

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Sunday Services for November 8th and November 15th

Worship Theme: November – **HEALING**

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| <u>THIS Sunday 11/8</u> | <p><i>“Now What? A Post Election Moment”</i> with Reverend Carie and Monique McAuliffe. John Seksay will serve as worship associate with Karen Foust on piano.</p> <p>Special Music by Bridget Convey: "The 'Aria' from the Goldberg Variations" by J.S. Bach Bless the imperfect by manish</p> |
| <u>NEXT Sunday 11/15</u> | <p>Join us next Sunday as visiting minister, Rev. Mark Gloven leads our service. Sara Hodgkins and Susan Burnett will be the Worship Associates and Stefanie Barley will be the pianist.</p> |

Sunday Morning Offering

If you wish to make a donation for Sunday morning offering, click the following link:
Please Note: a credit / debit card donation for Sunday morning offering is "anonymous" and no tax receipt can be provided by the church administrator. Save your credit card statement for tax records. [Donate to Sunday Morning Offering using a Credit or Debit Card --](#)

If you wish to make a donation that can be documented with an individual receipt record, write a check payable to: UUCC, write “Offering” in memo line and mail check to: UUCC, P.O. Box 8, Augusta, ME 04332-0008

Sunday services and all other events (unless noted) are held in the

UUCC ZOOM ROOM ← ← click this **UPDATED LINK** to join

Other ways to join 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#)

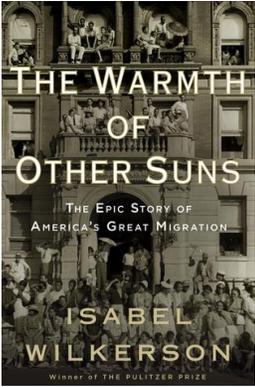
At second prompt: press # (no personal id needed) <No passcode needed when joining by phone>

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.**

Upcoming:

Thursday, November 5, **Read, learn Share**



You are invited to join a discussion of The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson. 1:00-2:30 in the UUCC Zoom Room. Anyone who is interested in this book is welcome to attend. For more information, contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com (582-5862) or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com (445-4415.)

In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize–winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life. ~Goodreads

POST ELECTION VIGIL AND COMMUNITY GATHERING **Hosted by UUA, UU the Vote and Side with Love**

On Thursday, November 5, join the UUA, UU the Vote and Side with Love for a post-election vigil and community gathering. The event will feature UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray and Dr. Glen Thomas Rideout, Director of Worship Arts at First UU Congregation of Ann Arbor, MI. The event will begin at 8pm ET / 7pm CT / 6pm MT / 5pm PT and run no more than 90 minutes. Click this link: [Join Post Election Vigil](#)

A GATHERING FOR THE CONGREGATION

The Committee on Ministry invites you to a presentation on the UU Ministers Association Code of Ethics. The Reverend Jonalu Johnstone will discuss the Code and answer your questions. She is a Good Officer with the UU Ministers Association who specialty is as a Right Relationship Guide. We offer this opportunity for members of the congregation to understand the guidance that influenced the thinking of the Committee on Ministry and the Board about ministerial misconduct. We will gather in the UUCC Zoom Room at 6:30 on Monday November 9 for an hour and a half. Come bring your questions.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK AND TO LISTEN

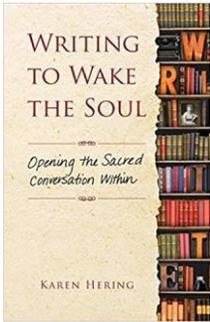
The Committee on Ministry will be facilitating three listening circles to provide you an opportunity to speak and to listen as you and others express thoughts and feelings about the controversy surrounding ministerial misconduct and its impact on you and others. The sessions will be structured so that everyone has opportunities to speak and so that no one will be able to challenge or debate what you say.

Please sign up with Lynn at admin@augustauu.org for **TWO** dates so that we can make adjustments for the size of the groups.

The dates and times are Saturday November 14 at 8:30 a.m., Monday November 16 at 4:00 p.m. and Tuesday November 17 at 6:30 p.m. The sign-up deadline is Thursday November 11.

