

# The Flaming Chalice

The newsletter of  
The Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta  
69 Winthrop St.  
Augusta, Maine 04330



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## Interim Minister: Rev. Lee Devoe

President: *George Lapointe*

Director of Religious Exploration : *Karen Fisk*

Administrative Assistant: *Margaret Goodale*

Ministerial Associates: *Susan Burnett, Janet House, Marty Soule, and Helen Wing*

September 2-16, 2007

## *On Sunday:*

**September 2 One Service at 10 am. Susan Leary will lead worship today.**

**We resume two services each Sunday at 9:15 am and 11 am on September 9.**

### **September 9 *Merging the Waters***

Please bring a spot of water from your summer sojourn as a symbol of the journey of your spirit this summer. You will be invited to add the water to a common bowl with a word or two about what it represents. Our whole community, toddlers to elders, comes together to participate in this annual ritual.

**September 16 Congregational Meeting at 12 noon to consider recommendation of the Search Committee. (please see insert)**

### **Worship Services: *What Time Is It?***

**Rev. Lee Devoe**

Regardless of whether we can ever save time or savor time, stretch time or kill time, today we'll look for ways to understand it. Our service will explore ancient and contemporary myths and models of time in an effort to discern what time it is in the life of the congregation.

### **September 23 *The Unitarians and Universalists of Kennebec County* Rev. Peter Richardson**

The story begins in 1784 in Hallowell and continues vital today. In 1893 there were 232 Unitarian and 1332 Universalist families in Kennebec County. Urban and rural, governors and pig farmers, the designer of the Maine State Seal, a minister paid by a town not to preach; the story continues to stir in Maine's central county.

Peter T. Richardson served the UU congregation in Kennebunk for 16 years (1976-1992) in addition to serving churches in Ohio, Texas, and Massachusetts. He is author of seven books, the latest, *Archetype of the Spirit*, released in July. He and his wife, Eleanor, live in Rockland. He is also president of the Maine Association of Psychological Type.

### **September 30 *Curiosity & Compassion* Rev. Glenn Turner, former District Minister in Maine**

A service inspired by the life and writings of George Eliot. How to live with equanimity in an age of orthodoxy. How to hold your truth without putting others down.

### **Looking Ahead:**

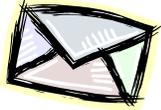
#### **October 13 *Reflections from Turkey***

Rev. Lee Devoe

On this first Sunday after my return, I will create our service from my experience of Pilgrimage in Turkey (Please read "A Letter from Lee" in this newsletter for more information!) I will not attempt a travelogue but rather will pick one dimension of my experience to share with you. I can't wait to see what it is!

*Our thanks to Barbara Thurlow, Elva Ingraham, Hannah Faulkner, Cally Stevens and Mary Perkins for helping to get this newsletter out on time.*

*Next newsletter deadline is 9/10/07. Please submit all newsletter articles as WORD documents if possible.*



## *A Letter from Lee*

By Rev. Lee Devoe

My deep respect and appreciation goes out to members of the Search Committee. They set aside the next year to devote to the process of finding a minister for the congregation. Now, in their recommendation to temporarily suspend the search process, they have asked the hard questions and put the good of the congregation ahead of their need to be part of this process. I support their decision. The search process is one to which both ministers and congregations devote a lot of time, money, and heart. It works best when the congregation can state clearly the challenges they have faced, the process they have used to move forward, and what resolutions they came to. I don't think you can do that right now. The search process is one that is highly structured, the timing of it is crucial. To really do a national search means being in sync with all the other congregations and ministers in search in this country and in Canada. A delay of a few months while you come to understand your latest challenges and the effect they had on the congregation usually means a delay of a year in the search process.

As members of the congregation have overheard the idea of a possible delay in the search process and an additional year of interim ministry, there have often been two reactions. One reaction is to feel the congregation will be "on hold" for two more years. The other reaction is that we're going to spend the next two years rehashing sad and sordid events. Not so! There are other options! I hope that we'll spend the coming year looking at the congregation as a system and working to create the most healthy system possible. This work will allow you to invite a new minister to **join** you in the work of your ministry. Like personal relationships, they work best if you don't invite a person into your life saying "Fix me! Heal me!" Rather, you can come together collaboratively to work towards the vision and through the mission of the congregation.

