



May 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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Sunday Happenings

8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am: Worship

May 7

Wake Now Our Senses

Rev. Margaret Beckman & Rev Steve Cook

A special joint worship service in Saco, led by Rev. Steve and the Rev. Margaret Beckman our UUA Transition Coach. (She also serves our church in Castine.) This will be followed by a joint meeting of both churches to hear about Ministerial Search Committee selection procedures, with Q and A from all interested parties. *This will be a very important service and all are urged to attend.* **Church School**

May 14

Black Moses

Rev. Steve Cook

Last year, it was decided to remove from the \$20 bill the portrait of the slave-owning President Andrew Jackson and replace it with that of Harriet Tubman. Born a slave, she escaped from bondage, then in 13 expeditions rescued 70 others on the Underground Railroad. **Church School.**

May 21

Joyful Dance of the Spirit

Rev. Laurence Miller

Everything we do in life has some connection to the Divine. Song, music and dance are tools for Spiritual Growth. Let your Spirit and the Spirit of All that exists join in a great partnership. Dance is generally assumed to be an activity that requires one to be nimble. Today we dance in our hearts and souls and explore, so sit back and let your Spirit sway towards the Joyful Dance of the Spirit. **Church School.**

May 28

Find the Cost of Freedom

Rev. Steve Cook

Memorial Day was born out of the terrible struggle of the Civil War and reminds of the costs of war and freedom. **No Church School.**

From the President

Well, that's more like it. Even if the temperatures in the days following Easter were in the 40s, it was 86 degrees on Easter, and that's not fake news. I can feel the world yawning and stretching as it comes to life again - waking up! Martel's is open, daffodils are appearing everywhere, and I've already seen kids in shorts and bare feet. Can't wait to see what the future holds...

Transition News

On May 7th, please plan to attend the important event when our friends from our sibling church in Sanford join us here at the UUCCSB for a joint worship service and an after-church discussion.

Our UUA Ministerial Search Representative (MSR), Rev Margaret Beckman will join Rev Steve in the pulpit for this service. We'll celebrate our commitment to enter into an intentional shared ministry together and after the service, Rev Steve and Rev Margaret will lead a discussion about the process that we'll use to select our joint search committee and the timetable for moving forward.

What can you do in the meantime? Be thinking about who you would like to see represent the UUCCSB on the joint search committee for our settled minister. Consider church members who have the trust and confidence of the congregation, who listen well and can see the big picture. The search committee will be selected soon, and the exciting and important work will begin.

And by the way, the service will feature the combined choirs of both churches, and lunch will be provided.

In this season of new beginnings, I wish warm blessings on one and all. Hope to see you all on May 7th!

Kind regards,
Niki



Along the Way

From time to time I have used, for closing words, the following poem by the contemporary American poet, Thomas R. Smith:

Trust

It's like so many other things in life
to which you must say no or yes.
So you take your car to the new mechanic.
Sometimes the best thing to do is trust.

The package left with the disreputable-looking
clerk, the check gulped by the night deposit,
the envelope passed by dozens of strangers—
all show up at their intended destinations.

The theft that could have happened doesn't.
Wind finally gets where it was going
through the snowy trees, and the river, even
when frozen, arrives at the right place.

And sometimes you sense how faithfully your life
is delivered, even though you can't read the address.

This kind of challenge to our hearts and courage is always before
us in our personal lives and in our institutions, but in this period of
transition for the Sanford UU Church and the UU Church of Saco

and Biddeford, both the challenges and the promises of trust and faith are heightened. Last year, facing the challenges of change, you trusted your leaders to chose for you a "temporary shepherd," as interim ministers are sometimes poetically and traditionally called; since September you have trusted me, that temporary shepherd, to provide ministerial leadership that is different in some ways from what you've known before; you are aware that there are important questions before these churches; in dealing with those you have trusted your leaders and me, but most of all you've trusted yourselves. You have expressed confidence in the skill, the courage and the resources of each church to face those questions and find the answers that work for you.

