

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

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69 Winthrop St., Augusta ME
(207)622-3232 – info@augustauu.org
www.augustauu.org

A Message from the Minister

I am thinking about how much all of you are going through right now. So many of you, UUCC members and friends, are dealing with transitions, anxiety, and grief. Things are really hard right now. A hospice chaplain friend recently told me that January is a hard month, and I believe him. More folks are isolated because of the cold weather and icy roads. More folks are feeling the effects of less sunlight. As a reminder, if you are suffering, please reach out. Myself and the Pastoral Ministry Team are here for you.

I have started a new hobby. My partner and I play video games occasionally at night. While I miss getting outside, it is nice to have something to get us through the winter. One in particular features two yarn dolls that are stuck together. They have to navigate different obstacles, like through the forest or over a rooftop, all while stuck together. The game is beautiful with no time limit and no penalties. It is perfectly relaxing. I hope you are finding ways to take care of yourself.

As always, you are invited to reach out to me for any reason. I am available for a conversation by appointment. As an interim, I am especially interested in getting to know individual members and hearing your thoughts. Additionally, I am available for pastoral care conversations on a range of topics.

You are loved, you are cared for, you are seen.

Sending warmth,
Chloe Briede, Interim Minister
chloeuucc@gmail.com
207-623-3663

Upcoming Services

Worship Themes: January: Living with Intention

Let us explore the challenges and adventures of <Theme of the month>.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p style="text-align: center;">THIS Sunday January 23, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">"Despite our Best Intentions " Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>Sometimes despite our best intentions, things do not work out. Sometimes despite our best intentions, we mess up. Chloe will reflect on failure, repair, healing, and the idea that sometimes our lives and community will be permanently changed.</p> <p>Special thanks to our worship associate, Sara Hodgkins, our pianist, Karen Allen and to Chloe for handling tech for us. We may also enjoy a song by our choir led by our Music Director, Bridget Convey.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">NEXT Sunday January 30, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>"This One Wild Precious Life, How Do We Live with itention"</u> Beyssa Buil, Visiting Community Minister</p> <p>When we awake each morning and take in the first breath of air do we understand that we have this one wild precious life available to live witnessing the beauty of life and connecting with each person to make a difference. How do we live with intention and passion when situations outside of our control chip away on various levels? Let us examine how individually and communally we can live this one wild precious life.</p> <p>Special thanks to our worship associate Marilyn Gordon, our pianist, Karen Foust and our Sunday tech, Marty Peters.</p> <hr/> <p>Beyssa Buil was born and raised in Miami, Florida by two wonderful parents that emigrated from Cuba. At an early age, she began to observe how oppression manifested with her father being racialized while her white mother was not. This led her to immerse herself to learn about abolitionists and social activists and began to participate in organizing, demonstrations and advocacy work.</p> <p>Beyssa is an endorsed Humanist Chaplain, Spiritual Director, Social Activist, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Educator and Affiliated Community Minister with All Souls Miami. She provides community care, education and works with individuals and organizations from marginalized communities to cultivate practices of self-care, community building, resiliency skills.</p> <p>She serves on the Board of Trustees for the Unitarian Universalist for Social Justice, works with the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation supporting caregivers and individuals newly diagnosed with MS since she is utilizing her experience as a person living with Multiple Sclerosis to support others in their healing journey.</p> <p>Currently she is completing her Buddhist Ecclesiastical Endorsement studying under Roshi Joan Halifax. Beyssa is a lifelong fighter of systems of oppression since she believes in the words of Alice Walker, "Activism is my rent for living on the planet."</p> |

All services and events are held in the UUCC Zoom Room unless noted.

[Click here to join:](#)

For other ways to join Zoom, see [General Information](#)



Did you miss the following services?

Sunday 1/9/22 – Living with Intention - with Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister

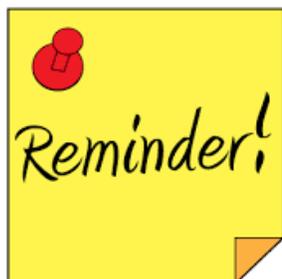
Watch the complete service by clicking the following link: [Link to 1/9 "Living with Intention" service](#)

Sunday 1/16/22 – The Mouse and the Elephant" – with Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister

Watch the complete service by clicking the following link: [Link to 1/16 "Mouse and Elephant" service](#)

Upcoming Special Events

UUA Current Events: Be in the Know Round Table Discussion:



TUES. ~~1/18 @ 5:30 PM in the UUCC ZOOM~~ **<Rescheduled to 1/25>**
FRI. - 1/21 @ 10:30 AM in the UUCC ZOOM
TUES- 1/25 @ 5:30 PM in the UUCC ZOOM
******* RSVP not required *******

This discussion is sponsored by Monique McAuliffe, Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation; Co-hosted by our Social Justice Committee

PLEASE READ/WATCH these links below about Beloved Community, Community of Communities and the 8th Principle:

<https://sanjoseuu.org/frequently-asked-questions-what-is-beloved-community/>

<https://www.uua.org/leadership/library/communities>

<https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/origin>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byqcvX9ZRBA>

**** Looking forward to our time together. ~Monique****

THE LATEST FROM MUUSAN

The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network is a statewide group of volunteers from our churches who work to promote Unitarian Universalist principles and values by influencing legislation as it is created in our state capitol.

TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY, especially LD 1626 is the major focus of MUUSAN this year.

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE is inviting everyone to a letter writing event Sunday, January 30th, from 2:00-3:30 in the church Zoom Room. We will have information about the bill and how to easily write your own letters to legislators. Please join us for a fun & important event - we'd love your participation!

The following links to legislative hearings are from the HEALTH CARE ISSUE GROUP

[PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY JANUARY 24 9AM COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES](#) <https://www.youtube.com/c/MaineStateLegislature/channels>

LD 1875 An Act to Address Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution from State-owned Solid Waste Disposal Facilities.

[PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY JANUARY 24 9AM COMMITTEE – ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES](#) <https://www.youtube.com/c/MaineStateLegislature/channels>

LD 1911 An Act to Prohibit the Contamination of Clean Soils with So-called Forever Chemicals

LD 1909 An Act to Remove Restrictions on Syringe Service Programs

Monday, January 24th, 6-7:30 pm meet with Rep. McDonald to learn more about LD 1909.

Sign up at https://actionnetwork.org/events/learn-about-lr-2384-with-rep-mcdonald?clear_id=true&fbclid=IwAR27ot1-F_PCKqeb1fHjYWtPBN1GoNNw6IEz4saUb2WMm1H-jkgqDFtniEor

How you can stay up to date on MUUSAN Activities:

If you want to stay current with MUUSAN's activities you can sign up for the email list at:

<https://facebook.us7.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=199901c5903119f799e5596bc&id=f1ad3c57e0>

For more information, contact your Congregational Legislative Liaisons: Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com or Michaela Loisel at Michaelatloisel@gmail.com

Updates on Recent Events

SPEAK UP AND BE HEARD was held Sun. 1/9!

Members of the TRANSITION TEAM met with our community after the service last Sunday, 1/9 for great history conversations. If you didn't get a chance to participate to share YOUR history, you can still respond by filling out this form- <https://forms.gle/y4pFEsyu57PCq4Pi9>.

Press [Ctrl-Home] to return to Pg. 1

Guest at Your Table Service (GAYT)

If you still have a GAYT box to drop off at our Church office, you may do so during office hours this week. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. each day. You may also mail a check payable to “UUCC” designating it for GAYT in the memo line of your check. Checks should be mailed to UUCC, P.O. Box 8, Augusta ME 04330-0008. You can also donate online at UUSC secure link: <https://donate.uusc.org/give/75595/#!/donation/checkout>

Connections by Day of the Week

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UUCC calendar
Click below to view ALL events, including any group meetings or other business meetings.
<https://www.augustauu.org/calendar-and-communications/>

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p><u>Monday</u> Each week</p> <p><u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> | <p><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at email martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> |  |
| <p><u>Wednesdays</u> Each Week</p> <p><u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> | <p><u>Gentle YOGA</u></p> <p>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. Click the link below to join. https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09 Password 174192 - FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</p> |  |
| <p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Wednesday</u></p> <p><u>10:30 a.m. -</u> <u>Noon</u></p> | <p><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. We will meet in the UUCC Zoom Room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact Diane (dmoongrove@gmail.com or 446-6162) or Stefanie (stefbarley@gmail.com or 629-8890)</p> | |
| <p><u>Thursdays</u> Each Week</p> <p><u>8:00 – 9:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p> | <p><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>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> |  |

- More Connections by Day of the Week-

**1st
Thursday**

**Noon-1:30
p.m.**

**Next Meeting
is: Feb 3**



Read, Learn, Share

Our next meeting will be February 3, 2022. We will meet in the UUCC zoom room from Noon – 1:30 p.m. to discuss The Midnight Library by Matt Haig. Anyone interested in this book is welcome to join us whether or not you have attended before.

