



September 2017

# The Messenger

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

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### September 3

### Labor Day Weekend

There will be **NO** service today. Please enjoy the time with family and friends before the fall begins.

### September 10

### What They Dreamed Rev. Steve Cook

Today is the first service of the regular church year. Service will be held in the sanctuary at **11:00 AM**. This will be our Ingathering service after a summer apart. We will observe the Water Ritual; if you have water, real or symbolic, to share please bring it with you. **No Church School**.

### September 17 Hand Jive, Adventures in Mindfulness Rev. Laurence Miller

Mindfulness is a common term used these days. We often speculate that 'being mindful' will take us through the day and help us with our joys and concerns. Although sometimes we may feel anxious or lack luster during the day even as we try to be mindful. But are we really being mindful? Or could it be that we presume by thinking of being mindful we are being mindful? Today we will look at a simple skill to aid in the 'art of being mindful'. Each day we use our hands for a variety of task; to work, to text, to create art, to talk, to dance, to heal and to pray. Whether it's work or play, drudgery, or dancing, being mindful can improve our patience or delight in our day. "Born to Hand Jive". **Church School**.

### September 24

### Fallen Among Thieves Rev. Steve Cook

The very familiar story of "The Good Samaritan" holds a far more powerful and challenging message than the interpretation we've always heard. **Church School**.

### From the President

And we're off! A brand new church year is upon us. Have you had a lovely summer? I certainly have - picnics and bike rides, kite-flying and beach walks and most recently, shuffleboard in Ocean Park, which I recommend highly.

Excitement and energy are in the air this new year gets underway. Can you feel it?

The Search Committee for our new minister has been hard at work this summer. Learn more about their progress and upcoming events in this issue of the Messenger. A very productive Board Retreat with both the Sanford and Saco boards was held last Saturday in Ocean Park, followed by an excellent lunch. Rev Steve did his usual terrific job facilitating the retreat. It was a great opportunity to get better acquainted - the Sanford folks are interesting, creative and fun! I've also had a chance to break bread at Run of the Mill with Sanford's new Board President, Diane Whiteside-Peck. It was a great meeting, and Diane and I are looking forward to our work together. We'll be keeping you posted as the collaboration between our congregations continues to evolve and develop.

Saco Committee Chairs and Team Leaders will be invited to join the board and Rev Steve as we plan our road map for the coming year. Stay tuned for the date and time - this meeting will likely take place on a Sunday afternoon. We'll be sharing the plans and goals as soon as this planning meeting has taken place.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the **Ingathering Water Communion Service** on September 10th. Don't forget that this service starts at 11:00!

Shuffling off to Ocean Park.....

Kind regards,

Niki



### Sunday Happenings

8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am: Worship

## Along the Way

Dear Friends,

Autumn greetings! I am looking forward to serving you in this, the final year of our work together. You'll recall what a busy year brought us to this juncture. Between the two churches, eight well-attended cottage meetings were held to help you explore whether or not you wished to enter into a bold new chapter of the future by calling a settled minister to help lead you into an intentional, joint ministry in Sanford and Saco/Biddeford. This was a ministry that in many ways you had begun somewhat informally with Rev. Sue. Last year, the question before you was—do we wish continue along this path not just as two separate churches who happen to share a minister, but rather with a commitment to share energies, resources and efforts in a way that would make the most of what each church could offer to the other and to the communities that each served? After months of discernment, your answer was a resounding, "Yes!"

Over the summer, the joint search committee you chose has already been hard at work for you. You will hear much from them in the next few months and I urge you strongly to respond fulsomely to the survey and schedule of cottage meetings they are putting together. (And by the way, should you be thinking, "But, we had a number of meetings last year, why do we need more?" please remember that last year's meetings were only about the question of entering into a joint ministry. Now, the vital issues before you are, "What are our wants, needs, dreams and wishes for the future of our now joint ministry? What are we looking for in a minister who

would serve these two churches and help us realize that vision? What are we ourselves willing to do in shaping that new future? Your search committee wants and needs your participation in the process of discernment that will guide them in their work.)

