# Weekly E-Blast

Unitarian Universalist Community Church Wednesday, June 8, 2022





www.augustauu.org

# A Message from the Minister

Happy Pride! Are you celebrating pride this month? Perhaps locally or even going to Portland on June 18th? My favorite pride event is the Dyke March. It usually takes place the day before or after Pride and is more of a protest march than a celebration. It embodies the original Pride ethos of fighting for rights rather than partying. Dyke March was initially founded as a protest itself. Lesbians became disenchanted with Pride's male domination and corporatization and started their own march. To this day, the Dyke March has a homegrown, grungy vibe that doesn't exist at most modern Pride celebrations. For me, I feel at home at the Dyke March.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Annual Meeting. It was great to have so many people involved in decision-making. I felt gratitude for those who served us this last year. It was a challenging year, especially as we weighed decisions around the pandemic and community finances. I also found it inspiring to see people step up for new roles. Although I am taking my leave from the UUCC soon, I know you all are in good hands with your leaders.

As always, you are invited to reach out to me for any reason. I am available for a conversation by appointment. I hope I get a chance to say goodbye to each of you.

Blessings and sparkles, Chloe Briede, Interim Minister chloeuucc@gmail.com 207-623-3663

## **Upcoming Services**

### Worship Theme for June - Celebrating Blessings

Join us as we explore the challenges and adventures of Celebrating Blessings.

THIS Sunday	"Flower Communion"
June 12, 2022	Chloë Briedé, UUCC Interim Minister
10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.	Flower Communion celebrates beauty, human uniqueness, diversity, and community. Join us in this beloved UU ritual that signifies our theology of centering both the individual's and the community's search for truth and meaning.
	In this annual multigenerational service the symbolism of flowers high- lights the individuality amid the collective of this community. <u>The service</u> <u>includes the practice of bringing a flower from your home garden to the</u> <u>service</u> . The choir will sing their final song for the church year.
	Worship associate- Marilyn Gordon, Choir & Bridget Convey, Pianist- Karen Foust, Wisdom Story- Monique Bergere.
	<b><u>AFTER THE SERVICE</u></b> , join us for coffee fellowship and CAKE to celebrate Don and Martha Naber's 50 <sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.
NEXT Sunday	"Juneteenth "
June 19, 2022 10:00 a.m. Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.	Juneteenth celebrates the emancipation of enslaved African-Americans. This Sunday we will hear about the history of Juneteenth and consider its implications for the future. Chloe will share a wisdom story and a reflec- tion.
10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON Ingathering music to begin at 9:50 a.m.	Worship Associate Sara Hodgkins, Pianist Karen Allen
	A special thank you to everyone who is participating. Sara Hodgkins will serve as our worship associate. Karen Allen will be our pianist.

<u>Sunday worship service</u> is now being held IN-PERSON in the Sanctuary. Our services are no longer accessible by Zoom

If you want to watch the livestream of the service, please visit: https://boxcast.tv/channel/mtifpthOutvesjqgjyej

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

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# **Special Events / Opportunities**

# <u>Events</u> are still being held in the UUCC Zoom Room (unless noted).

**<u>Click here to join Events in the Zoom Room</u>:** 

For other ways to join Zoom, see General Information





Volunteers needed for three-hour shifts to help stain 2 sides of the church exterior on Friday June 10th and  $11^{th}$ 

Building and Grounds need volunteers. The summer St and Winthrop St sides of our church are very faded. After the staining, we will rehang the large chalices, repaint the church sign, and plant flowers but staining comes first.

The project is planned for Friday, June 10<sup>th,</sup> and Saturday the 11th.

We will work from 9 to noon, lunch from noon to 12:30, and the afternoon

shift is 12:30 to 3:30, and from 3:30 to 4 is clean up. You can stain the low stuff standing on the ground if you are not comfortable with ladders.

Please sign up for a shift by emailing me- Marilyn Dunn (maine2007@hotmail or 207-344-4980 cell). Let me know the day and shift you are willing to work.

# Read Learn Share Book Group

### **CONSIDER JOINING US**

The BOOK GROUP is planning for next year. We welcome anyone to join in the process. Feel free to suggest titles for the ballot or request a ballot and get your votes in. We would love to have you join us every month. It is completely fine to attend only the sessions that appeal to you.

Since we alternate between fiction and non-fiction you can suggest either. Voting is by ranked choice with the HIGHEST number indicating your first choice.

The deadline for suggesting titles, author(s), number of pages whether it is fiction or non-fiction is FRIDAY JUNE 24 at NOON. We prefer books that are available through interlibrary loan so there is no need to buy books. Feel free to add a brief description or a link to a review. You are on your own beyond that to research the titles and make your decisions.

