



Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Upcoming Services

<p>THIS Sunday</p> <p>November 14, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	 <p>"Recovenanting in a New World: We Were, We Are, and We Can Be." Small Group Ministry</p> <p>Small Group Ministry has been a vital part of the spiritual life of the UCC for over two decades. Once a year, the Small Group Committee hosts a service in the fall which brings together all our groups in a special way. We hope you join us for this year's service. Marilyn Gordon will serve as Worship Associate, Stefanie Barley will be our pianist and the choir will share a video of the "Sacred Circle".</p> <p>As we slowly emerge from the pandemic, many of the societal norms that we took for granted have been frayed, if not shredded, completely. This stress has caused our groups to interact with each other in unique ways, searching for spiritual and interpersonal equilibrium in this challenging era.</p> <p>Immediately following the service, please join us for a real SGM session, too! See for yourself what SGM is all about, and consider becoming a member of an existing group (we have a number of both daytime and evening opportunities) or even form your own group!</p>
<p>NEXT Sunday</p> <p>November 21, 2021 10:00 a.m. via Zoom</p> <p>UCC Zoom room</p>	<p><u>"Gathered at the Table"</u> Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister</p> <p>This holiday season many of us will gather, both virtual and in-person, with family, friends, and our church community. Practices of forgiveness, compassion, and generosity can help us come together.</p> <p>This service will be the beginning of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee's Guest at Your Table program.</p>  <p>After the service, you are invited to a pumpkin bread and cider social from 1-3pm at Mill Park.</p> <p>Our worship associates will be Susan Burnett and Monique Bergere McAuliffe. Our pianist will be Karen Foust.</p>

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

Other ways to UCC 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.**

UCC 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 “Welcome All You Saints”

Chloë Briedé, UCC Interim Minister

Watch the service by clicking the following link:

[Link to 11/7 "Why History?" service](#)

A Message from the Minister

UCC has been busy. I want to extend a special thank you to all the folks who helped with the leaf raking. The yard behind Judd House looks fantastic! I also want to thank the elves who worked tirelessly to put the UCC Winter Wonderland Fair together. I have really enjoyed going through the catalog and admiring all your hand-made crafts. There is so much great talent present in our congregation.

If you missed the service last week, I touched on why we are studying our history and how we might find patterns of behavior or belief when we do that. One pattern is how we deal with conflict. I have found the Five Conflict Styles helpful in identifying my habits and those of others. I hope you will take some time to learn about it. [Here is a good YouTube video](#) explaining them. I especially like the presenter uses animals to explain the conflict styles clearly and succinctly. Are you the accommodating bear, the avoiding turtle, the collaborating owl, competing shark, or compromising fox? Does one type feel natural to you, and is there one you have grown into as you have aged? For me, I grew up the avoiding turtle and have grown into the collaborating owl. This growth has been both challenging and promising.

I pray as we work through this transition together that we will notice our patterns. One of my favorite hymns is “Dear Weaver of Our Lives’ Design.” The hymn ends with these words “discern in us our richest hues, show us the patterns we may use to set our spirits free.” Lovely words! May we find the patterns we may use to set our spirits free!

This week I won’t be in the pulpit. I will be joining you on zoom to enjoy the lovely service planned and presented by our Small Group Ministry program. As always, you are invited to reach out to me for any reason. I am available for a conversation by appointment. As an interim, I am especially interested in getting to know individual members and hearing your thoughts. Additionally, I am available for pastoral care conversations on a range of topics.

With blessings on your week,
Chloe, Interim Minister
chloeucc@gmail.com
207-623-3663

Connections

November 20th is Transgender Day of Awareness

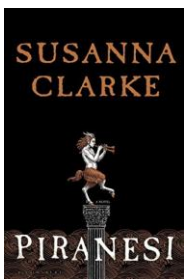
We have been invited to join Green Street United Methodist Church (13 Green St., Augusta) on Zoom on **November 20th at 6pm** to remember all who were tragically lost to anti-transgender violence.

