

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Upcoming Services

<p>THIS Sunday</p> <p>October 17, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>"A Community of Care</u> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>Deep relationships often have empathy and care. As a church community, this is a part of our work. Chloe will reflect on cultivating empathy and care within relationships.</p> <p>Our worship associate will be Sara Hodgkins. Our pianist will be Karen Allen.</p>
<p>NEXT Sunday</p> <p>October 24, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>We will join First Parish Portland for its service entitled:</u></p> <p><u>"Go Direct!"</u> Reverend Dr. Elaine Peresluha, Interim Minister</p> <p>How do we stay in relationship with people when we have disagreements? Sometimes we may rather get our own way than be in right relationship- how do we decide whether we want to be right, or we want to be in relationship?</p> <p><u>DO Not use the UCC Zoom room.</u> Instead join First Parish Portland using the following link: https://zoom.us/j/98906899336</p> <p>Meeting ID: 989 0689 9336 Join by phone: 1 646 558 8656</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.

Did you miss last Sunday's worship service "Indigenous Peoples' Day"

Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister

Watch the service by clicking the following link:

[Link to 10/10 "Indigenous Peoples' Day" service](#)

Do you miss having a Sunday Order of Service?

We are now preparing a one page Order of Service for each Sunday service. The order of service for the upcoming Sunday will be available by noon on the Friday before the service. This order of service can be found on the home page of our website www.augustauu.org. Just scroll down to Upcoming Services and look for the link to the Order of Service.

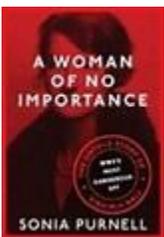


Prior orders of service can be found for up to four services on our website Worship/Upcoming / Recent Services. Click here for a direct link

<https://www.augustauu.org/worship/upcoming-services/>.

Connections

READ, SHARE, LEARN will meet in the UCC zoom room on Thursday November 4, 2021 to discuss our current book. We begin at noon and end at 1:30. Anyone who is interested in this book is welcome to join us whether or not you have attended before. For more information about this or any meeting of the group, contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com We would love to have you join us!



'The never-before-told story of one woman's heroism that changed the course of the Second World War' Goodreads

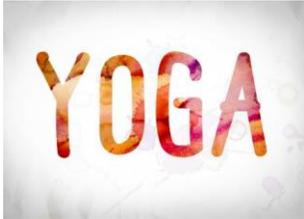


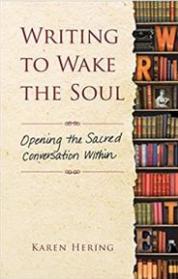
Small Group Ministry will be leading the November 7 service, and will be joined by the UCC Choir. The tentative title of the service will be "Recovenenting in a Not-So-Brave New World".

Just as we as American citizens have had to reimagine the bonds that hold us together as a nation, balancing personal freedom with civic virtue and duty to our neighbors, SGM groups will need to reflect on their own interactions and commitments going forward.

Following the service, the congregation will be invited to join a Small Group session. SGM has been one of the most vital and dynamic parts of the UCC over the decades. This will be an opportunity for those who are interested to experience how Small Group can enhance their spiritual journey.

Weekly Events

<p><u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <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>
<p><u>Wednesdays</u> <u>Each Week</u> <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Gentle YOGA Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p>  </div> <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:</p> <p>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>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p>  </div> <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>Wednesday</u></p> <p><u>10:30 a.m. -</u> <u>Noon</u></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.</p> <p>We will meet in the yard behind the Judd house. When the weather is not so good, the group will meet via Zoom - Meeting ID 823 807 0673. If the meeting will be switched to Zoom, an email will be sent by 8:00 a.m. the morning of the meeting. The message will be sent by John Seksay, Diane Moongrove or Catherine Palmer.</p> <p>The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. until noon. FMI: , please contact Diane (dmoongrove@gmail.com or 446-6162) or Stefanie (stefbarley@gmail.com or 629-8890)</p>
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Thursday</u></p> <p><u>9:00 – 10:30</u> <u>a.m.</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. in the UCC Zoom Room</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p>This is an open group and if you would like to participate in this event Join using: Meeting ID: 823 807 0673, Password: 6971</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> </div> </div>

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



Monday October 18th is the DEADLINE for submissions to the Fall Newsletter.

