



April 2018

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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April 1 Easter for Unitarian Universalists Beverly Brent

Beverly Brent has been a member of the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church for about 20 years. She has been a teacher and guidance counselor and has worked with special needs children. She was ordained by ChIME in 2006. Beverly's service revolves around trying to reconcile the diverse theological approaches we all bring to worship. And for us, what it means to practice resurrection. Our Easter service will begin with our traditional hat parade. Be sure to wear your Easter bonnets for the parade.



April 8 Hopeful Skepticism Rev. Steve Cook

One of the "Questions of the Spirit" I received some weeks ago asked, "How can we understand prayer in a Unitarian Universalist context?" Here are some thoughts on that.

April 15 Little Things Janis Sacco

For everyone who has felt helpless, insignificant, and disconnected, this service offers a message of hope and assurance that our presence in this world and the actions we take do, indeed, matter. Join guest speaker Jan Sacco as she explores a personal story of small intentional actions with the power to ripple into time and along unforeseen paths to a future of greater good. Jan is a worship associate, choir member, and co-chair of the Homesteader's Group of the Sanford Unitarian Universalist Church.

April 22 The Thread We Weave Rev. Steve Cook

We consider the origins of Earth Day, an observance of concerns that are ever more important.

April 29 Candidating Week Search Committee

The candidate for our new minister will be with us for the week. More details will be forthcoming from the search committee as we get closer. Stay tuned.

Sunday Happenings

8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am: Worship

Along the Way

As I write this, nor'easter #4 is bearing down upon us, bringing heavy snow and high winds for the fourth time in a month—and the first day of spring was March 20! Even for New England, this doesn't seem fair. March came in like a lion and is going out like one as well.

We take heart, however, in knowing that spring training is in full swing and opening day of the 2018 baseball season is March 29. The first home game of the Red Sox will be April 5. We look ahead in hope!

Accordingly, this might be a apt time to share a tongue-in-cheek comparison between not going to baseball games and not going to church. It's been around for a while, perhaps you've seen it, but in any case I hope it will give you a chuckle. We can use one around now, I think.

Why People Stop Going to Baseball Games

* No one sent me a personal invitation to attend the game.

- * Every time I went to a game, they asked me for money.
- * The people around me in the stands didn't seem very friendly.
- * The umpire made some decisions with which I didn't agree.
- * Some games went into extra innings and I was late getting home.
- * They always played games on the weekend, the only time I have to rest.
- * The seats were uncomfortable.
- * The ballpark organist played tunes I didn't know.
- * My parents made me go to games when I was little.
- * I recently read a book about baseball and I feel I know as much as the players and the manager anyway.
- * I don't feel I should make my children attend baseball games. When they are old enough they can decide for themselves which team they want to support.

Play ball—and see you in church!

Rev. Steve

What should I do if I have a conflict with a church member or group?

Conflict Resolution Process

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco and Biddeford is committed to fostering right relations among its members, friends, and staff.

We understand that conflict can be an inevitable part of a healthy community and can serve as an opportunity for growth and development. As members of this congregation, it is incumbent on all of us to handle conflict in ways that are reflected in our covenant.

You are welcome to speak informally with any member of the Committee on Ministries, we are easily identified by our yellow nametags. When needed,

the CoM will assist in developing a mediation plan with all involved parties.

Please read the Conflict Brochure developed by this committee and follow the Conflict Resolution Pathway that applies to your situation. When needed, the CoM will assist in developing a mediation plan for all involved parties.

Keep in mind that the CoM doesn't handle anonymous input.

Be assured that information communicated will be handled with appropriate confidentiality.

