

Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church
Wednesday, August 25, 2021

Upcoming Services

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| <p>THIS Sunday</p> <p>August 29, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UUCC Zoom room</p> | <p><u>Every Blessing</u> Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister</p> <p>Chloe will reflect on a favorite hymn "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing." Learn about the history of the hymn and the hope found in the Unitarian Universalist verses.</p> <p>Sara Hodgkins will serve as our worship associate. Stefanie Barley will be our pianist</p> <p><u>PLEASE NOTE:</u> The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York Pennsylvania will be joining us for this virtual service. Let us all welcome them into our space.</p> |
| <p>NEXT Sunday</p> <p>September 5, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UUCC Zoom room</p> | <p><u>Bread and roses, Too</u> Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister</p> <p>Happy Labor Day! Labor day marks the end of summer for most Americans. It also honors the contributions of American workers. Chloe will reflect on the holiday and what our sources say about work.</p> <p>Our worship associate will be Marilyn Gordon. Our pianist will be Stefanie Barley</p> |

All worship services AND virtual events (unless noted) are held in the UUCC ZOOM ROOM

Other ways to UUCC Zoom Room 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.

**Did you miss last Sunday's worship service "Slowing Down"
with Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister?**

Watch the service by clicking the link below and enter the passcode as requested.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-
oSBNKiIqRSmFe290IZPvoD76UwyZnwSsI9t-
voIS80iujq7VwWbDO81vkOuInW8.VIXzFKJJpcftb6Mu](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/-oSBNKiIqRSmFe290IZPvoD76UwyZnwSsI9t-voIS80iujq7VwWbDO81vkOuInW8.VIXzFKJJpcftb6Mu)

Passcode: O^kV53?C

Connections

Goddess/Earth Circles, Sunday August 29

1-2:00pm via UUCC zoom

Join us to consider rituals we use as we hold the women of Afghanistan in our thoughts.

SEASONED SOULS – Will now meet in the UUCC Yard

Starting today, Wednesday, Aug 25, Seasoned Souls began meeting in the church yard. The group will continue to meet in the church yard as long as the weather cooperates. When the weather is not so good, the group will meet via Zoom - Meeting ID 823 807 0673. If the meeting will be switched to Zom, an email will be sent by 8:00 a.m. the morning of the meeting,. The message will be sent by John Seksay, Diane Moongrove or Catherine Palmer.




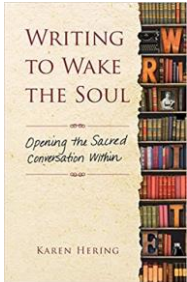
Seasoned Souls is a group of older church members that meet as a study/support group to talk openly about topics related to the aging process. Seasoned Souls is open to any church member over 65 years of age.

Dates: 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month

Time: 10:30 a.m. until noon

For more information please contact Diane (dmoongrove@gmail.com or 446-6162) or Stefanie (stefbarley@gmail.com or 629-8890)

Weekly Events

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| <p><u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> | <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u> 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 martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> |
| <p><u>Wednesdays</u> <u>Each Week</u> <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u></p> | <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Gentle YOGA 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:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click link below to join. https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09 Password 174192 - FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com</p> |
| <p><u>Thursdays</u> <u>Each Week</u> <u>8:00 – 9:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p> | <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u></p> <p>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 martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</p> |
| <p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Thursday</u> <u>9:00 – 10:30</u> <u>a.m.</u></p> | <p><i>Writing to Wake the Soul</i> We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month - 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <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 ogin/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> </div> </div> |

ALL church events and meetings are reflected on the UUCU 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 and friends of Helen McKendry

We have just been informed that Helen McKendry passed away this morning at home.

More information will be relayed as it becomes available.

Cards of condolences would be welcomed at: P.O. Box 264, Manchester, ME 04351

A HOLIDAY FAIR IS COMING TO A PLACE NEAR YOU



(and here's how you can help!)

Once again this year, our annual Holiday Fair will take place with modifications due to the pandemic. We will be producing a fair catalog in October that will be distributed in early November. You'll be able to order items for pickup on the first Saturday in December.

And here's what you can do now Create handmade items to donate. We are looking for things like stitchery items, ornaments, wall hangings, knitted items, greeting cards, and other things you enjoy making.

Please label items with your name and any relevant information, then drop off either to the church office or home of Nancy Fritz no later than October 15. Your donations will be photographed and included in the catalog.

Please watch for additional fair information each week in the e-mail blast. You can contact either of us with questions.

Nancy Fritz and Martha Naber
Holiday Fair Co-Chairs

Board of Trustees

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS - August 2021

At its August 12, meeting, the Board:

- Heard from the treasurer that the updated figure for income from fy 20-21 is \$256,625 giving us a carryover for this year of \$24,463. The new payroll service is working smoothly.
- Heard from Rev. Claire Curole about her role as Community Minister with UUCU.
- Passed a motion to create a work group to make recommendations to the Board by February for upgrading the church technology and communication systems.
- Approved the reopening policy presented by the Covid team after discussion and some revision.

The next meeting of the Board will be SEPTEMBER 9, at 5:00.

Update from COVID-19 Advisory Group

The plan for reopening UUC for in-person, indoor gatherings approved by the Board on August 12, 2021 depends on the COVID-19 pandemic being under control in our state and county. The Delta variant of the virus (now widely circulating in Maine) is primarily affecting unvaccinated individuals, but some fully vaccinated folks are being infected and a few are getting very sick despite immunization.

The Board adopted a Maine CDC metric that measures “community (person to person) transmission” of the virus. We are closely monitoring this metric for both our county and the entire state (since the virus does not pay attention to county lines on the map). We sought expert advice from an infectious disease specialist and have set an upper safe limit of 10 new cases of COVID-19 per 10,000 people based upon the 14 day average. *If either county or state are over 10, it is not safe for us to reopen.* This data is published by the Maine CDC every Thursday morning (see below for how to access this information for yourself).

The most recent Maine CDC data:

- Published on August 19, 2021
 - 14 day average
 - Kennebec County 9.57
 - State 16.98

**** This means that there is currently too much COVID-19 activity for us to safely reopen. ****

To access the Maine CDC data on your computer:

1. Search for “Maine CDC data” in browser
2. Open COVID-19: Maine Data| Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID ...
3. Scroll all the way down to the heading “View Tables of Data for the Previous 14 and 28 days” and click on that heading
4. Click on Download Data for the Previous 14 and 28 Days (PDF)
5. We are using the 14 day “Case Data” (middle 4 columns) “Rate per 10,000” for Kennebec County and the total for the State.

Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don on COVID-19 FDA Approves COVID Vaccine

The Food and Drug Administration on Monday granted full approval to Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine for people 16 and up, making it the first to move beyond emergency use status in the US. The Pfizer vaccine will continue to be authorized for emergency use for children ages 12 to 15 while Pfizer collects the necessary data required for further approval. A decision on whether to authorize the vaccine for children younger than 12 could be at least several months away.

“The public can be very confident that this vaccine meets the high standards for safety, effectiveness and manufacturing quality the FDA requires of an approved product,” said acting FDA Commissioner Janet Woodcock. “While millions of people have already safely received Covid-19 vaccines, we recognize that for some, the F.D.A. approval of a vaccine may now instill additional confidence to get vaccinated,” she added. The approval process has taken over three months.

Dr. Peter Marks, the F.D.A.'s top vaccine regulator, said that the Pfizer vaccine's licensure followed a rigorous review of hundreds of thousands of pages of data and included inspections of the factories where the vaccine is produced. "The public and medical community can be confident that although we approved this vaccine expeditiously, it was fully in keeping with our existing high standards for vaccines in the U.S.," he said.

The next major decision looming for regulators is whether or not to authorize booster shots. The Biden administration said last week that pending the agency's clearance, starting Sept. 20 it will offer booster shots to adults eight months after their second injection of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.

Federal health officials said that both Pfizer and Moderna's vaccines, which rely on similar technology, wane in potency over time. That trend, they said, is converging with the rise of the dangerous Delta variant, making those who completed their vaccinations at the start of the year increasingly vulnerable to infection.

Some health experts have challenged the decision to recommend booster shots as premature, saying the data shows that the vaccines are holding up well against severe disease and hospitalization, including against the Delta variant. They added boosters would only be warranted if the vaccines were failing to prevent hospitalizations with Covid-19.

Regulators are still reviewing Moderna's application for full approval of its vaccine. That decision could take several weeks. Johnson & Johnson is expected to apply soon for full approval.

Send your questions, comments or suggestions to naber@zwi.net

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.

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| Betty Cairn, RN | StonehengeMaine@yahoo.com | 207-215-6394 |
| Terry Lee Cairn, ND, MSOM, Lac. | tlcnaturalhealth@yahoo.com | 207-557-2557 |
| Harry Grimmnitz, MD | hgrimmnitz@gmail.com | 207-685-9270 |
| Don Naber, Ed.D | naber@zwi.net | 207-887-1104 |
| Cathie Nielsen, MD | cathieenielsen@gmail.com | 207-441-0248 |
| Marty Soule, PA-C | martysoule@gmail.com | 207-685-9270 |

UCC 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.

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| Martha Pelletier, Chair | 207-685-9592 (H) | Mjpell14@roadrunner.com |
| Helen Zidowecki | 207-582-5308 (h) | hzmre@hzmre.com |
| Tracy McNaughton | 207-623-3110 (h) | tracy.mcnaughton@yahoo.com |
| Peggy Lamb | 207 622-5174 (h) | plambflowers@outlook.com |

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 or 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 Michael Conley at 207-248-7948 or at estherpearl67@gmail.com.

UUCC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

UUCC Office Hours

Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday
8:00 am to 1:00 pm. <plus 7 flex hrs >

Church Administrator: Lynn M. Smith,
admin@augustauu.org or 622-3232

Interim Minister, Chloë Briedé

Email: chloeucc@gmail.com

Office: (207) 623-3663

For pastoral emergencies please call her cell phone (757) 234-1303. She will return your call as soon as possible.

Minister Briede's office hours:

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| Monday | No office hours |
| Tuesday | Noon – 4:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday | Noon – 4:00 p.m. |
| Thursday | Noon – 4:00 p.m. |
| Friday | No office hours |

<Other hours available by appointment>

Staff Contact information:

Church Administrator, Lynn M. Smith, admin@augustauu.org, Phone 622-3232

Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation, Monique McAuliffe, LifespanFF@augustauu.org

Music Director, Bridget Convey, musicdirector@augustauu.org