



May 2009

The Messenger

Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco & Biddeford 60 School Street Saco, Maine 04072, uuchurch@awi.net (207)282-0062

www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com

Services

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Sunday Happenings

8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am: Worship

May 3 Married to the Mob

Rev. David W. Chandler

The argument over the legal right to civil marriage seems to have everybody defending marriage, or religious freedom, or the needs of children and families. How can we sort out the competing claims? What is the future of marriage, and why?

Church School.

May 10 Mothers' Work

Rev. David W. Chandler

With special music from our Choir, we will honor our mothers. We will also celebrate the wider need for "mothering" in our lives - whether it comes from a biological relative or someone not related to us at all, who may not even be female.

Church School.

May 17 The Harbour Singers

The Harbour Singers, a hospice choir for southern Maine, began as a dream for a member of this congregation. With support from our church as a Community Service project as well as from the greater community, this dream has become a reality. Today the Board Members of the Harbour Singers: Thayer McCain, Peggy Belanger, Henry Warren and Ellie Rolnick will lead our service and share their experiences thus far, with music sung by the Harbour Singers woven throughout.

Church School.

May 24 Where Is Everybody?

Rev. David W. Chandler

Off for the Memorial Day Weekend if the weather is nice. It's okay, but it is also time to think about church programs and activities for the coming year. Where is our mission taking us? How will we get there? Who will lead the journey?

No Church School.

May 31 Why Is There Air?

Rev. David W. Chandler

Last chance for this church year - ask the minister. Bill Cosby's timeless question may be on your mind. Ask away! Ask some old ones. Ask some new ones. Ask anything at all. Get ready for summer while David fires up the grill.

Chalice Chapel.

Electronic Giving Now Available!

Would you find it helpful to have your pledge automatically transferred from your bank account? Maybe a credit/debit card is a better option for you. UUCSB now offers Electronic Giving options for those who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church's account. If you travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping your pledges up to date. Contact Brian in the church office for more details.

- Finance Committee

The Parson's Packet

Gandhi's directive to "be the change you wish to see in the world" is popular among Unitarian Universalists, with good reason. Our faith affirms the capacity and responsibility of human beings to make things better. Our sister UU congregation in Sanford uses this phrase as their mission statement. It is direct and inspiring.

Now we need to step up and be some change we wish to see in our church world.

When I was called here in May of 2006, a top priority was rebuilding our Church School to the levels of participation it enjoyed in the past. We have answered this challenge by recruiting new leadership, hiring our first professional Director of Religious Exploration, adding training, resources and volunteers and sprucing up the children's programs and rooms.

This year we have about 40 children registered for Church School and Youth activities. More young families are appearing almost every week. Their decision to enter this community for the long term will hinge largely on our ability to help them raise their children with the values we uphold and the welcome we extend. They must also have the opportunity to feed their adult spiritual needs and form community bonds.

We are responsible as a congregation – but we are most crucially responsible as individuals. What every one of us chooses to do – or not – determines the future of this church. Your help is not only needed; it is necessary.

We need new members of the Religious Exploration Committee to advise and assist Carol and me. You only have to care about the well-being of children and youth – we welcome grandparents, aunts and uncles, and those whose children are grown.

We need childcare helpers for Sunday mornings and other key church events. Without reliable childcare, young families face a daunting barrier to participation.

Most of all, we need people to join our teaching teams. We have four programs: Pre-K and K, grades 1 – 3, grades 4 – 6 and grades 7 – 9. Each level has an age-appropriate and interesting curriculum – you won't be bored. If we can get at least four and preferably six people on each team, you also won't be overworked or absent from worship too many Sundays. We will be able to adjust schedules to suit vacations and participation in activities like our choir.