For my part, I plan to continue the schedule of preaching, office hours and administration that we evolved together in the past year: In general, I will be in one pulpit or the other on a weekly schedule. Early Wednesday mornings I will be at the Sanford church office, while later that morning and into the afternoon I will be in the Saco office. I am also happy to meet on Sundays after church with groups, committees or individuals. On the second Tuesday of the month, I will be in Saco for the board meeting, stay overnight and attend the Sanford board meeting on Wednesday night and would be available to meet on either day. (From time to time, I have other professional commitments, ministers meetings and the like, that may take me away from the office on those days, so I always recommend calling or emailing for an appointment. I'd hate to miss you.) Other than that, I am happy to correspond by e-mail using my personal address: [stephenmichaelcook@ME.com](mailto:stephenmichaelcook@ME.com) and in case of pastoral emergency, by my personal cellphone at 781-330-2521.

We have a full year of challenging but gratifying work ahead of us and I look forward to taking part in it with you.

Rev. Steve

### 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.

### Hannaford Gift Cards

Do you shop at Hannaford? Please consider participating in our fund-raising project. When you buy your groceries with a Hannaford Gift Card purchased at church, Hannaford donates 5% towards our operating budget. You can support the church at no additional cost to yourself. Hannaford cards make good gifts, too. Look for the table during coffee hour for more information.

#### Office Hours

Brian, Administrator: Mon-Wed-Thu 8 AM to 12 PM

Rev. Steve, Wed 12-5 PM

**Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco & Biddeford  
FY 17-18 Operating Budget vs. Actual YTD  
July 2017**

	Jul 17	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>001 CONTRIBUTION INCOME</b>	14,054	4,100	9,954	343%
<b>002 RENTAL INCOME</b>	800	975	(175)	82%
<b>003 FUND RAISING INCOME</b>	70	61	9	114%
<b>004 OTHER INCOME</b>	0	200	(200)	0%
<b>Total Income</b>	14,923	5,336	9,587	280%
<b>Gross Profit</b>	14,923	5,336	9,587	280%
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>101 STAFFING</b>	4,350	3,557	793	122%
<b>102 MISSION</b>	432	681	(249)	63%
<b>103 OPERATIONS</b>	994	2,068	(1,073)	48%
<b>104 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS</b>	300	350	(50)	86%
<b>105 OTHER EXPENSES</b>	1,052	1,022	31	103%
<b>Total Expense</b>	7,128	7,677	(549)	93%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	7,796	(2,341)	10,136	

#### Website Update—September 2017

Thank you to everyone who has visited the website at [www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com](http://www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com). Since the March 2016 launch, there have been over 16,826 page visits with an overall average of 31 hits per day. If you have something that you want to add, or if you see something that should be corrected, please let me know. **Please be specific with corrections as we have over 75 pages on our site.** Also, we still have

some pages that are blank except for the title. If you want to add content for those areas, it would be gratefully accepted. Thank you to those folks who have provided content and updates..

Brian D., Webmaster

#### 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

### Music Notes from Choir Director, Ellie R.

“Music, once admitted to the soul, becomes a sort of spirit, and never dies.

*Edward George Bulwer-Lytton*

**Choir & Choir Rehearsals:** New members are always welcome. We are rehearsing at 8:45 almost every Sunday until Christmas. We sing about twice a month during Sunday services and a couple of special services in the fall as well. Pick up choirs and short term commitments also exist. Let me know in advance if you want to join us so we can have materials for you.

**Special Music:** Looking for singers and/or instrumentalists to offer their special gifts during services when the choir isn't singing.

**Morning Song:** Morning Song is expanding! At 9:45 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each each month I am in the sanctuary leading 'gathering singing'. 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 next 'Morning Song' is at 10:45 before our opening service on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Who's in the Choir Loft?** This year's 'Music Notes' will focus on the folks who sing in the choir. I have asked everyone to fill out a short questionnaire and I'll highlight one choir member each month. This month I'll start by introducing myself.

