

A Faith Journey...

This month I would like to share with you a prayer I offered the Maine State Senate on April 3rd and the Maine House of Representatives on April 12th. This prayer, while intended for our elected officials at the start of session, has application to all of us, all of the time, in all that we do.

As we walk in a world divided, seeking unity and striving to find common ground in this work of building a more just global community, may this prayer guide you or ground you or inspire you along the way.

Spirit of Life, Love and all that is Holy, we gather in these chambers made sacred by the presence of your people, committed to what is right and good and true.

Called by something beyond ourselves and within ourselves, we gather:
the eyes and ears and heart and mind of God,
known by many names but never truly known.

By the will of the people, we gather.
May our discourse and debate expand possibilities,
generate creative resolution, and affirm life and love.

May our compromises, our decisions, and our votes,
bring strength, compassion, equity, and justice to all that is, was, and will be.

We gather with ideals and passions, convictions and power:

May our shared dreams, divergent ideas, and conflicting commitments merge in a circle of mutuality with each other, with the people we are called to serve, and with all of God's creation.

Guided by wisdom greater than ourselves, may we hold this work in the open palm of our hand to be refined, strengthened and, perhaps replaced. May we suspend knowing, listen to understand, expand options, and craft the impossible.

May the marginalized, oppressed, and suffering be the breath that leads our ideals.

May our outcomes serve the people, all of the people, God's people. We are the stewards; God calls us to love, to care, to serve with compassion, to be architects of a more equitable and just nation, to unite with a global community.

Assembled in the call to serve, gathered in this place of privilege, as people of privilege, Spirit of Life, Love, and all that is Holy, be here now.

So may it be. may it be so. Amen.

In faith, Rev. Carie

May 2018
UUCC President's Message

In preparation to work with the Religious Education class, Don and I found this poem by Emily Dickinson (1830-1886), Maine resident.

Bee, I'm expecting you!

Bee! I'm expecting you!
Was saying Yesterday
To Somebody you know
That you were due—

The Frogs got Home last Week—
Are settled, and at work—
Birds, mostly back—
The Clover warm and thick—

You'll get my Letter by
The seventeenth; Reply
Or better, be with me—Yours, Fly.

As I write this in mid-April, I am looking anxiously for dry signs of spring. Like Fly, I want the warmth of spring along with the new growth on the plants. We have begun seeds as we wait for the vegetable gardens to be ready for planting. The children in RE planted pumpkin seeds for their home gardens and talked of Halloween!

As I read this poem I thought of our church, too. We are starting to welcome back people who live in warmer climates or who cannot get out in the winter. WELCOME TO YOU ALL!

The church campus was raked and cleaned by a crew of dedicated workers. THANK YOU! The bulbs planted around the church have begun to emerge and blossom. THANK YOU! The daylight is with us so much longer! We can see sprigs of greening grass around the church.

There is much to do in the month of May as we get ready for the lawn sale, another Faith Café, the annual meeting, the celebration of our 25th anniversary of the churches' merger. I urge you to think about how you can add to the volunteers who help make all these events happen.....

There are frequently new faces at worship this spring. Be sure to give them a "hearty UUCC welcome" and get to know them!

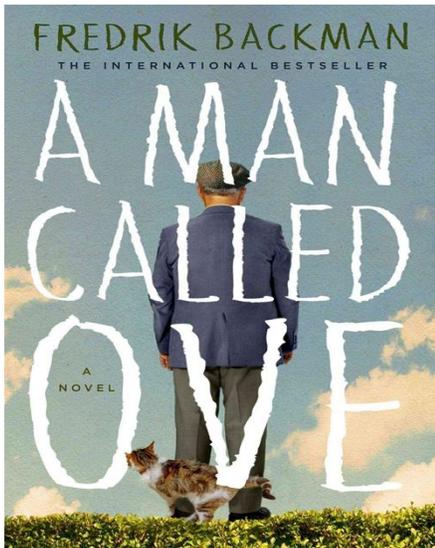
Sincerely,
Martha Naber

"Spring has arrived again, and you know what that means!
The UUCC Choir and Orchestra will be holding their annual Spring Concert on **Sunday, May 6th at 4pm** in the UUCC Sanctuary!



Our communities wonderful group of talented musicians will be putting on a late afternoon concert featuring the works of J.S. Bach, Arthur Sullivan, Anders Edenroth, Jason Tschilis, and many others, and will of course include a little bit of video game music as has become tradition! Consider attending and continuing to show support for the UUCC's thriving music ministry."