With surprise and delight, I have heard additional voices exclaiming what an exciting time it is for the congregation, as if a weight has been lifted from your shoulders and a veil from your eyes. There is a sense of release. A new energy is available. It's palpable during services, even summer ones which at times have been a totally full house. I'm not sure you can call the first Sunday after Labor Day "Ingathering" anymore – since so many of you never stopped gathering!

Moving into my second year of interim ministry with you, I have created new challenges and opportunities for myself. I will begin studies towards a Doctor of Ministry degree this fall. Matthew Fox, a Dominican priest perpetually in trouble with the Vatican, originally founded the Institute of Culture and Creation Spirituality in an effort to integrate western wisdom spirituality with indigenous cultures, emerging scientific insights, and artistic creativity. In its re-naming as Wisdom University, the school embraces the understanding that the wisdom traditions of the world are essential to the health of a globalizing world. The pedagogy of Wisdom University is distinctive. It believes effective education must affect body, mind, and spirit. In addition to academic scholarship, creative expression and body/mind development are integrated throughout the curriculum. Rather than being semester based, the school is organized by "intensives". Students prepare through readings and writing, then gather for a week or two of experience and dialogue, and then write papers to focus and share their learning. Rather than having a centralized campus, Wisdom University is committed to creating a global learning community and to taking students to the place most effective for learning. To this end, they have taken students to Ireland for immersion in Celtic Spirituality. They have gone to France and recreated the initiations of the ancient mystery school in Chartres which led to the building of the great cathedral there.

As part of these studies, I will join a pilgrimage to Turkey this fall. Turkey is a fascinating country religiously – a place where East meets West both physically and culturally. It is part of both Europe and Asia and where ancient religious sites combine with early Christian and Muslim sites. Organized in honor of the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Rumi, the poet and Sufi teacher, the heart of our journey will focus on Sufism, the mystical branch of Islam. We will stay in Konya, in Anatolia, where Rumi lived and taught and where we will meet with local Sufi teachers and whirling dervishes. The journey will also cover the great worship sites of Istanbul: Hagia Sophia and the Blue Mosque, the Roman City of Ephesus, the site of early human civilization Catal Huyuk, ancient goddess sites such as the Temple of Artemis – and spiritual practice will be integrated throughout the journey. This pilgrimage will be led by religious scholar Andrew Harvey, author and editor of over 30 books who has taught at both Oxford and Cornell University, and Kabir Helminski, a Shaikh of the Mevlevi Order of Sufism whose teachings bring a contemporary approach to Islamic concepts and practices.

I'm really excited about this opportunity and the challenge of further studies. I hope that it will provide a focus for learning that will complement my work in congregations. I will be on the pilgrimage from September 19 – October 10. On October 14, my first Sunday back, I will share something from this adventure. It will be a surprise to us both!

In faith,

Lee

### *President's Column*

The weather's been cool and it makes me think of all the rituals and events that mark the change in seasons. We'll be gathering with many friends on Labor Day weekend to camp, hike, and swim at Baxter State Park. We've done it each fall since we've been in Maine and it's a event that I hope we'll do for years to come. It's become a grand ritual that is important for our family.

The first UCC church service after Labor Day is an equally important ritual. After a less formal summer schedule, we'll gather in fellowship again with an excitement and commitment that fires me up. I look forward to seeing folks I've not seen since May, catching up with everyone, and recommitting to our religious community.

I think that this is particularly important this year with all the issues that our congregation has been through. We've talked about tough issues that impact us individually and as a church community, and we've got much work ahead of us to make sure that our church provides a safe, welcoming place. But I think that this fall's gathering will show us the great strengths that our community has within us. The fellowship, music, sermons, and messages that permeate our church will feed our souls and remind us of the strength and goodness within our community.