Soon, you will be invited by your leaders to take a further step in trust, to select a joint, ministerial search committee. That committee will be commissioned and empowered by both churches to serve you in one of the most important decisions that can fall to a church in our tradition of the self-governing congregation, searching for and bringing to the churches the person they believe best suited to serve and lead you as your minister, to co-create with you the next chapter in the life of each church. You will be asked to trust and support that committee over the months ahead. You will have guidance from me and the UUA to help you this important task and I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

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 16-17 Operating Budget vs. Actual YTD
 July 2016 through March 2017

	Jul '16 - Mar 17	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
001 CONTRIBUTION INCOME	58,546	50,074	8,472	117%
002 RENTAL INCOME	4,200	5,740	(1,540)	73%
003 FUND RAISING INCOME	4,390	3,865	525	114%
004 OTHER INCOME	1,200	3,490	(2,290)	34%
Total Income	68,335	63,169	5,166	108%
Gross Profit	68,335	63,169	5,166	108%
Expense				
101 STAFFING	40,056	40,570	(514)	99%
102 MISSION	3,360	4,690	(1,330)	72%
103 OPERATIONS	16,431	19,423	(2,992)	85%
104 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	2,051	2,400	(349)	85%
105 OTHER EXPENSES	3,410	3,624	(214)	94%
Total Expense	65,309	70,707	(5,398)	92%
Net Ordinary Income	3,027	(7,538)	10,564	

Website Update—May 2017

Thank you to everyone who has visited the website at www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com. Since the March 2016 launch, there have been over 13,176 page visits with an overall average of 34 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 Notes from Choir Director, Ellie R.

***"The inexpressible depth of music... easy to understand and yet so inexplicable, is due to the fact that it reproduces all of the emotions of our innermost being, but entirely without reality and remote from its pain... Music expresses only the quintessence of life and of its events, never these themselves."** –Schopenhauer*

The History of UU Hymnody, continued: Our newest hymnal supplement 'Singing the Journey' was published in 2006. The Preface tells of it's development: "In the fall of 2003, Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) President William G. Sinkford appointed a task force of six Unitarian Universalist (UU) Musicians Network members to create a new congregational hymn resource. This task force sought submissions for the new resource that offered fresh hymns, chants or songs that enliven worship; music for marking the seasons in the lives of our congregations; and music in a number of different styles including jazz, folk, pop, spirituals, gospel, praise songs, call-and-response, chants, rounds and traditional hymns.

Topics sought for material to be included needed to be UU-appropriate, and representative of one of the many areas of our devotional life, including materials highlighting the spirituality of the Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender community, earth-centered and non-Western theologies, both male and female spirituality, and the music of cultures traditionally under-represented in our communities."

UUCSB first acquired copies of "Singing the Journey" for the choir not long after it was published. The choir has sung many songs from this hymnal since then. Copies for the whole congregation were finally purchased a few years ago.

Morning Song: At 9:50 one Sunday 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 Sunday, May 21.

Ukulele Players: I know you're out there! If you play the ukulele and would be willing to play special music in a trio/quartet/quintet.... (depends on how many we have!) some Sunday - please let me know. Conrad C. and I will lead the group.



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. uuchurchsac-biddeford.com](http://www.uuchurchsac-biddeford.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

Share the Plate—May



Day One's mission is to dramatically reduce substance use and address mental health needs among Maine youth to help them live productive, healthy, and rewarding lives. Day One's services include training and education, assessment, screening, referrals and treatment for individuals, groups, families, schools, and communities throughout Maine.

The Worship Committee is looking for new members.

We meet 3-4 times during the church year and in late summer to coordinate the worship calendar, solicit lay leaders and contract guest ministers for Sundays when Rev. Steve is not leading service. This is a rewarding and important task to serve our congregation. If you are passionate about shaping meaningful worship for our community, please contact one of the current members: Niki, Tom, Jane P or Meret. Our next meeting will be in spring to plan summer worship services.

