



June 2016

The Messenger

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

Services

What's Happening?

Services	1
Minister	2
President	3
Business	4
Music Notes	5
Church Info	6
News	7
Who's Who	8
Calendar	9

June 5 Celebrating Our Shared Ministries!

Rev. Sue Gabrielson

Join Rev. Sue along with others as they lead Religious Exploration Sunday, new member recognition and blessing of the shawls. If you have a prayer shawl to be blessed, please bring that with you. **All Ages Service, No Church School.**

June 12 Creativity, Spirituality and the UU Experience

Jud Caswell

Today, Jud will try to draw some connections between spiritual and creative practices, and suggest that we, as UU's, should strive to support a creative community. **No Church School.**

June 19 Flower Communion Rev. Sue Gabrielson

We will wrap up the regular church year with a beautiful service of celebration. Please bring a cut flower, potted plant, bulb or seed to exchange. **No Church School.**

June 26 - August 28 Summer Worship Service

Summer services will begin on June 26th at 8:30 am. These half-hour lay-led services will continue through August 28th. Regular Sunday services will resume on September 11th. Volunteers to lead each of these ten services are needed. The signup sheet is posted on the bulletin board outside the restrooms. Please sign up to lead one of our informative and delightful summer services. FMI Contact Ellie R., Anne D. or the church office. A template for these services is posted with the sign-up sheet. Copies will be available unless you wish to create your own OOS in which case this must be to Brian in the office no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to your service.

MY FATHER'S THINGS

Reading

By [Ken Nye](#)

My dad died 28 years ago.
I still have some of his things:
A red plaid Pendleton bath robe.
(I look like Dad in that thing now.)
An old Sears table saw bought used in 1950.
I still use it, (but for rough cuts only).
An old grinding wheel, noisy as sin,
but sharpens mower blades in no time.
Trays and trays of screws and nuts,
sorted in biscuit pans by size.
(Just stir and search.)
His gold watch given to him in '57.
It hasn't worked for years.
It's going to cost too much to fix it,
so I keep it in my drawer.
I had his pocket knife but lost it.
(I always lose my pocket knife.)
There are other things of his I have as well:
I have his feet. I swear, my feet look just like his.
I have his eyes. (They're big and brown.)
I have his gait (knees kicking out like bow-legged cow-boys).
When I walk in front of storefront windows, it's my dad.
I have some other things of his too:
A love of animals,
especially dogs,
one of God's greatest inventions.
His value system and code of conduct,
the do's and don'ts of being a man.
Some might say, "Bathrobes and saws and codes of conduct
are not exactly jewels to take to the bank."
I answer, "Jewels don't shine as brightly as my father's things."

Sunday Happenings

8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am: Worship

11:00 am: Join us for Coffee!

From Our Minister

Minister's Musings

I mentioned in my sermon this week that this was a time of "lasts," making my departure a process and not a single event. So this is my last Minister's Musings, my last Incidental Inspiration and Bhuddist quip. There have been and will be many opportunities to say our goodbyes. (especially on the afternoon of June 12th, please join us at 5:00 for worship and dinner at the Sanford church.)

The finality associated with saying goodbye is challenging. Yet it's an empowering word, enabling us to achieve closure and ultimately move on with our lives. In addition to accepting that a part of our life is now over, "goodbye" also provides us with a chance to realize just how blessed our lives have been.

Author A.A. Milne, author of Winnie-the-Pooh, once wrote: "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

This church has changed in the time we have been together and so have I. But it really has always felt like it has been a partnership and a shared ministry. We have learned from each other and we have all grown as a result. In many ways we have come into our brilliance (even though, at the same time we have learned that life is often messy and muddy). Either way we definitely know that it is better to be in this mess together than to try to do it alone....

News and Events

CLYNK

Please remember to help UUCSB by returning your bottles and cans through the CLYNK service at Hannaford. Green bags may be picked up at the welcome table when you come to church on Sundays. Please remember that Market Basket labeled bottles and cans are not accepted by CLYNK.

BOT Notice

Board of Trustees agendas are posted one week prior to the meetings. Approved Board minutes are also posted. You can find these items on the bulletin board nearest the Sanctuary.

Are you interested in learning more about joining our church? Please feel free to contact anyone on the Membership Committee for information. Edite K., Anne D., Lynn J., Jane P., Dick S. and Patty V.