This coming year Carol will start a Teachers Group to strengthen classroom support and communication. I will be adding sermons and worship readings to our web site and we are also exploring making the entire service available for download, so you won't be isolated from the Sunday service. You will find, as many others have, that teaching is a very special and rewarding "small group ministry" within the church community. Those working with our children – plus the children who will come if we make them welcome – enjoy a high level of fulfillment from the energy, the accomplishment and the strong sense of "giving back." I can also testify – as any teacher will – to the incomparable pride of watching young people grow up in our church.

Please sign up. Our children need you.

– Best wishes, David

MUSIC NOTES

Choir: Choir is winding down for the year. We will be singing in church just 2-3 more times. New members are still welcome to join us on May 3 if they would like to sing on Mother's Day. Stay tuned for information about our 3rd Annual Choir Potluck Barbeque Swim Party. All current, former and future choir members invited.

Rehearsals begin at 8:30 (set-up and chit-chat) with warm-ups starting promptly at 8:45. We rehearse until 9:45.

Special Music: If you play an instrument or would like to sing a solo or sing in a small group on a Sunday that the Choir is not singing, please notify Jeannine W. We need special music on the following dates: June 7 (Drive-Less and Bring-a-Friend Sunday) and June 21 (Flower Communion). She will get in touch with you to get you scheduled and/or hook you up with other singers for a small group.

Spirit Band: The Spirit Band has been rehearsing and we will be playing in church soon.

Harbour Singers: The Harbour Singers, hospice choir of Southern Maine (and a Social Action project for our church) began rehearsals in October 2008. We rehearse every Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. in the Parish Hall of our church. We are still accepting new members. In the past two months we have done a full group sing for the residents of The Wardwell and St. Andre's Health Care Facility and we have a couple of bedside sings under our belt as well. It is truly a rewarding way to serve in music. Harbour Singers recently received a grant from the Hospice Fund of the Maine Community Foundation and part of the grant money has been used to procure a cell phone and our brochures. If you are interested in joining us or know of someone who is, please contact me, Thayer M. or Peggy B. for more details and to register.

Ferry Beach: Ferry Beach is offering two music-related programs again this year. The Northeast UU Choral Festival will be July 18 - 25 (yours truly will be Musician of the Week that week) and Circle of Music will be Aug. 22 - 28 (instrument and choral music). For more information go to www.ferrybeach.org or check out the music bulletin board.

- Ellie R., Choir Director

Worship Support for April

These folks will be supporting our worship this month. Please sign up for future Sundays in the Parish Hall - without your help these things cannot happen. If you are not available for an assigned Sunday, please call the next person on the list and swap. Thank you for adding to the joy and welcome of our time together on Sunday.

Service	Coffee Hour Setup/Cleanup	Chancel Flowers
May 3	Thayer M.	Carl & Dorinne S.
May 10	Marilyn S.-C.	Myra & Charlie R.
May 17	Myra & Charlie R.	Brian D.
May 24	Nancy K. & Rhonda M.	Marilyn & Lew G.
May 31	Melissa M. & Inga S.	Sonja G.

Help Wanted

Help Serve Meals at Bon Appétit

The first Monday of every month UUCSB members and friends serve a meal at the Bon Appétit program in Biddeford. Our church has made this commitment for many years, but new people are always welcome. You need to be available from 4:30 to 6 PM. You can help out every month or only occasionally. Please call Dorinne S. to find out more.

– Social Justice Committee

Next Bottle Drive is May 31

Gather up your rinsed, redeemable bottles & cans and bring them with you to church on the 1st Sunday of every month. Whether you have just a few bottles or bags full of them we will gladly turn them into cash for the general church fund. We are averaging about \$40 a month!

The Membership Committee redeems the bottles through “CLYNK” at all the local Hannaford grocery stores. See Sonja G. to get required CLYNK bags. You are welcome to drop off your own bottles *provided* you use their specially marked (with our bar code) green bags.

Thanks for your help!