The Zoom link to join is: [Green St. UMC Zoom link](#)

For more information about the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance, please visit GLAAD: <https://www.glaad.org/tdor>



A look ahead – READ. SHARE. LEARN for DECEMBER


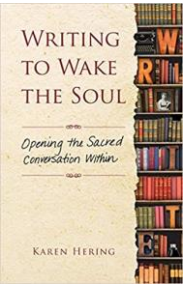
We will meet in the UUCG zoom room on Thursday December 2, 2021 to discuss Piranesi. We begin at noon and end at 1:30. Anyone who is interested in this book is welcome to join us whether or not you have attended before. For more information about this or any meeting of the group, contact June Zellers at jzellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com We would love to have you join us!



'Clarke's power certainly extends beyond mere suspense, but her story relies on the steady accretion of apprehension that finally gives way to a base-shifting revelation.' Washington Post

Weekly Events

<u>Monday</u> <u>Each week</u> <u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u>	 <u>Peaceful Heart Sangha</u> You may join us at 6:15 to settle in. The login and password information has changed. Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at email martysoule@gmail.com . FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com
<u>Wednesdays</u> <u>Each Week</u> <u>5:00 – 6:00</u> <u>p.m.</u>	Gentle YOGA Hosted by Debbie Mattson 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>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>	<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>Wednesday</u></p> <p><u>10:30 a.m. - Noon</u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Seasoned Souls</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p>We will meet in the yard behind the Judd house. 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 Zoom, 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.</p> <p>The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. until noon. FMI: , please contact Diane (dmoongrove@gmail.com or 446-6162) or Stefanie (stefbarley@gmail.com or 629-8890)</p>
<p><u>2nd & 4th</u> <u>Thursday</u></p> <p><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. in the UCC Zoom Room</p>  <p>This is an open group and if you would like to participate in this event Join using: Meeting ID: 823 807 0673, Password: 6971</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>

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 Mary Shifman

We are sorry to share a note from Mary Shifman. Her partner, Dennis Owen Caissie, died on Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021, unexpectedly at home in Jefferson. A memorial service will be held at a later date and time to be announced.

Condolences may be sent to Mary at 207-549-7719, 343 Sennett Road, Jefferson, ME 04348.

We have TWO upcoming fundraisers:

The Pie Sale and the Holiday Fair. (Notices below...)

Visit our website at www.augustauu.org to find the *Holiday Fair Catalog*. Scroll down past [News and Events] to [Upcoming Events].

The Annual Pie Sale is BACK!!

Here are the pies promised so far:

Jane Gilbert, two pecan
Hannah Faulkner, one apple
Chloe Briede, two sweet potato
Catherine Palmer, one blueberry

WE NEED MANY MORE PIES! (In 2019, we had 45 pies!)



The UGCC Pie Sale will be held at Longfellow's Greenhouse on Nov. 20. Bring your fresh or frozen pies to the church (Summer St. entrance) by no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19. Or, bring your pie donation directly to Longfellow's Greenhouse, (81 Puddleduck Road, Manchester) no later than 9 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 20, which is the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

Masks are required!

Letting us know your pie decision by email or telephone call will help us prepare gift boxes. Thank you!

~Catherine Palmer, Hannah Faulkner and Kathy Ann Shaw.

~Catherine Palmer, Hannah Faulkner and Kathy Ann Shaw.

In 2019, Kathy Ann Shaw welcomed customers to the Longfellow's Greenhouse's UGCC Annual Fresh (and frozen) Pie Sale.

The 2021 UUCC FAIR COMETH!!

Below is the link to find the catalog for the Winter Wonderland Fair 2021 — 69 pages of wonderful items for you, for loved ones, for gift giving. Share this link with MANY so lots get to see the wonderful items available for sale to support the mission and work of UUCC.

Nancy Fritz will begin taking orders on November 4, 2021, no earlier than 8:00 AM! If previous experience is repeated many items sell quickly so enjoy browsing the catalog and make that call to Nancy.

