



The Flaming Chalice

The newsletter of The Unitarian Universalist Community Church
69 Winthrop Street ~ PO Box 8 ~ Augusta, ME 04332-0008

June 2017

Services at 10:00am

June 4th

Annual Meeting as Spiritual Practice

Rev. Carie Johnsen
UUC Board of Trustees
UUC Members

The business of the church is as much a spiritual practice as anything we do on Sunday morning, or Tuesday night or Wednesday at noon. In this service the spiritual practice of church governance is a tangible expression of our faith.

ALL CHURCH POTLUCK LUNCHEON WILL FOLLOW THE ANNUAL MEETING

This event is being sponsored by the Mid-Maine YoUUth group. A slideshow presentation of "Safe Passages" will be shared by Judy McGowen and Bruce Bierce. Donations will be gratefully received by yoUUth for their July trip to Safe Passages.

June 11th

Flower Communion

Rev. Carie Johnsen
Brigid Chapin, RE Coordinator

In this annual multigenerational service the symbolism of flowers highlights the individuality amid the collective of this community. The service includes the practice of bringing a flower from your home garden to the service. The choir will sing their final song for the church year.

June 18th

Healing and Wholeness

Rev. Carie Johnsen

It has been a long, busy, sometimes complicated, commonly overwhelming, frequently overbooked church year, not to mention political year. No doubt some of us are grateful for the slower pace of summer. With great anticipation for quieter days and a bit of rest and restoration we will lovingly plan this joyful and meditative Sunday service. A gift gratefully given and gratefully received.

June 25th

Leave Space for Spirit

Ida Gammon

If you missed Ida's December service here is your chance to experience Sunday at St. Mary's AME Church in Gammonville, Arkansas.

A Faith Journey...

*As Unitarian Universalists we covenant to affirm and promote a set of guiding principles. To create a covenant together around a set of guiding principles means we agree to hold these values at the center of our faith. We agree to walk together as we wrestle with and parse apart what each principle means to us individually and collectively as a congregation. We will not all agree on the specifics of how to live each value or how to hold them at our center. That is precisely what it means to be a **guiding** principle rather than a creed. We do however agree to walk together, to listen, to stay open, and to discovery for ourselves that which matters most to each and to all. Unlike other religious institutions, our guiding principles don't tell us how to believe. That is for each of us to discern and discover and experience for ourselves. With six sources to inform our experiences and our thinking, we are excited to begin planning for a dive deep into 2017/18 theme of Unitarian Universalist Identity.*

Unitarian Universalist Principles and Sources

We the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations, covenant to affirm and promote:

- September: The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- October: Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- November: Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- December: Unitarian Universalist Sources (see below)
- January: A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- February: The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- March: The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all; and
- April: Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.
- May: Unitarian Universalist Sources (see below)
- June: Unitarian Universalist Sources (see below)

The living tradition which we share draws from many sources:

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit; and
- Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.

Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

In faith,
Carie

From the President....

- What does UUCC mean to you?
- What do you “get” for being connected to UUCC?
- What do you give to UUCC?

As we approach the end of another church year, (July 1st to June 30th), it might be time for you to take stock of your connection to UUCC.....

When you think of what UUCC means to you, do you think of the 7 principles we have that urge us all to live in just ways with each other? Do you think of having an hour of quiet contemplation on Sunday mornings? Do you think of the friendships you have developed in a small group? Do you have an opportunity to contribute to congregational life that you do not outside UUCC? Is the UU denomination the one of your childhood or a choice you made later in your life? Do you feel you have found a church “home” at UUCC? You may want to share the significance of UUCC to you with another person...it might just be right for them as well!

Is the cup of coffee and light snack you get at coffee hour what keeps you coming? Maybe it is the people you chat with during this time that brings you through the UUCC doors. Do you think of the people you have met here and how important they are to your quality of life? Have they taught you something, nurtured you in a stressful or difficult time in your life? Maybe UUCC offers you opportunities to try something new such as singing in the choir, trying gentle yoga, taking an adult RE class such as the Journey’s End series to which about 40 people came once a month for 6 months so far. Are there things you would like to try during the next church year? Let us know what that is as we begin the planning process for UUCC for 2017/18 church year.

And what do you/can you give to UUCC? What do you bring to share with UUCC? We have finished our financial campaign and would still welcome more pledges. Can you share your financial resources with UUCC? This keeps the lights on, and the heat coming! This also pays for our staff and our minister. Can you share a musical talent (or desire) with UUCC? Can you join a committee to do some of the work of UUCC “in house” or out in the community? We are planning intergenerational Faith Cafés starting in September and need people to help with these **AS WELL AS** work with the children in RE on Sunday mornings. We are always looking for additional people to help care for the youngest in our church in the nursery during the worship service time. Would you like to volunteer to help in the church office with the many tasks Lynn Smith coordinates? What about signing up to do a coffee fellowship some Sunday in the next year? There are so many more things I could suggest! I urge you to find a way to give back to UUCC for what you receive!!!