**Reflect on your experience in the UUCSB Choir.** My experience with the UUCSB Choir began within months of first attending services here in 1994. Three or four women stood by the organ and sang a hymn. It was so beautiful and I was so moved I just wanted to know how I could possibly become part of this special group. I wondered if I needed to 'try out' in order to sing with them. Soon after I learned that there were several women who would get together once in a while to sing at a service, usually deciding a couple weeks in advance. Mostly the music came from the hymnal and the organist would accompany the group. I was thrilled to be invited to sing with them. My only choral experience had been in my Junior High chorus and then I become the chorus accompanist. I hadn't sung in a choral group in almost 30 years. As the years went by an actual music director joined our congregation and developed the choir to the point that when she left a few years later there was a large choir of mixed voices and a cabinet filled with choral repertoire. As a member of the Music Committee I worked with others to fill her post for a year until a new Choir Director could be found. The next summer I attended a choral conference at Ferry Beach where I received my calling to be a music leader and I knew I wanted the job. Since 2007 I've had the privilege and pleasure to lead the UUCSB Choir.



**How long have you been a UU?** Since 1994

**How is singing part of your spiritual life?** When I sing with others I feel a deeper connection to them and then a deeper connection to spirit.

**Other music experiences (e.g. playing instruments):** I have played the piano since I was 10 years old. Recently I have been learning how to play the ukulele and the recorder.

**Other interests or hobbies:** Spending time with family and friends; karate; reading; walking;

**Occupation:** Chiropractor and Choir Director

**Travels and favorite places:** My travels have never taken me far until 2017 when our family took a trip to Ireland arranged by our oldest son. It was a memorable and wonderful adventure. We're looking forward to doing more European and world adventures as well as discovering more about our own country. My favorite place to travel to is Aruba.

**Favorite kinds of music:** I learned from our youngest son to appreciate all kinds of music from rap to classical and everything in between. I love learning about the evolution of music and how each age and culture discovers new ways to express themselves through new musical art forms. With 12 basic tones in a musical scale it amazes me how new music continues to evolve. I love it all!

### 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.

## 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](http://www.uuchurchsacoiddeford.com), or [www.uua.org](http://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

### Share the Plate—September

Share the Plate will be for **Mainer's For Health Care** which is a coalition of Mainer's for ALLCare, Maine People's Alliance, MUUSAN, etc., working to expand Medicaid for those 70,000 people in Maine who are unable to get ObamaCare and don't qualify for Medicaid. They are trying to educate people so they will be sure to vote in the NOV election, this fall, 2017.

### Greetings from the Treasurer

Account balances as of 8/31/2017 are as follows:

Checking	\$2,012.83
Accounts payable	\$-0-
Moulton Trust	\$2,652.05
Restricted Savings	\$24,613.85
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$132,878.82



Any questions, just call.  
Sincerely, Dick

### Capital Campaign Notes

Thanks to all who have made a pledge to the Capital Campaign. As of this issue of the Messenger we have pledges of \$43,500. If you have not decided about your pledge yet, there is still time to make a commitment to this project. We do expect this campaign to go on for a few years!

Check out the donor board in the alcove by the Sanctuary. We'll be added the names of donors as they come in. Many thanks to Mike Dolan and Donna B. for this.

So far we have contacted our members and about fifty of our friends. That process continues. Our group of business contactors is in organization mode and will launch forth very soon.

We have done the repairs to the foundation under the choir area out of our Capital Campaign Funds. The next step is to begin the process of preparing the space under the Parish Hall for stabilization. Peter Marks has activated a UUA Faithify account aimed at raising the money to do this. If you have questions, please contact Anne D., Betsey or Peter.

### 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.

### Southern Maine Gay Men

Please Note that all our meetings are now being open to anyone who would like to join. On Saturday, October 28th we will be changing our name to "Alphabet Soup", where we will be changing from just a gay men's group to an all-inclusive group. Open to all. Talk to Tom, Brian or Mark about this.

### End of Summer Pot Luck Dinner

**Thursday, September 7, 2017** - Location: UUCSB

Join us for a relaxing evening of socializing and eating. Some type of Meat will be provided. Beverages will be provided, just please bring salads, side dishes and desserts to share.

### Board Game Night

**Thursday, September 14, 2017** - Location: UUCSB

Bring a friend or two and join us for a fun packed evening playing a board game and socializing. You may just want to come and listen to what others may have to say. Beverages will be provided, just please bring snacks to share.

### Open Discussion Group Night

**Thursday, September 21, 2017** - Location: UUCSB

We will be having a night of sharing of whatever topics are on your minds. Beverages will be provided, just please bring snacks to share

### Gay Themed Movie Night

**Thursday, September 28, 2017** - Location: UUCSB

Bring a friend or two and join us for a relaxing evening watching a Gay Themed Movie and socializing. Brian usually finds a good movie for us to watch. Beverages will be provided, just please bring snacks to share.

