



The Flaming Chalice

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

August 2011

Summer Worship Services ONE SUNDAY SERVICE AT 10:00 a.m.

(September 4th is the last 10:00 a.m. service)

August 7th	<i>Laugh 'til You Cry</i>	Rev. Nancee Campbell
Laughter is a multi-faceted thing...in looking over a collection of UU jokes; I discovered that some of them weren't funny at all. In this service we will examine the helpful and hurtful aspects of humor and, hopefully, have a laugh or two.		
August 14th	<i>Reflections of General Assembly</i>	Rev. Carie Johnsen
August 21st	<i>Yoga & Meditative Chant</i>	Greg Schueman
August 28th	<i>Maine SUFU: Speaking Up for Us</i>	David Rand
September 4th	<i>Native American Spirituality</i>	Phyllis Cudmore

Summer Children's Program

Present to Sept. 4th

Nursery care is available during services for children 4 and under. Please bring children directly to the nursery care room. **Spirit Play** will be available during services for children age 5-12. Children will meet in fellowship hall and go over to the spirit play room on the second floor of 71 Winthrop.

Minister: Rev. Carie Johnsen
President: Sheila Comerford
Director of Religious Exploration: Karen Fisk
Administrator: Julie Pelletier
Choir Director: Douglas Barley
Small Group Ministry Coordinator: Kathy Kellison

Office Hours: Monday & Tuesday, 8 am-4 pm
Friday 8 am-12 pm (Summer hours)
Office: (207)622-3232, admin@augustauu.org
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Next newsletter deadline is **August 15th**. Please submit newsletter articles by email to Julie Pelletier, UUCC Church Administrator at admin@augustauu.org

Rev. Carie Johnsen...

Rev. Carie is on vacation and will be returning on Monday, July 25th. From July 25th to September 4th Rev. Carie will keep regular office hours on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. She will be working from her home study on Thursday and Friday.

From The Board ...

The next Board meeting is scheduled for August 8th, 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. See you then!

Faith in Action ...

St. Mark's Essentials Pantry ~ The Augusta UUCC will provide free suppers @ St. Mark's Episcopal church on the 3rd Saturdays in June, July and August. This year the meals will be led by:

August ~ Annie Reiter, Mike Conley, Tonia and Ruslan

For more information contact Jenny McKendry at 622-4501. Thank you for your continued support and donations of food, diapers etc. which our congregation has generously given. Please note we are once again in need of diapers; sizes 4 and 6.

Upcoming Events ...

Welcoming the Migrant Farmworkers to Augusta ~ Volunteers needed!

The UUCC Immigration Work Group will be welcoming 100-125 migrant farmworkers who are expected to arrive the last week of August. These workers are primarily Haitian and will be working in the local blueberry fields for 4-6 weeks harvesting the blueberries.

Over the last few weeks food and personal items have been collected for welcome bags. Volunteers are needed to assemble these welcome bags. If you are able to help, please join us on Tuesday, July 26th at 10:30 a.m. in the UUCC Fellowship Hall. Your help is greatly appreciated. Items will continue to be collected through Monday, July 25th. Empty tote bags are available in the coat room of the church. If you have any questions please contact Allan at 623-4537. Thank you!

Upcoming Events cont'd ...

Help Build Homes in Peru ~ Brenda Sawyer and Kit Perry will be leading a team to build houses in Peru with the Fuller Center for Building on Higher Ground. The Fuller Center was founded by the same person who founded Habitat for Humanity and is based on the same principle of "A hand up, not a handout". This is accomplished through no interest, no profit loans to the homeowner who must also volunteer a set number of hours building their own, and others', homes. For more information, go to www.fullercenter.org

The trip will take place Nov 5-16 followed by an optional trip to Machu Picchu and the Sacred Valley.

The building site will be in a dry arid climate at a low altitude. The cost of the trip is \$1100 plus airfare and does not include the optional trip to Machu Picchu. No building experience is required and there is always something to do regardless of skill or energy levels. We have friends that are in their 80s and still building in a new location each year!

There are fundraising opportunities for those who are interested in going but may need help with the expense.

For more information, please contact Brenda or Kit at 582-5816 or nicaphile@hotmail.com

HealthReach Hospice and volunteers of Kennebec Valley will sponsor an 8 week Hospice Volunteer Training Program beginning October 4th and ending November 16th. The class meets Tuesday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Maine General Medical Center's Gardiner Campus. The class also meets on 3 Wednesday evenings.

This training will prepare volunteers to provide practical, emotional and spiritual support to persons living with a terminal illness as well as support to the family. Our program grows each year and we are looking for volunteers willing to respond to the needs of our neighbors and friends who are living the last phase of their lives. We provide services to Augusta and 27 surrounding communities.

Pre-registration for the training is required. To pre-register or for more information, please call 626-1779 by September 12th.

Fundraising

We would like to thank the many people who participated in the **Inside/Outside Yard Sale** which was held on June 25th. Proceeds totaled \$888.35. We are still hoping to sell an electric lawn mower and a Victorian lamp which will bring the total to at least \$1,000.

We are planning to schedule another **Dessert Theater** soon. The menu will include Apple Pie, Apple Crisp and Vanilla Ice Cream. The play will be Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* at the Gaslight Theater in Hallowell. As soon as a time is set, there will be a sign up sheet on the Fundraising Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall. We will need a few people to bake desserts.