I hope taking stock gave you an updated view of how you and UUCC are connected....**I also hope you attend the annual meeting on June 4.** This is our time to contribute to the governance process at UUCC. If you are a member you have a vote. **Be sure to exercise your vote.** If you are not a member, come observe the process we have as a UU church of congregational polity. Maybe it will fit with your ideas and values. Maybe you will want to join as a member.

If you have any questions or would like to chat, please contact me to talk together. See you at the annual meeting!

Martha Naber,
Board President

Capital Area New Mainers Project Needs Help...

Hi UUCC friends!

The Capital Area New Mainers Project (CANMP) is holding a clothing and furniture swap for new immigrants on Saturday, June 3rd, 9am–noon at South Parish Church on State Street.

Are there a couple of people with trucks or SUVs who would volunteer time to help families move donated furniture? Some families don't have vehicles. They've only been in the area for a few months and need help moving furniture.

Contact: Jenny Mckendry: (home) 622-4501 or (cell) 480-0980 if you could help for a few hours. I'm willing to help lift and move, and I'll bring an SUV.

SAVE THE DATE

Worship Arts Retreat

You're Invited!

August 26th

9:00am – 3:00pm (tentative)

Fellowship Hall

Members and friends of the congregation are invited to join the Worship and Music Committee, along with the choir, pianists and UUCC program staff in the exploration of what makes worship meaningful, inspiring and transformative. This retreat will explore the elements of worship, the role of the leaders and the congregation. We will actively engage the questions of integrity, authenticity, and quality in worship. This is your opportunity to bring your voice and vision to the conversation on crafting and leading worship. More details to follow in the August newsletter.

Coming this Fall... Faith Cafés

What is a Faith Café? This is the name of a monthly community event for all ages that will begin in the Fall at UUCC. **Faith Café** is a pilot program developed by the Wisdom Weavers group in response to information gathered at the Religious Exploration Retreat attended by about 70 people in March.

The first **Faith Café** will be Friday, September 8th. Wisdom Weavers will host this event that will include food, music, and activities developed around the first UU Principle the inherent worth and dignity of each person. All ages, from infants and toddlers through our oldest community members, are encouraged to participate.

There are seven principles which UU congregations hold as strong values and moral guides. Each month, from September through April (excluding December), there will be a **Faith Café** that focuses on one of the principles. Members of the Wisdom Weavers group will recruit and mentor team members to organize and host each month.

While the first **Faith Café** will be a Friday, dates for future Cafes will be determined by the results of a congregational poll. Watch for more details during the summer as plans for the **Faith Café** continue to develop.

Goddess/Earth Circles...

The schedule has changed slightly.

We considered Gaia at the April session in relation to current situations and moved discussion of Spider Woman to our May 21st gathering. Therefore, the session announced for May will be occurring on June 25th.

Please join us from 11:30am–1pm in Fellowship Hall for Motherhood and Family, with focus on the stories of Ceres and Erserpina, and Hestia. This session will be led by Beth Olsen and Jean Sizelove, and provide opportunity for reflections on spirituality in family relationships.

The Supper Times...

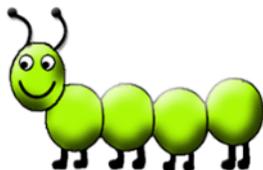
Hello; the May 6th, First Saturday Supper has come and gone. We got it done and we had some fun! We served around 175 meals, including seconds and take-homes. It's a big job, providing food and a social respite place for the community. Yes, I forgot (always forget a few things) to set out salt and pepper, needed cues to serve dessert and had to go on a second shopping run, but with a great team effort we offered a fine meal. The pulled pork in barbecue sauce, buns, coleslaw, baked beans and sweets were tasty.

Thank you to Dan Stevens, Keith Priest and Gay Patterson, who each brought home two sides of pork to roast in preparation. Thanks to Dan for his indefatigable leadership, shopping acumen and dishwashing. Thanks to Ida Gammon, who baked, and to Becky Harvey and Catherine Palmer, who donated desserts. Thank you to all the volunteers: Marty and David Thornton who set-up, Becky Harvey, Ida Gammon, Cheryl Clukey, Phyllis Clark, Heidi Chadbourne and Heather Priest who did everything; prepping food, organizing, serving, cleaning, juggling many wishes and demands. Thank you Judy C. who volunteers at Addie's Attic and then comes upstairs to make coffee and iced tea for us. Thank you to Rebecca Grant and Erik Kara who came by beforehand to oversee and help with activities. Thank you to busy Rev. Carie Johnsen, who came to address the guests and oversee during the meal. Thank you to Keith's cooking cohort Earl, idea and task man. Carlene Kaler enjoyed a well-deserved vacation in Florida.

Next month, we'll gather another hard working crew to serve. We're the only church in town that I'm aware of that continues to serve these community suppers through the summer. In this national political climate, we offer a haven and serve healthy meals (take homes that cover Sunday too). We welcome all.

Next month, if the weather is good, we'll grill chicken outside and probably serve inside, unless we have a big enough crew to move furniture and everything outside. Let's try at least once this summer to serve outside and join the guests at the table. Enjoy May, then come have supper with us on Saturday, June 3rd at St. Mark's!

