

The Messenger

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

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November Services, 2018

November 4, Rev. Shirley Bowen Seeds of Hope

Rev. Shirley Bowen is celebrating her 13th year as a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Maine. In that capacity she has served as Episcopal Chaplain at USM and UNE, has served as Rector at Christ Episcopal Church in Biddeford, and helped found and serves as Executive Director of the Seeds of Hope Neighborhood Center in Biddeford. Seeds of Hope is a drop-in center serving the poor and disenfranchised in the tri-city communities. Open 5 days/week, Seeds of Hope serves breakfast and lunch, offers free clothing, and operates a Career Resource Center assisting in job searches. They are actively seeking meaningful solutions to homelessness and getting people into affordable housing.

November 11, Rev. Shay MacKay Gratitude: New Frontiers

What would it mean to abandon these shoes and find new ways to tread, finding new ways to be and to move forward? What needs to be let go? What are the gifts already present that can help in this new land?

November 18, Rev. Shay MacKay Gratitude: Holy Ground

"And this is the marvel that you see through the eyes of gratefulness: that this whole world - every little detail of it - is filled with the life of Life, with Spirit, with fire!" Brother David Steindl-Rast

November 25, Rev. Shay MacKay As Kingfishers Catch Fire

What I do is me: for that I came. You show yourself grateful not by saying 'thank you' or doing something, but by being yourself. What would it be like if we were willing to show our gratefulness for our particular gifts by allowing them full expression in the world?



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

Shay's Sharings



I hate politics. I always have. I'll spend hours talking to you about almost anything except the latest candidates or legislative bills or judicial rulings. Partly, this stems from the fact that I have always been diametrically opposed to the political opinions of the rest of my family – actually, to most of the rest of the population of my state (growing up in North Dakota).

However, this aversion to all things “political” does not serve me well as a minister in a faith that, by its very principles, urges me to call attention to oppression, demand change, and hold leaders and institutions accountable for their actions and policies.

And so, as Election Day approaches, I keep thinking about the charge to action I gave to you in my sermon on October 14th.

“We need to do more than voice support. We need to show up and keep showing up.”

Whenever I want to turn off the news and bury my head in the sand, I must keep reminding myself to show up – and I must figure out how that works for me. You will figure out how it works for you and together we will move our way through these times as a united front, knowing that together we stand.

And when I say, “I hate politics.” I have to remind myself that what I am being called to do is not political – it is theological.

One of the roles of a minister is to be “prophetic”--which means not to predict the future, but to speak the truth even when it is difficult or dangerous. The truth is that there are horrible things happening in our nation and elsewhere, and that many of them are endorsed or directly caused by the current administration.

John Pavlovitz recently created a Facebook meme that says, “People say that I'm anti-Trump. That isn't the real story. I'm pro-humanity. I'm pro-diversity. I'm pro-decency. I'm pro-equality. I'm pro-compassion. I'm pro-justice. That this almost always leaves me in direct opposition to this president is simply a sad by-product.”

Our first principle states that we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of all beings. This is not a political statement. It is one of the foundational theological statements of our Unitarian Universalist faith.

Showing up in support of refugees, immigrants, our trans siblings, and women is not political--it is a living out of our theology. We must show up in our pulpits, on the streets, in letters to the editor, in our families and workplaces, on social media, wherever we can use our voices and bodies to resist the oppression of any human being.

We must show up – and that includes me, because this isn't politics. This is Truth. For some, this is Life or Death. Ultimately, this is Love and I want to be there, walking hand in hand with you, standing strong in the face of hatred and fear. Let's show up together, my friends.

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)

We need to do more than voice support. We need to show up and keep showing up.

Thoughts from our Board President



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

The survey of the congregation regarding **Adult RE** is complete and the top 4 areas of interest were Spirituality, Aging, Small Group Ministry and Downsizing/Simple Living. Mogens did a wonderful job analyzing and presenting the data that you all provided. A copy of the complete report that he created will be made available to everyone. (See chart on page 14) Thanks to the members who contributed to the survey and a special thanks to Mogens. Just a few days ago we sent out a congregational poll regarding implementing a new Share the Plate Practice and I urge you to vote if you have not yet voted. The results of that poll will be announced when polling closes on October 25.

