



# The Flaming Chalice

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

June 2011

## Summer Worship Services

### ONLY ONE SUNDAY SERVICE AT 10:00 a.m.

(June ~ September)

**June 5<sup>th</sup>**                      Annual Meeting as Spiritual Practice                      Rev. Carie Johnsen,  
Board of Trustees & Congregation

This year UUCC will try a new format for the Annual Meeting. Following the idea that anything we do here at UUCC is spiritual, we will intertwine the Sunday morning service with the Annual Meeting. This is a practice I bring to you from my home congregation – First Parish Brewster.

**June 12<sup>th</sup>**                      *Flower Communion*                      Rev. Carie Johnsen

In a special parting celebration before summer, members bring and exchange flowers during the worship service

**June 19<sup>th</sup>**                      *Summer Solstice: The High Holy Day of Summer*                      Helen Zidowecki, Goddess  
Continuing/Women of Wisdom

We will bring reflections of Women of Wisdom program to spark Summer Spirituality. What is your spiritual focus and practice for the summer? Or do you take summer off? Summer Solstice is seen as the beginning or the high point of summer. Either way, join us in honoring the cycle of the seasons.

**June 27<sup>th</sup>**                      TBD                      TBD

### Summer Children's Program: June 5<sup>th</sup> to Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>

**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  
Saturday 8 am-12 pm  
**Office:** (207)622-3232, [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org)  
**Minister's Study:** (207)623-3663(office), (508)221-5295(cell) and  
(207)395-8051(home)  
[revcariejohnsen@gmail.com](mailto:revcariejohnsen@gmail.com)  
[www.augustauu.org](http://www.augustauu.org)

Next newsletter deadline is **June 20<sup>th</sup>**. Please submit newsletter articles by email to Julie Pelletier, UUCC Church Administrator at [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org)

## A Faith Journey by Rev. Carie Johnsen...

Transitions and change... something this congregation knows a bit about. Never easy, rarely fun but almost always an opportunity for transformation and growth.

I join all of you in the process of grieving the loss of Karen Fisk, Director of Religious Exploration. She is an exceptionally multi-talented woman. Her gift as a story teller, her commitment to honoring the children and youth, her ability to remain connected to people of all ages, her vision of peace shared with our teens, her presence amid the hurry of Sunday mornings – all of this remarkable. We have been blessed.

As a member of the professional religious leadership team here at UUCC, Karen brought integrity, wisdom and conviction to her work. Our work together bringing a collaborative cohesive team ministry to UUCC has been fun and rewarding; challenging and exciting. We have been blessed.

Karen and I have worked hard over the past two years to develop a strong professional relationship. I believe this professional relationship was exceptional. Karen and I built a solid foundation of trust and respect rooted in a deep regard for each others call and charge to serve this beloved congregation. I will miss Karen's comprehensive knowledge of the congregation and her empathetic and compassionate style. I will miss Karen. I have been blessed.

Equally important during this time of saying good-bye is the reassurance that *all will be well*. I have a mentor who was well regarded for saying, we are all unique, we are all special and we are all replaceable. I recall the first time I heard him say this simple truth. I was quite offended by what he was saying. Of course so and so was irreplaceable, how could he not know that. Over time I have learned he was right, so very right. It was no surprise for me to hear Karen speak of this same philosophy on Sunday.

Our inability to see beyond to new possibilities may lie in our vision being blinded by what we are about to lose. But rest assured the vision of a new religious educator is in the very earliest stages of beginning to take shape and form. The Board of Trustees, in tandem with the RE Committee, has begun the conversation to discern the right next steps in ensuring a quality religious exploration program for the children and youth of this congregation.

Here is what I know: UUCC is an age-diverse award winning congregation. UUCC has quality children's programming and strong leadership. UUCC has an engaged group of young people. UUCC has beautiful RE spaces that communicate to others we value our children's spiritual development. All of this is very attractive. Many a religious educator would be very honored to lead this vital, dynamic and growing religious exploration program and community.

Remember that Karen is a Unitarian Universalist at heart and while her work may no longer affect us directly, it will impact us indirectly as she goes on to shape the future of this faith movement in her unfolding journey as a master's level credentialed Religious Educator in our denomination.

