

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Upcoming Services

<p>THIS Sunday</p> <p>October 31, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>“Welcome All You Saints”</u> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>"Who have been the saints in your life? Saints come in a variety of people, some living and some dead. We will honor the souls and saints who have blessed our lives on this Halloween and Samhain Sunday.</p> <p>Our worship associate will be Marilyn Gordon. Our pianist will be Stefanie Barley. A new video will also be presented of Hymn #146 “Soon the Day Will Arrive” by Nurit Hirsch featuring violinist, Joan Atkinson, and the UCC choir.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"</p>
<p>NEXT Sunday</p> <p>November 7, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>“Why History?”</u> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>The Soul Matter's theme this month is Holding History. Coincidentally, we are also looking at our congregation's history as a part of the interim process. Why do we look at history? What can it tell us about our current identity?</p> <p>Our worship associate will be Susan Burnett. Our pianist will be Karen Allen.</p> <p>Join us after the service for the second “What’s on your Mind Session” with the Board of Trustees.</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:

We joined First Parish Portland for its service entitled: "Go Direct!" with

Reverend Dr. Elaine Peresluha, Interim Minister

Please watch the service by clicking the following Facebook link:

<https://www.facebook.com/firstparishportlandme/videos/1357050934712545>

A Message from the Minister

This last week I enjoyed a visit from my mom, who lives in Virginia. We explored Harpswell and Phippsburg. We had a nice hike to the summit of Merritt Mountain and seafood chowder at Uncle Pete's Community Market. While driving around, I was reminded of how much I love maps. I love looking at the formation of the land, the different routes, and all the little parks and stops along the way. Maps are helpful and beautiful.

I completed my interim ministry training from the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) this month. Often, in a training like that, we want a map. We didn't get a map. I'm reminded of a member of my last church who asked "didn't they give you a big book telling the church what to do?" I am sorry to say there isn't a big book. There is no map, no manual. Instead we have process tasks or steps. I will mention them regularly, and the first one is **coming to terms with history**. It is up to us, the congregation in partnership with me, to figure out how we do these steps. The transition team (see the forthcoming November newsletter with information about them) will be guiding us through these steps and will be collecting information along the way. The transition team is our cartographers; drawing and updating the map of UUCC as we explore our history and our identity.

As always, you are invited to reach out to me for any reason. I am available for a conversation by appointment. I am still interested in getting to know individual members so please reach out. Additionally, as with any minister, I am available for pastoral care conversations on a range of topics.

With blessings on your week,
Chloe, Interim Minister
chloeuucc@gmail.com
207-623-3663

Why should you check out the NEW Order of Service?

The Order of Service includes:

- Title and author of readings used in the service,
- Video information from the service (and links to re-watch the video if you wish)
- Links to Prelude, Postlude and Choir Videos.

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

Goddess Earth Circles

WOMEN OF WISDOM CELEBRATION OCTOBER 31, 2021, Noon-2PM
UCC Zoom (Meeting ID 8238070673; passcode: 6971)

Finding ourselves in Phases of the Goddess and Our Lives

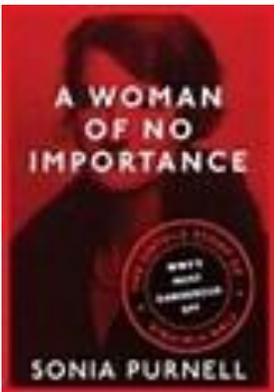
Reflecting on Women of Wisdom (WOW) Annual Books 2016-2020

We honor new Crones/Women of Wisdom and Remember those who have died. We share our Wisdom Statements for 2021! -- Short paragraph for the celebration, longer statements compiled into WOW Book 2021 after the ceremony.

◇JOIN US! Women of all ages, regular participants of Goddess/Earth Circles or not.◇
Include symbols of Sanhaim (witches, cats, owls, and the sorts)

The Phases of the Goddess and Our Lives is available on UCC website at <https://www.augustauu.org/minister-staff-and-church-life/goddess-continuing/>

For more information, contact Helen Zidowecki (hzmre@hzmre.com, 207-582-5308)



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

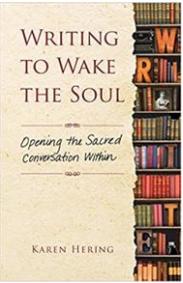


Annual Leaf Raking - Sat. Nov 6th at 9:30 am

Please help with the annual grounds clean up. We rake onto tarps and dump into the compost bin. Easy, no bagging. If we get a good turnout we are done by noon. Please help that happen. Bring a smile and rakes and gloves if you have them. We will be outside but a mask is still a good idea for when you might get close to someone. Please confirm your good intentions to participate by emailing or calling Marilyn Dunn at maine2007@hotmail.com or 512-5382.

