

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

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(207)622-3232 – [info@augustauu.org](mailto:info@augustauu.org)  
[www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)

## A Message from the Minister

This weekend is important! We are engaging in restorative justice circles tomorrow and Saturday. I hope that all UUC members will attend and commit to fully hearing all those present at these circles. I look forward to the recommendations from Rev. Paul Langston-Daley on what we might do in the coming years to continue as a community after this conflict.

Many of you are mourning the latest tragedy to strike our nation. I feel sorrow and rage as I process the racist murder of Black folks. I invite you to read [the UUA's statement](#) on the Buffalo shooting. May we continue to build a world where racism and violence are no longer acceptable.

This past weekend I attended an ordination. As a part of the ordination, the choir sang "Swimming to the Other Side" by Pat Humphries, half of Emma's Revolution. The woman ordained was then presented with a stole based on the song. So if you need some comfort this week, [take a listen](#).

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 hearing your thoughts. Additionally, I am available for pastoral care conversations on various topics. I continue to offer weekly "Coffee with Chloe" sessions on Tuesdays from 10-11 am on the church zoom.

With prayers for justice,  
Chloe Briede, Interim Minister  
[chloeucc@gmail.com](mailto:chloeucc@gmail.com)  
207-623-3663

## Upcoming Services

### Worship Theme for May – Nurturing Beauty

*Join us as we explore the challenges and adventures of Nurturing Beauty.*

<p>THIS Sunday May 22, 2022</p> <p>10:00 a.m. IN PERSON</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.</p>	<p><b>"The Speed of Trust "</b> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>adrienne maree brown talks about "moving at the speed of trust." On this weekend of restorative justice circles, Chloe will talk about practices of trust. How can we deepen our trust in one another and ourselves? What does it mean to choose to trust versus learning to trust?</p> <p>Special thanks to our worship associate Sara Hodgkins and our pianist Karen Foust and the UCC Chor.</p>
<p>NEXT Sunday May 29, 2022</p> <p>10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON</p> <p>Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.</p>	<p><b>"Boundaries as Spiritual Practice"</b> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister with</p> <p>By knowing our limits and boundaries, we can lead more genuine, integrated lives. Chloe will explore how good boundaries are a spiritual practice. She will do this within the context of the minister and congregational relationship and in all the relationships we have in our lives.</p> <p>We will also be celebrating our bridging senior and Monique Bergere, our Lifespan Faith Formation Coordinator will offer a story.</p> <p>Special thanks to our worship associate Susan Claska Burnett and Hannah Faulkner, our pianist.</p>

**Sunday worship service is now being held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary.**

Our services are no longer accessible by Zoom.

***If you want to watch the livestream of the service, please visit:***

<https://boxcast.tv/channel/mtifpth0utvesjggjyej>

If you missed a service or want to watch a service again, the link above also allows access to prior services. Click on the play button on the video of the "broadcast date" you are interested in watching

PLEASE NOTE: Technical sound difficulties led us to remove the 4/17 Easter service from our Boxcast offerings..

## Special Events / Opportunities

**Events are still being held in the UUCC Zoom Room (unless noted).**

**[Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room:](#)**

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

[Zoom  
Room](#)

*you are*  
**INVITED**

**to the Harlow Gallery**

**160 Water Street, Hallowell, ME 04347-1315**

*to view a Mini Photographic Exhibit by UUCC member,  
Bruce Bierce*

The Harlow Gallery is hosting a mini exhibit of some of Bruce's Mexican photographs. The exhibit will run from Thursday, June 2, through Saturday, June 4. Gallery hours are 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The exhibit will be in the street level part of the Harlow on the right side and therefore very accessible.

A guestbook will be provided and exhibit visitors are encouraged to write messages to Bruce.

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROCESS

**Thursday, May 19** from 6–9 pm on the church Zoom **OR**  
**Saturday, May 21** from 10 am–2 pm in the Sanctuary. (Lunch will be provided on Saturday).