Last Saturday we participated in the **Saco Pumpkin Harvest Festival's Trunk or Treat event**. Jeannine W., Pat S., Niki N., Marilyn S-C, and I all contributed and attended in Halloween attire. What a fun time we had passing out candy, 7 principles coloring bookmarks and church brochures. The candy and 100 bookmarks found their way into the hands of kids in delightful costumes. We must have passed out 125+ updated church brochures to the young parents. I hope we find some of them at our Sunday service in the weeks ahead.

The November 6 election is a couple weeks away as I write this. I hope you all make time to vote. Happy Halloween.

Best Wishes,
Al



UUCSB's
Trunk
or
Treat

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.

Nov., 2018



:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
		5		7-9 Parish Hall Alphabet Soup	10-11 Off Site Coffee & Carbs	9-10 Parlor Meditation Group 10-2:30 Community Center Senior Wellness Fair
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:45 Sanctuary Morning Song 9-10 Sanctuary Worship 10:15-11:45 Choir, Sanctuary Panera	4:30-6:30 Off site Bon Appetit	5-7 Parish Hall Weight Watchers 7:30-9 Coven Off Site VOTE	8-10 Parish Hall Weight Watchers 6:30 Meeting Room Finance Committee	7-9 Parish Hall Alphabet Soup	10-11 Off Site Coffee and Carbs	9-10 Parlor Meditation Group 10-12 Augusta MUUSAN
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9-10 Sanctuary Worship 10:15-11:45 Choir, Sanctuary 10:20 Parlor FiAT		5-7 Parish Hall Weight Watchers 7:30-9 Coven Off Site	8-10 Parish Hall Weight Watchers 6:30-8:30 BoT Board Room	7-9 Parish Hall Alphabet Soup	10-11 Off Site Coffee and Carbs	9-10 Parlor Meditation Group
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9-10 Sanctuary Worship 10:15-11:45 Choir, Sanctuary Panera		5-7 Parish Hall Weight Watchers 7:30-9 Coven Off Site	8-10 Parish Hall Weight Watchers	Thanksgiving Messenger Deadline for submissions 1:00 Parish Hall Community Dinner	10-11 Off Site Coffee and Carbs Holiday Fair Set up	9-10 Parlor Meditation Group 8-2 Parish Hall Holiday Fair
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
9-10 Sanctuary Worship 10:15-11:45 Choir, Sanctuary		5-7 Parish Hall Weight Watchers 7:30-9 Coven Off Site	8-10 Parish Hall Weight Watchers	7-9 Parish Hall Alphabet Soup	10-11 Off Site Coffee and Carbs	9-10 Parlor Meditation Group World AIDS Day

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Faith in Action Team: UUCSB's Social Justice Center



FIAT meetings:
2nd Sunday of the month
at 10:20 in the Parlor

Next meeting:
November 11, 10:20
All are welcome!



FIAT supports
and is supported by
MUUSAN.

Next MUUSAN
meeting:
Sat. Nov 10,
10:00-12:00
UU Church of
Augusta.

FiAT's Interactive Bulletin Board

Perhaps you have noticed a newly designed bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Inspired by Rev. Shay's sermon about living wholeheartedly, and tired of feeling frustrated and overwhelmed, some members of FiAT put together this design. Each of the colorful ovals is connected to one of our principles. When participants record the actions they are already doing, it will remind us that together we do **AMAZING** things. Here's how you can participate:



1. Reflect about things you are already doing to make the world a better place.
2. Connect those actions to one or more of our UU principles.
3. Write on the paper.
4. Look to see what others have written to be inspired.

Proposed Changes to Share the Plate

For the last few years FiAT has been charged with designating recipients of our monthly tradition we call "Share the Plate" in which we donate 1/2 of the "loose offering" to the designee. The total of the donation may vary greatly depending on attendance on the Sunday of the collection, the amount of publicity or explanation made available, or other factors. FiAT members discussed ways to ensure that our donation could make a bigger impact to the larger community.