Greetings from the Treasurer

Account balances as of 4/28/2017 are as follows:

Checking	\$2,374.91
Accounts payable	\$18.72
Moulton Trust	\$2,641.67
Restricted Savings	\$20,408.53
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$128,602.41



Any questions, just call.
Sincerely, Wendy

Caring Committee

Happy Spring from the Caring Connection!

Since it is impossible for us to be aware of every circumstance in our church family, we need your eyes and ears to help us. We would like to encourage you to contact us when you come across a situation that could use some assistance. It may be someone would be comforted with a visit, or a note. Perhaps one of our folks might benefit from some prepared meals or transportation. Please help us provide love and support for our wonderful church family. You may contact any one of us with concerns. We are all in the new 2017 Directory. Marilyn C., Anne C., Donna R., Pat S, Dorinne S. and Gloria S.

Yard Sale

Our Annual Yard Sale will be held Sat. May 20 from 8 to 1. We need your help to make this, our last fundraiser of the year, a big success. With two congregational households on the move and one business closing, we have some great stuff. Please bring your not-for-the trash bin-yet donations to the church. We have storage space in the narthex, basement and trash room.



Please sign up in the Parish Hall to assist with this event.

See Anne D. FMI.

Thank You

Spring Spruce Up

Instead of our usual work day, we are trying a new approach this year. There is a list of jobs on the bulletin board across from the bathrooms. On it are several jobs that you can sign up for and do over the spring/summer at your own pace. Jane P., Betsey P.; and Anne D. will assist you with locating tools and supplies. There is a job on the list for all ages and skill levels. If we missed a

job that you'd like to do just add job that and your name to the list.

Thanks

RE Committee

Hello from the RE folks. We are so excited about the upcoming RE Sunday. The RE youth have planned the whole service themselves. Our RE classes have a real treat in store for you on May 21. Please plan to attend and show your support for our youth.

We are also in need of a few more volunteers/ committee members for next year. Please see Jeannine if you are interested in our fantastic team.

**David L. Marshall**

Building Contractor
Camp and Cottage Repair

118 Saco Avenue
Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064

207-649-7260
sdmarshall4@aol.com

More News

Membership and Welcoming

Each person in our church community is responsible for noticing that someone new is here in our midst. ***Each person is responsible for welcoming*** new people – for opening our community to the “stranger in our midst.”

There is a committee to help facilitate activities that engage people with our church. We would like a few more people to join us on the committee.

We meet on the second Monday of each month at 5:00pm (our current meeting time) in the room next to the Sanctuary although our next meeting has been moved to May 1st.

Please talk to any of us on the committee for more information.

Edite Kroll – edite.kroll@gmail.com; 207-283-8797

Dick Skillin – R.Skillin@yahoo.com; 207-653-0637

Jane Perkins – jperkins17@maine.rr.com; 207-494-8410

Odette Dansereau – odansereau@wth.com; 207-602-6826

Land Acquisition Update

If you've read the Courier or the Journal Tribune lately, you will see that the press is following our discussions with the City Council about acquiring land under and around our buildings closely. As of this date, we have not been scheduled to appear before the Council for a vote on our request, but that should happen soon. We will send a blast to all the congregation when this gets scheduled so that the UUCSB can have as many folks as possible show up for this important vote. Please try to join us in support of this action. Many thanks to all those who came to the last Council workshop meeting. Our numbers spoke volumes to the Council.

Take a look at the bulletin board at the front of the Parish Hall. Our last step in the Partners for Sacred Places Capital Campaign process is under way. This step is Telling Our Story. We have gathered all the material about our history, the condition of our building and our public value. Now we are ready to draft letters to our target groups, finalize our brochure - thank you Donna B. for all your work - making lists of folks to contact, organizing our grant writing and forming our asking campaign. On that board are sign up sheets indicating opportunities to assist with our work. Please make sure your name is on at least one of those lists. We all need to help with this campaign in order to do the work we want to do.