**Please R.S.V.P.**

The Board has contracted with the Rev. Paul Langston-Daley to facilitate two restorative justice circles for us. These circles will be an open and honest place for you to share your experience of the conflict, hear from others, and consider the next steps. From our reflections, Rev. Paul will then give us his recommendations for becoming more of the community we want to be.

Rev. Paul is a Unitarian Universalist minister with experience running restorative circles for many congregations. He is an independent contractor and not UUA staff. He views his role as being a neutral third party. The framing of these circles and questions for reflection are attached to this email.

Please RSVP so we can get the right amount of food for Saturday. RSVP to Lynn at [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org). Questions? Contact Interim Minister Chloe, Kathy Ann Shaw, or Kathy Kellison.

I hope you will join us to get your voice heard in this important process. In Faith, Chloë

## Tomato Babies and Veggies – Place your order TODAY!

Dale's greenhouse is overflowing with delicious veggies and tomatoes. Orders are very low and there is lots of everything left.

Browsing on the pick-up days is welcome but pre-ordering is appreciated.



Click here to browse the catalog: [[Tomato Babies and Veggies Catalog](#)]

Attached to this E-blast is the ONE Page Order form.

Please fill out your order soon and give it to Dale at church or send it to [dmccormick11@aol.com](mailto:dmccormick11@aol.com)

-- The tomatoes are \$5 each and the veggies are \$4 ea. -- You pay when you take them home. --

**Pick up times are: Wednesday May 25 noon-1pm OR Thursday May 26 5:30-6:30**

**Pick up Location: 87 Court St, Augusta.**



The tomatoes are doing very well and were 6-12 inches with nice strong stems on May 9. They will be two or three times as tall on May 25 when you pick them up.



The kale, cukes, grapes, and basil is doing very well. The chard and parsley are currently about 2-3" tall. I pat the seedlings every day and also blow wind on them to strengthen their stems.

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

## Connections by Day of the Week

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/>

<p><b><u>Monday</u></b> Each week</p> <p><b><u>6:30 – 8:00</u></b> <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p>You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at email <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>. FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b><u>Wednesdays</u></b> Each Week</p> <p><b><u>5:00 – 6:00</u></b> <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Gentle YOGA</u></b></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. <a href="https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbz3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbz3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09</a> Password <b>174192</b> - FMI: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b><u>Wednesday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>10:30 a.m. - Noon</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Seasoned Souls</u></b></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 UCC Zoom Room.</p> <p>FMI: please contact Diane (<a href="mailto:dmoongrove@gmail.com">dmoongrove@gmail.com</a> or 446-6162) or Stefanie (<a href="mailto:stefbarley@gmail.com">stefbarley@gmail.com</a> or 629-8890)</p>	
<p><b><u>Thursdays</u></b> Each Week</p> <p><b><u>8:00 – 9:30</u></b> <b><u>a.m.</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></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 <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>. FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b><u>Thursday</u></b> By Zoom</p> <p><b><u>9:00 – 10:30</u></b> <b><u>a.m.</u></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Writing to Wake the Soul</u></b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>Come and try it out; there is no obligation to come each time we gather. We meet in the UCC Zoom Room.</p>	