Please send your submissions to newsletter@augustauu.org. Questions, please call the church administrator at (207) 622-3232 or admin@augustauu.org

MUUSAN

Administrative Coordinator - Job Opening

The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN) links the state's Unitarian Universalist churches to amplify its voices for social justice in the public square. Governed by an all-volunteer Steering Committee of members from UU churches throughout Maine, MUUSAN relies on support from a part-time Administrative Coordinator.



The Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta is MUUSAN's fiscal agent, where the part-time Administrative Coordinator position is located.

For more information on the job description and how to apply, visit our website at MUUSAN.org

We appreciate your help in sharing the information about this opportunity.

Parking reminder

Many groups are now meeting in the UUCC yard/garden. If you are attending one of these groups, please remember **to park on the street!** If you are leading one of these groups, please lead by example and park on the street AND remind your attendees to do the same.

The parking spaces between the Judd House and the Maine Primary Care Association **do not belong to the church.** Please do not park in this lot.

Winter Wonderland Fair Update Sept. 29, 2021

Yes, it is not too early to volunteer in some way for this FUN church fundraiser! We already have a crew of 3 so far to make holiday wreaths which are a HUGE seller! And Marilyn Dunn has agreed to make 10 of her beautiful swags.

NOW.....we need the tips and greens to make the wreaths. If you or someone you know has access to greenery/tips for wreath making please contact Martha Naber, Nancy Fritz or Nan Bell (nanbell1@hotmail.com) to let her know.

We have LOTS of decorations to add to these creations. There will be opportunities to help with this closer to Dec.

Thanks! Martha and Nancy

Board of Trustees



Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta

Board Meeting

A G E N D A

October 14, 2021

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

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

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

Chalice Lighting

Words to Inspire: Martha

Check in

REPORTS

1. Clerk's Report: Karen / **VOTE**
2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
3. Finance Committee's Report: Harry
 - a. The MUUSAN Fiscal Agent agreement
 - b. A financial background check form
4. COVID-19 Task Force's Report: Terry and Harry

5. President's report: Kathy

a. October Retreat

6. Minister's Report: Chloë

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion on of Rainbow Walkways: Kathy / **VOTE**
- Report on *What's on Your Mind*: Martha, Harry, Kathy
- Discussion of Congregational Survey: All

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact Kathy Ann Shaw at kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com.

Next Board meeting: November 11, 2021

Update from COVID-19 Advisory Group

The plan for reopening UUC for in-person, indoor gatherings approved by the Board on August 12, 2021 depends on the COVID-19 pandemic being under control in our state and county. The Delta variant of the virus (now widely circulating in Maine) is primarily affecting unvaccinated individuals, but some fully vaccinated folks are being infected and a few are getting very sick despite immunization.

The Board adopted a Maine CDC metric that measures "community (person to person) transmission" of the virus. We are closely monitoring this metric for both our county and the entire state (since the virus does not pay attention to county lines on the map). We sought expert advice from an infectious disease specialist and have set an upper safe limit of 10 new cases of COVID-19 per 10,000 people based upon the 14 day average. *If either county or state are over 10, it is not safe for us to reopen.* This data is published by the Maine CDC every Thursday morning (see below for how to access this information for yourself).

The most recent Maine CDC data: Published on October 7, 2021

<u>14 day average</u>	<u>Sept. 16</u>	<u>Sept. 23</u>	<u>Sept. 30</u>	<u>Oct. 7</u>
Kennebec County	47.51	44.73	58.95	80.54
State	42.39	48.07	54.97	59.69

The necessary CDC metric for us to reopen is no more than 10 new cases per 10,000 people.

The present CDC metric data means that there is currently too much COVID-19 activity for us to safely reopen.