BOOKS FOR SERIOUS READERS



BOOKS FOR SERIOUS READERS will meet on Thursday May 3 from 1:00 until 2:30 p.m. in the Robbins Room at the church. We will discuss A Man called Ove by Fredrik Backman. According to Kirkus Review, the book is "a thoughtful and charming exploration of the profound impact one life has on countless others."

Our final meeting for this year will be on June 7. The June book is Dark Town by Thomas Mullen, which tells the story of integrating the police force in 1947 Atlanta as a murder mystery unfolds.

For more information, contact June Zellers at izellers@roadrunner.com or Kathy Kellison at kell6787@gmail.com. You are welcome to join us for either or both sessions.

SAVE THE DATE

June 10, 2018

**25th Anniversary of the merger of
Universalist and Unitarian churches of Augusta, ME**

**Worship Service 10:00 AM
Special reception to follow**

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

UCC PAINT NIGHT for NON ARTISTS With Bonnie Caspersen Friday May 18, 5:30 p.m.



Come enjoy a relaxing, creative evening painting with Bonnie Caspersen.

Bring a friend and experience a very different night out. You **DON'T** need to be an artist! Bonnie will help us all from beginning to end. All materials will be included.

We will be painting a whimsical "Tree Goddess" like the picture included here. Bring a willing attitude and a smile to try something new. Bring a snack to share if you wish.

Cost is \$25.

Bonnie needs to know how many supplies are needed. RSVP to Cheryl Clukey at cherylclukey5@yahoo.com or 441-0337.

GODDESS/EARTH CIRCLES

Join us in the Goddess/Earth Circles monthly gatherings, 12:15-2pm, usually in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome. We share light refreshments, share briefly, and have a topic.

May 20 May, the Month of Connections, Reflections, and Memories with *May Day* and the Spring awakens; *Mother's Day*, from our own mothers to Mother Earth; and *Memorial Day* and how we remember, what we hold what we let go.

For more information about Goddess/Earth Circles, contact Helen Zidowecki, hzmre@hzmre.com or 582-5308.

Our UCC Annual Yard Sale

Our UCC annual yard sale -- indoor and outdoor -- will be held on:
Saturday, June 9th, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 pm.

Please bring all items you wish to donate to the church in April and May. Small boxed items may be left in the committee room so long as I am notified. I will move all donations to the garage until the day before the sale. Please don't wait until June 9 to bring items. We need the items early to arrange for storage and volunteers to sort and set up. If you need a pickup of furniture, contact me at 207-458-7384.

We also need a volunteer to work in the Cafe to sell sandwiches, sweets and drinks to shoppers.

Our goal is to raise more than \$1,500 that weekend. Invite your friends to shop for bargains!

Sincere thank you, Catherine Palmer.

Faith Cafe

April 27th 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Choose
to
REUSE!

**Creating
less
waste!**

**Lasagne
Dinner**

**Share
a
Ride**

PeaceJam Youth will host this month's Faith Cafe.

UUC PeaceJam Youth will share a variety of sustainable practices.

- * Make reusable bags from old t-shirts.
- * Make your own granola.

The Youth will prepare vegetarian, vegan, and meat lasagne. Please bring side dish or dessert to share.

I'll give a ride
I'll take a ride.
Contact Lynn
admin@augustauu.org
622-3232.

Location: UU Community Church
69 Winthrop Street, Augusta, ME

HISTORY COMMITTEE

We are rapidly moving toward our celebration of consolidation of the All Souls and Winthrop Street churches in 1992 into Unitarian Universalist Community Church. The celebration will be held during the June 10 Sunday Service. Our “Sense of History” questions for this month:

We have named our spaces and our congregation, to reflect our values and honor historic individuals. What is the meaning behind the name of our congregation – each word and as a total name?

As we envision the future and celebrate our continuing UU presence in Augusta, please share your reflections, things you have to give, and your questions. Committees and programs have been asked to note their contributions as we create a short history to accompany this year’s Annual Report.

Please get these notes to Jill Watson for Leadership Council, or Helen Zidowecki (hzmre@hzmre.com, 582-5308), or put in the History Committee mail slot in the Committee Room. Thank you.

The Supper Times **News of the 1st Saturday Community Supper**

Jenny McKendry

On Saturday, April 7th, we prepared and served a tasty, steaming hot meal of American Chop Suey, coleslaw, bread and baked goods. The aromas of onions, coleslaw, celery salt, ground turkey and tomato filled the kitchen. So good!