The ballot with complete instructions will be emailed on JUNE 24.

The deadline for voting is FRIDAY JULY 8 by the end of the day,

JUNE ZELLERS will be collecting the suggestions and preparing the ballot. Please email her at <u>jzellers@roadrunner.com</u> to let her know how you would like to participate or with any questions.

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Interested in joining other UU's at the Pride March in Portland? Here are the details:

### March with MUUSAN in Pride Portland! -- Saturday, June 18th, 2022

after a 10:00 am Interfaith Pride service at First Parish in Portland, UU, 425 Congress St!

Each year MUUSAN pays the registration fee for the Pride Portland! parade and invites all Maine UU congregations to bring their congregational banner and march as a group.

> PLEASE NOTE: A congregational presence is not required. All UUs are welcome to march as part of MUUSAN.

### The schedule is as follows:

• 10:00 Interfaith Service at First Parish in Portland, UU. Please wear masks inside the building.

• 11:15 UUs gather on the front steps of First Parish before moving to our spot in the parade.

• 11:30 Marchers begin lining up at an assigned location near Monument Square.

• 1:00 Parade starts in Monument Square and ends about 45 minutes later in Deering Oaks Park, where the PRIDE Festival runs until 5:00 pm.

First Parish in Portland, UU will be open for us to use the bathrooms and rest.

Wear a YELLOW SHIRT if possible.

Congregational banners, loving signs, and rainbow flags are encouraged.

Please let us know (admin@muusan.org) if your congregation will be attending, and we will share additional plans and info with you as it becomes available!

To find other



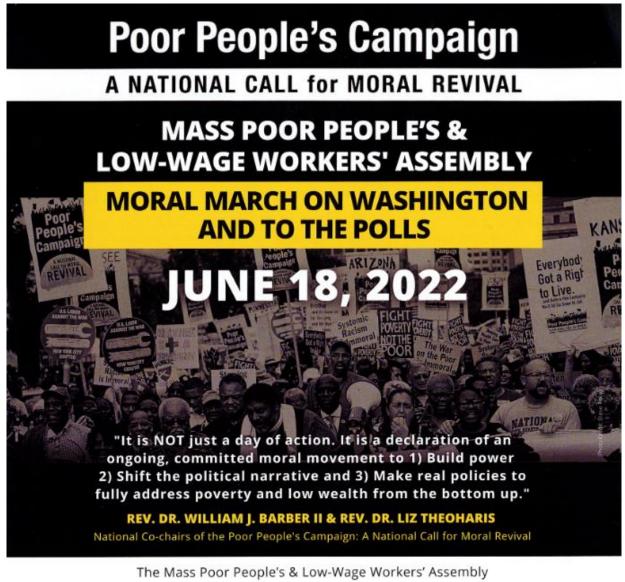
events, please visit

the Google Maine Pride Calendar for 2022 at the following link:

https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=maine%20pride%20calendar%202022&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiw6Lmy5Zz4AhXHUjABHcksA4cQ6LwDCLUD&sxsrf=ALiCzsZKDtXQEuf1toM6X9myjIYvgMqrFQ:1654654771668

### **Interested in joining the Poor People's Campaign?**

Fliers will be in the Fellowship Hall. Participation is possible in this trip to Washington by bus, regardless of any financial hardship. If you would like to participate, just contact the group at the link noted below



and Moral March on Washington will be a generationally transformative and disruptive gathering of poor and low-wealth people, state leaders, faith communities, moral allies, unions and partnering organizations.

### JUNE 18TH- 9AM GATHERING, 10AM START LOCATION: 3RD AND PENNSYLVANIA AVE., WASHINGTON DC

REPAIRERS



Find out more and RSVP at POORPEOPLESCAMPAIGN.ORG/JUNE18

# **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. <u>https://www.augustauu.org/calendar-and-communications/</u>

	I
<mark>Monday</mark> Each week	Peaceful Heart Sangha   You may join us at 6:15 to settle in.
<u>6:30 – 8:00</u> <u>p.m.</u>	Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at email <u>martysoule@gmail.com</u> . FMI: <u>peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com</u>
Wednesdays Each Week 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	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. Click the link below to join.   https://maine.zoom.us/j/95825651125?pwd=UWJpOVFjVFJGb3dMWmZoOTRXa3VoUT09   Password 174192 - FMI: DebbieMattson@hotmail.com
2nd & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday <u>10:30 a.m</u> <u>Noon</u>	<u>Seasoned Souls</u> 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. We will meet in the UUCC Zoom Room. FMI: please contact Diane ( <u>dmoongrove@gmail.com</u> or 446-6162) or Stefanie ( <u>stefbarley@gmail.com</u> or 629-8890)
Thursdays     Each Week     8:00 – 9:30     a.m.	Peaceful Heart Sangha   You may join us at 7:45 a.m. to settle in. Meet from 8-9:30   Please contact Marty Soule for updated login information at martysoule@gmail.com. FMI: peacefulheartsangha@gmail.com
2nd & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday By Zoom 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Writing to Wake the SoulThis 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. We meet in the UUCC Zoom Room.

