Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church Wednesday, October 4, 2023

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69 Winthrop St., Augusta ME



(207)622-3232 — <u>info@augustauu.org</u> <u>www.augustauu.org</u>

A Message from our New Minister

The song "Seasons of Love" has been running through my mind this week. I'm reminded of it as I reflect on our ingathering water ceremony just a few weeks ago. The congregation named gifts and intentions for the year ahead as we collected the drops of water. The word cloud on the next page is a mix of all you shared.

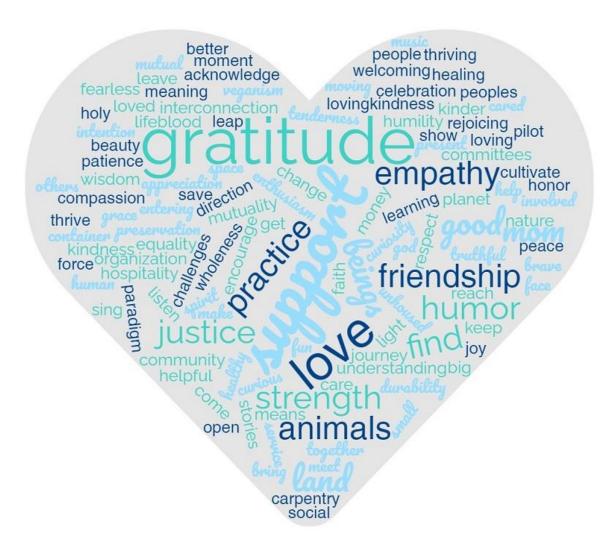
Congregational life together, living into the call of Unitarian Universalism will require all of these! This congregational ministerial search year offers us opportunities for continued reflection on life together. Who is UUCC now? Who do you want to be in the world in the future? What anchors you in health? What scaffolding is there to support continued health, wellness and work on this sacred journey of life?

Please find places to join in this congregational year. It will be exciting!!!

Love and light, Reverend Donna (she, her)

Here is the <u>calendar link from our website</u> where you'll find many of the activities.

To make appointments with Rev. Donna, Please feel free to use the <u>calendly link</u> or email, <u>minister@augustauu.org</u>.



Upcoming Services

Sunday October 8, 2023

Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.

"Singing our Song"

Rev. Donna Dolham

Marge Piercy's "History is a Weapon, the Low Road" reads "...it starts when you care to act, it starts when you do it again and they said no, it starts when you say We and know who you mean, and each day you mean one more."

What does it mean to truly belong? Please join us this Sunday as we play, sing and pray our way forward creating a community of belonging. A special thank you to our worship arts team.

John Seksay will be our worship associate and Angie Blevins will manage technology. Morgan Lee, our new Choir Accompanist will be our pianist and the Choir will present "Al Shlosha D'varim" by Allan E. Naplan (Text by Pirkei Avon (Mishnah); Morgan Lee, piano. Fellowship Hour will be hosted by PJ Jenkins and Hannah Faulkner.

Sunday October 15, 2023

Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.

"The Speed of Trust"

Rev. Donna Dolham

At the foundation of Unitarian Universalism is the development of community. Trust is the center of relationships and buoys movement forward into new adventures. How are we as Unitarian Universalists engaging spiritual practices and relationships of trust?

A special thank you to our worship arts team. Sara Hodgkins will be our worship associate and Priscilla J. Jenkins will manage technology. Karen Allen will be our pianist.

Join us after the service for a sit down FELLOWSHIP LUNCH <See details in [Special Events/Opportunities] below.>

SHARE THE PLATE: This month's recipient, chosen by the Social Justice Committee is **New England Grassroots Environment Fund**. The Grassroots Fund is dedicated to co-creating healthy and sustainable communities throughout New England. They empower individuals, groups and organizations working across a broad range of environmental and social justice issues by helping them identify, select and access the specific tools, resources and connections they need to challenge existing systems and develop lasting solutions to the complex problems affecting their communities.

Sunday October 22, 2023

Ingathering music to begin at 9:55 a.m.