FMI about this or any meeting of the group, contact June Zellers at jjzellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com
We would love to have you join us!

A dazzling novel about all the choices that go into a life well lived.
~~Goodreads

**2nd & 4th
Thursday**

**9:00 – 10:30
a.m.**

Writing Group

This is an open group that gathers and writes 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. We meet in the UUCC Zoom Room.

4th Sunday

1-2:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting
is: Jan 23rd**

Goddess / Earth Circles

Goddess/Earth Circles: Overview of Wicca
January 23, 2022, 1-2:30pm in the UUCC zoom

Join us to explore: Is this an ancient or contemporary religious system? Said to be spiritually empowering, life changing, world-transforming, what does that mean today? Does Wicca have anything to offer UUs? What are your experiences with Wicca? What questions or reflections do you have? Session leader: Mary Shifman.

Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on Goddess and women’s lives, pagan and earth-based spirituality and practices, earth celebrations and cycles, the role of women today. Includes Women of Wisdom celebration. All ages and genders are welcome.

Condolences to the family of Kathy Ann Shaw

Kathy Ann Shaw's mother, June Hildreth Jones passed away Friday Jan. 14th after a long struggle from Alzheimer's disease. Kathy wants to thank you all for your support you have given her during this time. Messages of condolence and support are welcomed via mail or email. Send messages to: kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com or send via mail to: Kathy Ann Shaw, 23 Newland Ave, Augusta, ME 04330

Volunteer needed

We are looking for a volunteer to recruit items for bid and to manage UUCC online fundraising auction in late March.

Please contact Catherine Palmer (palmercatherinemaine@gmail.com) or Hannah Faulkner (hannahbfaulkner@gmail.com).

**We are almost to our GOAL!
Gifts for the annual appeal now total \$5,990!!**

We only need \$10 to reach the match amount of \$6,000.

Have you made a gift yet? Every little bit and big bit helps UUCC fulfill its budget to continue service to us all.

Thank you to you all.
Martha Naber, Treasurer

Dot Bell has moved to Connecticut

Dorothy (Dot) Bell has very recently moved to Connecticut to be closer to the support of her family. She is sorry to have to move away from our beloved community. Send her a card if you can to let her know she is being thought of during this difficult time of transition. She would love to hear from her friends at UUCC.

Her new address is: 10 Loeffler Rd. #422
Bloomfield, CT 06002

No new phone number yet.

Board of Trustees



Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta
Board Meeting A G E N D A
January 13th, 2022 - 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: Karen

Check in

REPORTS

1. Clerk's Report: Karen / **VOTE**
2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
3. Finance Committee's Report: Harry
4. COVID-19 Task Force's Report: Terry and Harry
 - a. Discussion on reopening the church
(noted that TF did not pass on a recommendation)
5. President's Report: Kathy

6. Minister's Report: Chloë

NEW BUSINESS

- Presentation from the Leadership Development Team: Stef Barley and Cheryl Ring
- Update on Carie Johnsen Social Justice Fund: Debbie Mattson
- Review of Finance Committee's Draft Budget
- Interim Work: Chloë
 - Church Life Cycle
 - Settled Search Calendar
- Other as Needed

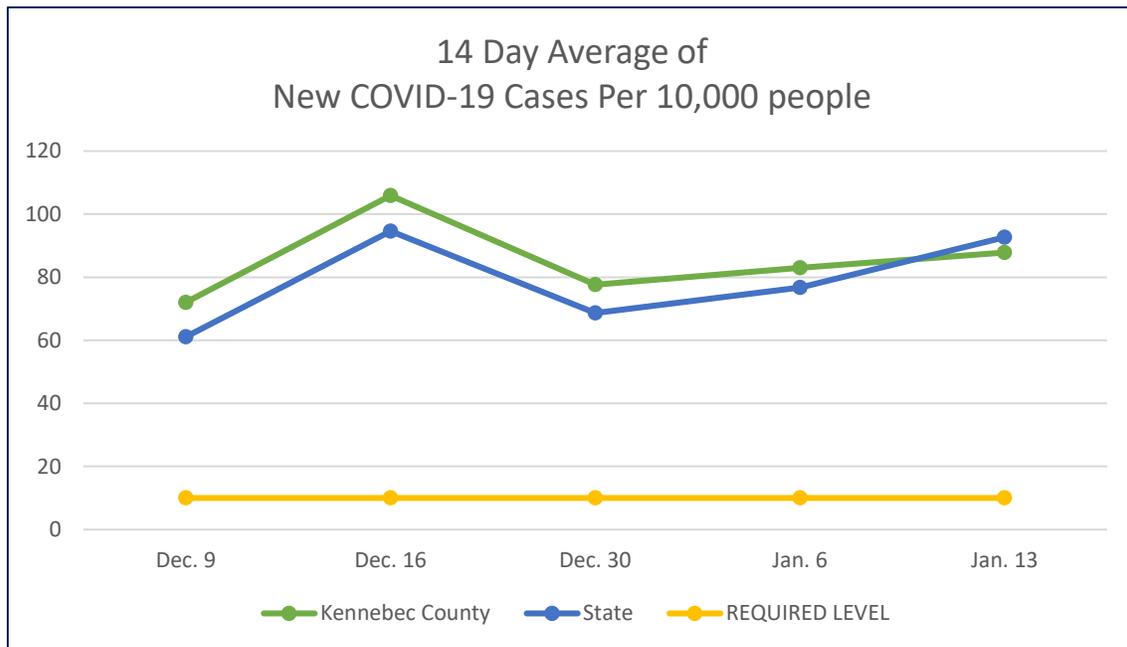
Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact Kathy Ann Shaw at kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com.

