



# The Flaming Chalice

The newsletter of The Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
69 Winthrop Street ~ PO Box 8 ~ Augusta, ME 04332-0008

August 2015



## August

August 2<sup>nd</sup>

Story Hour

The Kmen-Little Family

Stories can be the vehicle by which we mark and recall special moments and milestones of our lives. Sometimes it is a book we remember from a specific period in our life; sometimes it is a story of our own making that creates the memory itself. Come and share your stories!

August 9<sup>th</sup>

In Praise of Difficult Books

Gary Chapin

This service will look at how the most powerful and necessary books in our lives can also be the most difficult. There will be a time for discussion. Folks are invited to bring copies of the "Difficult Books" in their lives, and invite us to join in praise of them.

August 16<sup>th</sup>

Native American Service

Phyllis Cudmore

August 23<sup>rd</sup>

Words That Still Matter

Jim McKenna

As today's thoughts and words hurtle away ever faster, we risk forgetting the beautiful and wise ideas from our past. "Getting and spending, we...", "It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer...", "No man is an *Island*, entire of it selfe..." "I lift my lamp beside the golden door!" Who spoke them? Why? We'll remember the old to slow the new.

August 30<sup>th</sup>

Building a New Way

David Rand

I got the idea from General Assembly in Portland, Oregon and working on Leap of Faith here at our church. Let's discuss where we see ourselves going in five-to- ten years from now.

## Meet and Spend Time with a Tibetan Monk..

Gelek is a Tibetan monk who is spending the month in Maine, and looks to deliver a dharma lesson, as well as a practical instruction in meditation. He has the title of Geshe, which is a PhD equivalent, in esoteric Buddhism.

Having taught dharma to many westerners in Dharamsala, Gelek's English is excellent. In addition to all of that, he is a very warm and gracious person.

Please take the opportunity to come and join him in the sanctuary on **Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup>, at 4:30 p.m.**

## Thank You from Marilyn Dunn and Tom Waddell

Thank you all for the special "thank you" for our years as co-chairs of Buildings and Grounds. The gift was very generous and the sentiment behind it touched us both. We'd like to thank all the many volunteers not only for helping, but for not running the other way when approached at coffee hour again and again.

## The Choir is Back!

The UUCS Choir has a fabulous choir season ahead of them. We will be learning choral music by a few of the contemporary greats, such as Lauridsen and Whitacre; divine works from the Renaissance and Classical periods; as well as exploring musical gems from around the world.

Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, August 26th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Rehearsals will continue on Wednesday evenings for the remainder of the choir season. Please join us, **all are welcome!** Reading music is NOT required.

Questions? Please contact Bridget Convey at: [musicdirector@augustauu.org](mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org)

## Buildings and Grounds...

### Monday Evening Work nights from 6 – 8 p.m. on July 27th

Help Building & Grounds maintain our campus. We had 8 volunteers on our first night June 30<sup>th</sup>, and that is 16 hours of maintenance!!! We all wait too long for summer to give up a weekend, but with the long July evenings we can accomplish a lot. Help us knock off the long and nagging project list this summer. There's weeding, mulching, wall and cabinet washing, sanding, painting, cupboard uncluttering – a little something for all skill levels.

**Have you ever repaired tile?** Marilyn Dunn and Becky Harvey are looking for a tiling mentor. We need to repair the kitchen tile in the Judd House. Marilyn's phone is 512-5382.

## Calling All Crafters!

The first fun evening of working on crafts happened on June 23 with 5 attending. We had a great time getting better acquainted, and working on our individual projects. We would welcome others to join us and expand the group. We also discussed the possibility of working on some items for the anticipated holiday fair. Details are being worked out with the fundraising committee chairs.

The second gathering of crafters will be on July 28 from 5:30-8:30 pm, and then again on August 25. Come join in and bring your craft with you.

Check with Martha Naber or Betty Cairn with any questions. See you there!



## President's Column....

I love summer at our church.

There's a tradition among UUs that you take a break in the summer. The (possibly apocryphal) reason for this originally was that in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, New England's ministers (and other men of means) would flee the cities to get away from the awful heat, or the spike in disease, or just the stink.

So it became a thing. Church ratchets down. The minister leaves town. UUs get on the down low.

Not here, though. Not at the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta, Maine.

I'm not sure if this is a movement across the denomination or just local, but I've been overjoyed at the vibrant worship life we continue to have in our summer months. The quality of services has been so consistently excellent that saying something like, "That was good ... *for a summer service*," has become a wrong-headed anachronism. I like coming to church! And don't want to stop in the summer? (What? I have better things to do?)

And great services have brought excellent attendance on Sunday mornings. It's a different crowd from the "school year" crowd, but that just adds to the experience. A different side of our congregation shows up on Sundays in the summer. During coffee hour, we're downright convivial.

