

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

## Upcoming Services

Worship Themes: January – **IMAGINATION**

February - **BELOVED COMMUNITY**

What does it mean to be a people of *Imagination* / *Beloved Community*?

<p><b>THIS Sunday</b> January 31, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p>	<p><u><b>The Path Not Taken</b></u> – Rev. Carie Johnsen</p> <p>John Seksay and Sara Hodgkins will serve as worship associates and Karen Allen will be on piano.</p>
<p><b>NEXT Sunday</b> February 7, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p>	<p><u><b>Revolutionary Love: Reflections on the People's Inauguration</b></u> - Rev. Carie Johnsen</p> <p>Marilyn Gordon and Susan Burnett will serve as worship associates and Karen Foust will be on piano.</p>

**UUCC Sunday services and all virtual other events (unless noted) are held in the**

**UUCC ZOOM ROOM** ← ← click this **UPDATED LINK** to join

### **Other ways to join Zoom:**

1. Join from your internet browser by clicking this link or typing this into your browser:

<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. Join by phone: 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.**

## Virtual Connections



### *Winter Meditations with Rev. Carie*

Weekly Beginning Tuesday, January 19 and ending March 30th  
5:30 - 6:15 in the UUCU Zoom Room

Drawing from An Almanac for the Soul: Anthology of Hope, by Marc and Nancy Hiles, Rev. Carie will facilitate a weekly 20 minute guided and silent meditation. Participants will be invited to stay for an optional time of shared reflections. Rev. Carie will alternate hosting from sanctuary and home chapel. On occasions the meditation may be prerecorded.

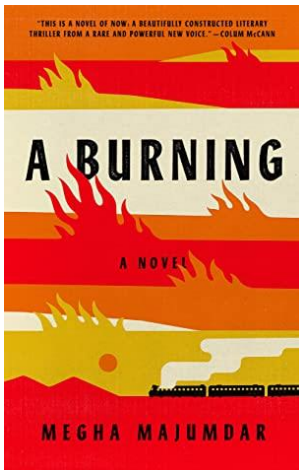
The mediation (not discussion) will be recorded and made available on the [UUCU Facebook page](#). Copyright permission obtained.

The first Winter Meditation was held on Tuesday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup>.

Here is a link to [January 19 Meditation - Patience and Grace](#)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wK\\_yzlyyINSIVhCLvPpKZANVK8Yt-ePX/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wK_yzlyyINSIVhCLvPpKZANVK8Yt-ePX/view?usp=sharing)

**<<UPDATE>>** The second Winter Meditation was held on Tuesday, Jan. 26. There is no recording of this meditation as there were some technical difficulties. Please join us for the next session on Tuesday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>.



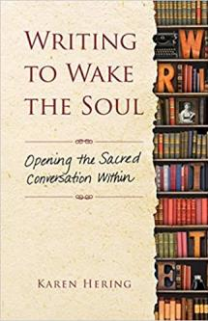
**Read. learn. Share** meets on the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 until 2:30 in the UUCU Zoom Room. Join us on **February 4<sup>th</sup>** as we discuss A Burning by Megha Majumdar.

Everyone is invited to attend any session when a book really interests you. Many of us are regular attenders as we have experienced the pleasure of reading and discussing something that we might not have otherwise. You can find the list of books we have chosen for the rest of the year in the Winter UUCU newsletter. For more information, contact Kathy Kellison at [kell6787@gmail.com](mailto:kell6787@gmail.com) or June Zellers at [jzellers@roadrunn.com](mailto:jzellers@roadrunn.com).

*... an electrifying debut novel about three unforgettable characters who seek to rise—to the middle class, to political power, to fame in the movies—and find their lives entangled in the wake of a catastrophe in contemporary India.*  
~Goodreads

## Weekly Events

<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  <u>Each week</u>  <b><u>2:00 – 3:30</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Read Aloud &amp; Discussion</u></b></p> <p>The Monday afternoon reading and discussion group has changed our process. We have chosen to have each person who joins us, and who wishes to, bring a poem, an article, a book excerpt with something in it to spark a discussion. What has grabbed your attention or what is something you are wondering about? Our discussions are always lively and interesting. Join in! FMI: <a href="mailto:admin@augustauu.org">admin@augustauu.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>UUCZ ZOOM ROOM</i></b> (← click this link OR see Pg. 1 for other ways to join)</p>
<p><b><u>Monday</u></b>  <u>Each week</u>  <b><u>6:30 – 8:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.</p> <p>The login and password information has changed. Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at email <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>.  FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p> </div> </div>
<p><b><u>Wednesdays</u></b>  <u>Each Week</u>  <b><u>5:00 – 6:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 65%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Gentle YOGA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hosted by Debbie Mattson</p> <p>Please join us a few minutes before 5:00 to settle in so we can begin our class right at 5:00 p.m. Zoom Login:  Click link below to join.  <a href="https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbzdmZWmZoOTRxa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGbzdmZWmZoOTRxa3VoUT09</a>  Password <b>174192</b>  FMI: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p> </div>  </div>
<p><b><u>Thursdays</u></b>  <u>Each Week</u>  <b><u>8:00 – 9:30</u></b>  <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>The login and password information has changed. Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at <a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>.  FMI: <a href="mailto:peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com">peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</a></p> </div> </div>
<p><b><u>Every Other Thursday</u></b></p>	<p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i>  <b>Every OTHER Thursday morning -- 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</b></p>

<p><b><u>9:00 – 10:30</u></b> <b><u>a.m.</u></b></p>	 <p>This is an open group and if you would like to participate in this event, please contact Debbie Mattson (debbiemattson@hotmail.com) for the login/passcode information. Hosting of this event is shared and zoom link changes week to week.</p> <p>We gather and write 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.</p> <p><b><u>PLEASE NOTE: This group will now meet EVERY OTHER Thursday (instead of every Thursday). Upcoming meetings are scheduled on 2/11, 2/25, 3/11 and 3/25.</u></b></p>
--	--

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

## Notices

### **Condolences to the family of Scotti (Faith) Soria**

A sad message to send, that my mother, Scotti Soria, passed away at home last Monday the 11th in her sleep after a couple of months in hospice care. The family will hold an online memorial gathering in the near future, and an obituary will appear soon, and be posted to Legacy.com. I will email those details when available. Suggestions for donations in lieu of flowers will be posted, as well as correspondence to the family.

Thank you,  
 David Soria and family

**UCC Social Justice Network:** The Social Justice Committee is attempting to develop a directory of members and their volunteer roles. We are doing this hoping it will make it easier for people to engage with social justice work. Last March when "business as usual" came to a screeching halt, I looked for new ways to engage. I learned the Cohen Center was looking for volunteers to participate in the Meals on Wheels program. I signed up! I told friends about the various volunteer positions and 6 of them also signed up. I wasn't looking to recruit people, just telling them about my days. We are thinking the directory may have the same impact....as we know more about each other, we will join each other in service. Please email Hilary Neckles ([hneckles@gmail.com](mailto:hneckles@gmail.com)) to be included in the digital directory. Thank you, Debbie Mattson, Co-chair of Social Justice Team

# Board of Trustees

## So, What's On Your Mind?

The UUCC Board wants to hear what you are thinking, your ideas, your concerns, your suggestions about how UUCC is doing. Please join board members on the first Sunday of the month right after the church service to talk about this. We will begin Feb. 7 at 11:30-12:30 on the ZOOM church site.

Do you have questions about how UUCC operates? Do you wonder "Why?" about something? Are there things you would like to learn more about? Bring all this and what you want to discuss with board members.

We will not be making decisions during these times, but will listen intently and take all comments and ideas back to the board. See you there!

### Jan 2021 Board Notes

#### At its January meeting, the Board:

- Heard from the Finance Committee that halfway through the fiscal year, income is up and expenses are down. We are in good financial shape.
- Voted to pursue a second Payroll Protection Program grant if we are eligible.
- Heard a report from the Personnel Work Group which has been updating our Personnel Handbook in accordance with the UUA Handbook. Voted to accept the updated handbook as amended.
- Voted to sign onto a draft Statement of Conscience from the UUA "Undoing Intersectional White Supremacy: A Call to Prophetic Action", with the approval of the Social Justice Committee.
- Heard recommendations for building renovations.
- Agreed to proceed with two recommendations stemming from the Congregational Engagement Working Group: 1) Initiate "What's on your mind?" sessions with the congregation starting in February and 2) Explore "Beginning Anew" as a potential practice for conflict resolution.

## Dr. Don on Covid-19

### Dr. Don on COVID-19      Mask Debate in the Maine Legislature

This past week the Maine Legislature has been caught up in a debate over face mask requirements. Here is a portion of their COVID-19 prevention policy passed by legislative leaders this past December:

Protective Face Coverings. An individual who enters any legislative space must wear a protective face covering while in that legislative space in a manner that covers the nose and mouth, unless the individual (1) is unable to wear a protective face covering due to a medical condition; (2) is alone in their own office; (3) is alone in a legislative space; or (4) is in their own cubicle and able to socially distance at a minimum at 6 feet. If an individual is unable to wear a protective face covering due to a medical condition, that individual may not be in the room in which a committee meeting is being held, but may participate remotely. (Maine Legislative Document 4778, Section 5)

Policy signs are displayed throughout the capitol complex stating that masks must be worn in legislative spaces, hallways, committee rooms and the House and the Senate chambers and offices, with the exceptions noted.

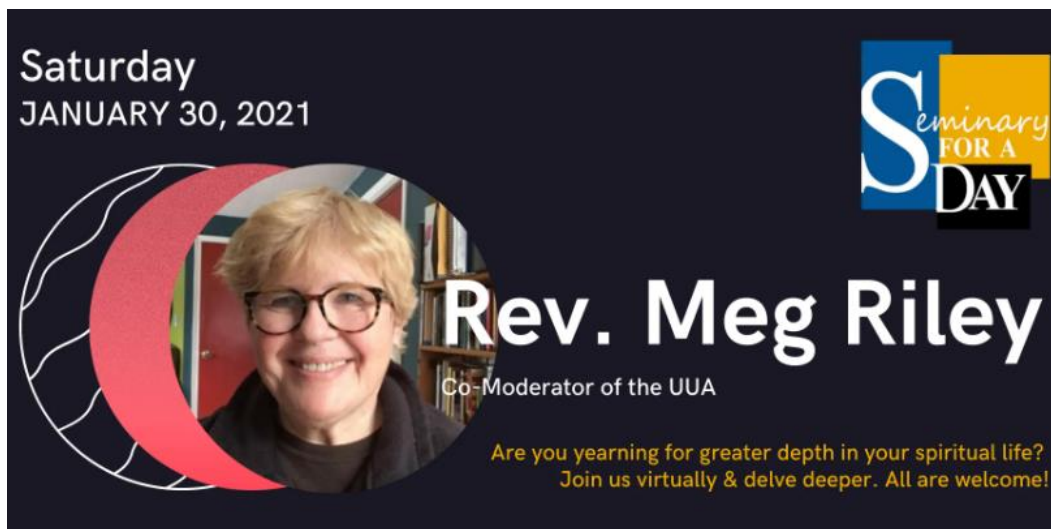
As reported by Steve Mistler of Maine Public, "Democrats are trying to strengthen the Legislature's mask policy after a committee clerk quit because of fears that Republicans were skirting the rules, while Republicans have said that the rules have not been made clear." Earlier an AP report stated that about a half-dozen Republican lawmakers were seen not wearing masks in the State House in a video that was livestreamed on Jan. 5. At the time, it was written off as a misunderstanding over mask-wearing in private offices.

According to the AP, last week the issue of face coverings emerged yet again following reports that House members have been wearing so-called chin shields, a clear, plastic cup that rises just above the nostrils and is open at the top. Sometimes referred to as spit shields or half-shields, these are marketed to food workers, but public health experts do not consider them effective in reducing the spread of the coronavirus. Following leadership statements that suggested legislators should show the same qualities seen in school age children who follow basic health and safety protocols, tense meetings have taken place debating whether the Legislature's rules are explicit about what constitutes a face shield or a mask.

Unfortunately state houses across the country have become a microcosm of the partisan divide over what public health experts say is a simple step in preventing spread of the virus. Lawmakers in other states have ignored masking requirements or dumped them altogether in some of the legislative chambers that they control, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. As a result, the AP says state houses have become hotspots for the spread of COVID-19 with nearly 200 lawmakers contracted the disease through November. This total did not include New Hampshire House Speaker Dick Hinch, who died from the disease in December after attending a GOP caucus meeting lacking masks or physical distancing. As face masks continue to be seen as political statements, these numbers grow.