Next Board meeting: February 10th, 2022

COVID-19 Updates / News

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 Board adopted a Maine CDC metric that measures "community (person to person) transmission" of the virus. **The necessary CDC metric for us to reopen is no more than 10 new cases per 10,000 people in Kennebec County or the State of Maine.**



The present CDC metric data indicates that it is still unsafe for us to safely reopen.

Please note that discussions are taking place around reassessing the re-opening plan approved by the Board in August. The discussions may lead to a changing of the metrics OR to reopening the church. Discussions are continuing at the COVID-19 Advisory group meeting this evening and the Board meeting next Thursday. . More information will come. Stay tuned...

Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on COVID-19 Will Omicron bring the pandemic to an end?

There is a growing sense of hope that if enough people build natural immunity to COVID-19 by catching the highly contagious Omicron variant, maybe we will reach "herd immunity" and soon can turn the corner on this disease. Maybe. But also maybe not, warned Dr. Anthony Fauci. On Monday, Dr. Fauci, President Biden's top medical adviser for Covid, was asked at the online World Economic Forum if this may be the year that the virus becomes endemic.

While Omicron seems to cause less severe disease than other variants, Dr. Fauci said "it is an open question as to whether or not Omicron is going to be the live virus vaccination that everyone is hoping for." He put air quotes around the phrase "live virus vaccination," meaning people becoming immune by having the COVID infection. To extend his thoughts on Omicron providing protection he added "the evolution of the pandemic is still an open question so as to the future – "the answer is we do not know."

There are two ways for a pandemic to end: the infectious disease is eradicated, or it becomes endemic, which means it still exists without being disruptive to society — like colds or chickenpox, for example. "If you look at the history of infectious diseases, we've only eradicated one infectious disease in man and that's smallpox." And Fauci said "That's not going to happen with this virus."

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To become endemic COVID must evolve into a less dangerous disease for the pandemic to officially end. And although the highly contagious omicron variant is spreading like wildfire, some point to its low mortality rate as a sign that the virus may be becoming less severe. It's possible that Omicron could signal that the pandemic is ending, "but that would only be the case if we don't get another variant that eludes the immune response," Fauci said. "It's very disturbing, I believe to all of us as public health officials and scientists, [that there is] such a degree of pushback against regular, normal, easy-to-understand public health measures, reluctance to wear masks, reluctance to promote vaccination, reluctance to do kinds of public health measures." He continued: "You make the virus have an advantage when you don't implement, in a unified way, all the very well-recognized public health measures, particularly the vaccines."

Fauci, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, added: "Even for a rich country like the United States, that supposedly was the best-prepared country for a pandemic, we are among a handful of the countries that have actually suffered the most. When you look now at the 65 million cases and the close to 900,000 deaths in our country, that is really, truly unfortunate, and something that we would have hoped would have been avoided."

Send your questions, comments or suggestions to donnaber1364@gmail.com

General Information

**All worship services AND virtual events (unless noted) are held in the
UUCC ZOOM ROOM**

Other ways to UUCC 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.**

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.

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 | donnaber1364@gmail.com | 207-887-1104 |
| Cathie Nielsen, MD | cathieenielsen@gmail.com | 207-441-0248 |
| Marty Soule, PA-C | martysoule@gmail.com | 207-685-9270 |

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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 |

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.

UUCC 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.

UUCC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

UUCC 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