Peter Marks, Betsey Pace and Anne Dobson are available to answer any questions you may have. Please talk with us; we are hard at work and would love to share our efforts with you.

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.

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.



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



Faith In Action Team: UUCSB's Social Justice Center



FIAT meetings:

Last Sundays of each month 11:15 in the Parlor. All are welcome.

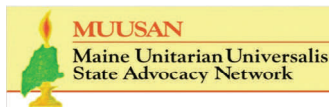
Next meeting: May 28.

Talk to a FIAT member at our table on other Sundays.

Look for action suggestions on the FIAT bulletin board any time!

FIAT supports and is supported by [MUUSAN](#).
Next MMUSAN meeting:

May 13, Spring
Conference 9:30-3 at
UU Church of Augusta.
Carpool with Randa and Meret!



Share the Plate



Day One's mission is to dramatically reduce substance use and address mental health needs among Maine youth to help them live productive, healthy, and rewarding lives.

Why "Black Lives Matter" Matters, Revisited

Personal Reflection by Randa Thomas

FIAT and the Board of Trustees have shared their interest in displaying a Black Lives Matter banner outside of our church. Through an e-mail you have been invited to share your opinions about such a decision. If we do this it would be something we'd like our whole church to embrace. If we do this, it could mean you may be called to talk about it with someone you know. Please join the conversation so we can make this decision together.

On March 8, International Women's Day, there were some interesting interactions among my high school students. My favorite: a boy says, "When is International Men's Day?" and a chorus of female voices shout, "Every day!" That's the way it is. It's not that men matter less, it's that men have always been noticed, celebrated. Women's accomplishments haven't received the kind of attention they deserve.

In the September *Messenger* I wrote a reflection in response to a conversation I had after a prayer vigil we held at our church. I'm writing again in response to another such conversation I recently had with someone who said, "I'd like to think that all lives matter."

From *Messenger*, September 2017

... I've come to see that singling out black lives acknowledges that throughout the history of our country, people of color- especially black- have not been treated equally, have not mattered. Discrimination continues today as ... prejudices that have been trained into us for generations have contributed to the mass incarceration and killing of African Americans, leading to outrage at the string of widely publicized killings of unarmed black men by police. (Harvard's [Project Implicit](#) offers a test of your racial bias.)

All lives do matter. It's just time to bring black lives into to our awareness, to wake up to our privilege, to own our ignorance. If you are white, you have prejudices- "biases" if you need a more comfortable word- that you probably are not even aware of. Members of FIAT will be putting our faith into action as we learn more about race, privilege and prejudice and help each other to bravely face the racism we have denied having. You are welcome to join us.

Explore on your own at the links below.

Rev. Daniel Shatz <http://www.uua.org/worship/words/reading/change-black-to-all>

10 Things Everyone should Know about Race: <http://newsreel.org/guides/race/10things.htm>

(Test of racial bias.) <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Here and Now (NPR) 'Waking Up White' Explores White Privilege:

<http://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2015/08/10/waking-up-white>

May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	4:30 pm: Bon Appetit	7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	6:30 pm: Finance 6:30 pm: COM 7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM		9:00 am: Meditation
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Bread Sunday 8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am: RE Committee	5:30 pm: Membership	7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	6:30 pm: Trustees 7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM		9:00 am: Meditation
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	7:00 pm: Harbour Singers	7:00 pm: SMGM	Yard Sale Setup	8:00 am: Yard Sale 9:00 am: Meditation	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Bread Sunday Food Pantry Sunday 8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm: Earthen Spiral	Newsletter Deadline 7:00 pm: SMGM			9:00 am: Meditation 5:30 pm: Auction	
28	29	30	31			
8:45 am: Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am: FIAT	7:00 p : Earthen Spiral					