"The Unspoken Principle"

Small Group Ministry

"Service is both a path and an outcome of spiritual growth". Small Group Ministry offers opportunities to deepen the spiritual growth of our members as we serve our community and beyond in ways large and small, immediate and longer term. The groups share 'service experiences,' the importance of service as part of Small Group Ministry, and how service strengthens the bonds within the UUCC Community. The Service Collage shows the many ways that service is part of the life of the small group.

A special thank you to our worship arts team. Marty Peters will be our worship associate and John Seksay will manage technology. Morgan Lee will be our pianist and the Choir will present "Connected" by Brian Tate; Morgan Lee, piano. Fellowship Hour will be hosted by Richard Bridges and his small group.

<u>Sunday worship service</u> is held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary. Please be aware that the church doors will now be locked 10 minutes after the service begins. The greeter will be at the front door to let anyone in after that time.

If you want to watch the livestream of the service, please visit:

https://boxcast.tv/channel/mtifpth0utvesjqgjyej

If you missed a service or want to watch a service again, the link above also allows access to prior services. Click on the play button on the video of the "broadcast date" you are interested in watching. Services may be viewed by Boxcast for a week after the service is live.

Special Events / Opportunities

There's No Such Thing as a FREE Lunch.

Right????

WRONG...

It's B-A-C-K!!

Our wildly popular monthly Fellowship Luncheon returns October 15th and continues through May on the third Sunday. Please everyone - have a light breakfast and enjoy a sit down lunch with serving staff immediately after the service. This is NOT a potluck but a planned menu event.

Marilyn Dunn is the event coordinator and is seeking entrees serving at least eight.

<u>Suggestions</u>: Lasagna, American chop suey, chili, quiche, corn chowder, shepherd's pie or a vegan dish.

Additionally, we need grapes, brownies, or cookies for the dessert trays.

Please contact Marilyn Dunn if you can contribute call 207 512 5382 or email maine 2007 @hotmail.com.

READY FOR A GIRL'S NIGHT OUT?

The Public Theater in Lewiston is presenting the play "PAINT NIGHT", a modern version of "Steel Magnolias" with modern day issues. October 20-29, matiness offered on Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29th.

Six women gather at a local "PAINT and SIP NIGHT" studio but as the alcohol flows so do their thoughts about motherhood, womanhood and their lives. Hilarious and heartbreakingly real, but also how women support each other in an unpredictable world.

\$30 or \$25 if a group of ten signs up. ** Please respond soon if interested. **

Cheryl Clukey, (207) 441-0337 or cherylclukey5@yahoo.com

Don't delay!
Tickets are
selling FAST!

Please help rake church grounds Nov. 11th from 9 a.m. to Noon (Rain date after church on Nov. 12th)

This is the annual fall clean up. We rake onto drop cloths and dump into compost bin so there is no bagging. Please bring a rake and gloves if you have them. When we have a good turn out it only takes a couple of hours.

Please confirm with Marilyn Dunn at maine 2007@hotmail.com that you plan to help (and prevent her fretting.



Fall Poetry Service

The UU Service on Nov 12th will be a poetry service once again! This time the theme will be quite different. The theme will be "Conversations with Nature", poems that speak to encounters with the natural world and how we have been affected by them. These can be original works, or favorite poems by other authors that create a connection for us. If you would like to be a reader, please contact John Seksay at netmote1@gmail.com with a copy of your poem. The draft of the service needs to be prepared by Nov 7th, so we would need to have the poems by Nov. 4th. We will include as many works and readers as possible for a rich bouquet of experiences. Looking forward to a thoroughly

The **Holiday Craft Boutique** will be held on Friday evening December 1st and Sunday December 3rd from 11-2. If you have a special talent that you would like to share for the craft boutique please let us know! There will be a signup sheet for people and items on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall starting Sunday 10/4. Crafts can be anything from food to artwork, needlepoint and sewn items to items crafted from wood or recycled goods.

Sign up for Hannaford Gift Cards on Sunday during the Fellowship hour. Karen Foust will be there with forms and to explain the program to anyone who is interested. The Hannaford Gift Card Program is the single largest fundraiser that the UUCC has, AND, it doesn't cost you anything more than shopping for groceries.