Weekly Events

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| <p><u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>2:00 – 3:30</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> <p><u>May not meet</u> <u>on Nov. 9th</u></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Read Aloud & Discussion</u></p> <p>The Monday afternoon reading and discussion group has changed our process. We have chosen to have each person who joins us, and who wishes to, bring a poem, an article, a book excerpt with something in it to spark a discussion. What has grabbed your attention or what is something you are wondering about? Our discussions are always lively and interesting. Join in! FMI: admin@augustauu.org</p> <p><u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> Please check with naber@zwi.net if you plan to attend on Nov. 9th</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>UUCZ ZOOM ROOM</u> (← click this link OR see Pg. 1 for other ways to join)</p> |
| <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></p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"><p>You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p></div> <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> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"><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: Click link below to join.</p></div> <p style="text-align: center;">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbzdmZWmZoOTRxa3VoUT09 Password 174192 FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</p> |
| <p><u>Wednesday</u> <u>1st & 3rd</u> <u>weeks of each</u> <u>month</u> <u>7:00 – 7:30</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>UUCZ Music Zoom Zone</u></p> <p>1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 7:00pm to 7:30pm.</p> <p>This is an opportunity for our UUCZ musicians (singers and instrumentalists) to gather, sing and share UUCZ music updates and information.</p> <p>We will meet using the church's Zoom room. If you would like more information, please email Bridget Convey at: musicdirector@augustauu.org</p>  |

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| <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 style="text-align: center;">You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <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> </div> |
| <p><u>Every Other Thursday</u> <u>9:00 – 10:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p> | <p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i> Every OTHER Thursday morning -- 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <p>This is an open group and if you would like to participate in this event, please contact Debbie Mattson (debbiemattson@hotmail.com) for the login/passcode information. Hosting of this event is shared and zoom link changes week to week.</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> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>PLEASE NOTE: This group will now meet EVERY OTHER Thursday (instead of every Thursday). Upcoming meetings are scheduled on 11/12, 12/3 and 12/17. The group will NOT meet on Thanksgiving Day.</u></p> </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



Annual Leaf Raking - Sat. Nov 7th at 9:00 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.

Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta
Board Meeting
A G E N D A
November 12, 2020

Chalice Lighting
Words to inspire
Check in

REPORTS

1. Clerk's Report **VOTE:** Susan
2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
3. Finance Committee's Report: Catherine (CP)
4. COVID-19 Task Force's Report: Terry
5. Minister's Report: Rev. Carie

NEW BUSINESS

- Report from the Congregational Engagement Working Group (CEWG): Susan and Kevin
- Drew House Wrap-up CP and Wick
 - Ballard stained glass
 - Renovation/use of other church spaces
- Thoughts following 2-part Board report; All
 - Next steps
- Update from the Personnel Committee
- Update from CoM

OLD BUSINESS

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| Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item you would like the Board to consider, please contact Kathy Ann Shaw at kathyannshaw@maine.com . |
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Next Board meeting = December 10, 2020

The COVID-19 Advisory Group (AG) would like to share some important information with our church community. – November 3, 2020

First, the good news. During the 5 weeks since our congregational conversation, the AG has had multiple Zoom meetings and done considerable research, deliberation and consultation with public health experts. The AG is now ready to recommend a plan that will allow small groups to meet in person, inside the UUCC facility. The public health experts recommended that we utilize Maine CDC data to create metrics to guide us in determining the safety of such activity. This plan is being forwarded to the Board for their review and action.

However, now just before we were ready to propose and implement this plan, COVID-19 has suddenly increased dramatically, both nationally and in Maine. The primary metric we are following, the 28 day rolling average of COVID-19 cases per 10,000 people (which reflects new infections during the past 28 days), needs to be at or below 8/10,000. As of Friday, October 30, Kennebec county exceeded that number and was 9.98/10,000. This means that there is increased community transmission and we need to stop ALL in-person group meetings (>2 people) until the numbers improve.