Weekly Events

<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> <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;"><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:</p>  <p style="text-align: center;">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>Wednesday</u> <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><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>

<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 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>
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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



Daylight Savings Time ENDS
NEXT Sunday Nov. 7th

REMEMBER to turn back your clocks 1 hour
on Saturday night (Nov. 6th)!

Board of Trustees

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

What's On Your Mind?

Oct. 3, 2021, was the first fall session of conversation with those interested with talking with UCC Board members. A small group gathered, and lively conversations were shared. The following issues were discussed in some detail and the board was informed of the questions and suggestions at the meeting held on Oct. 14.

1. Rental of Drew House: The questioner asked if when the current tenants move out would the house then be rented to someone in the public not CANMP? Harry responded that this lease agreement with

CANMP would continue with a new tenant family which supports our values of justice in housing for those who need it. CANMP is the “landlord” who works with the family. We have raised the rent from \$800.00 to \$1000.00 to cover the church expenses.

2. Communication and technology at UUCC: Some of the challenges we have with technology and that Lynn deals with were mentioned. The technology Workgroup meets regularly and is investigating needs and possible fixes. They will have a report for the Feb. Board meeting to share their findings. The E-Blast publication was discussed and ideas for changes such as formatting, order of items in the e-blast, and timing were mentioned.
3. Church finances: How are we doing financially? Martha thanked all for pledging and paying those pledges in these unusual times. The program expenses are very low since we cannot yet gather together. We have a healthy balance in our operating account at this time.

The next session of **WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND?** is Nov. 7 at 11:30 after coffee fellowship on the church ZOOM.

Update from COVID-19 Advisory Group

The plan for reopening UUCC 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 21, 2021

14 day average	Sept. 30	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct 21
Kennebec County	58.95	80.54	61.49	46.93
State	54.97	59.69	49.71	44.46

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 Focus on Kids (mostly)

The Washington Post reports that parents of children eager for trick-or-treating can breathe a sigh of relief: Top federal health officials appear united in their belief that the Halloween tradition is exceedingly safe. On "Fox News Sunday," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Rochelle Walensky encouraged kids to "put on those costumes, stay outside and enjoy your trick-or-treating." Her comments echo remarks from Anthony S. Fauci, the government's top infectious-disease expert, who said celebrating Halloween outdoors will be particularly safe for vaccinated children.

For now, most children younger than 12 remain unvaccinated by necessity, but that will soon change. An FDA advisory panel Tuesday authorized the Pfizer vaccine for use in children 5 to 11. Pfizer released reports showing that their coronavirus vaccine was 91 percent effective in a trial of about 4,500 children. There were no instances of heart inflammation after the shots, which are one-third the size adults and adolescents receive. Three steps remain before it would be available to children: the FDA will have to sign off, an independent CDC advisory panel will review the data, and then the CDC director would have to sign off. All this will probably occur this week, or early next week.

The Moderna vaccine for kids ages 6 through 11 shows a "robust" immune response, the Massachusetts-based company said Monday, following child vaccine trials. Moderna said it plans to submit the data to the FDA "in the near term." The randomized study involved a two-dose vaccine that is half the dosage of the adult vaccine. The majority of adverse events were mild or moderate in severity, the company said, and the most common were fatigue, headache, fever and injection site pain. Also at this point the FDA still hasn't announced a decision on Moderna's vaccine for youths ages 12 through 17.

The Auburn clinic I volunteer for and pharmacies elsewhere have experienced a rush of booster seekers following federal approval of Johnson & Johnson and Moderna boosters. Pfizer boosters were approved earlier. Many Johnson & Johnson recipients were keen to have a booster from Pfizer or Moderna, because studies have shown that the mRNA vaccines may be more protective than their initial vaccine.

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

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: chloeucc@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