Saying good-bye to Karen at the June 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is a wonderful time to celebrate what she has brought to this congregation and wish her success in her call to grow our children. The RE Committee will serve strawberry shortcake following the service. I hope you will all come and send Karen off to do wonderful things in Massachusetts.

In gratitude and faith of all that is UUCC, *Rev. Carie Johnsen*

## **From the Director of Religious Exploration ...**

One of my favorite figures in UU history is William Ellery Channing, who was a Unitarian minister in Boston in the 1800s. When we traveled to Boston with the Coming of Age group, we made a little pilgrimage to his statue outside his Arlington Street Church on the Boston Common. He believed absolutely in the good in all people, as do I. Here is what he said about Religious Education:

### **The Great End in Religious Education**

The great end in religious instruction is not to stamp our minds upon the young, but to stir up their own;

Not to make them see with our eyes, but to look inquiringly and steadily with their own;

Not to give them a definite amount of knowledge, but to inspire a fervent love of truth;

Not to form an outward regularity, but to touch inward springs;

Not to bind them by ineradicable prejudices to our particular sect or peculiar notions, but to prepare them for impartial, conscientious judging of whatever subjects may be offered to their decision;

Not to burden the memory, but to quicken and strengthen the power of thought;

not to impose religion upon them in the form of arbitrary rules, but to awaken the conscience, the moral discernment.

**In a word, the great end is to awaken the soul, to excite and cherish spiritual life**

William Ellery Channing  
(1780-1842)

Over the course of this year, and the course of the lifetime of this church, from Linda Findlay and Helen Zidowecki to me, the religious exploration program has strived to give young people room to figure out what they believe. We have provided structure, with the RE Program; we have provided a framework, with the UU Principles and Sources; we have provided support, with this beloved faith community; and we will continue to do so for as long as this church gathers, because we know just how important it is to have freedom of spiritual discernment with responsibility toward the whole of humanity and the natural world.

Thank you for another awesome RE Year!

Yours in faith,

Karen

## Church Related News ...

### Summer Pastoral Care ~ July 1 to July 31<sup>st</sup>

Rev. Carie Johnsen will be away for summer vacation from July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup> returning back to the office on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. The Rev. Helen Zidowecki will be available for Pastoral Care Services during Carie's absence. All pastoral services will be coordinated through Rev. Zidowecki. She can be contacted at 582-5308 or [hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com). Please contact Helen directly to inform her of a member's illness and/or hospitalization, extended pastoral care needs of a member and the death of a member or friend of the congregation.

### Rev. Carie Johnsen Summer Hours

- June 6<sup>th</sup> to June 17<sup>th</sup>      Rev. Carie will keep regular office hours on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday.
- June 21<sup>st</sup> to June 24<sup>th</sup>      Rev. Carie will be away at General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Congregations. She will be available by email.
- July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>      Rev. Carie will be away vacation. All pastoral calls will be directed to Rev. Helen Zidowecki. See above note.
- August 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>      Rev. Carie will keep regular office on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. She will be working from her home study on Thursday & Friday.

### Administration Summer Hours

Beginning the week of June 20th the administration hours will be amended as follows:

Monday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Friday: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**Effective immediately, please have Sunday Service information and announcements for the Weekly Order of Service e-mailed to the administration office by 9:00 a.m. on Friday mornings. The email address is: [admin@augustuu.org](mailto:admin@augustuu.org). Thank you!**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the administration office at 622-3232

## Welcoming Congregation ...

## Two June Events

**Gay Pride March Portland—Saturday, June 18, 2011** We will meet at the church and car pool to Portland. Please sign up with Maggie Ricker at [maggiesway@aol.com](mailto:maggiesway@aol.com)

**“Out In The Silence” - Sunday June 12, 2011 4:30 p.m.** Holocaust & Human Rights Center, University of Maine, Augusta Campus This free film screening and discussion with the filmmaker Joe Wilson is co-sponsored by RCAD (Religious Coalition Against Discrimination) and Out! as I want to be, Lincoln, ME.

“Out in the Silence” is an award winning Emmy nominated film about a small American town confronting a firestorm of controversy ignited by a same-sex wedding announcement and the brutal bullying of a gay teen, this gripping documentary will challenge you to rethink your values and help close the gaps that divide our communities.