We have lived through troubles: personal challenges and church challenges, and we have held each other's hands for courage. We have stood together at gravesides saying goodbye, and we have blessed the new babies that were dedicated. We have grasped hands in lines of protest and in affirmation of equal rights. We have fasted the hands of the young as they have come of age and of the old who have discovered new wisdom, gay and straight so that they could enter into lives without loneliness...we have laughed a lot, rolled our eyes more than once, faced conflict head on and emerged on the other side.

I will leave you with two pieces from the last Sunday morning message I delivered in Sanford, first a prayer for all of you by John Gibb Millspaugh, Sarah Gibb Millspaugh that reminds us that we ALL can be the blessing and I would add the benediction!

All: As we have been blessed, so we bless one another to be a blessing. Breathe in, breathe out, this breath we share with all that breathes. Feel the love of the universe flowing through this community, into you, and out into the universe again. Let the love of all the universe—your love—flow outward, to its height, its depth, its broad extent. You are more than you know, and more beloved than you know. Take up what power is yours to create safe haven, to make of earth a heaven. Give hope to those you encounter, that they may know safety from inner and outer harm, be happy and at peace, healthy and strong, caring and joyful. Be the blessing you already are. That is enough. Blessed Be; Amen.

And what sums it up for me, by Mary Oliver

To live in this world you must be able

to do three things:

To love what is mortal;

to hold it

against your bones knowing your own life depends on it.

And, when the time comes to let it go, To let it go.

Blessings,

Rev. Sue

Rev. Sue's Office Hours

Rev. Sue will have regular office hours every Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM. She will also be available by appointment.

From the President

You all know how hard I've worked this year to learn to love something about each season, and I've been pretty successful. But boy, is it wonderful to see flowers and trees with leaves and folks walking around in shirtsleeves. And it's hard to believe that the Annual Meeting is less than a month away! It has been a busy year, and it has really flown by for me.

It will be hard to say goodbye to Rev Sue, who has been such a wonderful presence in our midst. But what an exciting change for Sue and her girls! I know that we all wish them the very best with their new lives. And it's an exciting time for us too, as we move forward into the next chapter of our church's life, and our collaboration with our friends in Sanford. Stay tuned...

Now go out and enjoy this truly beautiful day!

Kind regards,

Niki



Life is too
important
to be taken
seriously.

- Oscar Wilde

www.DreamThisDay.com

Sharing the Plate – June 2016

These offerings take place on the third Sunday of each month, and half of the plate offering is shared with a local non-profit group whose mission is consistent with ours.

The recipient of the June 2016 "Share the Plate" offering will be the **Common Connection Club**, located in Biddeford.

The **Common Connection Club** was established in 1982 to offer people with mental illness a safe, friendly place in which to socialize and find support. The club is member-run, and members are encouraged to participate in the decision-making process. Being active helps club members gain confidence and diminishes the stigma associated with mental illness.

Today, the club has 500 members. It has a pool table, a kitchen where a healthy lunch is served four times a week, three televisions in different areas and a computer room with Internet access. There is also a "quiet room" where members can read, watch TV or make personal phone calls, and a conference room for meetings and group activities.

Peer staff members are trained and supported by CSI (Counseling Services Inc) professional staff.



Please Wear Your Nametag

We're very fortunate to have many new people attending our church. 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.

The Membership/Welcoming Committee has designed a new nametag board to hold clip-on tags, so you do not have to pin tags through your clothing. There is a basket next to the door so it will be easier to drop your nametag before leaving. If you need a new nametag, please see the signup sheet on the nametag board.

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco & Biddeford
FY 15-16 Operating Budget vs. Actual YTD
July 2015 through April 2016**

	<u>Jul '15 - Apr 16</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
001 CONTRIBUTION INCOME	53,374	52,770	604	101%
002 RENTAL INCOME	4,923	6,367	(1,444)	77%
003 FUND RAISING INCOME	10,683	10,326	357	103%
004 OTHER INCOME	3,925	1,900	2,025	207%
Total Income	<u>72,905</u>	<u>71,363</u>	<u>1,542</u>	<u>102%</u>
Gross Profit	72,905	71,363	1,542	102%
Expense				
101 STAFFING	38,017	34,161	3,856	111%
102 MISSION	6,582	5,425	1,157	121%
103 OPERATIONS	16,039	21,130	(5,091)	76%
104 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	1,990	2,750	(760)	72%
105 OTHER EXPENSES	5,120	5,223	(103)	98%
Hannaford Card Purchases	1,000			
Total Expense	<u>68,748</u>	<u>68,689</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>100%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>4,157</u>	<u>2,674</u>	<u>1,483</u>	

