

The Messenger

**Unitarian Universalist Church
of Saco & Biddeford**
www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com

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September Services, 2018

Sept. 2 Labor Day Weekend
no service

September 9

Rev. Shay MacKay

Gathering of the Waters

You've caught yourself a minister, but the Search is not over. Where do we flow from here?

September 16

Rev. Shay MacKay

Stepping into Transformation

Does Joseph Campbell's concept of the "The Hero's Journey" work within the context of community? How does Carl Jung's "night journey on the ocean" guide us as a community toward self-enlightenment?

September 23

Rev. Shay MacKay

Serving with Grace

On this path together, how do we serve ourselves each other, and our larger community with patience, compassion, and grace?



September 30

Worship Committee

Blessing of the Animals

*Bring a pet. Bring a picture of a pet. Today we will celebrate our traditional blessing of the animals. Pets will be welcome in the Sanctuary during the service. Following the formal service, we will gather our pets and process to the park behind the church for our blessing ceremony. **Animals will be in the sanctuary on the left side when facing the pulpit. All Ages Service***

Note the Change

Beginning Sept. 9
Sunday services will
be held at
9:00 a.m.



Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, you are welcome here

Shay's Sharings



When I first started on my path to ministry, I began working in a small UU fellowship in rural, northern California. They had had a rough past and had too often been told No! I promised myself that I would say Yes as often as I could with them, and began rebuilding the groundwork for a congregational culture of hope and possibility.

Over the years of ministerial training and work, I've had to learn how to balance my desire to always say Yes! with the needs of my family and my mental and physical health – I've had to learn again how to say No.

Many of you have expressed concern about burnout and fatigue, and these are valid concerns given the history of ministerial expectations. But I promise you, I have learned my lesson well and am confident in my ability to set limits and maintain boundaries. I'm pretty good at saying No when I need to (and my partner Diana is even better at reminding me!). However, our society, especially in these days of fear-mongering, has become much too comfortable with an instant and unwavering No in response to so many things. It makes me again want to promise myself that I will, as often as possible, answer with a Yes instead.

I've organized the year into a series of themes, giving all of us a chance for a deeper dive into certain ideas and more time to look at concepts from different angles. We'll begin with "The Journey," exploring this new path we are walking together. What I'm hoping is that we can set aside some of our fears and anxieties, knowing that this beloved community is strong enough to hold them, and have the courage to say Yes more often than not as we figure out where we're going.

I'm reading a great book called *The Answer to How is Yes* by author and trainer Peter Brock. The basic premise is that we can so very often, both as individuals and as institutions, get stuck in the How questions, spinning our wheels as we dig ourselves further and further into the pit of how much will it cost? and who will we upset? and what if it doesn't work? Instead, Brock says, we need to "understand that the task is to shift the demand for the right answer to the search for the right question." We need to "raise the question of what do we want to create together?"

And then we do it.

And deal with all the how's and what if's as we go. Maintain space and time for heartfelt conversations that discuss and affirm doubts, feelings, and intuitions.

At our beginning of the year retreat, the Boards of the two churches and I explored some ideas of a new "culture" we want to encourage and inspire at both SUUC and UUCSB. A culture of making decisions based on our values and convictions. A culture of spiritual depth and maturity in all that we do. A culture of saying Yes! without letting ourselves get stuck in the fear and grief that always accompany change.

Now, I'm not saying that fear and grief aren't perfectly valid and real and reasonable responses to taking steps in new directions. And it will be important that our churches are places where it is safe to have and express these feelings. And, together we can move through them, continuing our journey, allowing curiosity and compassion be our guides as we search and search anew for where our hearts are leading us.

I guess what I'm really saying is, in the words of Joseph Campbell, "The big question is whether you are going to be able to say a hearty YES to your adventure."

Tentative Schedule

Mondays:

Sanford office hours
11:00am-5:00pm

Tuesdays:

Saco/Biddeford office hours
11:00am-2:00pm

Sanford office hours
2:30pm-5:30pm

Wednesdays:

Saco/Biddeford office hours
11:00am-5:00pm

Thursdays:

Sermon Writing Day
(availability will be limited)

Quote of the Month:

*Helping hands
are better
than praying
lips.
Mother Teresa*

Greetings From Your BoT President



Board President's Report

The work of the church continued through the summer. The new Board met in July and I believe we are off to a good start. The Sanford and Saco Board presidents met with Rev. Shay to plan for the joint Boards retreat held on August 25th at Ferry Beach

. The retreat gave us an opportunity to get to know the members of the Sanford board and learn a bit about each other's church life. We spent the afternoon with our new minister leading us through a workshop for church leaders, looking at how social and demographic changes are impacting church life. More on the retreat next month.

Thank you to those who were able to attend the two Q&A sessions with Rev. Shay at our church during the month of August.

Sincerely,
Allen Casad

Capital Campaign News

We welcome Mark Young to the steering committee. Mark brings his understanding of finances, his perceptive analytical skills and his wonderful sense of humor to the job.

After a couple of months off to catch our breath, we are working on
1) securing pledges to the Capital Campaign from 100% of our members,
2) developing a plan for community involvement; and
3) exploring creative ways to fund our projects.

At this time we have pledges from members of our community in the amount of \$75,190 toward a congregational goal of \$130,000. (Total Capital Campaign goal is \$350,000.)

Folks who have not yet pledged will be getting a mailing in the very near future. Folks who have pledged will get a statement of the amount paid and owed in their bi-monthly pledge statement due out the end of August.

Look for ways that you can assist with the Capital Campaign by checking out posting on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall, checking our monthly up-date in the newsletter or by speaking with Betsey P., Mark Y. or Anne D.

UUCSB

Board President:

Al Casad

Vice President:

Niki Norman

Secretary:

Ron Hiser

Treasurer:

Wendy Coleman

Collector:

Betsey Pace

At Large:

Mogens Ravn

Pat Snyder

James

Standerfer

Anne Dobson

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.

Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, you are welcome here

Candles and Flowers

Off the main entrance to our church (the Narthex) there is a small room called "The Bride's Room." With few brides needing to primp before the ceremony, it has been used for storage of flowers and some candles. I have put in some shelving and pulled things together a bit over this summer (with some help from Meret B., Betsey P., Al C., and Matt G.).

There is more that I want to do, but it is all functional at the moment. If you need artificial flower arrangements or poinsettias for the holidays or vases, check in the Bride's Room. More vases are still located in the lower cabinets near the sink in the kitchen.

All the candles one might need to use in the Sanctuary are located here in the Bride's Room. Among them are Luminescence materials, tea light holders for the Christmas Eve service, boxes of candles used for Joys and Concerns, Chanukah candles, Advent candles, Altar candles, Tea Lights - both with wax and wicks and those that are battery powered, and other things.

Hopefully anyone will be able to go into the Bride's Room and find what he or she needs to "dress" our church. Jane P.

Archives Plus.....



From the Archives.....

Panes in the Sanctuary

Take a look at our wonderful Sanctuary windows. Of course the two stained glass windows were not original to the Second Parish Unitarian Meeting House when it was dedicated in 1827.

The original windows - many of the original panes still exist. Take a close up look at them and you will see why our architect placed restoration of these windows near the top of our needed structural work.

Tiffany designed "The Good Sheperd" was brought from the Universalist Church in Biddeford around 1970 and installed in its present location.*

The window in the chancel wall was a gift in honor of Rev. John T.G.Nichols as a tribute to his service to the local community for his many works of service. As you may recall, Rev. Nichols was at 2nd Parish Unitarian Church from 1842 to 1888.*

* See Anne D. for a more detailed history of our special windows.



September, 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
					10:00 am Coffee & Carbs Off Site	9-10 am Meditation Parlor
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No church service	Labor Day	5:00 pm Weight Watchers Parish Hall 5:30-6:30 Membership/ Welcoming Meeting Room 7:30-9:00 Coven Off Site	8:00 -10 am Weight Watchers Parish Hall 6:30-8:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting Room 6:30-7:30 Committee on Ministries Board Room	7-9 Alphabet Soup Parish Hall	10:00 -11 am Coffee and Carbs Off Site 6-9 pm Choir Rehearsal Parish Hall	9-10 am Meditation Group Parlor 10:00 am-1:00 pm Choir Rehearsal Parish Hall
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30 -9 am Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary		5:00 -7:00 pm Weight Watchers Parish Hall 7:30-9:00 Coven Off Site	8:00 -10:00 am Weight Watchers Parish Hall 6:30-8:30 BoT Board Room	7:00-9:00 pm Alphabet Soup Parish Hall	10:00 -11:00 am Coffee and Carbs Off Site	9:00-10:00 Meditation Group Parlor
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:15-am -12:15 pm Building Safety and Security Discussion Parlor Panera bread Sunday 10:15-11:45 Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary		5:00 -7:00 pm Weight Watchers Parish Hall 7:30-9:00 Coven Off Site	8:00 -10:00 am Weight Watchers Parish Hall	7:00-9:00 Alphabet Soup Parish Hall	10:00 -11:00 am Coffee and Carbs Off Site	9:00-10:00 am Meditation Group Parlor 10:30 am -12:00 Medicine, Religion & Science Church Parlor
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:15-11:45 Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	Messenger Deadline for submissions	5:00 -7:00 pm Weight Watchers Parish Hall 7:30-9:00 Coven Off Site	8:00 -10:00 am Weight Watchers Parish Hall	7:00-9:00 pm Alphabet Soup[Parish Hall	10:00 --11:00 am Coffee and Carbs Off Site	9:00-10:00 Meditation Group Parlor 10:30 am 12:00 Medicine & Science Church Parlor
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
10:15-11:45 am Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary						

Membership



Please wear your nametag!

We're very fortunate to have 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. You may drop your nametag in the basket next to the door as you leave. If you need a new nametag, please see the signup sheet on the nametag board.

Adult RE Discussion Group

In response to requests of several congregation members, James Standerfer will facilitate four follow up discussions on Religion, Medicine and Science. The series will begin on Sept. 22 at 10:30 am in the church Parlor and continue through Oct. 13.

Please plan to attend these insightful and challenging sessions. See James for more details

Caring Connection News

Whew! There went summer! We hope everyone enjoyed their summer and are excited as we are to usher in the beginning of our new church services under the leadership of Rev. Shay.

We met with Rev. Shay recently. The meeting helped us to define our roles in this new partnership. We also came up with some fresh, new ideas. We came away from the meeting rejuvenated and ready to get started on our tasks.

While the summer flew by, we remained constant and vigilant. We continued to provide services as needed to our beloved congregation.

Please continue to call on us if you know of someone in need. See you soon!

Marilyn C., Anne C., Donna R.,

Who's Who in the Pulpit



We warmly welcome Rev. Shay MacKay

I was raised in the flowing golden prairies and rolling hills of central North Dakota. My parents were elementary school teachers, and my younger sister and I had what most would call a happy, normal

childhood – privileged and protected, cradled in the embrace of our large German-Russian family and the Catholic Church.

From a very early age, music was an essential part of my life, and given that Church was central to everything we did, it was only natural that the two became interwoven for me. I was fascinated by it all – the ritual, the music, the mystery, the awe.

I joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps after getting my BA in Psychology, and was sent to Tacoma, Washington, to work at Nativity House, a day shelter for the homeless and marginalized. From the moment I walked in the doors, I knew it was where I was supposed to be. My eyes and heart were opened wide to the realities of our society and the struggles of our marginalized peoples. It was at Nativity House that I first began to really name and explore my call to ministry. I also began to explore the feminine divine, pagan spirituality, and discovered how to use art, journaling, meditation, and nature as ways to connect with Spirit. My decision to come out as a lesbian at age 29 was a monumental shift in my image of self and how I moved through the world. I spent the next ten years discovering all it meant to be queer in today's world – and in *my* world, with my family and friends and co-workers. As I lived more and more into this truth, my spirituality began to emerge in a deeper and fuller way.

In 2010, Spirit led me to two congregations at the exact same time – a UU Fellowship and a Unity church. I became the administrator of one and the pianist of the other and fell in love with both. My call to ministry came booming out of the wilderness loud and clear, and both congregations encouraged and nurtured me toward seminary.

My mom is my biggest supporter and will always hold a strong sense of home for me in the middle of North Dakota. I am deeply committed to my beloved partner, Diana, who is also a UU minister, and her 15 year old son, Aidan.

I am a musician and composer, love animals and books, and am slowly improving my skills in both cooking and knitting. Nature is an important source of renewal and inspiration, and I especially find comfort in trees, mountains, and the wind that sweeps across the prairie. I like to get out hiking and camping whenever I can - there's nothing better than a book and a hammock, gently swinging in the trees.



Music Notes

from Choir Director, Ellie R.

Attention Choir: Special Ingathering/Water Communion Rehearsal Plan:

- Pre-rehearsal tracks available for those interested (contact Ellie for details)
- Friday, September 7th from 6 – 9 p.m. (with special appearance by Rev. Shay)
- Saturday, September 8th from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Sunday, September 9th from 8:30 – 9 a.m. (service begins at 9:00 a.m.)
- Must listen to pre-rehearsal tracks and attend Friday or Saturday (both if possible) and Sunday morning to participate

Note: Friday and Saturday's special rehearsals will also include some social time as we gather for the new church year. Those not singing on Sunday will be able to leave early.

Regular Choir Rehearsals: starting Sunday, September 16 from 10:15 – 11:45

Morning Song: One Sunday each month I am in the sanctuary leading 'gathering singing' from 8:45-9:00 just before the service. Our next 'Morning Song' will be on September 16.



Our Music Ministry: Our music ministry begins with our Sunday services but extends in many directions. This year in my monthly 'Music Notes' I'll talk about the ways music is woven into our services and our lives. If you have questions about our Music Ministry that you'd like answered, please let me know!

How does music call to you? On one of my first visits to UUCSB over 25 years ago a group of 3 or 4 women stood by the organ and sang a hymn. I was overwhelmed by the words and the beauty of their combined voices and knew I wanted to be a part of it. Thus started my renewed journey with singing. This led me to eventually lead this church choir as well as to co-found and lead a choir for end of life. I often wonder if others feel the way I did that day listening to a small but dedicated group of people who added a special dimension to worship.

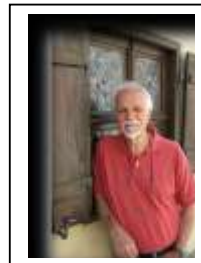
Seeking Choir Members: The following has been posted on our UUCSB Facebook Page (without my choir email). If you are on Face Book, please look for it and share it with your friends. You never know who might be looking for a place to sing!

UUCSB Choir - Do you like singing in a choir? Are you more comfortable in a liberal, affirming spiritual community? We may have just the right place for you! The Unitarian Universalist Church of Saco and Biddeford is searching for singers who like to make good music and have fun doing it (age 16 to 116).

Finding it hard to make a big time commitment? Commit to one or all of our singing sessions (Sept/Oct; Oct/Nov/Dec (holidays); Jan/Feb; Feb/Mar (TriQuire); Mar/Apr; May/June). Services are on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 a.m. Rehearsals follow from 10:15 – 11:45. You don't need to be able to read music, just have good ears and be ready to be a part of a fun and challenging choral experience. FMI, contact Ellie Rolnick at ellie.UUCSB.choir@maine.rr.com. Anyone who likes to sing is welcome to join us!

Poetic Thoughts by Our Own Keith W.

*While I fear the end
of my life, this bowl of perfect
soup is getting cold.*



Buildings and Grounds

Building Safety and Security Discussion

On Sept 16 right after church and a wee bit of coffee, all who are interested in discussing recent safety and security recommendations raised by Sgt. Foss and Officer Bennett of the Saco PD are invited to join us in the Parlor. James Standerfer will facilitate.

Committee on Ministries

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.

Alphabet Soup - September

All events are open to anyone ages 18+.

Thursdays, 7 to 9 pm

UU Church of Saco & Biddeford

60 School St., Saco

All are welcome!

September 6th - Monthly Pot Luck Dinner Night

Come eat and socialize.

Meat and beverages are provided.

Bring side dishes and desserts to share.

Bring a friend, the more the merrier.

RSVP Tom for a head count.

September 13th - Board Game Night

Come play board games and socialize.

Beverages are provided

Bring a friend and snacks to share



September 20th - Dinner with SAGE

Meet at the church at 5 pm to car pool to Portland.

Join SAGE for good food and socializing with other LBGTQS folks

Hear news about what's going on in Maine.

SAGE provides the dinner for \$8.00 per person, \$6.00 for 60+

RSVP to Tom by Mon., 9/17 to give SAGE a head count.

September 27th - Gay Themed Movie Night

Gather together to watch a video provided by Brian.

Bring a snack to share. Beverages are provided.

Bring your friends.

We hope to see you this month for one or all of our fun evening events. Thanks, Tom M.



Beyond our Doors



Panera Bread Sundays

If you are relatively new to church, you may wonder why the Parish Hall is full of breads and sweet treats on certain Sundays and where they come from. Panera Bread in Biddeford donates these items. They are picked up by church volunteers on Saturday nights a couple of times a month and set up on Sunday mornings for you and anyone else to take home.

Make a donation, if you can.; the church benefits. If you can't donate, feel free to take what you need.

What happens with the leftovers? Volunteers take them to the Food Pantry. Panera Bread Sundays are yet another way for us to help one another and our community.

Little Free Pantry: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

What it is: The Little Free Pantry project was started to help address food insecurity in a very local way. Our LFP door says: "Take what you need....share what you can." Anyone can contribute and anyone can help themselves to its contents. All winter and summer neighbors have been doing just that as contents of our LFP constantly change.



How you can help: Although the cute little box is in our yard, it's not really "ours." It belongs to our neighborhood. Take a peek to see what's there: toothpaste, a box of mac and cheese, a can of tuna. Temperature-resistant items you can drop off or pick up can be anything: non-perishable foods, non-food items such as diapers, tissues, or chapstick. When you have something extra, just open the door and pop it in!

Thank you, also, for donating food, toiletries and small clothing items. Please continue. Don't be shy about giving or receiving. For more information about LFP's, speak with a member of FIAT or go to <http://www.littlefreepantry.org/>



Age Friendly Saco,

AFS held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in August for a new access walkway at Bayview Beach. Now folks in wheelchairs, folks pushing strollers, and folks rolling carts with beach paraphernalia will be able to move comfortably from the road to the beach - thanks to an AARP Challenge Grant award and the efforts of local volunteers, some of whom are church members.



UU Post Its

To All the Members of the Congregation,

I want to thank you all for your constant help and support since Don so suddenly died. It has been a very difficult time but your visits, calls, food, cards and messages have held me up while I tried to find a way to continue without him and create a life for myself alone.

I shall always remember the days when I noticed folks outside weeding the gardens, cutting the grass, putting up lights so I would feel safer at night, fixing the stair rail and so many other things. I also found that two people in our church surprised me a past weekend by taking all the bottles back to Hannaford.

Alas, we can all expect there will be somewhat fewer empty wine bottles in the days to come. You have all been just wonderful and I shall remember it always.

Thank you, Jean H.



UUCSB Recycling Tips

If you are a resident of Saco, you probably recently received a big post card from the City about transfer station usage and recycling tips. This is very useful information.

We at the UUCSB try to keep good recycling practices in mind and in use. In this effort, we have posted recycling guides by containers in the kitchen, green room and supply closet.

In spite of our good intentions, folks still put non recyclable stuff in the recycling bins - **used saran wrap, returnable bottles, Styrofoam containers and, my personal favorite - used facial tissue!**

Please consult the posted guides before you deposit items in our bins.

Thank you. Anne D.



Website

Visit our website at www.uuchurchsacobiddeford.com.

If you would like to add or correct something, please let me know. Please be specific with corrections as we have over 75 pages on our site. Added content for areas that have not yet been developed will be gratefully accepted. Thank you to those folks who have provided content and updates.

Brian D., Webmaster



Bob Magazu

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

207-317-0221

I can sell your home
323 North Street, Saco, ME 04072



The coven
meets Tuesdays
7:30-9:00 at a private
residence. For more
information folks can
call Ivy at 207-332-
3423.



Bon Appetit

We could use more volunteers at Bon Appetit in Biddeford on the 1st Mon. of each month. Help us serve dinner, interact with folks attending, and do a bit of cleanup. It's a positive experience. 4:15-6:00 See Dorinne S. or Donna B. for more information.

Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, you are welcome here

Financial Information

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 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

Greetings from the Treasurer

Account balances as of 08/22/2018 are as follows:

Checking	\$5,205.24
Accounts Payable	\$-0-
Moulton Trust	\$2,658.65
Restricted Savings	\$24,652.08
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$136,865.34

Any questions, just call
Sincerely, Wendy C.



CLYNK

Help UUCS 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.



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.

Get your
cards from
Ellie L.



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 members' 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 talk with you. Her phone # is 283-8590.

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.uuchurchsacobiddeford.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!

There are seven principles which Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

1	The inherent worth and dignity of every person
2	Justice, equity and compassion in human relations
3	Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations
4	A free and responsible search for truth and meaning
5	The right of conscience & the use of the democratic process within our congregations & in society at large
6	The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all
7	Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

Whoever you are, wherever you come from, whomever you love, you are welcome here

The Messenger

UU Church of Saco and Biddeford
60 School St.
Saco, ME 04072

**If you do not wish to receive
this newsletter, please return it.**

Coming in September:

NO SERVICE	September 2	
Gathering of the Waters	September 9	9 - 10 AM
Stepping into Transformation	September 16	9 - 10 AM
Serving with Grace	September 23	9 - 10 AM
Blessing of the Animals	September 30	9 - 10 AM