Send your questions, comments or suggestions to [naber@gwi.net](mailto:naber@gwi.net)

---



The graphic is a dark blue rectangle with white and yellow text. In the top left, it says "Saturday JANUARY 30, 2021". In the top right is a logo for "Seminary FOR A DAY" with a blue 'S' and yellow 'eminary' and 'DAY' in white. On the left is a circular portrait of Rev. Meg Riley, a woman with short blonde hair and glasses, smiling. To her right, the text "Rev. Meg Riley" is written in large white font, with "Co-Moderator of the UUA" in smaller white font below it. At the bottom right, there is a yellow quote: "Are you yearning for greater depth in your spiritual life? Join us virtually & delve deeper. All are welcome!"

TO: UU Congregations, Fellowships & Churches

Your members and friends are cordially invited to join us for our **VIRTUAL Seminary for a Day on Saturday, January 30, at First Unitarian Portland**. This year's spiritual theme is entitled, *Success, Failure, and Everything In Between*.

**Our keynote speaker is the Rev. Meg Riley, co-moderator of the UUA**, the highest volunteer office of our movement. Rev. Riley spent 37 years as a UU religious professional, including stints as the UUA's Director of (then) LBG Concerns, Director of the UUA Washington Office, and Head of the Advocacy and Witness Staff Group.

At Seminary for a Day Rev. Riley is eager to share what she has learned and reflect on how our faith's past weaknesses, successes and failures can help us now in our pursuits of equality and justice. She will explore the topic through the lens of our work in welcoming LGBTQ+ people and the lessons that have come from that work.

**Details: Saturday, January 30, 2021 - 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time**

Registration is open until 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 29th. You will receive a Zoom link via email before the event. <https://www.firstunitarianportland.org/events/seminary-for-a-day-all-are-welcome/>

**=> ALL ARE WELCOME!**

If you have any questions or would like any additional descriptions please contact Kerry, [kheintze@firstunitarianportland.org](mailto:kheintze@firstunitarianportland.org)

---

### **Ad-hoc Covid-19 Advisory Group**

This group has generously volunteered to be available to support members with personal safety, health or travel questions, concerns, or anxieties. Feel free to reach out to one of them directly.

Betty Cairn, RN	<a href="mailto:StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com">StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com</a>	207-215-6394
Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac.	<a href="mailto:tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com">tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com</a>	207-557-2557
Harry Grimmnitz, MD	<a href="mailto:hgrimmnitz@gmail.com">hgrimmnitz@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	<a href="mailto:naber@gwi.net">naber@gwi.net</a>	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	<a href="mailto:cathieenielsen@gmail.com">cathieenielsen@gmail.com</a>	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	<a href="mailto:martysoule@gmail.com">martysoule@gmail.com</a>	207-685-9270

### **UUCS 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.

Rev. Carie Johnsen, Minister	508-221-5295 (c)	<a href="mailto:revcariejohansen@gmail.com">revcariejohansen@gmail.com</a>
Martha Pelletier, Chair	207-685-9592 (H)	<a href="mailto:Mjpell14@roadrunner.com">Mjpell14@roadrunner.com</a>
Helen Zidowecki	207-582-5308 (h)	<a href="mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com">hzmre@hzmre.com</a>
Tracy McNaughton	207-623-3110 (h)	

**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 Angie Blevins, 592-5655

## UUC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

### UUC Administrator Hours

Tues, Wed & Thurs. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Church Administrator: Lynn M. Smith,  
[admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org) or 622-3232

### Rev. Carie

### VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

If you would like to schedule a visit, appointment or meeting with Rev. Carie, please call (508) 221-5295 or use her local # (207) 623-3663 (both lines will reach her!) or email her at [RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com](mailto:RevCarieJohnsen@gmail.com).

She is happy to meet outdoors, by phone, or zoom.

### Staff Contact information:

Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org), Phone 622-3232

Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, Monique McAuliffe, [LifespanFF@augustauu.org](mailto:LifespanFF@augustauu.org)

Music Director, Bridget Convey, [musicdirector@augustauu.org](mailto:musicdirector@augustauu.org)