We made a proposal to the Board of Trustees. After a discussion they approved this change: we will designate one recipient per month but share 1/2 of the "loose offering" every week! This will serve many purposes: to inform our congregation about needs in the community, to serve as a wide-ranging, church-wide social justice project, and to remind us to trust the abundance of our loving Universe to meet our needs.

Hopefully you will have participated in the Board's survey to find out the level of support for this change. And hopefully you will joyfully and generously join FiAT in opening our hearts and pocketbooks for those who need it most. We welcome your suggestions for future recipients. For more about how this practice has led to greater giving and community connectedness in UU congregations, read this article from the UU World:

<https://www.uuworld.org/articles/sharing-plate-increases-giving>

Share the Plate for November: Bon Appetit Community Meal Program.

Bon Appétit has been serving a hot meal once a month for approximately 25 years. The program serves as many as 100 free meals five nights a week at Second Parish Congregational Church in Biddeford. Several UUCSB members have been long time volunteers on the first Monday of each month. There is always a need for new folks to volunteer to serve, cook, and/or clean up as well as an ongoing welcome to food/monetary contributions.

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



Poetic Thoughts
by our own Keith W.

*how long does it take
to learn how to love
don't say until it hurts
we all know that much
on the streets of this town
keep hauling and pouring
and emptying until you know
your heart is not a bucket
but the well*



Holiday Fair Wreaths

We will be selling Fresh Pine Wreaths embellished by our very own elves for preorder at the Holiday Fair. The wreaths will be much fresher this year as we are purchasing the base wreaths from a local nursery.

For your preorder you may choose silver, gold or mixed decor for your \$25 wreath. **Please be sure to preorder by November 10th.**

Email Pat Snyder
c.islandgal@yahoo.com.

Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner Thurs. Nov. 22 UUCSB Parish Hall 1:00pm



As is our custom, we are again offering a Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the UUCSB. A signup sheet is in the Parish Hall. Everyone who attends needs to sign up to bring a dish. (Anne and Tom will supply the turkey and gravy and stuffing.) And everyone is asked to help clean up after the meal.

If you can't get to the signup sheet; just call Anne at 282-6600 or e-mail her at asd@zwi.net and indicate the names of folks in your party and what they will be bringing.

Please let us know by Tues. Nov. 22 about your attendance, so that we can set a place for you.

Doggie bags will be provided!

holiday Craft Fair

Please save the date: Saturday, November 24th. 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Doors open to the public at 8:00 am.

Set up on Friday, November 23rd.

Please sign up in the Parish Hall. We need folks to set up, work during the day, and then clean up at 2:30. We also need folks to provide To-Go Food and Desserts to sell.

See Tom M for more information.



Music Notes

from Choir Director, Ellie R.

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!

Choir Rehearsals: Every Sunday in November from 10:15 – 11:45; New members are always welcome

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 November 4.



A person does not hear sound only through the ears; he hears sound through every pore of his body. It permeates the entire being, and according to its particular influence either slows or quickens the rhythm of the blood circulation; it either awakens or soothes the nervous system. It arouses a person to greater passions or it calms him by bringing him peace. According to the sound and its influence a certain effect is produced. Sound becomes visible in the form of radiance. This shows that the same energy which goes into the form of sound before being visible is absorbed by the physical body. In that way the physical body recuperates and becomes charged with new magnetism.

~ from *The Mysticism of Sound and Music* by
Hazrat Inayat Khan

Music in Our Community: Many members of our choir and our church family participate in community ensembles. I will highlight 2 this month and more in December.

Renaissance Voices was founded in 1995 by a group of Maine singers on tour in London. The original idea for a small, auditioned, Portland-based chamber ensemble still guides our choices today. Although our emphasis is the a cappella performance of early European music, in recent years we have broadened our repertoire to include other origins and periods, especially the 20th century. Niki N., Steve R. and Jim B. are all members of this choir. *Christmas with Renaissance Voices* will be held on Saturday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 16th at 2:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke. FMI: <http://renaissancevoices.net>

Voices In Harmony Choirs, founded in 2001 provides our community with an intergenerational and multicultural singing experience with choirs for all ages. Saco's artistic community promotes heartfull and healthy singing through a varied repertoire of music from around the world and in a variety of styles. All levels of experience are welcome to join. Jeannine W., Clarissa F., Charlie R., Myra R. and I have all participated over the years.