## Adult Religious Exploration ...

### **Goddess Continuing Becoming Women of Wisdom**

June 12, 12:15-2pm Annex (Note that this is the second Sunday, a change for June only.)

Goddess Continuing is looking forward to offering the First Summer Service on June 19. We will include reflections from the Women of Wisdom program that we undertook this year. We are looking toward having a celebration for older Wise Women/Crones in the Fall. The imagery of the caterpillar and butterfly relate to becoming Women of Wisdom, as well as to the emergence of a spirituality of summer and will be part of the service.

## Church Display Case ...

Upcoming displays for June

### **June 5**

**Celebrating our Congregation** – Annual Meeting

### **June 12**

**Summer Services**-Summer Worship Committee

We have been delighted by the displays this year. We look forward to more exhibits from those of you who participated this year and from those of you who were not able to do so!

Many thanks for the displays in April and May. We invite everyone to participate in displaying an exhibit next year! For more information or to schedule your display, contact Helen Zidowecki at 582-5308 or hzmre@hzmre.com



## RE Committee....

It is with sadness that we say farewell to Karen Fisk as the Director of Religious Exploration of the UUCC of Augusta Maine on June 5.

We have been lucky to have had her as a leader, teacher, mentor and friend for the past 7 years in her role as our DRE. She has helped the RE program grow and evolve and we have a committed community of lifelong learners thanks in great part to her dedication and skill. The UU RE family of Augusta Maine will build from the foundation that Karen has shaped and we will meet the challenges of moving forward together.

So "Thank you" Karen and we wish you well on your new adventure. We have faith that you will continue to be a UU light in the world as you have been for us.

Love, the RE family of the UUCC

## Small Group Ministry ...

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011. Your Small Group Ministry Steering Committee is very excited to inform all of the UUCC members and friends that we will be hosting a very special event this Fall to honor and celebrate 12 years of Small Group Ministry in our church community! It will take place at the church from 8 am (Check in and Continental Breakfast—program starts at 9 am) until 2:30 pm. We have confirmed that Peg Hebert and her husband Tom from our NNED will moderate the day (with members of the committee and SGMs help) as we look at our history, our present use of SGM, and our future. Our Purpose is to revisit the original model and where we are now, as well as to revision where we would like to be in the future. This is for everyone—those who are presently in SGMs, folks who used to be in SGM and may be considering re-joining, those who would like to join one or start one, those who are leaders or would like to be trained as a leader. We would like to all go home with a sense that SGM is alive and well at UUCC and acknowledge that it can grow even more dynamic and purposeful as we search together for spiritual exploration and deeper relationships within our church community. So mark your calendars now—more information will be coming throughout the summer.

Linda R. Findlay, Interim SGM Chair

## History Committee ...

The History Committee has not met for a few months due to the busy schedules. But we will be making up for that in the next month. The History Room needs to be completely emptied by July 5 so that the floor in the room can be redone, along with all of the floors in the Annex.

The History Committee will meet on Friday, June 10, 10am-noon in the Annex to plan the cleaning and packing. Tentative dates for cleaning, packing and moving are June 17 and June 28-July 1. We need three things from the congregation:

1. Boxes for packing, such as the boxes (with covers) that copy paper comes in, and other sturdy boxes. Please bring the boxes and covers to church. They can be put in a corner of the Coat Room. We need to temporarily store files.
2. We will need help in moving items, primarily from the first floor of the Annex to the garage and basement.
3. We will also need assistance in returning items to the History Room after the floors are done.

The details of the moving will be in the order of Sunday services, and electronic announcements. We appreciated the help when we have moved previously, and look forward to it again. The more that can help, the quicker it will go.

Thanks in advance.

Helen Zidowecki

(582-5308 or [hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com))



## Buildings and Grounds ...

**Thank you, we are all set on Hosta!** ~ Thank you to everyone who left Hosta and Lily of the Valley for the woodland garden. We had a big response. The gifted plants are all in and there is no more room! If you still have extra perennials, please consider potting them, tending the pots, and bringing them to the yard sale June 25th.

**Please Help Complete Annex Interior Painting In June before July Floor Sanding** ~ Please give 3 hours of your time on a Saturday morning from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Your choice of 6/4, 6/11, and/or 6/18. We have had no afternoon signups so we are only working mornings. See Sign-up sheets in fellowship hall or email Marilyn Dunn at [maine2007@hotmail.com](mailto:maine2007@hotmail.com) or call 512-5382.