An opportunity for reflection...

An opportunity to reflect on the latest wayside pulpit message being shared on the corner of Winthrop and Summer Streets.



"Ambitious people climb, but faithful people build."

~Julia Ward Howe

Thank you to Angie Blevins for maintaining the wayside pulpit and providing us with messages to ponder.

Connections by Day of the Week

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UUCC calendar Click below to view ALL events, including any group meetings or other business meetings. https://www.augustauu.org/calendar-and-communications/

Some events are still being held in the UUCC Zoom Room. Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room:

For other ways to join Zoom, see General Information
Zoom meeting id: 823 807 0673 – Password: 6971



Monday	Peaceful Heart Sangha	(
Each week	BY Private ZOOM –EVERY Monday. You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.	
<u>6:30 – 8:00</u>	Please contact Marty Soule for updated Zoom login information at:	VV
<u>p.m.</u>	email: martysoule@gmail.com.	\$2400 By
Private Zoom	FMI: <u>peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</u> <u>Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.</u>	

2nd & 4th Monday

Sewing Group

9:30 - Noon

Sewing Group meets in the Fellowship Hall the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 9:30 am - 12:00 Noon **September 11, 2023 through Nov. 27, 2023**. We ask that attendees help set up and put away tables and chairs.

Next Meeting is Oct 9th

Just bring whatever you'd like to work on, either machine or hand sewing, and we will all help one another as needed. Be sure to let us know if there is anything you need from one of us... we are likely to have whatever it is!

Martha at 887-1104 or 313-5859, or Nancy at 213-3047.

All are welcome. Bring a friend, if you like.



Wednesday 6:00 -7:30 p.m.

UUCC Choir Rehearsal

PLEASE NOTE: Choir rehearsal scheduled for Wed. 10/18 has been rescheduled to Thurs. 10/19 at the same time.

Choir rehearsals are held every Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Questions? Please reach out to Bridget Convey at: musicdirector@augustauu.org.

All are welcome!

Wednesdays

Gentle YOGA

Hosted by Debbie Mattson

Each Week

<u>p.m.</u>

UU Yoga is now offered as a hybrid gathering. People can choose to gather in the Fellowship Hall for yoga, Wednesdays 5 PM-6 PM or join via zoom. Here is the zoom link:

YOGA

5:00-6:00

https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09 Password: 174192

Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin class right at 5:00 p.m. FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com

Wednesday

Seasoned Souls

10:30 a.m. -Noon

Seasoned Souls is a group of older church members that meet as a study/support group to talk openly about topics related to the aging process. Seasoned Souls is open to any church member over 65 years of age. On the 2nd Wednesday monthly we will meet in the Fellowship Hall and on the 4th Wednesday, we will meet in the UUCC Zoom room.

2nd Wed. - C-FH 4th Wed. - Zoom FMI: please contact John Seksay (netmote1@gmail.com or 317-69-3636) or Stefanie (mstefbarley@gmail.com or 629-8890)

Thursdays

Each Week

Peaceful Heart Sangha

You may join us by Zoom at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30



 $\frac{8:00-9:30}{a.m.}$

- -- IN-PERSON every Thursday at the River Studio, 332 Water St. Hallowell (except the last Thursday of the month)
- --BY Private ZOOM last Thursday of the month

Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com

Sangha gatherings are free and open to all.

2nd & 4th Thursday

In the UUCC

Zoom room

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Writing to Wake the Soul

This is an open group that gathers and writes 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. This group will be meeting in the UUCC Zoom Room.

FMI: please contact Debbie at (207)557-2697 or debbiemattson@hotmail.com

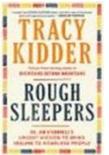
1st Thursday

Noon-1:30 p.m.

Next Meeting is Nov. 2nd

Read Learn Share Book Group

READ LEARN SHARE is a group for booklovers. Once a month between October and June we meet to discuss a book chosen by the group in our summer ballot. Our multiplatform meetings occur on the first Thursday of the month from noon until 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall and in the church zoom room. Anyone is welcome to join for one discussion or all nine.



On Nov. 2 we will be discussing Tracy Kidder's book Rough Sleepers.

Tracy Kidder shows how one person can make a difference, as he tells the story of Dr. Jim O'Connell, a man who invented ways to create a community of care for a city's unhoused population, including those who sleep on the streets—the "rough sleepers." -goodreads

On December 7 we will talk about Horse by Geraldine Brooks.

For more information or to receive email related to the group, contact June Zellers: jzellers@roadrunner.com jzellers@roadrunner.comor Kathy Kellison: kell6787@gmail.com

<u>4th</u>	Free Style Drum Circle	
Friday		
6:30 – 8:30 Sanctuary	The Augusta Community Drum Circle is a free style drum circle welcoming people of all ages, walks of life, and abilities. Free style means no one is assigned 'pieces' to play. Just play! Or don't play! Just come watch, sing, dance, or bring your own instruments. No one cares if you've never played before or if you make a mistake. As long as you are having fun you can't get it wrong! ALL are welcome. Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!	
Next Meeting is Oct. 26 th	The Drum Circle meets the fourth Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. For more information you can contact Mike Moody at mtmoods@gmail.com or 229-1118.	
1 st and	<u>UUCC Occasional Orchestra</u>	
3 rd Saturday	The UUCC Occasional Orchestra rehearsals are usually held the 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month. We practice in the Sanctuary from 9:30-11:00 a.m.	
9:30–11 am	Come and share your musical talents with our UUCC community. All are welcome, please join us! Questions: please contact Dale McCormick at: dmmcormick11@aol.com .	
<u>4th</u>	Goddess / Earth Circles	
Sunday Regular time is 1-	October 29 th , special time – begins at 2:00 p.m. Celebrating Samhain: Third Harvest, The Veils Thins, Honor the ancestors: come in costume, especially with witch's hats; bring symbols of the season for decorations, light foods for sharing	
2:30 p.m. In-Person Next Meeting is	Wisdom and Balance: This is the focus of Wisdom this year. Please bring a sharing of Wisdom that you use in gaining and maintaining Balance. This can be your own writing, or stories or quotes. These will be compiled into the Women of Wisdom book after the gathering.	
Oct. 29 th @ special time of 2:00 pm	Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on earth-based spiritual practice throughout the phases of our lives. All ages and genders are welcome. Contact: Helen Zidowecki, (207-582-5308, hzmre@hzmre.com)	

Notices / Updates / News

PLEASE NOTE: Choir rehearsal Wed. 10/18

has been rescheduled to Thurs. 10/19

Newsletter articles are due by Oct. 16th

An email has been sent to leaders, committee chairs, board members, etc. with all the details. If you have any questions, please reach out to admin@augustauu.org or call (207) 622-3232.



This crew of UUCC members and friends worked as a recent UUCC Auction Work Crew to assist another member in getting tasks done around the house, in the garage and outside.

This crew shared community, food and laughs!

Thank you to this crew consisting of (from far left to right):

Angie Blevins, Carolyn Ladd, Jim Caldwell, Matt Foust, Kevin Kane, Mary Kane, Karen Foust, Catherine Palmer and Becky Harvey.





Ministerial Search Committee Update

The search committee recently met in the Fellowship Hall for a retreat facilitated by Jess Hunt from the UUA.

We established a timeline for our search over the course of the year ahead. We will be conducting a congregational survey in October (watch for your email or mail with the survey THIS WEEK!).

Ministerial Search Committee includes— Kevin Kane, Nan Bell, Debbie Mattson, Stefanie Barley, Harold Burnett and Angie Blevins.

Social Justice Committee

Reverend Carie Johnsen Social Justice Fund

The Social Justice Committee invites you to join us in renewing support for the Reverend Carie Johnsen Social Justice Fund. In conjunction with the Finance Committee, we will have the CJF Appeal in October, beginning this year.

This fund, named in honor of our former minister, Rev. Carie Johnsen, allows the congregation to donate at least \$1,000 to a Maine social justice group each spring. You will be receiving a letter with more information on how to contribute.

Please help support the Reverend Carie Johnsen Social Justice Fund. Please consider a generous gift—together we can make a difference to a social justice non-profit in Maine.

Restoring Wabanaki History in Maine at the Ballot Box.

The Eighth Principle and Question 6 in the November Election

Maine <u>voters will soon be asked</u> whether they want to reverse an 1876 Constitutional amendment to omit sections of the Maine Constitution which articulate the Wabanaki treaty obligations assumed from Massachusetts when Maine became a state in 1820.

The separation agreement between the states mandated that Indigenous land agreements continue after Maine established its independence. As Maine grew and settlers wanted more land, these obligations to the tribes became limiting and costly. After the Civil War, Maine's leaders tried to repeal these provisions but quickly learned Massachusetts would not agree to the changes. Blocked from repeal, they turned instead to redaction, passing a Constitutional amendment to omit these sections (which remained in force) when copies of the Constitution was printed. The Maine Historical Society explains the details of this here.

Over the last decade, there have been growing calls to return the omitted passages when our Constitution is published. As you vote in this November's election, take a moment to reflect on the 8th Principle which calls us to act in an anti-racist manner as we work toward a loving and inclusive Beloved Community.

Board of Trustees

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

At its Meeting on September 14, the Board;

- Authorized the minister and the treasurer to sign checks from the minister's discretionary account.
- Discussed the proposed bylaws.
- Explored the possibility of using the book <u>Community: The Structure of Belonging</u> by Peter Block as a community read this year. Decision to be made at the October meeting.

- Discussed the creation of a Personnel Committee.
- Clarified plans to work on the Board's goals set at the fall retreat (and shared in the 9/6 E-Blast).
- Voted to set up a checking account for the Ministerial Search Committee.
- Discussed a request to serve as the fiscal agent for a community group working on housing issues in Augusta.

FULL MINUTES OF THE MEETING ARE AVAILABLE ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact Michaelatloisel@gmail.com. Next Board meeting: Thursday, October 12, 2023

General Information

Worship Services are held IN-PERSON Events may still be held virtually in the UUCC ZOOM ROOM

Other ways to UUCC Zoom Room Zoom:

- 1. <u>Join from your internet browser by clicking this link or typing this into your browser:</u> 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. <u>Join by phone</u>: 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.

UUCC 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.

Martha Pelletier, Chair 207-685-9592 (h) <u>Mjpell14@roadrunner.com</u>

Helen Zidowecki 207-582-5308 (h) hzmre@hzmre.com

Peggy Lamb 207 622-5174 (h) <u>plambflowers@outlook.com</u>

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 Martha Pelletier 685-9592.

If you would like to request or suggest cards: contact Peggy Lamb 622-5174.

UUCC Small Group Ministry



Looking for greater human and spiritual connection during this most disconnected of times? Small Group Ministry offers this vital need in our spiritual community, and so much more! For more information, contact Linda Findlay (207-337-8028, linda.findlay@gmail.com) or Helen Zidowecki (207-582-5308. hzmre@hzmre.com)

UUCC Office Hours & Notes

UPDATED E-blast & Office Hours

E-blasts will be produced on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. The upcoming schedule is:

- o E-blast (10/4)
- o NO E-Blast (10/11)
- o E-Blast (10/18)
- o NO E-Blast (10/25)

EBLAST SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Articles due by noon on Tuesday, the day before the E-blast is distributed. Articles received after this time may not be included in the E-blast.

UUCC Office Hours NEXT WEEK

Church Administrator - Open office hours:

Tues, Wed and Thurs -8:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Rev. Donna Dolham

Minister's study – (207) 623-3663 Pastoral Emergencies only – (207) 701-1581

Email: minister@augustauu.org

Visit Calendly Scheduling Link to schedule an appoint-

ment with Rev. Dolham.

Open office hours

Tues. mornings between 10 to noon, just drop in for a visit with me & whoever else happens to pop-in.

Staff Contact information:

<u>Church Administrator</u>, Lynn M. Smith, <u>admin@augustauu.org</u>, Phone 622-3232 Music Director, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org