I've been looking forward to it for some time.

See you in church,

George

# ***UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST COMMUNITY CHURCH***



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*69 Winthrop Street, Augusta, ME 04330*

*(church office) 207 / 622-3232*

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August 22, 2007

A Letter from George Lapointe, President of the Board of Trustees

## **Announcement: Congregational Meeting – 16 September at noon**

Many of you may have heard that the Search Committee has recommended that the search for a settled minister be delayed for a year. They came to this difficult decision after a meeting with Ministerial Settlement Representative, Rev. Brad Greeley, and another meeting with a professional facilitator. They discussed where they were in the search process and the impact of the church's addressing the safe congregation issues regarding UUCC's former minister. At the conclusion of the retreat, the Search Committee recommended holding off on the search for a new minister for one year. This would mean that we would have another year of interim ministry. The UUCC Board of Trustees affirmed this recommendation at our recent Board meeting.

Because the decision to initiate the search is a congregational decision, we need to hold a congregational meeting to consider the search committee's recommendation and consider an affirmation to suspend the search for a new minister.

The congregational meeting will discuss how we build congregational systems to make our church a better place. We need systems that are transparent, that promote open discussion in our church of ideas or problems that need addressing. We'll have help on these issues from the UUA at the fall leadership retreat and throughout the coming year.

We're holding the meeting at noon rather than 11 A.M. so that both services can be held in recognition of the importance of the early and late services to many church members.

Please mark the date and time on your calendar.

## Report of the Ministerial Search Committee July 2007

Stefanie Barley, Harold Burnett, Janet House, Janet Sawyer, Mildred Stengel, Don Stratton, Lois Whitcomb

The committee was elected by a vote of the congregation at the June 3, 2007 annual meeting of the UU Community Church. In late June Rev. Lee Devoe distributed UUA-produced search committee materials to the members at a meeting of Stefanie, Harold, Mildred, and Lois following a Sunday service. At the meeting we discussed convening a meeting with the district's ministerial settlement representative, Brad Greeley, and a committee retreat, to be facilitated by an outside facilitator. Brad agreed to meet with us on July 18 and a retreat was scheduled for July 27 & 28 with facilitator David Kolb of Freeport and the Yarmouth UU church.

On July 15, Harold and Brad conversed via telephone about the potential implications on the search process of the recent allegations by five women about inappropriate sexual behavior by the UUCC's former minister during his ministerial tenure in Augusta. At the July 18 committee meeting Brad expanded the discussion with the entire group and raised the idea of perhaps delaying the search process.

Delaying was an idea that had first been raised in public during the congregational discussions about the situation and its impact, led by Board president, George Lapointe, Rev. Lee Devoe, and district executive Rev. Mary Higgins. At that time Mary had described how a delay in the search process, to give the congregation time to begin the healing process, would best occur if given a year's time. Waiting a full year would allow the UUCC to resume a search within the timelines that would be followed by other UU churches.

So at the Wednesday meeting with Brad and the search committee we began almost immediately to hear opinions about delaying or proceeding on schedule. At the beginning opinions were split about in half, and by the end of that night's discussion a straw poll suggested a slight favor toward delaying. We decided then to go ahead with our retreat plans 10 days later, but to use the Friday night session to decide whether to proceed.

By the time we all gathered at Granite Hill Estates for the retreat, facilitator David Kolb had been briefed by Janet House, Lee Devoe, and Brad Greeley about the change in agenda. Lee had also distributed to the committee UUA materials on Boundaries and Confidentiality, Sexual Attraction for the Religious Professional, and Healing.

The retreat began with personal introductions, including family and professional backgrounds, involvements with the church, and reasons for joining the search committee. After supper we dove into the topic of delay/proceed and found early on that a reasonable consensus existed for recommending that the existing search committee disband and the congregation reinstate the search process during the spring of 2008. We felt strongly that focusing on healing was what was best for the congregation and what the congregation needed. We further agreed to document our reasoning to the Board and make ourselves available at a Board meeting if so desired.