The Holiday Musical and VIH Concert will be held on Sunday, December 9th from 3-5 p.m. Location TBA. FMI: <https://www.voicesinharmonychoirs.com/#about>



From Our Archivist, Anne D.

At the Board meeting on April 15, 1980, Alfred Mitchell reported that "on the night of March 28 the church was broken into by a person or persons yet unknown. Entrance was made by prying open the front door of the annex. The safe in the church office was demolished but not opened. It is not repairable. The telephone was torn out, three chairs were smashed also a hole in the wall(sic). The locked closet door was pried open and all the silver was taken except (sic) communion set and any engraved pieces. The complete inventory is not definite but it is known that two complete tea services are missing."

Mr. Mitchell was a long time B&G chair. He made our wonderful round candle tables. One of them is just beside the baptismal font at the front of the church. Mitch and Rev. Hopkins made and installed our beloved symbols of all faiths.

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

Alphabet Soup Happenings - November



Events are open to anyone ages 18+.

Thursdays, 7 to 9 pm

UU Church of Saco & Biddeford

60 School St., Saco

All are welcome. Invite your friends!

Alphabet Soup Pot Luck Dinner

Thurs., Nov. 1, 7:00– 9:00 PM – Location: UUCSB

Please bring a friend and an entrée, salad, side dish, or a dessert to share. Tom provides a meat dish.

Leader: Tom Admission: FREE

Board Game Night

Thurs., Nov. 8, 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 provided, please bring snacks to share.

Leader: Brian/Mark Admission: FREE

SAGE Dinner

Thurs., Nov. 15, 5:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

Join SAGE in Portland for a Thanksgiving Dinner Evening. Meet at the UU Church of Saco & Biddeford at 5:15 PM and car pool to Portland. Dinner at 6:00 PM. The cost \$8.00 or \$6.00 if over 60. RSVP by Monday, to get a head count to SAGE

No Meeting - Thanksgiving Day

Thurs., Nov. 22

Enjoy this day with your family and friends. Happy Turkey Day!!!!

Gay Themed Movie Night

Thurs., Nov. 29 7:00 – 9:00 pm - Location: UUCSB

We will be watching "God's Own Country" (2017) by Francie Lee. Johnny Saxby, a 25 year old sheep farmer, has sacrificed going away to college or getting a job in town to run the family farm for his ailing father, Martin, and stoic grandmother, Deidre, numbing the daily frustration of his desolate life with binge drinking and casual sex. As lambing season approaches, Martin hires a Romanian migrant worker, Gheorghe, to assist the already exhausted Johnny. Johnny bitterly resents Gheorghe, stubbornly insisting he can cope on his own, but Gheorghe proves he not only understands this farming life, but more importantly, he understands Johnny.

Beverages provided, please bring snacks to share.

Leader: Brian Admission: FREE

October's Blessing of the Animals with Lawrence Miller



Piece
work
Animal
Stole
worn for
Blessing
of the
Animals



Representations of animal friends



Blessing
Sophie
in the
parade
of
animals

Maestro



Do you know who sits behind you at Sunday services? Or in front of you? Or across the aisle? Do you know the Sunday morning worship associate? The person who greets you? The newcomer who returns week after week? This column is one way to introduce church folks to you - yes, children, too - and share photos. Write a paragraph or two about yourself or fill out a questionnaire. Who knows - perhaps you will be featured next.

Who's Who in the Pews?



Introducing the Ahmeds:

Isa born 4/18
and
Diane born 2/2

Isa worked in health care - mostly in nursing homes and group homes. He loves to discuss different religions, loves history, and loves trying recipes. He is a kitchen gadget man. He also loves to relax to soundscapes music.

Isa was invited to a Gay Rights Parade, when he was looking for a church to join. He found UUCSB - just what he was looking for. He participates at church by helping out with coffee hour and participating in the auction, yard sale, and the holiday fair. Isa loves to talk about anything, and is very outgoing.