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 fundraising 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 through February 2018**

	Jul '17 - Feb 18	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
001 CONTRIBUTION INCOME	52,578	46,180	6,398	114%
002 RENTAL INCOME	3,450	4,225	(775)	82%
003 FUND RAISING INCOME	3,520	3,849	(329)	91%
004 OTHER INCOME	3,269	1,800	1,469	182%
Total Income	<u>62,818</u>	<u>56,054</u>	<u>6,764</u>	<u>112%</u>
Gross Profit	62,818	56,054	6,764	112%
Expense				
101 STAFFING	37,351	38,308	(957)	98%
102 MISSION	4,419	4,547	(128)	97%
103 OPERATIONS	13,752	17,120	(3,368)	80%
104 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	1,866	2,175	(309)	86%
105 OTHER EXPENSES	1,342	1,173	169	114%
Total Expense	<u>58,730</u>	<u>63,323</u>	<u>(4,593)</u>	<u>93%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>4,088</u>	<u>(7,269)</u>	<u>11,357</u>	

Website Update—April 2018

Thank you to everyone who has visited the website at www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com. Since the March 2016 launch, there have been over 24,467 page visits with an overall average of 33 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

“The woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those who sang the best.”
John James Audubon

Choir & Choir Rehearsals

April 1 – 8:30 Rehearsal and Singing in the Service - Easter Sunday (now closed)

April 8 – 8:45 Rehearsal

April 15 – 8:45 Rehearsal

April 22 – 8:45 Rehearsal and Singing in Service

April 29 – 8:45 Rehearsal and Singing in Service

Morning Song: At 9:45 on the 2nd Sunday of 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 March 8. We will sing songs of Spring.

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 is Anne C.

1) Reflect on your experience in the UUCSB Choir: I have sung in the choir for as long as I’ve been a UUCSB member, which is going on 28 years now! Sometimes we’ve had a full choir, other times fellow choir member Myra and I did a lot of duets. I even helped run the choir for a couple of years with Paul Benya’s help when we had no official director.

2) How long have you been a UU? I grew up in a UU church in Sudbury, MA, and sang in the Children’s Choir, so I guess you can say I’ve been a lifelong choir member!

3) How is singing part of your spiritual life? Singing for me is a form of prayer. It calms me, moves me, brings me great joy and brings comfort and joy to others. What could be better?

4) Other music experiences: I tried learning to play instruments when I was young: piano, flute, and guitar when we all wanted to be the next Joan Baez... And my husband Conrad sure wishes I played the ukulele to keep him company, but it seems my voice is my natural instrument...

5) Other interests, hobbies: Other interests include gardening, drawing, writing, yoga, boating, TRAVEL!

6) Occupation: I am a retired elementary school teacher,

7) Travels and favorite places: Now that I don’t have to abide by school vacation weeks, I head out into the world as often as possible. I highly recommend it!

8) Favorite kinds of music? When I choose music to listen to, I am drawn the most to Celtic and folk.



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.

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

Greetings from the Treasurer

Account balances as of 3/29/2018 are as follows:

Checking	\$1,370.50
Accounts payable	\$-0-
Moulton Trust	\$2,655.55
Restricted Savings	\$16,635.30
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$135,760.14



Any questions, just call.
Sincerely, Dick

From the President

Did you see it? A herald of things to come – the first daffodils are up, right outside the parlor windows. I can't wait to renew my acquaintance with the conversational groups of crocus scattered around the lawn in their Parisian fashions. Winter is definitely on the run!

As I put the finishing touches on this Messenger entry, we're waiting with bated breath to learn whether or not we have a match with the MSC's choice for our new minister. Stay tuned. My deepest gratitude goes out to the MSC for their dedication and hard work. In other news, we have renewed our membership in the Chamber of Commerce. We'll continue to post information on the Chamber's website, and we will be running an ad in the Chamber's printed directory, which is distributed in Maine, New Hampshire and beyond. The Chamber also offers after-hours networking events, and we'll be getting more involved with this as we move forward with the Capital Campaign.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged financial support for our next church year. If you haven't pledged yet, please consider what the church means to you and pledge generously!

OK, time to take the cover off the grill, and start planning my deck garden.

Kind regards,
Niki

**Yard Sale**

Our annual yard sale is Sat. May 12 from 8 to noon at the UUCSB. We'll need all the help we can get setting up, selling and cleaning up. Sign up sheets are on the board outside the bathrooms. Please lend a hand.

And don't forget to donate your stuff!!!

Contact Anne D. with questions.