– Membership/Welcoming Committee

“Help for Hunger” to Assist Food Pantry

“Help for Hunger” is our UUCSB initiative to sustain the Saco Food Pantry. Please consider buying non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry when you shop. Staples are especially welcome, such as canned tuna, peanut butter, tomato sauce and dry cereal. Please leave them in the basket outside the Parish Hall door.

Our next “Pantry Sunday” will be Sunday, May 24. We want to collect as much as possible on the fourth Sunday of the month so our Social Concerns Committee can deliver to the Pantry the following week. The last week of the month is when people are most likely to run short of food.

You are also invited to donate cash which will be used by the Food Pantry to buy what is needed in any given week. Checks should be made out to UUCSB with “Pantry” marked on the subject line. Thank you for your generosity.

– Social Justice Committee

Caring Committee Needs New Members

Caring Committee Members are Thayer M., Pat P. and Jean H. We need some new members. Please contact any one of us directly or through the office to find out how to participate.

We provide church members and friends with a network of helpers in time of need and a connection when people are feeling most alone. Our Caring Ministry compliments the minister's pastoral work by coordinating efforts of the congregation to reach out to parishioners in need of assistance.

We generally meet monthly on the 2nd Wednesday, but most of our caring is done from home or by visiting.

Caring Contact Person for April is Jean H.

– Caring Committee

Please Wear Your Nametag

We're very fortunate to have many new people showing interest in attending our church. Our good word is spreading. This makes wearing our nametags all the more important. Please be sure to pick up your nametag and wear it to the service AND coffee hour.

Sharing our names is a small step that allows everyone to feel immediately a part of the group when we can call each other by name. The Membership/Welcoming Committee has started placing a basket next to the door so it will be easier to leave your nametag before leaving. Nametags will be returned to the board for use the next week.

This is also a good opportunity to find and return any nametags that have been taken home or are hanging around the car. Thanks for everyone's cooperation in welcoming our new people.

Parking Request

Please come to church a few minutes early so you can leave parking spaces near the entrance for members who need to park closer to the door for health reasons. Thank you for your cooperation.

– Membership/Welcoming

Summer Project for the Holiday Fair

Have some outdoors fun and help us prepare for our Holiday Fair this fall! Lots of natural materials will be needed to make "critters" and ornaments to sell at the Fair. We need to start collecting them now so they can be properly cleaned and dried for use. Here is a list in approximate order of collecting time (now through October). Most-needed items will be teasel, milkweed pods (& silk), pinecones, mica flakes, soybeans, pussy willow, cornhusks, and nuts (acorns, walnuts). Please contact Sally C. for more information.

- pussy willow
- pinecones
- cottonwood
- Indian Pipe
- peppergrass
- Shepherd's Purse
- wheat
- yarrow
- cat-tail
- dock
- figwort
- Globe Amaranth
- goat's beard
- redtop
- roses (& rose hips)

- strawflowers
- teasel
- thistle
- acorns & caps
- Artemisia
- Black-eyed Susan
- campion
- Celosia
- Joe-Pye-weed
- pearly everlasting
- Queen Ann's lace
- tansy
- evening primrose
- goldenrod
- St. John's Wort
- spotted knapweed
- velvet-leaf
- wormwood
- clarion-flower
- foxtail
- galls
- milkweed
- statice
- Shells, driftwood, interesting sticks

Classifieds

Computer Available

Value about \$75-100. Dell computer w/speakers, HP printer, HP copier. Free but a small donation to the church would be nice. Call Mae @ 571-9588.

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Events

FRIDAY May 15th, The Saco Coffeehouse Is Proud To Present:

Blueberry Jam

Blueberry Jam returns to the place where it all started, the Saco Coffeehouse! After months in the studio recording and mixing, their first CD is ready for prime time. All BBJ fans will want to be part of this event!

Blueberry Jam offers an eclectic mix of blues, jazz, and world music. Combining soulful ballads, raucous blues and feel good harmonies; they shine with unique jammin' originals with a djembe beat, as well as jazzy interpretations of the standards.

