meeting update: Kevin and Susan (CoM member?)

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item you would like the Board to consider, please contact Kathy Ann Shaw at kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com. **Next Board meeting = May 13, 2021**

you are
INVITED

So, What's On Your Mind?

The UUC Board wants to hear what you are thinking, your ideas, your concerns, your suggestions about how UUC is doing. Please join board members on the first Sunday of the month right after the church service to talk about this. We are not meeting on the first Sunday in April since that Sunday is Easter Sunday. Instead...

We will meet again on April 11th at 11:30-12:30 on the ZOOM church site.

Do you have questions about how UUC operates? Do you wonder "Why?" about something? Are there things you would like to learn more about? Bring all this and what you want to discuss with board members.

We will not be making decisions during these times, but will listen intently and take all comments and ideas back to the board. See you there!

Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr Don on COVID-19

Will the vaccines protect us against COVID variants?

The simple answer to this point is yes. At this time, there is no evidence to suggest that these or any other variants of the COVID-19 virus are resistant to the current vaccines. "Preliminary data show that the COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States should provide an adequate degree of protection against SARS-CoV-2 variants," NIAID Director and White House chief medical advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci said in a statement last week. These key points recently suggested by Maryland Health help support his statement:

- * The effectiveness of the current COVID vaccines is high. In fact, it is much higher than some other vaccines we commonly receive. As a reminder, the annual flu vaccine has an effectiveness around 40 to 60 percent from year to year.
- * The current vaccines cause a powerful immune response that makes them highly protective, even if there is a drop in antibody strength. Antibodies are not the only part of the vaccines that makes them work. There are also T cells and memory B cells and other types of antibodies. (More on this in the future.)
- * The vaccines prevent hospitalization and death. All of the current vaccines are nearly 100 percent effective in preventing hospitalization and death. This is a critical point. Not only will this help relieve the strain on the healthcare system, but all the vaccines save lives.
- * The vaccines can be updated to be more effective. Research continues on all the vaccines. If necessary, future COVID-19 vaccines may need to be tweaked, not unlike what happens with the flu vaccine every year. All vaccine manufacturers are continuing to study the effectiveness of the vaccines and are already looking at what a booster might look like down the road.

What we do affects others and by vaccinating as many people as possible, as quickly as possible, we can stop the spread of COVID. Slowing transmission of the virus means fewer opportunities for it to mutate, which will help prevent the emergence of new and more dangerous variants. This means masking and social distancing will continue to be of great value as well.

Send your questions, comments or suggestions to naber@gwi.net

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.	tlnaturalhealth@yahoo.com	207-557-2557
Harry Grimmnitz, MD	hgrimmnitz@gmail.com	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	naber@gwi.net	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	cathieenielsen@gmail.com	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	martysoule@gmail.com	207-685-9270

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.

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
Tracy McNaughton	207-623-3110 (h)	tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	plambflowers@outlook.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 Angie Blevins, 592-5655



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 Michael Conley at 207-248-7948 or at estherpearl67@gmail.com.

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 or 622-3232

Rev. Carie

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

If you would like 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.

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

Staff Contact information:

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

Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, Monique McAuliffe, LifespanFF@augustauu.org

Music Director, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org