	- More Connections by Day of the Week -
<u>1<sup>st</sup></u> <u>Thursday</u> <u>Noon-1:30</u> <u>p.m.</u>	Read, Learn, Share   Our final meeting of this year was June 2 <sup>nd</sup> in the UUCC zoom room from Noon – 1:30 We discussed Beneficence, A Family, A Farm, An Unshakable Feeling by Meredith Hall, 296 pgs. (Fiction)   Please see Invitations above for details on how to participate in
<u>Next Meeting</u> will be in Oct. <u>2022</u>	selecting next year's book selections. There are some deadlines so please take a look and join us.
<u>4<sup>th</sup> Friday</u> <u>6:30 – 8:30</u> <u>Sanctuary</u> Next Meeting is June 24	Free Style Drum CircleThe Augusta Community Drum Circle is a free style drum circle welcoming people of allages, walks of life, and abilities. Free style means no one is assigned 'pieces' to play. Justplay! Or don't play! Just come watch, sing, dance, or bring your own instruments. No onecares if you've never played before or if you make a mistake. As long as you are having funyou can't get it wrong! ALL are welcome.Event is FREE, No RSVP, just come!The Drum Circle meets the fourth Friday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Formore information you can contact Mike Moody at <a href="mtmoods@gmail.com">mtmoods@gmail.com</a> or 229-1118.
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday <u>1-2:30 p.m.</u> <u>In-person w/</u> <u>Zoom backup</u> Next Meeting is June 26	Goddess / Earth Circles   Goddess / Earth Circles   Goddess / Earth Circles, June 26, 1-2:30pm In-Church Meeting Room / Zoom Backup   Summer Connections, and continuing with Wicca: Magic, Ethics and Morality   Leader for Wicca series is Mary Shifman (213-9760, <a href="mailto:shifmanmary@gmail.com">shifmanmary@gmail.com</a> ).   Resource: A Beginners Guide to the Wiccan Religion:   https://wiccaliving.com/what-is-wicca   Goddess/Earth Circles focuses on Goddess, women's lives and earth-based spirituality. All   ages and genders welcome. Contact: Helen Zidowecki (582-5308,   https://mic.com   https://wiccaliving.com/what-is-wicca

# Notices / Updates / News

# Our Church Admin will be on vacation next week

Our Church Administrator will be on vacation NEXT WEEK – June 13 through June 17<sup>th</sup>

The office will be CLOSED for the week. Please be patient and allow time for the Admin to get to your email and/or schedule your event or group meeting when she is back in the office.

# Newsletter articles for the July edition of the Flaming Chalice newsletter

### are due by June 21, 2022.

Please submit your articles to <u>newsletter@augustauu.org</u>.



# Board of Trustees



Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Augusta \*\*DRAFT\*\* Board Meeting A G E N D A June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - 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: Kathy Check in

#### REPORTS

- 1. Clerk's Report: Karen / VOTE
- 2. Treasurer's Report: Martha
- 3. Finance Committee's Report: Harry
- 4. COVID-19 Task Force's Report: Terry and Harry
  - a. Revised Reopening Plan / VOTE
- 5. President's Report: Kathy

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A. Welcome to New Board Members:

- i. Michaela
- ii. Susan
- iii. Nancy
- iv. Catherine
- v. Hal
- 6. Goodbye and Bon Voyage: June 19th
- 7. Minister's Report: Chloë

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Follow up to Annual Meeting
  - o Discussion of Interim Search Situation

#### ADJOURN

B Goodbye to Outgoing Board Member:

- I. Martha
- II. Kevin
- III. Karen
- IV. Allison

Rental of Office in Judd House / **VOTE** Chloe's Evaluation

Board meetings are open to ALL. If you have an item that you would like the Board to consider, please contact: Michaela Loisel at <u>micaelatloisel@gmail.com</u>.