Diane used to work in group homes as a CRMA. She loves to read, do puzzles of any kind, and talk about their tuxedo/Siamese/ragdoll cat, their son and daughter-in-law, and their grand-puppies. She loves to read Danielle Steele, Nora Roberts, and Nicholas Sparks. She also loves listening to her Pandora filled with music from the 50's - 70's.

Diane was invited to the church by her sister, who was with the Council of Churches working at a Gay Rights Parade. She had no specific religion, though she considered herself Wiccan. She found what she had been searching for here at UUCSB and joined the church not long after. Diane is shy and will participate in any form that puts her in the background.

Isa and Diane have been married for 37 years. They have one married son, two grand-puppies, and a grand-kitty.

Hello all! Pat S., at c.islandgal@yahoo.com, is updating the Church Directory. Please email her if you have any changes or additions to the current listings by Monday, November 5th. Thanks!



Books and Puzzles Exchange

A books and puzzles exchange is in the works for our Church. Look for it in the annex on a shelf above a coat rack. Have fun cleaning out books and puzzles you no longer want. Peruse what's on the shelf that you would like to take home with you. It's a win-win! See Pat S. if you have questions.

Storm Closings

It is getting to be that time of year, folks. In the event of bad weather, the board president and vice president will make the decision to cancel Sunday services by 7:30 a.m. The church administrator will post the cancellation on television (WCSH-6, WMTW-8 and WGME-13) as well as on the church voice mail message and website. An e-mail message will also be sent out from the church office if possible. As always, please use your own best judgment for safety.

Please save Children's pages from *UU World* for Religious Exploration. A folder will be in the classroom. Thank you.
Jeannine



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.



191 Years Old!

Please join us for a celebratory tour of our Meeting House/Sanctuary
on Sunday Dec. 2 at 10:15.

- * ask questions
- * visit historic niches
- * learn about the builder
- * shake hands with our forefathers and mothers
- * understand the place of the 2nd Parish Unitarian Church
in Saco's history

Sponsored by: B&G, Capital Campaign Committee and the UUCSB Archives

What's Up with the Capital Campaign?????

Okay!!! I'm curious... What about you?

Well - last month we spoke about the dilemma the CC committee has - whether to shore up the Parish Hall or build a new concrete foundation. Either way, the structure must be stabilized. Just as we care for the homes we live in, we must care for our spiritual home.

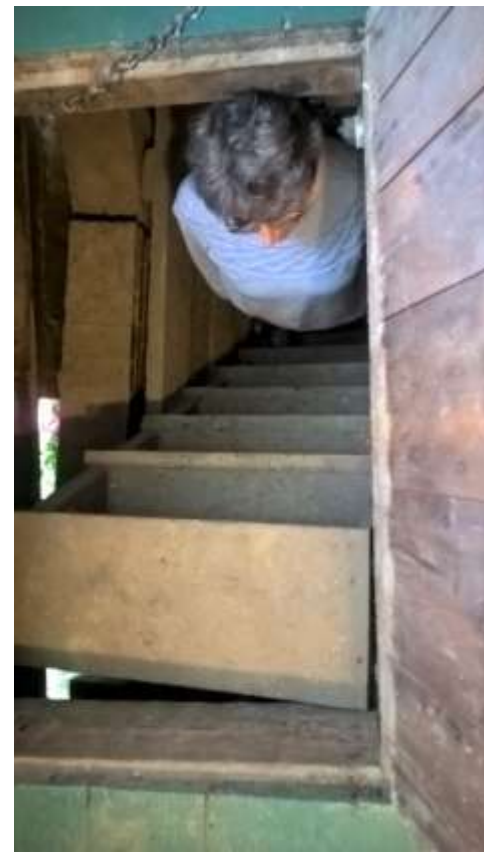
Let me paint a picture for you of the underneath of the Parish Hall (PH). The current supports are not solid. Settling over the years has resulted in the sagging of the PH walls, which can be seen outside on the east side of the building.