Payment for your purchases and distribution of items will be on Dec. 4 at the church from 10 AM to Noon. If you have further questions, please call Nancy Fritz or Martha Naber.

Click here for the link to the →→→ [UUCC Winter Wonderland Catalog 2021](#)

An Invitation from our Lifespan Faith Formation Coordinator Monique McAuliffe



Hello All: Below are 3 New Virtual Workshops being offered, come and learn with me! Each workshop will be offered 2 different days for more opportunity to participate.

Beloved Community: **November 16, Tuesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm – OR –
November 19, Friday 10:30am - 11:30am**

Beloved Community is not just a UU vision but a global vision in which all people can share in the wealth of the earth; Love and trust will triumph over fear and hatred. Peace and justice will prevail over war and military conflict. Come learn more about this vision and practice!

Community of Communities: **December 14, Tuesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm – OR –
December 17, Friday 10:30am - 11:30 am.**

Community of Communities is about Building a Culture of Inclusion. A church based community that recognizes multiple paths to a larger congregation, and these paths are not siloed but supported by each other and work together to fulfill the church mission. The communities within the church community must be seen for their gifts that they bring and resourced to thrive. Come and learn more with me about this shift of how we look at our congregations and what it could mean for building Beloved Community!

The 8th Principle: **January 18, Tuesday 5:30pm - 6:30pm – OR –
January 21, Friday 10:30am - 11:30am**

The introduction of the UU 8th Principle came from a feeling that we need something to renew our commitment to racial justice work, to hold ourselves accountable and to fulfill our potential of our existing principles. Come learn more about the 8th principle!

Sign up today for one/two or all of the workshops:
Lifespanff@augustauu.org or call me 207-242-6415

I look forward to hearing from you, Monique McAuliffe Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation

Soul Matters Packet – We would like your comments

The November Soul Matters Packet was sent out with the Nov. 3rd E-Blast. As noted in The Flaming Chalice newsletter that was sent out last week, we would like your comments on the monthly Soul Matters Packets.

Your thoughts on the following questions can be sent to Minister Chloe (chloeucc@gmail.com) or Helen Zid-owecki (hzmre@hzmre.com). Thanks.

1. Are the packets helpful in connecting you with the theme of the month?
2. How and when have you used the Packets?
3. What suggestions do you have regarding the packets?

The November Soul Matters Packet on Holding History includes some Tidbits of UUCU history. We hope you will read those. We are adding Tidbits to the E-Blasts for November. Below is our first historical tidbit.

Tidbit: For 30 years, we met twice on Sunday mornings. Then we had to “meet” by being present visually or by phone. We could see each other and a listing of who was there. There were new visuals, new resources, leaders who were close or maybe miles away. We are waiting to see when, if, and how we might “meet” again in person. What were we doing that needed to change so drastically? What difference did these settings make to you?

**** The answers to the all of the Tidbits will be noted toward the end of November. ****



CALLING ALL SINGERS and INSTRUMENTALISTS!

We have another exciting music video in the works for Music Sunday 12/5. We are inviting the entire congregation to participate, all are welcome! **DEADLINE is Monday 11/22.**

We will be creating a collaborative music video featuring the hymn "In the Bleak Midwinter". Below is the link to the shared Google drive folder, which contains everything you will need.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KpMv1NW10x9Qd9gPY6t214B0KKW2QuQK?usp=sharing>

If you need specific sheet music for your instrument (flute, clarinet, violin, etc.) please contact: dmccormick11@aol.com. Many thanks to Karen Allen for creating all of these files and documents for us!

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

You can also reach out to Dale McCormick: dmccormick11@aol.com or Karen Allen at kwallen@gwi.net.

Have fun!!!