Next Board meeting: August 11, 2022

### --- BOARD HIGHLIGHTS ---

At the prior Board meeting on May 12, the Board:

- Received the Treasurer's update on the current finances for this church year
- Discussed the status of the Stewardship Campaign and made a follow-up plan
- Explored continuing to rent out an office space in Judd House and deferred the decision
- Discussed options if the Kennebec County Covid-19 designation goes red
- Heard updates from the Leadership Development Team
- Received the Minister's Report
- Agreed to ask Nancy Fritz to moderate the Annual Meeting
- Accepted the fy 22-23 budget as presented by the Finance Committee
- Developed a plan to inform the congregation about aspects of the new budget before the Annual Meeting

### Complete minutes of the 5/12 Board meeting is available from the UUCC website (www.augustauu.org).

at the following link

https://www.augustauu.org/minister-staff-and-church-life/church-governance/board-of-trustees

## **COVID-19 Updates / News**

### **COVID-19 Advisory Group UPDATE**

As of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, hospitalizations, cases & wastewater data are all improved in Kennebec county AND...

we are now GREEN per the federal CDC.

This is good news indeed!

### Dr. Don on Covid-19

Dr. Don On COVID-19 Singing and Wind Instrument COVID Spread (A Reader Request)

New studies have found that the louder a person sings or talks, the more particles are spewed into the air, and that more particles are released by men than women, and by adults than children. Additional studies have confirmed that wind instruments should be considered likely to spread COVID but less than loud singing.

Fears that airborne transmission of COVID-19 could pose a risk to performers and audience members severely curtailed live performances in the early stages of the pandemic, so researchers decided to assess the levels of aerosols (tiny airborne particles less than 100 microns in size) emitted by singers, actors and musicians who play wind instruments. The following is a very brief synopsis of findings from late last year to a wind instrument study released two weeks ago.

Early studies lacked the ability to measure aerosol spread from different sized groups and males versus females versus children. Early studies also lacked clear data from instruments with a variety of air releasing openings such as seen in flutes, clarinets and related woodwind instruments.

One of the more sophisticated studies reported results late last year. This study included about 100 volunteers, ages 12 to 61, who sat or stood while talking, singing or playing instruments in an aerosol testing chamber at Colorado State University. The study found that singing produced 77% more aerosols than talking, adults produced 62% more aerosols than youngsters and males produced 34% more aerosols than females. Not surprisingly, the louder one spoke, sang or played, the greater was the release of aerosols.

Researchers also found that wind instrument playing, like singing, should be considered more dangerous than speaking or breathing. They found that aerosol emission rates were more dependent on the individual playing and their playing techniques rather than the type of instrument played. Researchers also confirmed that their findings were consistent with earlier results showing wind instruments, in general, generate a higher number of aerosol particles than breathing and speaking but less than speaking and singing at high volume.

A separate study attempted to reduce instrument aerosol release. In it an oboist, clarinettist, and trumpeter played with a surgical mask over their instrument bell. Unfortunately the researchers found no difference between the aerosol emission rates from playing with and without masks. I will seek out results from studies utilizing additional filtering techniques.

Comments, questions or suggestions can be sent to donnaber1364@gmail.com

### **General Information**

### <u>Worship Services are now being held IN-PERSON</u> <u>Events may still be held virtually in the</u>

### 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. <u>Select "Join Meeting" from the Zoom application on your computer or mobile device</u>.

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.

### 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	<u>hgrimmnitz@gmail.com</u>	207-685-9270
Don Naber, Ed.D	donnaber1364@gmail.com	207-887-1104
Cathie Nielsen, MD	cathieenielsen@gmail.com	207-441-0248
Marty Soule, PA-C	martysoule@gmail.com	207-685-9270

### **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)	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.

### **<u>UUCC Small Group Ministry</u>**



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 <u>es-therpearl67@gmail.com</u>.

# **UUCC Office Hours – NEXT WEEK**

#### **UUCC Office Hours**

Tues, Wed, Thurs and Friday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. <plus 7 flex hrs > <u>Church Administrator</u>: Lynn M. Smith, <u>admin@augustauu.org</u> or 622-3232

Interim Minister, Chloë Briedé Email: <u>chloeuucc@gmail.com</u> 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.	
Friday	No office hours – Writing day	
<other appointment="" available="" by="" hours=""></other>		

#### **Staff Contact information:**

<u>Church Administrator</u>, Lynn M. Smith, <u>admin@augustauu.org</u>, Phone 622-3232 <u>Coordinator of Lifespan Faith Formation</u>, Monique McAuliffe, <u>LifespanFF@augustauu.org</u> <u>Music Director</u>, Bridget Convey, <u>musicdirector@augustauu.org</u>