

# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021

## Upcoming Services

Worship Theme for April is **BECOMING.**

For the following two services 4/18 and 4/25, we will be doing a virtual road trip with the [UU Church of Delaware County](#) in Media, PA,



The Link to join the services is as follows:

<https://zoom.us/j/3550891509?pwd=Z3NpU3A3bnREZnN0WmV4bUd4dTRBQT09>

Meeting ID: 355 089 1509 -- Passcode: 888777

**Join by phone:** dial 1 646 558 8656 (NOTE: toll charge may apply)

At first prompt (meeting id: 355 089 1509 followed by #)

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.

<p><b>THIS Sunday</b></p> <p>April 18, 2021 10:00 a.m.</p> <p><b>**See Special Zoom Link Above**</b></p>	<p><b><u>Belonging in a Culture of Becoming</u></b> – Rev. Carie Johnsen</p> <p><b>(Virtual road trip with Media, PA visiting Augusta)</b></p> <p>We will introduce Peter Friedrichs from PA. He will lead the 4/25 service as we join Delaware PA Sara Hodgkins and Monique McAuliffe will serve as worship associates. Special Music: Bridget (video). Imagine with Bob Calwell (video)</p> <p>I grew up in a place where <i>who you belonged to</i> was central to acceptance. I arrived in a place where <i>who you are becoming</i> is the measure to success. Join Rev. Carie as she explores the tug and pull of belonging and becoming in Unitarian Universalism.</p>
<p><b>NEXT Sunday</b></p> <p>April 25, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p><b>**See Special Zoom Link Above**</b></p>	<p><b><u>Virtual road trip with Augusta visiting UU Church of Delaware County in Media, PA</u></b></p> <p>Led by Rev. Peter Friedrichs, former intern minister at UCC</p>

## *Beginning Anew Service 4/11 video link*

There have been some requests from people asking for access to view the recent 4/11 UUCU Beginning Anew service. Below is the link to the service:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IFcW3\\_OJ6A72hNeBJcu-A2OEt70gKW7t/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IFcW3_OJ6A72hNeBJcu-A2OEt70gKW7t/view?usp=sharing)

## **Beginning Anew Workshop**

**This Saturday, April 17, 10-11:30am**

**Greg Fahy & Lynn Deeves (members of Peaceful Heart Sangha) will facilitate.**

We have capacity for 15 UUCU attendees.

If there are more who would like to attend, we will have a waiting list and can consider creating more workshops.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop,

**please register ahead with Lynn Smith at**

**admin@augustauu.org or 622-3232.**

**Deadline to register is 3pm tomorrow 4/15.**



**All virtual events (unless noted) are held in the UUCU 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.**

UUCU 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.**

**Do NOT use this link for Sunday services on 4/18 and 4/25**  
**Please see page 1 for a special link.**

## Connections

### A Night to Remember: Celebrating Twelve Years of Shared Ministry

Friday, April 16th 6:00 - 8:00ish - UCC ZOOM ROOM



Host: Committee on Ministry

Facilitator: Harry Grimmnitz

Graphic Artist: Melissa Kendzierski

It's time to reflect, remember, and celebrate twelve years of ministry on the corner of Winthrop and Summer. With this evening of storytelling we will gather up our favorite memories, transformative moments, and compassionate care in a graphic image to commemorate our shared ministry in Augusta.

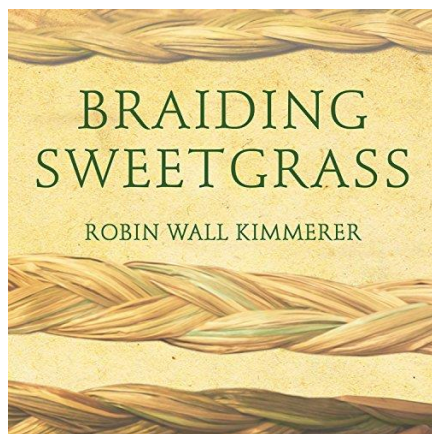
**Goddess/Earth Circles** will meet 4/18 instead of 4/25