Farewell Party for Rev. Sue, Grace & Ellie- June 12th - 5:00

We will have a special service at the Sanford UU Church honoring Rev. Sue and to say goodbye to her, Grace and Ellie, on Sunday, June 12th at 5:00pm. Although she will be leaving us, her ethics, love and advice will always stay with us. We will have a special service complete with a large variety of beautiful music, followed by a delicious meal in the vestry. Please join us! As a way to send Rev. Sue off with our love and best wishes, we'd like to give her a collective cash gift to help her as she gets settled in her new life in Costa Rica. If you'd like to contribute to her farewell celebration and gift, please send a check (made out to Aileen Fortune) to:

Mona Ouellette
c/o Sanford UU Church
5 Lebanon Street
Sanford, ME 04073



Website Update

Thank you to everyone who has visited the newly rebuilt website at www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com. Since the launch, there have been over 3,000 page visits averaging nearly 45 hits per day. If you haven't had the chance yet, please come for a visit. New things like pictures, events and other news are regularly added.

Pay Your Pledge Automatically!

Annual pledges paid in regular installments help the Church's cash flow - and yours! You can set up an automatic debit from your bank directly to the Church account - no checks or mailing hassles.

You may also use a credit or debit card for pledge payments. These too can be set up ahead of time to transfer automatically an amount you choose on the date you select. These Electronic Giving options can help you manage monthly expenses and help the Church have funds available regularly to meet our payroll and other bills.

Contact Brian in the Church office to set up a payment plan. Automatic payment arrangements are kept confidential.

- Finance Committee

Music Notes

from Choir Director, Ellie R.

"Music is our fourth great material want – first food, then raiment, then shelter, then music."

Christian Nestell Bovie, writer

The Music we Sing:

This June we merge 2 of our regular services: New Member Welcome and RE Recognition. The choir will sing 'Room at the Table' by Carrie Newcomer and 'We Thank You' by local singer/songwriter Susan Savell.

Morning Song – June 14th

At 9:50 one Sunday each month I am in the sanctuary leading 'gathering singing' (this will be in lieu of Paul playing gathering music on the organ). Please join us in singing! If you prefer not to sing, please sit quietly in the sanctuary and enjoy the music or gather with friends in the parish hall or hallway for conversation. The final 'Morning Song' for this year is June 19 on our 'Flower Communion' Sunday.

PICK UP CHOIR – ALL ARE WELCOME

Rehearsals to sing on June 5 and June 19 from 8:45-9:45.

Attire for June 5: Black bottoms; black and/or white top

Attire for June 19: Black bottoms; solid tops, the colors of flowers

Dip your toes in the water. Come back to the fold. No long term commitments.

Just show up with a willingness to offer the gift of song to our congregation!

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 me to get scheduled. There are openings for special music for January 3, 10, 24 and 31.

Music Committee

A new Music Committee is forming. Are you interested in supporting our music ministry? You don't need to sing or play an instrument to be involved. Contact Ellie R. for more info.

ChIME Graduation and Ordination
Sunday, June 5 at 3:30 p.m.
First Parish Congregational Church, Saco

Long term church member, Myra Robinson will be graduating from the Chaplaincy Institute of Maine and will be ordained as an Interfaith Minister. Part of her internship included service to our congregation in many ways. Let me know if you're interested in attending. All are invited to attend the reception following. Ellie R.

Jesus and the Lotus author Russill Paul, who is also an accomplished Indian musician, is coming to Portland Mother's Day weekend, as guest teacher for the Chaplaincy Institute of Maine (ChIME). He will lead a Friday evening kirtan (call and response singing), a Saturday workshop on Christian and Hindu mysticism, and a Saturday evening meditation and chant session. All are open to the public, and held at UNE's Ludcke Auditorium, 716 Stevens Avenue. Registration and pricing available at www.chimeofmaine.org/events. To learn more about Russill Paul please visit www.russillpaul.com or call ChIME 207-346-6740 or email admin@chimeofmaine.org.

FMI Contact: Colleen Myers

ChIME Community Liaison

207-347-6740 (mobile)

Information

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

To learn more about our congregation:

Please speak to any member or someone from the Membership- Welcoming Committee. Plan to attend a Sharing Your Spiritual Journey orientation.

To learn more about our faith and practice:

Various aspects of Unitarian Universalism are explained in brochures kept in a rack as you enter the sanctuary. You are welcome to take these home. You can also talk with members 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. Web sites www.uuchurchsacoiddeford.com, or www.uua.org, contain more information on the traditions, activities and people of our church and association. Our Membership-Welcoming Committee is also willing 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:

- Attend a Sharing Your Spiritual Journey orientation offered by the Membership Committee to find out more about Unitarian Universalism and our church's history and traditions.
- Attend church for a while to get to know the community and think about whether you share in our common values and feel ready to make a commitment to the shared spiritual journey.
- Decide your financial and time commitment to this church community.