**- More Connections by Day of the Week -**

<p align="center"><b><u>1<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Thursday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Noon-1:30</u></b>  <b><u>p.m.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b>  <b><u>is: June 2</u></b></p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Read, Learn, Share</u></b></p> <p>Our final meeting of this year will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UUCC zoom room from Noon – 1:30 We will discuss <u>Beneficence, A Family, A Farm, An Unshakable Feeling</u> by Meredith Hall, 296 pgs. (Fiction)</p> <p>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 <a href="mailto:jzellers@roadrunner.com">jzellers@roadrunner.com</a> or Kathy Kellison at <a href="mailto:kell6787@gmail.com">kell6787@gmail.com</a> We would love to have you join us.</p>
<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> Friday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>6:30 – 8:30</u></b>  <b><u>Sanctuary</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b>  <b><u>is May 27</u></b></p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Free Style Drum Circle</u></b></p> <p>The Augusta Community Drum Circle is a free style drum circle welcoming people of all ages, walks of life, and abilities. Free style means no one is assigned ‘pieces’ to play. Just play! Or don’t play! Just come watch, sing, dance, or bring your own instruments. No one cares if you’ve never played before or if you make a mistake. As long as you are having fun you can’t get it wrong! <b><u>ALL are welcome.</u></b> Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!</p> <p>The Drum Circle meets the fourth Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information you can contact Mike Moody at <a href="mailto:mtmoods@gmail.com">mtmoods@gmail.com</a> or 229-1118.</p>
<p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>1-2:30 p.m.</u></b>  <b><u>In-person w/</u></b>  <b><u>Zoom backup</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b>  <b><u>is May 22</u></b></p>	<p align="center"><b><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></b></p> <p>Goddess/Earth Circles, May 22, 1-2:30pm <b>In-Church Meeting Room / Zoom Backup</b>  Wicca: Magic, Ethics and Morality  Leader for Wicca series is Mary Shifman (213-9760, <a href="mailto:shifmanmary@gmail.com">shifmanmary@gmail.com</a>).</p> <p>Resource: A Beginners Guide to the Wiccan Religion:  <a href="https://wicaliving.com/what-is-wicca">https://wicaliving.com/what-is-wicca</a></p> <p>Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on Goddess, women’s lives and earth-based spirituality. All ages and genders welcome. Contact: Helen Zidowecki (582-5308, <a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>) and see UUCC website.</p>

## Financial information from UCC Treasurer For April 2022

At the recent What's on Your Mind? session, a request was made that information about the finances at UCC be put into the e-blast. SO....Here it is!

As the treasurer, I present a draft of the monthly report to the finance committee on the first Thursday of the month meeting. Edits, corrections, questions are shared, and a final report is done for the Board for the meeting on the second Thursday of the month. Each report is for the previous month's income and expenses. This changes as new expenses are paid and new income is deposited into the bank accounts.

The figures below are from the April Board meeting report. They represent all activity through April 30, 2022. This is 83% of the fiscal year. There are 2 months to go to the end of the fiscal year (June 30).

- Pledges paid to date: \$141,209 which is 97% of the goal of \$145,500.
- Annual appeal: Donations of \$12200. Thank you to the anonymous donor!
- Offering received during services: \$355.00
- Total income from all sources: \$216,600 which is 90% of budget goal of \$241,880
- Total expenses to April 30, 2022: \$ 173,405 leaving a positive balance of \$43,195.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Martha Naber, Treasurer, at [treasurer@augustauu.org](mailto:treasurer@augustauu.org).

## Board of Trustees

### Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta

#### Board Meeting A G E N D A

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 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: Catherine

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

5. President's Report: Kathy
  - a. Restorative Justice Sessions
  - b. Interim Search Update
6. Minister's Report: Chloë

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Final review of the FY2022/2023 Budget / **VOTE**
- Discussion of Annual Meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup>

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

- Update on Board and Committee selections: Kathy
- Choosing a Moderator: all

- Honoring Special groups: Who and How: all

ADJOURN

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](mailto:kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com).

Next Board meeting: June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Complete minutes of the 4/14 Board meeting is available from the UUCC website ([www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)) at the following link

<https://www.augustauu.org/minister-staff-and-church-life/church-governance/board-of-trustees>

## COVID-19 Updates / News

### COVID-19 Advisory Group UPDATE

#### Kennebec County is still YELLOW

There is no question that we are all fed up with COVID dominating our lives. We're tired of wearing masks, avoiding crowds, reading about COVID, hearing about COVID and thinking about COVID. Unfortunately, COVID has not gotten tired of us.

Maine currently has the nation's fourth highest number of new cases per capita of COVID. As of last week, there were 209 Mainers in the hospital with COVID, the highest number since February. Kennebec county has gone from green to yellow on the federal CDC's website, with half of the counties in Maine now being red. The Augusta waste water COVID concentration is 2 1/2 times higher than the national average, placing us in the top 14% of waste water COVID in the United States. All of this means that there is a lot of COVID-19 circulating in the Augusta area.

Services will continue with a 6 foot physical distance between seats and rows for the worship service. This will limit the capacity of the Sanctuary to about 30 people with the Fellowship Hall being used for additional attendees.

#### Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don On COVID-19      Second Again - This Time To Delaware

The New York Times reported this week that Maine is second only to Delaware in the number of COVID hospitalizations per 100,000 population. Infections and hospitalizations have increased over the past month as new and more contagious strains of the virus spread through the state. Maine and five other northeast states are experiencing the highest infection rates in the country over the past two weeks.

Hospitalizations have not increased as dramatically as the infection rate. This is believed to be the result of high levels of immunity from vaccinations or previous infections, as well as the fact that the latest strains are not as likely to cause severe illness.

Dr. Nirav Shah, Director of Maine CDC, had these observations in his Twitter account this past weekend. "One thing different now as compared to prior surges is the severity level. In prior waves, the number of patients in the ICU and on ventilators grew in tandem with overall numbers. But here, we have not seen the same parallel growth in the most severely ill patients. So our growth in hospitalizations has come from non-ICU/non-ventilated patients. They are still ill--make no mistake--since they are hospitalized." He added that those hospitalized are older, vaccinated individuals with other health issues and younger, unvaccinated ones.

Shah also said that "Another difference now vs. prior waves is the greater availability of therapeutics. Paxlovid, in particular, is available at pharmacies across Maine." He continued that for those who experience early COVID symptoms it is important for individuals to "Touch base with your primary care provider... before you test positive is key since early treatment is crucial."

Wastewater concentrations of COVID-19 in Maine's most populous counties continued to increase last week, suggesting the virus is not letting up. The latest reports are concerning because wastewater is considered a leading indicator of cases. An uptick beginning in April preceded the hospitalization surge. The rise of concentrations in Maine's large population centers suggests the virus situation could worsen. Wastewater in York, Cumberland and Androscoggin counties show levels of COVID-19 at the highest they have been since early February. Aroostook County continued to report the highest levels in the state.

In a perverse upside, Fortune magazine reports two new studies which offer a small consolation for vaccinated individuals who suffer breakthrough infections by Omicron subvariant viruses. The infection leaves you with protections that may be more effective than those offered by a second booster according to studies conducted by German biotechnology company BioNTech SE and the University of Washington in collaboration with San Francisco-headquartered Vir Biotechnology.

Comments, questions or suggestions can be sent to [donnaber1364@gmail.com](mailto:donnaber1364@gmail.com)

## **General Information**

**Worship Services are now being held IN-PERSON**  
**Events may still be held virtually 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.**

## **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	<a href="mailto:StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com">StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com</a>	207-215-6394
Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac.	<a href="mailto:tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com">tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com</a>	207-557-2557
Harry Grimmnitz, MD	<a href="mailto:hgrimmnitz@gmail.com">hgrimmnitz@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	<a href="mailto:donnaber1364@gmail.com">donnaber1364@gmail.com</a>	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	<a href="mailto:cathieenielsen@gmail.com">cathieenielsen@gmail.com</a>	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	<a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270

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## **UUCS 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)	<a href="mailto:Mjpell14@roadrunner.com">Mjpell14@roadrunner.com</a>
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	<a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>
Tracy McNaughton	207-623-3110 (h)	<a href="mailto:tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com">tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com</a>
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	<a href="mailto:plambflowers@outlook.com">plambflowers@outlook.com</a>

**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.

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## **UUCS 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](mailto:es-therpearl67@gmail.com).

SGM Leadership Meeting will be Sunday, June 5, 8:30-9:30am  
by UUCS Zoom. All SGM participants are welcome.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@augustauu.org), Phone 622-3232

Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, Monique McAuliffe, [LifespanFF@augustauu.org](mailto:LifespanFF@augustauu.org)

Music Director, Bridget Convey, [musicdirector@augustauu.org](mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org)