I am grateful to our steadfast Worship Committee for making sure that when people show up they will find excellence here. I am grateful to everyone who volunteers to do hospitality, or greeting, or the nursery, or Spirit Play. It's these folks who make it possible to say, "Come on back next week. We'll be here waiting for you."

Gary Chapin

## History Committee...

The History Committee meets the second Thursday, 10:00 am to noon in the Drew House, and we may work on projects other Thursday mornings.

The History Committee collects information on the activities and contributions of people involved with UUCC. The Members Book holds articles about members and friends of UUCC. We also have the Memorial Book, in which we capture items related to members and friends who have died, primarily since the consolidation of Winthrop Street and All Souls Churches in 1992. It is with deep respect that we have established Memorial Book pages for:

*Barbara Thurlow*: Her service was June 20.

*Krista Zidowecki*: Her service was July 10, and the script is in the Book.

*Elva Ingraham*: Her service was on July 14. The Book includes newsletter articles.

The History Committee relies on all of you to contribute items by placing them in the History Committee tray in the Committee Room.

For more information, contact Heide Munro at 622-7395, [heide.munro@gmail.com](mailto:heide.munro@gmail.com)

## Thanks to all

Thanks to all of you for the support, love and presence that you have provided around the loss of Krista. Her part in the life of UUCC was evident in your sharing at her Service of Celebration on July 10<sup>th</sup>, the contribution of food and stories at the reception, and your messages to us. As Rev. Carie said in the message that she sent for the service, "*Remember to speak Krista's name often. Let yourself remember, savor really, all of her that was beautiful and generous and kind.*"

Thanks again.

Helen, Dick and Erik Zidowecki

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS! NEW UCC CRAFT CIRCLE PREPARING FOR DIFFERENT KIND OF CHURCH FAIR TO BE HELD **DECEMBER 5**

On December 5<sup>th</sup> at the church, our new UCC *Monthly Craft Circle* will sell aprons, wall hangings, placements, napkins, table runners, table decorations, baby bibs, jewelry and much more that we are creating especially for the church. If you have your own craft items to donate to the church for the sale, please contact Betty Cairn or Martha Naber. You are also welcome to join our Craft Circle, which meets at the church on the **4th Tuesday of every month**. The craft circle will meet in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm on July 28<sup>th</sup> and on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Betty Cairn at 445-2942 or [StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com](mailto:StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com) or Martha Naber at 872-0913 or [naber@midmaine.com](mailto:naber@midmaine.com) for more information.

Sincerely, Terry Cairn and Hannah Faulkner,  
Fundraising Co-Chairs

## Seasoned Souls

**Seasoned Souls** is a group intended specifically for church members and friends aged 65 and older. We gather on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10:30 a.m. – noon to address the various issues associated with aging. We will be meeting on **August 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>** in Fellowship Hall.

## Goddess Continuing/ Earth Circles...

Join us for the Summer Connection on **August 23 after the Sunday Service**. We have found it helpful to meet informally, usually around the picnic table in the yard/garden area, for check-in and sharing snacks. We will also set aside time for WOW activities.

The Women of Wisdom (WOW). We live our wisdom every day, all ages, all genders. Consider who you call “wise”. Consider your own wisdom and join us for the wisdom conversations. Please join us for the early fall events:

**September 27: *Wisdom Through Our Lives***. What wisdom do we gain with the experiences during the decades of our lives? How does that influence who we are now?

We would like to have women and men of all ages join is, including youth. This can be held with a diverse group, or some time with same gender or age groups. Look for more information in the September newsletter.

**October 25: *Women of Wisdom Celebration***. Our last ceremony was October, 2012. This comes from the tradition of honoring wise women, also called “croning”.

Reflect on these questions:

How do you acknowledge your own wisdom?

How do you share your wisdom?

Then join the celebration yourself and/or talk with women about participating in these events.

For more information, contact Helen Zidowecki (582-5308, [hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com))



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## **Newsletter Submissions**

**Please submit all articles as an attachment in a Word document using Arial font size 11. Don't forget to give it a title and sign it, and send it as an email [newsletter@augustauu.org](mailto:newsletter@augustauu.org) with the article as an attachment. Photos of church activities welcome!**

**Deadline: August 17.**

**Minister:** Rev. Carie Johnsen

**President:** Gary Chapin

**Sunday Morning RE Coordinator:** Nicole Danielson  
**Youth Advisor:** Monique McAuliffe

**Administrator:** Lynn Smith  
[admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org)

**UU Office hours:**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9am-3pm**  
**Wednesday noon-6pm**

**Choir Director:** Bridget Convey  
Choir Practice Wednesday 6-8pm  
**Small Group Ministry Coordinator:**  
**Office:** (207) 622-3232

**Rev. Carie's office hours:**

**Monday 11:00 - 5:00**  
**Tuesday Writing Day**  
**Wednesday 2:00 - 6:00**  
**Friday Sabbatical - Day off & by appointment**