We had many new volunteers, who are neighbors and friends of ours. Thank you to all volunteers, we had no lack of help! Regular volunteers included Ida Gammon, Susan Parks, Becky Harvey, Judy Colomy, Becky Harvey brought friend Jayne Locke McLaughlin and Carlene Kaler brought Maria and Jackie. Thank you to these new volunteers, whether you come once or continue we are happy that you took part. Keith Priest is our head cook and Mindy Jorgenson and her daughter washed dishes. Carlene Kaler and I lead the 1st Saturday supper. Thank you to Carlene and Keith.

I was able to take-off to enjoy a little fun during the early p.m., while Carlene, Keith and Co. prepared the meal. Thank you to all.

If you’re not familiar with what we do, we serve a free meal for people who need some good food and /or community members to sit and talk with. We are part of the Augusta Angel Food Network which is a group of faith communities in Augusta who provide suppers on each Saturday of the month. The network is made up of Penney Memorial Baptist Church, Green Street Methodist Church, South Parish Congregational, Emmanuel Lutheran and Episcopal Church, Temple Beth-El, The Catholic Churches of Augusta and Gardiner and The Unitarian-Universalist Community Church of Augusta. Three of the suppers are held at South Parish Congregational. Some of the churches buy food from Good Shepard food bank which is delivered through the Augusta Food Bank. For this meal we bought ground turkey from them and bought other food from Sam’s club. Church members make desserts for the meal and Panera Bread donates bread to us and other communities.

New Member Ceremony

A new member ceremony will be held on Sunday, **May 13th** during the 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. services. **Newcomers interested in deepening their commitment to Unitarian Universalist Community Church** are encouraged to set an appointment with Rev. Carie to explore membership and sign the quest book. Please contact her at 508-221-5295 or minister@augustauu.org.

Guest and Newcomer Meet and Greet

Guests and newcomers at UUCC are invited to meet with the minister and some members of our community. We would welcome the opportunity to get to know you. And we want you to get to know us and how our church works.

Two options: **May 6, 2018** Meet in the Drew House following first service at 10:15 a.m.
May 20, 2018 Meet in the Judd House following second service at 12:00 p.m.

We will introduce ourselves and answer questions you have about our church and Unitarian Universalism. We are an active congregation with many opportunities for connection, ministry and service. We want to help you find your place with us. Please join us for either one or both of these informal gatherings!

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

UUCC continues its congregational membership in the Unitarian Universalist Small Group Ministry Network. Information about that organization, including contributions in session plans and articles that have been contributed from UUCC can be found at www.smallgroupministry.net.

The Network publishes *The Covenant Group News*, an electronic newsletter several times a year. To see the March 2018 edition, go to www.smallgroupministry.net and click on "CGNews e-newsletter". Then click on "CGN all issues". You can also subscribe, no charge. The CGN will then come to you via e-mail. The March issue contains the following articles:

"Session Plan: A Form of Unitarian Universalist Literature"

"Small Group Ministry: An Impetus for Networking" (sharing with other congregations)

"All Are Called: Preparing for General Assembly 2018" –session plans that can be used by congregations for people attending or watching via live-streaming, June 2018

"Unintended Consequences of Small Group Ministry CGN" (Baton Rouge)

The Network is holding a Networking Session at General Assembly (Friday evening) that will include: Reflections from 20 years of SGM. We are submitting a Reflection from UUCC.

The use and spread of SGM

Some new approaches for orienting facilitators/leaders

Session Plans: a form of UU literature (based on the CGN article)

Our Small Group Ministry at UUCC is intertwined with the larger UU community, from what we gain from others, and what we have to share.

Update-Small Group Ministry

Here is an update on our SGM.....

Our SGM crew has had some difficulty getting together in recent months due to various factors, such as out of state travel and scheduling difficulties, but it looks as if things will be back on track for the months ahead.

We recently helped out with the inter-generational luncheon and we are working on coming up with a fund raising activity that we can sponsor.

We look forward to being together at the end of April for a chance to socialize and reconnect with lively conversation and thought provoking points of view

Susan Shaw

What does SGM mean to me?

The phrase "it's all about the people" comes to mind when I think about what it means to me to belong to Small Group Ministry. Through the process of check-in at our meetings, and through discussion of various session plans, I have gotten to know a lot of people in a way I didn't by seeing folks in church on a Sunday morning. SMG has been and continues to be a very important connection for me with the UUC.