In summary:

The 2007 search committee was very eager to discover and help create our common future, but reluctantly agreed that a formal search for the UUCC's next full time minister should not be initiated until June 2008. We believe that:

- the congregation needs time and ways to deal with the shock, anger, and emotions that arose following the revelations about our former minister's inappropriate behavior.
- the congregation needs time to properly consider, and describe to prospective ministers, who we were, are, and want to be.
- the UUA's suggestion to wait one year will enable the UUCC to search more successfully.
- we have, individually and collectively, heard a pattern of comments from other congregants to believe that a preference for waiting exists in our community.
- the UUA's recommended search process includes a calendar of deadlines through the late summer and fall 2007 that we don't feel that we can meet.

Finally, we are all willing to help heal the community's wounds, and recommend at a minimum, that we engage with the UUA in a healing process, develop a formal "listening" process, counsel those in grief, create a scenario to expand our interim ministry, and, finally, celebrate the successes and accentuate the positive aspects of our members and the community.

## SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Our Ministry Groups have helped us be able to talk about the breaches of trust in our community in a useful way. This sentiment was expressed by Helen Zidowecki at our most recent SGM facilitators meeting. I recognized the truth of it immediately. Our Groups have helped us learn to listen to one another, and to know that communication in a religious community is more about understanding each other and less about being right or winning. Even though not all of us are active in Ministry Groups, the change has permeated our community over time. I think one reason for this is that membership in a particular Group is random, based on availability and the member's schedule more than common interest, age, length of time in our church or already having known one another. Near strangers have come together regularly and forged strong bonds, even if they do not see eye to eye. Those links have become a web as we go about the work of community.

As I considered Helen's remark, I saw that it fit more than our discussions around recent events. As a long time member of the UUCC, I have noticed a significant change in the tenor of our membership meetings. Particularly as we have struggled with building issues, our recent meetings have been marked by a degree of civility that was not always present. We solve problems and raise concerns rather than argue and try to convince. It is likely that not everyone is satisfied with a particular out-

come, but I sense real intention to keep everyone connected to our church. We are truly acting on the Universalist notion that we do not have to think alike to love alike. Small Group Ministry has made a clear contribution to this welcome change.

Watch the next newsletter for information on the monthly drop in Group which will be open to anyone who is interested in finding out more about Small Group Ministry or who wants to become better acquainted with others in the congregation.

Please let me know if you have interest in or questions about Small Group Ministry.

Kathy Kellison



## HISTORY COMMITTEE

Because we are making history every day, there are always plenty of projects for this committee to be working on. There is always the ongoing task of filing all of our materials, and Helen Zidowecki and Barbara Thurlow continue on with this as time permits. Inventorying our artifacts and entering the data is also an ongoing project. We hope to research the history of our parsonages through the years, and now we also have the history of 71 Winthrop Street to research. We would like to pursue some grant monies to cover the cost of having

some of our artifacts appraised. If you have interest in or expertise in grant writing, we would appreciate your help.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Please join us any time that you're in the mood.

Nan Greenier

## WAYSIDE PULPIT

**"Time and tide wait for no one."**

**~Anonymous**

## UUCC Caring Committee Potluck Supper Friday, Sept. 14, 2007 6 PM in Fellowship Hall

As shown by your volunteer listing in our all-church database, many of you already participate in our programs. The caring work you do has a ripple effect in our church. The members of our church appreciate the kindness and generosity you show and your willingness to perform deeds that enrich the lives of others.

If you would like to join the Caring Committee itself, or if you just want to enjoy a meal and learn more about our approach, please bring a dish to share at our September supper. We look forward to seeing you.

For further information, please contact Hannah Faulkner at (207) 293-9377 or [hannahu3@fairpoint.net](mailto:hannahu3@fairpoint.net). Other current Caring Committee members are Stefanie Barley, Melanie Lanctot, Abby Lourie, Christine Little, Ida Gammon-Wilson, Charlene Cleven and Marty Thornton.