We recognize how frustrating this news must seem to many members of our community (including us!). We're all yearning for in-person connections with our friends and emotional supports. Throughout the past 8 months the COVID-19 AG has had just one goal, to keep all of us as safe and healthy as possible given the many uncertainties of this pandemic. We share your frustration and are looking toward the time when we can safely increase access to our facilities.

Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on Why is the COVID-19 pandemic surging in Maine (and the U.S.)?

There has been a sudden increase in COVID-19 cases in the state and nation. Maine has broken its largest one day total of new infections three times in the last six days. Wednesday of last week 20% of the new Maine cases were in those under the age of 18, the youngest is 8 months old. Something is changing.

Remember back to late spring. The virus was spreading in congregant living facilities, group housing for older citizens, those elderly needing everyday care, and in jails. With people close together and care givers moving from person to person throughout a facility, a perfect situation was created for a virus spread by talking and coughing to reach many in those closed spaces. Hand sanitizer and face masks were in short supply and their use was downplayed by some to prevent depleting the often woefully short supplies available for medical providers. Lacking data, medical science was slow to recognize the benefits of face masks and criticism and politicking has reduced their use.

Around the world, epidemiologists are constructing projections to prepare for and potentially mitigate the spread and impact of COVID-19. Although forecasts and timelines vary, they agree on two things: COVID-19 is here to stay, and the future depends on a lot of unknowns. These include whether people develop lasting immunity to the virus, whether seasonality affects its spread, (which seems likely) and importantly, the choices made by governments and individuals. These comments from epidemiologists provide insight.

“The future will very much depend on how much social mixing resumes, and what kind of prevention we do,” says Joseph Wu, a disease modeler at the University of Hong Kong.

"This is a virus circulating all over the planet. It affects every single one of us. It goes from human to human, and highlights that we are all connected," said Dr. Elisabetta Groppelli, from St George's University of London. "It's not just about travel, it's speaking and spending time together - that's what humans do." Rosalind Eggo, an infectious-disease modeler at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine adds, “Finding the balance between ... a strategy that people will tolerate, and [one that] will contain an outbreak, is really important.”

COVID-19 has also proven to be an exceptionally tricky virus to track, causing mild or no symptoms for many, but deadly enough to others to overwhelm hospitals.

"It's the perfect pandemic virus of our time. We are now living in the time of coronavirus," said Anthony Harris, Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of Maryland.

The successes we have seen have resulted from breaking the ability of the virus to spread from one person to the next. But human nature drives us to be together especially when it's cold, fostering the spread of COVID. Add in "COVID fatigue" which causes us to drop cautions, disbelief in the virus and medical professionals, a lack of coordinated leadership and a deficiency in public education and the potential for further spread is clear.

“We need to hunker down and get through this fall and winter, because it's not going to be easy,” said Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases during a panel of doctors from Harvard Medical School. “Don't ever, ever underestimate the potential of the pandemic.”

Please feel free to send questions, ideas, comments or rumors even, and I will address them in future e-blasts.

Don Naber naber@gwi.net

HOUDAY FAIR – UPDATE

We believe the pandemic situation has changed significantly since we made our most recent holiday fair plans. We will use the Main Room on ZOOM during coffee fellowship on Sunday Nov. 9 to provide an update on our plans. Stay tuned...

Thank you very much. If you have questions, please contact Martha Naber at naber@gwi.net and /or Nancy Fritz, at nfritz@roadrunner.com Fair Co-Chairs



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.

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| Betty Cairn, RN | StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com | 207-215-6394 |
| Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac. | tlnaturalhealth@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 |

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.

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| Rev. Carie Johnsen, Minister | 508-221-5295 (c) | revcariejohnsen@gmail.com |
| 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) | |

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 Nancee Campbell, 621-7727

If you would like to request or suggest cards: Contact Angie Blevins, 592-5655

UUCS Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

UUCS Administrator Hours

Tues, Wed & Thurs. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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

Rev. Carie

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

To schedule a visit, appointment, or meeting, please call (508) 221-5295 or use her local # 623-3663 (both lines will reach her!) or email her at RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com

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