Panera Bread

As you all know, *Panera Bread* is available twice a month after worship. Take what you can use, pay what you can. Bread that remains afterwards is donated to the *Seeds of Hope* soup kitchen in Biddeford. We are currently in need of plastic shopping bags to take your bread selections home. Please bring in some bags when you come to church.

Regifting Raffle

Thanks to all who participated in the regifting raffle.

Here are the winners:

Chia Pet EMOJI - Jeannine W

Scented Soy Candle - Paula H

Knot Ball Pillow - Jeannine W

I'm Always Late Clock - Myra R

Homemade Doll with Bench - Clarissa F

Holiday Liquid Soap - Paula H

Witch Crafters Kitchen Towels - Paula H

Note Paper - Steve R

Lenox Trivet - Steve R

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.

**Bob Magazu**

Broker/Realtor ABR, SRES, RSPS
bobsellsmaine@hotmail.com
www.bobsellsmaine.com

207-317-0221

I can sell your home

323 North Street, Saco, ME 04072



Alphabet Soup

Pot Luck Dinner

Thursday, April 5, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

This month the theme will be "Let's Have Breakfast"

we ask people to bring in breakfast dishes to share.

Coffee, Tea, water and Sodas are provided.

We will also have some bagels for you to enjoy.

Board Game Night

Thursday, April 12, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

Bring a friend or two and join us for a fun packed evening playing a board game and socializing. Beverages will be provided, just please bring snacks to share.

SAGE Dinner in Portland

Thursday, April 19, 2018

6:00 – 8:00 pm - Location: St. Luke's Church, Portland

SAGE meets for dinner monthly at St. Luke's in Portland. We will meet at the church at 5 PM to carpool. Cost is \$8 per person (\$6 over 60). Please let Tom know by Tuesday, April 17th to ensure an accurate head count.

Movie Night

Thursday, April 26, 2018

7:00 – 9:00 pm - 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.

Easter Egg Hunt

RE will be having the traditional Easter Egg Hunt for the younger folks April 1. Please encourage grandchildren, nieces and nephews and all to come and celebrate with us this year. The children will be in the sanctuary for the first part of the service, then leave for the Egg Hunt. Baskets will be provided. Don't forget to wear an Easter bonnet/ hat/ bunny ears decorated in your special style.

Spring Auction - May 19

Ticket price is \$30.00 per person or buy a table for 8 at \$225.00 That's a \$15.00 savings. You will need to pay and pick up tickets before May 15. Please contact Tom M. for tickets. We will have a cash bar. Coffee and tea is included in your ticket price. We will be having a buffet dinner this year. Appetizers will be served during the silent auction. Please invite your friends and family to join you. The more the merrier.

We are looking for items to be donated for our baskets. If you have any ideas please drop them into the bins in the coat area by Sunday, April 22 along with price tags/values. Some items we are looking for are: kitchen gadgets, items to do up a few spa baskets, tea & coffee items, odds and ends, food items, personal grooming items foods from other countries, chocolate and other candy and scratch tickets as well. Please see the fundraising bulletin board in the Parish Hall for more ideas.

We also need people to go out to businesses to ask for donations. Tom has more information on this.

On Friday, May 18 we need help transporting stuff to the Credit Union and back on Monday May 21. This will include moving all the tables from the church to the Credit Union. We have a pickup truck to move them.



Faith in Action Team: UUCSB's Social Justice Center



**FAITH
IN ACTION**

FIAT meetings:

2nd Sunday of the month

11:15 in the Parlor.

Next meeting: April 8.

Join us!

Share the Plate

Sunday, April 8th

The Maine Way, Inc.

Since 2005, The Maine Way has been on the front lines, working to help the homeless find safe, affordable housing.

This all volunteer group is in need of donations to fund the ongoing maintenance of their transitional house and their Representative Payee Program. This program works to prevent homelessness by taking over the finances of those who cannot manage their money by themselves.