Peggy Lamb

Lois Whitcomb's new contact info:

Mailing Address:	Lois Whitcomb 1855 low Meadow Blvd Unit 113 Castlerock CO 80109
Phone:	(207) 242-3037 cell

Sponsored by The Native American Studies Program and The Wabanaki Center

Sacred Instructions

Indigenous Wisdom for Living Spirit-Based Change

Book Reading and Book Signing with Audience Q & A

A narrative of Indigenous wisdom that provides a road map for the spirit and a compass of compassion for humanity

Drawing from ancestral knowledge, as well as her experience as an attorney and activist, Sherri Mitchell addresses some of the most crucial issues of our day, such as environmental protection and human rights. For those seeking change, this book offers a set of cultural values that will preserve our collective survival for future generations.

"A deeply personal meditation and call to consciousness and transformation, *Sacred Instructions* challenges the way we see and experience the world around us. For many readers, the book will reveal the first steps toward a process of self-discovery and spiritual awareness that Mitchell shows us must be lived and breathed every day on our own personal journeys of decolonization and patient recovery of an indigenized worldview."

—Robert A. Williams, Jr., cochair of the University of Arizona Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program and author of *Savage Anxieties*

"In this compelling book, Sherri Mitchell helps all of us understand the experience of First Nations peoples and helps us to embody that unique wisdom. She brings forth a broad understanding of cultural and generational trauma in a way that supports deep healing. The wisdom of this courageous book is profound and inspiring. It is recommended for anyone wanting the healing of self, society, and of our shared planet."

—Peter A. Levine, PhD, author of *Waking the Tiger*

"In this passionate prayer for reclaiming and celebrating Indigenous wisdom, sacred activist Sherri Mitchell invites everyone to the table. Both Native and non-Native peoples have been suffering from the ongoing trauma of colonization. The remedy is a conscious and loving embrace of core cultural values of reverence for the earth and clear-sighted collaboration. Mitchell's intelligent writing and wise heart light the way."

—Mirabai Starr, translator of *Dark Night of the Soul* and author of *Caravan of No Despair*

Indigenous Studies / Social Science / Inspiration



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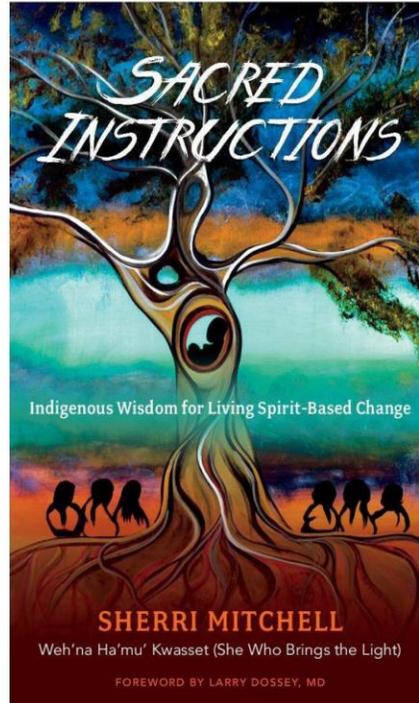


SHERRI MITCHELL

SACRED INSTRUCTIONS



North Atlantic Books



Friday, May 11th

7 - 9 p.m.

The Holocaust and Human Rights
Center of Maine
46 University Drive, Augusta



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

Newsletter Submissions

Submission Deadline for June newsletter May 21st

Submissions received after this date may not be able to be published.

Please submit all articles as an attachment in a Word document using Arial font size 11. Don't forget to give your article a title and sign it. Send an email to newsletter@augustauu.org with the article as a word attachment! ***Photos of church activities welcome! *** You will receive a confirmation e-mail of receipt of your submission.

Minister: Reverend Carie Johnsen

Board President: Martha Naber

Sunday Morning RE Coordinator: Vacant

Youth Advisor: Monique McAuliffe

Choir Director: Bridget Convey

Contact information for Committee chairs and other leaders can be found in the UUCS directory or obtained by contacting the Office Administrator.

Office Administrator: Lynn Smith
Phone: (207)622-3232 or email: admin@augustauu.org

Office hours: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. (Tues, Wed & Thurs)
No office hours: Monday or Friday

Rev. Carie's NEW Office Hours:

Monday	off
Tuesday	1:00 – 6:00
Wednesday	2:00 – 6:00
Thursday	Writing Day

Other times and days available by appointment.

Monday 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. She will return your call as soon as possible.