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Bridget Convey (she/her)

"Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything" - Plato

Board of Trustees



Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta

Board Meeting

A G E N D A

November 11, 2021

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/8238070673>, then enter passcode: 6971

Join by phone: dial 1 646 558 8656, at first prompt (meeting id: 823 807 0673#)

Chalice Lighting

Words to Inspire: Terry

Check in

REPORTS

1. Clerk's Report: Karen / **VOTE**
2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
3. Finance Committee's Report: Catherine (CP)
4. COVID-19 Advisory Group's Report: Terry

5. President's Report: Kathy

6. Minister's Report: Chloë

NEW BUSINESS

- Follow up to October's Retreat: All
- The State of the Church: Chloë and Kathy
 - Where do you think the church is?
 - What questions do you have for the current state of the church?

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact Kathy Ann Shaw at kathyannshaw@roadrunner.com.

Next Board meeting: December 9, 2021

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 Board adopted a Maine CDC metric that measures "community (person to person) transmission" of the virus. **The necessary CDC metric for us to reopen is no more than 10 new cases per 10,000 people in Kennebec County or the State of Maine.**

The most recent Maine CDC data: Published on November 4, 2021

<u>14 day average</u>	<u>Oct. 14</u>	<u>Oct 21</u>	<u>Oct 28</u>	<u>Nov 4</u>
Kennebec County	61.49	46.93	49.06	53.96
State	49.71	44.46	47.70	49.63

The present CDC metric data indicates that it is still unsafe for us to safely reopen.

If you would like to check 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 ‘We're going in the wrong direction'

Data released this past week has shown that New Hampshire and Vermont are the first and third ranking states in the country for the largest number of average daily new cases per 100,000 people. Although Maine is further back in the statistical pack, the highest daily new case totals, intensive care bed utilization and ventilator use are occurring right now. The graphs of these numbers confirm this, showing a wider, taller curve larger than those of the previous year and a half. As we enter the season of cold weather when we get together in close proximity with each other, I am concerned.

On July 25 of this past summer Dr. Anthony Fauci said that the US is "going in the wrong direction" as the number of Covid-19 cases continued to rise. "So it really is, as (US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) Dr. (Rochelle) Walensky has said many times and I have said, it is really a pandemic among the unvaccinated, so this is an issue predominantly among the unvaccinated, which is the reason why we're out there, practically pleading with the unvaccinated people to go out and get vaccinated," he said.

The vaccines have proved so powerful, and the partisan attitudes toward them so different, that a gap in COVID's toll has quickly emerged and grown faster over the past month in Maine than at any previous point. This situation is a tragedy, in which irrational fears about vaccine side effects have overwhelmed rational fears about a deadly virus. It stems from disinformation promoted by right-wing media, and extremely well paid commentators who prey on public distrust created by other professional outrage creators. Science and Medicine are complex, changing, often not easily understood, slow to develop and not perfect, all characteristics being utilized to sow this distrust and disinformation.

The future of COVID is uncertain, but I have hope. I hope the partisan gap in COVID cases and deaths has reached its peak. As reported by the New York Times last week there are two main reasons to expect the gap may soon shrink. One, the new antiviral medications from Pfizer and Merck seem likely to reduce serious COVID and deaths everywhere, and especially where they are most common. Hopefully these treatments, along with the vaccines, may eventually turn this coronavirus into just another manageable virus. Two, hopefully conservative America is building up natural immunity to COVID from prior infections due to the hostility to vaccination and social distancing allowing the virus to spread more widely. A buildup in natural immunity may be one reason that the partisan gap in new COVID cases has shrunk in other parts of the country recently.

Nobody knows what will happen next. The declines in caseloads elsewhere is mysterious, which means it may not last. Also it is clear the immunity from vaccination appears to be much stronger than the immunity from infection, meaning that those vaccine hesitant conservative Americans will probably continue to suffer an out-sized amount of unnecessary illness and death.

Send your questions, comments or suggestions to naber@gwi.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.

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@gwi.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.

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.

UCC 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 es-therpearl67@gmail.com.

UCC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK

UCC 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: chloeuucc@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:

Monday No office hours - Sabbath

Tuesday Noon – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday Noon – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday Noon – 4:00 p.m. <Other hours available by appointment>
Friday No office hours – Writing day

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