## September Fund Raiser



Yes, the garage is still there which allows us to have one more  
**Inside-Outside Yard Sale on Saturday, September 29th, 8 AM to 1 PM**

Set-up on Friday, September 28th, 1 PM to 4 PM

Volunteers will be needed for both days.

Donations for the sale can be stored in the garage.

Please make sure items are clean and in good condition.

No electronic equipment or large appliances since they do not sell well and are hard to dispose of. We already have quite a few things given to us by the Kennebec Historical Society.

**Refreshments will be sold at the Sale if an individual or small group volunteers to organize it.**

If you can help in any way, please contact Judy McCown at 897-3683 [jsmbierce@verizon.net](mailto:jsmbierce@verizon.net) or Hannah Faulkner at 293-9377 [hannahu3@fairpoint.net](mailto:hannahu3@fairpoint.net)

There will also be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

## "UNIVERSALIST SPIRITUALITY" SEPT. 29, BRAINTREE, MA

"Universalist Spirituality" will be the theme of the New Mass.

Universalist Convention's Annual Conference on Sat., Sept. 29, at All Souls UU Church, 196 Elm St., Braintree, MA.

Worship (?The Gift of Forgiveness?) will be led by the Rev. Olav Nieuwejaar. The keynote address ("Universalist Spirituality") will be by the Rev. Richard Trudeau. The day's program will also include a presentation by the Rev. Edmund Robinson ("Universalism: Means of Salvation or the Coming World Religion?"), a panel of ?old-time Universalists? reflecting on how Universalism as they remember it differs from today's UUism, a presentation about the new Universalist Heritage Center in Winchester, NH, and a sing-along of Chris Raible's parodies of UU hymns.

The day will run from 8:30 to 4:30 and include continental breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack. YELLOW registration fliers will be sent to all UU churches in New England. For full information please go to [www.nmuc.org](http://www.nmuc.org) and click on ?Annual Meeting.?

## Women & Religion Fall Retreat

Attention UU Women of Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire! Join us for our annual Fall Retreat at Rockcraft Retreat Center in beautiful Sebago Lake, Maine the weekend of October 26-28th. Our theme for the weekend is "Roots Hold Me Close," and we will be exploring that theme in workshops which include: Sacred Circle Dancing, Harvest Wreath making, a facilitated discussion on Women & Sex, a sharing circle on Exploring our Spiritual Roots, and Watercolor painting. The site lends itself to outdoor adventures like hiking and canoeing. For more information see our brochure posted on your church bulletin board, visit our blog: [www.uuwomenandreligion.blogspot.com](http://www.uuwomenandreligion.blogspot.com) <<http://www.uuwomenandreligion.blogspot.com>>, or contact Leslie Lentz at [fbleslie@maine.rr.com](mailto:fbleslie@maine.rr.com) <<mailto:fbleslie@maine.rr.com>> or (207) 284-4401.

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Greetings from the Hospitality Committee! That's me – Liza Gottlieb. Actually, I'm a sub-committee of the Membership Committee. I've been working in the kitchen this summer serving coffee after worship. It's been deeply satisfying serving coffee and snacks to the summer crowd. Folks linger and chat... so much nicer than just walking out into the world. And the visitors we've had have had a chance to mingle with the congregation.

A heartfelt thanks to all who brought in something to eat or drink. Many people have the impression that I put on quite a spread, but I tell you I did not bring food once all summer!

In a few weeks the church's population will double, triple, quadruple. I'll still be in the kitchen, but I can't do it alone with the increasing numbers. As many of you know, it's quite an undertaking to do the coffee hour. And I love it!!! What I'm asking is this: Please consider \*helping\* in the kitchen. Each Sunday will need an Early Helper (pre-church), a Late Helper (post-coffee hour), and, if anyone is inclined, a Snack Provider. You may call me at home: 549-5198 or email me: [lizarose-gottlieb@yahoo.com](mailto:lizarose-gottlieb@yahoo.com) or you may sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join me in the ministry of Hospitality!