### Ghostly Pot Luck Dinner

**Thursday, October 5, 2017** - Location: UUCSB

Join us for a relaxing evening of socializing and eating. Some type of Meat will be provided. Beverages will be provided, just please bring salads side dishes and desserts to share please.

Our Anniversary Dinner this year is being planned for Saturday, October 28, 2017 from 5 to 9pm at the church, dinner will be, stuffed chicken, stuffed pork tenderloin and some type of vegan dish. The cost will be \$10.00 per person. RSVP please. More information to come on this event.

Please come and join in our fun times, we limit our age range form 18 + please. So you come and you can invite your friends to join us as well.

Any questions contact Tom M, Brian D or Mark H.

Looking forward to this and we hope you all will as well.



## Search Committee



On behalf of the Search Committee I give you this update on our process and what we will be needing from you as we move forward in this spiritual journey to select a new minister - one that will fit the needs and wishes (as much as possible) of both the Saco/Biddeford and the Sanford UU Churches. Personally, I can say this is an impressive committee that is caring, spiritually directed and dedicated to fulfilling this task. I am humbled by their commitment and focus.

Our first task is to generate a required packet of information for interested ministers. We are compiling a survey that will give you the opportunity to note your interests and expectations....and lots more! You have a choice of filling out your survey on-line or filling in your responses on a paper survey. We encourage you to use the on-line Survey Monkey. Analysis results will be much less labor intensive than tallying paper responses. Survey packets will be available in the office and at Coffee Hours in September. They will need to be returned to the office by Sept. 24. The on-line link will be included in the paper packets and will also be included in Friday Flyers, and Orders of Service. You can type in this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CB8MT87> or simply click on the link in the email that contains this Sept. Messenger.

We are also asking you to attend one of three "cottage meetings" to discuss other questions that are more open-ended. All this information will help to present who we are to a searching minister and help us know what you are looking for in a minister. So.....this process is extremely important in fulfilling our vision for a settled minister. Actually, this is the only time you will be given the opportunity to "weigh in" at this level, and we so want your participation! The more input the better. The "cottage meetings" will be held in the Parish Hall (not in individual homes) from 11:30-12:30 on Sept. 17, Sept. 24, and Oct. 1. We hope you will choose to attend one of these meetings where committee members will ask questions and listen carefully to your responses.

Once the Congregational Survey and the "Cottage" meetings have been completed, we will compile the results, which will be included in our congregational packet. It will then be reviewed by the UUA and submitted/posted by the end of October! We are also looking for photos of our Church, services, committees, and events to include in our packet. Please share what you have with the Search Committee. The photos will make our packet more personal and inviting.

As you can see, we have a tight schedule. The Search Committee and I would like to thank you in advance for your participation and support on our very exciting spiritual journey.

Committee Chair, Lisa Huestis  
 Committee members: Donna Beveridge, Vicki Boucher, Lee Burnett, Evelyn LaBree, Tom Huber, Keith Walker, Susan Young

# September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						9:00 am: Meditation
<b>.NO SERVICE</b>	<b>4:30 pm: Bon Appetit</b>	<b>7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral</b>	<b>6:30 pm: Finance</b> <b>6:30 pm: COM</b> <b>7:00 pm: Harbour Singers</b>	<b>7:00 pm: SMGM</b>		<b>9:00 am: Meditation</b>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>5:30 pm: Membership</b>	<b>7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral</b>	<b>6:30 pm: Trustees</b> <b>7:00 pm: Harbour Singers</b>	<b>7:00 pm: SMGM</b>		<b>9:00 am: Meditation</b>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Bread Sunday</b>		<b>7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral</b>	<b>7:00 pm: Harbour Singers</b>	<b>7:00 pm: SMGM</b>		<b>9:00 am: Meditation</b>
<b>Food Pantry Sunday</b>						
<b>8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal</b>						
<b>11:30 am: Cottage Meeting</b>						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<b>8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>7:00 p : Earthen Spiral</b>		<b>7:00 pm: SMGM</b>		<b>9:00 am: Meditation</b>
<b>11:30 am: Cottage Meeting</b>						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30