FMI Please contact Judy McCown or Bruce Bierce, Fundraising Co-Chairs at:
jsmbierce@myfairpoint.net or 897-3683

Buildings and Grounds ...

Yes! There is still work to be done and we need your help! Work dates and tasks are listed below. Please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or contact Marilyn at 512-5382/
Maine2007@hotmail.com

Annex Work Dates:

Tuesdays and Thursdays ~ July 26th thru August 25th (except for August 2nd and 4th) 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Tasks include mudding (we train), trim painting, washing woodwork, sanding and other various tasks.

Saturday, August 13th ~ Painting the hallways ~ 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 27th ~ Window Washing ~ 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Please bring spray bottles if you have them. Thank you!

Thank you ...

Marilyn and I wanted to thank everyone who volunteered to help renovate Summer St. Without your hard work the job would not have been possible. While everyone's contribution is valued and appreciated, we would like to recognize Jim McKendry and Hal Booth for working on this project almost every day. Jim helped take down both walls, construct the supporting beams and finish the opening. Hal worked tirelessly "mudding" the walls to make them as smooth as new construction. He also made an exact replacement baluster for the front stairway.

Karen Fisk gave us a letter of appreciation for the work Marilyn and I have been doing at the church. In a larger sense this letter belongs to those who volunteered to help renovate Summer St. Karen said it best when she commented on how much we appreciate your work helping to maintain and beautify the church buildings and grounds. I have included some of Karen's words here:

"We are grateful for the integrity and love with which you grace our Buildings and Grounds. The changes you make effect not only the children, youth, and adults of this congregation today, but those of generations to come. While you build, paint, repair, and plant you beautify our surroundings and help us value this church facility all the more."

Marilyn and I really appreciate your continued efforts to help complete the Summer St. renovation project.

Thank you,

Tom and Marilyn

Church Display Case ...

Summer Worship Committee ~ We have been delighted by the displays this year. We look forward to your exhibits next year, from those of you that would like to exhibit again, and for those who were not able to do so this year.

The Thursday morning Small Group Ministry
Please contact Helen Zidowecki (582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com) to schedule your display.

Augusta Food Bank ...

June was one of our busiest months ever, as we distributed food to more than 945 people! And between the months of May and June, we were able to provide enough food to make just about 38,000 meals. Also in June, we began handing out Kids Packs. These age appropriate bags of extra food go a long ways towards helping families who have to provide 1-2 more meals per day in the summer to their children who are out of school. In the month of June, we distributed 186 "Kids Packs" to school age children in the Augusta and Manchester areas.

It's been awhile since I've updated our "need" list, so here it is! And you can imagine with serving that many people, that some of our stock is depleting quickly. Please share with your contacts that we are in very high need of SOUPS and CEREALS! We are very, very low on each of these items. Also on the list of items that we are getting low on are peanut butter, juice, spaghetti sauce and canned pasta (spaghetti O's, ravioli's, etc). Any donations that are provided are very much appreciated ~ Sarah Schultz-Nielsen



Website Committee ...

As of July 18th, we have heard from three of you about what you would like to have on the website, including a note from a person who does not usually use a website. That is a reminder that what we have on the website needs to be available in some form to non-web users. We envision the website as a tool to enhance and connect the congregation, and we cannot allow it to divide us.

But there are many more than three people in UUCC! We want to hear from you regarding our first set of questions in the July Newsletter:

If you are part of the UUCC community:

- 1. Please list 5 things that you would like to have on the site, in order of priority, with 1 being highest priority. (Note: We may already have some of your items on the current site. That is fine. We want to see what your priorities are as we plan our work.)*
- 2. How might you use the website?*

If you are not currently part of the UUCC community, what are you looking for when you search a church website?

We are planning the new website based on projected needs for the next 3-5 years, and beyond. Before the August 8 meeting of the Website Committee, I will be contacting many of you to review descriptions of your committees and/or programs. We are hoping to make the website as interactive as possible. Next month we will discuss more on the structure of the site.

Looking forward to hearing from and talking more with all of you.

Helen Zidowecki, Website Committee
207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com or
admin@augustauu.org

From the Administrator ...

Phone and Internet Updates The UUCC phone and internet systems will be down for the morning of Augusta 12th while updates are being made. Please be sure that all Order of Service information is emailed to the office by 8:00 a. m. Thank you!

Have you had a recent address change? Updated your email accounts? Changed your house or cell phone numbers? If so, please send an email to admin@augustauu.org and let us know so we may update our church directory! Thank you!

Current Directory Updates:

Terry Lee Cookson

372 Legion Park Road

Windsor, ME 04363

445-2942

Email: tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com

Cell: 557-2557

Karen and Andrew Fisk

69 South Pleasant St, Apt 8

Amherst, MA 01002

Andrew's e-mail: Andrew.C.Fisk@gmail.com

Karen's e-mail: KarenMargaretFisk@gmail.com

Melanie Lanctot

Phone number: 685-3350

*Address information remains the same

Barbara Thurlow

Phone number: (802)225-6541

*Address information remains the same

Pledge Payments ~ When making a pledge payment by check, please write "pledge" on the memo section of the check. This will insure that your pledge payment is applied correctly to your yearly contributions.

*Unitarian Universalist Community Church
P O Box 8
Augusta, Maine 04332-0008*

We are not human beings on a spiritual journey.

We are spiritual beings on a human journey.

- Stephen Covey