Liza Gottlieb

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Our local chapter of **Habitat for Humanity** is looking for donated land, to build the next home or to move a home to, for a local family. Please pass the word or consider giving, to make a difference, for a family here in the Kennebec Valley.

Jenny McKendry



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**MICHAEL DAVID LIBBY**  
**July 24, 1984—March 9,**  
**2007**

**Our beloved grandson**

**Thank you for caring so much. Your hugs and your sincere heartfelt concerns are helping us greatly.**

**Woody & Nan Greenier**

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**Through My Eyes....**

**By Maggie Ricker**

As I raised my arms to pull down a chair from the shelf, a bead of sweat rolled down the side of my head and ran into my eye. I moved about the room, starting coffee, putting chairs, food and tables into place. I was aware that each motion took a bit more effort. My breath was a tiny bit labored. It felt like the air was wet. My heart rate was just a tad faster than normal. It was 7:45 a.m. on an August morning. I was in the Fellowship Hall and it was decidedly unpleasant, yet cooler than the outside because of its two inside walls and the relative darkness.

From behind me came the sound of hammers pounding and saws ripping apart boards. With everything in place I walked next door to 71 Winthrop Street. The building was alive with activity. The air was smoky with some type of dust. People wearing face masks, knee pads, and work gloves were everywhere.

In other words, while I was finding it near suffocating to exert enough energy to place tablecloths and food, these people were working like field hands. Pulling up floor boards. Prying off wall boards. Sanding, pounding, sawing, crow barring (Is crow barring even a word?)

I don't believe I have had the pleasure of seeing such a dedicated group as the people who have repeatedly helped with the work on 71 Winthrop Street. Weekend after weekend they give their time, in the best days and worst days of the summer. So many people have given of their time in so many different ways. Alongside those who provide the sweat equity (with the emphasis on 'sweat') people have made food, brought full deli trays of sandwiches; cheeses; condiments; bagels; salads; sodas; fruit; and desserts (ahhhhhh the desserts!)

The most surprising element for me, however, was the camaraderie of the workers. There was truly a rich esprit de corps. People were laughing and talking as hard as they were working. It didn't matter that it was one of the hottest days on record. Or that the air was as thick as soup. They gave the true impression of a people involved in a labor of love.

I have been so moved by the commitment, dedication and selflessness of these wonderful people. To say thank you is inadequate. But it's about the best I have. So thank you, one and all for all you have done and given this summer. You have been a true inspiration to me.

## Social Activities

Let's plan some fun social events for our UCC community!

If you have enthusiasm for an event, please share your ideas and energy.

Call Marty Soule (685-9270) or Michael Conley (622-2945).

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

#### **Progressive Pot Luck Dinner**

**Saturday, September 15**

**- Appetizers in the Annex at 6 PM -**

*Your name tag is your entrance ticket*

**- Main Meal in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM -**

*We will bring photos of ourselves*

*(or have a Polaroid taken)*

*for a community collage*

**- Dessert in 71 Winthrop Street (if our work crews say that's ok) at 7:30 PM -**

*Let's get to know our three buildings and each other.*

Volunteers for set up and clean up appreciated.

Contact Marty Soule, 685-9270, or Michael Conley, 622-2945.

### **How do we want to celebrate community?**

In the late fall as the harvest is brought in, we gather with family and friends to give thanks. For years we have celebrated this time of year with our church community by preparing a large turkey dinner and pot luck - two nights before the "official" Thanksgiving. Sometimes it has been challenging for busy families to prepare food for two events so close to each other.

Would it be more fun and less stressful to have a harvest celebration and time of giving thanks earlier in the month of November?

How about a Thanksgiving /Harvest Pot Luck sometime like Friday, November 2?

Please let us know what you think of this idea.