When you're ready, speak to the chair of Membership or president about signing the Membership Book!

News

Worship Committee Update:

Summer services will begin in just a couple of months! Do you have a story you would like to share? Do you know of someone else who might be interested in leading a service? Summer services begin and 8:30 a.m. and are only 30 minutes long, more casual and with a shorter 'message'. Summer services are well attended and meaningful. It is an opportunity for us to stay connected all year round. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board by the office. Help us keep our flame burning through the summer and sign up soon!

The **Worship Committee** has the task of making sure the pulpit is filled week after week. We will continue to fill the pulpit with lay leaders from within and outside our congregation, guest ministers and others. If you are interested in taking part in choosing our leaders for 2016-2017 then this committee is just right for you!

If you are interested in serving on this committee or if you have any questions about worship, please contact one of our current committee members: Ellie R., Anne D., Sonja G., Niki N. or Nancy K.

TD Bank Affinity Program

UUCSB is in the TD Bank Affinity Program, which is only for nonprofit organizations. TD Bank will make a donation for each church member that has a TD Bank checking account. This is a way for the church to get donations without having to do anything. Church member personal accounts are associated with the church account and in doing so the church benefits. It in no way affects member's personal accounts and no information is shared. Church members that have TD Bank checking accounts just need to call TD Bank or stop in at any location and tell them that you are a member of UUCSB and what your TD Bank account number is. If you have any questions about the Affinity Program, Tracey Bell, the TD Bank manager in Biddeford would be happy to answer your questions. Her phone # is 283-8590.

Yard Sale Update- May 21

The Yard Sale was a big success. We raised almost \$800, made lots of new friends and enjoyed ourselves. A big thank you to all those who participated.

Anne D.

Update on FIAT (Faith in Action Team)

We were able to view 3 hrs. of the DVD, "Race --The Power of Illusion" with a discussion following had good attendance. Many thanks to all who attended and to those who put this effort together. We now have the fine details worked out to do more of this type of education and awareness.

Check out our new bulletin board in the PARISH HALL. There are handouts posted on the board. Please take one, they are very informative, interesting, and powerful regarding our learned conceptions of "race".

Soon we will be displaying a table at coffee hour with information about the various ways we all can do Social Justice. Our hope is that we will become a clearing house for various efforts locally, tri-church, and the state, which might stimulate our community to take on

different actions. We would be an umbrella of support.

One example is Habitat for Humanity, (many ways to contribute, both large and small). They have volunteers from many churches and are recruiting more.

Another is MUUSAN, (Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network). MUUSAN has focused on 3 issues: Democracy in Action; Health Care for All; and Climate Change

Also, a link shared by Rev. Sue as being a great read for Social Justice: <http://www.filmsforaction.org/articles/9-ways-we-can-make-social-justice-movements-less-elitist-and-more-accessible/>

We would welcome your thoughts and suggestions. Our Team Members: Meret B. Donna B. Larry B. Clarissa F. Sonja G. Jane H. Marilyn S-C. Virginia H. Hilly H. Donna R. James S. Dorinne S. Randa T. Please feel welcome to attend any of our meetings.

Greetings from the Treasurer,

Account balances as of 05/28/2016 are as follows:

Checking	\$1,363.79
Accounts payable	\$46.00
Moulton Trust	\$2,614.68
Restricted Savings	\$26,119.06
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$116,728.32

Any questions, just call.

Sincerely, Wendy

Help Needed

I need someone with a truck who can help me get the treadmill I bought at the yard sale to my niece, who lives in Biddeford. It is just over the bridge between Saco and Biddeford on High Street. If you can help, you can contact me or the church office. Thanks so much, Paula H.

Morning Coffee

with Bhante Sujatha

*"In the end these things matter
most:
How well did you love?
How fully did you live?
How deeply did you let go?"*

June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			6:30 pm: Finance 6:30 pm: Committee on Ministries 7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM	6:30 pm: Harbour Singers Board	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bread Sunday	4:30 pm: Bon Appetit	7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	6:30 pm: Trustees 7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11:15 am: Annual Meeting 5:00 pm: Farewell Rev. Sue Dinner (Sanford)	5:30 pm: Membership	7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Bread Sunday Food Pantry Sunday 9:50 am: Morning Song 11:30 am: Congregation Q&A		7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM		
26	27	28	29	30		
		7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm; SMGM		