## Upcoming Events ...

**A Dessert Theater** will be held on Friday, May 27th. Pie and coffee will be served in the Fellowship Hall (decorated with candles and fairy lights) and will be followed by *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Gaslight Theater in Hallowell. Tickets (which include both) are \$16 for Adults; \$14 for Students and Seniors. Reservations are required and must be received by Sunday, May 22nd. If you can help by baking a pie, please let us know soon. Pie-bakers receive a \$3 discount. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Last year 44 people attended.

For more information please contact Judy McCown and Bruce Bierce at: [jmbierce@myfairpoints.net](mailto:jmbierce@myfairpoints.net).

**Volunteers needed:** Spend a summer Saturday getting to know your fellow church members while raising money for the church. We auctioned 3 half-day work crews at the Service Auction and now we need to deliver. Hannah Faulkner, Judy Gallant, and Lois Whitcomb are the winners. We can either do 3-4 people for a whole day or 6-8 people for a half day. The work will mostly involve spring cleaning, painting, and moving some stuff. Lunch will be served. **THE FIRST WORKDAY IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY JUNE 18, 8AM TO 12 NOON AT THE HOME OF LOIS WHITCOMB.** If you are available to help out on the 18th please let me know ASAP. Brenda Sawyer at: [nicaphile@hotmail.com](mailto:nicaphile@hotmail.com) or 582-5816

## Fundraising ...



The **Annual Inside-Outside Yard Sale** is scheduled for Saturday, **June 25th**. Items can be placed in the garage. Please be sure that donations are clean and in good condition. The Yard Sale is very labor intensive and many volunteers will be needed. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet on the Bulletin Board.

**UUCS Cookbook** ~ Advance order forms for the UUCS Cookbook (*The Fellowship of Food*) are available on the Fundraising Bulletin Board. Your pre-payments will be placed in a special account to help pay for the cost of printing when the book is ready to publish.

**CLYNK Program Monthly Report** ~ Many thanks to all of you who are taking CLYNK bags from the basket in the foyer, filling them with bottles and cans and turning them in to your local Hannaford stores. On April 30 there was about \$135.00 in the church CLYNK account at Hannaford, collected since the beginning of the year. I took out \$130, and, referring to receipts, deducted \$27.55 to cover the cost of CLYNK bags to date. On Sunday, May 8, I put into the collection plate a check payable to the church for **\$102.45**. Thanks to your bottle and can contributions, money in the account continues to increase and is again up to more than \$35.00. Please look for the next report in the Summer Newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Hannah Faulkner of Terry Cookson's SGM



## Directory Updates ...

**Anthony Davis**  
11 J J Lane  
Pittston, ME 04345  
242-9044  
Email: [gentlegiant3000@yahoo.com](mailto:gentlegiant3000@yahoo.com)

Liza and Noah Gottlieb  
**94** Head Tide Road  
Whitefield, ME 04353

Elva Ingraham  
**c/o Residence of Gray Birch**  
**37 Gray Birch Drive**  
**Augusta, ME 04330**  
622-0033

Janet Provost  
**10** Summerhaven Road  
Augusta, ME 04330  
441-6072

Barbara Thurlow  
**171 Westview Meadows #124**  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
(802)225-6459

Steve and Helen Wright  
**136** Brunswick Avenue  
Gardiner, ME 04345  
582-6492  
[hsijks@roadrunner.com](mailto:hsijks@roadrunner.com)

◆ changes are indicated in bold

Please be sure to notify the administration office of any change in address, phone or email information so that we may keep our information current. Thank you!

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

## **IMPORTANT... PLEASE READ**

**Effective immediately**, please have Sunday Service information and announcements for the Weekly Order of Service e-mailed to the administration office by 9:00 a.m. on Friday mornings. The email address is: [admin@augustuu.org](mailto:admin@augustuu.org). Thank you!

**Administration office** will be closed May 28th and 30th for the Memorial Day Weekend. Thank you! Have a safe and happy holiday weekend!

**June 4th** ~ Administration office closed

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** 2011 Annual Town Meeting ~ June 5th  
Meeting will be held during 10:00 a.m. Service