FMI: <http://www.blueberryjam.com>.

When: **SPECIAL DATE:** Friday, May 15th, 2009

7:00 pm: Open Mic

7:30 pm: Feature Performer

Cost: \$10 (Under 12 Free)

FMI: www.sacocoffeehouse.com

Talent and Comedy Dinner Show – Coming May 23

Do you have talent singing or maybe some type of comedy? We are looking for both. The Fundraising and Music committees are reviving our church talent show! We are looking for people of all ages to show just how talented you are. All levels of talent are welcome!

There will be a pot luck dinner beginning at 5:30. Then we'll clear the tables and bring on the show until 9 PM. The date is Saturday, May 23, in the Parish Hall. We are going to have prizes and it will be a blast for not only our church members but for our friends to attend also. Suggested donation will be adults \$5 and children \$3, with a maximum of \$15 per family. Proceeds will benefit the church.

This will be an enjoyable event for all ages and we will also have a movie for children. We will have two changing rooms for performers, and a stage area.

Sign up to be in the show by Sunday, May 10. Talk to Tom M. or Ellie R. for details and to perform.

– Fund Raising Committee, Music Committee

For Your Security

Because *The Messenger* circulates by e-mail to our members and friends, and is available on-line through our website, the Board of Trustees has approved security policies. Last names do not appear, only the first initial of the last name. We do not publish individual e-mail addresses or telephone numbers.

We welcome the participation of members and friends in all church activities and programs, except those specifically indicated as "closed."

Please contact the church office at 282-0062 or uuchurch@awi.net if you would like to get in touch with anyone named in *The Messenger*. We will be pleased to assist.

Our minister, Rev. David W. Chandler, is the only exception to this rule. Please feel free to call or e-mail him at the office or his home.

– Board of Trustees

More Classifieds



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An Evening of Entertainment

Cape's End

It's not too early to make plans for summer 2009! A roomy, sunlit cottage on the southern tip of Southport Island in the Boothbay Harbor region. Partial water views, large deck. With two bedrooms (one queen bed, one double bed), one bath with shower, living room with plenty of comfy seating, and a fully equipped kitchen. Includes a brick patio out back with a gas grill. Weekly rentals are available June through September for \$700 in June and September and \$800 in July and August.

Call Anne and Conrad Cyr at 929-4478, email us at connann@roadrunner.com, or check out the views at cyberrental.com (Southport, Maine).

11:11 AM
04/06/09
Accrual Basis

Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco & Biddeford
FY08-09: Budget vs. Actual
July 2008 through March 2009

	Jul '08 - Mar 09	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
001 CONTRIBUTION INCOME	49,405	53,250	(3,845)	93%
002 RENTAL INCOME	6,720	8,470	(1,750)	79%
003 FUND RAISING INCOME	10,453	13,740	(3,287)	76%
004 OTHER INCOME	13,922	13,500	422	103%
Total Income	80,500	88,960	(8,460)	90%
Expense				
101 STAFFING	58,924	59,507	(584)	99%
102 MISSION	891	1,921	(1,030)	46%
103 OPERATIONS	16,464	22,009	(5,545)	75%
104 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	3,081	2,951	130	104%
105 OTHER EXPENSES	2,867	2,375	492	121%
Total Expense	82,227	88,763	(6,536)	93%
Net Ordinary Income	(1,727)	197	(1,924)	(877)%
Net Income	(1,727)	197	(1,924)	(877)%

Upcoming Budget

FY2010 BUDGET TIMETABLE

Approved by the Board of Trustees, Jan. 21, 2009.

- May 3 – Sunday** **Budget discussion with congregation.**
- May 20 – Wednesday** **Budget recommendation by the BOT.**
- June 3 – Wednesday Budget final review by the BOT.
- June 14 – Sunday** **ANNUAL MEETING. Budget approval.**

After our service on Sunday, May 3, there will be a presentation and discussion of the church Budget for 2009 – 2010, led by Don Horton, Treasurer, and Lew Gaffen, President. All members and friends are invited to hear up-to-date- information on our current year Budget and the Income and Expense projections for the 2010 Budget year that begins July 1. Your Board of Trustees welcomes your questions and feedback on the proposed Budget at this meeting, and will follow up on any concerns.

