

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, July 14, 2021

Upcoming Services

<p>THIS Sunday</p> <p>July 18, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>Widening the Circle</u> Bettina Lehovec, UCC Summer Minister</p> <p>Unitarian Universalism has always been an evolving tradition, expanding its identity to reflect new understandings and more people. Join us as we explore our current horizons, including a reworking of our principles to more explicitly address our commitment to anti-racism work.</p> <p>John Seksay and Susan Burnett will serve as our worship associates with Marty Peters managing technology. Karen Allen will be our pianist.</p>
<p>NEXT Sunday</p> <p>July 25, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>Jesus and the Beloved Community</u> Bettina Lehovec, UCC Summer Minister</p> <p>Before Christianity, there was Jesus the person. A Jewish healer, teacher, and change maker. People flocked to hear his message of the in-breaking kingdom of God, a kingdom that sounds much like the Beloved Community we strive for today. Let's explore what this first-century activist had in mind and how his vision challenged the status quo of his time — and ours.</p> <p>Marilyn Gordon and Sara Hodgkins will serve as our worship associates with Marty Peters managing technology. Stefanie Barley will be our pianist</p>

**All worship services AND virtual events (unless noted) are held 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.

Connections

Sunday, July 25, 1-2:30PM Goddess/Earth Circles Summer Connection

Would you like to try to meet in the yard by the church with zoom as back-up?

The gathering will include summer sharing, and continuing consideration of Phases of the Goddess/our Lives

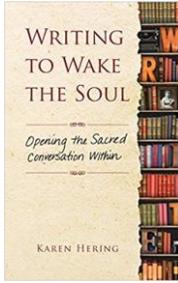
We are moving from the Tri-Goddess approach of maiden/mother/crone by holding space for another phase.

Where is this placed and by what name will it be known? Join our considerations.

Background material is being sent to usual participants and is available on request from Helen Zidowecki
(hzmre@hzmre.com, 582-5308).

Weekly Events

<p><u>Monday</u> Each week <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u> 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> </div> </div>
<p><u>Wednesdays</u> Each Week <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><u>Gentle YOGA</u> 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> </div>  </div>
<p><u>Thursdays</u> Each Week <u>8:00 – 9:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;">  <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u> 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> </div> </div>
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Thursday</u></p>	<p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i> We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month - 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</p>

<p><u>9:00 – 10:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></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>
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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 and friends of Phyllis Cudmore

We have been informed by Phyllis Cudmore’s son, William that Phyllis passed away on July 5th. We have no other details at this time except that the family is planning a celebration of life in the fall at American Legion #2. Details will be shared as they are received.

The scammers are BACK!

Several members have been contacted via email (presumably from Reverend Carie Johnsen) asking for “a favor”. This turned out to be a scam, as the scammers asked for gift cards if you replied to the initial plea.

Please do not respond to any of these scam emails!!!

The **Program Book** describes the UCC community as we engage with our changes. Hope you are finding it informative.

The Program Book was sent electronically several weeks ago. For print copies, contact Lynn in the church office (622-3232).

Jump up and down!!! Clap your hands!!!! Smile!! Shout yeah!!!

Whatever you do when excited!!!

WHY YOU ASK?

People who financially committed to UUCC during fiscal year 2020-2021 (July 1- June 30) donated over \$154,465 dollars with pledges and UUA dues!!!!

In a year with so many uncertainties, with so much change, with so much stress, you came through and supported UUCC.

We are starting the new fiscal year with a strong financial outlook for the year. There are 68 pledging units (individuals or households) who have pledged almost \$150,000. In the budget approved we had \$130,000 as the goal for pledges. As you can see we are well over that so we have cause to celebrate!!

So jump, wave, shout, smile. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Martha Naber, Treasurer

DID YOU MISS THE JULY 4th SERVICE?

Sunday, July 4th Service Details

The July 4th service was not recorded as is normally the practice. In lieu of the recorded service, we offer the below list of the titles of the readings and/or music provided at the service. If you would like to have the complete order of service with the text from the readings and links for the music OR if would like the written sermon, please contact the church administrator at (207) 622-3232 or admin@augustauu.org.