Feedback to Marty Soule, Michael Conley, or Rev. Lee Devoe



## Welcoming Congregation Task Force

Maggie Ricker

Looking back over the notes I have taken for the Welcoming Congregation Task Force meetings, I realized we started down this path two full years ago, with a meeting initiated by Peter Friedrichs. When we call for a congregational vote this upcoming June, we will have been exploring this concept of a Welcoming Congregation for a full three years. Hopefully people will feel they have enough of an understanding about what we are asking to feel comfortable voting on the topic. And of course, it's my fervent hope you'll vote 'yes'.

The Task Force worked throughout the summer to come up with an agenda for the 2007-2008 church year. We will sponsor at least one church service; will hold a 4 week series of evening classes, one night a week; and will hold another weekend retreat.

In November there will be a weekend long Northeast District Welcoming Congregation retreat at Ferry Beach. Helen Bishop has been in charge of creating this very exciting conference. She has been holding teleconferences this summer with people all over New England. It will be three days of fun, spiritual awareness and learning. The Rev. Keith Kron, Director of the UUA Office for Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Concerns will be present for the entire weekend...**and then...**will do a **sermon at Augusta UCC** that same weekend!!

Another very exciting project WelCong is undertaking is the Family Photograph Project. We will seek out photographs (already existing or newly taken) that show every type of family from traditional family groups, to same sex couples, to extended and blended families to single people living with their favorite finned, feathered or furred friends. We want to know what *you* feel comprises a family. The Task Force is looking into once again having a photo display in the sanctuary. So dig through those old shoe boxes and find your very favorite pictures of your very favorite people!

We will also create a brochure explaining the Welcoming Congregation concept highlighting LGBT issues and how UCC is working to be certain every family and individual finds UCC a safe and nurturing place of worship, community and sustenance.

The Task Force meets the third Wednesday of every month, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel welcome to stop in and let us know your thoughts and feelings on what we have done and what we can do in the future.

### Seeking Housemate

Seeking a quiet elder of 45+ adult woman perhaps a U-U to share my Hallowell home

Sunny 1st or 2nd floor bedroom available,

1/2 bath on 1st floor, full bath upstairs

Storage, laundry, parking

Short walk to downtown

Must have references

\$450. for 1 private room, \$525. for 2 private rooms

Rental agreement 1 month at a time initially

Utilities included

Available November 1

Please contact: Jenny @ 622-4501 before 9:00 p.m. E-mail: [jdrawmck@gwi.net](mailto:jdrawmck@gwi.net)



## **Building Committee August Update on 71 Winthrop Street**

By Wayne Ladner

**For our next couple workdays...** we have a specific request for people who have the following experience:

- hardwood floor installation and repair (a few small sections)
- electrical box, wiring, and fixture installation
- sheetrock installation for ceiling and walls (we'll probably hire out taping)
- plaster repair
- vinyl siding installation/repair
- inside and outside door installation
- ongoing carpentry work (rough) walls and finish (molding and doors))

For you painters out there, your time is coming, but not quite yet. Let Maggie know your skills. This date probably will occur shortly after October 1.

**Winter is coming so...** we want to step up the schedule of work days. These will most likely be for smaller crews of a half dozen or so people each day;

- August 25
- September 8 (Sat. AFTER Labor Day weekend)
- September 22 (MOGFA weekend) or September 29. We may do a little each weekend.
- October 13 (Sat. AFTER Columbus Day weekend)
- October 27

Additionally, if you are retired, or have a flexible work schedule, and have a work 'buddy' and/or your small group wants to accomplish some mid-week tasks, please let us know! We have a few 'fill-in' projects that need to get done!

### **What has happened in the last week or so:**

- Electrical tear out has mostly occurred, but we still have a few secure working circuits to allow us to keep going. We'll be installing new electrical over the next 2-3 weeks.
- Heating system bids have gone out
- We have the building permit (allowing us to build up, not just tear down)

October 1st is the goal to have a wired, heated, insulated building. It might not be ready for full occupancy by then, but we're getting there!

A big **THANK YOU to EVERYONE** that has helped out so far. We couldn't do this without UU!

Wayne, Andy, Maggie, Jim, Bill, and the rest of the Building Committee

*Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
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