The entrance to the underneath of the PH is through a trap door in the RE room. Descend with me down the rickety unattached stairs. At the foot of the stairs, watch your head; the dirt floor is very uneven, varying as much as 2-3 feet. Look around at the brick walls, an old furnace, lally columns, supports dating back to 1867, made from trees that still have bark on them. Look at the holes in the skirting, that allow critters to live under the PH.

There may be serious potential problems in the future as a result of the current structure. These problems must be addressed. Mark Y. recently looked at the underneath of the PH and was overwhelmed about the amount of work that needs to be done. He is looking for 2-3 people to work on this project.

Has the CC committee whetted your curiosity? Do you want to see this for yourself? Ask Anne D., Mark Y., or Betsey P. They will be happy to take you on a personal tour.

As always, any thoughts/questions/ideas see Anne D, Mark Y, or Betsey P



Note the rickety, narrow stairway that leads to the space underneath the Parish Hall.

Note, also, holes to the outside

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.



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.

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.

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



Acupuncture by Meret

Natural Healthcare that Works
Meret Bainbridge, LAc.

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AcupunctureByMeret.com • 207.838.2413



Bob Magazu

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

207-317-0221



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 10/23/18 are as follows:

Checking	\$2664.45
Accounts payable	\$ -0-
Moulton Trust	\$2666.88
Restricted Savings	\$24,673.52
Saco/Bidd Investments	\$137,965.84

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.

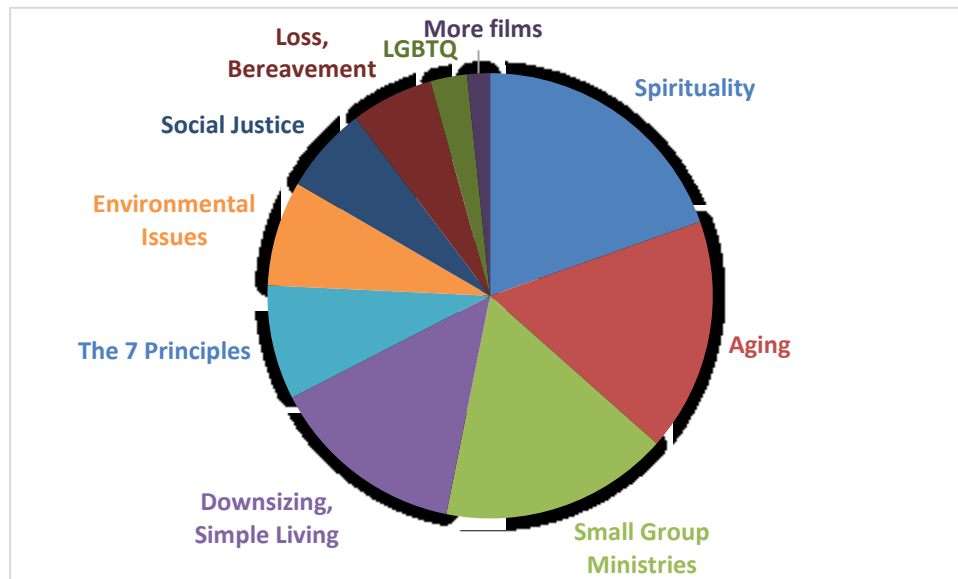
Get your
cards from
Ellie L.



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.

Congregational Input on Adult Religious Education



An email was sent to the congregation asking for input on potential Adult RE topics. The ten topics below were suggested in the email. 26 responses were received. The number of responses for each topic, adjusted slightly to account for differences in the way people responded, are in parentheses:

- Spirituality (15)
- Aging – spiritual aspect of aging, end-of-life issues, etc. (13)
- Small Group Ministries (12)
- Downsizing, simple living (11)
- What are the beliefs of UU's – the 7 principles (7)
- Environmental issues (6)
- Social justice (5)
- Loss, bereavement (4)
- LGBTQ discussions and issues (2)
- More films on various subjects; environmental, social, etc. (1)

Some additional topics were suggested: "Reinventing oneself during the later journey of life", "Non-Judeo/Christian religions", "Social justice with regards to local Poverty", and "White privilege".

The results, as well as comments from some of the respondents, will help in deciding the Adult RE courses to be offered.

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

We are a Green Sanctuary