- Chalice lighting** Day Break by Robin F. Gray
- Opening Words** Our opening words this morning are a July 4th Meditation from Rev. Maureen Killoran, spoken on behalf of the many diverse people who comprise our United States of America.
- Opening Hymn/Music** Hymn # 357 "Bright Morning Stars Are Rising"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNJEeDdpfQ&t=393s>
- First Reading:** Equality in a Sea of Inequality by Peggy Clarke
- Meditative Music:** "America the Beautiful" by The Nields
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR3t1880atZ3g-Pudq4Xpu4OKww4V0eFeNdoB-yJkyWfhycgPam52v4YPT8&v=05EkPN7GQQA&feature=youtu.be> (4:58)
- Second Reading:** Let America Be America Again by Langston Hughes, full version(1935)
- Sermon:** Symbols of our Faith
- Closing Hymn:** This Land is Your Land
Written by Woody Guthrie, Sung by Elizabeth Mitchell
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRnHx3yVuf4&t=1s> (4:12)

Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on COVID-19 NEWS: Delta Variant Update, COVID Boosters, Olympics and Tennessee

Delta Variant Update: Over the past seven days in the U.S., new COVID-19 cases increased by 47.5% from the previous week, according to Johns Hopkins University data. That's averaging about 19,455 new infections a day. Hospitalizations are rising again. Deaths, a lagging indicator, also appear ready to start climbing. More than 99% of deaths are now among people who have not been vaccinated, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports.

Dr. Jennifer Nuzzo, with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, says two-thirds of counties with sustained increases in new infections are in states with low vaccine coverage. "But the fact that we are seeing case increases in counties even in higher vaccination states is worrisome," she tweeted. "Anywhere there are pockets of low vax coverage is at risk!" The highly contagious Delta variant now accounts for just over half the COVID-19 cases in the United States, according to the CDC.

COVID Boosters: Representatives from Pfizer and federal health officials, who sent out conflicting signals about the need for vaccine booster shots, are planning to meet this week. Pfizer said its booster shot strongly extends protection but U.S. officials want to see the data before recommending a third dose. Neither the companies nor the government recommend booster shots yet, and won't until their safety and effectiveness can be fully explored.

In a joint statement late Thursday, the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention emphasized that people who have been fully vaccinated do not need booster shots yet. "FDA, CDC, and NIH are engaged in a science-based, rigorous process to consider whether or when a booster might be necessary," according to the government statement. "We are prepared for booster doses if and when the science demonstrates that they are needed."

Olympics: There will be no fans at the Tokyo Olympics. Originally, 10,000 local fans were going to be admitted to Olympic events. Foreign fans were banned in March, and organizers repeatedly delayed a decision on whether to allow Japanese fans. The announcement Thursday followed the declaration of a new state of emergency, which took effect Monday, through the Olympics and beyond. "The priority will be to determine safe and secure Games," Tokyo 2020 president Seiko Hashimoto said at a news conference following a decision by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the government of Japan, the International Olympic Committee and International Paralympic Committee.

Tennessee: The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) will halt all adolescent vaccine outreach – not just for coronavirus, but all diseases amid pressure from Republican state lawmakers, according to an internal report and agency emails. If the health department must issue any information about vaccines, staff are instructed to strip the agency logo off the documents. TDH will also stop all COVID-19 vaccine events on school property. The decisions to end vaccine outreach and school events come directly from Health Commissioner Dr. Lisa Piercey, the internal report states.

These changes to Tennessee's vaccination strategy, detailed in a TDH COVID-19 report illustrate how the state government continues to dial back efforts to vaccinate minors against coronavirus. This approach will also hamper the state's capacity to vaccinate adults and protect children from other infectious diseases. These

changes will take effect just as the coronavirus pandemic shows new signs of spread in Tennessee. After months of decline, the average number of new cases per day has more than doubled in the past two weeks. Tennessee lags behind most of the nation with only 38% of Tennesseans fully vaccinated.

Decisions to ratchet back outreach come amid pressure from conservative lawmakers, who have embraced misinformation about the coronavirus vaccine, said Dr. Michelle Fiscus, Tennessee's former top vaccine official. Fiscus was fired without explanation on Monday. Fiscus said she was scapegoated to appease lawmakers, who had described routine vaccine outreach as "reprehensible." The agency's outreach campaign recommended vaccination against flu, measles, mumps, rubella and human papillomavirus, or HPV, among others.

**** I'm away on vacation for the next two weeks. ****

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.	tlcnaturalhealth@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

UUCC 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)	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

Pastoral Ministry Team Summer On-Call Schedule

1. July 12 – July 18	Helen	3. July 26 – August 1	Martha
2. July 19 – July 25	Tracy		

For special services and celebrations, contact Rev. Helen Zidowecki.

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 Office Hours

Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

TEMPORARY HOURS

<plus 7 flex / work at home hours>

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