To access the Maine CDC data on your computer:

1. Search for “Maine CDC data” in browser
2. Open COVID-19: Maine Data| Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID ...
3. Scroll all the way down to the heading “View Tables of Data for the Previous 14 and 28 days” and click on that heading
4. Click on Download Data for the Previous 14 and 28 Days (PDF)
5. We are using the 14 day “Case Data” (middle 4 columns) “Rate per 10,000” for Kennebec County and the total for the State.

Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on COVID-19

What is Molnupiravir?

Molnupiravir is an experimental antiviral drug which was originally developed for the treatment of influenza. The name of the drug was inspired by that of Thor's hammer, Mjölfnir. The idea is that the drug will strike down the virus, like a mighty blow from the god of thunder. It is one of several drugs to treat COVID-19 now being investigated,

In March 2020, a University of Georgia influenza research team pivoted to studying COVID-19, and successfully used the drug to treat human cells infected with the virus. The team then licensed Molnupiravir for human clinical studies to Miami-based company Ridgeback Biotherapeutics, who later partnered with Merck to develop the drug further. In October 2021, preliminary clinical trial results showed that treatment with Molnupiravir reduced the risk of hospitalization and death from COVID-19 by about 50% for newly diagnosed, high-risk patients. The drug worked equally well against different COVID variants, including delta, gamma, and mu.

Merck announced on Oct. 1, 2021, that Molnupiravir reduced hospitalizations and deaths by half in people recently infected with the coronavirus and that it would soon ask health officials in the U.S. and around the world to authorize its use. Merck has since sought FDA emergency use authorization for its use as an antiviral COVID-19 treatment. If authorization is granted, the drug would be the first oral antiviral treatment to fight COVID-19. It comes in capsule form.

Merck said its submission is based on a study that was stopped early because the drug was working so well in more than 700 patients randomly assigned to take either Molnupiravir or a placebo. None of the volunteers in the trial had been vaccinated. No deaths were reported in patients who received Molnupiravir, as compared to eight deaths in patients who received the placebo. Evaluation teams recommended early discontinuation of the

trial because placebo administration might no longer be ethical in light of the drug's substantial benefit to patients. An FDA monitoring board agreed.

Molnupiravir mimics two of the building blocks of the virus genetic RNA code. Once it gets incorporated the RNA strands become faulty copies of the viral genes. Richard Plemper, a virologist at Georgia State University in Atlanta, says when enough mutations accumulate, the viral population collapses. "The virus essentially mutates itself to death." And because the mutations accumulate randomly, it's difficult for viruses to evolve resistance to Molnupiravir — another plus for the compound. Merck hasn't released any detailed safety data yet, but "we're very comfortable that the drug will be safe if used as intended", said Daria Hazuda, Merck's vice-president of infectious-disease discovery and chief science officer, at a press briefing.

"Merck has been producing Molnupiravir at its own risk and expects to produce 10 million courses of treatment by the end of 2021, with more courses expected to be produced in 2022," the company said. It has already sold 1.7 million treatment courses to the US government. Several other countries have made large purchases as well. The company said it will offer tiered pricing to provide access around the world, and will work with generic drug manufacturers to speed availability to low- and middle-income countries.

At a White House COVID-19 briefing last week, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, called the trial results "very encouraging," but said the drug needs close scrutiny by the FDA. "It is very important that this now must go through the usual process of careful examination of the data by the Food and Drug Administration both for effectiveness, but also for safety, because whenever you introduce a new compound, safety is very important," Fauci said, noting that vaccines remain "our best tools against COVID-19" by preventing infection and illness..."

Send your questions, comments or suggestions to naber@zwi.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@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 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

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 or Peggy Lamb 622-5174.

UCC 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 es-therpearl67@gmail.com.

UCC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

UCC Office Hours

Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm. <plus 7 flex hrs >

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

Interim Minister, Chloë Briedé

Email: chloeuucc@gmail.com

Office: (207) 623-3663

For pastoral emergencies please call her cell phone (757) 234-1303. She will return your call as soon as possible.

Minister Briede's office hours:

Monday No office hours - Sabbath

Tuesday Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Friday No office hours – Writing day

<Other hours available by appointment>

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