Sunday, April 18, 2021, 1-2:30 pm via UCC Zoom

The gathering this Sunday is "Revisioning Goddesses and Celebrating Women of Wisdom" with three parts:

- 1) Opening and sharing;
- 2) Revisioning the Multi-Phases of a Goddess, and
- 3) Celebration of Wisdom and Transition for Rev. Carie

Bring or send blessings and wishes for Rev. Carie or request material for the gathering, by contacting Helen Zidowecki ([hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com), 582-5308)






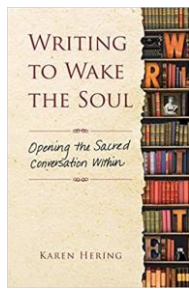
**Read. learn. Share** meets Thursday May 6 at noon in the UCC Zoom Room.

Anyone who interested in discussing our book for month is welcome to join us. We will end at 1:30. For more information, contact Kathy Kellison at [kell6787@gmail.com](mailto:kell6787@gmail.com) or June Zellers at [jzellers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jzellers@roadrunner.com)

‘ For only when we can hear the languages of other beings are we capable of understanding the generosity of the earth, and learning to give our own gifts in return.’ 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 above 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>	<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> 
<p><b><u>Wednesdays</u></b>  <u>Each Week</u>  <b><u>5:00 – 6:00</u></b>  <u>p.m.</u></p>	<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=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRxa3VoUT09">https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRxa3VoUT09</a>  Password <b>174192</b> - FMI: <a href="mailto:DebbieMattson@hotmail.com">DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</a></p> 
<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> <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> 
<p><b><u>2nd &amp; 4<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b><u>Thursday</u></b>  <u>9:00 – 10:30</u>  <u>a.m.</u></p>	<p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i></p> <p><b><u>PLEASE NOTE the following schedule change (Eff 4/1)</u></b>  <b>We will now meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.</b>  <b>We will still met from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</b></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.

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.

**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



Volunteers are still needed to fill out an aucion workcrew on April 24th. The task is cearing brush in Hallowell. Date is April 24th (rain date May1). This is a managed forest of about 3/4 acres. Kevin Kane has planted sugar maples, hazel nut bushes, butternuts, amercan chestnut and is keeping birch, ash and elder.He is going to mark these special trees he wants to keep. What he needs cleared are norway maple saplings, wispy three foot blackberries, a few small florabunda roses, and fallen branches.

Lunch will be provided. Contact Marilyn Dunn -[maine2007@hotmail.com](mailto:maine2007@hotmail.com) or 207-512-4980 if you can help.

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### EMBODY OUR PRINCIPLES WITH MUUSAN

Casual observers of the legislature often breathe a sigh of relief or have a celebration when a bill passes after our hard work. Then we take our eye off the ball and fail to notice that the bill seems to have disappeared and not actually been enacted. There is a reason for this, and it could happen with the bill to institute ON-LINE VOTER REGISTRATION. There is support to make registering to vote easier and general acknowledgement that it will save the state money in the long run.

However, there will be cost involved in implementing the bill. Therefore, if the bill passes it will be sent to the Appropriations Committee so it can be considered for funding. The members of the Appropriations Committee members look at all of the bills before them and at the money available in the budget and make decisions about what will and will not be funded. Many a good idea does not make it out of this process.

MUUSAN will be keeping track of the On-Line Voter Registration bill through all of this and will let us know if we need to make a push to contact members of the Appropriations Committee to urge them to fund this bill. Maine has been a leader in voter participation in the country, and pushing this bill over the finish line will help us maintain that leadership. Stay tuned...

For more information on any of this, contact Michaela Loisel at [michaelatloisel@gmail.com](mailto:michaelatloisel@gmail.com) or Kathy Kellison at [kell6787@gmail.com](mailto:kell6787@gmail.com).

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## PEEPERS

Peepers were first heard at 5:00am on Friday, March 26th.