Animal Welfare Society
Donations (see the wish list on wall) are always welcomed in the basket by the Parish Hall door and will be delivered to the shelter in Kennebunk

Our Faith in Action Team (FIAT) provides an umbrella of support for social action information, education, and initiatives- whether local, within our tri-church country network, or across the state or nation. There are many ways that each of us can contribute: volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, Bon Appetit, Biddeford soup kitchen, or Sanford III's Corner Cupboard; put something in our Little Free Pantry or in the basket for local food pantries; join Harbour singers for end-of-life bedside sings; get involved in MUUSAN's (Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network) initiatives. **Put your faith into action!**

Little Free Pantry

Thank you all for donating food, toiletries and small clothing items such as hats, socks and gloves to the pantry over the winter months. Keep it coming!

We have officially recognized our FIAT friend, Jim Howard, for his generous donation of materials and construction of the Little Free Pantry by installing a plaque on the backside of the pantry. Thank you, Jim, for making our dream come true!



MUUSAN's 128th Legislative Agenda

Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network has endorsed or opposed bills in all 4 mission areas: Democracy in Action, Health Care for All, Climate Change and Racial Justice.

For a list of practical actions that we can take to help further their mission go to their website at www.muusan.org.

MUUSAN thanks us for all we do to advance our UU Principles in the world!

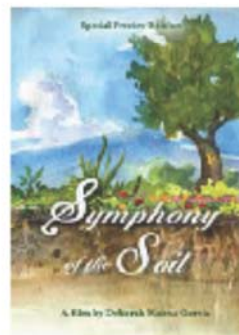
FIAT supports and is supported by MUUSAN.

Next MUUSAN meeting: May 12, Spring Conference 9:30-3 at UU Church of Augusta.

Save the Date!

Join us in the Parish Hall
Friday evening May 11th
for the free viewing of the film
Symphony of the Soil.

This documentary will be followed by a discussion facilitated by Rev. Kitsy Winthrop
Open to the public- bring a neighbor!



April Notes from your Ministerial Search Committee



Your Ministerial Search Committee is so (!!) energized and excited as we work to bring you the best candidate for minister . We've spent a weekend each with four exceptional pre-candidates. How to choose will be the challenge - not because we don't have good candidates, but because each is excellent. Excellent, but different. And each one is excited about us, our churches, our communities. As one said, "I fell in love with you at the introductory Friday night dinner." Among all the positives we've heard, I want to share with you a spontaneous comment made by two candidates, "You're church is so clean." Kudos to those who take care of our building!

You may wonder why we can't present more than one candidate. Perhaps you even think the process is undemocratic. The reason that serial candidating - the process of presenting more than one candidate to the congregation - is frowned upon is that it tends to be destructive to the candidates and to the congregations to which they are presented. It can split congregations before the process has been completed, and it's unlikely that any candidate would receive the vote of confidence needed for a successful ministry. From the point of view of the candidates, the confidentiality of the process would be broken.

So, at the end of the long process of interviewing, evaluating, checking references, and building consensus, your search committee will present you with the one candidate who is, in our opinion, best for our two congregations. Then, after a full week of Sunday services, meetings, and social engagements, when you will be able to meet and size up the candidate for yourselves, you will make the final decision in the congregational vote to call or not to call.

We can't wait to decide on the right candidate for us soon - a candidate who chooses us, as well!!

Ministerial Search Committee members:

Donna B., Keith W., Susan Y., from UUCSB and
Lisa H., Evelyn L., Lee B., and Tom H. from SUUC

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal	4:30 pm: Bon Appetit	5:30 pm: Membership 7:00 p : Earthen Spiral	6:30 pm: Finance Comm 6:30 pm: CoM 7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: Alphabet Soup	10:00 am: Coffee & Carbs	9:00 am: Meditation
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Bread Sunday 8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am: Morning Song 11:15 am: FIAT		7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	6:30 pm: Trustees 7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: Alphabet Soup	10:00 am: Coffee & Carbs	9:00 am: Meditation 10:00 am: Worship Com- mittee
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Food Pantry Sunday 8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal		7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: Alphabet Soup	10:00 am: Coffee & Carbs	9:00 am: Meditation
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Bread Sunday 8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal		7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	Newsletter Deadline	7:00 pm: Alphabet Soup	10:00 am: Coffee & Carbs	9:00 am: Meditation
29	30					
8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal						