

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
Wednesday, June 29, 2022

## In this Issue:

- [Upcoming Services](#)
- [Upcoming Special Events](#)
- [Ongoing Connections](#)
- [Notices / Updates / News](#)
- [COVID-19 Updates / News](#)
- [General / Contact Info](#)



69 Winthrop St., Augusta ME



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

## A Message from the Minister

I got back from Unitarian Universalist Association's General Assembly yesterday. Though I am still tired, it was a filling week! There were moments of stunning worship and deep conversation. I attended a march in downtown Portland, Oregon, on Friday after the Supreme Court. The President of the Unitarian Universalist Association, the Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, spoke to a crowd of UUs and Portland-area activists. [You can see her speaking here](#). It was powerful to be surrounded by UUs at such a hard time as this.

This Sunday will be my last service with you. During this service, Kathy Ann Shaw (past president), Michaela Loisel (current president), and the congregation will join in a ritual of releasing me from my work with you. We will engage in this ritual to formally mark this transition from me as your minister to whoever might come next. We are closing the relationship and making room for the next person. We hope you will join us in doing that, either in-person or online.

Like Rev. Carie, I will take a period of two years of no contact with UUCC. This will allow time for a new person to ingrate into the community. Although things are still uncertain regarding ministerial leadership, we will still need to observe this rule. The rules help us transition easily and appropriately. This does not mean that I won't miss you! I will miss you, and I will be praying for the success of this community from afar in California. I will only be holding one more Coffee with Chloe on Tuesday, July 5, on the UUCC Zoom. I will also be in the office on Thursday, June 30, and Tuesday, July 5, if you want to say goodbye!

Take care,  
Chloe Briede

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

## Upcoming Services

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THIS Sunday</b> July 3, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON</b> Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>"Gratitude and Goodbyes"</b> Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister</p> <p>This will be Minister Chloe's last service at UUCC. Join us in releasing her from her ministry with us. Chloe will also reflect on her work with the congregation, expressing gratitude and goodbyes.</p> <p>A special thank you to everyone who is participating. Stefanie Barley will be our pianist.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEXT Sunday</b> July 10, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON</b> Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>"Words That (Still) Matter"</b> Jim McKenna, UUCC Member</p> <p>In these days of alternative facts and Orwellian double speak, such as Russia's "peacekeeping duties" in Ukraine, we will discuss words from our past that still matter and why they were spoken.</p> <p><b><u>What might be some examples?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "In its majestic equality, the law forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, beg in streets, and steal loaves of bread."</li> <li>• "In the middle of the journey of our life, I came to myself in a dark wood, where the straight way was lost."</li> <li>• "I returned and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill, but time and chance happeneth to them all."</li> </ul> <p>There will be time for members and friends to suggest their own examples of words that still matter to them and how they came to be spoken.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>A special thank you to everyone who is participating. Susan Claska Burnett will serve as our worship associate. Karen Allen will be 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/mtifpthOutvesjqgjej>

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.

## Special Events / Opportunities

*Some events are still being held in the UCC Zoom Room.*

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

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



**Zoom meeting id: 823 807 0673 – Password: 6971**

### Just Guys – RETURNS in person on July 20, 2022

**Just Guys** is a local social/support group for gay, bisexual or questioning men. The group will be meeting IN-PERSON at the church on July 22, 2022 (for the 1<sup>st</sup> time since COVID began.) The group usually meets from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to enjoy movies, discussions, social awareness, guest speakers, and game nights. This meeting will just be about reconnecting, socializing and sharing.

FMI: [www.justguys.info](http://www.justguys.info). If you would like to receive the newsletter from Just Guys, please send an email to [welcome@justguys.info](mailto:welcome@justguys.info).

### **Read Learn Share Book Group**

#### **CONSIDER JOINING US**

The **Read Learn Share Book Group** is in the process of choosing their reading list for next year. Our deadline is July 8. If you'd like a ballot and instructions on voting, contact June Zellers. We will announce the first two books in the E-blast when the list is in place. The full list will be published in the fall newsletter.

The Group is open to anyone with an interest in discussing one or more of the books for the year. Everyone is welcome, whether you are interested in just one book or in them all. For more information, contact June Zellers at [jzellers@roaldrunner.com](mailto:jzellers@roaldrunner.com) or Kathy Kelison at [kell6787@gmail.com](mailto:kell6787@gmail.com).

---

Pride Month is winding down, but there are still events happening...

*To find local events, please visit*

the Google Maine Pride Calendar for 2022 at the following link:

<https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=maine%20pride%20calendar%202022&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiw6Lmy5Zz4AhXHUjABHcksA4cQ6LwDCLUD&sxsrf=AL-iCzsZKDtXQEuf1toM6X9myjIYvgMqrFQ:1654654771668>

## 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><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=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09</a>                  Password <b>174192</b> – FMI: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p> <p><b><u>YOGA class will be cancelled TODAY, Wednesday, June 29th. Our yoga instructor is taking a much deserved vacation. Yoga will continue as usual Wed. July 6th.</u></b></p>	
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays</u></b></p> <p><b><u>10:30 a.m. - Noon</u></b></p>	<p><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 UUCC 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>	

<b>- More Connections by Day of the Week -</b>	
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Thursday</u></b>  <u>By Zoom</u></p> <p><b><u>9:00 – 10:30</u></b>  <u>a.m.</u></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 UUCC Zoom Room.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>1<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Thursday</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Noon-1:30</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p> <p><b><u>Next Meeting</u></b>  <u>will be in Oct.</u>  <u>2022</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Read, Learn, Share</u></b></p> <p>Our final meeting of this year was June 2<sup>nd</sup> in the UUCC zoom room from Noon – 1:30 We discussed <u>Beneficence, A Family, A Farm, An Unshakable Feeling</u> by Meredith Hall, 296 pgs. (Fiction)</p> <p style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;"><b>Please see Invitations above for details on how to participate in voting on next year’s book selections. Voting ends July 8<sup>th</sup>.</b></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>Next Meeting</b>  <b>is July 22</b></p>	<p style="text-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! <u>ALL are welcome</u>. 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>Next Meeting</b>  <b>is July 24</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Goddess / Earth Circles</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Goddess/Earth Circles meet July 24, 2022 at 1-2:30pm on UUCC Zoom  Topic: Summer Connections and Reproductive Justice--Spiritual Connections  Bring drums, rattles, rain sticks  See UUCC website: Church Life/Goddess: Meetings and Archives</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>

## Notices / Updates / News

**TODAY's YOGA class (Wed. June 29<sup>th</sup>) has been CANCELLED.**

**Our yoga instructor is taking a much deserved vacation.**

**Yoga will continue as usual on Wed. July 6th.**

---

Condolences to the family and friends of Bruce Bierce. Bruce passed away on Jun 16<sup>th</sup> surrounded by his loving family. His obituary was in the Tues. June 21 Kennebec Journal.



**UPDATE: Celebration of Life and Meal of Comfort for Bruce Bierce**

**Saturday - July 23, 2022 - 11:00 AM**

La Fleur's Restaurant  
224 Main Street  
Jay, Maine

---

## Board of Trustees

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact:

Michaela Loisel at [micaelatloisel@gmail.com](mailto:micaelatloisel@gmail.com).

**Next Board meeting: July 14, 2022**

Complete minutes of the 5/12 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>

**Stay tuned for Board Highlights and/or Minutes from the June 9, 2022 Board Meeting**

### **Dr. Don on Covid-19**

Dr. Don on COVID-19      Endemic Has Arrived - So Long But Not Goodbye

COVID has entered a phase that has been expected by medical researchers. It has become a part of everyday life, not seasonal like the many influenza viruses, but having the same characteristics of changing to produce new variants. Each year the federal CDC conducts foreign monitoring during our summer to try and determine which flu variants will arrive the next winter and what new vaccine will best prevent infection. COVID has become a part of year-round everyday life, like the common cold, but with its nearly two thousand different types making immunity and vaccine development impossible.

COVID is with us for the long haul. The same variants are created here as are first seen elsewhere. Or they arrive with the next plane full of passengers, some of whom are healthy but are carriers of a new COVID that may have even developed in their bodies. The COVID virus is genetically unstable and produces new types, some so damaged that they fail to reproduce. Others show traits that make themselves more capable of infection and being shed from new human hosts. Some existing immunity is no longer effective in preventing them from sickening those previously infected or vaccinated.

In a case of pure Darwinian evolution, the more effective a strain of virus is in reproducing in us the more likely it will spread new waves of disease. What we see now with COVID infecting those previously infected or vaccinated will continue. It may become an annoyance like the common cold, constantly present but not commonly dangerous. It could also mutate into an entirely new form which no one will have defense against.

I wish, like the mythological Cassandra, I could see the future, but like Cassandra if I did see ahead I would likely not be believed and cast aside. We have been led and conditioned to mistrust and only accept what we feel is right. Experts have such little standing with some of the citizenry that they are immediately dismissed or worse, physically threatened. This lack of trust works against us.

So after 90 plus of these articles it seems time to say so long, but not goodbye. When the situation (not if, but when, and assuming I'm still around) calls for it I hope I will again be part of a team looking out for the best health interests of our congregation.

Take care and of each other,

Don Naber      ([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

### 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)	<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.

---

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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)