The Budget recommended by the Board of Trustees will be sent out by e-mail and posted for the congregation one week prior to the Annual Meeting.

– Finance Committee

Church Info

Want to find out more about our church? Thinking about becoming a member?

To learn more about our congregation:

Please speak to Rev. David W. Chandler after Sunday services. He is also available at church from Noon to 3:00 PM, Monday – Wednesday. Please call ahead. Other times can be arranged. David's email is dchandler@uuma.org.

To learn more about our faith and practice:

Various aspects of Unitarian Universalism are explained in brochures kept in a rack in the front hall. You are welcome to take these home. You are also welcome to talk with our minister and with any member of our congregation.

Our Church:

We are a voluntary association of those committed to this special religious community. We share common values, but we do not require or expect conformity to any specific religious beliefs. We welcome each person's spiritual exploration and expression. Our web site, www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com, contains more information on the traditions, activities and people of our church. Our Membership Committee is identified before every Sunday service and will be pleased to assist you.

Our Membership:

Those who sign the Membership Book agree to sustain our church through continuing contributions of time, effort and financial support. All members are part of the non-profit corporation that owns the church, and they govern it through democratic process in which each one is entitled to be heard. Members elect a Board of Trustees and must also approve the "call" of a minister to our pulpit.

By participating in our worship, events and activities, you'll get a sense of how this congregation might work in your life, and you in the life of the congregation. As you discover the privileges and responsibilities of membership, we recommend that you take the time to,

- Talk with our minister about your spiritual growth.
- Attend a Welcoming Sunday to find out more about Unitarian Universalism and our church's history and traditions.
- Decide your financial commitment to this church community.

When you're ready, sign the Membership Book!

Contacting Our Minister

I will generally be in the office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from Noon to 3 PM. There are some exceptions, so you may want to call before coming by. The office phone is 282-0062.

You are welcome to contact me by e-mail. I suggest you use the church e-mail, uuchurch@awi.net, and copy my personal e-mail, dchandler@uuma.org. I normally read e-mail at home in the morning and evening and at the church during the day.

My "mailbox" on the church phone is protected by a password so any message is kept confidential. I suggest you use my personal e-mail for pastoral concerns, as that is also password protected.

My home phone is 602-4094. My cell phone is 484-252-1044. You are welcome to call me at any time if you have a pastoral emergency. Both numbers will take a message, and the cell phone is confidential.

I take Thursday as my day off every week, but am generally available by appointment at any other time that is convenient. Please call or e-mail to check.

– David

May 2009

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bottle Drive		4:30 pm: Bon Appetit	6:30 pm: Men's Group	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: GO Saco		
11:15 am: Budget Mtng.		6:30 pm: W. Weavers					
11:30 am: Green							
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
11:30 am: RE committee		11:00 am: Fundraising	6:30 pm: Men's Group	5:30 pm: Caring	6:30 pm: SGM	5:00 pm: CH Set-up	
		6:00 pm: Membership	7:00 pm: Sigma Delta	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: GO Saco	7:00 pm: Coffeehouse	
				7:00 pm: Finance			
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
11:30 am: Pledge			6:30 pm: Men's Group	6:30 pm: Trustees	7:00 pm: GO Saco	3:00 pm: Talent Show	5:30 pm: Talent Show
				7:00 pm: Harbour Singers		Set - up	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
11:30 am: B&G			6:30 pm: Men's Group	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	6:30 pm: SGM	Youth Con	Youth Con
			6:30 pm: Small Group		7:00 pm: GO Saco		
			Facilitators				
	31						
Youth Con							