Jenny Mckendry,
Chief non-Cook and bottle washer



Fundraising News...

Saturday, June 17th
8:30am –1:30pm
Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale

**Final Fundraiser – Annual Indoor/
Outdoor Yard Sale, June 17 rain or shine**

We are reaching the end of our fundraising year and need your help!

Please sign up to help with our Annual Indoor/Outdoor Yard Sale on Saturday, June 17, from 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall. We need 12 volunteers for set up on Thursday afternoon, covering **Not For Sale** items in the garage on Friday, baking and staffing.

Saturday Cafe, pricing goods, and clean up. For Sale: clothes dryer, new air conditioner, high-end bicycle with helmet, furniture, a couch with a pullout futon, foosball table, antiques, "just what you wanted" and more. No books please. A truck and driver will be available for deliveries within 20 miles for a \$20 fee.



UUCC Library...

There are two sections of note this month. First, we invite you to note Items "By and About Unitarian Universalists", the middle section just under the Meditation Manuals, Items are sorted alphabetically by the person, and includes Historic figures as well as contemporary writers: Channing and Ballou, Emerson and Thoreau, Murray and Peabody, Scott and Fulghum, and many more. There are several collections of writings, like essays, collection of UU women biographies and writings.

Second, is "Issues", in the right section. This includes materials from UU sources and resources used within the church community on such topics as Sexuality and Gender, Mental Health, Racial and Class concerns, Immigration and Native concerns.

Items may be borrowed. Sign out sheets are in a pink folder on the left side, behind the door.

Sponsored by Thursday AM
Small Group Ministry
Contact: Jean Sizelove 623-5096
mesizelove@roadrunner.com

NOTE from Jean Sizelove about Books on Loan:

If you borrowed a book or books on death & dying and are still reading them and have not contacted Jean about keeping them to finish them, please let her know at

mesizelove@roadrunner.com
or 623-5096.

If you have finished reading them, please bring them back as others have also asked to read them.

Social Activities...

June 21st, Lithgow Library
Presentation with author Caitlyn Shetterly

Author Caitlyn Shetterly will do a book talk and presentation at the Lithgow Library on June 21st, at 6:30 pm. She wrote "Made for You and Me: Going West, Going Broke and Finding Home". It is a sweet story of her and her new husband heading west to California in 2007 for new jobs. However, the recession hit and they had nothing....I mean nothing. They lost everything and headed back to Maine with not even enough money for gas or coffee.

She also wrote "Modified: GMOs and the Threat to Our Food, Our Land, Our Future" and "Fault Lines: Stories of Divorce".

If you remember when William Shetterly came to our church a few years ago with his HUGE portraits of "AMERICANS WHO TELL the TRUTH"?? Well, Caitlyn is his daughter.

2nd Thursday Book Group...

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE.

We will meet on **THURSDAY JUNE 15** at our regular time of 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. We will be discussing White Trash by Nancy Eisenberg. It is subtitled The 400 Year Untold Story of Class in America. Time magazine says "Eisenberg . . . has written an important call for Americans to treat class with the same care that they now treat race...Her work may well help that focus lead to progress." The book eloquently calls into question the notion that the United States has been and is a country where anyone can succeed and we all have equal opportunity. Please join us for what should be a fascinating discussion. You are all welcome to attend our last session for this church year. FMI contact Kathy Kellison 445-4415 kell6787@gmail.com or June Zellers 582-5862 or jzellers@roadrunner.com.



Unitarian Universalist Community Church
P. O. Box 8
Augusta, Maine 04332-0008

Newsletter Submissions

Please submit all articles as an attachment in a Word document using Arial font size 11. Don't forget to give it a title and sign it, and send it as an email newsletter@augustauu.org with the article as a word attachment, please! Photos of church activities welcome!

Deadline: June 19. Anything received after this date may not be able to be published.

Minister: Rev. Carie Johnsen

President: Martha Naber

Sunday Morning RE Coordinator: Brigid Chapin
Youth Advisor: Monique McAuliffe

Administrator: Lynn Smith
admin@augustauu.org

UU Office hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-4pm
No office hours: Monday and Friday

Choir Director: Bridget Convey
Choir Practice Wednesday 6-8pm
Small Group Ministry Coordinator: Luke Curtis
Office: (207) 622-3232
Committee chairs and others can also be reached
Through the church office at 622-3232 or church email.

Rev. Carie's office hours:

Tuesday 1:00 - 5:00pm
Wednesday 2:00-6:00pm and by appointment
Friday is Rev. Carie's Sabbath. She does not attend to emails, phone calls or meetings. For Pastoral Emergencies please call her cell phone **(508) 221-5295** and she will return your call at soon as possible.

Social Media links: Professional Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/revcarie.johnsen>
Please note: Rev. Carie also keeps a personal/private Facebook page. If you have requested to be her friend, please do not feel slighted by her decline or unresponsiveness. Instead, take a minute to friend her at RevCarie Johnsen.

Website: www.everydayordinarytheologies.com

Rev. Carie's new website was launched as part of a sabbatical project. When you get a minute visit the site and subscribe to future posts.