By Martin Spahn and family



*Spring is here!!!*

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### **2021-2022 Pledge Campaign UPDATE**

**Thank you to all who have sent a pledge form in to the church office.**

**Our goal is \$165,000. We are now at 66% of our goal!!!**

As of Today **40 pledges** have been received, raising **\$108,600** for the work of UUC in the next fiscal year.

**All pledges are important. Please return your pledge as soon as you can.**

**Thank you, thank you all!**

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### FREE BOOKS

There are still MANY FREE books for the taking. Come to browse. Fill a bag or two to take home. With the activity of reorganizing spaces and Rev. Carie's leave taking, an abundance of books have been shelved in the minister's study. We hope you will take the opportunity to browse the shelves and take home one or two to ten or boxes of books to supply your summer and winter reading shelves.

The books include:

- Books that have been a treasured part of UUCC over the years.
- Historic Religious Exploration materials, UU writings and material.
- Contributions from Rev. Carie's library

With Covid restrictions, we are asking folks to reserve time on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 9-4. We are continuing to book appointments. You can come in your family pod or alone to browse the library. Contact Lynn Smith to reserve your time: 207-622-3232 [admin@augustauu.org](mailto:admin@augustauu.org) Masks are required. Bring your own bag please.

If you need an evening or weekend time, please contact Rev. Carie (508-221-5295 [revcariejohnsen@gmail.com](mailto:revcariejohnsen@gmail.com)) or Helen Zidowecki (582-5308, [hzmre@hzmre.com](mailto:hzmre@hzmre.com)) to set an appointment.

The Free Books will be available through April 16th. All remaining books will be donated to the Kennebec Historical Society for their annual book sale later this year.

## Board of Trustees

### **Questions and Answers from Zoom Meeting** **"What's On Your Mind" held on April 11, 2021**

**Q: Did the board consider the possibility of NOT having a full-time minister?**

**A:** The interim minister will be hired on a full-time basis. If our fiscal year ended today, we might have \$15,000 left over funds from last year, in part from PPP grant income. We cut snow removal costs this year by switching providers and we no longer pay heating or electricity costs at the Drew House. We receive rental income from the Drew House monthly. The Finance Committee is vigilant at looking how we can keep our expenses in line. People have been good at paying pledges. Although 75% of the year has transpired, 83% of pledges have been paid for this year. Our first draft of next year's budget will come to the board in May. The budget concerns are justified, but it feels this way every spring. We need to get our numbers up. The church is in a stronger position than it has ever been, but that does not mean we don't have to be careful. The Endowment and Ballard Trust are generating more income than in the past. We are committed to hiring a full-time minister.

**Q: Carie had a paid Sabbatical coming. Is she entitled to that payment?**

**A:** No, because she resigned, she is not eligible for a Sabbatical.

**Q: Is the church leadership focusing on the need to continue healing?**

**A:** Yes. Both the Board and the Committee on Ministry continues to focus on the health of the church community.

**Q: Who is the Summer Minister?**

**A:** Bettina Lehovec, who has been an intern with Ellsworth, Castine and Belfast will work as the UCC contract minister this summer from May 17 – Aug. 1.

**Q: Will there be any lay led services this summer?**

**A:** The technology is so complex, the Worship Committee did not want to take on that responsibility.

**Q. Are services being recorded?**

**A:** Yes, inquire of our Church Administrator, Lynn Smith. Carie reviews each video and edits it before posting. You should know how much our Minister does outside of Service on Sunday.

**Q: Are we aware of why we're losing membership, if we are?**

**A:** A few members left the church since the last conflict. It's difficult to gauge membership while we're doing church on zoom. We don't know how many people will return when we have in-person service. It is encouraging that those who pledged last year are keeping up with their pledges. I don't always say to others, "Why not join us?" which more of us need to do. Churches in general are getting smaller. Families aren't joining as much. Times have changed. The good news is that with all these unknown factors, a year from now, we'll have a more accurate idea of how it's going. It's not likely that we will put ourselves at risk, financially speaking. We will do what is responsible.

**Q: What is happening next Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>?**

**A:** The Committee on Ministry will create an experience of shared ministry of 12 years (not all about Rev. Carie, but about all of us with Rev. Carie). How can we have people's stories exist in something lasting that Carie and we could keep? Someone will draw images in art as we share.

**Q: Have we invited anyone outside our church to Carie's farewell service?**

**A:** We could have a "walkabout" so Carie can participate in stories of the past. Interfaith people will be included in our farewells. The church has been fiscal agent for MUUSAN, they might want to be included.

The final "What's on Your Mind" session is Sunday, May 2, at 11:30





## *So, What's On Your Mind?*

The UCC Board wants to hear what you are thinking, your ideas, your concerns, your suggestions about how UCC is doing. Please join board members on the first Sunday of the month right after the church service to talk about this.

**We will meet again on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30-12:30 on the ZOOM church site.**

Do you have questions about how UCC 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!

## Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on COVID-19      Blood Clots and the J & J vaccine

I was volunteering at a COVID-19 vaccination clinic when one of my fellow volunteers told me that the CDC had called for a "pause" in the administration of the Johnson and Johnson COVID vaccine. This pause, in the words of Dr. Anne Schuchat, Principal Deputy Director of the CDC and Dr. Peter Marks, director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, is "out of an abundance of caution" after six reported U.S. cases and one death of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals given the J&J vaccine. Maine CDC is following the national recommendation.

All six clotting cases occurred among women between the ages of 18 and 48, 6 to 13 days after vaccination. Usual treatment with an anticoagulant drug called heparin may be dangerous in these cases and alternative treatments need to be given.

"It's a low frequency problem but with potentially big consequences for the vaccine program if not put into the proper context," said Dr. Arnold Monto, acting chair of an FDA vaccine advisory committee. Monto said people might not understand that the other two vaccines being used in the US, made by Pfizer and Moderna, are designed differently, and those vaccines have not been linked to blood clots. "My concern is that people don't understand there are different vaccine platforms," Monto said and that's why communication is key. "There could be consequences in terms of the messaging," he continued. "We can't let this be handled by the politicians, it's got to be handled by the scientists."

The US is spending billions of dollars on three different types of vaccines, and that's by design. "There are a number of different platforms that are being pursued so that we don't have all of our eggs in one basket," Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases told a congressional panel last year. The J & J vaccine is a "vector vaccine", it uses an altered version of another virus to carry genetic instructions to make the coronavirus spike protein that activates immunity. AstraZeneca's vaccine is also a vector vaccine, and there have been cases of the same type of blood clots, prompting AstraZeneca rollout pauses in Europe.

These pauses show the US was smart, as Fauci put it, to not put all their eggs into one basket. "It proves there was a lot of wisdom in that approach," said Dr. Nelson Michael, director of the Center for Infectious Diseases Research at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. "I'm glad we have six different vaccines derived from three different platforms in play."

The second platform is mRNA, which is being used by Pfizer and Moderna. Novavax and Sanofi are using a third platform, called protein subunit vaccines, and they have not yet applied to the FDA for emergency use authorization. It's possible AstraZeneca will never be used in the US, and also that the pause on the J&J rollout could be long term, or its use limited to only some age groups. "We hope that we don't get both adenovirus vector vaccines knocked out because of safety concerns, that would be terrible. But it's not like the world doesn't have a plan B, and that plan B would be to rely more on protein vaccines and mRNA vaccines," Michael said.

As I write this the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization (ACIP) is scheduled to hold a meeting today, Wednesday to analyze the cases. It will not surprise me if the group finds that a rare phenomenon previously seen with other vaccines and medications is present in some individuals that triggers these clots. I am concerned that misinformation, public hesitation and the possible lack of vaccine or its use will lead to more outbreaks of dangerous, new variant viruses.

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

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### **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@zwi.net">naber@zwi.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

### **UUC 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)	<a href="mailto:tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com">tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com</a>
Peggy Lamb	207 622-5174 (h)	<a href="mailto:plambflowers@outlook.com">plambflowers@outlook.com</a>

**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 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 Michael Conley at 207-248-7948 or at [estherpearl67@gmail.com](mailto:estherpearl67@gmail.com).

## **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)